

# **2024-25 SWIFT FOX PELT TAGGING REPORT**

## **PERFORMANCE REPORT STATEWIDE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND SURVEYS**

A Contribution of Pittman-Robertson Funds  
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration

Grant W-39-R-31

### **Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks**

Chris Kennedy  
Secretary

Prepared by

Matt Peek  
Furbearer Biologist

Jake George  
Wildlife Division Director

John Beckmann  
Wildlife Research Supervisor



**July 2025**



## 2024-25 Swift Fox Pelt Tagging Report

Prepared by Matt Peek, Furbearer Biologist



The swift fox (*Vulpes velox*) is classified as a furbearer in Kansas (K.S.A. 32-701 (e)). There has been a harvest season for swift foxes in Kansas since 1982. Since that time, harvest information has been acquired by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) through an annual Furbearer Harvest Survey. Additionally, a pelt tagging program was initiated in 1994 to acquire more precise information on swift fox distribution and harvest.

Any swift fox taken in Kansas must be presented to KDWP for tagging within seven days of the close of the season (K.A.R. 115-5-2). KDWP regional and district offices as well as biologists and conservation officers within or near the swift fox range are provided with tags. The number of swift foxes pelt tagged by KDWP annually since the tagging program began is provided in **Figure 1**. In 2024-25, 89 swift foxes were taken by furharvesters in Kansas.

Swift foxes may be taken using equipment authorized in K.A.R. 115-5-1. **Table 1** provides a breakdown of the methods used to take swift foxes and the primary species being pursued at the time the swift fox was taken. Trapping accounted for 92% of the swift fox harvest this season, and 17% were taken by individuals whose primary target was swift fox.

Twenty furharvesters took swift foxes during the season. Annual season bag per furharvester is provided in **Table 2**.

Swift fox season opened on November 13, 2024. The season closure was extended two years ago from February 15 to the end of February. Date of harvest is provided in **Figure 2**. Harvest by month is as follows: November – 25, December – 23, January – 29, February – 128 (n=89). Three foxes were harvested during the season after February 15.

Swift foxes were harvested from 12 western Kansas counties during the season. Counties from which swift foxes have been harvested since 2013 and the most recent year of harvest is provided in **Figure 3**.

\*\*\*

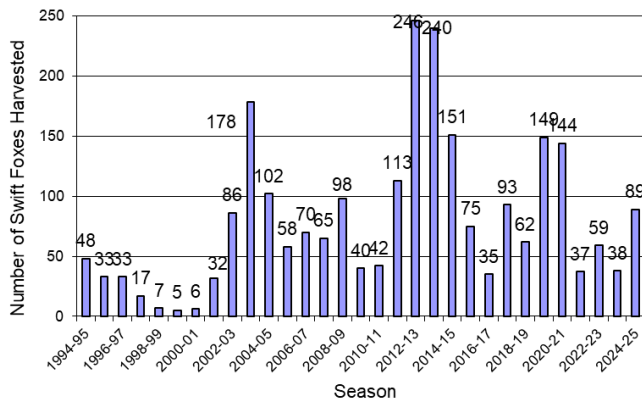


Figure 1. Number of swift foxes pelt tagged annually by KDWP since a tagging program was initiated in 1994.

Table 1. Method of harvest and the primary species being pursued when swift foxes were taken during the 2024-25 furharvesting season in Kansas.

Method of Harvest	Target Species					Subtotal Number Percent	
	Swift Fox	Coyote	Bobcat	Salvage	Unspecified		
Foothold trap	13	66			1	80	90
Cage trap			2			2	2
Rifle	4	1				5	6
Salvage				2		2	2
Subtotal Number	17	67	2	2	1	89	
Percent	19	75	2	2	1		100

Table 2. Total bag of swift foxes by individual furharvesters during the 2024-25 furbearer season in Kansas

Season Bag per Furharvester	Number of Furharvesters	Percent of Furharvesters	Cumulative Percent of Furharvesters	Total number of Swift Fox Taken	Percent of Swift Fox Taken	Cumulative Percent of Swift Fox Taken
1	9	45.0%	45.0%	9	10%	10%
2	6	30.0%	75.0%	12	13%	24%
3	1	5.0%	80.0%	3	3%	27%
5	1	5.0%	85.0%	5	6%	33%
18	1	5.0%	90.0%	18	20%	53%
21	2	10.0%	100.0%	42	47%	100%
	20			89		

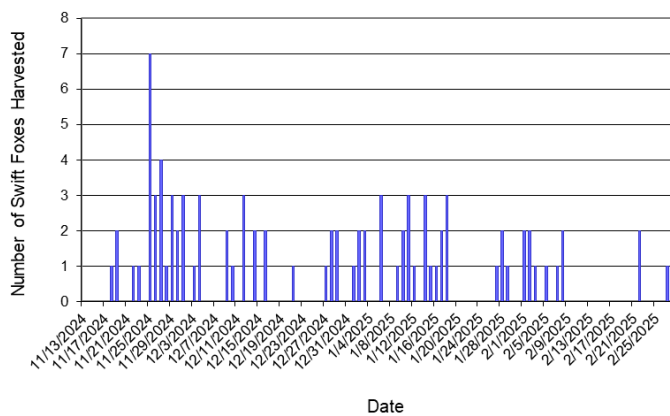


Figure 2. Reported number of swift foxes taken per day during the 2024-25 furharvesting season (n=89).

