

REVISED AGENDA
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS & TOURISM
COMMISSION MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, January 5, 2012
Kansas Wesleyan University, Hauptli Student Center
100 E Claflin Ave, Salina, 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 December 6, 2011 MEETING MINUTES**
- V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
- VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
 - A. Secretary's Remarks**
 - 1. Agency and State Fiscal Status (Robin Jennison)**
 - 2. 2012 Legislature (Chris Tymeson)**
 - B. General Discussion**
 - 1. Commissioner Permit Update and Drawing (Mike Miller) (Jared McJunkin, NWTF)**
 - 2. Tourism Briefing (Linda Craghead)**
 - 3. Update on the delivery of the Voluntary Public Access / Habitat Improvement Program (Jake George and Tom Lang)**
 - 4. Status Report on ongoing 2011/12 Upland Bird Season (Jim Pitman)**
 - 5. Wildlife Rehabilitation Briefing (Mike Mitchener)**
 - 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-Series Deer Regulations (Lloyd Fox)**
 - 5. Big Game Permanent Regulations (Lloyd Fox)**

6. **Potential Changes in Deer Regulations 2012 (Lloyd Fox)**
 7. **Falconry Regulations (Mike Mitchener)**
- 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**
- B. General Discussion (continued)**
 6. **Presentation celebrating 75th Anniversary of the Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Program (Mike Miller)**
 7. **Public Land Regulations (Brad Simpson)**
 - D. Public Hearing**
 1. **Free Park Entrance and Free Fishing Days by Secretary's Orders (Todd Lovin)**
- XII. OLD BUSINESS**
- XIII. OTHER BUSINESS**
- A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates**
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

If necessary, the Commission will recess on January 5, 2012, to reconvene January 6, 2012, 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 22, 2012 at the Kansas Historical Society History Center, 6425 SW 6th Ave, Topeka, KS.

**Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
Commission Special Session Meeting Minutes
Topeka KDWPT Region 2 Office (basement conference room)
300 SW Wanamaker Rd, Topeka, KS**

Subject to
Commission
Approval

I. CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m. CDT

The December 6, 2011 special session meeting of the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairman Gerald Lauber at 7:00 p.m. at the Topeka KDWPT Region 2 Office. Chairman Lauber and Commissioners Debra Bolton, Don Budd, Randy Doll, Tom Dill, Frank Meyer, and Robert Wilson and were present.

II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS, STAFF AND GUESTS

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

III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS

None

IV. APPROVAL OF THE October 13, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Debra Bolton second. Approved. (Minutes – Exhibit B).

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Dennis Steinman – I'm from Chanute, but live in Lawrence now. I'm a bowhunter and have been working on electronic transmitter that fits on arrow and will stick in the deer's hide when the arrow passes through. You use an antenna receiver to find the animal. It is currently illegal in Kansas, but I have surveyed all states and in 73- to 74-percent of states, it is legal. The Kansas regulation is a broad-brush regulation, which at one time even cover lighted nocks and some of those things. I started an LLC company to manufacture these and maybe a few other products. Chairman Lauber – Are there others in existence? Steinman – There are some, but not as good as mine. I have a website and am putting together a video. The transmitter weighs 35 grains. Commission Bolton – Does this fit a typical arrow point? Steinman – Yes.

Phil Taunton, KBOE Radio and Kansas Wildlife Federation – Received nice letter. Commend Robin and KDWPT for helping us out with what we are doing for KCN, had nice letter from Governor Brownback and he is fully aware of the funding, but we are using all we can on our initiative to get the programs out, and we are running trivia contest on radio and getting good school participation. When I used to write for the Emporia Gazette, we asked for youth outdoor experience contest, and you can't believe the number of stories we are getting. What I really like

about it is the number of schools that are participating in this. What I really designed this for was to show schools what eco-meets and envirothons were all about. I'm also, here on behalf of a lot of NGOs. When I got the last minutes a fellow by the name of Tim Donges talked about increasing fines and penalties, and I do wish we would take a serious look at that. We put a poll on the radio and response was 260 "yes" and 40 "no"; so we need to listen to what the people want. If things can be changed in Alabama and Ohio and possibly in Michigan, we need to look at this. My first meeting was in late 1990s and we discussed quail populations. Declines stem from poaching and road hunting.

Daryl Becker, Sabetha – Thanks for being here (Handout, Exhibit C). No one in favor of moving the firearm deer season opener to the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. I've spoken with rifle hunters, bowhunters and muzzleloader hunters, and they agree it is a bad idea.

Commissioner Bolton – I just wanted to mention that I participated in training to teach young people how to trap, sponsored by KDWP staff in my area, and it was exciting to see interest from the youngsters. Chairman Lauber – Fur is renewable resource, I'm for anything we can do to enhance trapping.

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

D. Public Hearing

Notice and Submission Forms; Kansas Legislative Research Letter and Attorney General Letter (Exhibit D).

1. KAR 115-2-2. Motor vehicle permit fees – Linda Craghead, assistant secretary for Parks and Tourism divisions, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit E). We are asking for your consideration and review to eliminate the second vehicle permit to streamline permit sales and reduce enforcement costs and enhance revenue. Guy Emlet – We spend several hundred of dollars a year going to state parks. I am retired and on fixed income and I don't like this. Commissioner Meyer – I think we should take advantage of this. It is a good thing and would give revenue to the parks. Ted Becker – I used to work at Perry State Park mowing and would get done mowing and I couldn't go back in the park without paying. Craghead - Potential revenue is about \$40,000 at \$10 increase and 4,000 permits sold. Pearce – Will this make registration easier? Craghead – Offers better customer service. Commissioner Bolton – I am torn on this issue. I like to see department generate more funds, but it will affect people with lower income. Chairman Lauber – There are lots of issues, but there is a fair amount of abuse in the system as it is now, and I lean towards the department's recommendation although I am sensitive to people on fixed incomes. Right now it is complicated to get the second permit and e-titles make that even more difficult. Commissioner Meyer – What special events might be excluded? Chris Tymeson – Like the Country Stampede where there is an exclusive lock on the park. If passed this would be in effect January 1.

Commissioner Don Budd moved to approve KAR 115-2-2 before the Commission. Commissioner Frank Meyer seconded.

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

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

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

2. KAR 115-7-3. Fish; taking and use of bait fish or minnows – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit G). This is the beginning of a series of regulations. I have given you a handout (Exhibit H) that Jason Goeckler put together outlining basically three options: 1) do nothing; 2) wild caught bait used only where you take it; and 3) amendment that would allow you to transport four fish species. He has also listed pros and cons.

(Note: on handout Option 1 is use where you take it and Option 2 is allowing transport of four fish species.) Commissioner Lauber – Amendment also covers bait being used on a flowing stream. Doing nothing is not an option. Ted Becker, Perry – I’m a flathead fisherman and have questions on either option. I can get bait from a pond and use that on the Missouri River. What is a natural barrier? Commissioner Lauber – A dam. Becker - You can buy bait in southeast Kansas. I’ve bought Asian carp for bait here in Topeka a few years ago. You can also buy scorpions at the pet shop, so it seems like the problem is with the pet shop. As a flathead fisherman this hurts. If you were talking about crappie and bass fisherman, you would have a war in the state. I can live with option 2. Commissioner Meyer – These regulations are talking about wild caught bait not purchased bait. Chairman Lauber – Asian carp is similar to gizzard shad, when freeze dried there is misidentification by experienced anglers; green sunfish, blue gill and bullheads don’t look like them and there is little chance of misidentification. The problem is I like the exemption, but it is easier to police if we don’t use bait caught somewhere else. We may not be able to buy gizzard shad at a fair price, but need to look at infestation of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) and stop that. We wish we didn’t have to do anything, but we have to respond. Commissioner Budd – KAR 115-7-3 is Option 1 and amendment is Option 2? Chris Tymeson – Yes. Chairman Lauber – Option 3 is technical amendment (*listed in amendment*). Commissioner Budd – At the last meeting didn’t we have a lot of comments from guys from Wilson? Doug Nygren – Large gizzard shad are hard to catch in spring at Wilson and they can’t purchase them from bait dealers, so they can’t use them because they can only be used where caught. Chairman Lauber – All of these regulations deal with live bait. We have discussed this at past meetings and feel for those fishermen, but feel shad creates more risk of inadvertent introduction. I don’t know how to get around that. We need to try and get this passed and look at both amendments. Commissioner Bolton – For the record, from the calls I received the support is for Option 1. Option 2 is more law enforcement intensive and Option 1 shows that we are serious. Commissioner Meyer – Why are we talking about gizzard shad? Commissioner Lauber – They are not allowed anywhere, but they are the reason we started this and if we pass the regulation you will not be able to move gizzard shad. Commissioner Budd – What is the law enforcement problem? Kevin Jones – To regulate movement of wildlife there are law enforcement issues attached to that; search and seizure and stop. Even if there was no movement of wild fish, we would still have a responsibility to check to see if fish were actually on that water. If you allow

require species to be moved, we would still have to check to ensure that the proper species were being moved. We are prepared to handle this as appropriate, but yes there is an impact to law enforcement. Commissioner Budd – Either option is different for law enforcement than right now; one not more burden than other? Jones – Correct, have to check what fish is in possession. Commissioner Budd – The fish in Option 2 are readily identifiable, do you have a preference? Jones – I stand neutral. Commissioner Doll – Isn't Option 2 the same as doing nothing? Jones – Number of fisherman checked is small, not majority, small sample set. Commissioner Doll – About 5- to 10-percent? Jones – Five percent. We're not there 24-hours on an impoundment, even though we may check all fisherman on the lake when we are there. Commissioner Doll – Option 2 doesn't address this issue in my opinion. I go with no live caught bait. Commissioner Lauber – The biggest risk is Asian carp transport, but Option 2 doesn't eliminate risk of transporting other ANS species. We have to assume there will be voluntary compliance to these regulations as with all of our regulations. Movement of water is disadvantage, but both sides have merit. Ted Becker – The 5 percent check is true on any license. I don't use shad, but I know what I am using for flathead fishing and they will not hurt anything. Chairman Lauber – Either way there is no movement of shad. Commissioner Meyer – Seven years ago when I came on this commission we had no invasive species, we need to slow down the spread or be part of the problem of moving water. We need to tell people of Kansas that we want to protect the waterways, so put it back where you find it. Commissioner Budd – Who fishes with live bait? Commissioner Wilson – I do. With bullhead costing \$4 each, it will be more expensive to fish. Nobody sells shad because they are too fragile. If you buy fish, you will be able to produce a receipt. Commissioner Lauber – I use green sunfish and one of the biggest proponents of this regulation are bait dealers because they are losing their competitors, but this is serious and we have to do something. I could see violations and would have to go to next step later if Option 2 is passed. Commissioner Budd – We would protect waterways from Asian carp with both options. Nygren – But chance of transporting zebra mussels with Option 2. Michael Pearce, Wichita Eagle – Kevin, if you were checking an angler and they had green sunfish and said they were taking them home to eat, what can you do? Jones – Look at rest of regulation, if no probable cause for illegally caught, could be compounded, if no additional fishing equipment, but could take them home to eat. Pearce – Option 1, you can't take them home and then take them back where you caught them later. Commissioner Meyer – In KAR 115-7-10, no live fish can be removed from ANS waters. Chairman Lauber – Also, live barrier could mean a bank too. Becker – Was there a survey done? El Dorado has Asian carp. Chairman Lauber – We have a pretty good idea of where they are and it doesn't take many to hurt a fishery. There is a smaller risk in a pond. We can show maps of where they are at. We post lakes, ANS lakes have zebra mussels in them and we may only be able to slow down the invasion, not stop it. Commissioner Dill – Couldn't zebra mussels cling to or attach to fish? Nygren – They are suspended in water and attach to a hard surface, I suppose you could transport zebra mussels that way, but the biggest fear is transport of veligers. Commissioner Lauber – The only risk is water transported from area to area and not aware it is ANS water. Nygren – We have 14 impoundments that have them, but still have about 140 public lakes ANS free. The larger reservoirs are more susceptible. Chairman Lauber – I think we should go with no live movement. Nygren – Zebra mussel lakes are posted in reference document and we are looking at serious threats from zebra mussels, Asian carp (including grass carp and white perch). We can't regulate the movement of water. Chairman Lauber – The best option is to not move any fish live at all. Nygren – Depending on the option. The majority of waters are not infected at this time.

Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to bring KAR 115-7-3 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to amend KAR 115-7-3 with joint committee recommendation on technical amendment, Commissioner Randy Doll seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-3 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit H):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

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

The roll call vote on regulation KAR 115-7-3 as amended was as follows (Exhibit H):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

Commissioner Robert Wilson moved to pass possible amend KAR 115-7-3, Commissioner Don Budd seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-3 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit H):

Commissioner Bolton	No
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	No
Commissioner Doll	No
Commissioner Meyer	No
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-7-3 failed 4-3.

3. KAR 115-7-6. Fishing; bait – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit I). The proposed regulation updates the regulation with some clean-up language in 6(b).

Commissioner Randy Doll moved to approve KAR 115-7-6 before the Commission. Commissioner Frank Meyer seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-6 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit J):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
----------------------------	------------

Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-7-6 passed 7-0.

4. KAR 115-7-10. Fishing; special provisions – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit K). The proposed regulation would not allow the transport of live fish from designated ANS water. ANS includes Asian carp, silver carp, bighead carp and zebra mussels. There are others included in ANS list. Chairman Lauber – This mean no transport of fish from any ANS water.

Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to approve KAR 115-7-6 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-6 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit L):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-7-6 passed 7-0.

5. KAR 115-8-6. Fishing, fish bait, and seining – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M). The proposed regulation would clarify that bait fish taken on department lands and waters must be used where taken. Chairman Lauber – This is rendered mute by adoption of Option 1.

Commissioner Debra Bolton moved to approve KAR 115-8-6 before the Commission. Commissioner Randy Doll seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-8-6 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit N):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-8-6 passed 7-0.

6. KAR 115-8-12. Stocking or releasing of wildlife – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit). The proposed regulation would prohibit stocking or releasing wildlife on navigable publicly owned waters (Arkansas, Kansas

and Missouri rivers) and federal reservoirs. Tymeson – This means you can't dump bait. Becker – Even bait from the bait shop? What do I do about the one that got away? Can I still fish for crawdads? Jason Goeckler – Yes, anglers can collect and use crayfish, but depending on how the next regulations go, you may not be able to move them in water.

Commissioner Randy Doll moved to approve KAR 115-8-12 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-8-12 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit O):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-8-12 passed 7-0.

7. KAR 115-30-13. Removal of vessels from waters of the state – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit P). The proposed regulation would require draining of livewells and bilges and drain plugs to be removed from all vessels prior to transport on a public highway. Commissioner Meyer – Highway is anything you driving on, dirt road or path. Chairman Lauber – Yes, public highway is a legal term. There is a possible amendment to make this regulation apply only to ANS waters. It would be easier from law enforcement standpoint if it applied to all bodies of water.

Commissioner Tom Dill moved to bring KAR 115-30-13 before the Commission. Commissioner Debra Bolton seconded.

Amendment died due to lack of motion.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-30-13 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit Q):

Commissioner Bolton	Yes
Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Yes
Commissioner Meyer	Yes
Commissioner R. Wilson	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented KAR 115-30-13 passed 7-0.

Chairman Lauber – All of these regulations would be in effect January 1, 2012.

XII. Old Business

XIII. Other Business

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Frank Meyer moved to adjourn, Commissioner Randy Doll second. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

(Exhibits and/or Transcript available upon request)

Secretary's Remarks

Agency and State Fiscal Status
2012 Legislative Update
No briefing book items – handout at meeting only

General Discussion

Commission Permits 2012

Background

In January 2006, the Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission held the first drawing for Commission Big Game 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 or up to seven deer permits issued with a limit of seven total permits.

Once issued, the organizations can then sell or auction the permits off as fundraising efforts. After the permits are sold by the organization, the amount of the permit is subtracted and 85 percent of the proceeds are sent to KDWP 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 at the organization's discretion.

Qualified applicants include local chapters of nonprofit organizations based or operating in Kansas that actively promote wildlife conservation and the hunting and fishing heritage. An organization or chapter is eligible to receive a permit only once in a three-year period.

In 2006, 59 organizations applied and the seven permits sold for \$49,000. In 2007, permits sold for \$26,973.56 with 119 applicants. In 2008, permits sold for \$24,200 and there were 113 applications. In 2009, permits sold for \$34,951 with 111 applicants.

Since 2006, an average of 100 applications have been received each year. Last January, one elk and six deer permits were issued to two Kansas Alliance of Wetlands and Streams (KAWS) chapters, two Ducks Unlimited chapters, two National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) chapters, and one Safari Club International chapter. Those permits were sold for a total of \$41,700, bringing \$33,320 to KDWP for approved projects.

For the 2012 permits, 91 eligible applications were received.

Tourism Briefing – No briefing book items – handout at meeting only

Voluntary Public Access & Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP) Update

The Kansas VPA-HIP grant was authorized as a portion of the 2008 Farm Bill legislation and is administered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA)/Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). The primary objective of the VPA-HIP is to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make that land available for access by the public for wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting or fishing, and to improve fish and wildlife habitat on private lands that allow public recreational access.

Funding for the grant is 100 percent (no state matching funds), and it is set up in a block grant format. Funds for program years one and two (\$3,000,000) were received in August 2011 after the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) was approved. We will not be receiving funding for the third year of the approved grant application because the program was removed from the Farm Bill. Currently, all funds must be disbursed by September 30, 2012; however efforts are underway to allow the contractual obligation of funds through at least September 30, 2013.

General Program Eligibility Requirements - Wildlife

Any potential enrollment that falls within these guidelines requires no additional approval prior to initiating a contract with the cooperator. Any alternate scenarios and/or Conservation Practices may still be enrolled once they receive approval from a regional supervisor.

Priority is being given to continuous practices. Whole-field CRP enrollment west of Hwy 281 will require approval from the regional supervisor.

Continuous CRP: CP33 & CP38E

- Newly or recently (sign-up 40) enrolled CP33 or CP38E.
- Minimum of 15 percent and up to 50 percent of cropland acres seeded to native warm-season grasses and forbs (maximum percent determined by Conservation Practice).
- Willing to allow public hunting access on the property (including cropland, buffers, and surrounding property as deemed appropriate) for at least 10-years or equal to the length of the CCRP contract if it is longer.
- Expiring whole-field CRP where buffers are maintained through CP33 or CP38E is not eligible for the \$100/acre sign-on incentive payment (SIP) from FSA, but is still eligible for the \$100/acre SIP from VPA.

Whole-Field CRP

- Enrolled or Re-Enrolled during sign-up periods 39 or 41 (2010 or 2011).
- CRP contract must include wildlife habitat enhancements (food plots, wildlife plantings, and wildlife seed mixes) to maximize wildlife benefits.
- Willing to allow public hunting access on the property for 10-years and maintain the conservation cover on the property for the duration of the access agreement (regardless of when the CRP contract expires).

VPA Hunting Access Payment Rates (\$ / Acre)

Access Period	Standard	Incentive
Nov. 1 – Jan. 31	\$2.00	\$3.00
Sept. 1 – Jan. 31	\$2.50	\$3.75
Sept. 1 – May 31	\$4.00	\$6.00

Stream and Impoundment Access - Fishing & Paddle Sports

The Fishing Impoundments and Stream Habitats Program (F.I.S.H.) has successfully garnered public fishing access to private waters for 13 years. However, F.I.S.H. has not been able to garner significant stretches of unique high-quality stream access, significant numbers of navigable river access, recreational boating access (paddle sports), or open significant acres of small impoundments in areas of the state with low numbers of fishing opportunities or high human population. These issues are mainly due to F.I.S.H.'s inability to offer competitive lease rates and, in the case of paddle sports, limitations on what the funding could be used for. The influx of funding from the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP) grant has provided F.I.S.H. the opportunity to overcome its greatest issues in providing recreational fishing and boating access to private waters. The F.I.S.H. program has used the influx of VPA monies to revamp the program. This has allowed the program to offer competitive lease rates that are designed to target specific areas of the state where additional recreational fishing and boating access will have the greatest impact on angling and boating participation. F.I.S.H. has delivered an aggressive outreach plan utilizing TV, video, online, and print media to reach potential program partners. Fisheries staff are actively working to deliver the program and have increased the amount of public access. Expansion has occurred via the leasing of new waters, expansion of existing contracts from standard open dates (March 1 to October 31) to year-round, expanding from shoreline fishing only to allowing boat fishing on existing waters, the addition of paddle sports to existing streams, signing up new stream segments, the addition of new access sites on big rivers, and adding waters in counties that did not have any public fishing opportunities.

Status Report on Ongoing 2011/12 Upland Bird Season

The upland bird seasons appear to be shaping up pretty much the way they were projected by the department back in September. The severe drought in southcentral and southwestern Kansas greatly hampered production of all game bird species. As a result, reports from those regions of the state have generally been poor with a few localized exceptions. Hunter reports have generally been much better in other regions of the state where weather conditions were more conducive to production. Some good to very good reports have been received from pheasant and chicken hunters in northwestern Kansas. Many of the WIHA properties in NW Kansas have received increased pressure from pheasant hunters this year because of such poor hunting conditions in other areas. Several people have also indicated finding more quail than past years, but that region of the state is at the fringe of the species range so quail densities are still fairly low. Field reports from northcentral and northeastern Kansas have generally been fair to poor for pheasants and chickens with a few localized exceptions where numbers are better. A substantial portion of those regions was affected by excessive rainfall and/or hail in early June, which led to poor production of those two species in the affected areas. However, field reports from those regions indicate that quail numbers are probably improved over last year, which is likely due to the fact that they nest later in the summer and were less affected by those weather events. Hunter reports from the eastern part of the state are indicating improved chicken and quail numbers throughout the region, which is likely a result of favorable weather conditions last summer. Some of the field reports have indicated very good quail numbers in portions of the Flint Hills and Chautauqua Hills. At the conclusion of the upland bird seasons, a portion of our hunters will be surveyed to better assess their activity and harvest. When those data are analyzed, we will be able to more accurately compare this season to past years.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Informational Briefing

Background

Prior to the current regulation K.A.R. 115-18-1, department requirements for wildlife rehabilitation were inadequate and led to numerous instances of poor effort and permittees who were poorly trained to accomplish effective wildlife rehabilitation

The current regulation covering wildlife rehabilitation was implemented on January 1, 2006 and established the following criteria for permitted wildlife rehabilitators:

1. Must be 18 or older;
2. One hundred hours of experience handling and caring for wildlife acquired over the course of one year;
3. Must submit three letters of recommendation from a wildlife professional;
4. Must complete one of the following:
 - Certificate of completion of an International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council course within past three years
 - Certificate of completion of a National Wildlife Rehabilitators' Association course within past three years
 - Or a test score of at least 80 percent on a KDWPT administered wildlife rehabilitation test;
5. Complete eight hours of continuing education every three years;
6. Facilities must be inspected annually by department official;
7. Permits are renewed annually; and
8. Records must be kept on each animal treated and an annual report submitted to department.

