

AGENDA
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND PARKS
COMMISSION MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, January 8, 2009
Best Western Hospitality House
3021 W Hwy 50, Emporia, Kansas

- I. CALL TO ORDER AT 1:30 p.m.**
- II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**
- III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS**
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE October 23, 2008 MEETING MINUTES**
- V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
- VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
 - A. Secretary's Remarks**
 - 1. Agency and State Fiscal Status (Dick Koerth)**
 - 2. Revenue and Budget Initiatives to Meet Agency Fiscal Needs (Mike Hayden)**
 - 3. 2009 Legislature (Chris Tymeson)**
 - B. General Discussion**
 - 1. Commissioner Permit Drawing (Keith Sexson)**
 - 2. Cabin Summit Update (Mark Stock)**
 - 3. Kansas Coalition for Children in Nature (Jerry Hover)**
 - 4. Public Lands Regulations (Brad Simpson)**
 - 5. Fishing Participation Marketing Program (Tom Lang)**
 - 6. Meade Bass Propagation Facility (Doug Nygren)**
 - 7. State T&E Review Status (Ed Miller)**
- VII. RECESS AT 5:00 p.m.**
- VIII. RECONVENE AT 7:00 p.m.**
- IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**
- X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

C. Workshop Session

1. **KAR 115-25-5. Turkey; fall season, bag limit and permits. (Jim Pitman)**
2. **KAR 115-25-7. Antelope; open season, bag limit and permits. (Matt Peek)**
3. **KAR 115-25-8. Elk; open season, bag limit and permits. (Matt Peek)**
4. **KAR 115-25-9. Deer; open season, bag limit and permits. (Lloyd Fox)**
5. **Big Game Permanent Regulations (Lloyd Fox)**

D. Public Hearing

1. **Free Park Entrance Days and Free Fishing Days (Jerry Hover)**

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

If necessary, the Commission will recess on January 8, 2009, to reconvene January 9, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., at the same location to complete their business. Should this occur, time will be made available for public comment. If notified in advance, the department will have an interpreter available for the hearing impaired. To request an interpreter call the Kansas Commission of Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698. Any individual with a disability may request other accommodations by contacting the Commission Secretary at (620) 672-5911. The next commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2009 at Dillon House, Topeka.

**Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 23, 2008
Tonganoxie High School, Tonganoxie, KS**

Subject to
Commission
Approval

I. CALL TO ORDER AT 1:30 p.m.

The October 23, 2008 meeting of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairman Kelly Johnston at 1:30 p.m. at the Tonganoxie High School Auditorium, Tonganoxie. Chairman Johnston and Commissioners Debra Bolton, Gerald Lauber, Frank Meyer, Doug Sebelius, Robert Wilson, and Shari Wilson were present.

Superintendent Richard Erickson – Welcomed KDWP Commission and Staff to Tonganoxie and introduced veterans presenting colors.

VFW presented colors and school choir sang National Anthem and said Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent thanked choir students for singing and spoke about hunter education program that had been in the school for about 20 years. Thanked middle school administrators for their support of the hunter education program and thanked USD 464 staff and students. He stated that the new fine arts building was constructed in 2005 at cost of \$3.5 million, and the new middle school, where supper was served, was also built in 2005 for about \$12 million.

Chairman Johnston thanked the Superintendent for the school district's continued support of the hunter education program and for inviting the commission to meet at their facility.

Richard Riedel – Start your engines.

II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS

The Commissioners and Department staff introduced themselves (Attendance roster - Exhibit A).

III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS

Sheila Kemmis – Workshop Item 2 – T&E will be presented by Murray Laubhan instead of Ed Miller.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE August 14, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Shari Wilson moved to approve minutes, Commissioner Robert Wilson second. *Approved.* (Minutes – Exhibit B).

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Secretary's Remarks

1. 2010 Budget Status - Dick Koerth, assistant secretary of Administration, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit C). The FY 2010 budget request for the department is approximately \$64.9 million of which \$52.7 million is for operations and \$12.3 million is for capital improvements. This year we are requesting one new position for a total of 417.5 FTE. The budget includes a request for dedicated funding to finance the cost of capital improvements at the state parks, an amount of \$3 million from the Expanded Lottery Act Revenue Fund (ELARF). We are hoping this becomes a new funding source for state agency capital improvements which is a new fund and it is our intent is to be included in the initial allocations of this fund and become a dedicated source of funding. In addition, we included \$1.5 million from the State General Fund (SGF) for parks capital improvements and continue the existing policy for half-price vehicle admission at the state parks. The 2010 budget includes several enhancements; an amount of \$500,000 to begin the process to replace the department airplane. The current plane is well-maintained but is getting old and needs to be replaced at some point in the very near future. We anticipate it may take a couple of years to get approval from the legislature, last time it took three years. We have an amount in for about \$125,000 and the one FTE mentioned earlier to provide management of property at the Parsons Army Ammunition Plant in Labette County. We anticipate that by fiscal year 2010 that we will have some management ability for that facility. In addition, we have our annual request for replacement vehicles, 48 this year. The last time we included this we had a special assessment levied against us by the City of Topeka for roadwork associated with Kaw River State Park. For those of you who have been there it has a round-about at the bottom of the hill, we are now paying our portion of it. There are two enhancement items not in the July 1 submission; one is \$1 million to acquire water rights at Webster Reservoir similar what we did at Sebelius Reservoir to hold the water at a certain level; and the other item is for riparian easements to protect waterways and the quality of state streams. The Commission has been briefed earlier in regard to the status of the funding of wildlife programs and the potential need for a fee increase on hunting and fishing licenses. Based upon the current estimate of receipts available to the Wildlife Fee Fund and the amount of expenditures requested from this fund, the ending balance in this fund on June 30, 2010 will be about \$1.1 million. The ending balance in the Wildlife Fee Fund at the end of FY 2008 was \$5.5 million. The department is also monitoring the Park Fee Fund to assure adequate reserves are maintained to finance park operations. The ending balance for this fund at the end of FY 2010 is estimated to be approximately \$260,000. Commissioner Meyer – Are you looking at what we can do to correct the shortfall? Koerth – Not so much a shortfall as a shortage of funds, we are spending more than we are taking in, and there are several reasons for that. Our operating costs continue to increase, salaries, cost of fuel and those sorts of things; some token revenue sources are decreasing and resident hunters have decreased dramatically in the last 5-10 years and they

were our base. We get a lot of support from nongame and that is basically what kept us going and big game receipts, but in the future we are looking at a decreasing amount of revenue at that base and at the same time are having increasing expenditures. The 2010 budget can be funded from existing sources, but future years are our concern. Commissioner Meyer – In business, we always like to have one month's income in the bank at all times, so that \$1.5 million is about right and we are going to need an 18 percent increase in WFF and about 15 percent in PFF. Koerth – There are cash flow problems, especially on the parks side. As you are all aware it is a seasonal business and you need a balance in the fund to support the division during the lean months. There still needs to be money in funds to take care of emergencies. Can fund 2010, but need to increase funds or increase revenue. Chairman Johnston – Does it say when we would need to consider an increase? Koerth – We need to discuss it in 2009 calendar year with increase to go in affect January 1, 2010.

Commissioner Meyer – We appreciate what Tonganoxie School is doing to teach young folks and encouraging them to go out hunting and fishing.

2. 2009 Legislature – Chris Tymeson, chief counsel, gave this report to the Commission. We are still formulating this year's package, but expect a light year. Possible topics include: park funding, search for long-term stable funding; constitutional right to hunt and trap, (which goes before Oklahoma's voters in two weeks, and we anticipate outcome of that will tell us if there will be an attempt in Kansas again, last year's proposal would have taken away department's ability to set regulations, which we opposed, have a meeting in DC with NRA to discuss the issue in early December); overlap of blaze orange requirements in particular areas where we have elk seasons that overlap archery deer season so there is a number of folks on Fort Riley wearing blaze orange during the archery deer season; invasive species depending on number of reservoirs with zebra mussels; watercraft taxation, provided facts and figures and requested information from surrounding states to find out number of Kansas vessels registered in those states with bill being sent to state of Kansas residents, that would require a constitutional amendment, failed last time by 12,000 votes; prairie dogs and black-footed ferrets; conservation easements; free veteran licenses, have had free national guard licenses and free hunting and fishing licenses for 30 percent service-connected disabled veterans, which are reimbursed by state general funds; guide licenses, there was a bill last year that didn't go anywhere; wind power development; and deer legislation. We are only peripherally involved in some of these, not directly involved. Commissioner Meyer – Apologize for not being here in August, on the issue prairie dogs, I would have been here and broke the tie, but not sure which way I would have voted. Could we, or are we allowed by the legislature, to require a caliber smaller than allowed for big game? Tymeson – It is possible, it would take an extensive rewrite of regulations, but I think it could be done by setting legal equipment for prairie dogs, however there a lot of people out there shooting bigger caliber guns at prairie dogs. There is the potential if that topic comes up, but we don't want to lead the charge to change that statute back, it is a matter of timing. Commissioner Lauber – Guide licensing, what was the bill that didn't gain traction last year, what did they want? Tymeson – It would have created guide licensing board under Department of Commerce -- somewhat self-regulating similar to Wyoming's guide system. Kansas had guide licensing program from 1992 until 2005 and when it first started it was for upland birds and then we started seeing exemptions cut into statutes until it was just big game and waterfowl only.

When bill came up to get rid of that, we testified that everyone or no one should be regulated. Problem with unconstitutional items in last year's attempt, substantially higher rates for nonresident guide licenses and it was an economic protectionism bill for local guides in the state of Kansas. The bill didn't gain any traction and didn't get a hearing, but I think they will come back again and we may have a spot on the board in an advisory position. Commissioner Lauber – Did the department take a stand? Tymeson – It did not come up, so no, we didn't take a stand.

B. General Discussion

1. Tonganoxie Schools Hunter Education Program - Scott Leffler, Tonganoxie Middle School teacher, presented this report to the Commission. New PE teacher at Tonganoxie Middle School and I saw Phil Jennan teach students for the first time last year. Thank KDWP for support. Program has been in the school for 20 years and Richard Riedel came in for three years and helped Phil teach it. It is taught in PE class, so both boys and girls take it. Take it once a week and go through book and have to take test to get hunter education certificate. Use hunting/gun simulator which is brought in during the course so they see what it is like to shoot a gun during a hunting situation and we have guest speakers that come in and talk about hunting and other subjects such as conservation. We also show the students DVDs and visual aids. As they complete the course they receive their hunter education certificate. Coach Jennan shared a story with me this last year, he had a girl that went through the course as an eighth grader and now she is married to a gentlemen who is an avid hunter and she hunts with him. Again, thank you for your support. This will be my first year of teaching the course but Phil will assist me. I am an avid fisherman and I love to pass on that knowledge to the students. Chairman Johnston – Is the hunter education class a feature of PE program or is it classroom program? Leffler – A unit of PE program that we offer to eighth graders. We also offer it before school for kids who want to take the class if they aren't in PE. Chairman Johnston – How many students a year take advantage of that program? Leffler – Just eighth graders, we see 80-90 students, 70 go through PE class and 10-15 who come in the mornings. Chairman Johnston – Is there a trend up or down recently? Leffler – I really don't know since this is my first year. The interest isn't as high at the beginning until after we go through it. Last year I got the outsider's point of view and they weren't real sure in the beginning, but really got into it and really enjoyed it, so more interest at the end. It just goes year-to-year. Set to do this the end of November. Commissioner Meyer – Did you get them out in the field and let them hunt? Leffler – We haven't in the past that I know of. The simulator gives them the feel. Erickson – We do not, there is too much liability. Are their state grants through your program that we might apply for to purchase additional equipment or simulators? Bob Mathews - Wayne Doyle will be here this evening and he could answer that. Commissioner Shari Wilson – What is response of parents to the program? Erickson – We send a flyer home with students and let them know what we are going to do and only had one eighth grade female student whose parents didn't want her to participate. For the most part parents are positive. Commissioner Sebelius – Have other school districts contacted you that they are interested? Erickson – No. Leffler – I am from Colorado and hunting is a big deal there and it was quite a shock to understand we had a hunter education program, there are none in Colorado. I was pleased to find out we have that here. Mathews – We do have a “Hunter Education in the Schools” program, Monica Bickerstaff, involved in 15 schools so far and we also have an “Archery in the Schools” program, with 30 schools involved and they do have grants available.

Chairman Johnston – Thank you Mr. Leffler, you have a fine program. Richard Riedel – I have helped run the program here for three years and I was one of the first hunter education instructors certified in Kansas in the 1960s and one of the first master instructors. We bring in some speakers, Cindy Cunningham, a taxidermist who brought in mounts and hides; had Bob Hodgdon, from Hodgdon Powder Company and he spoke to the kids about black powder; and others. Also, had Glenn (Cannizaro) come every year and told us about his life as a Wildlife and Parks law enforcement agent.

