

2024-25 Furbearer Harvest Survey

PERFORMANCE REPORT STATEWIDE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND SURVEYS

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The Furbearer Harvest Survey (FHS) is conducted at the end of furharvesting season. In recent years, 50% of the furharvester license holders from each of the nine physiographic provinces in Kansas have been surveyed. Recipient names are randomly selected from an online database of all furharvester license buyers.

Survey questions are divided into 5 sections: general information, trapping activities, hunting activities, running activities, and a special section. Harvest questions were the same from 1983-2008. In 2009, changes in question structure of the trapping section were made to collect more accurate catch-per-unit-effort data (see questions 8-12 in Appendix 1).

Also beginning in 2009, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) began conducting web-based surveys. Not everyone is equipped for online surveys, so a traditional paper survey option has also typically been made available.

Beginning in 2018, licenses became valid for 365 days from date of purchase rather than for a calendar year. Furharvester licenses purchased from November 14, 2023 to March 31, 2025 were valid during the season for at least one day. There were 8388 of these licenses sold, and from them a sample of 4194 (50%) was selected. The online database contained e-mails for 3796 (91%) of these individuals. An initial e-mail was sent on April 3, 2025 containing a link to the survey and a request for participation. A reminder e-mail was sent to nonrespondents on April 8.

A single mailing consisting of a 2-page, 8.5"x11" paper survey (Appendix 1) was sent April 4 to furharvesters without an e-mail on file and April 17 to email nonrespondents. A summary of the survey effort including response rates can be found in Table 1. The number of responses and the response rate of furharvesters within each physiographic province can be found in Figure 1. Respondents to the paper survey were asked to provide an e-mail address for future surveys if they had one. Respondents provided 46 new or updated e-mail addresses.

Information provided by furharvesters is an estimate of their harvest and activities during the season. Results from bobcat, otter, and swift fox pelt tagging have typically been lower than the harvest estimates derived from the FHS, suggesting an overestimate by the FHS. Consequently, harvest figures obtained from this survey should be considered representative of annual harvest indices rather than parameters.

A few extreme outlier harvest responses are removed from the results most years on the basis that they are likely inaccurate (data entry errors) or unique enough that their extrapolation to the population would inordinately increase harvest estimates. For example, one individual reported a number of badgers trapped that would have tripled the statewide harvest estimate for that species. For common species where responses are generally normally distributed, those approximately twice or more than the second highest harvest may be excluded.

Survey results were extrapolated to represent total harvest and activity. Fifty-seven percent of respondents indicated they participated in furharvesting activities during the regular season (i.e.

were active). Estimated furharvester distribution based on the county in which they conducted most of their furharvesting activities can be found in Figure 2.

Furharvesters spent an estimated 153,739 user days hunting and trapping furbearers during the regular harvest season, including 90,834 days trapping and 62,905 days hunting. These values represent a 4% and 10% increase in trapper and hunter user days, respectively, from the previous season. Average days afield by trappers and hunters was 32 and 22, respectively. Participation in various combinations of furharvesting activities is presented in Table 2. Running activities reflected in this table only reflect the running of bobcat, gray fox, and red fox because raccoon and opossum seasons were extended to year-round (new this year). As such, running activity for these two species is now allowed as part of the extended hunting season, and no longer considered “running.”

Harvest, participation, and activity levels for trapping and hunting are presented in Tables 3 and 4, respectively. Trappers account for the majority of harvest of most furbearer species. Coyotes are the main exception, but much of their harvest is by hunters without a furharvester license (coyotes are not a furbearer) and not estimated by this survey. The 2024 Small Game Hunter Activity Survey estimates total harvest by coyote hunters without a furharvester license. That data is not yet available, but coyote hunters far outnumber coyote trappers, and hunters account for most of the coyote harvest annually.

Historical furbearer harvest in Kansas based on the Furbearer Harvest Survey can be found in Table 6. This year, total regular season furbearer harvest (169,520) was up 7% from last season. Most of harvest difference was the result of increases in the estimated harvest of opossum and raccoon which increased by 3902 (21%) and 6448 (9%), respectively.

At the end of each survey, furharvesters are given the opportunity to provide comments on furharvesting in Kansas. These comments can be found in Appendix 2. All comments are read by the furbearer biologist, and an effort is made to respond to direct questions. The special section of this survey and associated comments have significantly informed KDWP's regulations recommendations on these and other issues over the years, and we thank those who take the time to complete their survey and leave us their input.

Table 1. Sample size and response rate of survey methods used to conduct the Furbearer Harvest Survey.

	Number	Non-deliverables	Response Rate	
			Number	Percent
E-mail	3796	71	1068	28.7
Paper survey	3206 ^a	46	628	19.6
Total	4194	4 ^b	1696	40.5

^a Sent to those without e-mails and e-mail nonrespondents.

^b Includes only those without a valid e-mail or mailing address.

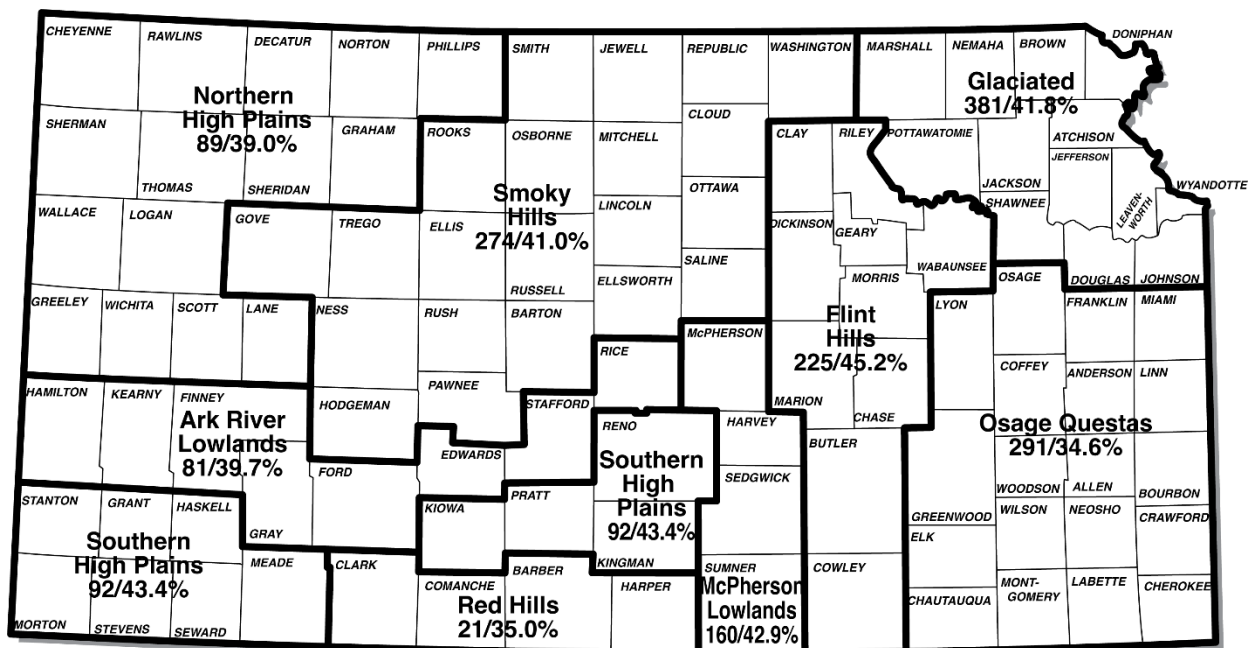


Figure 1. The number of survey respondents (number) and the response rate of furharvesters (percent) living within each physiographic province in Kansas. In addition, 82 nonresidents responded resulting in a 53% response rate that group.