In addition to the requirements for a permit, there are provisions that allow sub-permittees and volunteers to engage in wildlife rehabilitation efforts under the primary permittee. Volunteer and sub-permittees are subject to the same provisions for handling and caging as the permittee.

The provisions for wildlife rehabilitation care and treatment include:

1. Rehabilitation is performed in consultation, as necessary, with a licensed veterinarian;
2. Clean water must be available at all times;
3. Cages must be cleaned and disinfected daily;
4. Wildlife shall be kept in an environment that minimizes human contact and prevents imprinting and bonding to humans;
5. Wildlife possessed under a rehabilitation permit shall not be allowed to come into contact with any person other than those directly engaged in the rehabilitation effort;
6. Wildlife shall be housed separately from domestic animals;
7. Public viewing, display or exhibition of any kind is prohibited; and
8. Wildlife must be released once it is determined it can survive in the wild. If it cannot survive in the wild it must be euthanized or transferred to an accredited zoological facility with the permission of the KDWPT Secretary.

The department currently permits 17 wildlife rehabilitators in the state. Those 17 rehabilitators have 69 sub-permittees, although the majority of the 69 sub-permittees are covered under three permitted rehabilitators.

Discussion

Questions from the public as well as various complaints over the past few years prompted Wildlife Section and Law Enforcement staff to conduct a review of how the current regulations were being implemented. Consensus was that current regulations are adequate to continue the implementation of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit program. However, it was felt that change in department position was needed to more fully benefit the wildlife resource and protect both the wildlife rehabilitator and the department.

In most cases, city ordinances preclude keeping wildlife inside designated city limits and particularly within primary residential areas, except where special provisions are written into the city ordinance that exempt facilities permitted by the department. As a result of our internal review, department staff concluded that exemption from city ordinance is not in the best interest of the department or the facility operator. Both parties are subject to complaints by neighbors and the facility operator is subject to complaints dealing with visual, odor, and noise issues. An urban environment is generally not conducive to wildlife rehabilitation. **An internal decision was made to no longer permit wildlife rehabilitators that have outdoor holding facilities located within city limits and primarily in residential areas.** The department recognizes there exists instances of initial care that takes place by both permittees and sub-permittees inside of personal residences. This position is intended to initially address location of outdoor holding facilities and not the short-term instances of initial care inside of personal residences.

Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration

On September 2, 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, now called the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (P-R) after its principal sponsors, Sen. Key Pittman of Nevada and Rep. A. Willis Robertson of Virginia. That Act extended the life of a 10 percent tax on ammunition and firearms used for sport hunting and earmarked the funds to be distributed to the states for wildlife restoration. The money is distributed to the states based on the number of hunting licenses they sell, and it pays for wildlife-related programs on a 75-25 match. State license and permit fees make up the other 25 percent. Since P-R was signed into law, more than \$2 billion in excise taxes have been sent to the states, which provided \$500 million in matching funds for wildlife restoration.

More than 62 percent of the funding is used to buy, develop, maintain and operate wildlife management areas. Four million acres have been purchased and nearly 40 million acres have been managed for wildlife under agreements with other landowners. Twenty-six percent of the funding is used for surveys and research, two efforts extremely important to modern wildlife management programs. But it's accurately called the wildlife restoration bill. Since it was signed, historical wildlife comebacks have been witnessed again and again. In Kansas, we've seen species such as pronghorn, wild turkey, white-tailed deer and Canada geese go from nearly extirpated to thriving, healthy populations.

Following in the footsteps of Pittman and Robertson, Sen. Edwin Johnson of Colorado and Rep. John Dingell Sr. of Michigan passed the Sportfish Restoration Act in 1950. Commonly called the Dingell-Johnson, or D-J, Act, this legislation was modeled after the P-R Act, and creates revenues from excise taxes on sport fishing equipment, import duties on fishing tackle, yachts and pleasure craft and a portion of the gasoline fuel tax attributable to small engines and motorboats. That money is distributed to the states based on fishing license sales and also requires a 25 percent match.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs. Since they began, nearly \$14 billion has been generated and apportioned back to the states. Wildlife agencies have matched these funds with more than \$3.4 billion. Grants to the state from the Sport Fish Restoration program can be used for fishery projects, boating access and aquatic education. Money from the Wildlife Restoration Program is used for projects to restore, conserve, manage and enhance wild birds and mammals and their habitat, as well as projects that provide public use and access to wildlife resources, hunter education and development and management of shooting ranges.

Kansas receives approximately \$15,000,000 annually. The 25 percent match comes from hunting and fishing license sales. Some of the higher profile programs funded included Hunter Education, wildlife research and surveys, public lands and fishery maintenance, boating access, the Walk-in Hunting Access Program and acquisition of public lands. Last year, WSFR funds helped the department purchase land at the Parsons Ammunitions Plant that will be managed for public hunting, begin construction on the Hillsdale Shooting Range, and enhance the Fancy Creek Shooting Range at Tuttle Creek State Park. WSFR funds make up 25 percent of KDWPT's total budget.

Potential Changes for Public Lands Regulations 2012

Background:

The Public Lands Section, in the Fisheries and Wildlife Division, manages more than 335,000 acres of land and water for public hunting and angling opportunities. Although this is a small percentage of the total land base in Kansas, these areas provide thousands of user days for hunting, angling, and other public use opportunities. Because of the high use and demand of this limited land base, it is important to manage the wildlife and their habitats on these properties, as well as manage the users in a way that provides fairness and opportunity for all.

The combination of a limited land base and high use can result in user conflicts and limit opportunities. Regulations have been established to manage public use, protect the resources, and KDPWT property and infrastructure. Regulations that primarily pertain to public lands fall under KAR 115-8 series.

Recent developments and issues on KDWP public lands have been identified that are not covered in these regulations. Public Lands staff have discussed these issues and thoroughly reviewed the public lands regulations in order to determine how to appropriately address them. Two items involving hunting equipment were identified as issues in regards to opportunity and fairness. These include the use of tree stands/portable ground blinds and waterfowl decoys. Baiting was identified as a potential biological issue that is currently not prohibited on public lands.

To determine how users perceived these issues, a survey of hunters was completed after the 2010-2011 fall hunting seasons.

Discussion:

Tree Stands/portable ground blinds - the use of tree stands and portable ground blinds are addressed in KAR 115-8-2. This regulation addresses the duration, time period and removal requirements, and makes it clear that a stand or ground blind doesn't provide exclusive use. Many areas have been inundated with tree stands placed by a few individuals and in some cases stands were never removed. The use of portable ground blinds on public lands has increased significantly. It can be difficult to determine if a ground blind is occupied or unattended without approaching it. Survey results indicated that the majority of respondents feel the number of tree stands should be limited and that some form of identification should be required.

The use of decoys, waterfowl decoys in particular, are not addressed in the public lands regulations series. Unattended waterfowl decoys have been identified as an issue; this gives the impression that the area is occupied. The practice of leaving unattended waterfowl decoys in the water has been increasing on some areas, thus creating exclusive use by those leaving them. Public lands survey respondents indicated they are opposed to unattended decoys.

The popularity of baiting or artificial feeding, primarily used to attract deer or turkeys to a particular area, has rapidly increased across the state. This practice is used primarily to increase

harvest success. At the time most public lands regulations were adopted, this practice was not as popular as it is today, therefore it is not addressed in public lands regulations. Baiting is controversial and the ethical, biological and ecological issues surrounding its use have been debated. It has long been considered that baiting increased the potential for disease transmission, and aggression, injury, and habitat damage have been observed at bait sites. Surveys indicate that most hunters support the prohibition of baiting on public lands.

Recommendations:

Tree stands – limit the number of tree stands to two per person on any wildlife area. All tree stands must be marked with name and address of owner and KDWPT number when used on public lands. This would still not allow exclusive use, meaning that anyone may use an unoccupied treestand on public land.

Portable Ground Blinds – cannot be left unattended and shall be removed at the end of each day on public lands. Requiring some type of orange marking on the blind is also under consideration.

Waterfowl decoys – cannot be left unattended and shall be removed at the end of each day on public lands.

Baiting – no person may place, use or hunt over bait on public lands. The definition of “baiting” will be developed, but the primary intent is to prohibit the placement of grain, minerals, or other attractants on the ground to attract wildlife to a particular area. The use of scents and lures for furharvesting will still be allowed.

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 nearly 100 days in length and three of four turkey units have been open to hunting (Figure 1). Hunters are currently permitted to harvest one bird of either sex in Units 1, 2, and 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 2010-2011 turkey season was 12,989 (includes 2,978 game tags). Total permit sales were very similar to the previous fall but down about 3,500 from the peak in 2006. Thirty-nine percent of hunters harvested at least one turkey during the fall 2010-2011. These hunters harvested an estimated 3,954 turkeys (930 archery and 3,024 firearm) of which 38 percent were identified as females. Harvest taken with all the game tags accounted for only 17.6 percent (about 694 birds) of the total statewide harvest and 24 percent (about 513 birds) of the harvest in Unit 2 where all three game tags were valid.

Population Status and Productivity

Over the last 10 years, the spring wild turkey population has increased rapidly in the north-central, northwest, and southwest regions. Spring populations in the northeast, southeast, and southcentral regions peaked in 2004 and are now much lower. The primary cause for lower populations in those regions is due to above-average summer rainfall that was recorded within those regions every summer from 2005-2009. The wet weather caused nest abandonment and poor poult survival and resulted in five years of below-average production, including the two worst production ratios ever recorded in 2007 and 2008. However, drier summer weather resulted in productivity near the long-term average within each of those regions in 2010 and/or 2011 and populations appear to be rebounding somewhat. The severe drought in southwestern Kansas resulted in extremely poor production in that region this summer, so populations will be lower in future years as a result. Production was near average in the northcentral and northwestern regions this summer, so populations should have remained stable or slightly increased.

Recommendation

The department is recommending new fall hunting units, which would require bag limit changes for some portions of the state (Figure 3). The proposed units 2 and 5 will encompass the bulk of central Kansas where a fall bag limit of one currently exists. However, the eastern boundaries of those two proposed units would also encompass portions of Kansas where the fall bag limit is currently four. Thus, it would be necessary for the fall bag limit to change for portions of the state that would be included in those two new units. The department is recommending that the fall bag limit be set at four for units 2 and 5 if the new boundaries are adopted. Turkey populations are strong throughout all of central Kansas, and the proposed bag limit increase for much of central Kansas would not greatly impact total harvest or population growth in that region. The new unit boundaries would not require fall bag limit changes for any other region of the state, and the department isn't recommending any other changes.