2. Commissioner and Youth Hunt of a Lifetime Permit Updates - Mike Miller, magazine editor, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit D). The Commission Big Game permits began in January 2006, when we issue up to seven big game permits, which can include seven deer permits; one elk permit or one antelope and six deer permits. Organizations that promote the hunting heritage are eligible to apply for these permits. Individual chapters as well as state organizations can apply. If they draw one of these permits they can auction or raffle that off in a fund raising effort. Once they sell the permit 85 percent of the sale price is remitted back to the department to be used on approved conservation efforts with that organization. They can keep 15 percent to spend as they choose. The exception is the Kansas Hunters Feeding the Hungry, the percentages are reversed with that group, if they draw a permit they are able to keep 85 percent and remit 15 percent. Of the 85 percent remitted that is minus the permit fee. In 2006, we had 59 organizations that applied; one elk and six deer permits were issued and the sales total was \$49,000 on the strength of an elk permit that was auctioned off for a very high price. In 2007, we had 119 applications, one elk and six deer permits were issued and the total sales were \$26,973. Last year, in January 2008, we had 113 applications, again one elk and six deer and so far they have been sold for about \$19,000 although the Pheasants Forever chapter has not sold their permit yet. We are accepting applications for next year through January 5 and will the drawing at the Commission meeting in Emporia on January 9. Michael Pearce – Is there a requirement that they do try to get as much as possible out of the permits? Some of them have sold at face value. The difference between \$49,000 and the \$26,000, you lost money somewhere other than just that one elk permit because it went from \$23,000 down to \$8,000. Miller – I don't believe so, I defer to Chris. Tymeson – The statute says to maximize the value of the permit at auction, or in some method, it is not a specific requirement to raise a certain amount of money, but applicants should be trying to maximize the funds they bring in for both the projects that are funded by the proceeds of the auction as well as the 15 percent they get to keep. Sheila Kemmis – The first year it was so much, because the elk permit which went to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and they sold it at their annual banquet in Missoula, Montana. Pearce – they sold it for \$23,000 and the next year it went on EBay for \$8,300. So you still have a deficit in there somewhere of losing money. Kemmis – I think they are finding it harder to find buyers. Pearce – On the elk permit I don't think they tried very hard, as soon as they had a bid on it they sold it. Kemmis – That was Ducks Unlimited. Pearce – I think it sold on EBay for \$7,000. Kemmis – I think the year before the National Wild Turkey Federation won it and they did it on EBay and I think Ducks Unlimited tried the same thing and didn't do as well at it. Chairman Johnston – Do you think that the downward trend is reflective of something other than just the identity of the people drawing the permits and maybe the markets that they serve in their auctions or is there something else? Miller – I think it would depend on which organization drew an elk permit, but the deer permit values might not be as high as when this program first began because nonresident deer permits

are more accessible now. This would be an either species permit which is highly marketable, so they still should be in some demand.

On the Hunt of a Lifetime permits (Exhibit E), this is a basically new program and this is the second year. The request was from an organization called Hunt of a Lifetime that operates out of the Pawnee County area, Larned, and they were providing deer hunts for deer hunters 16 or under who had a disability or serious illness, like the Make-a-Wish-type program. While resident permits weren't a problem, when they had a nonresident candidate for one of these hunts they had a hard time getting that permit. So the Commission approved 10 permits to be provided to this program, on application, per year. This year, six applications were received, with four of those being used in the youth season. Not sure if the others are going to be used later this year. In 2007, we had three permits issued, but I don't think that is reflective on how many kids participated, since it is specific for nonresident applicants who need a permit. We basically issue them on a first come, first served basis because we have never had more applications than we have permits at this time.

3. ANS Update/Report - Jason Goeckler, aquatic nuisance specialist, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit F; PowerPoint – Exhibit G). Thank you for opportunity to speak to you about this. When you think of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) you usually think of zebra mussels, but there are many others. ANS are non-native species that threaten the water resources of Kansas. Management of these species began because of federal legislation in 1990 where money was made available through the Non-indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act. Several state and federal groups are involved to try and handle these problems and received some funding from Great Plains Energy, Wolf Creek and Westar Energy. This Task Force developed a plan which is available on the website. The plan was approved by the Governor and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2005. However, we were already behind the curve when we got the program up and running. The Task Force has six major goals: 1) coordinate management; 2) prevent introduction; 3) detect, monitor and eradicate; 4) control or eradicate established ANS; 5) educate aquatic users; and 6) support research and disseminate information. The plan dictates what we do and how we address these issues and we try not to duplicate efforts within agencies. We developed a management program and created and funded an ANS coordinator position (my position) and started to develop a permanent funding mechanism. We have identified greatest infestation potential and ways to prevent introductions as well as setting a priority species list. In detection and eradication, we have implemented surveillance, developed an early response device and eradicated pioneering populations. We have begun control by limiting dispersal of established species and developed human adaptation activities. Through regulation we control the spread by adding species to the prohibited species list which includes: walking catfish; silver carp; bighead carp; black carp; fertile grass carp; white perch; snakehead fish; zebra mussels; quagga mussels; round goby; and New Zealand mudsnail. The department also prohibited the transfer of baitfish from one body of water to another and prohibited stocking of fish or wildlife into department waters. The Task Force plans to bring forward more results next year with education of department staff and the public. Our education campaign is based on "clean, drain, dry". The department has the ability to reach anglers and boaters and try to educate them. After discovery of zebra mussels in 2003, we put out counter signs, had posters and some brochures available. All registered boaters get these

brochures and we also have flyers we put on windshields of cars in parks. We have partnered with the “Stop Aquatic Hitchhiker” program and have produced credit card sized handouts. Also, new signs at boat ramps on the state-owned property and developed a new one with the Corps of Engineers. Finally, we are geared to put up infested signs that show what is there and that it is illegal and has “clean, drain, dry” message. Also, there is a section on the website and a link to report ANS species found, which sends an email to me. The final step is the research arm to support prevention and management and distribute research to managers. Reports will be completed in 2010. We are partnering with KSU Coop Unit, looking at pre- and post-zooplankton density and fish growth and with OSU with drinking water impacts and toxic algae. A lot of work is centered around the Great Lakes. Prevention research is geared to assess which lakes are at high risk, research to determine public compliance and conducting fish health surveillance program. Doing human dimensions work such as angler surveys to look at bait as a vector; boater surveys to look at behavior and knowledge; and licensed angler survey to look at knowledge. Are we making a difference? According to the Licensed Angler Survey, in 2000, 39 percent of boaters in Kansas had never heard about zebra mussels. In 2008, 41 percent have heard a lot about it and only 7 percent had heard nothing. Also, we asked licensed anglers, and in 1996, 80 percent had never heard of zebra mussels compared to 20 percent in 2007. Asked them how important it was to take precautions, and in 2000 we still had a ways to go. Did you take precautions, up to 2008, 60 percent said they would, which is a significant increase from 2000. Contracted study with Southwestern College, they sat on a hill and watched boaters at El Dorado and 69 percent of pleasure boaters drained their boats; 90 percent of jet skis; 90 percent of angling boats; and 100 percent of speed boats did. We have come a long way, but there is more to do. Six lakes are infected with zebra mussels and we expect two more; Asian carp are in four rivers; white perch are showing up in new lakes; EWM in new lakes and hydrilla is in one new lake. Data from the upper Great Lakes (Michigan (MI), Wisconsin (WI), and Minnesota (MN)) shows that MI and WI have not been very successful, but MN has because they have a sound education campaign. In the future we need to focus on marketing techniques; contact marinas and boat dealers and provide educational tools; propose new regulations; and work with other agencies. Commissioner Meyer – If you go through a car wash, will the city sewage system kill the zebra mussels? Goeckler – Yes, the hot water kills them. Commissioner Meyer – The lake I live by is only 20 miles from Marion, is there some type of filter we can put on the water inlet from the lake to protect the rest of our water system as a preventive measure, because sooner or later they might get there? Goeckler – Is this on free flowing water or pumped water. Meyer – Gravity fed from the pumping station from the lake. Goeckler – You can put some sort of filter on that will do that, but it is better to do it on the pumping station. Commissioner Lauber – Did Minnesota use bait fish collection restrictions? Goeckler – They restrict the movement of water and other species so you can’t transport them on public highways. Actually a bill was introduced last year by Senator Journey that would have addressed this last year for Kansas, but did not pass. That is how they enforced that in Minnesota and extending that to all law enforcement offices, not just wildlife officers. Commissioner Lauber – Bait fish? Goeckler - The movement of fish, not just bait fish and a lot of that is in response to a disease called VHS or Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia which is threatening bait fish. Chairman Johnston – We discovered zebra mussels in 2003 and we now have six water bodies with two more likely downstream, over what period of time has Minnesota been dealing with this problem? Goeckler – First showed up in the country in 1989, their first lake was in 1991, I believe. Chairman Johnston – You

mentioned bringing new proposals to us and I wonder if you could elaborate what that might be? Goeckler – Based on the human dimension survey, looking at bait fish movement and transfer. We looked at how bait fishermen are using bait and if they were collecting bait fish from the wild and moving them to another lake with that water. Proposal would be to restrict movement of bait fish and live fish and water, so that would be spreading zebra mussels in addition to probably white perch and Asian carp. I haven't developed the proposal fully, but it will probably be to restrict movement of live fish and water from other water bodies. We have a similar regulation now, but it is only for department waters. Commissioner Lauber – Does movement of ANS slowed down with glacial lake system or is that a factor at all? Goeckler – It doesn't seem like it is a factor. Chairman Johnston – You talked about boats in the water for long periods of time such as marinas, can you elaborate on that? Goeckler – Zebra mussels will attach to a vessel that has been in the water for two or more days, boats that are in and out are not as likely to have a zebra mussel attach, but they need to make sure they are not moving water, plants or mud. Chairman Johnston – I think you indicated you were planning to give some attention to that subject at marinas, is that correct? Goeckler – Yes. Chairman Johnston – Is that a feature of our education program that we have not been doing thus far? Goeckler – What we have done to this point is distribute information to them, but not face to face contact. In 2003, Tom Mosher and I visited lots of marinas across the state and actually gave them specimens of zebra mussels so they knew what to look for. Since that time we haven't been able to, basically because of budgetary constraints and I am the one working on this plan. This upcoming year, I plan on focusing on those boats and marinas because the trend seems that zebra mussels are occurring at those marina locations. Commissioner Lauber – I think the movement of bait fish and bait fish restrictions has some correlation to the success of not moving aquatic nuisance species around. I will remind you that as we get into these topics our phones will ring because people will have issues with not using their favorite live baits.

4. Licensed Angler Survey Results - Doug Nygren, fisheries section chief, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit H). (He handed out an update summary on the recent report sent in the mail.) This is the first licensed angler survey since the mid-1990s. We routinely survey at lakes through creel surveys, but this is the first statewide survey. Tom Mosher and Jim Stephen from our Emporia Office put this together and we contracted with DISC Information Services Corporation (DISC) and we did a draw from the KOALS system. We mailed the survey to 22,000 people and received responses from 2,744. The report is divided into a section on angler preferences; effort; methods people use to fish; their relationship to the department; non-fish species such as ANS, bullfrogs, turtles and etc.; and demographics. The full report can be downloaded from our agency website. I will hit the highlights from the executive summary. First, anglers were asked what fish they most prefer to fish for and that was largemouth bass for resident. However, nonresidents said they came to Kansas to fish for walleye. We asked them what they actually fished for most, and that was crappie. In Kansas, largemouth bass, white and black crappie, channel catfish and walleye are the species that are in demand. Largemouth bass is slowly creeping up to be the most popular. They also said they preferred private ponds and lakes and that shouldn't come as a surprise because we have in excess of 150,000 private lakes and ponds in Kansas, many of which have good largemouth bass populations. These fisheries tend to have good catch rates, low fishing pressure and are excellent locations to fish. State fishing lakes came in second, followed by reservoirs, and community lakes and rivers. One interesting thing

was the environmental ethic of our anglers when asked if they would give up fishing opportunity to protect threatened and endangered species, 72 percent said they would. In the effort section, the average number of trips taken was 15.9 trips per year. Amazingly, even though fishermen tell us they prefer to fish 30 miles from home, the average trip length was 147 round trip miles. Most of our respondents said they had their first experience as a youth, age nine or younger, so it points to the importance of us doing everything we can to expose children in Kansas at an early age in hopes they will become an angler later in life. In the method section, people said they prefer to fish in the morning between 6 and 10, or in the evening between 6 and 10. It is the most comfortable time to fish and the fish are more active and willing to bite. Interestingly, 75 percent of anglers fished with bait at some time in the year, so it goes back to the discussion we had earlier (ANS). Only 25 percent fish with artificial lures, so the bait issue is huge. There is a section on the relationship with the department and one of the things that came out of that was that most of our anglers prefer the department manage for fewer, but large fish. Tonight you are going to be voting on special length and creel limits in the Reference Document which is designed to do just that, provide better quality fishing in Kansas through harvest restrictions of lower creel limits and larger length limits. Another interesting point was that one out of every four anglers were checked by law enforcement officers, and of those 68 percent said their catch was checked. I think that is a nice number to have. There may be some people who confuse our biologists or creel clerks with law enforcement, but the bottom line is they were being checked. In the non-fish species, 78 percent said they had heard of zebra mussels and that is good news. Finally in demographics, only 22.2 percent of anglers were female and that is an area of growth I would like to see us work on. Beyond that you can look at the details, there are tables and comments made by people. Commissioner Lauber – Responding anglers said they prefer to fish for largemouth, but in reality fished for crappie? Nygren – That is right. Some of that may come with opportunity, right now we have been in a lull in terms of largemouth bass fishing, especially in western Kansas with the lowering of the water levels. We have had poor recruitment and if we had done this survey in the late 1990s it would have been different when we had the great bass fishing in the west and the growing number of private impoundment fishing. Along with that is the marketing effort on the part of the fishing industry pushing bass fishing and tournament fishing. It is getting bigger every year. Commissioner Lauber – Does the fact that nonresident preferences appear to be walleye lead your division to move in one direction or another? Nygren – We have good walleye fisheries, especially in years when we have water along the Nebraska border, and that is where a lot of those walleye fishermen are coming from. The majority of our nonresidents are out of Missouri -- the Kansas City metro area and some from Joplin in southeast Kansas, but they seem to be coming for crappie. In the survey, the indication was they were coming for walleye. We try to manage each lake for what it is best suited to produce. In general, walleye fishing is better in the central and western part of the state and crappie is the best in the eastern lakes. Chairman Johnston – What significance do you attach to the 65.5 percent licensees who reported they would not like to receive more information on zebra mussels? How do you interpret that response? Nygren – My take on that is that they already feel like they understand the problem. We have done a good job at getting the point across and they got the message. Like Jason said, there is still that little slice of the pie that has the message but are not willing to act on it yet.