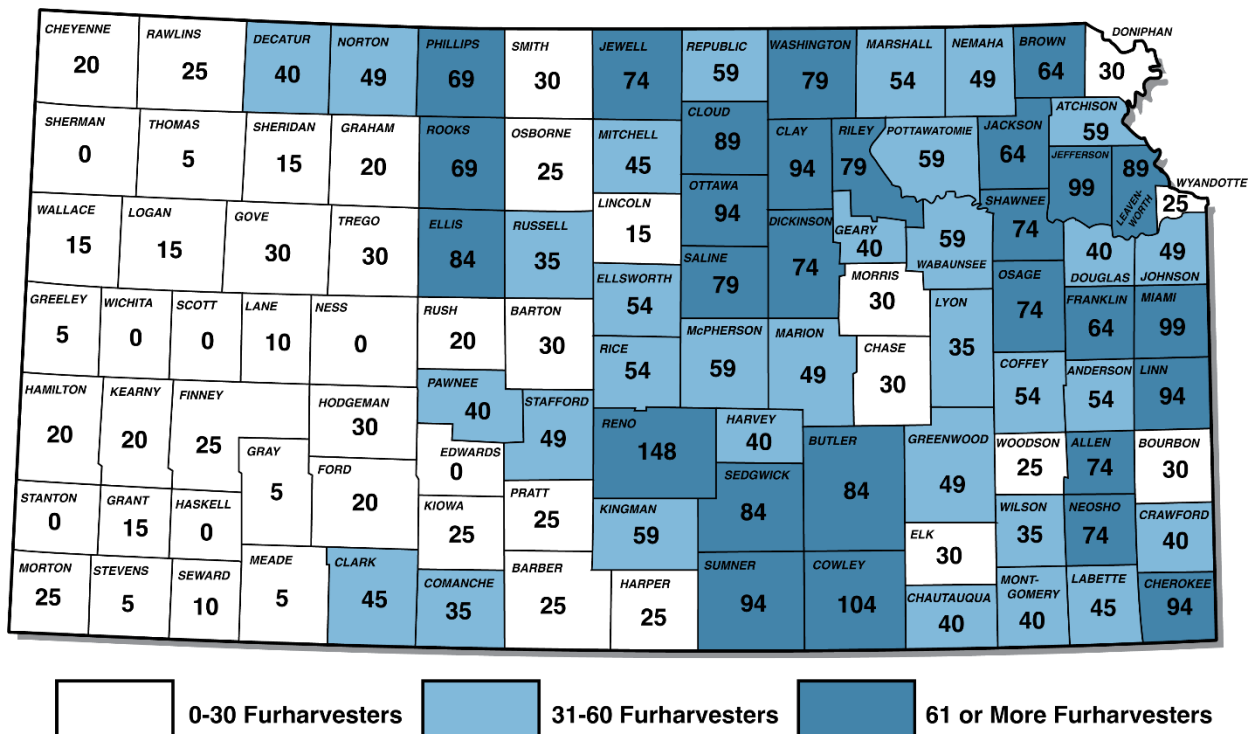


Figure 2. Estimated furharvester distribution in Kansas based on the county in which active survey respondents conducted most of their furharvesting activities.

Table 2. Estimated number and percent of 2024-25 season furharvester license holders (n=8388) who participated in various furharvesting activities.

Activity	Number of Furharvesters	Percent of Furharvesters
Inactive	3605	43.0
Trap only	1445	17.2
Hunt only	2121	25.3
Run only	0	0.0
Trap and hunt	1187	14.2
Trap and run	0	0.0
Hunt and run	20	0.2
Trap, hunt and run	10	0.1
Total Participation		
Total trappers	2642	31.5
Total hunters	3337	39.8
Total runners	30	0.4

Table 3. Harvest, participation, and activity levels for trappers in Kansas during the 2024-25 harvest season.

Species	Survey Respondents Who Pursued (n)	Estimated Harvest	% of Trappers Who Pursued	Ave Traps/Day	Captures/100 Trap Days	Maximum Harvest	Ave Harvest/Trapper
Badger	87	890	16	11.4	5.7	20	2.1
Beaver	147	6,632	28	5.2	13.5	150	9.1
Bobcat	217	4,204	41	12.1	1.9	87	3.9
Coyote	289	17,726	55	13.4	5.0	250	12.4
Red Fox	42	658	8	6.6	9.6	65	3.2
Gray Fox	3	10	1	2.0	0.0	1	0.7
Swift Fox	5	148	1	4.3	3.2	22	6
Mink	8	89	2	7.7	3.1	12	2.3
Muskrat	32	1,098	6	6.6	24.7	50	6.9
Opossum	329	20,273	62	8.9	6.4	350	12.5
Otter	46	514	9	5.4	4.2	10	2.3
Raccoon	462	53,335	87	11.6	13.5	600	23.3
Skunk	213	8,526	40	10.4	4.6	126	8.1
Weasel	1	0	0	2.0	0.0	0	0

Table 4. Harvest, participation, and activity levels for hunters in Kansas during the 2024-25 harvest season.

Species	Survey Respondents Who Pursued (n)	Estimated Harvest	% of Hunters Who Pursued	Harvest/100 Days	Maximum Harvest	Ave Harvest/Hunter
Badger	25	178	4	54.6	6	1.4
Bobcat	212	900	32	14.5	12	0.9
Coyote	555	28,789	83	71.2	231	10.5
Red Fox	23	188	3	46.1	11	1.7
Gray Fox	5	0	1	0.0	0	0.0
Swift Fox	5	20	1	20.6	2	0.8
Opossum	84	2,067	13	80.8	22	5.0
Raccoon	310	22,142	46	180.6	250	14.4
Skunk	47	1,133	7	86.9	30	4.9

Table 5. Historical harvest of furbearers in Kansas based on furbearer harvest survey.

Seasons	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat Tagging *	Bobcat	Coyote	Gray Fox	Red Fox	Swift Fox Tagging *	Swift Fox	Mink	Muskrat	Opossum	Otter Tagging*	Otter	Raccoon	Striped Skunk	Weasel
1969-70	311	8583		373	9758	81	193		closed	2189	43773	10452			63004	2466	28
1970-71									closed								
1971-72									closed								
1972-73	305	5178		458	13385	102	508		closed	1508	27828	11421			46101	3174	10
1973-74									closed								
1974-75									closed								
1975-76	1202	6484		1454	30150	539	638		closed	1875	51083	45994			102760	8703	25
1976-77									closed								
1977-78	4054	5826		1705	35138	141	703		closed	1764	38167	45625			74731	9824	
1978-79	4530	5315	825	1705	50195	193	533		closed	2192	36639	51156			101450	15184	
1979-80	5882	19140	1050	1955	51380	245	888		closed	3378	75962	56937			133311	23297	
1980-81	2501	14939	1027	1966	35238	274	645		closed	3304	59063	49741			94754	16495	
1981-82	2673	5440	882	1730	32310	171	672		closed	2342	30703	59916			93823	15917	
1982-83	3708	7653	1014	1686	36526	247	795		1163	3583	49528	58138			87425	11453	
1983-84	1754	8908	1334	2471	31466	93	1193		740	1600	21791	19347			67042	4985	
1984-85	1774	11814	1869	3212	33066	122	876		426	1937	24863	31142			108694	6806	
1985-86	1348	15543	1916	2837	34418	117	487		314	1507	15241	30955			96708	6909	
1986-87	3009	14732	2720	4522	40999	107	961		1161	2571	25561	59190			119488	10460	21
1987-88	2402	12474	3192	4805	41460	123	1113		650	2619	33814	54714			118878	8847	23
1988-89	1417	13989	2878	4492	25387	235	672		442	1545	22822	24117			72028	4233	5
1989-90	476	9607	1560	2482	15314	30	462		264	630	7114	9775			38274	2043	4
1990-91	442	5214	1409	1694	11968	34	242		76	423	4083	5493			27137	1258	0
1991-92	571	5429	2043	2453	15941	77	509		93	713	3043	12427			43977	3576	0
1992-93	687	3044	1618	2307	16076	59	328		64	252	2115	8101			33710	3125	2
1993-94	649	5288	2413	2900	16595	55	731		73	368	2571	12727			48203	2610	146
1994-95	781	12123	3590	5352	17022	204	1003	48	34	746	6215	19692			64951	4131	9
1995-96	522	8089	3020	3932	14009	99	753	33	45	291	3598	16120			58600	2877	2
1996-97	874	10653	4296	7041	19794	179	1232	33	144	473	5451	29980			93190	8065	40
1997-98	876	13337	3347	6233	14398	71	823	17	25	718	9679	49437			108727	9323	101
1998-99	958	8606	2385	3938	12125	152	490	7	15	419	7445	26512			71709	6375	107
1999-00	451	8845	2121	3578	11920	191	455	5	0	257	7252	13051			51307	3887	11
2000-01	1094	9388	2731	4018	15054	97	559	6	24	164	3964	14294			56143	5460	0
2001-02	434	9617	3597	5286	15329	35	584	32	0	180	3348	17080			72918	5559	0
2002-03	910	7716	5054	6521	18577	62	578	86	203	246	4596	32595			79538	10255	0
2003-04	1760	7250	5963	9654	25407	64	625	178	470	303	2823	42125			94506	10952	40
2004-05	1469	7737	5353	7062	23322	140	783	86	129	230	4845	43356			84132	10910	0
2005-06	1312	7186	6021	7458	21861	89	459	58	135	206	5733	38909			66458	12730	3
2006-07	1882	11028	7234	9998	32494	179	774	70	309	439	8150	46965			87241	15583	0
2007-08	2020	6658	5668	9381	29305	84	976	65	136	209	5120	51138			93687	17669	4
2008-09	1619	6855	4080	5944	27100	84	707	98	27	177	5767	46113			85061	16748	0
2009-10	1109	4572	1944	3210	21554	67	426	39	130	179	5681	18763			41355	7384	0
2010-11	1898	9774	4809	8098	39152	43	988	43	126	371	15193	48296			97858	12755	5
2011-12	1591	9191	5918	7412	36460	54	732	113	325	210	8282	43758	127	139	101924	14060	8
2012-13	2017	9535	5926	8164	52681	90	898	246	620	225	5396	43844	128	196	121514	17553	0
2013-14	1661	8063	4990	7431	41694	51	838	239	252	154	5590	46584	158	175	117069	16101	5
2014-15	1794	7146	3044	4353	48444	18	801	151	349	235	9129	43138	169	216	93437	13022	0
2015-16	1602	6262	2319	3882	44124	55	427	75	100	226	5228	24538	115	186	51250	9994	0
2016-17	1014	3987	2563	3500	36269	0	391	35	105	100	6094	19836	132	187	39708	5929	0
2017-18	1122	4459	3900	4935	47499	12	512	93	142	98	5411	18442	167	197	38746	5187	0
2018-19	1406	6776	3065	4955	53657	5	507	62	65	293	7530	19359	128	284	39370	5588	5
2019-20	1619	5627	2933	4598	63441	12	571	149	410	39	3586	15477	179	296	49649	6553	0
2020-21	2328	6944	2454	3755	60043	7	649	144	409	307	5039	12611	179	437	39758	5735	0
2021-22	1103	6110	2384	4565	51087	0	330	37	127	25	2987	11838	202	433	44816	4838	0
2022-23	948	4990	2569	4147	42138	9	751	59	133	78	2362	14846	298	490	50936	5891	9
2023-24	1143	6716	2185	4203	45648	74	508	38	173	30	2124	18438	262	621	69029	9111	5
2024-25	1068	6632	2664	5104	46515	10	846	89	168	89	1098	22340	259	514	75477	9659	0