The new units will facilitate the implementation of an adaptive harvest strategy that will allow us to better use our data to guide harvest recommendations for both the spring and fall seasons (see appendix 1). The harvest strategy was developed by the department turkey committee over the course of a couple of years and mimics similar guidelines already in use in several states. The strategy establishes standard criteria that would be used as a guide to help us determine when and how changes to bag limits should be recommended for each hunt unit. For the plan to be implemented, it is essential for static hunt units and corresponding management units to be established, and that is the purpose of the recommended boundary change. If new fall units are adopted, the department would be recommending a change to corresponding spring hunt units at the next opportunity.

Figure 1. Current fall wild turkey hunting units for Kansas.

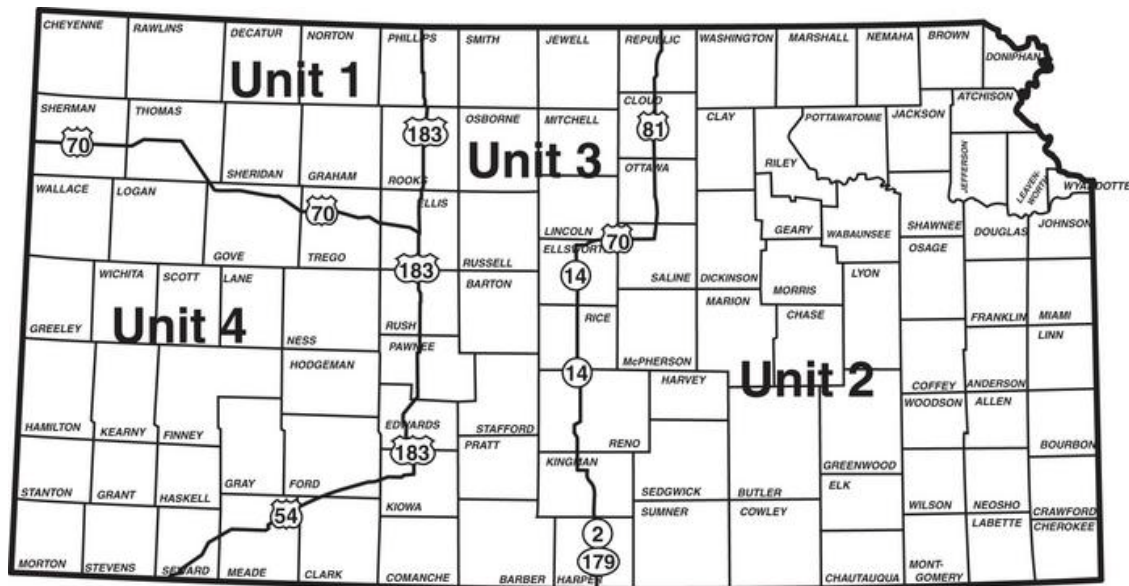
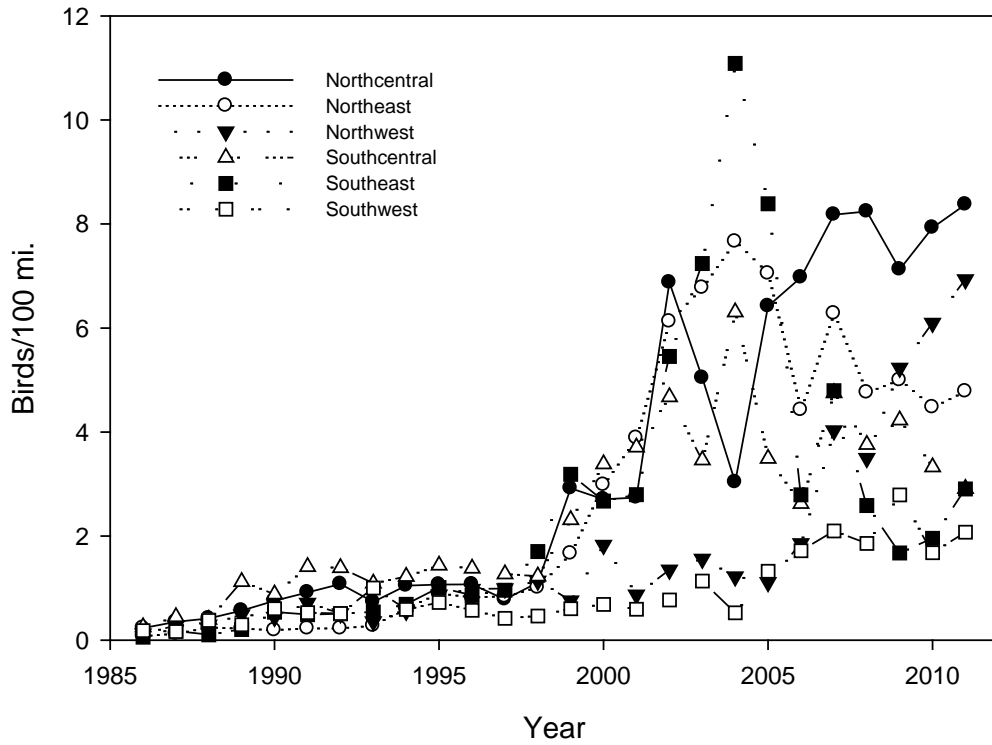
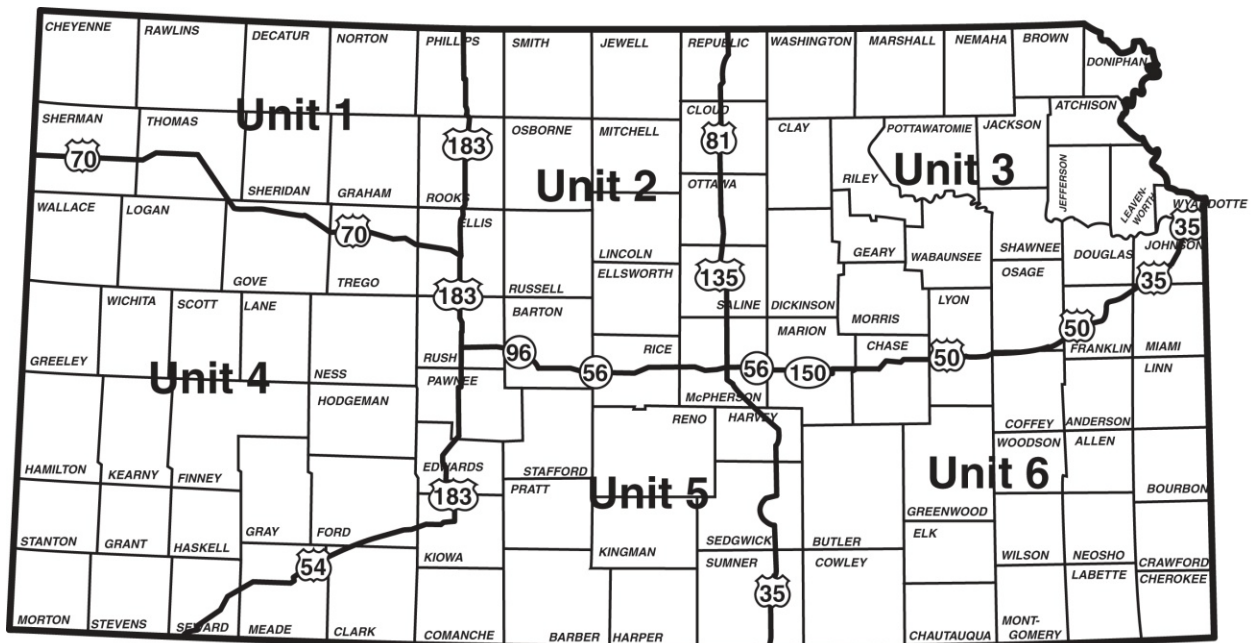


Figure 2. Regional indices (birds/100 mi.) to Kansas' wild turkey population derived from the April rural mail carrier survey, 1986-



2011.

Figure 3. Proposed fall wild turkey hunting units for the 2012-2013 season.



Appendix 1. Adaptive harvest strategy that would be used to guide recommended changes to fall and spring wild turkey bag limits if the new hunt units are adopted. The strategy would set the spring 2011 season as the baseline year which would mean no changes to bag limits would be recommended until at least 2013.

<u>Bag Limit Hierarchy</u>	<u>Hunt Unit (proposed unit numbers)</u>
A.) 3 spring and 4 fall	
B.) 2 spring and 4 fall	2, 3, 5, 6
C.) 2 spring and 1 fall (most liberal package for Units 1 & 4)	
D.) 2 spring and no fall or 1 spring and 1 fall	1
E.) 1 spring and no fall	
F.) Resident-only limited draw spring (moving down) Quota Increase (moving up)	4
G.) Quota Reductions (moving down) Resident-only limited draw spring	

Triggers that would result in recommend changes to bag limits within a hunt unit

1. The percentage of active resident hunters harvesting at least one bird must be equal to or greater than 60 percent for each of the previous three years, and the percentage of the total harvest composed of jakes must average less than 25 percent over the same period before upward movement would be recommended.
2. The percentage of active resident hunters who harvest at least one bird must be equal to or less than 55 percent for two consecutive years before downward movement would be recommended.

Regional and statewide estimates of the percentage of the total spring harvest composed of jakes and the percentage of active resident and non-resident hunters who harvested at least one bird during Kansas' spring turkey season, 2005-2011.

Jake Harvest (%)

Year	STWD	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW
2005							
2006	14	15.3	12.6	25.0	14.4	12.0	16.2
2007	18	21.6	15.8	17.7	14.2	19.2	16.6
2008	14	11.9	11.9	17.2	14.7	15.4	11.6
2009	15	19.7	13.3	14.3	13.7	14.9	14.3
2010	14	14.6	13.5	16.3	13.2	15.5	12.6
2011	15.4	13.1	15.7	13.1	14.9	20.4	12.7

Resident Active Hunter Success (%)

Year	STWD	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW
2005	65	63	68	71.8	61.1	64.4	65.7
2006	62.7	62	63.1	57.6	65	59.4	66.4
2007	58.7	57.1	62.5	61.3	56.5	56.3	62.7
2008	58.5	58.8	65.4	42.9	53.7	54.3	60.5
2009	56.1	59.7	57	68.6	55	52.5	56.3
2010	57.6	63.6	58	66	57.4	55.9	57.4
2011	55.7	58.8	53.6	54.9	54.5	49.9	63.4

Nonresident Active Hunter Success (%)

(presented only for reference)

Year	STWD	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW
2005	75.3	77.2	75	70.4	75.3	78.2	73.3
2006	74.6	79.4	76.4	72.7	75.2	75.8	66.7
2007	68.8	73.6	75.4	76.5	69.8	63.4	60
2008	77	80.4	81.9	73.3	83.5	75.3	62.5
2009	70.1	76.5	74.1	67.6	68.2	67.3	66.1
2010	72	71.6	75.5	76.3	76.2	70.7	75.2
2011	69.3	72.7	69.2	68.3	69.2	66.5	67.9

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 firearm pronghorn season has been four days long since 1990, starting on the first Friday in October. The archery pronghorn season was nine days long from 1985 to 2004, and included the two weekends prior to the firearm 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 firearm season.

