

REVISED AGENDA
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, PARKS & TOURISM
COMMISSION MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, January 5, 2017
Flint Hills Technical College
3301 W 18th Ave
Emporia, 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 October 20, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**
- V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
- VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Welcome from Flint Hills Technical College President Dean Hollenbeck.

A. Secretary's Remarks

- 1. Agency and State Fiscal Status (Robin Jennison)**
- 2. 2017 Legislature (Chris Tymeson)**

B. General Discussion

- 1. Commissioner Permit Update and Drawing (Mike Miller)**
- 2. Tourism Update (Linda Craghead)**
- 3. Webless Migratory Bird Regulations (Richard Schultheis)**
- 4. Waterfowl Regulations (Tom Bidrowski)**

C. Workshop Session

- 1. Antelope and Elk 25-Series Regulations (Matt Peek)**
- 2. Public Land Regulations (Ryan Stucky)**
- 3. Deer 25-Series Regulations (Matt Peek)**
- 4. Big Game Permanent Regulations (Matt Peek)**
- 5. Threatened and Endangered Species Regulations (Chris Tymeson)**

- 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

D. Public Hearing

1. Free Park Entrance and Free Fishing Days by Secretary's Orders (Linda Lanterman)

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

If necessary, the Commission will recess on January 5, 2017, to reconvene January 6, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at the same location to complete their business. Should this occur, time will be made available for public comment.

If notified in advance, the department will have an interpreter available for the hearing impaired. To request an interpreter call the Kansas Commission of Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698. Any individual with a disability may request other accommodations by contacting the Commission Secretary at (620) 672-5911.

The next commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2017 at Capitol Plaza Hotel (Emerald I&II meeting rooms), 1717 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS.

**Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 20, 2016
Seward County Event Center
810 Stadium Rd, Liberal, KS**

Subject to
Commission
Approval

The October 20, 2016 meeting of the Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission was called to order by Chairman Gerald Lauber at 1:00 p.m. at Seward County Event Center, Liberal. Chairman Lauber and Commissioners Emerick Cross, Tom Dill, Gary Hayzlett, Aaron Rider, Harrison Williams and Ward Cassidy were present.

Secretary's Remarks

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

2017 Legislature

No briefing book items – possible handout at meeting

General Discussion

Commission Permits Update

Background

In January 2006, the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission held the first drawing for Commission Big Game Permits when one elk and six deer permits were issued to applying conservation organizations. By statute, one elk, one antelope and up to seven deer permits may be issued with the limit of permits issued being seven.

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

In 2006, permits sold for \$49,000 with 59 applications being received; 2007, \$26,973.56 with 119 applicants; 2008, \$24,200 and 113 applicants; 2009, \$34,951 with 111 applicants; 2010, \$47,000 and 108 applicants; 2011, \$41,700.00 and 100 applicants; 2012, \$41,811 with 104 applications; 2013, \$53,200 with 93 applications; 2014, \$57,515 with 101 applications; 2015, \$53,826 with 164 applications; and 2016, \$64,550 with 138 applications being received.

In 2016 one elk and six deer permits were issued to: Pheasants Forever, Ark 2000 Chapter (deer); National Wild Turkey Federation, Horse Thief Hunting Heritage Chapter (elk); Pheasants and Quail Forever, Region 24 Chapter (deer); Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Dodge City Chapter (deer); Friends of NRA Louisburg Chapter (deer); Friends of the NRA, Butler County Chapter (deer); and Friends of the NRA, Capital City Chapter (deer). There were 138 applications with only 132 of those eligible and the permits sold for \$64,550.

After the permit is sold by the organization, the cost of the permit is subtracted and 85 percent of the proceeds are sent to KDWP to be used on approved projects. After the projects are approved, the money is sent back to the organization. The other 15 percent can be spent at the organization's discretion.

Since the program's beginning in 2006, 1,188 applications have been received and \$404,748.45 (85 percent) has been spent on natural resource projects. The average price of deer permits sold in 2016 was \$9,792; the elk permit sold for \$5,800. The highest price ever spent on a deer permit was \$14,000 in 2010, and an elk permit sold for \$23,000 in 2006. Antelope permits have only been awarded in two drawings, and both were traded for a deer permits.

Tourism Update

No briefing book items – possible handout at meeting

KDWPT WATERFOWL BRIEFING ITEM

January 5, 2017

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) annually develops frameworks within which states are able to establish migratory game bird hunting seasons. These frameworks establish maximum bag and possession limits, 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 - Blue-winged teal are one of the earliest migrating waterfowl, with most passing through Kansas from late August through October, often prior to the opening of general duck seasons. Green-winged teal are also early migrants but are commonly found in Kansas throughout the fall and 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 for blue-winged and green-winged teal. As long as the blue-winged teal 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 is permitted. The most recent blue-winged teal BPI was 6.7 million, allowing 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 seven seasons, a nine-day teal season coupled with a 96-day regular duck season has been selected in the High Plains Unit to satisfy this criterion.

DUCK, MERGANSER, AND COOT SEASONS - Since 1995, Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) has been adopted for setting duck hunting regulations in the United States. The AHM approach provides the framework for making objective decisions through four regulatory packages listed below. Optimal AHM strategies are calculated using: (1) harvest-management objectives specific to each mallard stock; (2) regulatory alternatives; and (3) current population models and associated weights for midcontinent mallards.

AHM Regulatory Packages

- **Liberal package**
 - o Season Length: 74-day Low Plains Season, 97-day High Plains Season
 - o Daily bag limit: 6 birds with various species restrictions.
- **Moderate package**
 - o Season Length: 60-day Low Plains Season, 83-day High Plains Season
 - o Daily bag limit: 6 birds with various species restrictions.
- **Restrictive package**
 - o Season Length: 39-day Low Plains Season, 51-day High Plains Season
 - o Daily bag limit: 3 birds with various species restrictions.

- **Closed**

The USFWS prescribed regulatory choice for the 2017-18 general duck season is the “liberal” alternative. Kansas has been in the liberal alternative since 1997. The only species specific federal regulation change is that the northern pintail limit be reduced to 1 in the daily bag limit and 2 in possession.

GOOSE SEASONS - Harvest prescriptions for the Central Flyway’s goose populations are based on population and harvest objectives as specified in population specific management plans. There are no changes in harvest prescriptions for geese from the 2017-18 season.

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS - States may select two consecutive days per duck-hunting zone, designated as “Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days,” in addition to their regular duck seasons.

EXTENDED FALCONRY SEASON - In addition to general waterfowl seasons, falconers may take migratory game birds during the special "extended" falconry season. The combined total number of days of take (i.e., teal season, general waterfowl season, and falconry) cannot exceed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act imposed maximum allowable annual hunting days for any one species of 107.

