

115-4-4. Big game; legal equipment and taking methods. (a) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game archery season shall consist of the following:

(1) Archery equipment.

(A) No bow or arrow shall have any electronic device attached to the bow or arrow that controls the flight of the arrow. Devices that may be attached to a bow or arrow shall include lighted pin, dot, or holographic sights; illuminated nocks; rangefinders; film or video cameras; locking draws; and radio-frequency location devices.

(B) Each arrow used for hunting shall be equipped with a broadhead point incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded. A big game hunter using archery equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

(2) Crossbows using arrows that are equipped with broadhead points incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded.

(A) A big game hunter using crossbow equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

(B) No crossbow or arrow shall have any electronic device attached to the crossbow or arrow that controls the flight of the arrow. Devices that may be attached to a crossbow or arrow shall include lighted pin, dot, or holographic sights; illuminated nocks; rangefinders; film or video cameras; and radio-frequency location devices.

(b) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game muzzleloader-only season shall consist of the following:

(1) Archery and crossbow equipment as authorized in subsection (a); and

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(2) muzzleloading rifles, pistols, and muskets that can be loaded with bullets only through the front of the firing chamber and are .40 inches in diameter bore or larger. Only tumble-on-impact, hard-cast solid lead, conical lead, or sabot bullets shall be used with muzzleloading rifles, pistols, and muskets.

(c) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game firearm season shall consist of the following:

- (1) Archery and crossbow equipment as authorized in subsection (a);
- (2) muzzleloader-only season equipment as authorized in subsection (b);
- (3) centerfire rifles and handguns that are not fully automatic, while using only tumble-on-impact, hard-cast solid lead, soft point, hollow point, or other expanding bullets; and
- (4) shotguns using only slugs.

(d)(1) Each individual hunting deer or elk during a firearms deer or elk season and each individual assisting an individual hunting deer or elk as authorized by K.A.R. 115-4-2 or K.A.R. 115-18-15 during a firearms deer or elk season shall wear outer clothing of a bright orange color commonly referred to as daylight fluorescent orange, hunter orange, blaze orange, or safety orange. This bright orange color shall be worn as follows:

(A) A hat or other garment upon the head with the exterior of not less than 50 percent of the bright orange color, an equal portion of which is visible from all directions; and

(B) at least 100 square inches of the bright orange color that is on the front of the torso and is visible from the front and at least 100 square inches that is on the rear of the torso and is visible from the rear.

(2) Lures, decoys except live decoys, and nonelectric calls shall be legal while hunting

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big game.

(3) Any individual may use blinds and stands while hunting big game.

(4) Optical scopes or sights that project no visible light toward the target and do not electronically amplify visible light or detect infrared light or thermal energy may be used.

(5) Any range-finding device, if the device does not project visible light toward the target, may be used.

(6) Devices capable of dispensing lethal, debilitating, or immobilizing chemicals to take big game animals shall not be used.

(e) Shooting hours for deer, antelope, and elk during each day of any deer, antelope, or elk hunting season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

(f) Horses and mules may be used while hunting big game, except that horses and mules shall not be used for herding or driving big game.

(g) Firearm report-suppressing devices may be used.

(h) Handguns may be possessed during all big game seasons. However, no handgun shall be used to take deer except as legal equipment specified in subsection (c) during a big game firearms season.

(i) Dogs may be used to retrieve dead or wounded big game animals if the following requirements are met:

(1) Each dog shall be maintained on a handheld leash at all times while tracking the big game animal.

(2) An individual tracking big game animals outside of legal shooting hours shall not carry any equipment capable of harvesting the big game animal.

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(3) Each individual harvesting a big game animal shall be limited to the equipment type for the permit and the season that is authorized.

(4) Each individual participating in the tracking of the big game animal shall have a hunting license, unless the individual is exempt by law or regulation. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. ~~2020-2024~~ Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. ~~2020-Supp.~~ 32-937; effective June 1, 2001; amended April 19, 2002; amended April 22, 2005; amended June 2, 2006; amended April 13, 2007; amended April 11, 2008; amended May 21, 2010; amended April 20, 2012; amended April 19, 2013; amended Sept. 4, 2014; amended April 26, 2019; amended May 22, 2020; amended July 23, 2021-; amended P-_____.)