Special Section

The “Special Section” of the Furbearer Harvest Survey changes annually and is used to collect information and opinions from furharvesters on a diversity of topics that relate to furharvesting or furbearers. Past surveys have addressed subjects such as rare furbearer status, furharvester recruitment, and ownership and use of fur products. This year’s special section inquired about harvest and activities that occurred during the new extended raccoon and opossum hunting and trapping season. This season encompasses the entire time period outside of the regular furharvesting season – effectively allowing raccoon and opossum to be hunted and trapped year-round, though legal trapping equipment is limited during this extended season.

An estimated 1574 furharvesters (19%) participated in the extended season accounting for an estimated harvest of 5,213 opossums and 23,363 raccoons. Added to the regular season harvest of these species provided in Tables 3-5, the extended season was responsible for 18.9% and 23.6% of the total opossum and raccoon harvest, respectively. Harvest, participation, and activity levels of those trapped, hunted, and treed furbearers with hounds are found in Tables 6-8 below, respectively.

Table 6. Harvest, participation, and activity levels for those who trapped during the extended harvest season.

Species	Estimated Participants	% of Furharvesters Who Pursued	Estimated Harvest	Ave Traps/Day	Captures/100 Trap Days	Maximum Harvest	Ave Harvest/Trapper
Opossum	598	7.1	3,403	8.1	3.9	52	5.7
Raccoon	638	7.6	12,439	8.1	18.9	186	19.5

Table 7. Harvest, participation, and activity levels for those who hunted during the extended harvest season.

Species	Estimated Participants	% of Furharvesters Who Pursued	Estimated Harvest	Harvest/100 Days	Maximum Harvest	Ave Harvest/Hunter
Opossum	628	7.5	1,810	22.4	100	2.9
Raccoon	737	8.8	10,925	184.1	200	14.8

Table 8. Treeing success, participation, and activity levels for those who treed furbearers during the extended harvest season.

Species	Estimated Participants	% of Furharvesters Who Pursued	Estimated Number Treed*	Take/100 Days*	Maximum Take*	Ave Take/Runner*
Opossum	40	0.5	188	48.9	10	4.8
Raccoon	213	2.5	10,045	141.1	250	47.2

*Treed refers to the number of animals treed with dogs but not harvested.

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Appendix 1.

Paper Version of the
2024-25 Furbearer Harvest Survey

2024-25 Furbearer Harvest Survey

Your ID: KDWP #

Dear Fname Lname,
Address
City, State Zip

You have been selected to participate in the Kansas Furbearer Harvest Survey. Your name was randomly chosen from the list of furharvesters who purchased a license in the last year. This survey provides our best estimate of furharvester activity and is used to guide furbearer management decisions in Kansas.

Please complete the survey within 7 days and return in the postage paid envelope, or use this QR code to complete online (preferable!). Please complete the survey even if you did not furharvest this year. Thank you for your participation!



Matt Peek, KDWP furbearer biologist

Instructions:

- Estimate your harvest activities even if you can't remember the exact numbers.
- Include your harvest information only. Do not include a hunting/trapping partner's take.
- (new) You will be asked about your harvest during the new EXTENDED (Mar 1-Nov 12) raccoon/possum season in the last section of this survey. Please **DO NOT** include these activities in the sections on the REGULAR (traditional) harvest seasons (Questions 1-20).

1. Did you hunt or trap furbearers in Kansas during the REGULAR 2024-25 seasons, or did you run furbearers with dogs during the running season in 2024?

☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to question 21.)

2. In which county did you do most of your furharvesting in 2024-25? _____

3. Did you **TRAP** furbearers in Kansas during the 2024-25 season? (Questions about HUNTING & RUNNING furbearers will follow. This question is asking only if you TRAPPED.)

☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to question 13.)

4. How many of each did you harvest by **TRAPPING** in Kansas during the REGULAR 2024-25 season? (Enter "0" for those you tried to harvest but didn't catch any.)

Badger: _____	Coyote: _____	Swift Fox: _____	Otter: _____
Beaver: _____	Gray Fox: _____	Mink: _____	Raccoon: _____
Bobcat: _____	Red Fox: _____	Muskrat: _____	Striped Skunk: _____
	Opossum: _____	Weasel: _____	

5. How many total calendar days did you TRAP furbearers or coyotes in Kansas during the REGULAR 2024-25 season? *The regular trapping season was 111 days (Nov 13-Feb 28) for all furbearers except beaver and otter, which were 142 days (Nov 13-Mar 31).*

Total days: _____

6. How many calendar DAYS did you trap for each species during the REGULAR season? (Enter "0" if none.) *Count any day you had sets out that were intended or likely to catch that species. For example, if you caught opossums in your raccoon sets, record your raccoon trapping days for opossum also.*

Badger: _____ days	Opossum: _____ days
Bobcat: _____ days	Raccoon: _____ days
Coyote: _____ days	Striped Skunk: _____ days

7. During the time you trapped, how many TRAPS did you have set per day on average for each species? *Count any trap that was intended or likely to catch that species. For example, if you caught opossums in your raccoon sets, record your raccoon trap numbers for opossum also.*

Badger: _____ traps	Opossum: _____ traps
Bobcat: _____ traps	Raccoon: _____ traps
Coyote: _____ traps	Striped Skunk: _____ traps

8. Did you set traps specifically for BEAVER?

☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to question 9.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for BEAVER? _____ days

b. During this time, how many BEAVER TRAPS did you have set per day on average? _____ traps

9. Did you set traps specifically for OTTER?

☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to question 10.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for OTTER? _____ days

b. During this time, how many OTTER TRAPS did you have set per day on average? _____ traps

10. Did you set traps specifically for RED FOX, GRAY FOX, or SWIFT FOX?

☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to question 11.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for each FOX species? (Enter "0" if none.) *Count any day you had sets out that were intended or likely to catch that species.*

Red fox: _____ days
Gray fox: _____ days
Swift fox: _____ days

b. During the time you trapped each species, how many TRAPS did you have set per day on average? *Count any trap that was intended or likely to catch that species.*

Red fox: _____ traps
Gray fox: _____ traps
Swift fox: _____ traps

11. Did you set traps specifically for MUSKRAT or MINK?

☐ Yes ☒ No (If no, skip to question 12.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for MUSKRAT or MINK? (Enter "0" if none.) *Count any day you had sets out that were intended or likely to catch that species.*

Muskrat: _____ days

Mink: _____ days

b. During the time you trapped MUSKRAT or MINK, how many TRAPS did you have set per day on average? *Count any trap that was intended or likely to catch that species.*

Muskrat: _____ traps

Mink: _____ traps

12. Did you set traps specifically for WEASEL?

☐ Yes ☒ No (If no, skip to question 13.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for WEASEL? _____ days

b. During this time, how many WEASEL TRAPS did you have set per day on average? _____ traps

13. Did you **HUNT** for furbearers or coyotes in Kansas during the REGULAR 2024-25 season?

☐ Yes ☒ No (If no, skip to question 17.)

14. How many of each did you harvest by **HUNTING** in Kansas during the REGULAR 2024-25 season? (Enter "0" for those you hunted but didn't harvest.)

Badger: _____ Gray Fox: _____ Opossum: _____

Bobcat: _____ Red Fox: _____ Raccoon: _____

Coyote: _____ Swift Fox: _____ Striped Skunk: _____

15. How many total calendar days did you HUNT furbearers or coyotes in Kansas during the REGULAR 2024-25 season? (*maximum 111 days; Nov 13-Feb 28*).

Total days: _____ (must be from 1 to 111 days)

16. How many calendar DAYS did you HUNT for each species? (Enter "0" if none.)

Badger: _____ days Gray Fox: _____ days Opossum: _____ days

Bobcat: _____ days Red Fox: _____ days Raccoon: _____ days

Coyote: _____ days Swift Fox: _____ days Striped Skunk: _____ days

17. Did you **RUN** bobcats, red fox, or gray fox in Kansas during the 2024 running season (Mar 1-Nov 8, 2024)? (Note: There is no longer a running season on raccoon or opossum since these dates are now covered by the new extended harvest season.)

