

**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 begin on the second Monday following the first Saturday in September and shall be valid through the last day of the same calendar year.

(B) Archery deer permits also shall be valid during the portion of the extended firearm seasons beginning on January 1 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 shall be 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.

(D) The urban antlerless-only white-tailed deer archery season shall begin on the third Monday following January 4 and shall continue through January 31 in all units designated as an urban deer management unit.

(2) Firearm season.

(A) The regular firearm season dates in all deer management units shall begin the Wednesday following Thanksgiving and shall continue for a total of 12 days including the opening day.

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(B) The pre-rut white-tailed deer antlerless-only season in all deer management units shall begin on the Saturday immediately preceding Columbus Day and shall continue for a total of three days including the opening day.

(C) The extended pre-rut white-tailed deer antlerless-only season in deer management unit 12 shall begin the Tuesday immediately following Columbus Day and continue for a total of six days including the opening day.

(D) 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.

(E) The number of firearm deer permits for each management unit shall be 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.

(3) Muzzleloader-only season.

(A) The muzzleloader-only season in all deer management units shall begin on the second Monday following the first Saturday in September and shall continue for a total of 14 days including the opening day. Muzzleloader deer permits shall also be valid during the established firearm seasons using muzzleloader equipment, except that during the portion of the extended firearm season beginning on January 1 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.

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(B) The number of muzzleloader deer permits issued for each management unit shall be 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.

(4) Season for designated persons.

(A) The season for designated persons to hunt deer shall begin on the first Saturday of September and shall continue for a total of 9 days including the opening day.

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

(i) Any person 17 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 3 ~~6, 8, 9, 10, or 17~~, as applicable, shall be valid during an extended antlerless-only firearm season beginning on January 1 and continuing through the first Sunday occurring after the third day in January.

(B) Each unfilled deer permit valid in unit ~~1, 2, 3,~~ 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, ~~11, 14,~~ or 16, as applicable, shall be valid during an extended antlerless-only firearm season beginning January 1 and continuing through the second Sunday occurring after the third day in January.

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(C) Each unfilled deer permit valid in unit ~~10A~~, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, or 19, as applicable, shall be valid in an extended antlerless-only firearm season beginning January 1 and continuing through the third Sunday occurring after the third day in January.

(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 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 ten ~~five~~ antlerless white-tailed deer permits, subject to the following limitations:

(A) One antlerless white-tailed deer permit shall be valid statewide, except in units 1, 2, 17, and 18, including lands managed by the department;

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(B) Four additional antlerless white-tailed deer permits shall be valid in units ~~1, 2, 3,~~ 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 10A, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 19 on lands not managed by the department; and

(C) Nine additional antlerless white-tailed deer permits shall be valid in units 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 19 on lands not managed by the department, except Berentz-Dick, and Elk City Wildlife Areas.

(3) Any resident may obtain no more than one either-species, either-sex permit through the application period specified 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.

(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 shall be valid after January 31 following the date of issuance.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 32-937; effective May 2, 1990; amended May 1, 1991; amended May 1, 1992; amended May 1, 1994; amended May 14, 1997; amended May 1, 1998; amended June 29, 1998; amended May 30, 1999; amended

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May 30, 2000; amended May 30, 2001; amended May 1, 2002; amended May 1, 2003; amended  
May 1, 2004; amended May 1, 2005; amended May 4, 2006; amended May 1, 2007; amended  
May 1, 2008; amended May 1, 2009; amended May 1, 2010; amended May 1, 2011; amended  
May 1, 2012; amended May 1, 2013; amended April 1, 2014; amended April 1, 2015; amended  
April 1, 2016; amended March 28, 2017; amended April 2, 2018; amended April 3, 2019;  
amended April 27, 2020; amended March 31, 2021; amended June 2, 2022; amended Aug. 18,  
2023; amended P-\_\_\_\_\_.)

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# Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Agency

Kurtis Wiard  
Agency Contact

785-296-1032  
Contact Phone Number

115-25-9  
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.