Pronghorn populations within each of the three units are monitored twice annually by aerial survey. Production surveys occur in July and August, and are used to determine buck:doe:fawn ratios. Buck ratios serve as a forecast for the harvest seasons, whereas fawn ratios are an indicator of annual productivity, which will have greater impact on harvest levels in future years. Population surveys occur primarily in January. Pronghorn are found in larger herds and therefore are more visible at this time. This survey is a stronger indicator of the population size, and, used in conjunction with production survey results, landowner issues, and staff input, is the primary tool used to determine permit allocations for the upcoming season.

Discussion & 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.

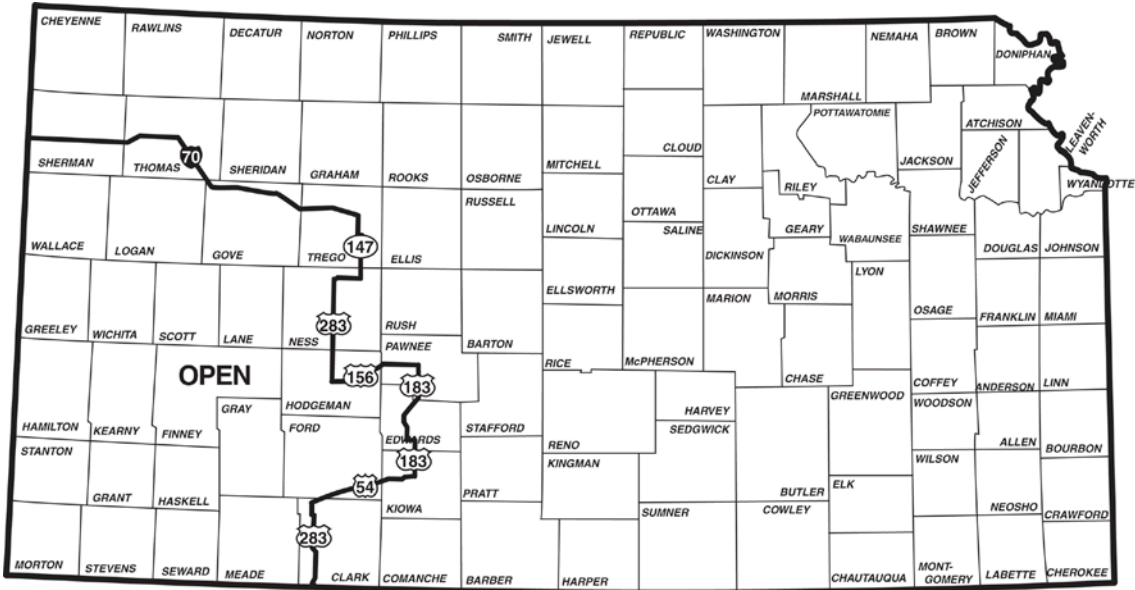
Unit boundaries are proposed to coincide with firearm deer management units defined in K.A.R. 115-4-6, with units 2, 17, and 18 being open. The proposed season dates are:

September 22, 2012 through September 30, 2012 and October 13, 2012 through October 31, 2012 for the archery season.

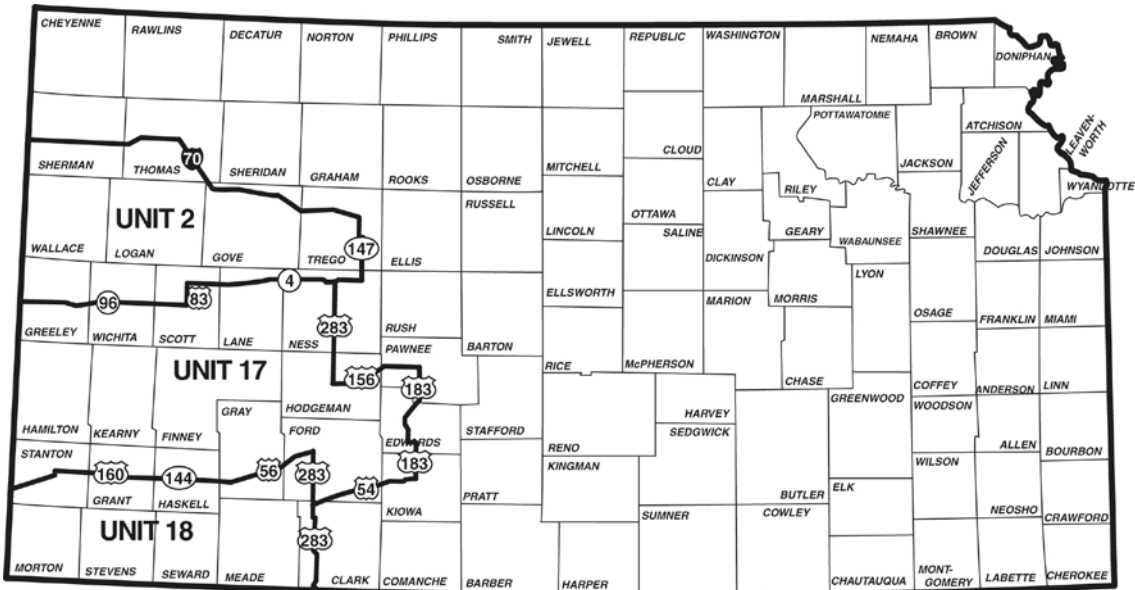
October 1, 2012 through October 8, 2012 for the muzzleloader season.

October 5, 2012 through October 8, 2012 for the firearms season.

Antelope Pronghorn Unit



Firearm, Muzzleloader Pronghorn 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, and most of the hunting opportunity in the state occurs on the Fort. However, elk do exist on private lands, though unpredictably in most of the state, with parts of southwest Kansas being the main exception. Elk also occur in the vicinity of Cimarron National Grasslands, but these elk are primarily found in neighboring states, and the Grasslands haven't been open to elk hunting since 1995, following several years of herd reduction.

The elk season runs through March 15. To date, 6 cows and 4 bulls have been harvested by the 25 limited draw permit holders. Thirty-one over the counter (landowner and general resident) permits have been sold. We are not yet aware of any elk harvested by these permit.

Discussion & Recommendations

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

Unit boundaries are defined in K.A.R. 115-4-6b. Units 2 and 3 will be open to hunting.

The proposed season dates on Fort Riley are:

- a) September 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012 for a season in which both muzzleloader and archery equipment may be used.
- b) October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 for the firearms seasons with one-third of the antlerless only permits valid during each of the following segments:
 - 1) First segment: October 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012.
 - 2) Second segment: November 1, 2012 through November 30, 2012.
 - 3) Third segment: December 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.
- c) October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 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, 2012 through September 30, 2012 for the muzzleloader season.
- b) September 17, 2012 through December 31, 2012 for the archery season.
- c) November 28, 2012 through December 9, 2012, and January 1, 2013 through March 15, 2013 for the firearms seasons.

An unlimited number of general resident and hunt-on-your-own-land antlerless only elk permits and any elk permits will be authorized. Limited draw permit numbers will be determined closer to the completion of the ongoing season. We recommend elk hunters be required to contact the Department when an elk is harvested to submit samples for CWD testing.

Big Game 25 Series - Deer.

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 management units.
- < Dates for a special firearm deer season and extended archery seasons in urban units.
- < Dates of deer seasons for designated persons.
- < Dates and units when extended firearm seasons are authorized and the type of permits and changes in the species and antler categories of those permits.
- < Limitations in obtaining multiple permits.

Discussion

Annual adjustments are made each year for the season dates. A review process has been initiated on potential changes in deer hunting seasons. The discussion and recommendation at this time is following the traditional model.

A combination of factors in DMUs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 have resulted in a need to increase the harvest of antlerless white-tailed deer in those units. The factors include; continued strong growth in the deer population, spread of chronic wasting disease, and public concerns and dissatisfaction with the level of damage caused by deer.

Recommendation

Season dates suggested for deer hunting during 2012-2013 are as follows:

Youth and Disability	September 8, 2012 – September 16, 2012
Early Muzzleloader	September 17, 2012 – September 30, 2012
Archery	September 17, 2012 – December 31, 2012
Early Firearms (DMU 19)	October 13, 2012 – October 21, 2012
Regular Firearms	November 28, 2012 – December 9, 2012
Extended WAO	January 1, 2013 – January 13, 2013
Special Extended WAO	January 14, 2013 – January 20, 2013
Extended Archery (DMU 19)	January 14, 2013– January 31, 2013

The proposed dates for the firearm season at the Fort Leavenworth subunit are November 17 2012 through November 18, 2012, November 22, 2012 through November 25, 2012, December 1, 2012 through December 2, 2012, December 8, 2012 through December 9, 2012, and December 15, 2012 through December 16, 2012. The proposed dates for the firearms season for deer hunting at the Smoky Hill Air National Guard subunit are November 20, 2012 through December 1, 2012. Firearm season dates for deer hunting at Fort Riley will be established in K.A.R. 115-25-9a which will be covered in a Workshop at a later date.

Application deadlines are now provided in KAR 115-4-11

It is recommended that hunters be allowed to purchase five white-tailed deer antlerless-only (WAO) permits. The first and second WAO permits purchased would be valid statewide. The last 3 WAO permits purchased would be valid on units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 19. Use of WAO permits would be restricted on public hunting areas. Only the first WAO permit could be used on most lands management by the department. However, all WAO permits authorized in a DMU would be valid for use on the following public hunting areas:

1. Norton Wildlife Area,
2. Cedar Bluff Wildlife Area,
3. Webster Wildlife Area,
4. Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge
5. Kanopolis Wildlife Area,
6. Lovewell Wildlife Area,
7. Glen Elder Wildlife Area, and
8. Wilson Wildlife Area.

An additional week of white-tailed deer antlerless only hunting has occurred since 2009 during the Special Extended Season in DMUs 7, 8, and 15. Those same units are proposed for this season.

Big Game Permanent Regulations.

All permanent regulations dealing with big game will be discussed together at this meeting. These regulations were brought forward in the General Discussion portion of the Commission meeting in August and are presented again in a Workshop Session at the October meeting. It is included here for public comments and input from the Commission as well as to provide an update on the status of staff recommendations. Selected regulations will be reviewed during a second Workshop Session and finally they will be brought back for a vote at a Public Hearing (generally done at the March Commission Meeting).

Background

1. K.A.R. 115-4-2. Big game; general provisions.

This regulation contains the following items:

- < Information that must be included on the carcass tag
- < Registration (including photo check) needed to transport certain animals
- < 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.

This 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.

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.