☐ Yes ☒ No (If no, skip to question 21.)

18. How many of each did you "tree" during the 2024 running season in Kansas? (Enter "0" for those you hunted but didn't tree.)

Bobcat: _____ Red Fox: _____ Gray Fox: _____

19. How many total calendar days did you RUN furbearers in Kansas during the 2024 season? (*maximum 253 days; Mar1-Nov8*).

Total days: _____

20. How many calendar DAYS did you RUN each species? (Enter "0" if none.)

Bobcat: _____ days Red Fox: _____ days Gray Fox: _____ days

Special Section – Extended Raccoon/Opossum Season – This section is asking **ONLY** about your activities during the new extended raccoon/opossum season. Do not include your activities from during the regular (traditional) harvest season.

21. Did you hunt, trap, or run raccoons or opossums during the new EXTENDED, Mar 1-Nov 12, 2024 harvest season?

☐ Yes ☒ No (If no, skip to question 24.)

22. Please tell us about your **trapping** activities during the EXTENDED season here.

a. How many raccoons did you harvest by trapping during the extended season? _____

b. How many opossums did you harvest by trapping during the extended season? _____

c. How many total days did you have traps set during the extended season? _____

d. How many traps did you have set per day on average during the extended season? _____

23. Please tell us about your **hunting and running** activities during the EXTENDED season here.

a. How many raccoons did you harvest by hunting during the extended season? _____

b. How many opossums did you harvest by hunting during the extended season? _____

c. How many total days did you hunt during the extended season? _____

d. How many raccoons did you tree with dogs and not harvest during this season? _____

e. How many opossums did you tree with dogs and not harvest during this season? _____

24. If you have an e-mail address and are willing to receive a direct link to surveys such as this in the future, should your name be selected, please include it here: _____

25. If you have any comments or suggestions on furbearer management in KS, you can provide them below or on additional paper. Thank you for your time and interest in Kansas furharvesting.

Appendix 2.

Furharvester Comments from the
2024-25 Furbearer Harvest Survey

Comments
1) Raccoons are terribly thick. The extended furbearer season is a first step. The next step would be to declassify them as a furbearer so that a furbearers license is not needed. Or perhaps issue a one week license where furbearer education is not needed for visitors to hunt the raccoon. Calling them a furbearer kept me from hunting them with out of state friends on my farm. 2) I watch my game cameras closely. Raccoons are still thick. Coyotes were second and I have seen them carrying pheasant and chasing deer on videos. 3) I had bobcats within range while deer hunting. I chose not harvest the animal. I see a lot of bobcats on the cameras. They are seen carrying rabbits, packrats and squirrels. 4) I saw more pheasants and quail on camera. 5) Since my creek dried up in drought, I no longer see beaver, mink, or muskrat on the camera. 6) Striped skunks are common. Red squirrels common. Possums common. 7) I do see an occasional badger. 8) I also see groundhogs from time to time.
1.Good to see the extended season on coons. 2.Stop baiting deer it creates a concentration of prey & predators!!
A night vision season for raccoons and bobcats would do a lot of good for managing the overpopulation. The raccoon and bobcat numbers are both thriving in eastern Kansas and the cover they frequent is also the only places our quail and turkeys have left to live. There isn't enough people trapping but a large number of people own night vision equipment now. Therefore it seems a night vision season to include all furbearers makes the most sense to try and offset the lack of trappers in the new generation.
Access to land is the biggest obstacle to all the outdoor activities. Outfitters and land leases have destroyed these, especially hunting for the average Kansan. Kdwpt should ban technology such as live scope, feeders, trail cameras, night vision and the like. Get us back to free chase. We had more wildlife and more support for these activities from the public back when everyone was an outdoorsman. I've witnessed the crashes in Turkey, mule deer and pheasant. Waterfowl are being wiped out by bird flu as we speak. Furbearers will follow suit when the population peaks and distemper, mange, rabies and the like explode. The animals belong to the people of the state, but sadly are under the control of the big farmer, outfitter, technology scam which is NOT in the best interest of conservation.
Add raccoon to night hunting season, open up coyote & coon year around for night hunting. Way to many coyotes and coons, I can't even hunt turkey on our ground anymore due to numbers being extremely low, use to see turkeys by the hundreds when I was a kid now it's 8-10 on a good day.
Add raccoons to the thermal season if you really want to put a dent in the numbers. Add skunks to the year round season. Kind of hard to trap raccoons and opossums and not catch skunks and pretty hard to release them.
After hunting coyotes and bobcats for over 10 years in Kansas I've noticed a significant shift since night hunting was introduced. Coyotes and cats don't seem to respond to daytime calling at all and are very shy at night. I feel this is due to too much pressure and people shooting them at night wherever they see them whenever they have permission or not. We have land leased for hunting that no one else hunts coyotes or cats on and you tell they've been hunted on those properties. I feel night hunting should be taken or away or more heavily monitored. I also feel that even tho not legal, people are more than likely shooting cats at night while hunting coyotes.
All beaver trapping was passive ADC work
All the days I hunted coyotes were at night but I didn't see a night selection.
Although I did not participate in the new extended season, I think it's a great idea and should be extended again next year in my opinion.
Anyone one that owns over 80 acres of lands should have to trap or pay someone to trap and lower our property taxes to pay for it. Then we would have quail and turkeys again.
Appreciate the extended season.
As a rancher, I hope the thermal season start date of Jan. 1 stays the same. Also feel free to add more time on the end of thermal season.
Bigger limits or longer seasons on otters.
Bounty on nest predators/longer season.
Can we make it where we can use artificial light for coon like for coyotes. Also make the coyote and coon artificial light season year around.
Can't hunt anymore, poor health. Take off mailing list
cat season could be extended as cats are late primers. same with badgers. mange in coyotes and also distemper and parvo are still prevalent
Continue the raccoon, opossum extended season. Please extend coyote night aid season to start Nov. 1 and go through Mar. 31, if this conflict or rises concern with deer perhaps deliberate on a "Split season" as I'm sure most Kansas residents would agree with this suggestion.
Continue to manage the nest-raiders.
Coon calling has been far more effective than trapping. I would fully support year round thermal coyote season excluding deer season. Also suggest adding raccoons to the thermal list, rimfire only. Raccoons are a bigger problem than coyotes in my opinion, would highly help ground nesting game birds.
coon population is extremely thick, in brown and Nemaha counties, beat I can run one over every night!
Coyote pelts have no value - buyers won't even accept them. The BOUNTY SYSTEM needs to be put back in place in order to manage numbers. Otherwise livestock owners will be forced to take extreme measures to protect their livestock. These extreme measures are harmful to other wildlife.
Coyote season with night optics needs to be all year long.
Didn't have time to trap. Mainly beaver if I do trap.
do away with the thermo night calling i pay for my trapping license to harvest these animals and also hunt them in the day time what benefit does the state get from this also do away with deer baiting that's not hunting can't do it with geese
Do not extend the night hunting season
Due to deaths in the family I was unable to trap this season as normal
Due to the amount of otter sign and how easy it was to catch them in Woodson County I feel the limit should be increased, especially since three of the neighboring counties have a higher limit. I had to end my beaver trapping season early, because I filled my otter limit.
Due to the low fur prices, the coon population in our area has probably more than doubled in pass 10 years and I feel that has directly affected our turkey population where we once had flocks of a 100 are now down to 8 or 10 birds. All that to say I feel if Kansas were to put a bounty on coons it would inspire more people to do more hunting and trapping and bring that balance back that we once had. I appreciate what you guys are doing and if I can help in some way give me a call at (number withheld).
Extend night vision season. Start earlier
Extend thermal coyote season to all year long
Extend thermal season!
Feel free to reach out to me about the night hunting season. I think there are ways to improve it. (number withheld)

