

## 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 2008-2009 firearm, muzzleloader and archery deer seasons. There are several changes from the 2007-2008 seasons as a result of legislation passed by the 2007 Legislature, effective for 2008-2009 seasons. First, season dates are slightly modified. The archery season has days added to the front end of the season and muzzleloader season opens concurrently with the opening of archery season and runs for 2 weeks. The youth/disabled season opens before any season and lasts for 9 days instead of 3 days. Second, resident firearms or muzzleloader either-species, either-sex permits shall be valid in larger units and the muzzleloader permits will be available over the counter. Third, resident archery permits shall be statewide. Fourth, game tags are no longer available and have been replaced with whitetail antlerless permits. Finally, nonresident permits will be available as a general permit and if drawn, will be the equipment type of the applicant's choice. Nonresident permits shall be valid in one unit and one adjacent unit of the applicant's choice.

**FEDERAL MANDATES:** None

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** If the economic impact to the department, the general public, and other agencies from the 2008-09 seasons were to be similar to the estimate for the 2007-2008 seasons, total revenue to the department from the sale of all resident, nonresident, and landowner/tenant deer permits is estimated to be approximately \$8,000,000.

Approximately 415,000 days of hunting activity by 83,000 hunters are anticipated. A 2001 survey conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that big game hunters spent approximately \$512 per year on trip and equipment expenditures, thus the 2008 deer seasons in Kansas are anticipated to generate approximately \$42.5 million worth economic benefit to businesses providing big game goods and services. No other economic impact to state agencies is anticipated.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:** None