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This regulation sets the dates for statewide and management unit specific deer seasons, specifications for obtaining certain permits, and specifies the number of valid antlerless deer permits a hunter may use in each deer management unit.

## 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.

Not Applicable

## 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;

Potential increases in deer harvest in units with increases in antlerless deer permit availability may see reduced crop damage and deer car crashes, and increased number of deer taken to meat processors. Units with reduced antlerless permit availability could see future positive economic impact but may see reduced immediate economic benefits. Extent of impacts cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

- 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;

None

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

Meat processors that process hunter harvested deer and hunting guides and outfitters that allow their customers to harvest antlerless deer.

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

In deer management units with increasing antlerless permit availability greater numbers of deer may be harvested which may increase deer taken to meat processors and could reduce crop damage and deer car crash rates.

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In units with reduced antlerless permit availability, severely low deer herd sizes may increase with few deer being harvested by hunters which could increase economic benefits in future years with more sizable deer herds which can support greater numbers of permits increasing hunter activities in those areas. Failure to reduce antlerless permit availability in units with undesirably low deer herd sizes could result in loss of all economic benefits of deer hunting when overharvest reduces deer herds below harvestable or viable population levels.

- 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;

None needed

- 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

Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0

Costs to Individuals – \$0

**Total Annual Costs – \$0**

(sum of above amounts)

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

There is no mandatory implementation cost to this regulation. In deer management units with reduced antlerless permits hunters will not be able to buy additional antlerless permits, thus they have a reduced cost. KDWP expects to sell approximately 750 few antlerless permits in western deer management units with reduced antlerless permits. In deer management units with increased antlerless permit availability, hunters may voluntarily purchase more permits. KDWP expects to sell an additional 500-1,000 permits. These estimates are based on license sales data and permit purchasing trends.

- ☐ 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.

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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.

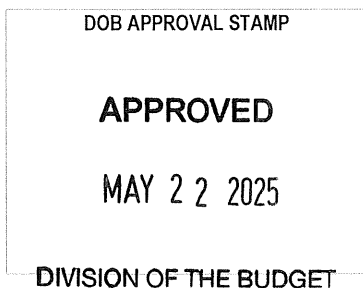
KDWP could see a change in license sales revenues under the proposed regulation. Estimates are based on prior permit sales data and permit purchasing trends. In deer management units with reduced antlerless permit availability, a decrease of approximately \$32,325 in revenue is expected with a reduction of approximately 750 permits. In deer management units with increasing availability of antlerless deer permits, KDWP expects an increase in antlerless permit sales of approximately 500-1,000 additional permits sold. This would result in an increase in revenues of approximately \$21,550 - \$43,100. Thus, the net change to KDWP revenues is likely to be between a decrease in revenue of \$10,775 to an increase of revenue of \$10,775. This change would be expected to be the same for the next fiscal year if comparing no regulation change to implementation of the new regulation.

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.

No estimate is possible. In units with increased antlerless permit availability, hunters may voluntarily purchase more permits if they desire to harvest more deer, but no estimate of the number of additional permits that may be purchased is available nor are estimates of how crop damage, deer car crashes, or increases in deer taken to processors are available. In units with decreased antlerless permit availability, some hunters will spend less on permits and may result in reduced immediate economic effects, but with adequate habitat and conditions, reduced harvest now will increase deer herd size providing greater positive economic impacts in the future when greater herd size supports increased permit availability increasing hunter activity in those areas. Most economic effects are dependent on individuals' voluntary actions.

- 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.

Not Applicable



- 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.

KDWP receives comments from hunters and landowners that are provided as part of the annual deer harvest survey and as part of the periodically implemented landowner deer opinion survey. KDWP discussed permit changes with some guides and outfitters by phone. KDWP also discussed and took public comments about this regulation change during public meetings on Aug. 29, 2024; Oct. 3, 2024; Nov. 21, 2024; Jan. 30, 2025; and March 27, 2025.

## 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.

Click here to enter agency response.

- 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.

Click here to enter agency response.

- 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).

Click here to enter agency response.

- D. Provide a detailed statement of the data and methodology used in estimating the costs used.

Click here to enter agency response.

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