General concerns about the possible impact of the coyote night hunting season on bobcats. Not in favor of the extended raccoon and opossum season. Nuisance work has always been allowed with correct permission from conservation officers. There is no reason to intentionally harvest animals at a time when they have no practical use. I would be more likely to support a season that aligned with the dates of the primary nesting season (April 15 - July 15 approx) with sufficient scientific evidence showing predation management to have a positive impact on nest success.
Get rid of the night season or make it by visible, artificial light only.
Glad raccoon season is open for good makes it nice running hounds
Glad to see the extended season on opossum and raccoons.
Glad to see the extended season.
Glad we have extended trapping season for opossums and coons
Got permit, never went out
Got the license to try and hunt in a church fundraiser and never made it.
Great experience in Kansas. This survey is exceptional as well. My interaction with KDWP Warden (name withheld) was also exceptional. Please continue with the opportunity for out of state trappers. Continue with your data reporting as well. As a warden in PA, it is invaluable.
Had knee replacement surgery and did not hunt this year.
Health issues kept me out of the field this year.
Help and support coyote hounding.
Hey I've seen several sick coon this spring. A67, I've been hunting a hound treeing some coon - seen dead coon on the creeks. Could you give me a call for details. I'd like to know if any have been tested - is my hound at risk?Thanks.
Higher population in coyote's and raccoon's, negatively effect the deer population and health, as well at the bird population such as pheasants and turkey. Fur hides used be sold for a margin, and the past several years fur hides only sell for \$1. Less hunters will hunt or trap these animals because of that, so the predator population will thrive, and the deer and bird population will suffer. The bird population has decreased in my perspective, to the point where I don't hunt birds in Kansas anymore, this is sad.
Hope all is good. So to start this thermal stuff is getting out of hands people are hunting from there trucks going on properties without permission. When the snow was on. I seen where tracks in snow on just about all landowners I trap on and I'm the only person that has permission. With that said guess you need more NIGHT patrol guys. Instead of rifle make it shotgun only. Also last year I called about my beaver harvest think I caught about 20 beavers all of which were all adults about 30-60lbs each no young were caught. Also all ponds that had otters on them had dead RED EARED slider turtles shells around the ponds beside dead fish. So with the thermal my numbers are way down. For years caught over 100 coyotes a year my numbers are down also couldn't catch a coyote close to any road the coyotes will figure it out. But I don't have thermal and don't plan on getting any. Thanks for your time.
hunted 3 days with an outfitter who has an extremely high success rate on bobcats and didn't even see one. the outfitter said he has never seen such low cat numbers in his 20 years of being there. I wasn't the first client of that year to not be successful either. I was told by the outfitter that he was going to call all his future customers and give them the option to cancel their hunt for this year due to extremely low cat numbers.
Hunting is a heritage of many lifetimes. Not a video game with a rifle.
I always buy a license in hopes that I will be able to hunt, but I did not get to.
I am a big thermal hunter as well you really should think about opening Coon up with the coyote season January 1st to March 31st would have very good results on management.
I am opposed to extending the nightvision season for coyotes or adding any other species. I know that one of the main issues voiced was from livestock owners wanting to have it during calving season but they already have multiple avenues to control problematic coyote populations.
I am sure there is a reason for the length of the night hunting season for coyotes, but please make it longer.
I am thankful that both the racoon and opossum season is extended year round. We use to do a lot of turkey hunting in Kansas, however the number of birds had decreased considerably in the past 5 years or so. The last couple trips we made down for turkey season, we saw very few birds and incredible numbers of raccoons, even during the daylight hours. I made it a point to take the furharvester course and purchase the nonresident license to do my part in helping control the egg-eaters in the area we hunt. The turkeys need all the help they can get. Thank you for extending the season, it provides more opportunity for me to make the trip to enjoy time outdoors in your state.
I appreciate all the biologists I've worked with. I like regular trapping season going to the end of Feb. I like the trapping & snaring laws in KS compared to a lot of other states. Thanks
"I appreciate Kansas' rules and regulations regarding trapping in Kansas. I took up this activity at the request of twin boys who had talked about it during a portion of their elementary school studies. I really enjoyed trapping, and finishing fur, but time and age played a part in the first season I haven't set a trap since I started trapping about 15 years ago (in my mid- 40's). Fur prices were extremely poor, but I never looked at it from a financial perspective, really. It was more about the experience with friends and family, as well as the challenge presented trying to catch various furbearers. Keep up the good work.
"
I appreciate the work you do.
I appreciate you opening up the extended raccoon and opossum season.
I basically buy furharvesters permit as a "by chance" a bobcat wanders by while I'm bowhunting deer.
I believe an extended night hunting season for coyotes would be beneficial.
I believe it was around the 18th of March, 2024 that you opened racoons year round outside of normal fur harvest season. It does not say anything about skunks and Opossums. it is impossible to release a skunk from a coon cuff as I have caught many in coon cuffs along with opossums.
I believe KDWP should invest some time and money into educating outdoorsmen on the positive impact of trapping coons, skunks and opossum as it relates to nesting game birds. I believe this could drastically increase trapper numbers in the state as well as help wild game bird population. Most hunters think killing a bobcat is helping and not realizing a cat eats turkeys one at a time but a skunk or coon eats them 9 at a time in the nest. I believe egg predation is impacting bird numbers more than we think it is.
I believe thermal hunting season should be extended. This would help keep population down, especially on coyotes which are very prevalent in Harvey and Butler County.
I believe this is a great idea having the extended season on raccoons and opossums. I hope we can keep it
I bet I ran 25 over with my pick up on a 2 mile drive over the extended period. Coons are getting thicker than hair on a dogs rear.

I buy a fur harvester license in case I call in a bobcat during the day. I thermal hunt coyotes 99% of the time. I would love to have raccoons included in the night season at least, if not year round at night.
I can't get permission during deer season. The weather after deer season did not encourage me to take my seven year old grandson out. My dog is getting old, not sure how much longer I'll hunt. Especially since hides don't come close to covering dog food costs.
I coon hunt. Don't trap & haven't sold a fur in 25 years.
I did not get a chance to do any fur harvesting, but thanks.
I did not trap, but my friend did on my land. I accompanied him on most trips. He also received the survey & participated in it, covering our activities this year.
I didn't do any trapping this year, health problems.
I didn't do any trapping. I didn't have time to do it and do it properly. If I can't check traps daily, then I won't trap so I haven't done any.
I didn't get out as much as I wanted to but I like the extended season
I do not agree with the extended thermal season
I don't think that all year coyote hunting with thermals is a good idea. I think the coyotes need a break once in a while. I appreciate the opportunities that I have to hunt, fish, and trap in KS. Thank you for all of your hard work.
I don't like night hunting of coyotes. Please reconsider this. Happy coon is all year, will try to trap in future.
I enjoyed the night coyote season.
I fully support the Extended raccoon/opossum harvest Season
I fully support the extended season.. My game cameras tell the story of the infestation of the raccoon and opossum.. The turkey and quail numbers are so low I no longer purchase a turkey tag..
I get the license to help my husband carry his traps. He is 76 with arthritis in his hands. I do none of the trapping. He sends in his survey.
I got my license just in case I got time to trap, but never ended up trapping.
I have noticed there has been a significant decrease in the coyote population. As I coyote hunter one could see 5-10 coyotes per day and now you go 1-2 months without seeing any coyotes.
I have tried online, but it won't complete so sending paper copy. Please consider raccoon in the night hunt, without dogs, as we are over run with them anymore. Thank you.
I hear that night time coyote hunting could possibly be extended. I have mixed feelings about that. I know that it would help control coyote populations possibly better but I feel that the increased pressure year round would make it more difficult for those who want to hunt just the winter months. Thanks
I hunt coyotes during November with my bow if I don't draw a deer tag. I didn't see any coyotes last year, but I saw 6 bobcats . Is it possible to open bobcat season in early November in the future ? Thanks !
I hunt coyotes with a rifle. I tried trapping, but found that not to my liking. To me, it's very cruel and will never be around this again. When I hunt with my bow or a rifle, the animal doesn't suffer much. Leg traps, snares, and such are made to which the animal is suffering. To me it is cruel and not how I thought it would be.
I like ending season at the end of Feb.
I like the extended season.
I love the new extended season its a big win for coonhunters!, it makes training our pups way easier and more effective in the spring and summer months. Thanks
I only hunt 3 or 4 times a year with a friend (name withheld) in Columbus, KS and run dogs. Fun time visiting. Please lower your hunting licenses. Fur is not worth nothing anymore. Thanks.
I only trap or hunt raccoons & opossum around my chicken coop because of predation and egg destruction. That is why I get a furbearer license. The raccoons seem over populated.
I personally believe the night vision permit coyote season should be longer. It's already limited to private ground, and I agree it shouldn't be year round. But I do think it could start in like December, and end in like April. Just so it covers their breeding season a little more.
I personally think furbearers should be able to be taken during the night vision season also
I purchased my permits to pick-up roadkill. I think all trappers should us a sign where a trappers trap at just because getting bird dogs caught in traps. A red or orange flag should be wherever traps are at. Thanks for asking.
I really like the fact that we can now hunt raccoons and possums more time then just furharvester season. I think it will help with the overall numbers to get better control of the population that has been out of whack for atleast a couple of decades. I believe if the we as a state or as a hunter want to control population of any furbearer we need to have extended seasons to also include night hunting coyotes. Even if that would be a change of date for that season from the current time frame to say June till September. In my opinion that would make a bigger impact on the total number of coyotes on the land scape as a whole
I really think you should allow the taking of all fur bearers with a thermal. There are not enough trappers to Keep up with the growth of the coons, skunks and opossums. That along with farming practices in my opinion is why there are no pheasants like we had in the early 80's. We need to set it up more like Nebraska, but yes allow us to kill coons, opossum and skunks year round.
I rode with a person 2x when he ran his traps. I bought a license to be legal.
I see that they are possibly extending the thermal season on coyotes. I am continuing to advocate for thermal to be used on raccoons, opossums, and skunks. These three are a detriment to all ground nesting birds. I hunt them extensively around my home and have seen an increase in the quail population and turkeys. Thank you for your consideration of this and the surveys you send out.
I strongly support the extended raccoon/possum season due to over population of these species. One evening, coming home with a bike, after dark, with only a headlamp, I spotted 4 raccoons and 1 opossum on 1 mile of country road. The only reason I did not trap this year was due to the lack of spare time and fur value. Thank you for your efforts in keeping our furbearer numbers reasonable!
I support the extra season although once turkey and tick season start, my interest starts to wane. I do think it's worth allowing the harvest of racoons 24/7/365.
I thermal hunt. I don't want the season to go year round but would like it to start at little earlier. My suggestion would be to open at the end of rifle deer season in December. With time off during the holidays it would give me a few more opportunities to hunt with my son.
I think that it would be beneficial to have the predator thermal/night vision season changed to year round.
I think that the night time hunting should be extended into April or even to the end of April
I think the coon population has gotten completely out of control and I believe we need to be able to shoot them with thermals as they come in to the call at night. It would be one more way to get people to eliminate them even though they may not all the time since coon is not the target animal.