Break

5. Fall Turkey Regulations (KAR 115-25-5) - Jim Pitman, small game wildlife research biologist, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit I). Four units open to fall turkey hunting, three of which you can buy permits over-the-counter and Unit 2, which is the eastern half of the state, you can buy game tags. Only southwest Kansas is closed to fall turkey hunting. Those permits are good for either sex. In the 2007/2008 season we sold 15,066 and permits and game tags and roughly 3,700 of those were game tags. This is down about 1,200 from the previous year. We currently shoot between 4,000 and 6,000 turkeys each fall, but was down last fall due to some of declines we have seen in turkey numbers in the eastern half of the state. Harvest is typically 35 percent to 40 percent hens with the rest being male birds. We have seen declines in the eastern one-third to one-half of the state due to below average production, primarily in southeast Kansas for four consecutive years. In fact, 2007 was the worst production year we have ever recorded, and this past year was also poor. Those poor numbers can be attributed to the wet springs and summers. Most of the rain occurred during June and July which is the prime time for reproduction and brood rearing. As a result of the poor production, we have also seen declines in hunter or harvest success, however we still have relatively strong success rates compared to other states. The department is concerned about declining populations in the eastern part of the state and staff has considered some options to reduce bag limits, but we haven't fully evaluated the consequences of those different options. At the current time we are not recommending any change to fall turkey regulations. Commissioner Bolton – A couple years ago we had a special hunt for women and it seems like we had lots of turkeys then in central Kansas. Is that turkey population still there? Pitman – We still have really strong numbers in central and northcentral part of state and production has been good. The poor production has been mostly in the southeastern part of the state because we have had so much rain. Commissioner Lauber – The rain in June doesn't wash the nests away, but it affects the young poults ability to regulate their body temperature and they have a hard time surviving. Pitman – That is correct. When you have the amount of rain we have had, there may be some nests that do flood, but the primary concern is the young poults can't regulate their own body temperature. Even though the temperatures may not be real cold, extremely wet conditions can cause hyperthermia. Pearce – Have you broken out, of overall success rate, what percentage takes one, two, three, or four birds? Pitman – It is a very small percentage that actually takes all four birds. I think 23-25 percent is composed of the game tags, all three combined, so it is a relatively small percentage of the harvest. Pearce – So roughly 75 percent of the harvest is just one bird? Pitman – So if you were interested in reducing harvest you wouldn't be successful just cutting the game tags. Pearce – Are you including the units where you can just take one fall bird? Pitman – If you just look at the eastern half of the state, where the game tags are valid, the percentage of harvest is roughly 25 percent. If you look at the whole state it would be somewhat less than that.

6. Antelope, Elk, 25 Series Regulations - Matt Peek, furbearer research biologist, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit J). We don't have any changes to recommend at this time for the 2009 pronghorn season in Kansas. We would like to continue to offer unlimited archery

for residents and nonresidents. Since implemented nonresident archery permits in 2006, we sold five in 2006; six in 2007; and five this last year. Firearms and muzzleloader permits would still be restricted to residents with half assigned to landowner/tenants and the remainder going to general residents. No permit recommendations at this time. With pronghorn, deer management units 2, 17 and 18 are open to hunting. Our proposed season dates are: September 19, 2009 through September 27, 2009 and October 10, 2009 through October 31, 2009 for archery; September 28, 2009 through October 5, 2009 for muzzleloader; and October 2, 2009 through October 5, 2009 for the firearms season. The standard application deadline for firearms and muzzleloader permits is the second Friday in June, which would be June 12, 2009. Applications for archery permits would be available through the next to last day of the season. Chairman Johnston – This seems to be a place where we have a large market for firearms and muzzleloader permits but limited permits being made available. Is this a reflection of the health of the herd? Peek – That is the case. I think we will be able to issue a few more this year, especially in Unit 17, but we typically issue permits based on our buck to doe ratio. There is a fine line we walk because a lot of the hunters want quality, but we are also interested in issuing as many as we can. Commissioner Lauber – Does the herd continue to grow or is it stabilized and we just harvest the numbers to keep it at a good density? Peek – It has been fairly stable lately and I don't consider our harvest to have much impact on the population out there because the last couple of years we killed about 140 animals out of a population of a couple thousand and only about twenty of those were does. The doe harvest, which is what it takes to limit the population, is very minimal and yet the population doesn't increase. So there are other factors out there that have a greater impact on the population than hunting. Commissioner Lauber – At one point, it was thought the population stayed in a relatively tight geographic area and didn't move beyond that. Is that still the case and does that mean that herd and land is at its carrying capacity? Peek – Not entirely the case, it would appear, looking at the landscape, that there would be some potential for it to expand, but it doesn't. It is primarily confined to the western most couple of tiers of counties even though our deer units extend farther east than the pronghorn range does we use those deer units for management as a matter of consistency and to not confuse hunters.

On elk (Exhibit K), we have one minor adjustment to the season dates. Before 2007 the elk season on Fort Riley didn't open until October 1, but last year, in an effort to allow hunters access to the Fort during the peak of the elk rut, we opened September 1 through September 30 for all of the limited elk permits, when they could use either archery or muzzleloader equipment. In order to be consistent with the closing dates for muzzleloader deer and elk seasons off of Fort Riley we would like to extend that season through October 4. Our proposed season date, for archery and muzzleloader, would be September 1 through October 4 rather than September 1-30. The firearms season would open October 1 through December 31 as it has in the past, with one-third of the antlerless elk permits being valid during each of one month-long segments and any elk permits being valid during that entire period. The season dates, consistent with deer seasons where possible. The muzzleloader season would run September 1 through October 4, 2009; archery is September 21 through December 31; and firearms season is December 2-13, 2009 and January 1 through March 15, 2010. The permits would be valid statewide and hunt-own-land (HOL) permits would be unlimited statewide with the exception of Morton County. As with pronghorn, we will determine our elk permit numbers closer to the close of the ongoing season. We would like to continue to have hunters contact the department upon harvesting an elk so that

we may collect samples for CWD testing. The application deadline for the limited permits will be July 10, 2009 and HOL permits would be available through the next to the last day of the season. Pearce – For several years you had concerns about reproduction, are you feeling better about that now? The year I hunted I only saw one calf and a friend saw two, has that improved? Peek – We think they have. We rely on the Fort’s aerial surveys for a much of our population information, and I don’t believe the current harvest pressure is harming the herd out there, so recruitment is keeping up with the hunting pressure at this time. Pearce – How many have been harvested this year? Peek – Only one animal so far this year, a cow harvested on an any-elk permit is all that I am aware of. Hunting conditions are very difficult because of all the rain and the vegetation.

7. Deer, 25 Series Regulations - Lloyd Fox, big game wildlife research biologist, gave this report to the Commission (Exhibit L). I would like to talk about KAR 115-25-9. This regulation is where we make annual changes in season dates, application periods, units where whitetail antlerless permits are available and the number that may be used by each hunter, and the units that will have an antlerless-only extended season. The season dates suggested for 2009-10 are as follows: youth and disability, September 9, 2009 – September 20, 2009; early muzzleloader, September 21, 2009 – October 4, 2009; archery, September 21, 2009 – December 31, 2009; early firearms (DMU 19), October 10, 2009 – October 18, 2009; regular firearms, December 2, 2009 – December 13, 2009; extended WAO, traditionally would be January 1, 2010 – January 3, 2010; and the extended archery (DMU 19), January 4, 2010 – January 31, 2010. As we try to increase the harvest of the antlerless deer and get a sufficient number to control population levels, we, in the profession, were running into some difficulties. We can’t just continue to increase season lengths and expect a linear relationship, or even a positive relationship. We have noticed in other states that short season lengths you are causing some difficulties with hunters getting opportunities to hunt. As you extend the season length you reach points where there is a reduction in hunter participation. We have seen that in Units 12 and 12a where we attempted some longer seasons. This year the extended WAO season is three days, January 1-3, and last year it was four days and we received considerable input from individuals in the northern part of Units 7 and 8 and as a result we set up two different extended WAO seasons. One was one weekend and one, in the northern part of Units 7 and 8, included the next weekend. I would like to get public and Commission input on going back to a single extended season, and extending the January 1-3 season through January 10, an additional seven days and two weekends. We have season dates for Fort Leavenworth and the Smoky Hill Air National Guard subunit, but the season dates for Fort Riley will be established in a different regulation, 115-25-9a, as we have done in the previous two years. We have had some interest in changing the application deadline dates, particularly non-resident deer permits. We have had some internal discussions on this and one of the items to consider is it takes a period of time to inform the hunters before you can change the deadline date. If we were to do this the suggestion was to not try and establish a new deadline date for the 2009 season, but if that is the direction the Commission wishes to go that we try to establish that for 2010. The suggestion is to move that up from the last of May (June 1 this year because of the calendar) to the end of April. The application deadlines are basically the same and we would like to establish a common deadline for resident either species either sex tags, in the western part of the state, with the closing date the second Friday of July as opposed to changing the calendar dates each year, which can be

confusing. Consideration will be made on inclusion of Deer Management Units where an extended firearms season will be authorized after additional data becomes available and the number of permits available. No recommendations for any changes from last year.

Commissioner Lauber – Is it the general opinion, in Unit 12 for example, that there are ample does and doe harvest would be desirable Fox – Yes. Commissioner Lauber – Why do we want to change the application deadline forward? Fox – Nonresidents and outfitters have a desire to find out as soon as possible when they are successful in a state to give them time to set their vacation time and/or make plans for some other state if they are unsuccessful. On the other hand we still have a number of people who desire to come to Kansas at the last minute. Last year we had a very successful application time period and rate. Only 370 people, who applied, out of 14,400, did not get a permit and we had over 3,000 permits left-over after the initial drawing. Not sure where we stand right now, but left-over permits are on our website right now. Commissioner Lauber – As far as moving the date forward, it won't add or detract from the number of nonresident hunters presumably? Fox – In 2010, we would have to enact the regulation in March instead of April and does put more pressure on accumulating information and making the recommendation. We think we can handle that. Chairman Johnston – Bob, would you like to add a few comments here on the Governor's Tourism Committee meeting? Bob Mathews – Lloyd referred to this, the internal discussions undertaken. Chairman Johnston, I and Michael Pearce and a handful of other people met a couple of weeks ago to talk about this earlier application period and Lloyd has summarized what those concerns were, so I don't know that I can add anything. Chairman Johnston – The response to Mr. Lauber's question was that this was a request being made to us by business interests associated with big game hunting in Kansas and as I recall they were pretty serious that this would give Kansas an advantage that we do not enjoy right now because of our later application and results reporting period. Mathews – Obviously, guides and outfitters deal primarily with nonresident hunters, but I think Lloyd has heard from both entities, guides and outfitters as well as nonresident hunters. Commissioner Lauber – I don't have a problem with moving it forward. Most of our constituents have limited concern about the convenience of nonresidents, guides and outfitters, but they are a factor that we need to try and accommodate them. The concern is the whether or not this would cause another spike of nonresident hunter permits and the perception that we have to meet demand and increase the number of nonresident permits again. Fox – It should not affect the number of permits, but will make determination of that number more hurried than we would have otherwise. Commissioner Lauber – I think it would not create much more demand because we are at our capacity, but may cause economic value of a hunting experience to go up, but not increase numbers because there is not that many places for hunters to go. Fox – We are very close to meeting nonresident demand to hunt. We had 17,000 permits available and only 14,000 applied, and if we move the deadline up there is a chance we will have fewer apply. Still have opportunity to issue nonresident permits with left-over permits. Commissioner Robert Wilson – Do you have any information on bucks that are shot during the extended whitetail antlerless season? Fox – Yes, we have looked at this numerous times. Back in the old days when we had check stations back in Unit 12a and agency personnel were able to identify the type of deer that were taken. We have also gone in and checked at locker plants and input from hunters who fill out their hunter report card. All through the years, back to the 1980s, on the January seasons, some that have gone all the way to the end of January, the number of adult male deer taken has seldom reached 5 percent of the harvest during that time period. Yes, there are adult male deer that have shed their antlers

that are killed, but there are also some shot during regular firearms season that have dropped their antlers. However, in all cases, this makes up a relatively small part of the harvest. The WAO season does contribute anywhere from 15-20 percent of the antlerless harvest that occurs during all seasons. So it has minimal impact. Commissioner Robert Wilson – If we extend that season, will we be beyond the five percent average? Fox – Don't anticipate that, in the past some of those seasons ran into February and a very small portion of those deer were adult bucks that had shed their antlers, to go from January 3 to January 10 should not be significant factor. Chairman Johnston – Have you ever considered an early WAO season? Fox – The early firearms season in Unit 19 is any deer and we have considered that a couple of times. It does run into conflicts, in that time period it conflicts with existing archery or muzzleloader hunting that is going on during that time. That has not been received favorably by hunting community, either firearms or archery. It is an outstanding idea and something we have proposed before. A pre-rut removal of female deer has many positive aspects biologically, but socially unacceptable. Chairman Johnston – When was the last time that was considered and had a public hearing? Fox – In about 1994 or 1995. Chairman Johnston – I am biased, but it makes sense to me now more than ever. To reduce antlerless populations that an early rifle season statewide would have more interest than a January season when most of the rifle hunters have already had 10 days of hunting. Fox – There are some advantages to taking females out of the population before the rut. We are looking at fairly stable deer populations in Kansas. We have high success rates, but satisfaction levels not as high as 1980s, but still outstanding and we have held constant on deer/vehicle accidents and other conflict indices. Kansas has the lowest deer/vehicle hazard rate as rated by State Farm Insurance in the Midwest. Pearce – When will you know if the addition of scopes to muzzleloaders made an addition to the popularity of the early September season? Fox – We won't know until we complete the deer harvest survey in April. Pearce – Can you guesstimate what percentage of the muzzleloader deer taken are antlerless? Fox – I can't at this time, I can on last year. Pearce – Just email those percentages of antlerless on muzzleloader, archery and firearms to me. Fox – We have the capability of doing that in our data sets right now. Chairman Johnston – I attended this meeting that Bob talked about and it seemed like a reasonable request when presented, if it was feasible for the department to move up the application period 30 days and it sounds like the department is in favor and I would like to see that for the 2010/2011 season.