FEDERAL FRAMEWORK

SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

Season Dates: Between September 1 and September 30, 2017
Season Length: 16 days
Daily Bag Limit: 6 daily (any combination of teal)
Possession Limit: 18 in possession (any combination of teal)
Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset
Zones/ Split: No zones or splits options

DUCK, MERGANSER, AND COOT SEASONS

Season Dates: Between the September 23, 2017 and January 28, 2018
Season Length: *High Plains Unit:* 97 days. The last 23 days may start no earlier than December 09, 2017
Low Plains Unit: 74 days
Daily Bag Limit: *Duck:* 6 ducks, with species and sex restrictions as follows: 5 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 3 scaup, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, and 1 pintail.
Merganser: 5 mergansers of which only 2 may be hooded mergansers. States have the option to include mergansers in the duck daily bag limit, in which case the daily limit of merganser would be the same as the duck bag limit (6), of which two may be hooded mergansers
Coot: 15 coots
Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.
Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset

Zones/ Split: *High Plains* – no zones and up to two segments
Low Plains – 3 zones with each having up to two segments
or no zones with three segments

GOOSE SEASONS

Season Dates: *Dark Geese* (all geese except Ross's and snow geese): between September 23, 2017 and February 18, 2018

Light Geese (Ross's and Snow): between September 23, 2017 and March 10, 2018

Light Goose Conservation Order: between January 1, 2018 and April 30, 2018 (KAR 115-18-16). Must be held outside of all other waterfowl seasons

Season Length: *Dark Geese:*
Canada geese (or any other dark goose species except white-fronted geese) not to exceed 107 days
White-fronted geese - states may select either a season of:
Option A: 74 days with a bag limit of 3
Option B: 88-day season with a bag limit of 2

Light Geese: not to exceed 107 days

Light Goose Conservation Order: Must be held outside of all other waterfowl seasons

Daily Bag Limit: *Dark Geese:*
Canada geese (or any other dark goose species except white-fronted geese) 8 geese
White-fronted geese - states may select either a season of:
Option A: 74 days with a bag limit of 3
Option B: 88-day season with a bag limit of 2

Light Geese: 50 light geese

Light Goose Conservation Order: No daily bag limit

Possession Limit: *Dark Geese:* Three times the daily bag limit

Light Geese: No possession limit

Light Goose Conservation Order: No possession limit

Shooting Hours: *General Goose Seasons:* One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

Light Goose Conservation Season: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset

Zones/ Split: *General Goose Seasons:* No zones and up to two segments
Light Goose Conservation Season: No zones or splits

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

States may select two consecutive days per duck-hunting zone, designated as "Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days," in addition to their regular duck seasons, under the following guidelines:

1. The days must be held outside any regular duck season on a weekend, holidays, or other non-school days when youth hunters would have the maximum opportunity to participate.

2. The days may be held up to 14 days before or after any regular duck-season frameworks or within any split of a regular duck season, or within any other open season on migratory birds.
3. The daily bag limits may include ducks, geese, tundra swans, mergansers, coots, moorhens, and gallinules and would be the same as those allowed in the regular season. Flyway species and area restrictions would remain in effect.
4. Shooting hours would be one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.
5. Youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger. In addition, an adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter into the field. This adult may not duck hunt but may participate in other seasons that are open on the special youth day.

EXTENDED FALCONRY SEASON

Season Dates:	Between September 1 and March 10
Season Length:	For all hunting methods combined, the combined length of the extended season, regular season, and any special or experimental seasons must not exceed 107 days for any species or group of species in a geographical area.
Daily Bag Limit:	No more than 3 migratory game birds, singly or in the aggregate
Possession Limit:	Three times the daily bag limit
Hawking Hours:	One-half hour before sunrise to sunset
Zones/ Split:	Each extended season may be divided into a maximum of three segments

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommendations will be presented at the March commission meeting.

Table 1. Kansas September Teal Season Dates and September Teal Harvest from 1992 to 2016

Year	Low Plains Dates	Hunting Days	High Plains Dates	Hunting Days	Bag Limit	Green-winged Teal	Blue-winged Teal	Total Harvest
1992*	Sept 12-20	9	Sept 12-20	9	4	4,267	12,902	17,169
1993*	Sept 11-19	9	Sept 11-19	9	4	1,081	5,604	6,685
1994*	Sept 10-18	9	Sept 10-18	9	4	2,217	7,083	9,300
1995*	Sept 16-24	9	Sept 16-24	9	4	1,896	10,227	12,123
1996*	Sept 14-22	9	Sept 14-22	9	4	1,415	17,115	18,530
1997*	Sept 13-21	9	Sept 13-21	9	4	2,367	14,858	17,225
1998*	Sept 12-27	16	Sept 12-20	9	4	8,454	19,727	28,181
1999*	Sept 11-26	16	Sept 11-19	9	4	3,052	28,022	31,074
2000	Sept 9-24	16	Sept 9-16	8	4	4,621	27,724	32,345
2001	Sept 15-30	16	Sept 15-22	8	4	1,790	10,741	12,531
2002	Sept 21-29	9	Sept 21-28	8	4	3,783	8,723	12,506
2003	Sept 13-28	16	Sept 20-27	8	4	9,024	21,393	30,417
2004	Sept 18-26	9	Sept 18-25	8	4	2,901	19,173	22,074
2005	Sept 17-25	9	Sept 17-24	8	4	2,200	10,387	12,587
2006	Sept 9-24	16	Sept 16-23	8	4	4,733	23,664	28,397
2007	Sept 8-23	16	Sept 15-22	8	4	4,534	25,582	30,116
2008	Sept 13-28	16	Sept 13-20	8	4	7,200	15,120	22,320
2009	Sept 12-27	16	Sept 19-26	8	4	2,775	15,165	17,940
2010	Sept 11-26	16	Sept 18-26	9	4	1,812	16,829	18,641
2011	Sept 10-25	16	Sept 17-25	9	4	1,748	22,562	24,310
2012	Sept 8-23	16	Sept 15-23	9	4	4,298	19,420	23,718
2013	Sept 7-22	16	Sept 14-22	9	6	2,323	28,213	30,536
2014	Sept 13-28	16	Sept 20-28	9	6	2,806	36,736	39,542
2015	Sept 12-27	16	Sept 19-27	9	6	3,620	28,504	32,124
2016	Sept 10-25	16	Sept 17-25	9	6	N/A**	N/A**	N/A**

* 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.