I think the extended coon & possum season is a very good idea!
I think the extended season is definitely good to help control populations and i look forward to participating in the future
I think the new extended season was a great idea for helping reduce the racoon and possum numbers.
I took 22 coon on our land, only 2 were females. I thought that was a little unusual, still have a lot of coons here. Muskrat used to be a common sight in 60's, 70's but numbers are low now.
I want to thank the state for leaving our trapping open and not limiting the number of traps or the traps we can use.
I was born into coon hunting with hounds. The problem isn't that we have too many coons. The problem is we have too many people who won't give permission to take care of them.
I was not aware of the extended trapping season.
I was out of state for work for the last 2 months so no opportunity to participate in the extended season. I have been trying to knock the predator numbers down on our property - I only hunt on our 17 acres. The quail and turkey numbers have declined greatly over the last seven years, so in addition to trying to improve habitat I have really been working on reducing predators. Please consider including a night vision season for raccoons, opossums, and skunks and also making pcp airguns legal equipment for furbearers. I have a .30 cal air rifle that I have taken squirrels with at 85 yards - it shoots a 64 grain hollow point slug that would be more than capable of ethically taking furbearers with as well. It is high time Kansas stops treating the airgun community as second class citizens - we have some of the best hunting in the nation but starting to consider going out of state for airgun hunting opportunities that are not possible here.
I was pleased to see the extended season for raccoon & possum. As I am a strong believer in them being a significant problem for the turkey population. Side note- I wouldn't mind seeing an extended season for Crow, as well.
I was saddened to not make it to any meetings regarding the night hunting topics.. I really do hope they end up extending this season to year round, outside of rifle season.. 30 coyotes were harvested while hunting daytime over 2024-25. Between 2024 AND 2025 night seasons I was able to dispatch well over 150 coyotes while assisting with those who were calving. I am hopeful for a year round season because my phone starts ringing come July-August, and I have to sadly tell these folks that I can't help them to the best of my ability due to current regs. I believe the landowners start calling around that time due to pup rearing, which takes place around that time frame. Yearling coyotes are ranging from denning areas, that time of year there's more coyotes out on their feet than there will be all year. My first year participating in the night hunting, I would dispatch 1-3 mangy coyotes every night across the state of Kansas. Last year I maybe dispatched 4-5 all year. This year I only came across one. I can't say for certain that the aggressive pursuit has led to this outcome but I can only hope so, I'd rather healthy wildlife be thriving opposed to over populated and sick. I can't say we "should" allow raccoons be apart of the night season, but I will say, on every stand I make at night, doesn't really matter where I'm at in the state, I will eventually see a handful of coons. It may be worth asking others via survey just how many they're seeing on a regular basis. We the hunting community are a big source of your information. Eyes and ears, boots on the ground. I've heard some concerns from law enforcement pertaining to ability to do checkups on those hunting. Has anyone brought up the potential to add onto our currently in place check in system used for public land access? Maybe implement something similar for night hunters to login, check into what counties they are hunting on any given night. You'd at least have raw data of law abiding hunters, and their whereabouts via county lines... you'd be able to adjust your law enforcement numbers as needed by this data set. I appreciate yalls time and efforts into preserving all the wonderful things Kansas has to offer. Your hard work, from top to bottom of this department doesn't go unnoticed.
I was trapping, only to help a landowner with nuisance beaver on his creek.
I was very aggressive on trapping raccoons, possums and skunks on my small property. I had good success and have seen my turkey number improving on my property. They were eating all the turkey eggs.
I would be very interested in a thermal racoon season. I would not be apposed to a caliber restrictions if that would help facilitate the use of thermals on racoons.
I would like if Kansas had a spring beaver trapping season. I feel like most other states have spring beaver trapping. The ability to hunt/shoot beaver like Oklahoma could help us control the nuisance population.
I would like to be able to legally hunt coyotes at night with a thermal all year long. If I wasn't going to poach a deer on march 31, I'm not going to be a poacher on April 1st either.
I would like to hunt raccoons at night with thermal. They are getting out of hand. I also think they are hurting our game bird population. I would also like to see a bounty on raccons. \$5 to \$10 would be enough.
I would like to see a small bounty offered on nest robbers especially in the extended season, at least
I would like to see KDWP promote trapping as a better way to manage more of the furbearers that are nest robbers. It has had to take its toll on gamebirds over the years. I think the only way to get more people involved in predation management is to get for prices up.
I would like to see night season for hunting coyotes extended.
I would like to see raccoons added to the nighttime hunting list and the nighttime coyote season extended year around. I hunt coyotes under a nuisance permit so I did not list any on this survey. I shot about 50 coyotes last year and know they can be a real problem.
I would like to see the coyote night season opened for 6 months starting in october apposed to January-June. Two reasons: 1. More coyotes can be sold in the oct-March season than january- June, just because of fur quality. 2. The pups may suffer a slow death. Thanks
I would like to see the night hunting season extended. Between work and weather you are limited to the number of times you can go hunting and I would like to go more.
I would like to take up trapping as a new activity, but have not gotten around to it yet. Acquired equipment for 6-8 fox and coyote sets. A class or seminar on trapping techniques would be helpful for me.
I would love to see an extended night season for Coyote, many states have year round thermal season, that would be killer, but at least extending the season through pup rearing season would be a huge benefit, night season would be great from October - end of May honestly
I would prefer we leave the night season how it is. I would happily pay to night hunt. \$100 a person is reasonable.
I'd like to see the night hunting coyote season start at least a couple weeks later than it does currently. Trapping gets thrown off when the thermals come out. Would be nice to have a couple more weeks to trap them while the fur is still good. None of the night hunters I know skinned, or cared to skin a coyote even when their fur was still good.
If I am out checking traps during legal hunting hours I am also hunting what ever is in season. Extend the special equipment coyote season to year round. Include the same special equipment as legal for raccoons and opossums year round.
If Kansas actually wants to get serious about protecting ground nesting birds, and reducing nest predators, add them to the predator night hunting season. Us night hunters could make a very significant difference for the betterment of our game birds if KDWP would only let us.
If someone steals your perch trap, it should be a felony. I'm trying to feed my family & now I have no bait or a way to catch food for my family.
If the furs were worth something I would do alot more trapping