C. Workshop Session

1. Big Game Permanent Regulations – Lloyd Fox, big game research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M). We have brought these forward once before this year. We are not proposing any changes in this regulation at this time. As Chris Tymeson suggested a few problems are on the horizon, like the blaze orange during the archery season, primarily an issue at Fort Riley and somewhat of an issue in Unit 19. However, no change in 115-4-4 where this is currently described, but it would not be possible unless there was a change in the state law. So at this time we are not able to change it. So we have hunters use camouflage, camouflage and blaze orange or just blaze orange for archery hunting. Other items include: one in 115-4-11 in preference point system and priority draw. Now that we have KOALS in operation we could run a different preference point system, like elk. One suggestion has been to allow people to be entered into draw as many times as they have made application in

the past. This would allow people a greater opportunity and would require a change in our regulation. Another issue has to do with making a single application and receiving a single permit. Where we have run into some issues is with nonresident HOL permits, especially individuals who have applied for a permit under LLC and in investigation found not to qualify for that permit, but because they received a permit they cannot attempt to obtain a permit in any other way. This is the first time this has come up. The Committee formed by the Secretary will be addressing this. No recommendations at this time. Commissioner Lauber – Under what circumstance would a Limited Liability Company (LLC) apply for something? Tymeson – This situation has arisen due to concerns of fraud, so the department is currently auditing HOL permits and clearly there is fraud in every system, no matter if deer permitting or banking, or whatever. In certain situations people have purchased land and want the protection of a LLC, but then they are not the landowner, the LLC is, so they erroneously purchased a HOL permit. This is more of an educational process, but they are hampered by our regulations and perhaps they could have qualified as a tenant or a manager. In the audit we found fraud and instances where people could have qualified for a different permit but applied for the wrong permit. They don't see the legal distinction between themselves and LLC. Commissioner Lauber – Same issue you deal with when you have a living trust? Tymeson – Yes, that is the same situation, but I think most of those people are applying as a tenant or manager because the trust is the owner of the property. This year might not be good year for legislative change, but education might be the key. Commissioner Lauber – Has there been some previous legislation on grantor's of the trust applying as a landowner? Tymeson – I haven't seen anything since I have been here, nine years. That could have happened in late 1990s when we had a flurry of 17 or 18 deer bills in the legislature.

2. Threatened and Endangered Species Report – Ed Miller, nongame biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit N). Brief update on where we are in five-year process in evaluating our list of threatened and endangered species in Kansas. This process takes about a year and a half. It started with canvassing for petitions and we received 21 petitions for listing or delisting a species and we have a Threatened and Endangered Task Committee that looks over these and we have come up with nine species which warrant review. They are the bald eagle; the peregrine falcon; and the broadhead skink (lizard), which have all been petitioned to be unlisted. The American eel; shoal chub; bigeye shiner; redfin darter; plains minnow; delta hydrobe, which is an aquatic snail; which are species being reviewed for possible listing. The process, by statute, requires informational meetings, and I have held two and have others coming up. We have held meetings in Wichita, Topeka and Parsons with the upcoming one to be held in Pittsburg. After the meetings are done we will have a 90-day comment period and then bring forward final recommendations for the Commission. Commissioner Lauber – Of the nine species, the American Eel, it doesn't nest or reproduce so what can we do to make any difference there? Miller – We have discussed that and there doesn't seem to be a lot that can be done because one of the obstructions is dams in mainstream rivers, especially in the Ark River drainage that keep them from coming into Kansas. We will have to discuss if it is really viable, or does it make any difference to the overall population. Commissioner Lauber – We can enhance efforts on the other species. Miller – The only thing we could do is maybe make sure there is easier passage, like low head dams. Commissioner Robert Wilson – Why was blue catfish considered? Miller – Because it was becoming unusual to be found in the Kansas river

drainage and the Committee think that many are being propagated in hatcheries and coming in from other states, so we threw that one out. Commissioner Lauber – How does something get petitioned? Miller – We send out petitions to University people and anyone with interest or expertise in that funnel group and they put together their petition looking at scientific data and the Task Force looks at the data to see if it merits further review. Commissioner Bolton – How many endangered and threatened species do we have in Kansas? Miller – We have 24 endangered, 35 threatened and 79 on species-in-need-of-conservation list which is our watch list. Commissioner Bolton – Which area has the most? Miller - In southeast Kansas because most of our species are aquatic living in rivers and streams.

Commissioner Shari Wilson – I wanted to report on events I have been involved in with the department. One of those was the Kansas Health Summit where I and a few other people were on a panel to see what we were doing to get kids outside and some of the various programs in our state. It was a well-attended session and there was good discussion, and it coincided with “take a child outside” week. The department was really involved with the Health Summit this year and the theme was “the built environment.” Interesting experience for me to interact with colleagues in the public health field, which I didn’t realize many of them have similar agenda items to us with regards to encouraging kids and adults to get outdoors and it seems like there are some opportunities there to work together in that goal. I would like to thank Jerry and the department for the opportunity to participate. I didn’t think it related to me and what I do, but that was an erroneous assumption. There were also quite a number of state park staff there and I would like to thank them for taking the time to go because they are busy.

Another meeting was this past week in Wichita, the North American Association for Environmental Education and we had about 800 people from all over the country and our state to talk about the latest trends in conservation and environmental education. A number of participants were able to take field trips out into state, for instance Quivira and Cheyenne Bottoms and some of our staff led those trips, and I appreciate them taking the time to do that. People at the conference were buzzing about how beautiful and prosperous Kansas is. For a number of years the department has been conducting Regional Eco-Meets, students from schools all across Kansas compete in some tough tests about species, ecology and other items. I will be helping at the Ernie Miller Nature Center next week. This year there were eight meets with about 45 schools and over 400 students. Hopefully next year we will have as many as 10 regional meets and the state final is at Quivira on November 5. Great to see kids out there and you can tell which ones were prepared. Wonderful endeavor by the department to get good science into our schools.

VII. RECESS AT 4:20 p.m.

VIII. RECONVENE AT 7:00 p.m.

IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS

X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

B. General Discussion (continued)

Moved item 8 to later in the evening – Bond family not present yet.

9. Tragedy at Wright's Creek DVD - Wayne Doyle, hunter education coordinator, showed a video that was put together by KDWP with help from Bob Arndt.

At the time of the tragic hunting incident near Americus last year when a boy was shot when someone was shooting into decoys. It was thought we should try and do something and I had the thought of a video but didn't have nerve enough to call Mr. Arndt. However, Mr. Arndt came to the Commission meeting in January and he spoke to you and he made it known that he was looking for something to make positive out of a very negative situation. We started working on this DVD, the idea being to have something powerful to be used in a hunter education class and for general use by law enforcement and sheriff's departments. The DVD is out to 12 other states that are using it as part of their hunter education (HE) program and two Canadian provinces. Also, a significant number of other states are using it as resource material for their instructors. I have seen this in several HE classes and it is amazing the power that this has. This could not have been done without Bob Arndt (asked him to stand).

Showed Video

HE instructors are using this to get the students involved in what could have prevented this from happening. I think it has turned out to be more than I had even hoped and the best review came from the Arndt's when they said this is exactly what they wanted as a memorial for Beau. Chairman Johnston – I am sure I can speak for the entire Commission in expressing our sincere condolences as well as the appreciation for the help and assistance your family gave to producing this DVD, and I am sure it will help teach an important lesson to a countless number of hunters.

10. Recreational Trails Fund Projects Update – Jerry Hover, Parks Division director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit O). Our Parks Division administers the program, and funding is provided by the Federal Highway Administration from taxes on motor fuels and other sources. Kansas on an annual basis is awarded about \$1.2 million to worthy projects of recreational trails. Thirty percent of the available funds must be targeted for motorized trails, 30 percent for non-motorized trails, and 40 percent is educational, administrative and a combination of the two types of projects. So we end up with about five categories of projects. On October 7, the statewide Trails Advisory Board met and reviewed all of the applications. Those applications were listed in your book and the one I handed out showed the approximate amount of money recommended: Category 1 – non-motorized single use – Mount Hope \$22,000; Goessel \$19,500; Glen Elder State Park \$12,000; and Meade State Park \$75,000; Category 2 – non-motorized diversified-use – Kansas Trails Council 21,600; Pottawatomie County \$200,000; Kansas Singletrack Society \$21,700; Wellington \$59,500; Hutchinson \$80,000; Kaw River State Park \$31,000; Pomona State Park \$90,000; Prairie Dog State Park \$10,000; Perry State Park \$40,000; Category 3 – diversified-use both motorized and non-motorized – Topeka \$147,500; Sand Hills State Park \$245,000; Category 4 – motorized single-use – KATVA \$6,700; Educational Funds – Pratt County Lake Committee \$7,800; and the remaining \$57,000 for administration. This current year Congress has not passed a budget.

What they have done is pass a continuing resolution for 150 days so under that we can only award approximately \$500,000 at this time. We feel the total amount will be available with the next sitting Congress so we will wait until then to allocate the remaining funds. Also, we intend to spend money the remaining \$400,000 from the Syracuse Sand Hills Park as they have not begun that project with us as we are still in negotiation over the mitigation. We will spend those funds for the motorized projects listed here and save this year's money for Syracuse should they come forward with their mitigation plan. The purpose today is to obtain a consensus from the Commission to proceed with these projects and obtain any additional information from the public. Commissioner Bolton – On those that you didn't fund, will those projects be funded when you get the rest of that money? Hover – No, they are not recommended at this time, but they can reapply again next year. We have one more year of funding and then in 2009/2010 they will be working on reauthorization of the program. *Commission gave consensus to proceed.* Hover – We will complete the final analysis before we move ahead.

Chairman Johnston – We will go back to item 8. Also, I forgot to allow time for Commissioners and public to offer comment after Wright's Tragedy video and I will do that after this next presentation.

8. Wildtrust Hunter Education Donation from Memorial Shoot in Honor of Beau Arndt from the Bond Family - Wayne Doyle, hunter education coordinator, presented this report to the Commission. This presentation is an example of how this tragedy reached out to a lot of people in a lot of places. The event that Skylar Bond organized and ran is an example of those. Skylar Bond – My father and I helped coordinate the Beau Arndt Memorial Shoot, we wanted to put money in jar for each quail or pheasant we shot and my father said we wouldn't make much money. So we contacted Beau's father and we raised a little over \$1,300. Scott Bond – My son and I are avid bird hunters, but it was right after the ice storm last year, my son, who just turned 15, asked me if he and his buddies could go out hunting. I used the recent accident with Beau to tell him that it wasn't him I didn't trust, but other hunters out there and he said he wanted to do something. I told him he could send his allowance and we decided we wanted more than that. We discussed taking other kids out for a bird hunt and a friend came up with the idea of the sporting clay shoot. Then we contacted the Arndt family to get their blessing and the money goes towards their memorial. With us tonight is Bob Arndt, Beau's father and I want to invite him up here to say a few words. Bob Arndt – I just want to say thanks to Skylar and give him a hand (*applause*). Scott Bond – This wouldn't have went off as well as it did without Phil Taunton. If you don't know, Phil is up for an award as National Conservationist of the Year and I think we should give him a hand by voting for him (*applause*).

Chairman Johnston – I would like to give Commissioners an opportunity to comment on DVD. Commissioner Bolton – Last year when Mr. Arndt came to our meeting he wanted something positive to come out of it and I think this DVD did help HE and put a positive spin on something very tragic. Chairman Johnston – This remarkable DVD is being used in a number of states and Canada is positive development out of a terrible tragedy and thankful department was able to play a part in it.

11. Cabin Promotional DVD – Jerry Hover, Parks Division director, introduced the video produced by Joyce Dixon, office specialist at Tuttle Creek State Park. We showed this DVD continuously at the State Fair in the cabin (*showed DVD*). Thank you, Joyce.

