

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

K.A.R. 115-25-9. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits.

DESCRIPTION: The proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting bag limits, application periods and season dates for the 2007-2008 firearm, muzzleloader and archery deer seasons. There are three main changes from the 2006-07 seasons. First, the extended firearm season for antlerless white-tailed deer in January is shortened to six days. In 2005-06, the season was a total of seven days. Second, the Fort Riley firearms seasons will be set in a new regulation in order to better accommodate the changing mission and training at Fort Riley. Finally, game tags would be authorized in two units where they were not authorized the previous year, both in the northwestern part of the state.

FEDERAL MANDATES: None

ECONOMIC IMPACT: If the economic impact to the department, the general public, and other agencies from the 2007-08 seasons were to be similar to the estimate for the 2006-2007 seasons, total revenue to the department from the sale of all resident, nonresident, and landowner/tenant deer permits and game tags is estimated to be approximately \$8,000,000.

Approximately 415,000 days of hunting activity by 83,000 hunters are anticipated. A 2001 survey conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that big game hunters spent approximately \$512 per year on trip and equipment expenditures, thus the 2006 deer seasons in Kansas are anticipated to generate approximately \$42.5 million worth economic benefit to businesses providing big game goods and services. No other economic impact to state agencies is anticipated.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None