This regulation contains the following items:

- < Creates permit types that include:
 - < 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 also hunt.
 - < Either-species, either-sex permits and the restrictions on seasons and units where they may be used by resident and nonresident deer hunters.
 - < Hunt-on-your-own-land (HOYOL) permits, including resident HOYOL, nonresident HOYOL, and special HOYOL permits for certain direct relatives of the landowner or tenant.
- < Each deer permit is 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

Numerous factors support the field procession of big game and wild turkey. Some of the factors include: reducing the potential to spread some wildlife diseases, promoting safe handling of game meat (i.e., cooling it rapidly and keeping it clean during transport from the field), and reducing the presence of waste discarded in inappropriate locations. A photo check deer registration system was initiated for the 2010 seasons (KAR 115-4-2). Some minor difficulties were encountered and corrected by the department's IT staff. Additional modifications of the regulation may be needed for hunter convenience in situations where hunters lack adequate communications equipment or service to the Internet. One potential modification would be to allow hunters to carry the required photos to photo check a deer while they transported meat from an antlerless big game animal. In addition to the problem with transporting big game taken on an antlerless-only permit, there have been problems associated with transporting the breast of field-processed turkeys taken during the spring season.

Public comments for changes in KAR 115-4-4 have been received. An individual contacted the department last year with a request to change this regulation so that a device he was building could be used to aid hunters in the recovery of deer taken with archery equipment. The device uses a transmitter attached to an arrow. The miniature transmitter remains attached to the deer even if the arrow passes through or falls off. No documentation evaluating this device has been presented. Another person has requested additional opportunities to use a crossbow for deer hunting. Other people have contacted the department about their desire to carry equipment not allowed during some seasons. Some of these requests involve carrying a handgun, rifle or shotgun during a big game archery season to facilitate small game hunting.

Crossbows have been suggested as additional legal equipment that could be added to the archery season. This topic was included as a discussion item at the October Commission meeting. Crossbows perform ballistically similar to compound bows and therefore are not anticipated to effect either hunter performance or the deer herd. Preliminary results from hunter surveys suggest that there is a substantial portion of current bowhunters who do not support the use of

crossbows by able-bodied archers. The equipment may have minor effect on archery season participation, recruitment and retention of hunters.

Once again this year we may consider a combo deer permits to allow hunters to obtain two tags with one permit. The combo permit would allow the hunter to take an either sex deer plus an additional tag limited to an antlerless white-tailed deer. That action would require changes to KAR 115-4-13.

Recommendation

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

Changes have been prepared in this regulation that will allow hunters to remove the meat from a big game animal or wild turkey while the hunter is in the field or at their hunting camp and then transport that meat without having the head of the big game animal attached or the beard of the turkey attached.

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

Changes have been prepared in this regulation to allow hunters to carry equipment not authorized for big game hunting during a particular season (i.e., remove section (e) from current regulation).

Changes are being considered in this regulation which would allow crossbows to be used during an archery season by people with a youth permit or people over the age of 55.

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

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

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

No changes in these regulations are currently being discussed within the department.

Potential Changes in Deer Regulations for 2012.

Background

Major changes in the deer management system occurred in 2008 after a two-year review process. Among the changes were additional days of hunting during the archery, muzzleloader and season for youth and people with disabilities. That review process also created new permit types, including an “Any-Season” deer permit for residents who hunted only white-tailed deer.

Public comments have been received, indicating that additional deer hunting opportunities were desired by some deer hunters, and additional deer population control was desired by other people. Parents have advocated for changes that would allow their children to hunt deer during holidays when they are out of school or home from college. Military personnel have advocated for lengthening of various seasons to accommodate deploying and returning soldiers. State legislators have advocated for additional changes in deer management that would significantly expand the antlerless-only season. The current dates for the white-tailed antlerless-only firearms season continues to draw criticism from people who are concerned that this season late in the year may result in the taking of mature male deer that have shed their antlers. Season dates earlier in the year would be preferred by those people.

Nonresident deer hunters and land managers catering to nonresident hunters frequently voice concerns that the hunters are unwilling to purchase antlerless-only permits at a level high enough to control deer populations or obtain a sex ratio the managers’ desire.

Annual reviews of deer seasons and regulations are conducted at the KDWPT Commission meetings. Although those meetings are open to the public for comments, few people have attended those meeting in recent years.

Discussion

A table is included to show the history of deer hunting seasons in Kansas. Some potential changes in the deer hunting seasons that that have been suggested include:

1. Change current nine-day season for youth and people with disabilities to two four-day seasons with the first season starting on the Friday before Labor Day and the second season starting on the Friday before Columbus Day. Each season would run for four days and include two weekend days and one holiday.
2. Change the dates of the traditional 12-day firearm deer hunting season from the Wednesday after Thanksgiving to the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (thus including two days of holiday and four weekend days).
3. Change the beginning date of the white-tailed deer antlerless-only season from January 1 to the Friday before Christmas and continue it for 17 days. That season would have no fewer than six weekend days and would include both Christmas and New Year’s holidays.
4. Initiate a two-day pre-rut white-tailed antlerless-only season for the last weekend in September.
5. Expand the season dates for bowhunting with the season beginning on the Tuesday after Labor Day and ending on January 31. During the archery season, hunters would be prohibited from taking an antlered deer during any dates open for antlerless-only deer hunting with a firearm.
6. Expand the muzzleloader season to include the 14 days in September, the period prior to the last weekend in September, and seven days in December following the 12-day firearms season.

A table is included that shows the history of permit fees. Some potential changes in permit fees and permit types that might be considered include:

1. Develop a nonresident deer permit that includes two tags. One tag would allow the hunter to take a deer of either sex while the other tag would restrict the hunter to an antlerless white-tailed deer. A table follows that compares the number of tags and the revenue from the system in place in 2010 and a potential future combo permit system.
2. Develop a resident deer permit that includes two tags. One tag would allow the hunter to take a deer of either sex while the other tag would restrict the hunter to an antlerless white-tailed deer. The combo permit could be established as a mandatory first permit or it might be offered as an optional permit. Experience with optional two-tag combo permits suggest that they do not dramatically increase the number of people purchasing two tags, thus they may lead to a reduction in revenue. The fee for a new combo permit might be the same as the current fee for an either-sex deer permit and half the price of a current white-tailed deer antlerless-only permit for a general resident. Another option might be to limit the sale of the combo permit to an early time in the year, for example, until the drawing ended for limited quota permits for resident deer hunters (mid July).

Information Meetings (Deer Nights) were held at Beloit, Hutchinson, Chanute, Scott City, and Lawrence during August and September. These meetings were attended by 25 to 60 people with 128 people completing a handout survey (see attached table on public opinions at public meetings).

This issue was reported in numerous newspapers and on the KDWPT website. As a result, written comments were received from 131 people. We copied all the comments and placed them into a document that could be read by each member of the KDWPT deer committee. We also attempted to categorize the comments as was done in the public meeting survey. Based on their written comments, we picked the issue that was the most important to that person and then scored their opinion from 1 to 5 with 1 being strongly opposed and 5 being strongly supported. The issue that received the most comments was the one dealing with the suggestion to move the opening of the firearm deer season to the Wednesday before Thanksgiving with about 72 percent of the responses being opposed or strongly opposed to that suggestion.

Somebody copied the survey questionnaire and placed it on a bowhunting website. Sixty-eight people completed the survey that way and their results have been tallied. Coming from a single and specific user group, the results may represent only one segment of the deer hunting community. Their comments will be available to members of the deer committee.

Recommendation

No recommendations for changes in the deer seasons or permanent regulations are currently proposed. The planned course of action for the review process includes input and comments on deer season dates and regulations at KDWPT Commission Meetings and the continuation of collection of comments by e-mail, letters and telephone calls. In addition, a special section of the Deer Hunter Report Card will be devoted to questions on potential changes for deer seasons. That survey will be sent to approximately 35,000 deer hunters.

The Kansas Agricultural Statistic has been requested to conduct a survey of Kansas landowners. A section of that survey will be developed to determine landowners' desires for changing the current deer seasons. The proposed timeline for the survey is the first mailing in early January 2012 with two follow-up mailings. A random sample of Kansas landowners would be drawn by Kansas Agricultural Statistics. Analyses of the results are planned for late February and early

March. It may also be necessary to survey turkey, waterfowl and upland game hunters about changes in deer seasons.

Table 3. History of deer hunting season dates in Kansas.