12. Cabin Reservation System – Jerry Hover, Parks Division director, presented this report to the Commission. In September the online reservation system went live to the public. This is an in-house program developed by our IT staff and to show you how it is working - In the first month 172 people created their user names and signed up on the site and 134 of those made reservations which resulted in about \$22,500. It is being well-received by the public. Many times we have had to hold back people to do some maintenance before the next guest arrives. We plan to do more. Commissioner Meyer – After being on commission three or four months I went to Kanopolis where we were dedicating the first cabin and I thought somebody had a vision for the future, because we didn't know if it would work or not. I appreciate what you and your staff has done to make this a successful program. Commissioner Bolton – I had the privilege of going through one of the cabins at Tuttle Creek State Park and I was amazed that some of them are wheelchair accessible and how large they were because they don't look that large from the outside. Commissioner Shari Wilson – I would like to thank Joyce again for putting the DVD together as I am sure it took a lot of hours. It is nice that we have enough cabins and have a high quality DVD like this. Chairman Johnston – How many total cabins are there? Hover – That changes every few days and we work with the Correctional facilities and Greenbush who teaches inmates a skill and when a cabin is finished the field staff has the site ready for it and it is ready to open in a short time period. Currently we have about 80 cabins. Chairman Johnston – Is there a goal for the number of cabins we will have statewide? Hover – We will be having a department meeting in December, which originally was to finalize the construction plans, but probably will only be one phase of it. We are looking at about 200 cabins statewide. Dick Koerth – That number includes wildlife areas and state fishing lakes also, not just state parks.

D. Public Hearing

Kansas Legislative Research Department and Attorney General's office comments (Exhibit P).

1. KAR 115-2-3a cabin camping permit fees – Jerry Hover, Parks Division director, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit Q). Changes are: on page one - Cheney State Park, change Cabins 1 through 8 to 1 through 7 and add Cabin 8 to Cabin 9 pricing; page two - Crawford State Park Cabins, 1 through 4 are now 1 and 2 at new price (increased by \$10.00 each) – it becomes \$75.00, \$65.00, \$95.00, \$85.00, \$460.00, and \$385.00; Crawford State Park Cabins 3 through 5 at \$65.00, Sunday through Thursday, October 1 through March 31, per night \$55.00, Friday and Saturday, April 1 through September 30, per night \$85.00, Friday and Saturday, October 1 through March 31, per night \$75.00, April 1 through September 30, per week \$450.00, and October 1 through March 31, per week \$375.00; page seven - Milford State Park renumber Cabins 1 through 6 as Cabins 1 through 3, and add new prices on Cabins 4 and 5 to Sunday through Thursday, April 1 through September 30, per night \$75.00, Friday and Saturday, April 1 through September 30, per night \$95.00, Sunday through Thursday, October 1 through March 31, per night \$65.00, Friday and Saturday, October 1 through March 31, per night \$85.00, April 1 through September 30, per week \$520.00, and October 1 through March 31, per

week \$445.00; page eight - Prairie Dog State Park add Cabin 3 at year-round, per night \$65.00, and year-round, per week \$420.00; page ten - at Clark State Fishing Lake add Cabin 2 at same rate at Cabin 1; at Fall River Wildlife Area add Cabin 1 at year-round, all wildlife areas the same at \$60.00 per night and year-round at \$420.00 per week \$420.00; at Jamestown Wildlife Area add Cabin 2 at same rate at Cabin 1; at Fall River Wildlife Area add Cabin 1 at year-round, per night \$60.00, and year-round, per week \$420.00; at Kingman State Fishing Lake add Cabin 2 at same rate at Cabin 1; at Fall River Wildlife Area add Cabin 1 at year-round, per night \$60.00, and year-round, per week \$420.00; renumber McPherson State Fishing Lake; renumber Mined land and add Cabin 2 at same rate as Cabin 1; renumber Ottawa State Fishing Lake; and renumber Woodson State Fishing Lake and add Cabin 2 at same rate as Cabin 1.

Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to bring KAR 115-2-3a before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-2-3a as recommended was as follows (Exhibit R):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner S. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-2-3a passed 7-0.

2. KAR 115-7-1 fishing; legal equipment, methods of taking, and other provisions – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit S). We have a proposal to add float fishing which would involve several regulations. This regulation would allow the use of floatline in certain locations and subject to certain descriptions. The changes start on page two, items 7(a) through 7(d) and on the next page item 10 has been added. We have workshopped these on two occasions. Chairman Johnston – On 7(a), the immediate supervision language, the way this reads it sounds like it will be legal to be on land while watching and supervising as long as they are in site. Nygren – That is the intent.

Commissioner Shari Wilson moved to bring KAR 115-7-1 before the Commission. Commissioner Robert Wilson seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-1 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit T):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner S. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-7-1 passed 7-0.

3. KAR 115-7-2 fishing; general provisions – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit U). Under (a) add “eight floatlines”; and under (c) add “floatline”. Under (i) and (j) add “Unless otherwise prohibited by regulation,” at the beginning of each section and the words “eight floatlines”. Also, in (j) change dates.

**Commissioner Debra Bolton moved to bring KAR 115-7-2 before the Commission.
Commissioner Frank Meyer seconded.**

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-2 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit T):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner S. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-7-2 passed 7-0.

4. KAR 115-18-21 floatline fishing permit; requirements, restrictions, and permit duration – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit V). Purpose of this regulation is to have a way to survey folks at the end of the year who took advantage of this new fishing technique. The next regulation would be setting the fee of zero dollars.

**Commissioner Gerald Lauber moved to bring KAR 115-18-21 before the Commission.
Commissioner Doug Sebelius seconded.**

The roll call vote on KAR 115-18-21 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit T):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner S. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-18-21 passed 7-0.

5. KAR 115-2-1. Amount of fees – floatline permit – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit W). This is the dollar amount of zero, but

there will be a transaction fee that the KOALS system charges, \$2.50, of which the department's part of that is zero. That is on page four, at top of page.

**Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to bring KAR 115-2-1 before the Commission.
Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.**

The roll call vote on KAR 115-2-1 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit X):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner S. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-2-1 passed 7-0.

6. 115-25-14 fishing; creel limit, size limit, possession limit, and open season; and fishing reference document – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section Chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibits Y and Z). The proposed amendments relate to the addition of new water bodies to the special creel limits, length limits and bait restrictions reference document. I will touch on the controversial changes: implementing an 18-inch minimum length limit on walleye at Glen Elder Reservoir; change to daily creel limit of 5 on blue catfish at Cheney, El Dorado, and Milford reservoirs; Marion Reservoir liberalizing limit from 2-a-day to 5-a-day on wipers – we have our own brood stock now and are not totally dependent on other states to help us meet our demand; added Tallgrass Prairie Preserve ponds, three ponds that have been enrolled in our fishing access program and they want them to be catch and release only so we have added some wording for that; and finally the locations of the floating fishing pilot project – which are: Council Grove reservoir, Hillsdale reservoir, John Redman reservoir, Kanopolis reservoir, Pomona reservoir, Toronto reservoir, Tuttle Creek reservoir, and Wilson reservoir. The season would run from July 15 through September 15.

**Commissioner Gerald Lauber moved to bring KAR 115-25-14 before the Commission.
Commissioner Frank Meyer seconded.**

The roll call vote on KAR 115-25-14 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit X):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner Sebelius	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner S. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Johnston	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-25-14 passed 7-0.

XII. Old Business

None

XIII. Other Business

A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

January 8, 2009, Emporia Best Western Hospitality House (3021 W Hwy 50)

March 12, 2009, Topeka

April 16, 2009, Oakley

June 25, 2009, Council Grove

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Lauber moved to adjourn, Commissioner Meyer second. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

(Exhibits and/or Transcript available upon request)

Exhibit AA – Tragedy at Wright’s Creek DVD

Secretary's Remarks

TO: Commission on Wildlife and Parks
FROM: J. Michael Hayden, Secretary of Wildlife and Parks
SUBJECT: Agency and State Fiscal Status
DATE: January 8, 2009

We have submitted the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) FY 2010 budget request to the Office of the Governor and are awaiting the Governor's Budget Recommendations that will be provided next week. The request was reviewed with the Commission at the October meeting. As was mentioned at that meeting, the balance in the Wildlife Fee Fund has decreased significantly in recent years. In addition, this report also includes concerns with the funding of the state parks.

KDWP has four major funds that are considered interchangeable in regards to financing activities related to wildlife; these four funds are the Wildlife Fee Fund, Wildlife Fee Fund – Federal, Wildlife Conservation Fund, and the Wildlife Conservation Fund – Federal. Attached is a table listing these four funds with actual and future estimated revenues and expenditures by fiscal year. The table compiles the four funds by subtotal as indicated.

The important information on the table is the bottom two lines indicating total balances for the four funds and the amount expenditures exceeds revenue with the current fee structure. As shown by the end of FY 2011 (June 30, 2011), the Wildlife Fee Fund and the four funds totaled together will be in a deficit condition. These estimates are based on the agency revenue history and assume a 2.5 percent growth in expenditures.

The decreasing wildlife funds availability is due to several factors. The numbers of resident hunting and fishing licenses have decreased significantly since 1987 and continue to decrease. For example in FY 2001, KDWP issued 136,960 resident hunting licenses and 230,541 resident fishing licenses. For FY 2010, the Department is estimating that 107,000 resident hunting licenses and 200,000 resident fishing licenses will be issued. The increase in non-resident hunting licenses and big game permits has provided revenue to supplement the loss in resident licenses. However, these increases have not been adequate to maintain a revenue base capable of funding existing agency activities.

The future funding for the state parks is also a concern at this time. Attached is a table with actual and estimated park funding. This table indicates that by the end of FY 2011, at the current level of expenditures, the Park Fee Fund will also be in a deficient condition. However, the majority of the park expenditures are financed from the State General Fund (SGF), which at this time faces uncertainties regarding future funding at the existing level. This issue will be discussed later in the report.

The second factor that has impacted KDWP revenue base has been increases in expenditures. Since FY 2001, the total operating expenditures for the Department has increase by

43 percent. These increases have provided more services for the constituents served by KDWP such as expansion of WIHA, increased law enforcement, and the KOALS on-line licensing system. These costs are in addition to increases in operating costs for items such as fuel and supplies. The expenditures for salaries have increased by 42 percent due to factors such as additional positions (9.0 FTE), cost of living salary increases, reclassification of positions, and implementation of the new state pay plan.

KDWP will propose revenue and expenditure initiatives to the Commission that will be presented by Secretary Hayden. It should be noted that the Department has taken several actions in the current fiscal year to reduce expenditures. KDWP will not fill vacant positions until the last quarter of the fiscal year depending on available fiscal resources. This includes permanent and temporary positions. In addition, out of state travel is being suspended until further notice. The “bottom line” is that without revenue adjustments KDWP cannot maintain its existing level of services to the public for wildlife programs.

The status of the State General Fund (SGF) simply put is not good. The latest SGF project for FY 2010 estimates a deficit of \$1,021.0 billion. This is after an estimated deficit of \$141.2 million for FY 2009. If the estimated expenditures from the SGF for FY 2010, \$6.662 billion, were reduced by the estimated deficit, it would require an “across the board” reduction of 15.3 percent from all agencies. For KDWP that would be a reduction of approximately \$1,330,305 for FY 2010. However, it should be noted that aid to K-12 schools and human services caseloads are approximately 63.4 percent of the estimated budget for FY 2010. If these two categories of expenditures were not included, the necessary reduction to the balance of the SGF expenditures in order to eliminate the estimated deficit would be approximately 40 percent to 45 percent.

KDWP anticipates significant adjustments to the FY 2010 budget submitted by the Department on September 15, 2008. The Governor will provide her recommendations next week and the Legislature will conduct their review for the next several months. The Commission will be informed of the Governor’s FY 2010 Budget Recommendations by separate mailing. The final budget for FY 2010 may not be known until the middle of May, 2009.

Attachments (2)

No documents for Revenue and Budget Initiatives; and 2009 Legislature

General Discussion

Commission Permits Update

Background

In January 2006, Wildlife and Parks held the first drawing for Commission permits when one elk and six deer permits were issued to applying conservation organizations. As stated in the statute there can be one elk, one antelope and up to seven deer permits issued with the limit of permits issued being seven.

In 2006, permits sold for \$49,000 with 59 applications being received. In 2007, permits sold for \$26,973.56 with 119 applicants.

In 2008, permits were won by the Columbus Chapter and the Concordia Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation (both deer); Kansas Ducks Unlimited State Committee (elk); National Rifle Association's High Plains Chapter and South Central Kansas Chapter (both deer); Fort Riley Outdoorsman Group; and Pheasants Forever Jayhawk Chapter (deer) who did not purchase or sell their permit. The permits sold for \$24,200 and there were 113 applications.

The permits are sold by the organization then they subtract the amount of the permit and send in 85 percent of the proceeds to be used on approved projects. After the projects are approved the money is sent back to the organization. The other 15 percent can be spent however they wish. National Wild Turkey Federation sold their two permits for \$4,350 each; Kansas Ducks Unlimited sold their permit for \$8,500; NRA sold their permits for \$3,500 each; Fort Riley just sold their permit for \$500; and Pheasants Forever did not sell their permit at all. In all \$19,309.63 will be spent on approved projects.

Cabin Summit Update

Background

The KDWP Cabin Program began in 1993 when a mushroom shelter was enclosed and converted into a primitive cabin at Cedar Bluff State Park. In 1997 El Dorado State Park added five primitive cabins via funding from the park's friends group. Now (as of December 22, 2008) the KDWP cabin portfolio consists of 69 cabins located in 15 state parks and 4 public lands/wildlife areas (see listing below). The cabins offer a wide range of amenities and accommodations. The modern (deluxe) cabins offer most of the conveniences of home (heat and air conditioning; furnished kitchen with refrigerators, stoves, microwaves and coffee pots; separate bedrooms and full bathrooms with showers). The basic sleeping cabins have a more primitive, rustic appeal. Some cabins have a varied assortment of amenities and provide an experience between these two previously mentioned types of cabins. Most cabins can accommodate 4 to 6 adults while others can sleep up to 10 adults. Approximately 50 percent are ADA accessible. The rental rates vary depending upon location, timing (season) and available amenities.