If there was an outlet where trappers could locally donate their harvests, I think it might encourage more participation!
If you want better bird and deer population, you are going to have to make it worth while to take out more predators.
In my area there seemed to be alot of racoon. I let opossums go. Didn't trap anything worth keeping this season being new I'm just trying to learn my sets .
Include nest raider species in the night vision season and announce more about the extended raccoon and opossum season. Most people don't know about it. Nobody traps anymore with the prices of fur, gas, and ammo. It would be much easier if I could control tertiary predator populations while I'm coyote hunting at night. I see 20-1 raccoon/opossum/badger,skunk to coyotes.
Include skunks in extended season
Is it possible for you guys to assemble a list of fur buyers?
Is there a possibility of the thermal season extending? I'd say leave it the way it is, or if you do have a extended season make it a split season.
It should be made cheaper to hunt coyotes when out of state!
It was a very good idea having the extended season on raccoon
It would be nice to have a two-day check on all drowning sets. I would like to see the regular trapping season date moved until December 1 and I would like to see a Bobcat hunting and trapping season start date of December 15th. Bobcats are one of the last furbearers to prime up.
It would help a lot if the state would quit raising the license cost!!
It's a little late to start worrying about turkey population. Why don't you ask turkey outfitters how much they are willing to donate? Time, money, etc.
Just didn't have enough personal time to hunt
Just used DP's a few days trying to get nest raider numbers down. Not much luck as usual.
Kansas knows we have a raccoon problem but I'm Not sure many know how bad it actually is. I really believe to get this under control we need to open it up to the night vision/thermal hunter's to atleast help out in this matter
Keep running the year round season on Raccoons, skunks, and opossums
Keep the extended season on raccoons and opossums.
Keep thermal season please
Keep up the good work! Encourage more racoon harvest...maybe a bounty.
Leave coon season open all year until their population is in check
Leave the extended raccoons season
Leave the night hunting season to 3 months no more. Do NOT allow out of state hunters to night hunt. Make suppressors mandatory on night hunting. Make the permit for night hunting cost \$200 or so.
Leave the night vision coyote hunting Jan-march
Legalize year round thermal/night vision hunting for coyotes, raccoons, and opossum
Lengthen trapping season for people to trap all year long for farmers who have problems with badgers, skunk, raccoons, & foxes that tear up land & eat livestock & chickens. Make night hunting season year round for people who hunt for farmers.
Less duck hunting spots there are not enough conservation or wiha areas for houndsman our dogs get out to run coons so the coons we do have we can't kill/harvest them cause we have no other place to hunt cause the state is more for deer hunters and duck it's a damn shame. The houndsman was here before the deer and duck hunters understand it all can be share but it's hard when the deer/duck hunter harass the houndsman
Let the raccoon season open year round. They are very overpopulated. Even a year or two, to bad they aren't worth something
Like extended raccoon season, but only for nest raiders.
LONGER NIGHT VISION SEASON FOR COYOTES. THIS WOULD ALLOW TO HUNT DURING COW / CALVING SEASON.
"Love the extended opossum and raccoon season! Great time to be in the woods. More people should take advantage of it.
I think that having to tag bobcats is utter nonsense. They are not threatened or endangered and are common all across the country. As a legal hunter, I feel like I undergo an inquisition whenever I take one to be tagged. "
Love the extended season. One of the complaints somebody on the commission had about feeding was that it attracts nest predators to areas where turkeys nest- good! I can catch them at the feeder. I gang set my turkey feeders with a dozen dogproofs each and after a couple nights of trapping I didn't see any more raccoons there. After a week or so some young males showed up, I went back and trapped them too. Started seeing hens nest near feeders (for the first time) and had poults absolutely everywhere last summer. I've got more Jakes and turkeys in general around right now than I've had since 2016-2017 ish. Glad we can trap at feeders during turkey season and strike while the iron is hot. Last year I caught 186 (plus who knows how many babies I removed from the equation as at least 50% were female). This year I will be doing the same but I can tell from trail camera pictures I have about 1/4 of the raccoons I used to have in previous years. Used to see 12-15 in one picture now maybe 3 or 4. Literally have more turkeys than I know what to do with since the limit is 1. Have 19 Toms strutting on one field yesterday afternoon. I don't want to trap all these raccoons during the fall as it runs the deer off. Mature bucks don't put up with me going in every day to check traps. They may come back in the middle of the night but usually just leave entirely if I go in that often.
Make it legal to hunt coons with a thermal. That would sure help manage them.
Make raccoons year round
Make the night coyote hunting season longer please
Make the seasons and method of take as liberal as possible for raccoons possums and skunks so our turkeys can recover.
Make thermal season on coyotes year round.
Make trapping on fort Riley easier
Making night vision or thermal sight use year round.
Sorry I didn't get this done online. I did not have time to trap this year with parents estate & work. Had a couple of calves get ate towards end of season so put out snares on Friday late evening & pickup Monday or Tuesday. Snared 1 but had poor movement days.
Most of the bobcats I tend to see are during early archery season from my deer stand, when furbearer season is closed. Would be nice if the season opened sooner
Most of the coon trapping is to protect sweet corn.
My adc log sheet will reflect what was caught in the extended/off season for exact numbers as I didn't keep a copy of what I turned in.. I would like to see the adc go a computerized log instead of paper and then it could keep a total catch count of all species for that person and your records without having to do a survey.

My health did not allow me to trap this year, but will this coming season. You folks do a great job on the wildlife. Keep up the great work. It seems most states are falling behind on their management. Thank you.
Need put a bounty on coon to get them under control
Need to add raccoons to the thermal season. The amount of raccoons we seen thermal coyote hunting was outrageous.
Need to allow conibears during open season for coon in private property. We are over-ran with coon and it's hurting a quail and turkeys. Dog proof and cage traps are simply not as effective as conibears.
Need to be able to use night optics year round
Need to be allowed to hunt racoons the same as coyotes at night they are overpopulated
Need to extend the waterfowl season! thanks
Need to go to year-round night hunting for coyotes, with possible exception of rifle deer seasons.
Need to have a bounty on coons, opossum, and coyotes to they quit having a negative impact on turkey,deer, and game birds
Need to make a reward for coons/possums trapped/killed. Would help get people back into the sport and help the Turkeys tremendously!!!
Need to open thermal hunting on coons and other nest robbers if you like pheasants, quail, and other birds.
Night hunting for coyote is great fun for people of all ages.
Night season on coyotes is making the predators harder to call in and kill.
Night vision hunting needs to run October 1st to March 31st. It should also include, bobcat and racoon. There are too many raccoons, which is a huge problem for agriculture operations, they are destructive to property and animal feeds. They are also a big reason the turkey population is decreasing across the state, they destroy the eggs, I've seen it.
Nighttime coyote hunting should be allowed year round. Anyone inclined to poach while nighttime hunting already is. Perhaps poaching would be discouraged during big game season if people thought there could be coyote hunters could possibly observe someone poaching.
No hunting this year but i like to get permits to put money in the system
Not a fan of extended kill seasons on coon. Coon are not the problem for ground nesting birds. It's people!!! Lack of habitat. In the 80s-90s we had coon numbers that were much higher than now and more turkeys,quail and pheasants than now by far. Coon are just the scapegoat for lack of habitat and deer hunters not wanting them to eat all their corn. What do they expect ? 30 bushels of corn dumped into coon habitat you're going to have coon on it. Baiting should be illegal, it's just shooting,not hunting. The coon in my area gang up on deer feeders and one sick coon exposes all of them and by Dec sick coon everywhere. The deer are going to be the same thing soon.
Not a fan of the thermal hunting. Concerned, hunters being able to tell the difference between hunting dogs and coyotes.
Not sure if woodrats classify as anything but noticed an incredible amount of them throughout season
Nothing to trap. Nothing is worth any \$. Rails for trails is pointless!!! Hardwork/trapping has gone because nothing to trap!!!
Only trapped for coyotes
Open night hunting earlier
open night hunting for coyotes with thermal and night vision to all year
Open night hunting on coyotes all year long.
Open night season year round. Include bobcats and other furbearers in during the night hunt, but only during fur harvester season
Open season for beaver and skunk year round.
Open season for coons year around
Open season on night vision for coyotes. They are seriously affecting our deer population by killing fawns and pregnant does.
Open the thermal season up to opossums and racoons. If we really want to make a dent I feel like it would be a good addition to doing so
Open up raccoon harvest during the nightvision/thermal season and make it all year long.
Opossum, coon, and skunks need to be legal to harvest with thermal equipment year round..
Otter bag limits should be increased in Coffey County, or at least the eastern half.
Our raccoon population is out of control and I feel it is having a major effect on or ground nesting bird populations. If the state would give a bounty for raccoons say \$10 a piece or something I would trap more. Last season I didn't really put much effort into it as I was really just showing children the basics of trapping and had good success. I did not even put a dent in the population of raccoons in that area judging by sightings while deer hunting and tracks.
Page 2 missing. Had to answer to complete survey.
Please add coons to night time it would help bird population.
Please allow for thermal hunting of raccoons. Their population is totally out of hand and there is no way that trapping alone can keep the population in check.
Please allow Raccoons to be hunted with thermal/night vision equipment.
Please consider opening up thermal coyote season year round with the exception of deer rifle season.
Please continue to discuss and implement the expansion of the season as it relates to the management of coyotes and raccoons. Day, Night, hunt, trap, running. Expand on the options and abilities to enjoy hunting while not taking away established methods and "Timeframes" currently in place.
Please do not let bobcats be a legal thermal animal. Coon and possums should be legal but not bobcats
Please end thermal hunting with rifles! Dangerous!
Please extend night season for coyotes and possibly add bobcat, badger and coon.
Please extend the coyote thermal season, I would prefer that it started Nov15, and went until March 31st.
Please extend the night coyote hunting season and add raccoon to thermal hunting. I see 3-8 raccoons in almost every field when I arrive.
Please extend the night hunting season for coyotes to be year long, with the exception of deer season.
Please extend the night vision hunting season beyond March 31 to provide more opportunities for coyote management.