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Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Agency

Kurtis Wiard, Chief Counsel
Agency Contact

785.296.1032
Contact Phone Number

115-4-4
K.A.R. Number(s)

☒ Permanent ☐ Temporary

Is/Are the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) mandated by the federal government as a requirement for participating in or implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program?

☐ Yes If yes, continue to fill out the remaining form to be included with the regulation packet submitted in the review process to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General. Budget approval is not required; however, the Division of the Budget will require submission of a copy of the EIS at the end of the review process.

☒ No If no, do the total annual implementation and compliance costs for the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), calculated from the effective date of the rule(s) and regulation(s), exceed \$1.0 million or more in implementation and compliance costs that are reasonably expected to be incurred by or passed along to businesses, local governmental units and individuals as a result of the proposed rule and regulation over the initial five-year period following adoption of such rule(s) and regulation(s) (as calculated in Section III, F)?

☐ Yes If “Yes,” then the agency shall not adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s) until the rule(s) and regulation(s) has been ratified by the Legislature with a bill, unless the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are: 1) mandated by the federal government as a requirement for participating in or implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program, as described in K.S.A. 77-416(b)(1)(B), and amendments thereto; 2) temporary rule(s) and regulation(s) adopted pursuant to K.S.A. 77-722, and amendments thereto; or 3) rules and regulations adopted pursuant to K.S.A. 2-3710 (Kansas Agricultural Remediation Board). Continue to fill out the remaining EIS form to be included with the regulation packet in the review process to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General. The submitted EIS will be independently analyzed by the Division of the Budget for approval.

☒ No If no, continue to fill out the remaining form to be included with the regulation packet submitted in the review process to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General. The submitted EIS will be analyzed by the Division of the Budget for approval.

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Section I

Analysis, brief description, and cost and benefit quantification of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s). If the approach chosen by the Kansas agency to address the policy issue is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or of the federal government, the economic impact statement shall include an explanation of why the Kansas agency's rule and regulation differs.

The proposed rule change broadens the types of projectiles that may be used in muzzleloading firearms so that modern, non-lead (non-toxic) projectiles can be used if hunters choose to do so. Lead projectiles will remain legal as well. As a result, Businesses will be able to continue selling lead projectiles and will now be able to add non-lead projectiles to their inventories. As a result, there will be no costs imposed by the regulation, and it will benefit hunters and businesses by allowing a broader use of projectiles.

The proposed rule change aligns Kansas with contiguous states, all of which do not limit muzzleloading projectiles to only lead. There is no applicable federal law.

Section II

Explain whether the proposed rule and regulation is mandated by federal law as a requirement for participating in or implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program and whether the proposed rules and regulations exceed the requirements of applicable federal law.

The proposed rule is not mandated by federal law.

Section III

Agency analysis specifically addressing the following:

- A. The extent to which the rule(s) and regulation(s) will enhance or restrict business activities and growth:

The proposed rule change will not restrict business activity but enhance it. The proposed rule will allow business that currently stock lead muzzleloader projectiles to continue selling them while also allowing them to offer a broader range of muzzleloader projectiles to customers.

- B. The economic effect, including a detailed quantification of implementation and compliance costs, on the specific businesses, sectors, public utility ratepayers, individuals, and local governments that will be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole:

The proposed rule will not impose implementation and compliance costs on businesses or individuals. It will allow hunters to continue using previously purchased lead muzzleloader projectiles while giving them the option of purchasing non-toxic muzzleloading projectiles. Likewise, businesses will not be required to stock different muzzleloader projectiles if they wish to continue selling only lead projectiles.

- C. Businesses that would be directly affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s):

Any business that sells ammunition, particularly muzzleloader projectiles. The proposed regulation will not impose implementation and compliance costs on businesses. It permits them to offer a wider range of muzzleloader projectiles.