KDWP Cabins As of December 22, 2008

1	Atchison SFL	1
2	Cedar Bluff SP	5
3	Cheney SP	7
4	Crawford SP	4
5	Cross Timbers SP	3
6	Eisenhower SP	5
7	El Dorado SP	10
8	Glen Elder SP	2
9	Kanopolis SP	2
10	Lovewell SP	6
11	McPherson SFL	1
12	Milford SP	3
13	Mined Land WA	1
14	Ottawa SFL	1
15	Perry SP	4
16	Prairie Dog SP	2
17	Tuttle Creek SP	7
18	Webster SP	1
19	Wilson SP	4
	Total	69

Cabin Program Partners

In 2005 the KDWP developed a partnership for financing cabin construction with the Kansas Wildscape Foundation (KWF), the Kansas Department of Corrections and the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center (Greenbush). The KWF provides borrowed money from the Gardner National Bank to fund the acquisition of materials and supplies from which the cabins are built. Existing cabins are used to secure the loan and cabin rent revenues are used to repay the loan. Additionally, the KWF receives donations from private individuals to sponsor the cabins. The donations are used to help offset a portion of the cabin costs and thereby write down the loans in exchange for the sponsorships. To help in that effort, the KWF was recently awarded \$150,000 of tax credits from the Kansas Department of Commerce. These tax credits will leverage \$300,000 of private donations.

The Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) provides inmate labor and space for cabin construction at the correctional facilities in Hutchinson, Ellsworth and Norton. The Greenbush Program from the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center provides the supervision and instruction to the inmates for the cabin construction. The inmates also build the cabin furniture and cabinets; some of which are built by the female inmates at the Topeka Correctional Facility. By participating in the program, inmates receive a certified education and hands-on experience in the construction trades. Upon successful completion of the program, the inmates receive certification from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). (See the web site at <http://nccer.org/> for more information). This certification greatly assists in post-release job opportunities and a greater success rate in their transitional return to society. Approximately 100 inmates per year graduate from this program due to the cabin project.

Cabin Summit

Last fall (September 2008), the department began the process of reviewing the cabin plan to re-evaluate the total projected number of cabins, the anticipated cabin locations, the appropriate type(s) of cabins for each location, and the timing of cabin construction and installation. Since more than 100 people are directly involved in the KDWP Cabin Program, the department needed an efficient way to effectively discuss the draft plan. Therefore, the department organized the Cabin Summit which was held on December 15 – 16 at the Kansas National Guard Training Center in Salina. Those in attendance were park managers and public land managers, regional supervisors, other KDWP personnel involved in the cabin program, Kansas Wildscape Foundation, Kansas Dept. of Corrections, Greenbush and two KDWP Commissioners (Frank Meyer and Robert Wilson).

Secretary Hayden began the event by outlining the four primary purposes of the Cabin Summit (1. To provide all participants with the same information on how the cabin program works; 2. To explain the important roles of each program partner; 3. To discuss the future direction of the program (draft Cabin Plan); and 4. To provide an open discussion for ideas and process improvement suggestions).

The program's partners (Kansas Wildscape Foundation, Kansas Dept. of Corrections and Greenbush) explained their respective roles in the Cabin Program. These discussions provided participants an opportunity to understand the financing and construction aspects of the program as well as some of the challenges these partners encounter.

The draft Cabin Plan was discussed in great detail with each manager outlining the potential future cabin locations for their areas. They discussed their considerations for utility extensions, projected development costs and anticipated occupancy/usage. Though additional refinement is forthcoming, the draft plan is a 10-year plan for the department to operate approximately 200 cabins (of various sizes, styles and amenities) in 23 state parks and 20 public lands/wildlife areas.

Other sessions included: discussion of current and future marketing efforts, a demonstration of the on-line cabin reservation system, examples of various options on how to operate and manage cabins, how the cabin rent revenues are utilized via the Cabin Revenue Fund and what tasks are necessary before, during and after the cabins are moved and installed. A general question and answer session concluded the Cabin Summit.

Overall, the Cabin Summit seemed to be well-received by those in attendance. Most of them offered many positive comments; they enjoyed the opportunity to understand the details of the program and to have a voice in the future of the program.

The next step is for the department to refine the draft plan and then present the final draft to the program's partners for consideration and adoption.

Children in Nature Campaign

Background

On September 7, 2007, the National Park Service (NPS) and the National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD) adopted the Children in Nature Plan of Action. The NPS and NASPD recognize the commitment of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the Kansas Recreation and Park Association (KRPA) in their effort to connect America's youth to the outdoors and extended an invitation to join in the effort to further this plan of action by connecting into every community across Kansas and the nation.

The plan of action's goal is "to see this nation's children and their families again fully participate in outdoor recreation activities and rediscover their natural and cultural heritage." The plan of action also includes the following statements of intent:

- To share information and knowledge on developing and expanding natural resource education and recreation opportunities for children and their families.
- To engage other federal, state, local, tribal, and non-government partners in shared technology and interactive programs and problem solving activities to achieve mutually agreed upon goals to connect children and nature.
- Promote a national campaign to recognize the importance of connecting children and families to nature.
- Join together in a continuing dialogue to discuss common issues and implement solutions to create a seamless system of services.
- Focus on individual initiatives to increase the public's awareness and value of connecting children in nature toward a goal of improving the knowledge of our nation's natural resources and the health and welfare of the present and future generations of the nation's young Americans.

Over this past year, many more groups, foundations, and local communities have joined the effort and in October, 2008 the Kansas Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights was adopted by all members of the Kansas Outdoor coalition. Plans are in progress for adoption of a KS joint legislative resolution and formal adoption by Governor Sebelius.

This is a golden opportunity for national, state and local agencies to collaborate to better link children and families to nature. The NPS, NASPD, NRPA and KRPA all recognize the critical importance of the local and regional parks connecting children to nature. We invite the KDWP Commission and public to join in advancing the mutual goals of these organizations and others to connect the nation's children and their families to outdoors and an opportunity to rediscover their natural and cultural heritage.

**2009 Public Lands Regulations
Reference Document
Changes under consideration**

Definitions:

Change the definition of a novice hunter to anyone from 16 to 18 years of age and younger

Access Restrictions

Region 2

Benedictine WA-use of parking lot (½ hour after) sunset to (½ hour before) sunrise restricted to individuals authorized by permit

Pillsbury Crossing WA – 10 PM – 6 AM curfew. Closed to all activities. – ADD

Age Restrictions

Region 2

Hillsdale WA – Big Bull Wetland Area. Novice/Mentor – all species all seasons – ADD

Alcohol – No cereal malt beverages

Region 5

Shoal Creek WA - ADD

Closed to All Hunting

Region 5

Mined Land WA-only designated portions of Units 21 & 23 – DELETE

Equipment Restrictions (Hunting)

Archery Only

Region 4

McPherson SFL-archery deer only – ADD “and turkey”

Region 5

Mined Land WA Unit 1 – ADD “Unit 21, Unit 23, a portion of Unit 22 and Unit 47”

No Center fire Rifles

Region 2

Douglas SFL - ADD

Shawnee SFL - ADD

Leavenworth SFL -ADD

Shotgun & Archery Only

Region 2

Douglas SFL – ADD “for deer hunting”

Kansas River WA – ADD “No firearms deer hunting”

Leavenworth SFL – ADD “for deer hunting”

Shawnee SFL – ADD “for deer hunting”

Handicap Accessible Hunting

Region 2

Hillsdale WA - DELETE

No Swimming

Region 2

Pillsbury Crossing WA -ADD

Refuges

Closed to all Activities-year round

Region 5

Mined Land WA Bison pen and portion of Unit 1 – Change to “Bison pen located in Unit 1”

Closed to All Activities 10/1 through 1/15

Region 2

Tuttle Creek WA –DELETE

Special Permits (Daily/ Use* Hunt Permits)

Region 2

Kansas River WA - ADD

Species Restrictions (Hunting)

Region 5

Mined Land WA-Unit 21 closed to waterfowl hunting - DELETE

No document for Fishing Participation Marketing Program; Meade Bass Propagation Facility; and State T&E Review Status

Workshop Session

KAR 115-25-5

Turkey; fall season, bag limit, and permits

Background

Over the last five years the fall turkey season in Kansas has averaged more than 80 days in length and three of four turkey units are open to hunting (Figure 1). Hunters are currently permitted to harvest one bird of either sex in Units 1, 2, & 3 and they can purchase three either-sex game tags valid only in Unit 2.

The number of permits and game tags issued for the fall 2007-2008 turkey season was 15,066 (includes 3,769 game tags) and down by approximately 1,200 from the previous year. The percentage of hunters that harvested at least one turkey during the fall 2007-2008 season was 42 percent. These hunters harvested an estimated 4,716 turkeys (671 archery and 4,045 firearm) of which 36 percent were females.

Population Status and Productivity

In recent years, the turkey population in the eastern 1/3 of the state has declined (Figure 2). Moderate population declines have occurred in the northeast and southcentral management units but the most severe decline has been in the southeastern portion of the state. The primary cause of the decline has been the above average summer rainfall that has occurred in that region in recent years. The wet weather caused nest abandonment and poor poult survival and resulted in four consecutive years of below average production. As a result, hunter success and harvest during the spring and fall seasons have declined for four consecutive years in the southeast management region. Bird numbers and hunter success in the southeast region will likely continue to decline due to very poor production during each of the last two years. Turkey production has been much better in other parts of the state and populations continue to grow in some areas.

Recommendation

The department is concerned about the recent turkey population declines in the eastern part of the state. Because fall harvest of turkeys has the potential to affect future population growth and subsequent spring success rates, the department is evaluating some options to reduce fall harvest accordingly. However, the various options have not yet been fully evaluated so the department is recommending no change to fall turkey regulations at this time.

Figure 1. Current wild turkey hunting units for Kansas.

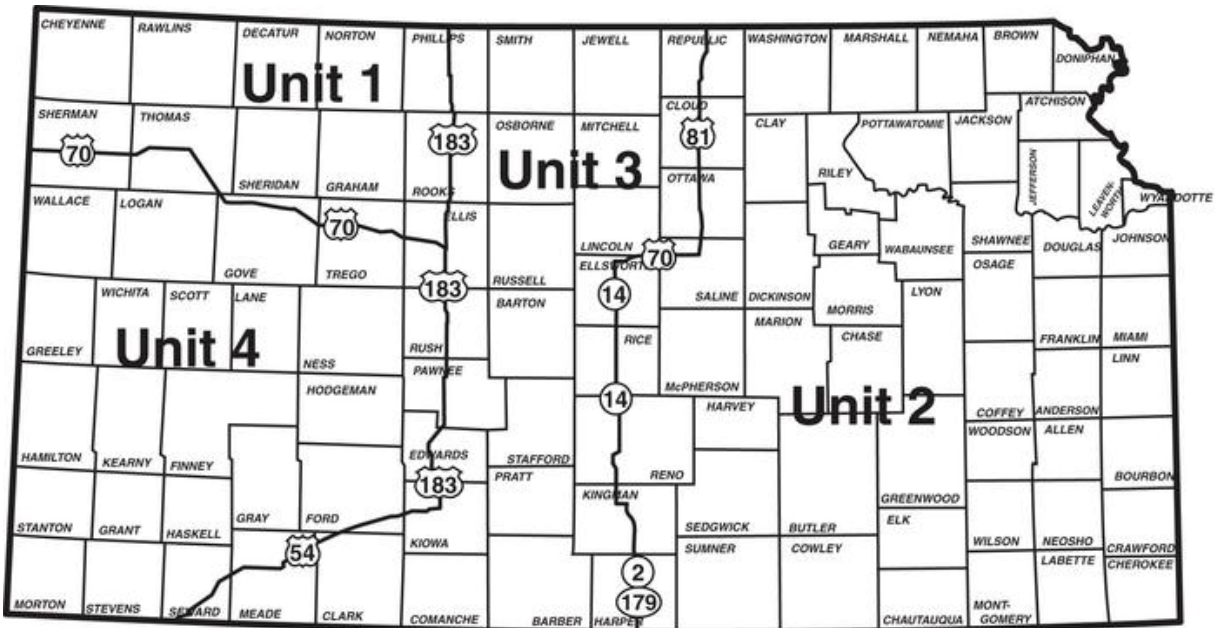
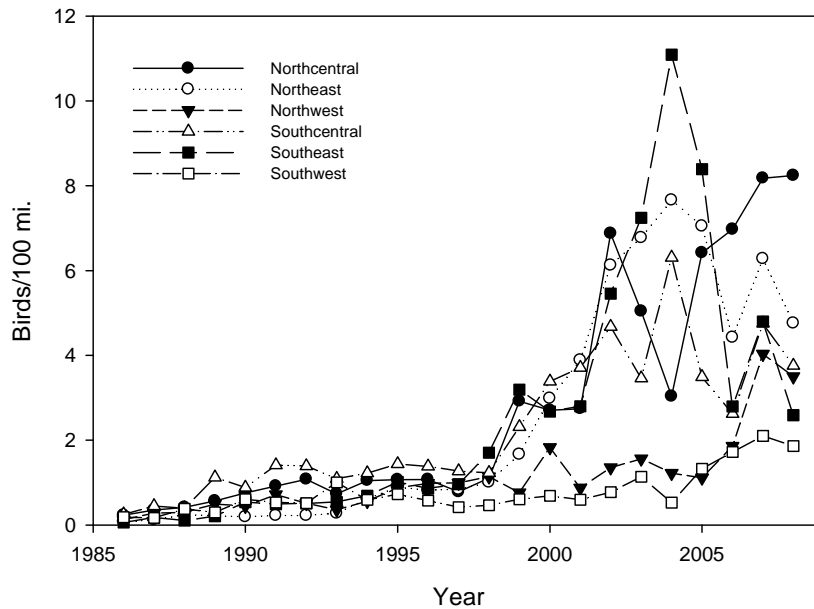


Figure 2. Regional indices (birds/100 mi.) to Kansas' wild turkey population derived from the April rural mail carrier survey, 1986-2008.



