

REVISED AGENDA
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS & TOURISM
COMMISSION MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, March 26 2015
Kansas Historical Society History Center
6425 SW 6th Ave, Topeka, Kansas

- I. CALL TO ORDER AT 1:00 p.m.**
- II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**
- III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS**
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE January 8, 2015 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. 2015 Legislature (Chris Tymeson)**
 - B. General Discussion**
 - 1. Strategic Plan Briefing (Steve Adams)**
 - 2. Tourism Briefing (Kelli Hilliard)**
 - 3. Preview of New Department Website (Ron Kaufman)**
 - 4. Webless Migratory Birds (Rich Schultheis)**
 - 5. Early Migratory Bird Seasons (Tom Bidrowski)**
 - 6. Update on Federal Changes and Timeline for Migratory Birds (Tom Bidrowski)**
 - 7. Duck Zone Boundaries (Tom Bidrowski)**
 - 8. KAR 115-25-9a. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits; additional considerations; Fort Riley. (Lloyd Fox)**
 - C. Workshop Session**
 - 1. Public Land Regulations (Brad Simpson)**
- VII. RECESS AT 5:00 p.m.**
- VIII. RECONVENE AT 6:30 p.m.**
- IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**
- X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

Statewide Habitat Award Presentation (Jake George)

D. Public Hearing

- 1. KAR 115-25-7. Antelope; open season, bag limit, and permits. (Matt Peek)**
- 2. KAR 115-25-8. Elk; open season, bag limit, and permits. (Matt Peek)**
- 3. KAR 115-4-13. Deer permits; descriptions and restrictions. (Lloyd Fox)**
- 4. KAR 115-25-9. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits. (Lloyd Fox)**
- 5. Secretary's Orders for Deer (Lloyd Fox)**

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

If necessary, the Commission will recess on March 26, 2015, to reconvene March 27, 2015, 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, April 23, 2015 at Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita, KS.

**Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 8, 2015
Bonner Springs Parks and Recreation
Sunflower Room, 200 E 3rd St
Bonner Springs, Kansas**

Subject to
Commission
Approval

The January 8, 2015 meeting of the Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission was called to order by Chairman Gerald Lauber at 1:00 p.m. at Bonner Springs Parks & Recreation. Chairman Lauber and Commissioners Don Budd, Tom Dill, Gary Hayzlett, Roger Marshall and Aaron Rider 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

Sheila Kemmis – At bottom of agenda – March meeting date is 26th, not 23rd. Craig Curtis and Roger Wolfe are changing position of presentation – Quail Initiative then Kaw River.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE October 16, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Sheila Kemmis – On page 10, number 6, KAR 115-2-3, presentation was made by Alan Stark not Linda Lanterman and utility prices were rounded up, they are \$311.50 for one utility, \$371.50 for two utilities and \$431.50 for three utilities.

Commissioner Gary Hayzlett moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Commissioner Tom Dill second. Approved. (Minutes – Exhibit B).

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ken Kreif – (Exhibit C) Met you in 2013 on same subject item; reenergize that discussion on zebra mussels. I was in the military and taught engineers how to operate in chemical environment; zebra mussels are the same. If you move water from one location to another not sure it is contaminated or not. You know after they are contaminated, but end up with potential of moving things around (same as combat environment). I spoke to class of 150 7th graders and shared zebra mussels and how to control them. One young man shared a story about his brother who fell off the boat and cut his feet on zebra mussels on bottom of lake. President said we all have a responsibility to take care of our environment, subject to federal actions; one thing listed was invasive species. That is what is happening here; one twist is you are not in tune with regulations on zebra mussels. From Wisconsin west they have guidelines on how to prevent zebra mussels. One piece we should reconsider. Since 2003, this slide (handout) showed contamination since then. If we don't make sure things are cleaned, drained and dry end up with contamination. When they die they wash up on shore and cause problems on shorelines too. On USGS website shows where they can be found. We need to not bring anything wet to Kansas

waters that is below a dam, don't bring upstream, can be in weeds or the water. Don't want to transfer minnows or bait from one body of water to another, when you have water, lake or stream that is contaminated but not identified yet. Moving bluegill and sunfish as bait is a problem. Bait dealers can harvest bait from water not identified as contaminated; those two things contribute to this peak. Request you take another look at those two guidelines. Commissioner Budd – Doug, do you agree? Nygren – Yes, he has a lot of knowledge, but finding something we can do about it is the problem. Commissioner Budd – How many law enforcement officers in Kansas? Kevin Jones – 70. Commissioner Budd – Could law enforcement, Nygren and Kreif work together to write a new regulation? Chairman Lauber – A lot of private waters in Kansas and we can't restrict that usage. A lot of outcry from sportsmen on social and economic impact last time we made an attempt; don't know how we can control it, other than go back and try to do what we tried to do before. Kreif – Worked with Association and they will come to a meeting in the future, as a resident of Kansas, the key to preventing the spread is to say you can't do that and educate people. I have been talking to Jessica Howell and they are bringing education into the schools. Not everybody is in position to move water, but the more we squeeze down what is okay to do the better. Not moving bluegills and sunfish and bait is a start. Chairman Lauber – Education is most effective prevention, we have rules and regulations, common baitfish movement is the response. Other states don't have as many private ponds or strong lobbying interests like we seem to have. Kreif – If you start by eliminating one source and education, then you have a good start. Seven percent of 325 lakes are already contaminated. Commissioner Budd – Don't know what the rest of the commission wants to do. Secretary Jennison – One of the first issues was that came up after I started this job; one of best practices was most restrictive laws; but had legislative issue, commission passed it one year and rescinded it the next. Commissioner Budd – Talking zebra mussels is talking Greek to a lot of people; they don't understand how dramatic repercussions could be. Work with Doug and bring solution as suggestion or information. Chairman Lauber – Prefer to discuss education at this point, zebra mussels don't react the same at different impoundments. Tried to do it the way you want, but a lot of issues came up and allowed those two species. Leave it alone and try education. Kreif – Challenge is once contaminated you can't stop it, have not found anything to eradicate it. If neighbor has a cold, you can take action and maybe not catch the cold. Eliminate one possible source. Commissioner Budd – Chris, not sure how to handle this? Chris Tymeson – If the Secretary wants to move forward it is his prerogative or if Commission wants to move forward. Secretary Jennison – Doug and I met some time ago and working on education, especially at lakes that don't have them; and possibly creating facilities to decontaminate when leaving the lake. Discussing that, not opposed to Commission bringing forward. Chairman Lauber – At one time people afraid of H1N1 virus, and government didn't declare hand shaking illegal. Concentrate on education and possibly create restrictive regulations on lakes not infested. Nygren – Continuing to improve education, not a lot of tools to stop them. Commissioner Marshall – Love to see zebra mussels halted, do we think stopping baitfish would stop it? Nygren – Have good information and education for bait dealers to educate their customers; problem is private baitfish. Currently 163 lakes don't have zebra mussels. Commissioner Marshall – Interested in action that will give us results. Commissioner Dill – What information do we have at docks? Nygren – Signs at lakes that have zebra mussels; Jessica is designing large kiosk sign to raise awareness. Secretary asked us to come up with campaign to protect those not infested. Commissioner Marshall – Can you mark vessels in some way? Nygren – Can seal a boat, if seal broke, but would have to inspect every boat that comes in.

Tom Saragusa, Shawnee – Didn't realize tourism was part of this. My fishing license, waterfowl stamp money go to tourism? Craghead – No. Saragusa – In relation to Canadian goose, why is season closed for two days, opened on November 1, closed on November 9 for two days and

opened on 12, why? Want to get rid of local geese. Chairman Lauber – Took two days of discussion. Saragusa – Talked to a game warden at Kansas City. Why closed for two days? Chairman Lauber – If closed for those two days, season can run later in the season. Saragusa – Should have started later. Commissioner Budd – Feds give number of days to hunt waterfowl. Commissioner Rider – If you have it earlier starts on weekend instead of middle of the week. Michael Pearce – The reason they opened on November 1, was to open on opening weekend of upland game, give two weekends and balance the best they could to give some late dates and give as many weekends as they could. Saragusa – Thanks, that is all I wanted to know.

Paul Bahnmaier – Complement enthusiasm of Linda Craghead for tourism. Our budget is \$4 million, \$15 million in Colorado, and \$14 million in Oklahoma (and named many others); doing a lot for a little money. Also, compliment Roger Wolfe who I worked with on signage for Kansas River. Could promote civil war history here in tourism.

Tim Donges, QDMA – Game warden situation, you said 70 game wardens. Jones – Authorized for 70 but have less; 160 law enforcement officers total in state, parks and public lands. Donges – I live near El Dorado State Park and can't get help. We have a problem. Chairman Lauber – They are park rangers at parks and utilized during firearms season to help. Donges – Why is game warden also taking care of El Dorado wildlife area at state park? Chairman Lauber – Can't get into personnel issues. Kevin Jones – This is one of the issues on the surface that seems to be easy to answer, but is not. To a great degree it depends on funding source; law enforcement and public lands paid out of wildlife fee fund; park rangers are paid out of park fee fund money and can only be used there. We are under restrictions of 40 hour FLSA weeks. Donges – We have trucks that law enforcement is driving in the parks, what do rangers do in parks in off season, why can't they come help during busy deer seasons? Chairman Lauber – Are we not covering or not serving? Donges – When we call for help and can't get it, our contact is the game warden, they are the customer service, the face of the agency. Not realistic to close the doors because out of hours, we have peak times. Chairman Lauber – We do try to focus on those times. Jones – We allocate overtime hours, but have to have money in the bank to pay, but need more revenue to increase number of officers and equipment. Donges – Cannot utilize park personnel? Jones – Diversion of funds, which is not permitted by law. Donges – At the end of the day, the customer is seeing this and so there is a decline in reporting and frustration in the field.

Tim Nedou – Senate bill, private law, clarification, Chris? Tymeson – We discussed this before, not giving personal legal advice. Statute says give priority. Nedou – A1 says landowner first, is that what we are doing? Tymeson and Jones – Yes. Nedou – Restitution bill, fines in Kansas on bigger deer, \$10,000 to \$30,000? Jones – Not aware of that. Chairman Lauber – Want funds as well as the antlers? Nedou – No, not about that. If fined this amount of money is it being made public in papers? What a deterrent to post that, we want ethical hunters, not poachers. Nedou – Trespassing, rule on pursuing wounded animal that is not there. Jones – Three statutes, general trespass; two primarily on hunting, criminal hunting, all hunters shall have permission, however, may pursue wildlife to recover wounded or dead animals. If landowner asks them to leave must leave immediately. If hunter shoots pheasant and it crosses over, can go pick up and return to where he can lawfully be; if landowner says stop, he must leave immediately or face criminal trespass. Hunting for written permission only, can retrieve, but if landowner stops him must comply with landowner. Nedou – What happens if someone came on my land and fell down and got hurt, I am liable? I would like no trespassing to mean no trespassing, in 22 states, like Kansas to be 23rd. Tymeson – There are exemptions in all of those statutes too. Nedou – When you sell confiscated items, why doesn't Wildlife and Parks advertise that sale? Chairman Lauber – Sell in commercial, reasonable manner. Jones – We have news releases, up to paper to

publish. Nedou – Email in newsletter, want to know where they are; last auction brought in \$49,000, not just published in local paper.

Jodi Perry, Carbondale – Who is in charge of controlling noxious weeds at a state park?
Lanterman – Where? Perry – Pomona. Lanterman - Just did change of staff there and have a new manager. Craghead – Corp side or state park side? There is a lab on the north side that the extension has also.

Saragusa – Complement zebra mussel guy, had volunteers at state lake checking boats and gave sticker to put on boats. It really worked.

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Secretary's Remarks

1. Agency and State Fiscal Status – Robin Jennison, Secretary, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit D). State budget has not responded to actions legislature has taken, and has fallen short so the Governor is required to make some cuts. The department lost \$500,000 of EDIF money, probably in the parks. Graph shows best; will see reduction in next two years as well. Park revenue continues to improve, in December 2011 \$80,000, last year \$190,000 due to changes you have allowed us to make; park registration, park passport system and park reservation system has helped smooth that out. We have always had a Wildtrust account (brochure – Exhibit E) so we have went through and reduced the number of funds and allows people to donate to a specific interest. I took over sending thank you notes a couple of years ago, and get quite a few funds. Mike Pearce – Possible loss of a half million, do you expect that to happen in following years too? Jennison – I think it is highly probable. Legislature tried to take some of the cabin money a few years ago; if they see funds they try to take them or reduce, so we will lose more EDIF money probably. Pearce – You have enough to operate, but you have a lot of maintenance you need to do. Do you think it is gone for good? Jennison – Yes, they want us more self sufficient. I thought we wouldn't lose general fund as quickly as we did, would have had cabin development at Hillsdale and do some other things to increase revenue if we hadn't; looking at other reasons to bring people to the parks to increase revenues. New camp sites at Hillsdale and Sand Hills. Pearce – Still looking at getting some Corps property? Jennison – Not us taking anything over. Craghead – Looking to utilize funding in partnerships.

Lori Hutfles, Lawrence – Lesser prairie chicken, do you expect same legislation from Senator Kobach this year? Jennison – I don't think so, as it has been listed a little better than some of the things people thought would happen. I would be surprised if he did. Commissioner Dill – Are we administering these Wildtrust funds? Direct fund, direct use? Jennison – Yes.

2. 2015 Legislative Update – Chris Tymeson, chief legal counsel, presented this update to the Commission. Begins Monday, first year of two-year cycle. So far a couple of items we will likely propose, exploring different forms of licensing and technology issues. Land acquisition bills, one in Cherokee County, money from remediation funds, want exemption from rules for properties like that. Plan on proposing boater education again. Law enforcement citation and prosecutors to prosecutors. State fish and some issues on agritourism that are coming up. Some proposals to change possession of certain animals; like lions, tigers and bear issue a few years ago. Wildlife violator bill, just revised a few years ago. ATV designation change for licensing. Vendor licensing fees in southeast Kansas in particular has been \$1.00 since 2003, not enough compensation, so that may come up.

Chairman Lauber – Recognize former staff member Tom Mosher who has retired.

Break

B. General Discussion

1. Commissioner Permit Update and Drawing – Mike Miller, Magazine Editor, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit F). First drawing in 2006; deer, one elk and one antelope. In first year sold for \$49,000 with 59 applications being received; demand has steadily increased. Last year, one elk and six deer permits with 101 applications with only 99 of those eligible (due to winning in past three years) and the permits sold for \$57,515. After the permits are sold by the organization, the amount of the permit is subtracted and 85 percent of the proceeds are sent to KDWPT 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. As of 2014, we have received a total of 886 applications and \$318,923.31 has been spent on natural resource projects. There are 152 eligible applications this year. Commissioner Budd – How is it determined that there is one elk or one antelope? Miller – By statute. Commissioner Budd – In Wildtrust, could they apply? Tymeson – Funds would come to us so don't think we can do that. Commissioner Budd – In Utah a few years ago when auctioned off Governor's tags, they are very popular.

Drawing Winners (Exhibit G):

Commissioner Don Budd – (1) – #76 – Pheasants Forever, High Plains Roosters (deer)

Commissioner Tom Dill – (2) – #55 – National Wild Turkey Federation, El Dorado (elk)

Chairman Gerald Lauber – (3) – #131 – Quail Forever, Brown County (deer)

Commissioner Randy Doll, drawn by Gerald Lauber – (4) – #129 – Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wichita (deer)

Commissioner Gary Hayzlett – (5) – #21 – Kansas Alliance of Wetlands and Streams, Glacial Hills (deer)

Commissioner Roger Marshall – (6) – #13 – Ducks Unlimited, Park City (deer)

Commissioner Aaron Rider – (7) – #51 – National Wild Turkey Federation, Augusta (deer)

2. Tourism Update – Linda Craghead, Asst. Secretary, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit H – Newsletter, *Kansas!* magazine, Kansas Outdoors, Kansas State Parks). New publications in front of you (listed above). This is the first time for state park guide in magazine format. Begin active trade show season now, Denver, Omaha, Chicago and other places on the road. *Kansas!* magazine won National Magazine of the Year award; Logan Mize also won cover of the year; presented by IRMA (International Regional Magazine Association). Terrific team of people in parks, gains since FY 2012, a lot contributed to online reservation. Our entire effort is all about recruitment, retention and getting someone to return. Engage new users in new things, January 1 is first day hike, grown over last three years. Tourism completed economic impact survey, don't have numbers still compiling those. Transient guest tax (bed tax), does not come to us, but enables local communities to promote their communities. State park revenue has grown. Bed tax is .00645 percent, not a large amount, but traffic to state is growing, \$31,795,000, in 2014 increased to over \$40 million. It is a team effort and Kansas is a destination for people. When you think about New York City or Orlando, they don't get to experience places like Kansas. There were some questions about parks folks, stop by state parks and ask questions or buy a license.

3. Public Land Regulations – Brad Simpson, public lands section chief, presented this

regulation to the Commission (Exhibit I). This is the time when we start changes, but no changes are being recommended at this time. Commissioner Rider – In our management areas, do we have lists of goals for each management area? Simpson – We have broad goals by region and then narrow it down for each area, so yes we do. Commissioner Rider – Do you post that anywhere? Simpson – Not publically, but at waterfowl meeting nights some may be shared. Commissioner Budd – When an area manager gets a position, do they stay forever? Simpson – Yes, unless they decide to transfer. Commissioner Budd – Where is wildlife area manager in scope? Simpson – Below wildlife area regional supervisor. Commissioner Budd – Are we the farmers? Simpson – Sometimes, or lease it out to a farmer to farm. Commissioner Rider – About reclamation projects, who makes those decisions for our department; just property manager or are you involved in it? Simpson – That project was started about five years ago or so, meet with KDHE, I am informed and up the chain of command. It takes time to get funding to do a project so there is a time lapse there. Commissioner Rider – Referring to Deer Creek, been hearing about it continually, it caused a lot of issues and the department has a black eye; not any one person's fault, but like to stress that since we are in a difficult situation with public view; need to take a serious look and see if we should do other projects now or hold them off. Just letting you know what I have been hearing. Simpson – There was lessons learned on that project. We did have public meetings on prior projects and no people showed up, but we did not hold one for that project. We learned a lesson. Commissioner Rider – This project is hitting spots where more people used the area. Simpson – It was the biggest one, the rest will be smaller.

4. Review of Coyote hunting in Rifle Deer Season – Kevin Jones, law enforcement division director, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit J). Update from a report given a year ago where coyote hunting was the alleged activity for actions that would be illegal for deer hunting, like use of two-way radio or using a vehicle. The number of occurrences dropped significantly in the 2014 season. During the 2013 season, there were a total of 46 reports recorded; however in 2014 only 12 occurred. No specific reason for decline; we have more vacancies in the state, mostly in western part of the state, four in 2013 and seven this year. Based on the ratio of counties per officer, full staffing is a ratio of 1.97 counties per officer; 2013 vacancies increased the ratio to 2.25 counties per officer; and 2014 ratio was 2.52 counties per officer (four officers were available to cover the 19 county area in southwestern Kansas, creating a ratio of 4.75 counties per officer). While officers did their best to cover this area, more officer time was spent traveling to reported complaints of all types and reaching the more distant areas of their patrol area within the region. It is unknown how many calls for service were completed by the Sheriff's offices. The discussion and publicity of this issue last year may have contributed by causing people to be more mindful of their activity and observant of the law. There was a significant decrease in the number of calls for service from landowners and tenants between the two years, 2013 = 13 calls; 2014 = 1 call. Weather conditions may also have been a factor. Survey results are shown on the report handout (discussed some). There are only a few counties with reoccurrence (both years). Two years doesn't show a trend, but some information, better than a year ago. I will keep track of this information to see if a trend emerges. Provided map of occurrences; no conclusions. Chairman Lauber – Does it take officers much time to complete this? Jones – Used a survey on Google drive, so not a lot of free text, doesn't take a long time. Chairman Lauber – I think it would be good to look at it another year. Jones – Recorded during rifle/firearm season. Chairman Lauber – One more year. Commissioner Rider – How much does Operation Game Thief get utilized? Jones – It is utilized, more people using local Sheriff or more direct contact with local conservation officer. Limitations on funding, it is a good tool that is under-utilized by the public.

Chairman Lauber – Numbers 5 and 6 have been switched.

6. Quail Initiative Update – Craig Curtis, Regions 4 and 5 wildlife supervisor, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit K, PowerPoint – Exhibit L). This was a program that Jim Pitman brought to me and Roger Wolfe and a way to look at quail numbers. Jim envisioned a target approach and surveys on impacts, a five-year project running through 2017. Focused approach on increased incentives, more practices with 100 percent cost share and turnkey with entire restoration on landowner property. Pat Riese is at Fall River and has coordinated this program. Two focus areas: North and South selected looking at existing populations, landowner interest, restoration potential, public land availability (Melvern, Grand Osage and Big Hill Wildlife Areas) and hydrologic units with consistent boundaries with USDA programs. There are multiple partners working with us on this project. The approach was to improve private land with technical assistance, cost sharing, and partnership with USDA and other programs; on public land continue to have quail emphasis with potential demonstration areas. The five year goal is 50 percent increase in breeding populations shown by annual whistle counts and five percent increase in suitable habitat in the impacted areas. Eligible practices include: brush management and tree removal; native grass and forb establishment; prescribed burning including patch burning; native shrub planting; strip disking; hedgerow renovation, coppicing; prescribed grazing; exclusion fence; cool season grass conversion; cover crops or crop rotation; CRP enrollment incentive; brood strips and deferred spraying; and others. On Melvern and Grand Osage we have directly and indirectly impacted 4,878 and 7,240 acres, respectively. Multiple equipment purchases have also been made as investments for quail habitat improvements. KDWPT biologists and managers have spent hundreds of man hours meeting with landowners, developing plans, and promoting the Initiative. With several projects completed or approaching completion, active and tentative projects are making progress. 2015 looks to be a promising year for the Initiative with new habitat improvement plans in progress and many additional landowner meetings scheduled. Eligible practices on projects; landowner outreach: workshops, demonstrations on focus areas, direct landowner mailings and advertizing the program. Delivery on private lands with 5,950 acres direct project impacted, 8,320 indirectly and \$28,900 committed in North focus area; in South focus area 100 direct project areas impacted, 1,950 indirect acres and \$11,200 paid or committed. Doing brush management, coppicing, hedge row renovation, grass/forb plantings, shrub plantings, cool-season conversion, CRP management, CCRP enrollment and prescribed fire. On public land: Grand Osage 2,600 acres impacted, Melvern 2,100 acres and Big Hill 40 acres. Future plans include continued public land restorations, additional landowner contracts, continued promotion, population monitoring and population increases. Commissioner Marshall – Is it working? Curtis – Getting good contacts. We draw up a plan and landowners will try a couple of things on the list and see if they see improvement and try others. Have not analyzed whistle counts yet, but hearing a few more birds. Commissioner Marshall – When will we do whistle counts? Curtis – After five years is completed in 2017. Commissioner Marshall – What do birds like about this coppicing? Curtis – Quail have an aversion to trees. Unknown lady, Douglas County – We have a better response to Facebook in rural areas. Roger Turner – Impressed with presentation, everything you are doing is great and increase by 100 percent even better. What about predator control? Curtis – Habitat will keep them safer from predators.

5. Kaw River Access and NPS Trails Designation – Roger Wolfe, Region 2 wildlife supervisor, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit M, River water trail brochure – Exhibit N). The Kansas is one of only three navigable streams in Kansas (Kansas, Arkansas and Missouri rivers). It is 174 miles long, extending from Junction City (confluence of Republic and Smoky Hill) to Kansas City with a few access sites constructed in the 1970s and 1980s. There was renewed interest in access during the 1990's with Secretary Hayden and Secretary Williams

and the Kansas River Recreation plan was developed in 1998. The goal was to place access every 10-15 miles (considered to be a day float trip), and in 2000 there were only five access sites. KDWPT has committed over \$1,000,000 to river access since 2000 and local funds and donations and donated materials have probably equaled this amount. An additional 14 access sites have been added since 2000. KDWPT was contacted in 2011 about potential projects that would fall into the America's Great Outdoors program and the Kansas River Water Trail project was identified as a potential project. The Kansas River was named the second National Water Trail in 2012. Items identified for improvement were: path finding signs, (with the help of KDOT and local communities) there are signs directing people to all 19 access sites; brochures (with the help of Tourism) and website development, which both were developed from NPS grant, website is <http://www.travelks.com/ksrivertrail/> and also can be found on the National Water Trail site at <http://www.nps.gov/watertrails/>; river navigation signs, were placed every two miles Edwardsville to Topeka and Junction City to Belvue (thanks to law enforcement and the use of the air boat); and kiosks will be placed at each access site to provide information for users and to provide community, historical and tourism information. The Green Team with Westar is providing all the materials for the kiosks. We're only two access points shy, a 19-mile stretch from Belvue to Topeka. We're working with Rossville for access along St. Mary's/Maple Hill road. We have had a float trip the last few years and dedications of structures. There is a challenge of getting across the railroad tracks to place access sites. Working with Shawnee County for potential site at Willard; with Shawnee County and Topeka parks about upgrade to Seward Avenue ramp; and with DeSoto to upgrade and adding restroom at their site. Special thanks to the National Park Service, Friends of the Kaw and Westar Green Team. All the communities are partners in this as well as internal partners with law enforcement, parks and fisheries. ?? Are you planning on another float trip in October? Wolfe – Yes. Klataske – restrictions on air boats, sounds like a jet port. Wolfe – Have not talked about that, air boat usage is limited, usually during waterfowl season. We are doing the same process on the Ark River and are meeting with the National Park Service and Jessica Mounts on Monday to try to get another water trail.

C. Workshop Session

1. Antelope and Elk 25-Series Regulations – Matt Peek, furbearer research biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit O). Not anticipating any changes, but license numbers will be decided after pronghorn survey. Archery permit numbers have increased from 110 to 380, but now are tapering off below 350, which we feel we can support. Crossbows were originally allowed for youth and disabled, increased in the beginning, but decreased back to levels of other archery equipment.

Elk (Exhibit P), testing for CWD, but not in regulation any longer so want to strike that, but no other changes to recommend. In the briefing book recommended 10 any elk and 15 antlerless elk. Chairman Lauber – What percentage of the elk is that? Peek – Less than 10 percent, plus a few road-killed and some dispersal from the Fort; fairly stable population with a slight increase. Survey is not exact enough to tell how much increase. Pearce – What is the success rate at Fort Riley? Peek – Have not tabulated this year, season is still going on; 20 elk killed this year. Chairman Lauber – Where would the Cheyenne County elk have come from? Peek – A few up in that area, some in Republic County and up and down the Kansas/Colorado line and there is reproduction in that herd.

2. Big Game Permanent Regulations – Lloyd Fox, wildlife biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit Q). There are six permanent regulations dealing with deer. We will bring back KAR 115-4-13 to modify antlerless whitetail first permit which is valid

statewide; in KAR 115-25-9 we have taken Unit 18 out of that and that supersedes this regulation so that is confusing, so need to do that here. Commissioner Dill – Received email about allowing draw locks. Fox – Could go forward and look at 4-4, that regulation causes a great deal of heartburn in the agency, changed it and allowed crossbows in archery season and we did not allow draw locks that can be placed on compound bow. An individual with a disability could still use a draw lock; the question is should we allow it with crossbows as general archery equipment. Came up two years ago and we didn't go any further with it. If directed by the Commission we will come back with it. Commissioner Dill – I had not thought about it, but why not? Don't see a whole lot of difference. Commissioner Budd – I want you to look at that. Tymeson – It is coming up on a timing issue, it may take a minor miracle to meet publication deadlines. Chairman Lauber – Why don't we consider it next year? Tymeson – Also, publication of brochures, so we can't hold off until April. I did not turn in that regulation for change. Fox – Chris, would have to make immediate action for this year, it is not a large issue and will only affect a few people. When we open that regulation it opens other issues. Commissioner Budd – We are not voting on this issue? Tymeson – We will only vote on 4-13. There is a process that has to be followed and 4-13 doesn't contain equipment that is in 4-4. It is a guessing game to what will come up during any given year, we single out which ones we feel we will have an issue on. If this had come up in October we could have handled it. Chairman Lauber – I recommend we do it in 2016.

3. Deer 25-Series Regulations – Lloyd Fox, wildlife biologist, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit R). KAR 115-25-9 is an exempt regulation and requires vote every year, it covers items statewide as well as seasons at two military areas, whereas 115-25-9a covers deer seasons at Fort Riley and has typically been used to address deer issues which developed during the legislative session. Looking at reducing pressure on whitetail deer through extended season and permits hunters can obtain on antlerless season. A three-day season, include three more units, 2, 8 and 16, from trend information these are adjustments. In addition, on those units we are recommending a single whitetail antlerless permit, not two. In Unit 2, five permits can be used as a result of Cedar Bluff, but drop back to a three-day season. The rest remain the same as last year. Chairman Lauber – Expect some public outcry of even more reduction in numbers allowed; perception of less deer than survey shows. Pearce – Was a better archery season in quality and numbers, and several days before Thanksgiving it cut off. What about October, pre-rut season? Fox – We have continued that in the proposal we have, utilized by a small number of people and is one of the questions I am asking on harvest survey which is going out to bowhunters now, firearms and muzzleloaders later. Pearce – What is harvest of that two-day season? Fox – Last year we estimated 1,756 deer taken and total harvest was almost 90,000 deer; small compared to extended seasons where close to 12,000 deer are taken. Pearce – When will you announce nonresident deer numbers? Fox – Secretary's Orders in March. Pearce – Projecting any changes there? Fox – Have not had discussions, but open for consideration. Commissioner Dill – In last two years never had positive comment on pre-rut, with perception that numbers are down I think it would be a benefit to stop it completely. Chairman Lauber – While I agree, did not see as many junk bills in legislature since then. Commissioner Hayzlett – Received email about increasing out-of-state fees, lower than we should be. Numbers are down in my area (western Kansas); same problem in Oklahoma and Texas. Fox – Combination of three years of severe drought, fawn recruitment down and are experiencing deer declines in western part of state and maybe Units 8, 9 and 10 as well. If we look on longer basis, asked socially to reduce deer numbers for considerable amount of time; through some of our actions deer populations went down and so now that is an issue. The proposal is an adjustment in season lengths and permit numbers. Still allowing people to hunt, while people want a big deer, key is to be allowed to hunt at all. The issue a few years ago was to reduce the number of deer, 2013 was

lowest deer/vehicle accident rate since 1995. Chairman Lauber – Encourage more moderation in extended seasons; don't think it makes much difference in pre-rut season. You make best decision you can and we will be back next year to see how many deer are out there.

Commissioner Hayzlett – Price of out-of-state licenses? Tymeson – There is a body of case laws that deals with disparaging fees, it is 10 to 1, \$320 and \$32.50 is about 10 to 1, if increase would have to increase for residents too. Chairman Lauber – See permit numbers lowered or increase price issue. Fox – Outside realm of deer issues that I deal with, that is in 2-1 I believe. Chairman Lauber – Perceive taking their access away, feel if we raise the price will reduce the volume.

Commissioner Marshall – Two groups of people, the ones that think we have too many and those that believe there is not enough. The ones who think we have too many is car insurance salesmen. Fox – High volume traffic areas has the highest accident rates. The most calls I get is individuals who have had an accident or mothers of individuals that have had an accident and it the most dominant social setting for deer. Commissioner Marshall – Need pictures of units to identify. Fox – Units 15, 19 and 10a are the ones with 17 days of antlerless season and hunters can use five permits in those units, which is the highest level of impact in our system. Places we are reducing to three-days and one permit, Units 8 and 16 have declines in population, Unit 18, decreased last year. Take those three additional units (2, 8, 16) and larger series that had two permits will drop back to one permit. Commissioner Marshall – To make it more simple, the only place that has one permit is? Fox – Two break downs, all hunters can buy five antlerless permits, but can only use one of those permits in units 6, 8, 9, 10, 16, 17 and the other units they can obtain and use five permits. Even though we allow multiple permits, only 37 percent bought one additional, all five only .03 percent of deer hunters. Allows landowner concerned about crop damage and dislike of deer an opportunity to not be held back from having hunters take more antlerless permits. Practically no hunters buy 3, 4 and 5 permits. Pearce – On the people that have bought permits clarification on those numbers? Fox – I have printed that out, so I will give you the print out.

Dave Weber, Doniphan County – We have a heck of a resource and hope we never devalue it. I have been deer hunting since 1982, can't remember ever getting a survey. I do surveys year around on my own, this year my population exploded, see a large number of 2 ½ and some 3 ½ and 4 ½ year old deer. I don't like to hear about estimates and don't like to hear you guess. Did spot light survey in Brown County and saw two deer in four years; on my property could take five deer off of every 160 acres. We need better data we are behind the learning curve on estimating deer. Have forest system here in the east; Missouri has an electronic harvest data system instead of guessing? Fox – We have looked at telecheck, many states are using it; many advantages but a couple of serious faults, no way to estimate non-compliance which can be significant; in surveys we look at non-response bias and it takes us longer to compute. Iowa is down to 82 percent compliance rate and goes down each year. It gives them an index to the harvest. It has some law enforcement benefits. It is somewhat expensive, but feel we get better quality data. Weber – How accurate is your data when I have never been surveyed? I can't jump on board. Noncompliance is more education and law enforcement issue and would like to see more timely data and management on current data. Why is muzzleloader season in September? Fox – First in firearm season, a few years later tried to bring in a special season and mid-September was chosen, but ran into conflicts and we made decision to start season early so it occurred before any other season. In Ohio, it is in late December and is up to the different states and result of local decisions and opinions; we looked at other options for season. From surveys the driving issue was to leave it alone, they like their tradition. Weber – Outstanding tradition of only one antlered buck a year; and firearm season is in December and allows bowhunters to hunt in the rut. Would like to see muzzleloader season open with youth season opening Saturday before Thanksgiving and ending Saturday after (a 10-day season). Also add handguns with 8 ½ inch barrel or less. I personally wouldn't care if you did away with antlerless season because of

the chance of shooting shed mature antlered deer. If going to keep it, back it up and put it between Christmas and New Years for more hunting opportunities. Is there a minimum age for deer hunting in Kansas? Like to see 10- to 12-year-olds; don't feel that safe with a 5-year old with gun. Do we have minimum age on hunter education? Tymeson – Arbitrary restriction, minimum age to get certified in hunter education is 11; at that age children more receptive to retain what they learn. Weber – Can hunt, but not eligible for hunter education. Chairman Lauber – Not an issue we grapple with very often. Weber – Number of coyotes harvested during deer season, in old days not allowed; like to see it. How many hunting deer? Fox – 120,000 people. Weber – Interested in hunting coyotes.

Tim Donges, QDMA – Biologically harvesting antlerless deer more positive if harvested earlier than later, health issue or non-issue? Fox – Pre-rut hunt has not been studied. My personal opinion is it should be studied; also see positive potentials that are there but not documented in scientific literature. Probably a good idea to remove early season if you want to reduce deer/vehicle accidents, but again no season. Antlerless season having a minimal effect; sheds can occur in seasons that ran into February, small portion of total harvest, 2- to 5-percent every year. Can hit hard for people trying to raise trophy deer. Recommend keeping pre-rut season to be able to cut back even more on January season. Donges – Has to do with tradition mainly. More button bucks harvested when you want to harvest a doe. If legislature would leave you alone and two-day season is having very little impact, I say leave it alone, a great opportunity for youth and get meat for the freezer.

VII. RECESS AT 5:12 p.m.

VIII. RECONVENE AT 6:30 p.m.

IX. RE-INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

XI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

D. Public Hearing

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

1. KAR 115-7-2. Fishing; general provisions – Doug Nygren, Fisheries Section chief, presented this report to the Commission (Exhibit T). Trying to make it easier for people to comply with tagging regulations on trot lines, set lines and floatlines; staff recommends that we amend to have the option of either putting their KDWPT number on the tag or their name and address; like we do with traps.

Commissioner Roger Marshall moved to approve KAR 115-7-2 before the Commission. Commissioner Gary Hayzlett second.

The roll call vote on KAR 115-7-2 to revoke was as follows (Exhibit U):

Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Absent
Commissioner Hayzlett	Yes
Commissioner Marshall	Yes
Commissioner Rider	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented on KAR 115-7-2 passed 6-0.

2. KAR 115-30-1. Display of identification number and decal – Kevin Jones, Law Enforcement Division director, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit V). Correct Chapter 31 to 32. Also a request was made to address the problem of displaying registration decals on sailboards. Because the surface of the board is rough textured, allowing the operator to stand on the board without slipping, decals usually do not adhere to the board. The current regulation requires that the registration decal must be attached to the front half of the top of the sailboard. In order to address this problem the recommendation is being made that in lieu of displaying the decal on the board, the operator may carry the registration decal on their person, like in a zip lock bag or something they can carry, while operating the sailboard. Because similar problems are seen with kiteboards, the recommendation is being made to include them, as well to be proactive in an amendment. Chairman Lauber – Difference between sailboard and kiteboard? Jones – Sailboard operated by sail, kiteboard by kite. Commissioner Rider – People on the sailboard have on swim trunks, they have to carry on their person somewhere? Jones – Sticker on board or on their body however they can. Commissioner Budd – They brought this to us? Jones – Yes.

Commissioner Gary Hayzlett moved to bring KAR 115-30-1 before the Commission. Commissioner Don Budd second.

Commissioner Roger Marshall moved to amend KAR 115-30-1. Commissioner Tom Dill second.

The roll call vote to amend KAR 115-30-1 as recommended was as follows (Exhibit W):

Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Absent
Commissioner Hayzlett	Yes
Commissioner Marshall	Yes
Commissioner Rider	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The roll call vote on regulation KAR 115-30-1 as amended was as follows (Exhibit W):

Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Absent
Commissioner Hayzlett	Yes
Commissioner Marshall	Yes
Commissioner Rider	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as amended on KAR 115-30-1 passed 6-0.

Linda Lanterman - Linda Craghead mentioned first day hikes, there were seven hikes in Kansas, 178 participants who hiked 442 miles with an average of 25 hikers at each site. Lots of good feedback this year, program is growing. All participants were given a free t-shirt, most sites had coffee and hot chocolate available. One site had a TV station come out from Topeka and filmed and made the evening news. Weather was seasonal -- low to mid 30s, so it was pretty decent. Quite a few eagles were observed, which is always a highlight. One park reported that it had participants who drove over 60 miles one-way for the hike. There were 41,000 hikers nationally with 992 hikes for a total of 80,000 miles.

3. KAR 115-9-6. Vehicle permits; display – Linda Lanterman, Parks division director, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit X). Display of vehicle permits; this would delete the reference to second vehicle permit, which was removed in 2012, and because of the material of the passport permits issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, they must be permanently affixed to the outside of the vehicle windshield and the lower left side.

**Commissioner Don Budd moved to approve KAR 115-9-6 before the Commission.
Commissioner Gary Hayzlett second.**

The roll call vote on KAR 115-9-6 to revoke was as follows (Exhibit Y):

Commissioner Budd	Yes
Commissioner Dill	Yes
Commissioner Doll	Absent
Commissioner Hayzlett	Yes
Commissioner Marshall	Yes
Commissioner Rider	Yes
Commissioner Lauber	Yes

The motion as presented on KAR 115-9-6 passed 6-0.

4. Free Park Entrance and Free Fishing Days by Secretary's Orders – Linda Lanterman, Parks Division director, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit Z). Free fishing days are the first weekend in June (June 6 and 7, 2015). On Park days - two days at each park, one we all do the same is April 25 to coincide with Earth Day. The other park entrance day is left up to the events that each manager chooses at their park.

XII. Old Business

None

XIII. Other Business

A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

March 26, 2015 – Kansas Historical Society-Museum, Topeka

April 23, 2015 – GPNC, Wichita

June 18, 2015 – Hays

August 13, 2015 – Wetland Education Center, Great Bend

Dave Weber - As a turkey bowhunter, go back to April 1. From standpoint of upland bird management, big component is removal of furbearers, especially nest bearers, run trapping season to March 1. Went hunting with dog at Smith Center at daylight, had information it was good around Russell, hit Walk-In hunting areas, drove 700 miles in three days, visited 53 areas, hunted five. Disappointed no hard data on quail focus areas. Need to consider pheasant focus areas. My quail numbers are good. We started program to enhance walk-in hunting areas, how many areas have taken advantage of that? Don't see any good pheasant hunting areas in the state. I see it as a major challenge we need to put in significant effort because it is not worth hunting pheasants in Kansas. Address issue of why no pheasant numbers in Kansas. Walk-in hunting is best brain child we have had in Kansas, but we have signed up cow pastures that are grazed too low. Can we enhance walk-in hunting areas and have descriptions and notations on what habitat it is from biologist who signs it up? Commissioner Hayzlett – Live in opposite side of the state, a lot of good pheasant areas, but no pheasants and due to the drought. A lot of walk-in hunting areas with good cover, but no pheasants. Chairman Lauber – We have to deal with what we have. We tried to lease walk-in hunting at a price we can afford and the best hunting property is leased at a price we can't afford. Very little we can do to offset drought. Weber – Educate next generation of landowners. We are missing brood rearing habitat. I have field trips at my farm with high school kids. My favorite quote, by Aldo Leopold, "We will have no conservation worthy of the name until food and cover for wildlife is deliberately, instead of accidentally, provided for, until abundant wildlife is the mark of the best rather than the worst."

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

(Exhibits and/or Transcript available upon request)

Secretary's Remarks

Agency and State Fiscal Status
No briefing book items – possible handout at meeting

2015 Legislature
No briefing book items – possible handout at meeting

General Discussion

Strategic Plan Briefing

No briefing book items – possible handout at meeting

Tourism Briefing



- ✓ Statewide standardized customer service training
- ✓ Can be taken by anyone who wants to improve their customer service skills
- ✓ Emphasizes the importance of quality customer service in the tourism and hospitality industry
- ✓ Equips employees of Kansas with tools and resources to better serve our visitors
- ✓ Training for the web-based certification is offered at NO CHARGE
- ✓ After completing, print a personalized certificate, recognized by employers throughout the state as a symbol of your expertise in service and knowledge of the key success factors in the tourism industry of Kansas.

KansasAtYourService.com



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KansasAtYourService.com

Preview of New Website
No briefing book items – possible handout at meeting

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS & TOURISM BRIEFING ITEM
Webless Migratory Game Bird Regulations
 March 26, 2015

Background

Although webless migratory birds are subject to the same federal framework process with the US Fish and Wildlife Service as waterfowl, stability in season dates and bag limits allows the inclusion of webless regulations, bag limits, and season dates as permanent regulations. Webless migratory game bird regulations are summarized below.

Species	Regulation	Regulation Summary
Crow	KAR 115-25-16	Crows; open season, bag limit, and possession limit
Dove	KAR 115-25-19	Doves; management unit, hunting season, shooting hours, and bag and possession limits
	KAR 115-20-7	Doves; legal equipment, taking methods, and possession
Sandhill Crane	KAR 115-25-20	Sandhill crane; management unit, hunting season, shooting hours, bag and possession limits, and permit validation
Snipe, Rail, & Woodcock	KAR 115-25-21	Snipe, rail, and woodcock; management unit, hunting season, shooting hours, and bag and possession limits

Staff Recommendation

NO CHANGES RECOMMENDED TO THE WEBLESS GAME BIRDS REGULATIONS

2015-16 Webless Migratory Game Bird Bag Limits and Season Dates
(as prescribed by current regulations)

Species	Bag/Possession Limits	Season Dates
Crow	none	November 10 - March 10
Dove	Migratory - 15/45 Exotic – none	September 1 - October 31 & November 7 - November 15
Extended Exotic Dove	none	November 20 - February 28
Sandhill Crane	3/9	November 11 - January 7
Snipe	8/24	September 1 - December 16
Rail	25/75	September 1 - November 9
Woodcock	3/9	October 17 - November 30

2013-2014 EARLY MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASONS
September Teal Season
March 26, 2015

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) annually develops the frameworks for states to establish migratory game bird hunting seasons. The USFWS frameworks establish maximum bag, possession limits and season lengths, and earliest opening and latest closing dates. States must operate within these frameworks when establishing state specific migratory game bird seasons. September Teal Season Frameworks are published in late-June, after results from the May Breeding Duck Survey and recommendations from Flyway Councils are completed.

Blue-winged teal are one of the earliest migrating waterfowl, with most passing through Kansas from late August through September, prior to the opening of the general duck season. Green-winged teal are also early migrants, and many arrive in September and October, but they are commonly found in Kansas throughout the winter, depending on weather conditions. Cinnamon teal are occasionally found mixed with flocks of blue-winged teal in Kansas.

Special teal seasons were initiated to provide additional harvest opportunities on blue-winged and green-winged teal. As long as the blue-winged teal May breeding population index (BPI) is above 3.3 million, a 9-day teal season can be held. If the blue-winged teal BPI exceeds 4.7 million, a 16-day season can be allowed. The 2015 blue-winged teal breeding population total will not be known until late June, but based on last year's (2014) blue-winged teal breeding population of 8.5 million and spring habitat conditions in the Prairie Pothole Region, the 2015 BPI is expected to allow a 16-day season.

In the High Plains Unit of Kansas (west of Highway 283), the liberal package framework allows for 97 days of general duck season. Coupled with two youth hunting days, the addition of a nine or 16-day teal season would exceed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act's maximum allowance of 107 annual hunting days for any one migratory species. Thus, when the liberal package for the regular duck season is available and a teal season can be held, it is necessary to reduce the High Plains Unit teal season to eight days, or reduce days in the High Plains Unit general duck season as not to exceed 107 hunting days. For the past five seasons, a nine-day teal season with 96-day regular duck season has been selected in the High Plains Unit to satisfy this criterion.

PRIOR SEASON (2014) FEDERAL FRAMEWORK* FOR SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

Season Dates:	Between September 1 and September 30, 2014
Season Length:	16 days if blue-winged teal BPI is above 4.7 million 9 days if blue-winged teal BPI is between 3.3 - 4.7 million
Bag Limit:	6 daily, 18 in possession (any combination of teal)
Shooting Hours:	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

* Final Federal Frameworks will not be set until the June 26, 2015 after the USFWS Service Regulatory Committee Meeting.

