MEMO

TO: Larry D. Voyles, Director

FROM: Bob Broscheid, Assistant Director, Wildlife Management Division BB

PRESENTER: Eric S. Gardner, Nongame Branch Chief

TITLE: Request to Adopt Commission Order 41: Amphibians

DESCRIPTION: The Commission will be asked to vote to adopt Commission Order 41: Amphibians, establishing open areas, season dates, and bag and possession limits for 2009 and 2010, as proposed by the Department.

DATE: September 25, 2008

Summary:

From May through August 2008, the Department solicited recommendations from staff, stakeholders, and government agencies for proposed changes to Commission Order 41: Amphibians.

The Department received no recommendations.

The Department recommends the following with regard to Commission Order 41 for 2009 and 2010:

1. Update the effective dates of the commission order.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends the Commission VOTE TO ADOPT COMMISSION ORDER 41: AMPHIBIANS, ESTABLISHING OPEN AREAS, SEASON DATES, AND BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS FOR 2009 and 2010, AS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

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Commission Order 41: Amphibians

Statewide - As defined in ARS§17-101, excluding wildlife areas not opened for hunting (R12-4-802).

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting, fishing, or trapping under ARS§17-303, 304, or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801-803.

	Open Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Amphibians
A.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,3,6, and 7)	Statewide, except areas closed in Note 6	All amphibians, except those named in Subsections B, C, D, E, F, G, and H
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) per year or in possession of each species live or dead.			
B.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,3,6, and 7)	Statewide, except areas closed in Note 6	*Bufo cognatus* (Great Plains toad), *B. punctatus* (red-spotted toad), *Scaphiopus couchi* (Couch's spadefoot), and *Spea multiplicata* (Mexican spadefoot)
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) per day or in possession per species live or dead.			
C.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,3,6, and 7)	Statewide, except areas closed in Note 6	*Eleutherodactylus augusti* (barking frog)
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Two (2) per year or in possession live or dead.			
D.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,3,5,6, and 7)	Statewide, except areas closed in Notes 5 and 6	*Ambystoma tigrinum* (waterdog or tiger salamander)
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited live or dead.			
E.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,2,3, 6 and 7)	Statewide, including Havasu, Bill Williams River, Cibola, and Imperial National Wildlife Refuges (as permitted by refuge regulations; posted areas closed), except areas closed in Note 6	*Rana catesbeiana* (bullfrog)
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited dead; see Note 2.			
F.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,3,6, and 7)	Statewide, except areas closed in Note 6	All species in the genus *Xenopus* (clawed frogs) and *Bufo marinus* (giant toad)
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited dead.			
G.	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2009 Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2010	(1,6, and 7)	That area east of the Colorado River; north of I-8; west of I-10 and I-17; and south of State Route 74, U.S. 60, and I-10; except that portion of the Hassayampa River between Wickenburg and Morristown and areas closed in Note 6	*Rana berlandieri* (Rio Grande leopard frog)
	BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT: Unlimited dead.			
H.	There is no open season on *Rana tarahumarae* (Tarahumara frog), *Rana blairi* (plains leopard frog), *Rana chiricahuensis* (Chiricahua leopard frog), *Rana pipiens* (northern leopard frog), *Rana yavapaiensis* (lowland leopard frog), *Rana onca* (relict leopard frog), and *Rana subaquavocalis* (Ramsey Canyon leopard frog); see Note 4.			

Notes:
1. A fishing or combination license is required for take of amphibians. Amphibians may be taken day or night per R12-4-313(E).
2. The possession limit for live bullfrogs legally held prior to closure of live bag limits (January 1, 1996, in Mohave, La Paz, and Yuma counties, or January 1, 1988, in all other counties) is 12 per person.
3. The Fort Huachuca Military Reservation controls access to the taking of aquatic wildlife on its installation.
4. The possession limit for native species of leopard frogs legally held prior to January 1, 1993, and for barking frogs legally held prior to January 1, 2005, when season closures went into effect, is 10 per species per person.

5. No waterdogs or salamanders may be taken in that portion of Santa Cruz County lying east and south of State Highway 82 or that portion of Cochise County lying west of the San Pedro River and south of State Highway 82.
6. Amphibians may not be taken at any time (or during periods specified) within the following areas:
   (1) Posted boundaries of State or Federal hatcheries, except for Arizona Game and Fish Department sponsored fishing clinics.
   (2) Posted boundary of the Region I regional headquarters in Pinetop.
   (3) The Colorado River one-half mile upstream and one-half mile downstream from its confluence with the Little Colorado River.
   (4) That portion of the Little Colorado River lying within the Grand Canyon National Park.
   (5) Lee Valley Creek above Lee Valley Lake.
   (6) Gap Creek between Honeymoon Cabin and its confluence with the Verde River.
   (7) Mineral Creek in Apache County upstream of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest Boundary.
   (8) Posted areas immediately above the dams at Upper Lake Mary, Alamo Lake and Lake Mead.
   (9) Posted areas immediately below Davis, Hoover, Glen Canyon, Waddell (Lake Pleasant), Roosevelt, Horse Mesa and Mormon Flat dams.
   (10) Posted, Spawning Pond Number 1 and Spawning Pond Number 2 located along the Salinity Canal north of Yuma.
   (11) The Luna Lake Wildlife Area from April 1 through July 31.
   (12) Posted portions of Alamo Lake.
   (13) Posted portions of the Tonto Arm of Roosevelt Lake from January 1 through February 15 and from November 15 through December 31.
   (14) Posted portions of Mittry Lake from November 15 through February 15 annually.
   (15) Posted portions of Becker Lake are closed to all public entry from December 15 through June 15.
   (16) Posted portions of Lake Mead.
   (17) Posted portions of Powers Butte Wildlife Area are closed to entry for the purpose of taking wildlife.
   (18) Posted portions of Bog Hole Wildlife Area.
   (19) Posted portions of Lake Havasu.
   (20) Posted portions of Cienega Creek in Pima County.
   (21) Aravaipa Creek in Pinal and Graham counties.
   (22) Sycamore Creek in Santa Cruz County.
   (23) Cibola Lake from the first Monday in September (Labor Day) through March 15.
   (24) Posted portions of Martinez Lake from October 1 through March 1.
   (25) Posted in accordance with and pursuant to ARS 17-303 and 304.
7. The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermillion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Aqua Fria National Monuments are open to the take of wildlife.