KAR 115-25-7

Antelope; open season, bag limit and permits

Background

This regulation pertains to seasons, bag limits, unit boundaries, permits and tags for pronghorn antelope.

Western Kansas pronghorn antelope populations have supported a hunting season since 1974. The firearms pronghorn season has been four days long since 1990 and traditionally has started on the first Friday in October. The archery pronghorn season had been nine days since 1985 and included the two weekends prior to the firearms season. Since 2005, the archery season has reopened on the Saturday following the firearms season, and continued through the end of October. A muzzleloader season was initiated in 2001. It has begun immediately after the archery season and ran for eight days, the last four of which overlap with the firearms season.

Demand for pronghorn hunting opportunities in Kansas by resident hunters remains high. In 2008, more than 800 applied for the 152 limited-draw permits, plus another 412 bought preference points. Half the permits are allocated to landowner/tenants who account for a much smaller percent of applicants than general residents, so they are able to draw with 0-2 preference points. For general residents, 3-6 preference points are required to draw a muzzleloader permit and 6-8 preference points are required to draw a firearms permit.

Discussion

Permit allocations are based on a combination of factors, including buck:doe ratios obtained during summer aerial surveys. An effort is made to manage the herd within each unit at levels between maximum trophy potential (50 bucks per 100 does) and the minimum number of bucks needed to achieve maximum production (25 bucks per 100 does). Most hunters are interested in harvesting adult bucks, which constitute about 90 percent of the total harvest annually. As buck ratios decline, hunters generally become less satisfied, though more hunters are allowed the opportunity to hunt. Conversely, in order to maintain higher buck ratios, fewer permits must be issued, but hunters generally report higher satisfaction. In recent years, our objective has been 35 to 40 bucks per 100 does. Our five-year average based on summer production surveys has been 39 bucks per 100 does. Archery success rates are low (10 percent to 15 percent) compared to other techniques, so unlimited archery permits are allocated with minimal impact on pronghorn numbers. Firearm and muzzleloader pronghorn hunters have higher success rates (approximately 70 percent and 60 percent, respectively), and therefore must be limited given the high demand for these permits in order to maintain buck:doe ratios acceptable to most hunters.

Recommendations

No changes are recommended for season structure, unit boundaries, bag limits, or permits.

We propose unlimited archery permits be allocated for both residents and nonresidents. Firearm and muzzleloader permits will remain restricted to residents, with half assigned to landowner/tenants and the remainder awarded to general residents. Firearm and muzzleloader permit allocations will be determined following winter aerial surveys.

Unit boundaries are proposed to coincide with firearm deer management units defined in K.A.R. 115-4-6, with units 2, 17, and 18 being open. The proposed season dates are:

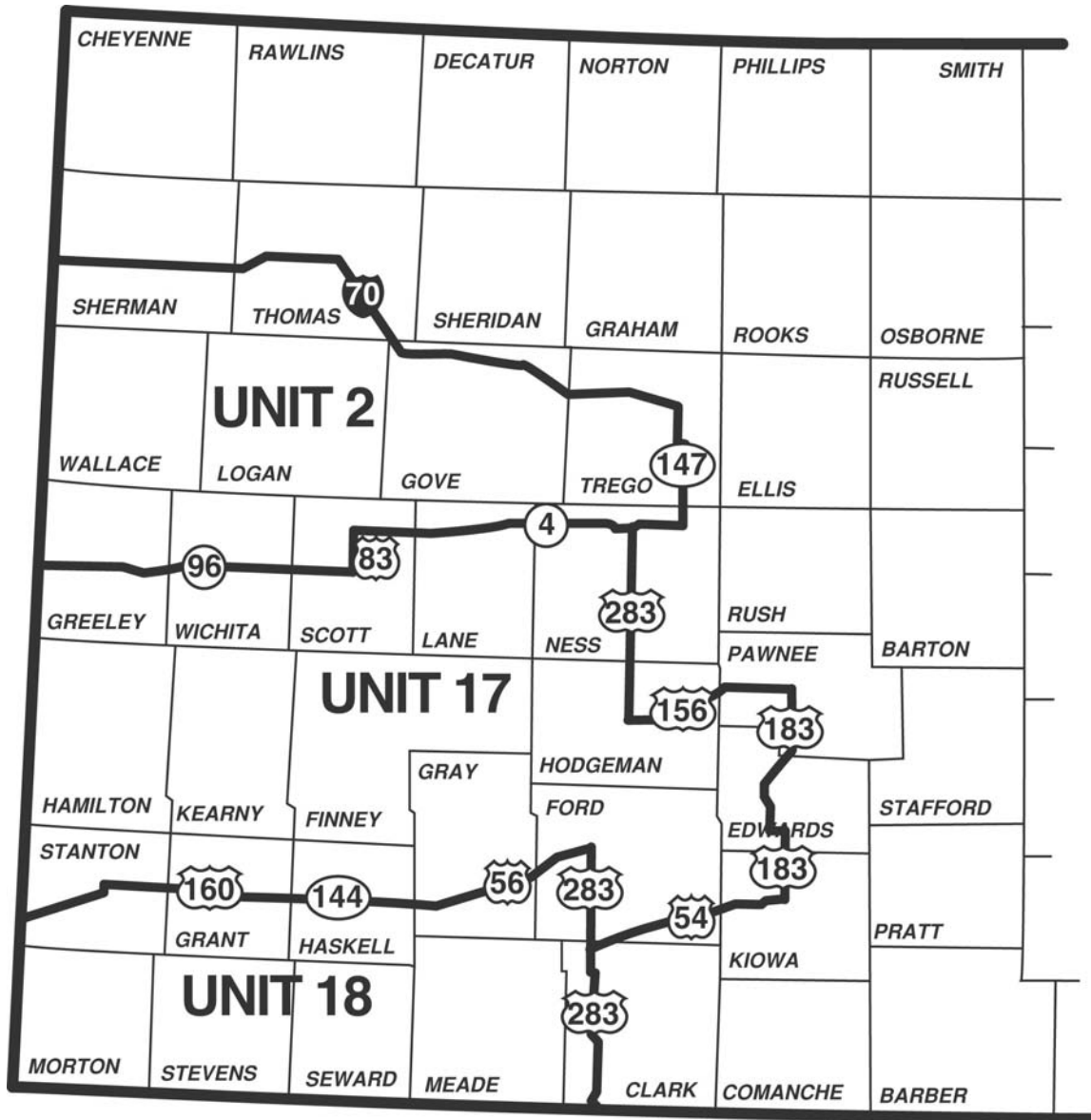
September 19, 2009 through September 27, 2009 and October 10, 2009 through October 31, 2009 for the archery season.

September 28, 2009 through October 5, 2009 for the muzzleloader season.

October 2, 2009 through October 5, 2009 for the firearms season.

The standard application deadline for firearms and muzzleloader permits is the second Friday in June, which would be June 12, 2009. Applications for archery permits would be available through the next to last day of the season.

Antelope Units



KAR 115-25-8

Elk; open season, bag limit and permits

Background

This regulation pertains to seasons, bag limits, unit boundaries, permits and tags for elk hunting.

Elk hunting on and around Fort Riley was initiated in 1990. Most of the hunting opportunity occurs on the Fort, and emphasis is placed on maintaining this population. However, lengthened seasons and unlimited hunt-own-land permits have been allocated off the base since 1999, and elk hunting was opened statewide (except for Morton County, within which Cimarron National Grassland is located) in 2006. This framework is intended to allow for elk that may be causing crop damage or other conflicts to be harvested, and for landowners to have the opportunity to restrict the distribution of free-ranging elk to the vicinity of Fort Riley if they so choose.

Discussion

The peak of the elk rut in Kansas occurs in September. Prior to 2007, the elk season on Fort Riley opened October 1. In 2007, archery and muzzleloader seasons were opened on Fort Riley to all elk permit holders from September 1-30. By extending this season through October 4, the closing dates for muzzleloader deer and elk seasons both on and off Fort Riley would be consistent.

Recommendations

The proposed season dates on Fort Riley are:

- a) September 1, 2009 through October 4, 2009 for a season in which both muzzleloader and archery equipment may be used.
- b) October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 for the firearms seasons with one-third of the antlerless only permits valid during each of the following segments:
 - 1) First segment: October 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009.
 - 2) Second segment: November 1, 2009 through November 30, 2009.
 - 3) Third segment: December 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.
- c) October 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 for a firearms season for all holders of any-elk permits.

The proposed season dates outside the boundaries of Fort Riley are:

- a) September 1, 2009 through October 4, 2009 for the muzzleloader season.
- b) September 21, 2009 through December 31, 2009 for the archery season.
- c) December 2, 2009 through December 13, 2009, and January 1, 2010 through March 15, 2010 for the firearms seasons.

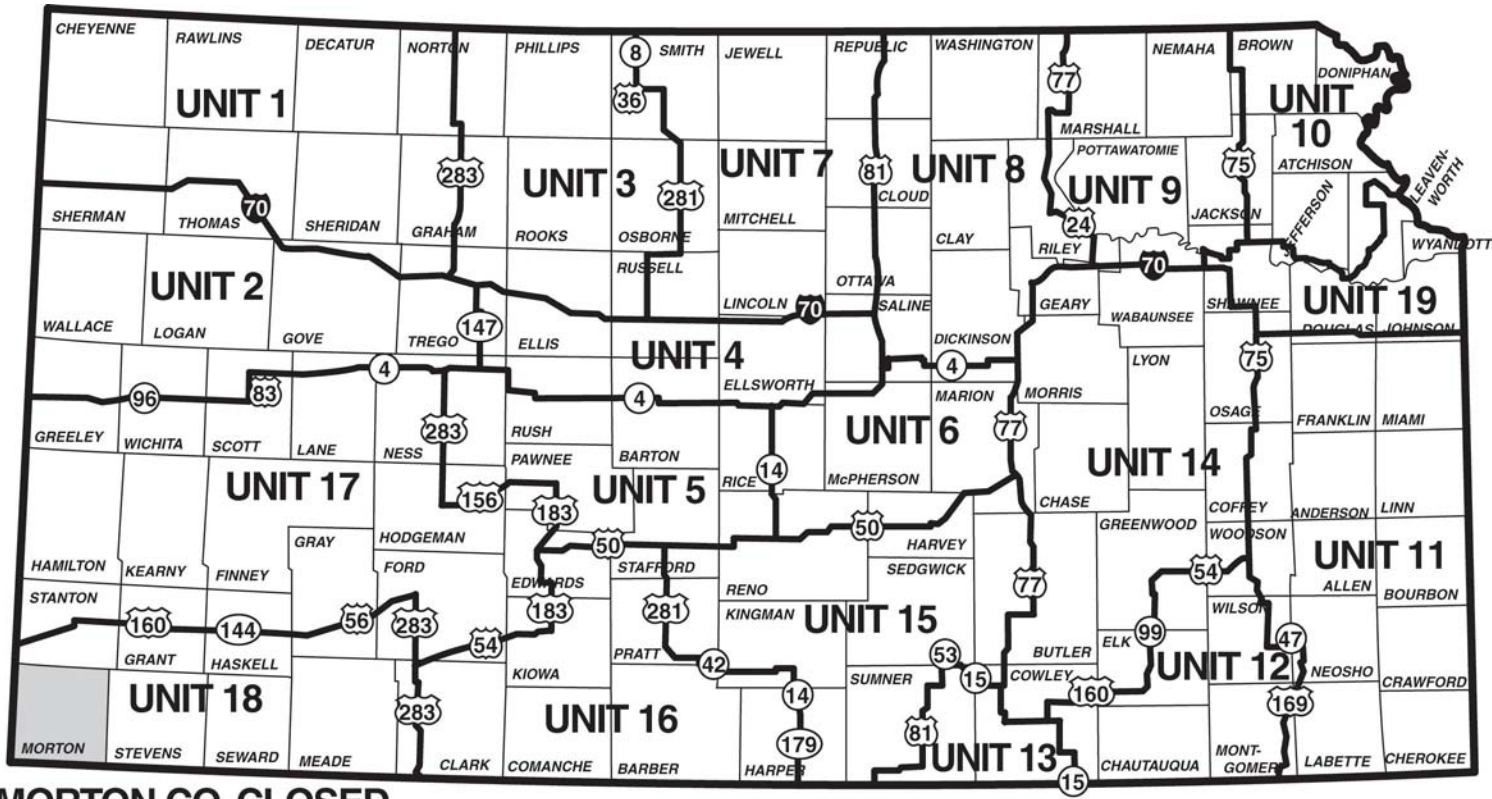
Unit boundaries are proposed to coincide with deer management units defined in K.A.R. 115-4-6. It is recommended that permits be available statewide, except Morton County. An unlimited

number of hunt-on-your-own-land antlerless only elk permits will be authorized, and limited draw permit allocations will be determined closer to the completion of the ongoing season. We recommend elk hunters again be required to contact the Department when an elk is harvested to submit samples for CWD testing.

Elk permits will be available only to Kansas residents, and permit applications will be separated into military and nonmilitary applicants. The bag limit shall be one elk as specified on the permit.

The standard application deadline for elk permits is the second Friday in July, which is July 10, 2009. Applications for hunt-own-land permits would be available through the next to last day of the season.