Table 2. Historic season dates by zone in Kansas from 1993 to 2016

Year	Season Days	High Plains (HP)	Low Plains Early	Low Plains Late	Low Plains Southeast
2016	74 +23 HP	Oct 8 – Jan 1 Jan 20 - Jan 29	Oct 8 - Dec 4 Dec 17 - Jan 1	Oct 29 – Jan 1 Jan 21 - Jan 29	Nov 12 – Jan 1 Jan 7 - Jan 29
2015	74 +23 HP	Oct 10 – Jan 4 Jan 23 - Jan 31	Oct 10 - Dec 6 Dec 19 - Jan 3	Oct 31 – Jan 3 Jan 23 - Jan 31	Nov 14 – Jan 3 Jan 9 - Jan 31
2014	74 +23 HP	Oct 11 - Dec 8 Dec 20 - Jan 25	Oct 11 - Dec 7 Dec 20 - Jan 4	Nov 01 – Jan 04 Jan 17 - Jan 25	Nov 8 – Nov 9 Nov 15 - Jan 25
2013	74 +23 HP	Oct 5 - Dec 2 Dec 21 - Jan 26	Oct 5 - Dec 1 Dec 21 - Jan 5	Oct 26 - Dec 29 Jan 18 - Jan 26	Nov 2 – Nov 3 Nov 16 - Jan 26
2012	74 +23 HP	Oct 6 - Dec 30 Jan 19 - Jan 27	Oct 6 - Dec 2 Dec 15- Dec 30	Oct 27 - Dec 30 Jan 19 - Jan 27	Nov 15 - Jan 27
2011	74 +23 HP	Oct 8 - Jan 2 Jan 21 - Jan 29	Oct 8 - Dec 4 Dec 17 - Jan 1	Oct 29 - Jan 1 Jan 21 - Jan 29	Nov 5 - Jan 8 Jan 21 - Jan 29
2010	74 +23 HP	Oct 9 - Jan 3 Jan 22 - Jan 30	Oct 9 - Dec 5 Dec 18 - Jan 2	Oct 30 - Jan 2 Jan 22 - Jan 30	--
2009	74 +23 HP	Oct 10 - Jan 5 Jan 23 - Jan 31	Oct 10 - Dec 6 Dec 19 - Jan 3	Oct 31 - Jan 3 Jan 23 - Jan 31	--
2008	74 +23 HP	Oct 4 - Dec 30 Jan 17 - Jan 25	Oct 11- Dec 7 Dec 20 - Jan 4	Oct 25 - Dec 28 Jan 17 - Jan 25	--
2007	74 +23 HP	Oct 6 - Jan 1 Jan 19 - Jan 27	Oct 13 - Dec 9 Dec 15 - Dec 30	Oct 27 - Dec 30 Jan 19 - Jan 27	--
2006	74 +23 HP	Oct 7 - Jan 2 Jan 20 - Jan 28	Oct 14 - Dec 10 Dec 16 - Dec 31	Oct 28 - Dec 31 Jan 20 - Jan 28	--
2005	74 +23 HP	Oct 8 - Jan 3 Jan 21 - Jan 29	Oct 15 - Dec 11 Dec 17 - Jan 1	Oct 29 - Jan 1 Jan 21 - Jan 29	--
2004	74 +23 HP	Oct 9 - Jan 4 Jan 22 - Jan 30	Oct 9 - Dec 12 Dec 25 - Jan 2	Oct 30 - Jan 2 Jan 22 - Jan 30	--
2003	74 +23 HP	Oct 11 - Jan 6 Jan 17 - Jan 25	Oct 11 - Dec 14 Dec 26 - Jan 3	Oct 25 - Nov 2 Nov 8 - Jan 11	--
2002	74 +23 HP	Oct 12 - Jan 7 Jan 18 - Jan 26	Oct 12 - Dec 15 Dec 24 - Jan 1	Oct 26 - Nov 3 Nov 9 - Jan 12	--
2001	74 +23 HP	Oct 6 - Jan 1 Jan 12 - Jan 20	Oct 13 - Dec 16 Dec 24 - Jan 1	Oct 27 - Nov 4 Nov 10 - Jan 13	--
2000	74 +23 HP	Sep 30 - Jan 1 Jan 19 - Jan 21	Oct 7 - Dec 10 Dec 23 - Dec 31	Oct 21 - Oct 29 Nov 4 - Jan 7	--
1999	74 +23 HP	Oct 2 - Jan 2 Jan 20 - Jan 23	Oct 9 - Dec 12 Dec 25 - Jan 2	Oct 23 - Oct 31 Nov 6 - Jan 9	--
1998	74 +23 HP	Oct 3 - Jan 3 Jan 14 - Jan 17	Oct 10 - Dec 13 Dec 26 - Jan 3	Oct 24 - Nov 1 Nov 7 - Jan 10	--
1997	74 +23 HP	Oct 4 - Jan 4 Jan 15 - Jan 18	Oct 4 - Dec 7 Dec 20 - Dec 28	Oct 25 - Dec 14 Dec 20 - Jan 11	--
1996	60 +23HP	Oct 12 - Dec 1 Dec 7 - Jan 7	Oct 12 - Dec 1 Dec 21 - Dec 29	Nov 2 - Dec 15 Dec 21 - Jan 5	--
1995	60 +23HP	Sep 30 - Oct 3 Oct 14 - Dec 17 Dec 23 - Jan 5	Oct 21 - Oct 29 Nov 11 - Dec 17 Dec 23 - Jan 5	--	--
1994	49 +12 HP	Oct 15 - Oct 31 Nov 11 - Dec 11 Dec 21 - Jan 2	Oct 22 - Oct 31 Nov 11 - Dec 11 Dec 26 - Jan 2	--	--
1993	39 +12HP	Oct 16 - Oct 31 Nov 13 - Dec 5 Dec 22 - Jan 1	Oct 23 - Oct 31 Nov 13 - Dec 12	--	--

Table 3. The 2016 duck population and pond estimates from the annual Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey and comparison to 2015 and long-term average. (Numbers are in millions). The 2017 estimates are not available until late July.

Species	2016	2015	% Change from 2015	% Change for Long-Term Average
Mallard	11.8	11.6	1%	51%
Gadwall	3.7	3.8	-3%	90%
American Wigeon	3.4	3.0	12%	31%
Green-winged Teal	4.3	4.1	5%	104%
Blue-winged Teal	6.7	8.5	-22%	34%
Northern Shoveler	4	4.4	-10%	56%
Northern Pintail	2.6	3.0	-14%	-34%
Redhead	1.3	1.2	8%	82%
Canvasback	0.7	0.8	-3%	26%
Scaup	5	4.4	14%	0%
Total Ducks	48.4	49.5	-2%	38%
May Pond Counts	5.0	6.3	-21%	-4%

Figure 2. Estimates of active duck hunters and duck harvest in Kansas from 1999 to 2015 based upon the Harvest Information Program. 2016 harvest data is not available until late July.