Table 1. Kansas September Teal Season Dates and September Teal Harvest*

Year	Low Plains Season Dates	Hunting Days	High Plains Season Dates	Hunting Days	Green- winged Teal	Blue- winged Teal	Total Harvest
2014	Sept 13-28	16	Sept 20-28	9	N/A**	N/A**	N/A**
2013	Sept 7-22	16	Sept 14-22	9	2,323	28,213	30,536
2012	Sept 8-23	16	Sept 15-23	9	4,298	19,420	23,718
2011	Sept 10-25	16	Sept 17-25	9	1,748	22,562	24,310
2010	Sept 11-26	16	Sept 18-26	9	1,812	16,829	18,641
2009	Sept 12-27	16	Sept 19-26	8	2,775	15,165	17,940
2008	Sept 13-28	16	Sept 13-20	8	7,200	15,120	22,320
2007	Sept 8-23	16	Sept 15-22	8	4,534	25,582	30,116
2006	Sept 9-24	16	Sept 16-23	8	4,733	23,664	28,397
2005	Sept 17-25	9	Sept 17-24	8	2,200	10,387	12,587
2004	Sept 18-26	9	Sept 18-25	8	2,901	19,173	22,074
2003	Sept 13-28	16	Sept 20-27	8	9,024	21,393	30,417
2002	Sept 21-29	9	Sept 21-28	8	3,783	8,723	12,506
2001	Sept 15-30	16	Sept 15-22	8	1,790	10,741	12,531
2000	Sept 9-24	16	Sept 9-16	8	4,621	27,724	32,345
1999	Sept 11-26	16	Sept 11-19	9	3,052	28,022	31,074
1998	Sept 12-27	16	Sept 12-20	9	8,454	19,727	28,181
1997	Sept 13-21	9	Sept 13-21	9	2,367	14,858	17,225
1996	Sept 14-22	9	Sept 14-22	9	1,415	17,115	18,530
1995	Sept 16-24	9	Sept 16-24	9	1,896	10,227	12,123
1994	Sept 10-18	9	Sept 10-18	9	2,217	7,083	9,300
1993	Sept 11-19	9	Sept 11-19	9	1,081	5,604	6,685
1992	Sept 12-20	9	Sept 12-20	9	4,267	12,902	17,169

* Harvest estimates from 1999 to current are based on Harvest Information Program (HIP). For years prior to 1999, harvest estimates are based on USFWS Mail Survey Questionnaire.

** Harvest Data is not available until late July.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATIONS UPDATE

- 2015-16 Migratory Game Bird Regulatory Timeline
- Duck Zones Boundaries
- Changes to the Federal and State Regulation Process for the 2016-17 Seasons

2015-16 MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATORY TIMELINE

2015-16 KDWPT MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATORY TIMELINE

- March 26th (Topeka) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
- Webinars (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - General Discussion
- September Fall - General Discussion
- April 23rd (Wichita) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
- Webinars (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Workshop Session (if needed)
- September Fall - Workshop Session
- Late Season Waterfowl - General Discussion
- June 18th (Hayes) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
- Webinars (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing (if needed)
- September Fall - Public Hearing
- Late Season Waterfowl - Workshop Session
- July 2nd 2015-16 Early Season Selection Due to USFWS
- August 20th (Great Bend) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
- Late Season Waterfowl - Public Hearing
- September 2nd 2015-16 Late Season Selections Due to USFWS

DUCK ZONES

ZONING

1. Zoning is the establishment of independent seasons in two or more areas (zones) within States for the purpose of providing more equitable distribution of harvest opportunity for hunters throughout the State.
2. An important condition is that zoning shall not detrimentally change the harvest distribution pattern among species or populations at either the State or flyway level.
3. Because of this, most zoning initiated in the 1970s was experimental.
4. Until recently, few requests for zoning have been denied by the Service and no penalties currently are in place when zones are selected. Zoning is utilized extensively on all flyways.
5. Many States use both zones and split seasons in combination to most effectively regulate seasons within the established framework dates.

FEDERAL GUIDELINES FOR DUCK ZONES AND SPLIT SEASONS

1. A zone is a geographic area or portion of a State, with a contiguous boundary for which management data may be obtained for the regular waterfowl season.
2. Consideration of changes for management-unit boundaries is not subject to the guidelines and provisions governing the use of zones and split seasons for ducks.
3. Only minor (less than a county in size) boundary changes will be allowed for any grandfathered arrangement, and changes are limited to the open season.
4. Once a zone/split option is selected during an open season, it must remain in place for the following 5 years. Any State may continue the configuration used in the previous 5-year period. If changes are made, the zone/split season configuration must conform to one of the following options:
 - No more than four zones and no splits.
 - Split season (no more than 3 segments) and no zones, or
 - No more than three zones with the option for zones (2 segments) and seasons in two, two or all zones.

HIGH PLAINS MANAGEMENT UNIT

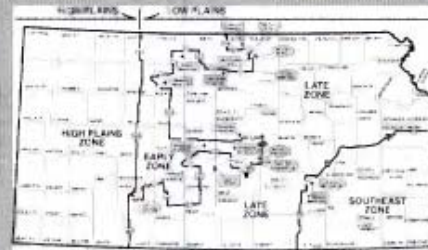
1) USFWS will continue to utilize the specific limitations previously established regarding the use of zone and split seasons in special management units, including the High Plains Mallard Management Unit.

USFWS note that the original justification and objectives established for the High Plains Mallard Management Unit provided for additional days of hunting opportunity at the end of the regular duck season.

In order to maintain the integrity of the management unit, current guidelines prohibit simultaneous zoning and/or 3-way split seasons within a management unit and the remainder of the State.

Removal of this limitation would allow additional proliferation of zone/split configurations and compromise the original objectives of the management unit.

CURRENT DUCK HUNTING MANAGEMENT UNITS AND ZONES



KDWPT DUCK ZONE BOUNDARY REGULATORY TIMELINE

- March 26th (Topeka) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
Duck Zone Boundaries - General Discussion
- April 23rd (Wichita) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
Duck Zone Boundaries - General Discussion
- April-May Waterfowl Public Meetings and Master Survey
- June 18th (Hays) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
Duck Zone Boundaries - Workshop Session
- August 20th (Great Bend) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
Duck Zone Boundaries - Workshop Session
- October TBD (TBD) - KDWPT Commission Meeting
Duck Zone Boundaries - Public Hearing
- December 1st Duck Zone Boundary Changes Due to USFWS

DUCK ZONE HUNTER INPUT

- Public Meetings
 - Great Bend
 - Kansas City Area
 - Wichita
 - McPherson
 - Chanute
 - Hays
 - Other?
- Duck Hunter Survey
 - Web-based
 - 2014-15 Kansas Waterfowl Stamp Holders Sampling Base

IF CANNOT MEET DECEMBER 1 DEADLINE

If a state cannot meet that deadline (due to incomplete feedback from your sportsmen, commissions, etc.) but still wishes to change its configuration during the next open season, the second deadline will be May 1, 2016. HOWEVER, if this is the date of submission, may not implement the new configuration until the 2017-18 seasons. It is unclear at this point whether you would be allowed to have that configuration for only 4 years (until the next scheduled open season for zone/split changes in 2021), or whether would allow a full 5 years and change the date of the next open season to 2022.

Each state is limited to only one change during the open season. That is, you cannot make a change for the 2016-17 season, and then submit a new configuration on May 1, 2016 and make another change for the 2017-18 seasons and beyond for the remainder of the 5-year period.

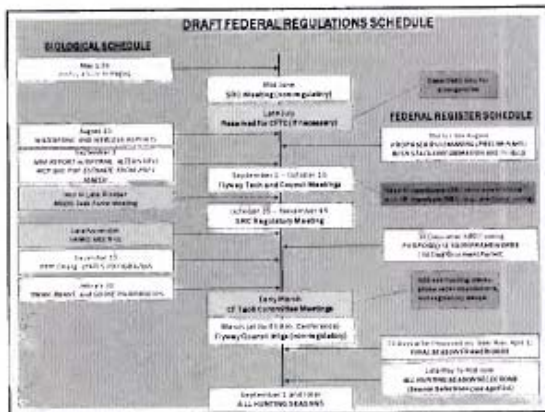
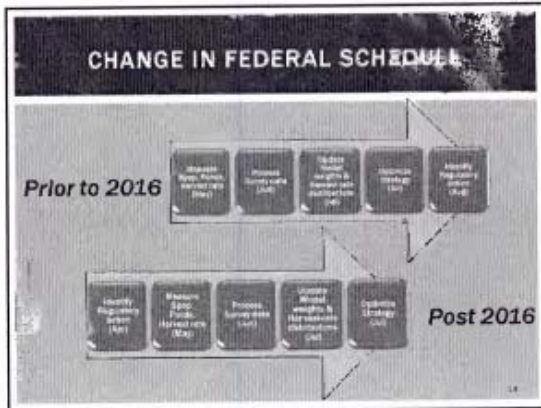
2016-17 MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATORY TIMELINE

CHANGES IN FEDERAL MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATION PROCESS

The 2016 Final Supplemental Environmental Statement is to adopt a process for waterfowl migratory bird hunting in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the four bilateral conventions. Regulations covering the hunting of waterfowl (ducks, cranes, geese, woodcock, rails, coots, gallinules and the related curlews) are promulgated annually.

These **ANNUAL** regulations provide a framework to permit special regulations, and take into consideration factors that change from year to year, such as abundance and distribution of birds, time of migration, and other factors.

In contrast, **BASEIC** regulations (e.g., those that govern hunting methods) such as the range of shotgun gauges and the number of shells a gun may hold, regulations about conventional and transportation of harvested birds, etc.) are promulgated and changed only when a need to do so arises. Therefore, future regulations will not address these issues.

KWPT MIGRATORY GAME BIRD 2016-17 REGULATORY TIMELINE*

- Jan 2016
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - General Discussion
 - Waterfowl Regulations - General Discussion
- March 2016
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Workshop Session
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Workshop Session
- April 2016
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- April 30th Season Selections Due to USFWS

KWPT MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATORY TIMELINE FOR THE 2016-16 AND 2016-17 SEASONS

- November 2015 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, etc.) - General Discussion
 - Waterfowl Regulations - General Discussion
- April 2016 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Workshop Session
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Workshop Session
- April 30th 2016 Season Selections Due to USFWS
- August 2016 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- September 2nd 2016-16 Late Season Selections Due to USFWS
- October 2016 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- December 2016 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- January 2017 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- February 2017 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- March 2017 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- April 2017 (Regulation)
 - Webless (Ducks, Cranes, Rails, etc.) - Public Hearing
 - Waterfowl Regulations - Public Hearing
- April 30th 2016-17 Migratory Game Bird Season Selections Due to USFWS

QUESTIONS

Workshop Session

2015 Kansas Wildlife Habitat Conservation Award

The Kansas Wildlife Habitat Conservation (KWHC) Award is a statewide award, modeled after the county-level soil conservation awards, which recognize farmers and ranchers who have completed projects designed to improve environmental quality or conserve natural resources such as soil, water, and energy. The purpose of KWHC award is to stimulate interest in wildlife management by recognizing an individual who has exhibited outstanding progress in the development and stewardship of wildlife resources on their property.

Nominations for this award are accepted from biologists across the state, reviewed by committee, and a winner's selected based on overall habitat quality, quantity, maintenance, and enhancement on the property. Additionally, if the criteria are met, the KWHC award winner is nominated for the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies National Private Lands Fish & Wildlife Stewardship Award.

The 2015 winner, and the fifth ever recipient of the KWHC statewide award, is the Stotts Ranch. Caleb Stotts and his father became involved in the ranch management in 2003. The ranch is located within the cross timbers ecoregion in southeast Kansas where prairie savannah was the historical vegetation. Caleb was concerned with the expansion of post oak and blackjack oak in this oak/savannah grassland community, and he was also seeing increased areas where the oaks were the dominant vegetation outcompeting the native grasses. There were also areas in the uplands where Osage orange and locust trees had become established. He had witnessed aerial spraying of herbicides to kill trees in these situations and thought there must be a better control and management method.

Caleb partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to reduce tree invasion by the use of cutting and stump herbicide treatment followed by prescribed fire. His goal was to not only reduce tree coverage, but also restore a more historically accurate prairie-savannah community. The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program administered by NRCS and Partners for Wildlife Program (USFWS) provided technical and some financial assistance for this management. The results are producing more grass for livestock and improved conditions for grassland birds, including bobwhite quail.

Caleb has also adjusted grazing rates and time of grazing to improve the prairie grass vigor. One of the first results of this management has been prescribed fires that are more effective in controlling re-sprouts and other trees. Caleb monitors the cut areas very carefully and when needed, will also follow up with ground treatments of herbicide to kill re-sprouting trees that are so thick the prairie grass is nearly absent.

Caleb also involved Emporia State University Biology professor, William Jensen, to monitor the change in habitat conditions with grassland bird use. Numerous students have utilized the Stotts Ranch to conduct bird research and further the information base of grassland bird use in oak-savannah habitat.

Several other properties in the area have benefitted from Caleb's experience on his ranch. Caleb started an additional business of cutting trees for others to supplement his ranch business. He has performed work at the Woodson State Wildlife Area and several privately owned properties

to restore oak-savannah prairie. He has worked closely with range conservationists, wildlife specialists and foresters to determine the “right” mix of trees and grass.

Caleb also recognizes the crucial role that fire plays in this unique grassland community. He is working to make fire effective and burn at times when he can most effectively kill trees.

This is an ongoing project, but progress is obvious. Satellite imagery shows the changes in vegetative cover and on-the-ground surveys illustrate the increase in grassland habitat where trees have been removed.

Public Lands Regulations

No changes are being recommended at this time.

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 -- Public Hearing

Desired Date of Publication - January 22, 2015

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, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2015 at Kansas Historical Museum, 6425 SW 6th, Topeka, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of a proposed regulation of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 1:00 p.m., March 26 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. then resume at 6:30 p.m. at the same location for the regulatory hearing and more business. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and evening meeting 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. March 27 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 for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This 60-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulation.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, 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 in regard to the adoption of the proposed regulation. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted by interested parties will be considered by the commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulation.

The regulation that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting is as follows:

K.A.R. 115-4-13. This permanent regulation establishes deer permit descriptions and restrictions. The proposed change would allow greater flexibility in setting seasons and harvest allocations.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendment to the regulation is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and its respective economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the chairman of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the department's website at www.kdwpt.state.ks.us, or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman



STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEREK SCHMIDT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 2, 2015

MEMORIAL HALL
120 SW 10TH AVE., 2ND FLOOR
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1597
(785) 296-2215 • FAX (785) 296-6296
WWW.AG.KS.GOV

Chris Tymeson
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200
Topeka, KS 66612-1327

RE: K.A.R. 115-4-13

Dear Mr. Tymeson:

Pursuant to K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 77-420(b), we have reviewed K.A.R. 115-4-13 and have approved the regulation for legality. The stamped original regulation is enclosed with this letter.

Sincerely,

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEREK SCHMIDT

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarah Fertig".

Sarah Fertig
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

cc: Sen. Vicki Schmidt, Chair, Joint Committee on Rules and Regulations
Rep. Sharon Schwartz, Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Rules and Regulations
Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau, Ranking Minority Member, Joint Committee on
Rules and Regulations
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research, State Capitol, Room 68-W
Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor, State Capitol, Room 24-E

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 -- Public Hearing

Desired Date of Publication - February 12, 2015

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, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2015 at Kansas Historical Museum, 6425 SW 6th, Topeka, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of a proposed regulation of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 1:00 p.m., March 26 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. then resume at 6:30 p.m. at the same location for the regulatory hearing and more business. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and evening meeting 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. March 27 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 for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This 30-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulations.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, 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 in regard to the adoption of the proposed regulation. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted by interested parties will be considered by the commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulation.

In addition to the previously published notice, the regulations that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting are as follows:

K.A.R. 115-25-7. This exempt regulation establishes antelope open season, bag limits and permits. The proposed version of the regulation would increase antelope permits by 18 permits overall.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendment to the regulation is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-25-8. This exempt regulation establishes elk open season, bag limits and permits. The proposed version of the regulation would cease the mandatory harvest reporting requirement.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendment to the regulation is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-25-9. This exempt regulation establishes deer open season, bag limits and permits. The proposed version of the regulation would adjust season dates for the coming season,

reduce antlerless seasons in two units and increase antlerless harvest in one unit.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendment to the regulation is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and its respective economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the chairman of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the department's website at www.kdwpt.state.ks.us, or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman



STATE OF KANSAS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEREK SCHMIDT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MEMORIAL HALL
120 SW 10TH AVE., 2ND FLOOR
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1597
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WWW.AG.KS.GOV

January 30, 2015

Chris Tymeson
Chief Legal Counsel
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200
Topeka, KS 66612-1327

RE: K.A.R. 115-25-7; K.A.R. 115-25-8; K.A.R. 115-25-9; K.A.R. 115-25-9a

Dear Chris:

Pursuant to K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 77-420(b), we have reviewed the above-referenced regulations and have approved them for legality. The stamped regulations are enclosed with this letter.

Sincerely,

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEREK SCHMIDT

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarah Fertig".

Sarah Fertig
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

cc: Rep. Sharon Schwartz, Chair, Joint Committee on Rules and Regulations
Sen. Vicki Schmidt, Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Rules and Regulations
Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau, Ranking Minority Member, Joint Committee on
Rules and Regulations
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research, State Capitol, Room 68-W
Natalie Scott, Office of Revisor, State Capitol, Room 24-E

STATE OF KANSAS

RANEY L. GILLILAND
Director
MELISSA S. CALDERWOOD
Assistant Director for Research
J. G. SCOTT
Chief Fiscal Analyst
AMY DECKARD
Assistant Director for Information Management



STAFF
LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COUNCIL
INTERIM COMMITTEES
STANDING COMMITTEES
LEGISLATIVE INQUIRIES

KANSAS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Room 68-West — State Capitol Building — 300 SW Tenth Avenue — Topeka, Kansas 66612-1504
PHONE (785) 296-3181 ♦ FAX (785) 296-3824 ♦ TTY (785) 296-3677
INTERNET: <http://www.kslegislature.org/kird> E-MAIL: kslegres@kird.ks.gov

February 23, 2015

Robin Jennison, Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
1020 S. Kansas Avenue, Room 200
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Secretary Jennison:

At its meeting on February 20, 2015, the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations reviewed for public comment rules and regulations concerning KAR 115-4-13, deer permits, descriptions and restrictions. After discussion, the Committee had no comments.

Prior to filing with the Secretary of State, review the history sections of the rules and regulations to update them to the most recent statutory citations, making certain the citations for authorizing and implementing statutes are correct and complete. Please indicate your agency's website address in the filing notice where proposed regulations can be located. In addition, if your agency accepts written comments by e-mail include this information in the public notice. Further, e-mail requests for public accommodation should be included as a part of the notice. Finally, verify that the adoption by reference of any materials included in the regulations is properly completed as prescribed in the Policy and Procedure Manual for the Adoption of Kansas Administrative Regulations.

Please make this letter a part of the public record on these regulations. The Committee will review the regulations the agency ultimately adopts, and reserves any expression of legislative concern to that review.

To assist in that final review:

Please inform the Joint Committee and me, in writing, at the time the rules and regulations are adopted and filed with the Secretary of State, of any and all changes that have been made following the public hearing.

Please notify the Joint Committee and me, in writing, when your agency has adopted the regulations as permanent; delayed implementation of the regulations; or decided not to adopt any of the regulations.

Also, please indicate separately to the Joint Committee and me, any changes made to the proposed regulations reviewed by the Committee.

Based upon direction from the Committee, failure to respond to each and every comment contained in this letter may result in the request that a spokesperson from your agency appear before the Committee to explain the agency's failure to reply.

Sincerely,



Raney L. Gilliland
Director

RLG/db

115-25-7. Antelope; open season, bag limit, and permits. (a) The open season for the taking of antelope shall be as specified in this subsection. The unit designations in this subsection shall have the meanings specified in K.A.R. 115-4-6.

(1) Archery season.

(A) The archery season dates shall be September 19, 2015 through September 27, 2015 and October 10, 2015 through October 31, 2015.

(B) The taking of antelope during the established archery season shall be authorized for Smoky Hill, unit 2; West Arkansas, unit 17; and Cimarron, unit 18. Unlimited archery permits for residents and nonresidents shall be authorized for the area.

(2) Firearm season.

(A) The firearm season dates shall be October 2, 2015 through October 5, 2015.

(B) The open units for the taking of antelope during the established firearm season and the number of permits authorized shall be as follows:

(i) Smoky Hill, unit 2: One hundred and four resident firearm permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(ii) West Arkansas, unit 17: Thirty-six resident firearm permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(iii) Cimarron, unit 18: Fourteen resident firearm permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(3) Muzzleloader-only season.

(A) The muzzleloader-only season dates shall be September 28, 2015 through October 1, 2015. Muzzleloader permits also shall be valid in the unit for which the permit is authorized during the established firearm season dates.

(B) The open units for the taking of antelope during the established muzzleloader-only season and the number of permits authorized shall be as follows:

(i) Smoky Hill, unit 2: Twenty-six resident muzzleloader permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(ii) West Arkansas, unit 17: Ten resident muzzleloader permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(iii) Cimarron, unit 18: Eight resident muzzleloader permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(b) The bag limit for each archery, firearm, and muzzleloader permit shall be one antelope of either sex.

(c) This regulation shall be effective on and after May 1, 2015, and shall have no force and effect on and after March 1, 2016. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-937.)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

K.A.R. 115-25-7. Antelope; open season, bag limit, and permits.

DESCRIPTION: This proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting unit boundaries, bag limit, application periods and season dates for the 2015 firearm, muzzleloader, and archery antelope seasons. The hunting units include all of the area included during the 2015 season. An unlimited number of archery permits are authorized, however, recent trends indicate that about 320 people may apply for these permits for residents. 16 nonresident archery permits were issued in 2014 and it is anticipated that a like number will be issued in 2015.

The proposed unit boundaries for the 2015 firearm hunting season are the same as the 2015 unit boundaries. A total of 154 firearms permits are proposed in three management units as follows: Unit 2-104 permits, Unit 17-36 permits, and Unit 18-14 permits, an increase of 14 permits from the previous season. In addition, 44 muzzleloader permits are proposed in three management units as follows: Unit 2-26 permits, Unit 17-10 permits, and Unit 18-8 permits, an increase of 4 permits from the previous season.

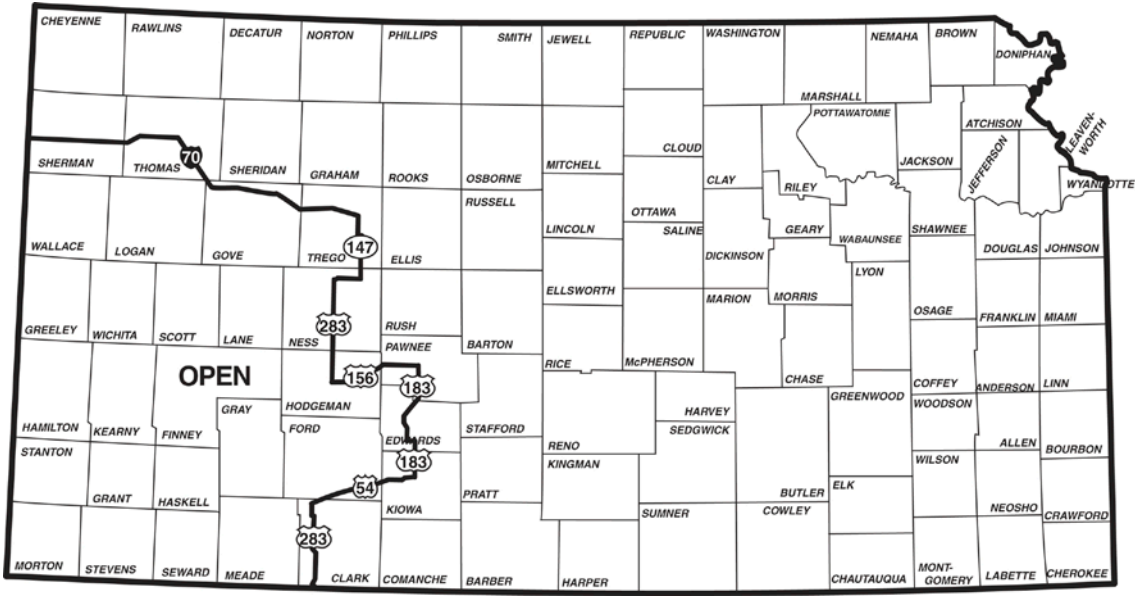
FEDERAL MANDATE: None.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: It is anticipated that 534 antelope hunting permits will be authorized. Estimated revenue if all permits are issued would be approximately \$18,700. That amount represents equal participation in the antelope season by landowner/tenants and general residents, as well as nonresident participation. Approximately 1150 people will apply for an antelope permit or preference point. A \$5 nonrefundable application fee from all applicants will generate an additional \$5,575. Other administrative costs associated with the season are borne by the Department.

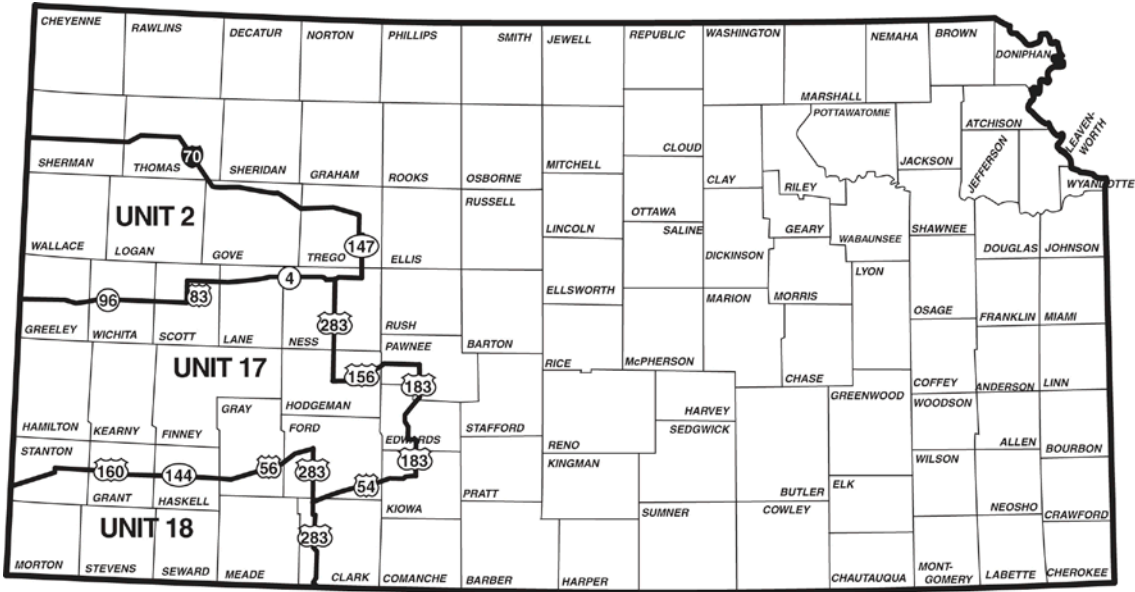
Approximately 2670 days of hunting activity will occur. The national survey of fishing, hunting, and wildlife associated recreation conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that an average big game hunter spent more than \$1100 per season, thus the antelope season may generate \$587,400 in direct economic benefits to businesses providing goods and services. There will be no other economic impact on the general public, small businesses or on other state agencies.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None.

Archery Antelope Pronghorn Unit



Firearm, Muzzleloader Pronghorn Units



115-25-8. Elk; open season, bag limit, and permits. (a) The unit designations in this regulation shall have the meanings specified in K.A.R. 115-4-6b, except that the area of Fort Riley, subunit 2a, shall not be included as part of Republican-Tuttle, unit 2.

(b) The open seasons for the taking of elk shall be as follows:

(1) The archery season dates and units shall be as follows:

(A) Statewide, except Fort Riley, subunit 2a, and unit 1: September 14, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

(B) Fort Riley, subunit 2a: September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015.

(2) The firearm season dates and units shall be as follows:

(A) Statewide, except Fort Riley, subunit 2a, and unit 1: December 2, 2015 through December 13, 2015 and January 1, 2016 through March 15, 2016.

(B) Fort Riley, subunit 2a:

(i) First segment: October 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.

(ii) Second segment: November 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015.

(iii) Third segment: December 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

(3) The muzzleloader season dates and units shall be as follows:

(A) Statewide, except Fort Riley, subunit 2a, and unit 1: September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015.

(B) Fort Riley, subunit 2a: September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015.

(c) A limited-quota either-sex elk permit shall be valid during any season using equipment authorized for that season. Ten either-sex elk permits shall be authorized.

(d) A limited-quota antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid during any season using equipment authorized for that season, except that a limited-quota antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only as follows:

(1) A first-segment antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit

2a, only during the first segment. Five first-segment antlerless-only elk permits shall be authorized.

(2) A second-segment antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only during the second segment. Five second-segment antlerless-only elk permits shall be authorized.

(3) A third-segment antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only during the third segment. Five third-segment antlerless-only elk permits shall be authorized.

(4) All antlerless-only elk permits shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, during the September 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015 archery and muzzleloader seasons.

(e) The bag limit shall be one elk as specified on the permit issued to the permittee.

(f) An unlimited number of hunt-on-your-own-land antlerless-only elk permits and either-sex elk permits shall be authorized in units 2 and 3. A hunt-on-your-own-land permit shall be valid during any open season. The bag limit for each hunt-on-your-own-land elk permit shall be one elk as specified on the permit. (g) An unlimited number of over-the-counter antlerless-only elk permits and either-sex elk permits shall be authorized in unit 3.

(i) This regulation shall have no force and effect on and after April 1, 2016.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-937.)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

K.A.R. 115-25-8. Elk; open season, bag limit and permits.

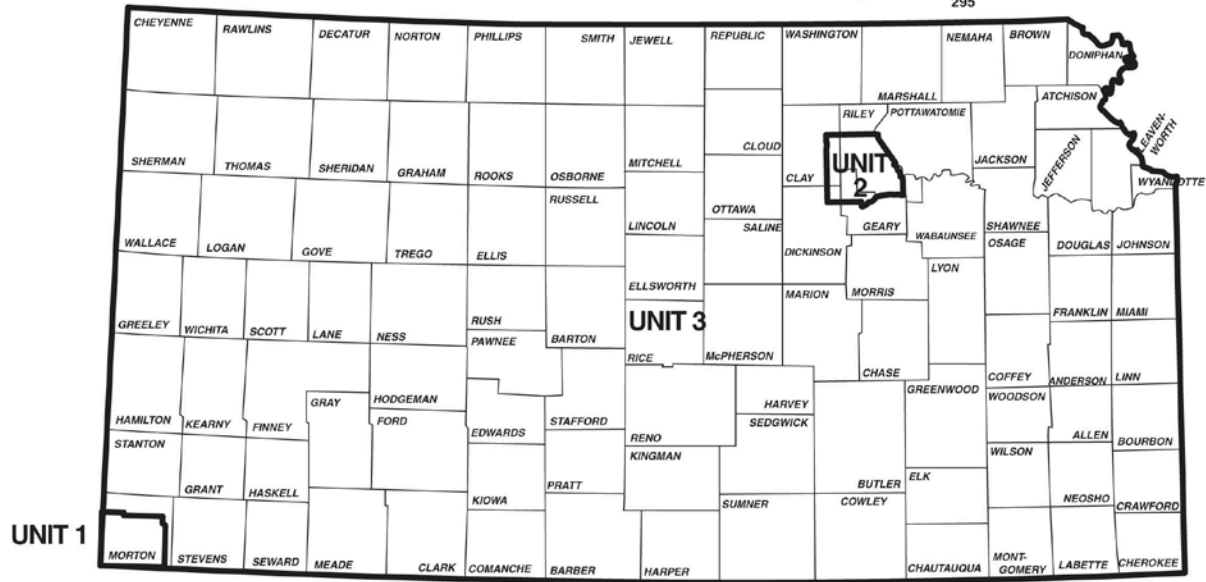
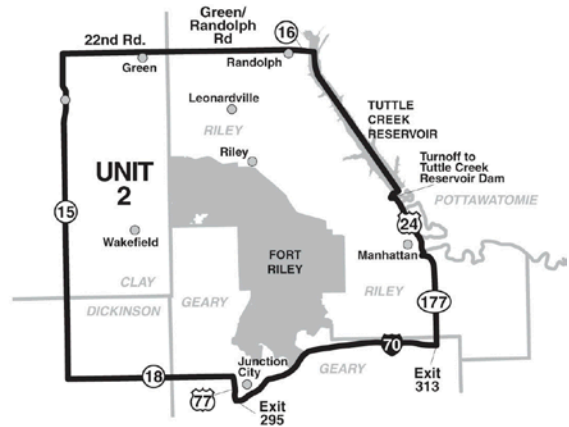
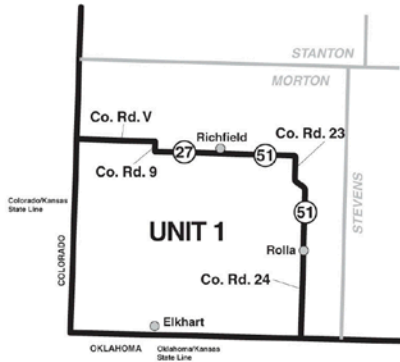
DESCRIPTION: This proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting unit boundaries, bag limit, application periods and season dates for the 2015-2016 muzzleloader, archery, and firearm seasons for elk. The units allow for statewide use for limited-quota permits, except in a portion of Morton County. Limited-quota elk and unlimited hunt-on-your-own-land (HOYOL) hunters would be allowed to hunt during any open season with the equipment that was allowed during that season. Unlimited general either-sex and antlerless-only permits would allow the use of the permits in all units but would exclude two units. Unlimited HOYOL either-sex and antlerless-only permits would be allowed statewide, except a portion of Morton County, Unit 1. The proposed regulation would allow elk hunting from September 1, 2015 through March 15, 2016 statewide (outside Fort Riley, except Unit 1). Fifteen limited-quota antlerless permits would also be valid during a September muzzleloader and archery equipment season on Fort Riley, Subunit 2a. However, only five limited-quota antlerless-only elk permits at a time would be made available for use during each of three seasons on subunit 2a (Fort Riley) (October 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015; November 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015; and December 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015). Ten limited-quota either-sex elk permits would be valid from September 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 on subunit 2a and from September 1, 2015 through March 15, 2016 in the remainder of the state, except Unit 1. Fort Riley military personnel would continue to control access to the military grounds for the purpose of elk hunting, and are expected to provide hunting access only during a portion of the available days during the open seasons. The seasons are intended to provide increased opportunity for those hunters drawing elk permits, and increased flexibility to address elk that may disperse off the Fort as well as those animals beginning to appear within other locations in the State. This represents no change from the total limited-quota permits for 2014.

FEDERAL MANDATE: None

ECONOMIC IMPACT: It is anticipated that 25 limited-quota elk permits will be issued. Based on 2014 numbers, it is estimated that at least another 35 HOYOL permits will be issued and as well as 10 unlimited general permits. In addition, it is estimated that 1000 of people will apply for the drawing permits or bonus points and those individuals pay a \$5 nonrefundable application fee. The application fee generates \$5000. Estimated revenue if all permits are issued would be approximately \$10,875. Administrative costs associated with the season are borne by the Department. Approximately 350 days of hunting activity may occur, thus providing \$77,000 economic benefit to businesses providing goods and services. To the extent the expanded unit, seasons, and permit numbers help prevent dispersal of elk onto private land, and therefore help prevent occurrence of damage from dispersed elk, there may be some positive economic impact to the general public. No other economic impact on the general public, small businesses, or on other state agencies is anticipated.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None

Elk Units



115-4-13. Deer permits; descriptions and restrictions. Except as otherwise specified or further restricted by law or regulation, the following deer permit descriptions, provisions, and restrictions shall be in effect.

(a) White-tailed deer permits.

(1) Resident any-season white-tailed deer permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of white-tailed deer statewide during the established muzzleloader-only, archery, and firearms deer seasons using equipment that is legal during the established season.

(2) Antlerless white-tailed deer permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of antlerless white-tailed deer statewide during the established muzzleloader-only, archery, and firearms deer seasons using equipment that is legal during the established season. The first antlerless white-tailed deer permit issued to an applicant shall be valid statewide on all lands and waters, unless otherwise specified in these regulations. If any subsequent antlerless white-tailed deer permit is issued to the same applicant, that permit shall be valid in designated management units but shall not be valid on department lands and waters, unless otherwise specified in these regulations.

(3) Nonresident white-tailed deer permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of white-tailed deer within a designated management unit and one additional adjoining management unit using legal equipment for one of the following deer seasons, which shall be selected at the time of application: muzzleloader-only, archery, or firearms deer season. Muzzleloader-only permits may be used in the early muzzleloader season and during the regular firearms season, using equipment that is legal during the muzzleloader deer season.

(b) Either-species, either-sex deer permits.

(1) Resident archery either-species, either-sex deer permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of any antlered or antlerless white-tailed deer or mule deer statewide during the established archery deer season, using equipment that is legal during the archery deer season.

(2) Resident firearm either-species, either-sex deer permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of any antlered or antlerless white-tailed deer or mule deer during the established firearms deer season within designated management units, using equipment that is legal during the firearms deer season.

(3) Resident muzzleloader either-species, either-sex deer permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of any antlered or antlerless white-tailed deer or mule deer during the established muzzleloader-only and firearms deer seasons within designated management units, using muzzleloader equipment that is legal during the muzzleloader-only deer season.

(4) Nonresident either-species, either-sex deer permit. Any nonresident possessing a nonresident archery or muzzleloader-only white-tailed deer permit valid for a management unit designated by the department as a mule deer unit may apply for one of a limited number of mule deer stamps that, if drawn, will convert the applicant's white-tailed deer permit to an either-species, either-sex deer permit.

(5) Antlerless either-species permit. This permit shall be valid for the hunting of any antlerless white-tailed deer or mule deer within a designated management unit or units during the established muzzleloader-only, archery, and firearms deer seasons, using equipment that is legal during the established season.

(c) Hunt-on-your-own-land deer permits. Each hunt-on-your-own-land permit shall be valid for any white-tailed deer or mule deer, unless otherwise specified in these regulations.

(1) Resident hunt-on-your-own-land deer permit. This permit shall be available to individuals who qualify as resident landowners or as tenants or as family members domiciled with the landowner or with the tenant. This permit shall be valid during the muzzleloader-only, archery, and firearms deer seasons, using equipment that is legal during the established season. This permit shall be valid only on lands owned or operated by the landowner or tenant.

(2) Special resident hunt-on-your-own-land deer permit. This permit shall be available to

individuals who qualify as lineal ascendants or descendants and their spouses, or as siblings of resident landowners or tenants. This permit shall be valid during the muzzleloader-only, archery, and firearms deer seasons, using equipment that is legal during the established season. This permit shall be valid only on lands owned or operated by the landowner or tenant.

(3) Nonresident hunt-on-your-own-land deer permit. This permit shall be available to nonresident individuals who qualify as Kansas landowners. This permit shall be valid during the muzzleloader-only, archery, and firearms deer seasons, using equipment that is legal during the established season. This permit shall be valid only on lands owned or operated by the nonresident landowner.

(d) Each deer permit shall be valid only for the species of deer specified and only for the antler category of deer specified by regulation or on the permit.

(1) An either-sex deer permit shall be valid for deer of either sex.

(2) An antlerless deer permit shall be valid only for a deer without a visible antler plainly protruding from the skull.

(3) An either-species, either-sex deer permit shall be valid for a white-tailed deer of either sex or a mule deer of either sex, except that an antlerless either-species deer permit shall be valid only for a deer of either species without a visible antler plainly protruding from the skull.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. ~~2006~~ 2014 Supp. 32-937, as amended by L. 2007, Ch. 133, Sec. 1; ~~implementing~~ K.S.A. 32-807, K.S.A. ~~2006~~ Supp. 32-937, as amended by L. 2007, Ch. 133, Sec. 1, and K.S.A. ~~2006~~ Supp. 32-1002; effective Jan. 30, 1995; amended June 6, 1997; amended July 30, 1999; amended June 1, 2001; amended April 22, 2005; amended July 20, 2007; amended April 11, 2008; amended P-_____.)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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

DESCRIPTION: This permanent regulation establishes types of deer permits offered by the department, and restrictions regarding who may obtain them. The proposed amendment would allow greater flexibility in setting seasons and harvest allocations.

FEDERAL MANDATE: None.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: The proposed amendment is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None.

115-25-9. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits. (a) The open season for the taking of deer shall be as follows:

(1) Archery season.

(A) The archery season in all deer management units shall be September 14, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

(B) Archery deer permits also shall be valid during the portion of the extended firearm season beginning on January 1, 2016 and extending through the last open day in units open during an extended firearm season and shall be valid with any legal equipment authorized during a firearm season, but shall be valid only for antlerless white-tailed deer during those dates.

(C) The number of archery deer permits based on a review of deer population indices, biological and ecological data, history of permit use and harvest rates, public input, and other relevant information shall be as established by the secretary with the concurrence of the commission.

(D) The urban antlerless-only white-tailed deer archery season shall begin on January 18, 2016 and extend through January 31, 2016 in all units designated as an urban deer management unit.

(2) Firearm season.

(A) In the Fort Leavenworth subunit, the firearm season dates shall be November 21, 2015 through November 22, 2015, November 26, 2015 through November 29, 2015, December 5, 2015 through December 6, 2015, December 12, 2015 through December 13, 2015, and December 19, 2015 through December 20, 2015. In the Smoky Hill Air National Guard subunit, the firearm season dates shall be November 26, 2015 through November 29, 2015 and December 6, 2015 through December 13, 2015. The regular firearm season dates in all other deer management units shall be December 2, 2015

through December 13, 2015.

(B) The pre-rut white-tailed deer antlerless-only season in all deer management units shall be October 10, 2015 through October 11, 2015.

(C) During the regular and extended firearm deer seasons, white-tailed either-sex deer permits issued for a deer management unit adjacent to or encompassing an urban deer management unit shall be valid in both the designated unit and the urban deer management unit.

(D) The number of firearm deer permits for each management unit based on a review of deer population indices, biological and ecological data, history of permit use and harvest rates, public input, and other relevant information shall be as established by the secretary with the concurrence of the commission.

(3) Muzzleloader-only season.

(A) The muzzleloader-only season in all deer management units shall be September 14, 2015 through September 27, 2015. Muzzleloader deer permits shall also be valid during established firearm seasons using muzzleloader equipment, except that during the portion of the extended firearm season beginning on January 1, 2016 and extending through the last open day in units open during an extended firearm season, these permits shall be valid with any legal equipment authorized during a firearm season. During an extended firearm season, only muzzleloader deer permits for deer management units open during these dates shall be valid, and only for antlerless white-tailed deer.

(B) The number of muzzleloader deer permits issued for each management unit based on a review of deer population indices, biological and ecological data, history of permit use and harvest rates, public input, and other relevant information shall be as established by the secretary with the concurrence of the commission.

(4) Season for designated persons.

(A) The season for designated persons to hunt deer shall be September 5, 2015 through September 13, 2015 in all deer management units.

(B) Only the following persons may hunt during this season:

(i) Any person 16 years of age or younger, only while under the immediate supervision of an adult who is 18 years of age or older; and

(ii) any person with a permit to hunt from a vehicle issued according to K.A.R. 115-18-4 or a disability assistance permit issued according to K.A.R. 115-18-15.

(C) All resident and nonresident deer permits shall be valid during this season.

(D) All persons hunting during this season shall wear blaze orange according to K.A.R. 115-4-4.

(5) Extended firearm seasons.

(A) Each unfilled deer permit valid in unit 6, 8, 9, 10, 16, or 17, as applicable, shall be valid during an extended antlerless-only firearm season beginning January 1, 2016 and extending through January 3, 2016 in those units.

(B) Each unfilled deer permit valid in units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, or 14, as applicable, shall be valid during an extended antlerless-only firearm season beginning January 1, 2016 and extending through January 10, 2016 in those units.

(C) Each unfilled deer permit valid in units 10A, 15, or 19, as applicable, shall be valid in an extended antlerless-only firearm season beginning January 1, 2016 and extending through January 17, 2016 in those units.

(D) Only antlerless white-tailed deer may be taken.

(E) Permits restricted to a specific unit shall remain restricted to that unit during the extended firearm season.

(F) Equipment legal during a firearm season shall be authorized with any permit.

(b) Unlimited resident hunt-on-your-own-land, special hunt-on-your-own-land,

and nonresident hunt-on-your-own-land deer permits shall be authorized for all units. These permits also shall be valid during the portion of the extended firearm season beginning on January 1, 2016 and extending through the last open day in units open during an extended or special extended firearm season, but shall be valid only for antlerless white-tailed deer during an extended or special extended firearm season.

(c) Any individual may apply for and obtain multiple deer permits, subject to the following limitations:

(1) Any individual may apply for or obtain no more than one deer permit that allows the taking of an antlered deer, except when the individual is unsuccessful in a limited quota drawing and alternative permits for antlered deer are available at the time of subsequent application.

(2) Any individual may obtain no more than five antlerless white-tailed deer permits. One antlerless white-tailed deer permit shall be valid statewide, except in unit 18, including lands managed by the department. Four additional antlerless white-tailed deer permits shall be valid in units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10A, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 19 on lands not managed by the department, except Cedar Bluff, Glen Elder, Kanopolis, Lovewell, Norton, Webster, and Wilson Wildlife Areas and Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge.

(3) Any resident may obtain no more than one either-species, either-sex permit through the application period described in K.A.R. 115-4-11.

(4) Nonresidents shall be eligible to obtain antlerless white-tailed deer permits. Otherwise, a nonresident shall be eligible to apply for and obtain only those permits designated as nonresident deer permits.

(5) No resident or nonresident shall purchase any deer permit that allows the taking of antlerless-only deer without first having obtained a deer permit that allows the

taking of antlered deer, unless the antlerless-only deer permit is purchased after December 30, 2015.

(6) Any individual may obtain one antlerless-only either-species deer permit, subject to the number of antlerless-only either-species deer permits authorized.

(d) The bag limit for each deer permit shall be one deer, as specified on the permit issued to the permittee.

(e) No deer permit issued pursuant to this regulation shall be valid after January 31, 2016.

(f) This regulation shall be effective on and after April 1, 2015, and shall have no force and effect on and after March 1, 2016. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-937.)

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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

DESCRIPTION: The proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting bag limits, application periods and season dates for the 2015-2016 firearm, muzzleloader and archery deer seasons. There are some changes from 2014-2015 seasons. Season dates are adjusted to coincide with the calendar, antlerless harvest is adjusted in 1 unit across the state and the antlerless-only season is adjusted for 2 units across the state.

FEDERAL MANDATES: None

ECONOMIC IMPACT: If the economic impact to the department, the general public, small business and other agencies from the 2015-16 seasons were to be similar to the estimate for the 2014-2015 seasons, total revenue to the department from the sale of all resident, nonresident, and landowner/tenant deer permits is estimated to be approximately \$10,045,760.

Approximately 575,000 days of hunting activity by 115,000 hunters are anticipated. A survey conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that big game hunters spent approximately \$1100 per year on trip and equipment expenditures, thus the 2013-14 deer seasons in Kansas are anticipated to generate approximately \$126.5 million worth of direct economic benefit to businesses providing big game goods and services. No other economic impact to state agencies, small businesses, or other individuals is anticipated.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None.