Elk Units (all permits open statewide – except Morton County)



MORTON CO. CLOSED

KAR 115-25- 9. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits.

Background

The regulation contains the following items:

- ▶ Dates of deer seasons when equipment such as archery, firearms, muzzleloader may be used.
- ▶ Provisions when seasons may occur on military subunits within various deer management units.
- ▶ Dates for a special firearms deer season and the extended archery season in urban units.
- ▶ Dates of deer seasons for designated persons.
- ▶ Dates and units when extended firearms seasons are authorized and the type of permits and changes in the species and antler categories of those permits.
- ▶ Permit application dates and procedures.
- ▶ Limitations in obtaining multiple permits.

Discussion

Annual adjustments will be made in the season and application dates. Population indices will be examined and public input will be considered in the development of a list of units where an extended firearms seasons and white-tailed deer antlerless-only (WAO) permits will be authorized. The number of WAO permits that may be used in each unit will also be evaluated after additional data becomes available.

Recommendation

Season dates suggested for deer hunting during 2009-10 are as follows:

Youth and Disability	September 12, 2009 – September 20, 2009
Early Muzzleloader	September 21, 2009 – October 4, 2009
Archery	September 21, 2009 – December 31, 2009
Early Firearms (DMU 19)	October 10, 2009 – October 18, 2009
Regular Firearms	December 2, 2009 – December 13, 2009
Extended WAO	January 1, 2010 – January 3, 2010
Extended Archery (DMU 19)	January 4, 2010– January 31, 2010

Season dates and lengths are commonly established by state specific hunting traditions as much as they are established by deer biology and population/harvest goals. Adjustments in season lengths are receiving substantial interest among deer managers. At one end of a spectrum it is known that short seasons limit hunter opportunities. At the other end of the spectrum it has become clear that long seasons result in low participation rates by hunters. Finding season lengths that result in maximum participation by hunters in Kansas is currently a goal. That season length also must include adequate time and a large enough area for hunters to space their efforts and avoid negative competition with other hunters.

A common problem for deer managers throughout much of the range of white-tailed deer is to encourage hunters to take an adequate number of female deer for control of herd growth. Shifting the harvest to include an adequate harvest of female deer is a necessary objective.

The extended WAO season for 2009-10 would be only 3 days if we follow the traditions of starting it on January first and continuing through the next full weekend. Desires of people in northcentral Kansas last year resulted in the creation of an additional extended season of one week for the northern part of DMU 7 & 8 (an additional complication in our season structure).

There has been a progressive decline in hunter participation in the WAO season since 2000. An option that might be considered for 2009-10 is to continue the extended WAO season for all open units through two weekends and thus eliminate the 2 different extended WAO seasons. Input from the public and Commission is desired during General Discussion on that possibility.

The proposed dates for the firearm season at the Fort Leavenworth subunit are November 21 2009 through November 22, 2009, November 26, 2009 through November 29, 2009, December 5, 2009 through December 6, 2009, December 12, 2009 through December 13, 2009, and December 19, 2009 through December 20, 2009. The proposed dates for the firearms season for deer hunting at the Smoky Hill Air National Guard subunit are November 24, 2009 through December 5, 2009.

Firearm season dates for deer hunting at Fort Riley will be established in K.A.R. 115-25-9a which will be workshopped at a later date.

The recommendation for the deadline for applications is:

Nonresident	June 1, 2009
Resident Drawing	July 11, 2009
Unlimited Availability	
1. Antlered Deer	December 30, 2009
2. Antlerless Deer	January 30, 2010

A frequent request of nonresident deer hunters is an earlier application period. Some hunters want to know earlier in the year if they have been successful. This allows them to arrange for vacation time or find alternative hunting locations. Options are being considered that would move the application dates earlier in the year for nonresidents. The license and permit section recommends that any change in the application dates for nonresidents should be announced a year before it would become effective. A standard for the closing dates of the application periods is also beneficial. The closing dates should not occur on a weekend or holiday. One suggestion for the closing date for applications by residents is to establish it on the second Friday of July.

Consideration will be made on inclusion of Deer Management Units where an extended firearms season will be authorized after additional data become available.

Consideration is being made to allow hunters to purchase five white-tailed deer antlerless-only permits. The first permit would be valid statewide including on lands management by the department. The second WAO permit would be valid in all but units 17 & 18 and would also be

valid at Cedar Bluff WA. The last 3 WAO permits would be valid on a restricted list of units, such as units 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 19.

Big Game Permanent Regulations

No changes are currently being proposed by department staff for the big game permanent regulations (KAR 115-4 series). There are numerous topics of concern that are being reviewed for possible changes.

All permanent regulations dealing with big game will be discussed together at this meeting. The regulations are brought forward in the Workshop Session of the Commission meeting to allow public comments and input for future changes in these regulations.

Background

a) **K.A.R. 115-4-2. Big game; general provisions.**

The regulation contains the following items:

- ▶ Information that must be included on the carcass tag
- ▶ Procedures for transferring meat to another person
- ▶ Procedures for possessing a salvaged big game carcass
- ▶ Who may assist a big game permittee and how they may assist, including the provisions for designated individuals to assist disabled big game permittees.

2. **K.A.R. 115-4-4. Big game; legal equipment and taking methods.**

The regulation contains the following items:

- ▶ Specific equipment differences for hunting various big game species.
- ▶ Specifications for bright orange colored clothing, which must be worn when hunting during certain big game seasons.
- ▶ Accessory equipment such as calls, decoys, and blinds.
- ▶ Shooting hours
- ▶ Special restrictions on the use of horses or mules to herd or drive elk.

3. **K.A.R. 115-4-6. Deer; firearm management units.**

This regulation established the boundaries for the 19 deer management units in Kansas. This regulation was recently changed to exclude Landowner Deer Management Program properties from each deer management unit. The boundary between DMU 10 and DMU 19 was changed to include areas of the city of Leavenworth in the DMU 19. Fort Leavenworth, unit 10A, was changed to an urban deer management unit.

4. K.A.R. 115-4-11. Big game and wild turkey permit applications.

This regulation describes general application procedures, including the establishment of priority drawing procedures when the number of applicants exceeds the availability of authorized permits. The regulation also authorized hunters to purchase a preference point for future applications.

5. K.A.R. 115-4-13. Deer permits; descriptions and restrictions.

The regulation contains the following items:

- ▶ Creates permit types that includes:
 - ▶ White-tailed deer, either sex permit and white-tailed deer antlerless only permit for residents of Kansas. These permits are valid statewide and during all seasons with equipment authorized for that season.
 - ▶ White-tailed deer, either sex permit for nonresidents that are valid for one equipment type and one unit. Nonresident hunters may designate one adjacent unit where they may hunt.
 - ▶ Either species, either sex permit and the restrictions on seasons and units where they may be used by resident and nonresident deer hunters.
 - ▶ Hunt-own-land permits, including resident HOL, nonresident HOL, and special HOL permits for certain direct relatives of the landowner or tenant.
- ▶ Each deer permit shall be valid only for the species and antler category specified on the permit.
- ▶ Antlerless deer are defined as a deer without a visible antler plainly protruding from the skull.

Discussion

At this time a few problems have been encountered with the regulations in the KAR 115-4-series. Blaze orange is normally not worn by archery deer hunters. However, KSA 32-1015 (a) (2) states “it is unlawful for a person to: ... hunt deer or elk in this state in an area where a firearms season for the taking of deer or elk is occurring unless such person is wearing clothing of a highly visible nature in a color, an amount worn and a location on such person's body prescribed by rules and regulations adopted by the secretary pursuant to K.S.A. 1989 Supp. 32-805 and amendments thereto;” At the time the law was written the archery season was separate from the firearms or muzzleloader seasons. As the deer and elk populations expanded and increased it became necessary to expand firearms and muzzleloader seasons. There are now situations where a firearms season overlaps with an archery season and some bowhunters are concerned about being required to wear blaze orange. The potential conflict is greatest at Ft Riley where a firearm season on elk overlaps all of the archery season for deer. Another period of concern is during the early firearms season in DMU 19. Currently no change in KAR 115-4-4 would solve this problem unless a change in the state law is enacted. A hunter’s ability to detect another person is increased if that person is wearing blaze orange. Small game and waterfowl hunters are not required to wear blaze orange during a firearm

deer or elk season. Camouflage clothing is available in blaze orange and could be used by bowhunters in those areas during the firearms seasons for deer and elk are open.

KAR 115-4-11 establishes the application process for big game and turkey hunters. Some items are being considered that would streamline this process now that KOALS is operational. One item under consideration would be a change in the priority system on permits that are available in extremely limited numbers compared to the number of people that apply for the permit, such as elk permits. A suggestion has been made to create a preference system in the elk permit system where a person would be entered into the drawing as many times as the person had applied unsuccessfully in prior years. That system would still allow people applying for the first time to possibly obtain a permit but it would reward people a greater chance of being drawn if they had applied for many years.

Another area of concern is a problem where people are limited to a single application, as opposed to a single permit. There have been cases where permits were available that would satisfy the hunter but the hunter was prohibited from obtaining that permit because they had used their one application limit. A committee has been created to develop to review this situation and recommendations.

Recommendation

Recommendations are not proposed at this time.

Public Hearing

KANSAS REGISTER
SUBMISSION FORM

Agency Number -- 710-01

Agency Name -- Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Agency Address - 1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200

Topeka, Kansas 66612-1233

Title of Document -- Public Meeting

Desired Date of Publication - November 6, 2008

ITEMS SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I have reviewed the attached documents, and that they conform to all applicable Kansas Register publication guidelines and to the requirements of K.S.A. 75-431, as amended. I further certify that submission of these items for publication is a proper and lawful action of this agency, that funds are available to pay the publication fees and that such fees will be paid by this agency on receipt of billing.

Christopher J. Tymeson
Liaison officer's typed name

Liaison officer's signature

Department Attorney
Title

(785) 296-2281
Phone

This space for Register office use only

Wildlife and Parks Commission

Notice of Public Meeting

A public meeting will be conducted by the Wildlife and Parks Commission at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, January 8, 2009 at Best Western Hospitality House, 3021 W. Highway 50, Emporia, Kansas, to consider the business and future regulatory action of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife and Parks Commission will begin at 1:30 p.m., January 8 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at 5:30 p.m. then resume at 7:00 p.m. at the same location for an additional workshop on Commission and Department business. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and evening meetings for any issues not on the agenda and additional comment periods will be available during the meeting on agenda items. Old and new business may also be discussed at this time. If necessary to complete business matters, the Commission will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. January 9 at the location listed above.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and may request the meeting materials in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the meeting should be made at least five working days in advance of the meeting by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission Secretary, at (620) 672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission of Deaf and Hard Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This notice period prior to the meeting constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on any workshop or future regulatory action by the Commission.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the meeting to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Ave, Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612 or to sheilak@wp.state.ks.us if electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally or in writing with regard to future regulatory action on workshop items.

Kelly Johnston, Chairman

Secretary's Resolution

2009 KANSAS FREE FISHING DAYS

Under authorities contained in K.S.A. 32-906(f), the dates of June 6 and 7, 2009 are established as "Free Fishing Days." All persons may fish in the waters of the State, by legal means, without a valid fishing license on these dates. All residents and visitors to the State of Kansas are encouraged to use this opportunity to enjoy our outdoor recreational resources.

Date

J. Michael Hayden, Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Secretary's Resolution

2009 KANSAS FREE PARK ENTRANCE DAYS

Under authorities contained in K.S.A. 32-901(e), the following dates:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Cross Timbers - April 22 (Earth Day/OK Kids) | Eisenhower - June 13, 14 (special programs planned) |
| Cheney - April 25, 26 (special events planned) | Wilson - June 13, 14 (OK Kids and Hell Creek Hoedown) |
| Kanopolis - April 25, 26 (special events planned) | Hillsdale - June 21 (special programs planned) |
| Pomona - May 2 (OK Kids) | Milford - August 15 (Extreme Water Festival) |
| Meade - May 2, 3 (OK Kids on May 2) | Clinton - August 15, 16 (OK Kids) |
| Prairie Dog - May 2, 3 (OK Kids on May 2) | Tuttle Creek - August 22, 23 (OK Kids) |
| Crawford - May 10 (Mothers Day) | Sandhills State Park - September 5, 6 (Sand Hills tours) |
| Hillsdale - May 10 (special programs planned) | Lovewell - September 12, 13 (Chili Cook Off on 13) |
| Cross Timbers - June 6 (National Trails Day) | Crawford - Sept 19 (75 th Anniversary Reunion) |
| Elk City - June 6 (OK Kids) | Fall River - Sept. 26 (Fall River Rendezvous) |
| Fall River - June 6 (National Trails Day) | El Dorado - October 3, 4 (OK Kids and other events) |
| Pomona - June 6 (Friends Fishing Derby) | Elk City - Oct 31 (Neewallah) |
| Glen Elder - June 6, 7 (Free Fishing Weekend) | Milford - December 17 (Eagle Day) |
| Perry - June 6, 7 (Free Fishing Weekend) | Prairie Spirit - Date to be determined (Grand Opening) |
| Scott - June 6, 7 (OK Kids on June 6) | |
| Webster - June 6, 7 (OK Kids on June 6) | |
| Cedar Bluff - June 13, 14 (Naturalist Programs and Kids Fishing Derby) | |

are established as "2009 Free Park Entrance Days." All persons may enter any of the above Kansas state parks free-of-charge. All residents and visitors to the State of Kansas are encouraged to use this opportunity to enjoy our outdoor recreational resources.

Date

J. Michael Hayden, Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks