

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND REGULATIONS AND  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, pursuant to Sections 4-168 and 22a-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes, hereby gives notice of their intention to amend sections 26-67e-1, 26-67e-2, 26-67e-3, 26-67e-4, 26-67e-5, 26-67e-6, 26-67e-7, 26-67e-8, 26-67e-9, 26-67e-11, 26-67e-12, 26-67e-13, 26-67e-14, 26-67e-15, 26-67e-16, 26-67e-17, and 26-67e-18 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

The proposed amendments are intended to amend and adopt regulations which govern the sport of falconry for clarity and consistency with federal regulations. Specifically, the proposed changes include clarifications and new definitions; remove obsolete requirements based on changes to CGS 26-55; prohibit application or sponsorship by individuals with migratory bird regulation violations; specify the conditions for the reinstatement of falconry permits; remove reciprocity language for non-resident falconry permit fees; align the dates of the bird replacement period with the permitting period; change the minimum age of a general class falconer to 16; clarify experience requirements for general and master class applicants; incorporate options to recognize the completion of falconry examinations in other states; clarify the housing requirements; clarify the allowances for the temporary custody of raptors; reference relevant laws to determine the list of species approved for use in falconry; prohibit the possession of eagles and species listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern; allow for the transfer of raptors between falconers and migratory bird wildlife rehabilitators; clarify banding and marking requirements; define allowances for possession, transfer and exchange of raptor feathers; clarify requirements for disposition of raptors that die in captivity; prohibit hacking; define acceptable training practices; outline the conditions for falconers who conduct public education programs; address the use of falconry birds in movies and other promotional events; address the conditions for falconers who conduct abatement activities; address the requirements if a falconer dies; and clarify reporting requirements.

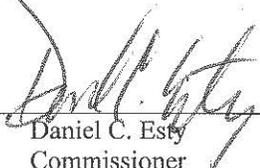
These regulations are necessary to come into compliance with the new federal falconry regulations adopted on November 7, 2008 under 50 CFR 21.29 that are eliminating federal falconry permits.

All interested persons are invited to express their views on the proposed regulations at the following public hearing:

Date: June 4, 2013  
Time: 6:00pm  
Location: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
Phoenix Auditorium, 79 Elm Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Persons may also choose to present their views regarding the proposed regulations in writing and submit them to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection by June 7, 2013, 4:30pm. Based on public comment, proposed measures may be adjusted to meet the objective of the proposal.

Copies of the proposed amendments may be obtained online at: [http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/browse.asp?a=2586&deepNav\\_GID=1511](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/browse.asp?a=2586&deepNav_GID=1511) ; by writing the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106; or by calling (860) 424-3011. The Department has prepared a fiscal note that is available upon request for review.

  
Daniel C. Esty  
Commissioner

4/15/13  
Date