

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

K.A.R. 115-18-12. Trout permit; requirements, restrictions, and permit duration.

DESCRIPTION: This permanent regulation establishes the trout permit and for what types of fishing the trout permit is needed. As part of a larger regulatory package involving trout fishing, a trout permit would be required on certain bodies of water when fishing for any species and only required when fishing for and possessing trout on other bodies of water as designated in K.A.R. 115-25-14.

FEDERAL MANDATE: None.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: These proposed amendments are intended to increase fairness in angler participation in the trout program. Currently, only individuals who are fishing for and possessing trout are required to have a trout permit. Other anglers who are fishing for trout but are releasing the fish are taking advantage of the anglers who pay for the program through the purchase of a trout permit for the fish to be stocked in certain waters. The waters where a permit would be mandatory to fish are waters in which the primary fishery is trout. The permit is permissive in waters that contain other significant fishery opportunities. It is anticipated that trout permit sales would increase but any amount that would accrue to the wildlife fee fund is purely speculative at this time. Otherwise, no substantial economic impact to the department, other state agencies or members of the public is anticipated.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None.