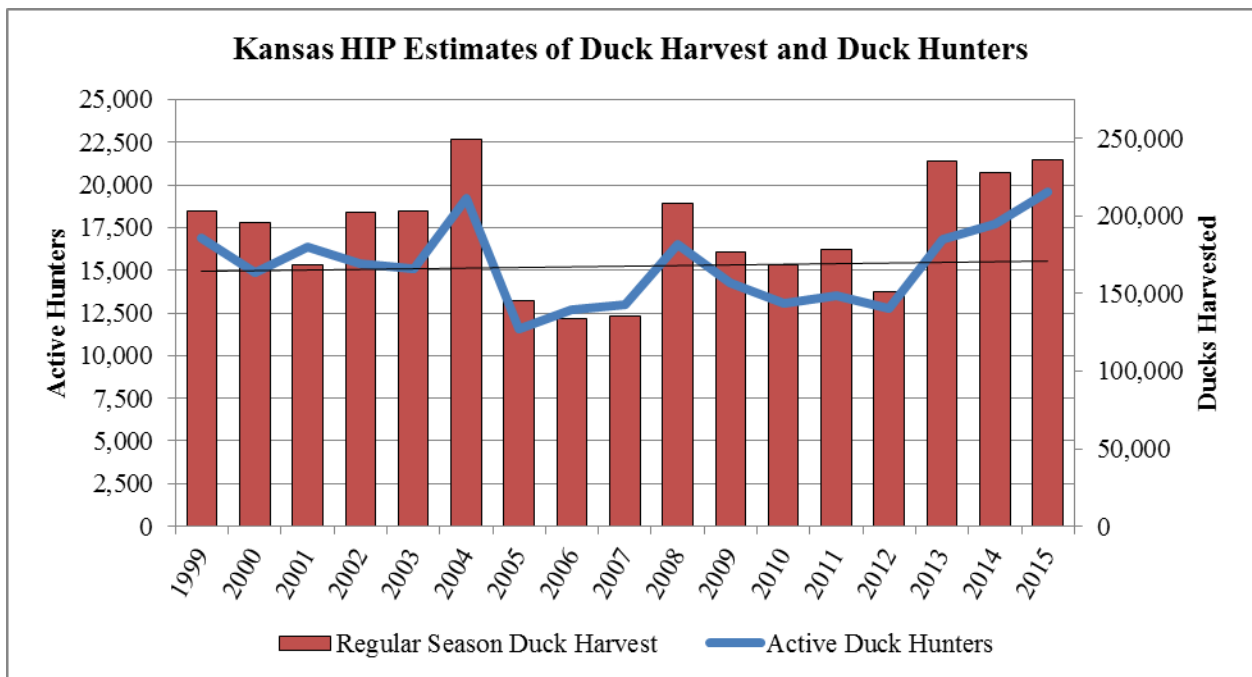


Table 4. Estimates of active duck hunters, regular season duck harvest, and average duck per hunter, average seasonal bag per hunter, and total duck hunter days in Kansas from 1999 to 2015 as estimated by the Harvest Information Program. The 2016 harvest data is not available until late July.

Year	Active Duck Hunters	Regular Season Duck Harvest	Average Duck Hunter Days	Average Seasonal Duck Bag	Duck Hunter Days
1999	16,900	203,226	7.5	13.9	126,800
2000	14,900	195,555	7.2	15.2	107,400
2001	16,344	168,267	6.2	11.1	100,989
2002	15,426	202,093	6.7	13.9	102,744
2003	15,100	203,184	7.1	15.5	107,600
2004	19,200	249,126	6.5	14.2	124,000
2005	11,600	145,413	7.6	13.7	87,700
2006	12,663	133,701	6.7	12.8	85,416
2007	13,021	135,523	6.3	12.7	82,149
2008	16,531	208,056	6.4	13.9	106,154
2009	14,259	176,862	6.5	13.6	92,081
2010	13,053	168,422	6.1	14.3	79,064
2011	13,534	178,112	7.1	15.0	96,138
2012	12,739	150,901	7.1	13.7	90,851
2013	16,847	235,335	6.3	15.8	105,344
2014	17,700	228,300	5.8	15.9	101,802
2015	19,600	236,200	5.0	12.1	98,300
Long-term Average	15,260	189,310	6.7	13.8	99,678
% Change from 2014	10.7%	3.5%	-12.9%	-6.2%	-3.4%
% Change from LTA	28.4%	24.8%	-25.0%	-12.2%	-1.4%

Table 5. Duck species composition in the Kansas regular duck season harvest from 1999 to 2015 and as estimated by the Harvest Information Program. The 2016 harvest data is not available until late July.

Year	Total Duck Harvest	Mallard	Gadwall	Green-winged Teal	Blue-winged Teal	Pintail	American Wigeon	Northern Shoveler	Wood Duck	Diving Ducks*
1999	203,226	114,167	27,189	21,918	6,936	5,410	7,075	4,578	4,439	10,404
2000	195,555	102,846	29,363	27,872	2,385	7,453	12,520	1,789	2,683	7,154
2001	168,267	97,739	19,154	20,049	1,074	7,339	6,265	3,401	3,938	8,055
2002	202,093	93,112	36,572	31,423	3,468	4,624	13,032	3,783	3,153	10,614
2003	203,184	95,711	41,063	24,536	4,258	4,157	15,513	4,258	3,751	8,315
2004	249,126	133,582	41,374	29,012	6,812	3,280	13,371	5,298	3,027	10,595
2005	145,413	84,193	21,629	13,197	1,588	3,666	7,332	4,277	1,589	7,453
2006	133,701	55,780	30,594	11,156	1,183	2,704	7,944	6,254	2,874	14,198
2007	135,523	61,041	27,687	22,182	1,296	2,591	6,638	4,210	1,133	7,125
2008	208,056	98,160	34,080	22,560	3,840	6,872	17,760	2,400	3,600	16,864
2009	176,862	80,574	27,589	23,569	3,654	5,664	11,511	7,674	3,106	11,876
2010	168,422	76,639	30,940	15,276	3,366	5,437	8,415	9,321	3,366	14,369
2011	178,112	85,163	29,553	18,113	4,131	5,243	8,262	8,262	2,224	14,777
2012	150,901	78,157	32,473	9,232	1,910	6,367	7,959	2,706	1,114	9,869
2013	235,335	94,432	34,188	32,861	20,414	12,115	9,460	12,945	2,655	15,435
2014	228,300	114,417	13,648	24,873	47,961	4,847	4,975	4,592	1,531	10,716
2015	236,200	112,358	31,068	20,813	39,816	6,033	9,803	4,524	1,508	8,897
Average	189,310	92,828	29,892	21,685	9,064	5,518	9,873	5,310	2,688	10,983
% Change from 2014	-3.5%	-1.8%	127.6%	-16.3%	-17.0%	24.5%	97.0%	-1.5%	-1.5%	-17.0%
% Change Average	25%	21.0%	3.9%	-4.0%	339.3%	9.3%	-0.7%	-14.8%	-43.9%	-19.0%

* includes redhead, canvasback, ring-necked duck, lesser scaup, greater scaup, goldeneye and ruddy duck

Table 6. Historic general goose seasons in Kansas from 2006 to 2016.

Season	Canada Goose	Light Goose	White-fronted Goose
2016	Oct 29 - Jan 01 Jan 04 - Feb 12	Oct 29 - Jan 01 Jan 04 - Feb 12	Oct 29 - Jan 01 Jan 21 - Feb 12
2015	Oct 31 - Nov 01 Nov 04 - Feb 14	Oct 31 - Nov 01 Nov 04 - Feb 14	Oct 31 - Jan 03 Jan 23 - Feb 14
2014	Nov 01 - Nov 09 Nov 12 - Feb 15	Nov 01 - Nov 09 Nov 12 - Feb 15	Nov 01 - Dec 14 Jan 17 - Feb 15
2013	Oct 26 - Nov 03 Nov 06 - Feb 09	Oct 26 - Nov 03 Nov 06 - Feb 09	Oct 26 - Dec 29 Feb 01 - Feb 09
2012	Oct 27 - Nov 04 Nov 07 - Feb 10	Oct 27 - Nov 04 Nov 07 - Feb 10	Oct 27 - Dec 30 Feb 02 - Feb 10
2011	Oct 29 - Nov 06 Nov 09 - Feb 12	Oct 29 - Nov 06 Nov 09 - Feb 12	Oct 29 - Jan 01 Feb 04 - Feb 12
2010	Oct 30 - Nov 07 Nov 10 - Feb 13	Oct 30 - Nov 07 Nov 10 - Feb 13	Oct 30 - Nov 07 Nov 10 - Jan 02 Feb 05 - Feb 13
2009	Oct 31 - Nov 08 Nov 11 - Feb 14	Oct 31 - Nov 08 Nov 11 - Feb 14	Oct 31 - Nov 08 Nov 11 - Jan 03 Feb 06 - Feb 14
2008	Oct 25 - Oct 26 Nov 05 - Feb 15	Oct 25 - Oct 26 Nov 05 - Feb 15	Oct 25 - Oct 26 Nov 05 - Jan 04 Feb 07 - Feb 15
2007	Oct 27 Oct 28 Nov 07 - Feb 17	Oct 27 Oct 28 Nov 07 - Feb 17	Oct 27 - Oct 28 Nov 07 - Jan 06 Feb 09 - Feb 17
2006	Oct 28 - Oct 29 Nov 08 - Feb 18	Oct 28 - Oct 29 Nov 08 - Feb 18	Oct 28 - Oct 29 Nov 08 - Jan 07 Feb 10 - Feb 18

Figure 3. Estimates of active goose hunters and goose harvest in Kansas from 1999 to 2014 based upon the Harvest Information Program. The 2016 harvest data is not available until late July.

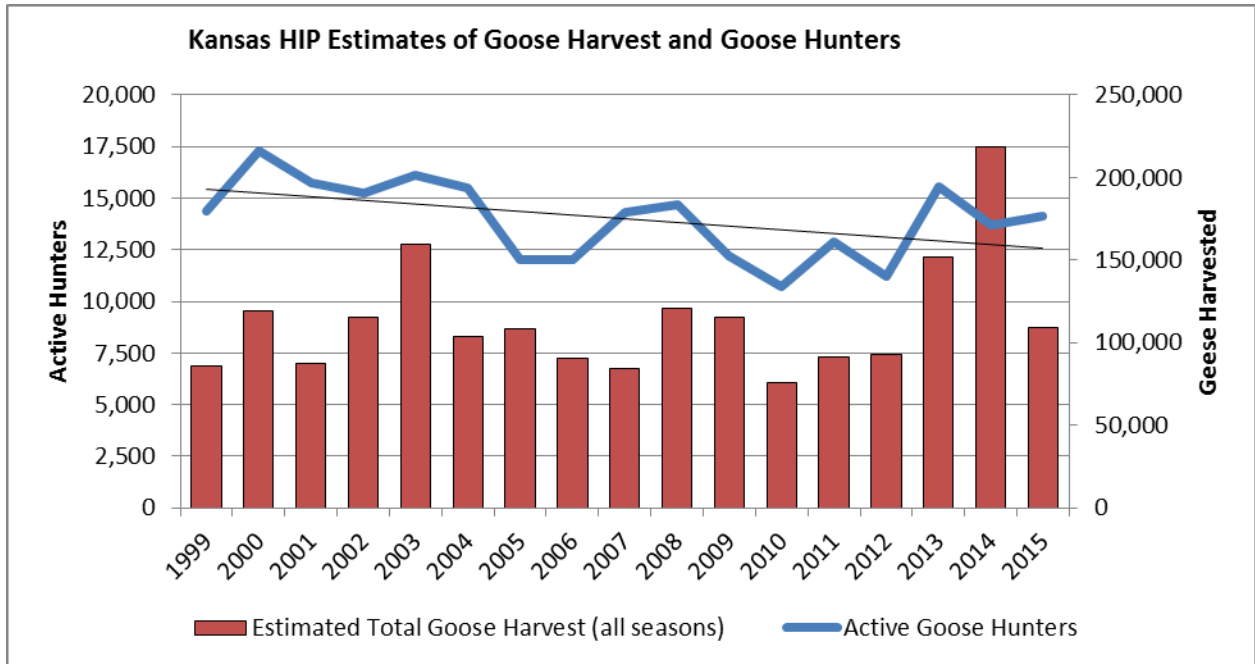


Table 7. Estimates of active goose hunters, total season goose harvest, average goose per hunter, average seasonal bag per hunter, total goose hunter days, and regular season harvest for Canada, light goose and white-fronted geese in Kansas from 1999 to 2015 based upon the by the Harvest Information Program. The 2016 harvest data is not available until late July.

Year	Active Goose Hunters	Total Goose Harvest	Avg. Goose Hunter Days	Avg. Goose Seasonal Bag	Goose Hunter Days	Canada Goose Harvest	Light Goose Harvest	White-fronted Goose Harvest	Light Goose Conservation Season
1999	14,400	85,700	6.5	5.9	93,300	66,255	12,048	5,476	11,165
2000	17,300	119,000	6.5	6.9	112,200	98,005	8,164	11,303	11,937
2001	15,715	87,499	5.7	5.6	89,663	72,707	4,405	4,721	35,138
2002	15,248	115,400	5.2	7.6	79,771	80,982	18,222	8,966	17,087
2003	16,100	159,700	7.2	9.9	116,200	123,866	19,263	9,735	65,608
2004	15,500	103,700	6.3	6.7	98,000	80,118	16,481	5,688	25,272
2005	12,000	108,300	7.1	9.1	84,800	99,178	3,689	970	18,802
2006	12,038	90,400	5.1	7.5	60,994	59,566	12,848	2,336	12,711
2007	14,294	84,699	5.6	5.9	79,723	59,968	10,943	13,788	4,260
2008	14,692	120,900	5.7	8.2	83,525	87,067	12,540	16,325	11,924
2009	12,213	115,201	6.5	9.4	78,955	92,267	4,267	12,267	15,244
2010	10,700	75,800	5.3	7.1	56,936	66,494	4,459	4,847	53,863
2011	12,900	91,653	5.9	7.1	75,795	51,900	19,876	19,877	62,092
2012	11,207	92,367	6.5	8.3	73,084	72,204	13,016	7,127	72,447
2013	15,543	151,837	5.7	9.8	88,386	108,657	27,253	15,927	92,825
2014	13,700	218,300	5.9	15.9	80,287	166,812	32,409	19,064	55,271
2015	14,100	108,900	4.1	7.7	58,200	71,175	21,928	15,817	41,416
Average	13,973	113,815	6.0	8.2	84,476	86,628	13,743	9,901	50,635
% Change from 2014	2.9%	-50.1%	-29.4%	-51.6%	-27.5%	-57.3%	-32.3%	-17.0%	-25.15%
% Change Average	0.9%	-4.1%	-31.6%	-5.6%	-29.8%	-20.5%	29.2%	13.7%	18.2%

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
Webless Migratory Game Bird General Discussion Briefing Item
January 5, 2017

Background

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) annually develops frameworks from which states are able to establish migratory game bird hunting seasons. These frameworks establish maximum bag and possession limits, season lengths, and earliest opening and latest closing dates. States must operate within these frameworks when establishing state-specific migratory game bird seasons. General stability in season dates and bag limits allows the inclusion of webless regulations, bag limits, and season dates as KDWPT permanent regulations (see 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

Discussion

Exotic species like Eurasian collared and ringed turtle doves are exempt from the federal framework process. Regulations and seasons are the responsibility of the state. Changes to the exotic dove season are being considered for the 2017-18 hunting season as a result of continued increases in the Eurasian collared dove population and related conflicts.