YEAR	PRISAWARD OPEN DATES	NO. DAYS	ARCHERY OPEN DATES	NO. DAYS	MIDDLELOADER OPEN DATES	NO. DAYS	YOUTH AND DISABILITY OPEN DATES	NO. DAYS	EXTENDED OPEN DATES	NO. DAYS	YEAR
1965	Dec. 11 - 15	5	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	1965
1966	Dec. 10 - 14	5	Oct. 1 - Dec. 8	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1966
1967	Dec. 8 - 12	5	Oct. 1 - Nov. 28	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	1967
1968	Dec. 13 - 17	5	Oct. 1 - Dec. 1	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	1968
1969	Dec. 8 - 10	3	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	1969
1970	Dec. 8 - 9	2 - WEDST	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	1970
	Dec. 8 - 12	5 - EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1971	Dec. 4 - 8	5 - WEDST	Oct. 10 - Nov. 20, Dec. 11 - Dec. 31	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	1971
	Nov. 27 - Dec. 8	2 - EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1972	Dec. 2 - 6	5 - WEDST	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	1972
	Dec. 2 - 10	9 - EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1973	Dec. 2 - 10	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	1973
1974	Dec. 7 - 15	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 21 - Dec. 31	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	1974
1975	Dec. 6 - 14	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 20 - Dec. 31	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	1975
1976	Dec. 4 - 12	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1976
1977	Dec. 3 - 11	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 17 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1977
1978	Dec. 2 - 10	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	1978
1979	Dec. 1 - 9	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1979
1980	Dec. 8 - 14	7	Oct. 1 - Dec. 3, Dec. 17 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1980
1981	Dec. 8 - 13	6	Oct. 1 - Dec. 3, Dec. 18 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1981
1982	Dec. 4 - 12	9	Oct. 1 - Dec. 1, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1982
1983	Dec. 3 - 11	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1983
1984	Dec. 1 - 9	9	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1984
1985	Dec. 7 - 15	9	Oct. 1 - Dec. 5, Dec. 18 - Dec. 31	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	1985
1986	Dec. 6 - 14	9	Oct. 1 - Dec. 5, Dec. 18 - Dec. 31	70	Dec. 8 - 14	7	0	0	0	0	1986
1987	Dec. 8 - 13	6	Oct. 1 - Dec. 4, Dec. 14 - Dec. 31	70	Dec. 8 - 13	6	0	0	Jan. 2 - 10, 1988	9	1987
1988	Nov. 20 - Dec. 11	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - Dec. 31	70	Nov. 20 - Dec. 11	12	0	0	Jan. 2 - 10, 1989	9	1988
1989	Nov. 20 - Dec. 10	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 11 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 22 - 30	9	0	0	0	0	1989
1990	Nov. 20 - Dec. 9	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 22 - 30	9	0	0	1st day Jan. 1 - 14, 2nd day Jan. 22 - Feb. 4	20	1990
1991	Dec. 4 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 3, Dec. 14 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 27 - 29	3	0	0	1st day Jan. 1 - 12, 2nd day Jan. 21 - Feb. 3	20	1991
1992	Dec. 2 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 1, Dec. 14 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 19 - 27	9	0	0	Jan. 12 - 20	14	1992
1993	Dec. 1 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 18 - 26	9	0	0	Jan. 11 - 24	14	1993
1994	Nov. 20 - Dec. 11	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 17 - 25	9	0	0	0	0	1994
1995	Dec. 1 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 11 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 18 - 24	7	0	0	0	0	1995
1996	Dec. 4 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 3, Dec. 18 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 27 - 29	3	0	0	0	0	1996
1997	Dec. 2 - 14	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 2, Dec. 10 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 20 - 28	9	0	0	0	0	1997
1998	Dec. 2 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 1, Dec. 14 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 19 - 27	9	0	0	Jan. 9 - 10, 1999	2	1998
1999	Dec. 1 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - Dec. 31	70	Sept. 18 - 26	12	0	0	Dec. 21 - Jan. 9, 2000	10	1999
2000	Nov. 20 - Dec. 10	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 11 - 31	70	Sept. 18 - 28	14	Sept. 20 - Oct. 1	2	Jan. 1 - 14, 2001	14	2000
2001	Nov. 20 - Dec. 9	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 10 - 31	70	Sept. 18 - 28	14	Sept. 29 - 30	2	Jan. 1 - 12, 2002	12	2001
2002	Dec. 4 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 3, Dec. 10 - 31	70	Sept. 14 - 27	14	Sept. 28 - 29	2	Jan. 1 - 12, 2003	12	2002
2003	Dec. 2 - 14	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 2, Dec. 10 - 31	70	Sept. 12 - 26	14	Sept. 27 - 28	2	Jan. 1 - 4, 2004	4	2003
DMU 19 *	Oct. 10 - 20	9	Jan. 8 - 21	20							
2004	Oct. 1 - 10	12	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20, Dec. 12 - 31	70	Sept. 11 - 24	14	Sept. 25 - 26	2	Jan. 1 - 2, 2005	2	2004
DMU 19 *	Oct. 10 - 24	9	Jan. 2 - 31	29							
2005	Nov. 20 - Dec. 11	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	31	Sept. 10 - 23	14	Sept. 24 - 26	3	Jan. 1 - 8, 2006	8	2005
DMU 19 *	Oct. 10 - 22	9	Jan. 9 - 31	23							
2006	Nov. 20 - Dec. 10	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	31	Sept. 9 - 22	14	Sept. 23 - 24	2	Jan. 1 - 7, 2007	7	2006
DMU 19 *	Oct. 14 - 22	9	Jan. 8 - 31	23							
2007	Nov. 20 - Dec. 9	12	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	31	Sept. 10 - 23	14	Sept. 29 - 30	2	Jan. 1 - 8, 2008	8	2007
DMU 19	Oct. 10 - 21	9	Jan. 7 - 31	24							
2008	Dec. 2 - 14	12	Sept. 22 - Dec. 31	100	Sept. 22 - Oct. 5	14	Sept. 12 - 21	9	Jan. 1 - 4, 2009	4	2008
DMU 19	Oct. 10 - 18	9	Jan. 8 - 31	20							
2009	Dec. 2 - 10	12	Sept. 21 - Dec. 31	101	Sept. 21 - Oct. 4	14	Sept. 12 - 20	9	Jan. 1 - 10, 2010	10	2009
DMU 19	Oct. 10 - 18	9	Jan. 11 - 31	21					Jan. 1 - 12, 2010 (DMU 7, 8, 8 10)	12	
2010	Dec. 1 - 10	12	Sept. 20 - Dec. 31	100	Sept. 20 - Oct. 3	14	Sept. 11 - 19	9	Jan. 1 - 8, 2011	8	2010
DMU 19	Oct. 9 - 17	9	Jan. 10 - 31	22					Jan. 1 - 10, 2011 (DMU 7, 8, 8 10)	10	

* Additional days of hunting opportunity in DMU 19

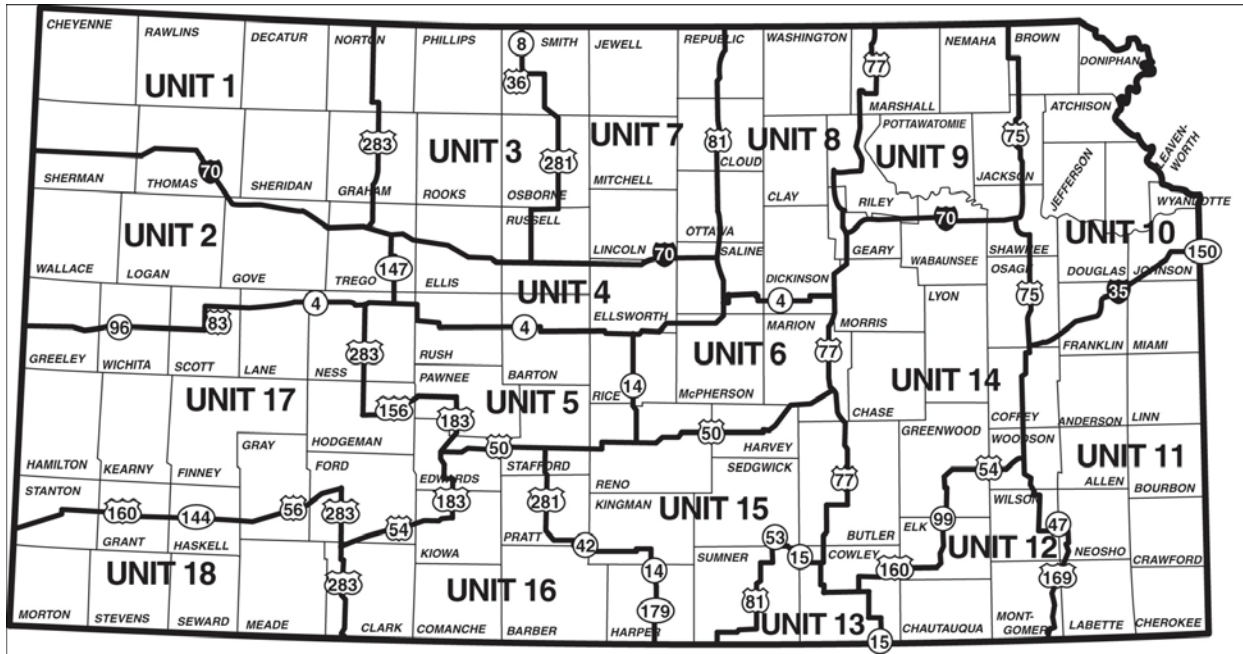
Deer permits fees.

Year	Firearms Either Sex		Archery Either Sex		Game Tags	Game Tags	Hunt- Own- Land	Special Tranferred Hunt- Own- Land	Non-Resident				
	Gen Res	LO/T	Gen Res	LO/T	Gen Res	LO/T		Application Fee	Any Buck	Antlerless	Game Tags	Hunt- Own- Land	
1965	\$10	\$5	\$10	\$5									
1966	\$10	\$5	\$10	\$5									
1967	\$10	\$5	\$10	\$5									
1968	\$10	\$5	\$10	\$5									
1969	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10									
1970	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10									
1971	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10									
1972	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10									
1973	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10									
1974	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10									
1975	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15									
1976	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15									
1977	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15									
1978	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15									
1979	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$15									
1980	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20									
1981	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20									
1982	\$25	\$15	\$25	\$25									
1983	\$25	\$15	\$25	\$25									
1984	\$30	\$20	\$30	\$30									
1985	\$30	\$20	\$30	\$30									
1986	\$30	\$20	\$30	\$20									
1987	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15							
1988	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15									
1989	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15							
1990	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$10					\$50	
1991	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10					\$50	
1992	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10					\$50	
1993	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10					\$50	
1994	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$50	
1995	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$50	
1996	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$50	
1997	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$50	
1998	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	NA	\$50
1999	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$10	\$50
2000	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$10	\$50
2001	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$10	\$50
2002	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$10	\$50
2003	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$5.00	\$200	\$50	\$10	\$50
2004	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$20.00	\$200	\$50	\$20	\$50
2005	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$30	\$20.00	\$300	\$50	\$20	\$50
2006	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$15	\$30	\$20.00	\$300	\$75	\$20	\$75
2007	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	\$10	\$10	\$15	\$30	\$20.00	\$300	\$75	\$20	\$75
2008	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	NA	NA	\$15	\$30	\$20.00	\$300	\$75	NA	\$75
2009	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	NA	NA	\$15	\$30	\$20.00	\$300	\$75	NA	\$75
2010	\$30	\$15	\$30	\$15	NA	NA	\$15	\$30	\$20.00	\$300	\$75	NA	\$75

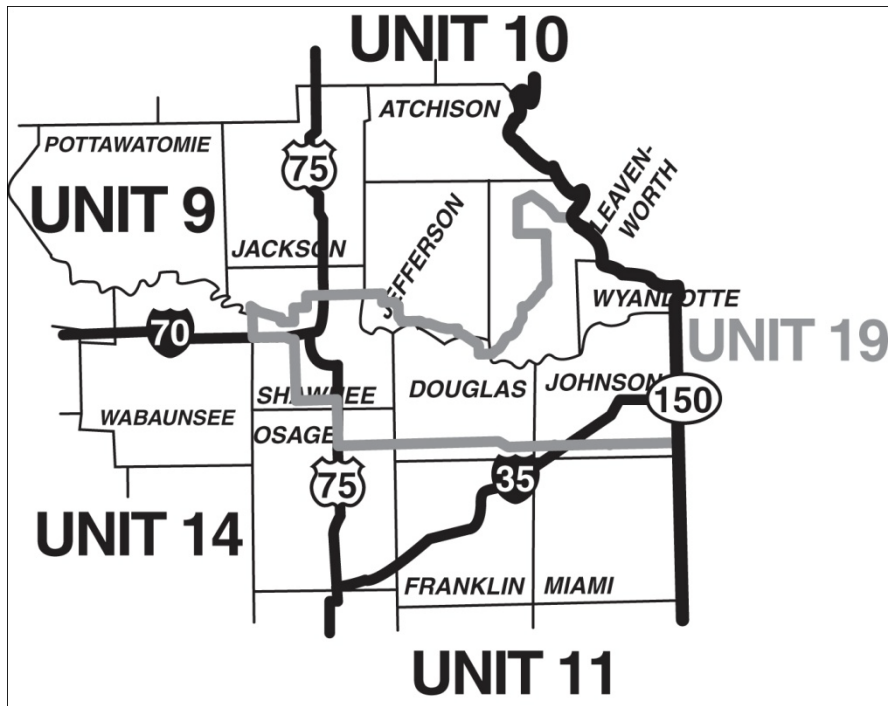
Opinions of 128 people who attended public meetings on deer seasons, permits and regulation.