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D. Benefits of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) compared to the costs;

The proposed rule will not impose implementation and compliance costs on businesses or individuals. The proposed rule will benefit hunters and businesses by allowing hunters to purchase and businesses to stock a wider variety of munitions. Another benefit is allowing hunters to use a non-toxic (non-lead) projectile if they choose to do so.

E. Measures taken by the agency to minimize the cost and impact of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) on business and economic development within the State of Kansas, local government, and individuals;

The proposed rule will not impose implementation and compliance costs on businesses or individuals.

F. An estimate of the total annual implementation and compliance costs that are reasonably expected to be incurred by or passed along to businesses, local governments, or individuals. *Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized. Implementation and compliance costs determined shall be those additional costs reasonably expected to be incurred and shall be separately identified for the affected businesses, local governmental units, and individuals.*

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$0.00

Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0.00

Costs to Individuals – \$0.00

Total Annual Costs – \$0.00

(sum of above amounts)

Give a detailed statement of the data and methodology used in estimating the above cost estimate.

The proposed rule will not impose implementation and compliance costs on businesses or individuals.

- ☐ Yes If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million or more in implementation and compliance costs over the initial five-year period following adoption of such rule(s) and regulation(s) that are reasonably expected to be incurred by or passed along to businesses, local governmental units and individuals as a result of the proposed rule and regulation, did the agency hold a public hearing to find that the estimated costs have been accurately determined and are necessary for achieving legislative intent? If applicable, document when the public hearing was held, those in attendance, and any pertinent information from the hearing.
- ☐ No
- ☒ Not Applicable

If applicable, click here to enter public hearing information.

Provide an estimate to any changes in aggregate state revenues and expenditures for the implementation of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), for both the current fiscal year and next fiscal year.

The proposed rule will not increase or decrease aggregate state revenues or expenditures.

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Provide an estimate of any immediate or long-range economic impact of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) on any individual(s), small employers, and the general public. If no dollar estimate can be given for any individual(s), small employers, and the general public, give specific reasons why no estimate is possible.

The proposed rule change will not have a significant immediate or long-range impact on individuals, small employers, or the general public. Those individuals who already own lead muzzleloader projectiles can continue using them in the future, and businesses that stock lead muzzleloader projectiles can continue selling them in the future. The rule change simply affords broader use of additional projectiles if individuals or businesses wish to use non-toxic projectiles.

- G. If the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) increases or decreases revenues of cities, counties or school districts, or imposes functions or responsibilities on cities, counties or school districts that will increase expenditures or fiscal liability, describe how the state agency consulted with the League of Kansas Municipalities, Kansas Association of Counties, and/or the Kansas Association of School Boards.

The proposed rule change will not increase or decrease revenues of cities, counties, or school districts. Nor will it impose functions or responsibilities on cities, counties, or school districts.

- H. Describe how the agency consulted and solicited information from businesses, business associations, local governmental units, state agencies, or institutions and members of the public that may be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) or may provide relevant information.

The proposed rule change was discussed at several public meetings held by the agency. The agency also discussed the proposed rule change with hunters, many of which were not aware that the current regulation is limited to the use of lead projectiles. Hunters expressed support for the proposed regulation change. The agency also consulted with businesses, many of which were also not aware that the current rule is limited to the use of lead projectiles. Businesses indicated that they do not anticipate much of an increase in sales because they do not currently sell many of the currently prohibited projectiles.

Section IV

Does the Economic Impact Statement involve any environmental rule(s) and regulation(s)?

- ☐ Yes If yes, complete the remainder of Section IV.
☒ No If no, skip the remainder of Section IV.

- A. Describe the capital and annual costs of compliance with the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), and the individuals or entities who would bear the costs.
- B. Describe the initial and annual costs of implementing and enforcing the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), including the estimated amount of paperwork, and the state agencies, other governmental agencies, or other individuals who will bear the costs.

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- C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, the individuals or entities who will bear the costs and who will be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).
- D. Provide a detailed statement of the data and methodology used in estimating the costs used.

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