Recommendation

Staff recommendations will be presented at the March commission meeting. Options currently being considered include extending the extended exotic dove season to year-round with no changes to method of take regulations; extending the exotic dove season to year-round with an expansion to method of take regulations outside of the regular dove season; or including Eurasian collared and ringed turtle doves in invasive and nuisance bird regulations that would permit year-round take with limited regulations on method of take.

Workshop Session

KAR 115-25-7
Antelope; open season, bag limit and permits

Background

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

Western Kansas pronghorn antelope populations have supported a hunting season since 1974. The firearm pronghorn season has been four days long since 1990, starting on the first Friday in October. The archery pronghorn season was nine days long from 1985 to 2004, and included the two weekends prior to the firearm season. Since 2005, the archery season has reopened on the Saturday following the firearm season and continued through the end of October. A muzzleloader season was initiated in 2001. It has begun immediately after the archery season and ran for eight days, the last four of which overlap with the firearm season. With the exception of annual adjustments in permit allocations, this regulation has basically been unchanged since 2006.

Discussion & Recommendations

No changes are recommended for this regulation at this time, including season structure, bag limits, or permits.

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

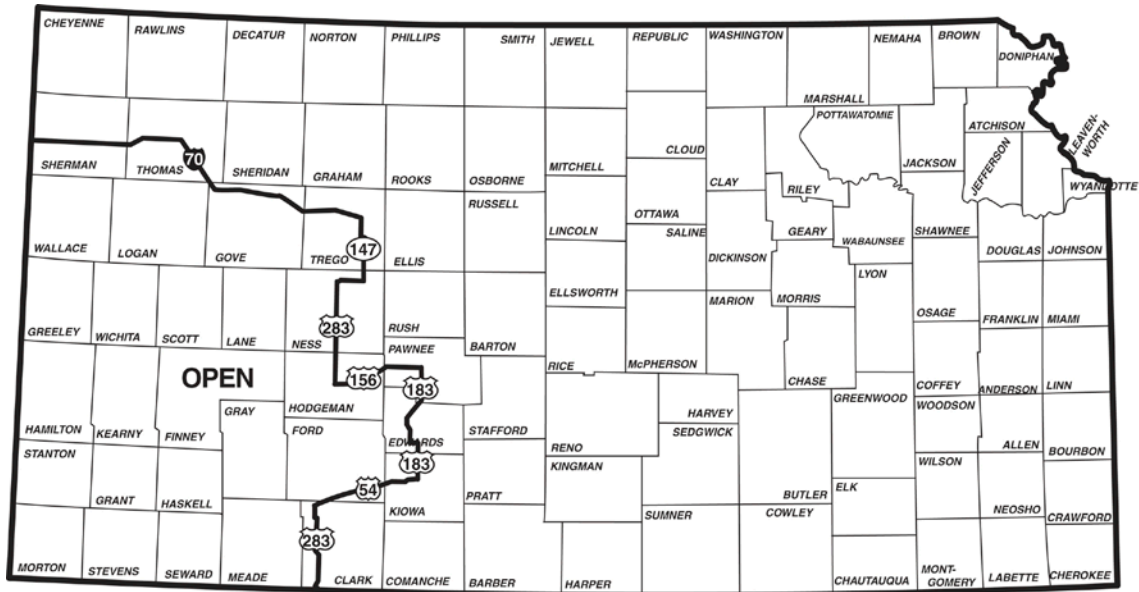
The proposed season dates are:

September 23, 2017 through October 1, 2017 and October 14, 2017 through October 31, 2017 for the archery season.

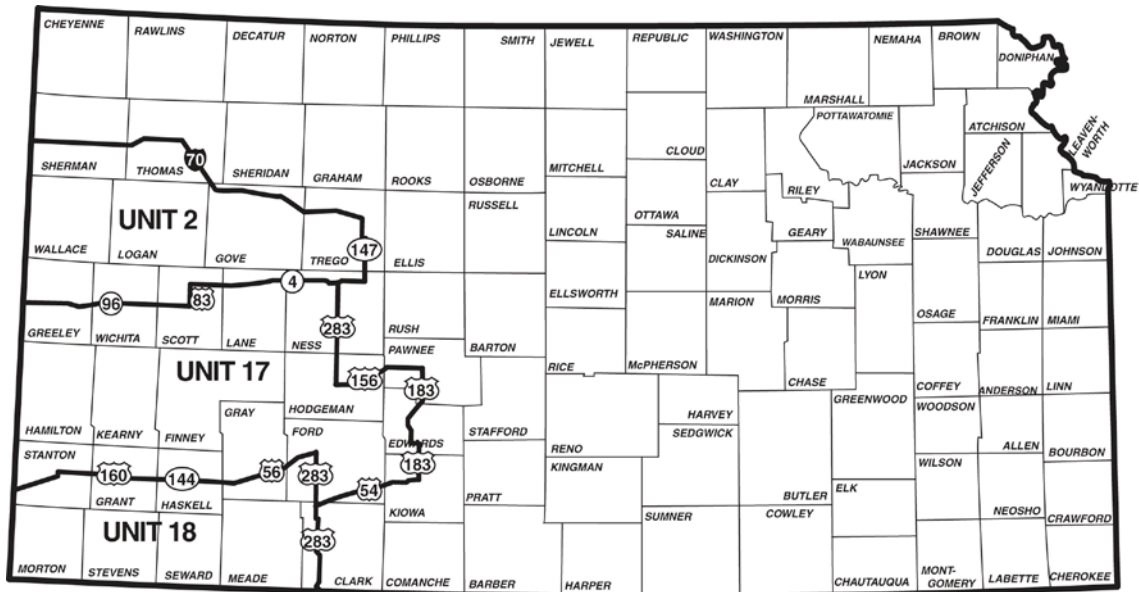
October 2, 2017 through October 9, 2017 for the muzzleloader season.

October 6, 2017 through October 9, 2017 for the firearm season.

Archery Pronghorn Unit



Firearm, Muzzleloader Pronghorn Units



KAR 115-25-8

Elk; open season, bag limit and permits

Background

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

Elk hunting on and around Fort Riley was initiated in 1990, and most of the hunting opportunity in the state occurs on the Fort. However, elk do exist on private lands, though unpredictably in most of the state, with parts of southwest Kansas being the main exception. Elk also occur in the vicinity of Cimarron National Grasslands, but these elk are primarily found in neighboring states, and the Grasslands haven't been open to elk hunting since 1995, following several years of heavy harvest pressure.

Since 1999, longer seasons and less restrictive permitting options have been authorized except near Fort Riley and the Grasslands. This framework is intended to allow for elk that may be causing crop damage or other conflicts on private land to be harvested, and for landowners to have the opportunity to maintain elk at desirable numbers on their own property while at the same time allowing the Fort Riley and Cimarron herds to be maintained.

Discussion & Recommendations

This regulation has seen minimal change since 2011, and no changes are recommended for this season in season structure, bag limits, unit boundaries or permit types.

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

The proposed season dates on Fort Riley are:

- a) September 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017 for a season in which both muzzleloader and archery equipment may be used.
- b) October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for the firearms season with one-third of the antlerless only permits valid during each of the following segments:
 - 1) First segment: October 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017.
 - 2) Second segment: November 1, 2017 through November 30, 2017.
 - 3) Third segment: December 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.
- c) October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for a firearms season for all holders of any-elk permits.

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

Public Land Regulation Changes

XV. Daily Hunt Permits

Daily hunt permits are required on the following properties:

Region 1

-Glen Elder WA – (Granite Creek Area during youth/mentor seasons)
remove this wording; entire WA added to the daily hunt permit list

Region 3

-Marion WA - add

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

C. Workshop Session

3. Big Game Permanent Regulations.

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

Background

This regulation contains the following items:

- Information that must be included on the carcass tag
- Registration (including photo check) needed to transport certain animals
- Procedures for transferring meat to another person
- Procedures for possessing a salvaged big game carcass
- Who may assist a big game permittee and how they may assist, including the provisions for designated individuals to assist disabled big game permittees.

This regulation gives deer and turkey hunters the ability to electronically register their animal. Unless taken with an “either sex” permit, this regulation requires big game animals to be transported to the permittee’s residence or a commercial place of processing with the head “naturally attached.” Electronic registration allows hunters with an antlerless permit to process the meat to a further extent so that the head no longer has to stay naturally attached prior to transport. However, electronic registration is only allowed for turkey and deer hunters; elk and pronghorn hunters are not included.

Discussion

Currently about 20-30 antlerless elk permits are sold annually, and 7-10 antlerless elk are harvested with these permits, so there is some potential for electronic registration demand. All pronghorn permits are either sex, so there currently isn’t a need for electronic pronghorn registration. However, the potential to issue doe tags does exist.

Recommendation

We recommend changing references from “deer” to “big game” in 115-4-2(a)(2) so that any big game animal can be electronically registered.

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

Background

This regulation contains the following items:

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

Discussion

Extensive modifications of this regulation were done in 2013. Major changes included allowing any caliber center-fire rifle or handgun, and adding crossbows to legal archery equipment. Additional accessory equipment was allowed.

New hunting equipment continues to be created and people request changes in the regulation to allow novel equipment. Some of the recent requests have been to allow powerful air rifles to be used for big game hunting. Other requests for changes in equipment have included the use atlatl, and hand thrown spears. Crossbows were authorized as archery equipment in 2013; however that change did not include a provision to allow draw locks for other types of bows. Draw lock devices on compound bows are currently authorized for people with disabilities.

A device called the “Airbow” has been developed, which propels an arrow using air pressure. It is currently receiving Internet notoriety and some people have contacted the department to request changes to allow it for hunting in Kansas. The Archery Trade Association has reviewed this equipment and they have issued a statement that the device lacks critical characteristics to be considered as archery equipment.

Historically changes in this regulation have attempted to balance the potential benefits of allowing new equipment to favor a few people against the added complexity caused by changing the regulation, which may confuse other hunters. Typically the department has changed this regulation after a review for a period of years rather than annually.

Recommendation

No change is proposed for this regulation.

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

Background

This regulation established the boundaries for the 19 Deer Management Units in Kansas.

Discussion

No changes in deer management unit boundaries are currently being discussed within the department. Changes in the management unit boundaries complicate trend analysis of hunter participation and harvest of deer. Sub-division of units increases the need for larger sample sizes and more expense to obtain adequate information.

Recommendation

No change is proposed for this regulation and it is not scheduled for further review this year.

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

Background

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

The Department received an inquiry as to why the application deadlines for resident deer, pronghorn and elk occur at different times, and a request to make them uniform so that a person could apply for all three at once rather than having to apply a couple different times and run the risk of confusing or forgetting one or more of the application deadlines.

This issue pertains only to limited draw permit types since over the counter permits remain available until the next to last day of the season. Also, this issue pertains only to resident permits since nonresident deer application is the last Friday of April to allow nonresidents time to plan their trip.

The current application period opens one month prior to the application deadline. Some of the deadlines and procedures associated with the current system date back to a time when more manual labor was required to complete the draw and permit distribution. Application dates for limited draw permits are provided below.

License Type	Application Deadline	Season Opening Day
Resident Deer	second Friday of July	Approx. Sept 1
Pronghorn	second Friday of June	Approx. Oct 1
Elk	second Friday of July	Sept 1

Discussion

No changes in the application process of big game or wild turkey permits are currently being discussed within the department. Requests for changes in allocation of either species, either sex firearm permits for resident youth hunters have been received from the public.

A uniform application deadline and the ability to apply for that year's permits earlier (approx. April 1, or once that year's regulations are finalized) would simplify and streamline the application process for resident hunters.

- Options:
1. Change application deadlines so all are consistent.
 2. Change application dates from approximately April 1 until deadline. The beginning of the application period is not determined by regulation, so no regulatory action is needed for this change.
 3. Adopt both 1 and 2 above.

This regulation also has an error that will be corrected in (b)(2)(E) where it references the "application period specified in K.A.R. 115-25-9."

Recommendation

Additional review of this regulation is planned. Personnel in the big game licensing section, the fisheries and wildlife division and the law enforcement divisions will evaluate alternatives.

e) **descriptions and restrictions.**

K.A.R. 115-4-13. Deer permits;

Background

This regulation contains the following items:

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

Discussion

The antlered deer permit types available to general resident hunters have resulted in a fair distribution of opportunity between hunters while satisfying most of the once-common complaints about where, when, or how one could hunt.

Recommendation

No change is proposed for this regulation and it is not scheduled for further review this year.

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

B. Workshop Session

4. Deer 25-Series Regulations.

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

Background

The regulation contains the following items:

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

Discussion

Annual adjustments will be made in the deer hunting season dates. This review process initiates the discussion of potential changes in deer hunting seasons for 2017. The recommendations at this time follow the traditional season structure.

The calendar of the 2017-18 seasons presents a couple situations where changes from the traditional seasons might be considered. Typically the first white-tailed deer antlerless-only (WAO) season has been the first January weekend that included the New Year's Holiday. New Year's Day falls on Monday in 2018. A similar situation occurred in 1999-2000 and the Commission approved moving the opening day to December 31, to give hunters a weekend day. There are concerns about confusion resulting from this change (whether antlered deer may be taken Dec. 31 with archery equipment, when antlerless tags may be purchased without an antlered permit, etc.). Options being considered for the 2017-18 seasons are:

1. A one-day season, January 1, 2018, in DMUs where 1 WAO permit is allowed. There would still be three different lengths of WAO seasons (i.e., 1, 7, and 14 days). The shortest season would not have a weekend day of hunting.
2. We would also like to consider adding one day to the pre-rut season (change from October 7-8, 2017 to October 7-9, 2017) thus allowing WAO firearms hunting during Columbus Day, which is a holiday for some hunters. This would make the total number of days of WAO firearms hunting just one less than occurred in 2016-17.

Public comments are sought about these options.

Population indices, mortality due to disease and changes in fawn recruitment will be examined and public input will be considered in the development of a list of units where an extended firearm seasons and WAO permits will be authorized. The number of WAO permits that may be used in each unit will also be evaluated after additional data becomes available.

Recommendation

Following traditions, the proposed season dates suggested for deer hunting during 2017-18 are as follows:

Youth and Disability	September 2, 2017 – September 10, 2017
Early Muzzleloader	September 11, 2017 – September 24, 2017
Archery	September 11, 2017– December 31, 2017
Pre-Rut WAO	October 7, 2017 – October 9, 2017
Regular Firearm	November 29, 2017 – December 10, 2017
1 st Extended WAO	January 1, 2018
2 nd Extended WAO	January 1, 2018– January 7, 2018
3rd Extended WAO	January 1, 2018 – January 14, 2018
Extended Archery (DMU 19)	January 15, 2018– January 31, 2018

This regulation will be finalized at the Public Hearing in March.

SECRETARY’S ORDERS – K.A.R. 115-25-9 authorizes the Secretary to establish deer permit quotas for both resident and nonresident deer hunters. This is where quotas on limited permits (nonresident permits, any deer firearms permits, etc.) are established, as well as unlimited availability on “over-the-counter” permits (statewide archery, hunt-on-your-own-land, etc.).

Mule deer have declined in the East Unit. There are several things potentially responsible for the decline, but hunting permit availability is the one thing we can most easily impact. We plan to recommend a substantial decrease in firearm either-species, either-sex (any deer) permits for the upcoming season. However, over-the-counter permit types also account for a significant percent of the mule deer harvest, and reductions in the availability of muzzleloader, hunt-on-your-own-land, and statewide archery permits are also being considered. We do not anticipate these changes being enacted for the 2017-18 season, but this may be necessary in the future.

K.A.R. 115-25-9a. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits; additional considerations; Smoky Hill ANG, Fort Riley, and Fort Leavenworth

Background

This regulation has typically been brought to a Public Hearing in June. Personnel at Fort Riley requested this later period to finalize the seasons because the schedule for military training activities were occasionally unknown at the time KAR 115-25-9 was approved. The regulation has also been used to address legislative actions pertaining to deer hunting that were made after KAR 115-25-9 was approved.

Discussion

This year we shall address all deer seasons on military subunits under one regulation. Personnel at Smoky Hill ANG, Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth have been contacted and we have received preliminary information on the season dates that they prefer.

Smoky Hill ANG has requested to have deer hunting seasons at the same dates as the seasons established in KAR 115-25-9.

Fort Riley has requested the same seasons as those established in KAR 115-25-9 with the following exceptions:

- Additional archery days for individuals authorized by Fort Riley would include the period from September 1, 2017 through September 10, 2017, and from January 2, 2018 January 31, 2018.
- Additional days of hunting opportunity for designated persons (i.e., youth and people with disabilities from October 6, 2017 through October 9, 2017.
 - No pre-rut firearms season for antlerless white-tailed deer.
- Firearm season dates of November 24, 2017 through November 26, 2017, and December 16, 2017 through December 24, 2017.

Fort Leavenworth has requested the same deer hunting seasons described in KAR 115-25-9 with the following exception:

- The open firearm season for the taking of deer shall be November 18, 2017 through November 19, 2017, November 23, 2017, through November 26, 2017, December 2, 2017 through December 3, 2017, December 9, 2017 through December 10, 2017, and December 16, 2017 through December 17, 2017.
- An extended firearm season for the taking of antlerless-only, white-tailed deer shall be from January 1, 2018 through January 14, 2018.
- An extended archery season for the taking of antlerless-only, white-tailed deer shall be from January 15, 2018 through January 31, 2018.

A deer hunter may use one antlerless-only white-tailed deer permit in Fort Riley, subunit 8A or Smoky Hill ANG, subunit 4A. A deer hunter may use up to five antlerless-only white-tailed deer permits in Fort Leavenworth, subunit 10A.

Recommendation

The proposed dates for the firearm season at the Smoky Hill Air National Guard subunit, Fort Riley subunit and at the Fort Leavenworth subunit will be reviewed again at the Workshop Session in March. Final action on these seasons shall be completed at the Public Hearing in June.

Public Hearing

No public hearing items to be voted on, only Secretary's Resolutions.

Secretary's Resolution

2017 KANSAS FREE FISHING DAYS

Under authorities contained in K.S.A. 32-906(f), the dates of June 3 and 4, 2017 are established as "Free Fishing Days." All persons may fish in the waters of the State, by legal means, without a valid fishing license on these dates. All residents and visitors to the State of Kansas are encouraged to use this opportunity to enjoy our outdoor recreational resources.

Date

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

Secretary's Resolution

2017 KANSAS FREE PARK ENTRANCE DAYS

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

ALL PARKS – BCBS Day – Date TBA

January

14 – Milford – Eagle Days

February

No free events planned

March

No free events planned

April

22 – Cross Timbers – Earth Day

May

6 – ALL PARKS – Let's Camp America

June

3 – Glen Elder – Youth Fishing Tournament

3 – Perry – Free Fishing Day

3 – Prairie Dog – OK Kids Day

3 – Prairie Spirit – National Trails Day

10 – Cedar Bluff – OK Kids Day

10 – Scott – OK Kids Day

17 – Wilson – Fathers Day

July

No free events planned

August

5 – Elk City – OK Kids Day

12 – Cheney – TBA

12 – Clinton – OK Kids Day

12 – Sand Hills – TBA

26 – Hillsdale – Kids Archery & Shot Gun
Skills Day

26 – Tuttle Creek – OK Kids Day

September

10 – Lovewell – 3D Archery Shoot

16 – Webster – Car Show

23 – Eisenhower – Paddle in the Park

23 – Meade – Car Show

30 – Crawford – Annual Chili Cook-Off

30 – Fall River – Fall River Rendezvous

October

7 – El Dorado – OK Kids Day

7 – Pomona – Fall Festival

28 – Kanopolis – Prairie Long Rifles
Rendezvous

November

24 – ALL PARKS – Black Friday -
#optoutside

December

No free events planned

are established as “2017 Free Park Entrance Days.” All persons may enter Kansas state parks listed above free-of-charge on dates specified. All residents and visitors to the State of Kansas are encouraged to use this opportunity to enjoy our outdoor recreational resources.

Date

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