Suggestions	Strongly Oppose		Neutral	Strongly Support	
	-2	-1	0	1	2
a) Change current special deer season for youth and people with disabilities from 9 consecutive days in September to two 4-day seasons, one at Labor Day (Sept) and one at Columbus Day (Oct).	22.7%	14.8%	34.4%	20.3%	7.8%
b) Create a new firearms 2-day (weekend) season when only antlerless white-tailed deer could be taken and start this season before the peak of the deer mating occurs (pre-rut).	48.8%	16.5%	16.5%	11.8%	6.3%
c) Move the start of the current antlerless-only season from after New Years to before Christmas.	29.9%	17.3%	18.1%	19.7%	15.0%
d) Start regular firearms deer season on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving instead of the Wednesday after Thanksgiving (still 12 days).	64.8%	10.2%	6.3%	7.8%	10.9%
e) Extend the length of the archery season from Sept 1st thru Jan 31st.	27.3%	21.9%	32.8%	11.7%	6.3%
f) Add an additional week of hunting opportunity in December for hunters using a muzzleloader.	32.8%	14.1%	28.1%	14.1%	10.9%
g) Require all nonresident deer hunters to have 2 tags, one which would allow them to take a buck and one restricting them to an antlerless deer.	10.3%	6.3%	27.0%	35.7%	20.6%
h) Allow residents to purchase a combination deer permit that contained 2 tags, one restricted to antlerless deer.	6.3%	1.6%	23.8%	38.9%	29.4%
i) Allow people to use a crossbow as well as compound bow, long bow and recurve bows during the archery deer season.	48.0%	15.0%	11.8%	13.4%	11.8%
j) Require hunters to register and tag the antlers if they take a trophy class deer.	21.6%	6.4%	31.2%	21.6%	19.2%
k) Allow resident youth hunters to obtain a firearms either species deer permit over-the-counter but continue to limit the number of resident adults, as has been done since 1965, for that special type of permit that allow them to pursue mule deer.	18.9%	24.4%	35.4%	14.2%	7.1%
l) Keep all seasons the same as they have been for the last three years.	11.8%	11.8%	19.7%	19.7%	36.8%

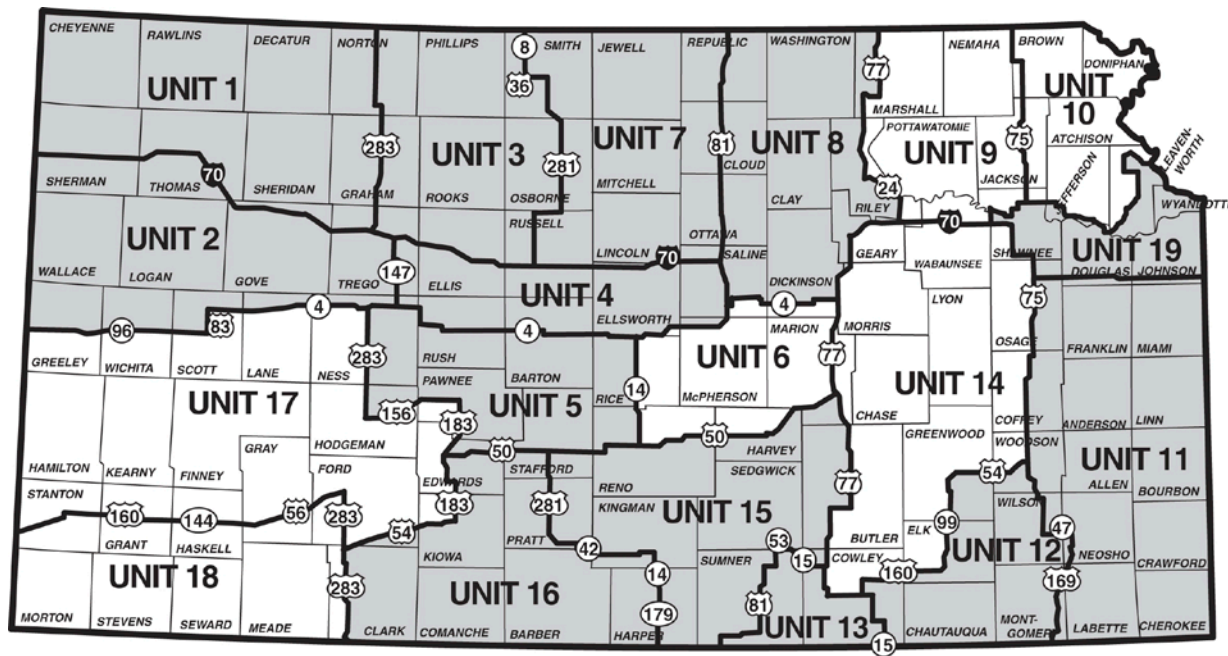
Deer Management Units



Deer Management Units with Sub-Unit 19



Proposed 2012 Antlerless White-tailed Deer Units



2 Additional AOW Permits
 3 Additional AOW Permits

**KAR 115-14-2, 115-14-3, 115-14-4, 115-14-5,
115-14-6, 115-14-8, 115-14-9, 115-14-10.
Falconry Regulations**

Background

The sport of falconry is the practice of hunting and taking game with raptors. To be permitted to practice falconry, individuals go through a lengthy process of learning how to properly care for, and how to train the raptors they use in the sport. There are three classes in the falconry permit structure that have requirements with regard to age, knowledge, and proficiency. Each different falconry class allows for different numbers and increasingly difficult types of raptors to be handled in the sport from kestrels and red-tailed hawks for the Apprentice Class falconers all the way to peregrine falcons and golden eagles for Master Falconers. Apprentice, General, and Master falconry classes are recognized in Kansas. In order to become an Apprentice falconer, a test must be passed that demonstrates the applicant's knowledge of basic biology, diseases, care and handling of raptors, literature, law, regulations and other appropriate subject matter, all relating to falconry and raptors. The apprentice must also be mentored by a sponsor who is either a General Class or Master Falconer. An Apprentice must be permitted as an Apprentice for at least two years and receive a recommendation from their sponsor to be able to move to the next class, General Falconer. After practicing falconry for at least five years, a falconer can move to the Master Falconer class. Falconry was implemented in Kansas in 1991. There are currently 74 permitted falconers in Kansas.

Discussion

Due to changes in federal regulations, the states have been asked to revise their regulations to meet minimum standards as set forth by federal regulations by January 1, 2014. As soon as a state is certified they meet minimum U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) standards for falconry, federal falconry permits will no longer be required in that state.

A state that wishes to allow falconry must establish laws and regulations that meet the standards established by the USFWS. The director of the USFWS must determine that a state falconry permitting program meets the standards established by the USFWS no later than January 1, 2014. At that time, all federal falconry permits and the federal permitting program will end. Falconry will not be permitted in a state after this date until the state develops a permitting program the director of USFWS certifies to be in compliance with these regulations. State regulations may be more restrictive than these federal standards but may not be less restrictive. State regulations must be consistent with the terms contained in any convention between the United States and any foreign country for the protection of raptors and the Migratory bird Treaty Act.

Items required by USFWS for certification of State Falconry permit;

- A copy of the state's Apprentice Falconer examination, which at a minimum must cover laws and regulations, raptor biology, raptor identification, trapping methods, facilities requirements, care of raptors held for falconry, diseases and health problems of raptors, and training methods.
- Copies of the laws and regulations governing falconry of the state and certification that the laws and regulations meet the requirements of this section.
- Electronic reporting ; the state must work with the USFWS to ensure that the electronic 3-186A reporting system for reporting take, transfers, and loss of falconry birds is fully operational for residents of the state.

When the USFWS concurs that the regulations and examination meet the requirements set forth by USFWS, they will publish a rule in the Federal Register adding the state to the list of those

approved for allowing the practice of falconry. USFWS will terminate federal falconry permitting in any state certified under these regulations on January 1 for the calendar year following publication of the rule

Recommendations

Department staff has been in consultation with officers of the Kansas Hawking Club, which is an affiliated member of NFA (National Falconry Association), to review federal regulations and existing state regulations to best determine how to revise the KDWP regulations to meet the new federal requirements.

In general, we agree that adoption of the new federal regulations 50 C.F.R 21.29 which went into effect on October 8, 2008 will be sufficient. There are, however, certain requirements that KDWP staff and officers of the Kansas Hawking Club feel should be more restrictive than federal regulations.

Following are staff recommendations for consideration for the KDWP falconry regulations:

- Lapsed permits may be reinstated at previously existing level without requirement to retake examination in accordance with federal regulations of not having lapsed for more than five years. This is to take into account reasonable circumstances that may occur that an individual may not be able to renew permit or keep birds such as military deployment.
- Apprentice falconers can possess only wild-caught kestrels, red-tailed hawks, and red shouldered hawks.
- Adopt the lowered minimum ages for falconry classes; Apprentice 12 years of age, General Class, 16 years of age
- Indoor and outdoor falconry holding facilities need to be constructed and inspected prior to issuance of falconry permit.
- Falconry equipment as outlined by federal regulations shall be possessed by each applicant before the issuance or renewal of a falconry permit.
- Adopt federal regulations on types of raptors and when they can be taken but require a valid Kansas hunting license to take raptors from the wild.
- No species listed as threatened or endangered in Kansas can be taken.
- Each item of equipment used to capture raptors shall be tagged with permittees name and falconry permit number.
- Raptors taken under a depredation or special purpose federal permit may be used by General and Master falconers. These raptors are typically golden eagles.

Public Hearing

KANSAS REGISTER
SUBMISSION FORM

Agency Number -- 710-01

Agency Name -- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism

Agency Address - 1020 S. Kansas Ave, Suite 200

Topeka, Kansas 66612-1233

Title of Document -- Regulation Filing

Desired Date of Publication November 3, 2011

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 5, 2012 at Kansas Wesleyan University Student Activities Center (Hauptli), 100 E. Claflin Ave, Salina, 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 5 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 6 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 sheila.kemmis@ksoutdoors.com 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.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman

i
Secretary's Resolution

2012 KANSAS FREE FISHING DAYS

Under authorities contained in K.S.A. 32-906(f), the dates of June 2 and 3, 2012 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

Robin Jennison, Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism

Secretary's Resolution

2012 KANSAS FREE PARK ENTRANCE DAYS

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

January

No free events planned

February

No free events planned

March

31 – All State Parks – Open House

April

28 – Cheney – OK Kids Events

May

5 – Webster – OK Kids Events

12 – Meade – OK Kids Events

June

2 – Cross Timbers – National Trails
Day, Free Fishing

2 – Kanopolis – Free Fishing
Weekend Events

2 – Glen Elder – Free Fishing
Weekend Events

2 – Perry – Free Fishing

2 – Prairie Dog – Annual OK Kids
Events

2 – Prairie Spirit – National Trails
Day

2 – Scott – Annual OK Kids Events

9 – Cedar Bluff – Annual Event for
Kids

16 – Wilson Father's Day/OK Kids

17 – Hillsdale – Father's Day

July

No free events planned

August

11 – Clinton – Annual OK Kids Day

18 – Milford – Extreme Water
Festival

25 – Tuttle Creek – OK Kids Events/
Wounded Warrior Picnic

September

9 – Lovewell – Annual Chili Cook-
off

22 – Crawford – Annual Chili Cook-
off and Music Festival

29 – Fall River – Nat'l Public Lands
Day/Fall River Rendezvous

29 – Sand Hills – Potential Special
Event based on Construction

October

6 – Eisenhower – 2nd Annual Trail
Fundraiser

6 – Eldorado – OK Kids Events

27 – Elk City – Neewollah Event

27 – Pomona – Fall Activities/
Luminaries

November

No free events planned

December

No free events planned

are established as "2012 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

Robin Jennison, Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism