April 9, 2019


Dear Members of the Kentucky Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation, I respectfully encourage you to support the proposed regulations expanding crossbow season to begin on the third Saturday in September and concluding on the third Monday in January and allowing youth to hunt with crossbows during the entire vertical archery season. These expansions would increase opportunities for hunters, support Kentucky’s hunting heritage, and facilitate increased economic output and conservation funding for the Commonwealth.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation (CSF) has maintained a singleness of purpose that has guided the organization to become the most respected and trusted sportsmen’s organization in the political arena. CSF’s mission is to work with Congress, governors, and state legislatures to protect and advance hunting, angling, recreational shooting, and trapping. CSF has a strong track record in Kentucky, working with conservation partners to protect and advance Kentucky’s sporting heritage by supporting pro-sportsmen’s legislation and state fish and wildlife management objectives.

We strongly support the proposed regulations because increasing the number of days open to hunting with a crossbow would significantly increase access and opportunity for Kentucky hunters. The proposed regulations would be a substantial expansion for youth and others hunters that may wish to use crossbows. As the number of hunters decline across the country, it is increasingly important to support policies that reduce barriers to participation in hunting, and opening more days to crossbow hunting would be an important step to further hunter recruitment, retention and reactivation efforts.

Additionally, sportsmen and women are the primary funders of state-based conservation and contribute significantly to the economy, and more days afield would bolster Kentucky’s economy and funding for conservation programs in the state. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we support the proposed regulations to support Kentucky’s outdoor heritage by opening the door for more youth to hunt and appreciate the outdoors.
In summary, the proposed regulations would be an important expansion of hunting opportunities for youth and other hunters, and we respectfully encourage you to support the crossbow seasons as proposed.

Thank you for considering our comments, and please let us know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully,

John Culclasure
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