Please extend the Thermal Night Season year round minus deer season. Not the proposed Feb-June dates. Also need to add Raccoons, opossum and skunks to the Thermal night season. I would also add that us out here in Western Kansas need better representation from commissioners. All but one commissioner is from Eastern Kansas and most folks in Lawrence, Topeka or Kansas City think that the Colorado border starts at Salina.
Please make a 5 year furbearer license like hunting & fishing have.
Pleased that ground nest predator coon harvest period has been expanded
Plenty of beaver
Provide an incentive for killing nest raiders. Prices are so low most do not trap for raccoon/opossum/skunk. Would maybe help the turkey population
Purchase for bear/trap permit but did not use due to personal health issues. No sets, snares at all for 2024.
Purchased a license, but was unable to make it out to hunt or trap.
Question: Would like to see quail nest predators trapper year round; opossum, coons & skunks. Would that be possible?
Questioning the legitimacy and necessity for some of the "club" type harvesting of coyote populations in Kansas. I am referring to the contests that are being held focused on the number of coyotes each team collects during a specific period during the season. Don't misunderstand, I am in favor of night-time hunting and the new opportunities that it provides to sportsmen. However, club contests have morphed into what reminds me of the "market hunting" that went on during the late 1800's and early 1900's. With the agricultural practice of no-till, you are going to have a number of farmers that will begin to refuse to allow hunting of coyote on their property. Supporters of no-till and strip-till farming, which is more popular than ever, point to the coyote as a key contributor to the control of field pests, such as moles, voles, mice and other burrowing rodents. Such pests can destroy young crops and the untilled or reduced till land offers a more suitable living area for burrowing and supporting increased population. Perhaps some attention needs to be directed at limiting the number of coyotes one can harvest per day? Just my thoughts.....
Raccoon population is way too high. Need to add a thermal season as well.
Raccoons and coyote need full year trapping and hunting still. They are over populated
Raccoons pay \$1.00 per hide, if you can find a buyer. Dog food \$30 a sack
Raccoons are over abundant and since there is no value in their fur I believe they should be treated as varmint and should have an open season. I live on plum creek and have seen the shells from ground nesting birds mostly turkey the destroyed and we have way less turkey than we use to due to both coons and bird flu. When hides had value, we use to get dog hunters wanting to hunt all the time but have not had one hunter ask to hunt in the last 10 years. Kids just want to play video games and will not pay to go out and shoot a coon.
Randomly? Every single year?
Removing raccoons and opossum i believe helped the pheasant and quail in my area a little
Scheduling didn't work out to do predator control work this year. Looking forward to next year.
Skunks should be included in the extended furbearer season.
Sorry, I didn't hunt or trap this year.
Stop the coyote night calling. It's hurting our bobcats.
Stop the thermal night hunting. It's causing more poaching in my area then it's helping manage furbearers.
Stop thermal hunting
Thank you for all that you do for the State of Kansas. You are very much appreciated.
Thank you for everything you do for the outdoors people. It makes it enjoyable for family and friends kids.
Thank you for opening more seasons for raccoons. I did not take full advantage this season, but they are everywhere where I hunt and I intend to spend more time hunting and trapping them this year
Thank you for sending this. I wasn't able to hunt this year.
Thank you for supporting furbearer harvesting and using these surveys to gather accurate information!!!!
Thank you for the opportunity to trap. Looking forward to expanding more on this newfound endeavor.
Thank You Ks for the extended raccoon kill season. My best hunting lands r closed to me during deer season. The majority of landowners have me stop running my dogs September 1. They allow me on the majority January 1 with a few require until special doe seasons ends
Thank you for your time in helping us manage our furbearers in Kansas. People like you help continue our heritage. I enjoy trapping.
Thank you!
Thank you! Have a wild day.
The extended raccoon season is important!
The extended season for coon hunting saddens me. I primarily coon hunt public land and I've seen numbers there diminish before the extended season took place. It does genuinely disturb me that there isn't a least a break for a few months when they have young. Ultimately I guess this is likely all driven by keeping out of state deer hunters happy thinning coons around their multitudes of deer feeders since it seems our game decisions are driven more by profit that best management.
the first two questions are the same did you trap
"The hunting, not trapping of coons needs to be removed from the furbearer license since it is year round. Should be able to hunt coons just from a hunting license just like coyotes.
The hunting of coyotes at night needs to be extended to year round. Kansas needs to align themselves like the majority of all the other states and have a year round season in private ground. "
The night hunting for coons should be allowed also with thermals and flashlights a lot of people don't have dogs to hunt them.this would also be great for our youth hunters and help more in controlling the coon issue on our ground nesting birds
The night season needs to start the day after firearms deer season and keep the 3-31 closing date.
The night vision season needs to be extended
The only change I would make is to include the night coyote season to be year long or maybe the whole year except during deer rifle season.
The raccoons just seem to be out of control with no market for them. I think it helps with the year round trapping of them, but don't think too many do it because of fuel cost.
The season for using thermal equipment to manage coyotes should be extended year round. This method is far more effective in efficiently controlling their numbers.

The thermal coyote season needs to be extended to year-round, (minus the December Deer Rifle season). The antlerless season needs to be done away with completely. I was on the last commissioners meeting and voiced my thoughts. However, I believe the option they voted on is worse than what we have now. Feb-June is worse than Jan-March. The mothers are in the dens with the pups from March until about August. I believe the best time have the thermal season would be September 1st- March 31. (That is if the state refuses the make it year-round). I'm not sure why this is such an issue. There are a laundry list of issues surrounding this. NONE of which have any legitimate back bone to it. There will always be poachers, you will never fix that. Fair chase is also not an issue as we hunt ducks, geese and deer the same way we hunt coyotes, you sit in one spot and call. I don't know how much of a fair chase you want. You are giving the game an option to come to call or not, just has other game would do. The landowners have the option of letting you hunt or not, that is completely up to them. If they are not for the thermal season, then don't let people hunt. It's not hard. In western Kansas, coyotes are a big problem. As they say, the ones that don't follow the law ruin it for everyone else. I don't feel like what the commissioners voted on was the right way to go. There is something that needs to be done with this and done right. Thanks
There are to many raccoons and skunks. There needs to be more done to control the population.
There isn't enough \$\$ in the fur industry to even cover expenses of trapping back in the 70's and 80's a single raccoon would get me 30 gallons of gas now they might get you one gallon? It's a shame because nothing is greener than fur and all these critters just line the highways and rot...maybe a bounty would help? Coyotes had a \$2 bounty for a pair of ears in the 60's at least that was like 8 gallons of gas...I'd like to see a revision in the migratory bird act to remove herons and commarants those fish eaters are absolutely 100% worthless 🙄
There was a coyote/cat calling contest in Dexter, Cowley county, and at least 50 coyotes and 8-10 bobcats taken around my area, kind of messed up my trapping season.
Thermal hunting or taking furbearers with no intentions or possibility of utilizing fur and/or meat is unethical and gives trappers and hunters a bad image. Depredation issues should be handled on a case by case basis with local KDWP personnel guidance. Furbearer seasons shouldn't enable wasteful practices. KDWP should not let public opinion overshadow sound, science based, furbearer management.
Thermal season for coons would be nice
Thermal/night vision should allow the legal harvest of raccoons. I believe it would help with our struggling turkey population.
Though I didn't trap, I spent a considerable amount of time on the road and stand to hunt deer. It did seem that I saw quite a bit more red fox and bobcats than I anticipated compared to previous seasons. Especially the red fox and I considered quite often shifting gears to pursue red fox by foot trap.
Time was an issue this year. Knew I would not be able to check traps everyday if I set any this year.
To help with the nest predators I believe raccoons opossums and skunks should be added to the night season the night season should be extended to any time except rifle deer season. Thanks for the opportunity to take this survey and provide input!
To many bobcats getting shot during night hunting season. Frickin cheaters
Too many coons shouldn't need a furbearers. Put a bounty on them.
Was having medical problem I did not hunt or truck. Thank you.
Was setting traps for pond management, to control muskrat damage. 14 / 5" single string body traps. Inadvertently caught a female mink that was caching in an older muskrat den. I had her taxidermed mounted.
Was to busy, never made it out to play!
We have way too many raccoons. Anything to reduce the numbers will help.
We need to remove raccoons and opossums as furbearers. Trapping is a dying pastime, and the furs no longer carry much value. Nest predators do not add value and should be removed so that all hunters in Kansas can harvest them. It is ridiculous that we require this to kill them.
"Weather issues this year. 16" snow that was a mess for 20 days. High winds affected calling range. Hopefully Mother Nature will be kinder.
Concerned about night hunting. It will become a rich man sport due to costs of the cost of thermal scopes. Also I perceive it will become lease hunting situation which has killed deer hunting for the average Kansas in state citizen."
Well I missed 2 coyotes and never called in a bobcat
Where are all the pheasant and quail? This state is nothing like it was 30 years ago and it wasn't that great then. You have a major problem and you're promoting our state resources like it's a 2 dollar whore. Get rid of the walk in program, and stop printing regulations in Spanish. (Additional comment withheld.)
Why don't you offer rewards for killing coyotes? There are way too many of them.
Wish it was worth the \$ to. Will buy a license every year regardless just because... Once my kids get to about 8 years old I'll trap again just to teach them.
with the number of racoons, should Kansas have a year round season like Iowa has implemented?
Would like to be a nuisance trapper
Would like to see a no kill rabbit season to help with population
Would like to see hunting for raccoons with thermal and night vision allowed. Thanks
Would love to see night hunting open up more
Would love to trap more, have issues with work/life of being able to set trap and ethically/legally check them within the 24 hour limit. Hard to find trapping locations close to home, typically hunt/trap 45in-1hr away, therefore have to make the most of what weekends I can.
Year long night time coyote season
Year round (minus firearm deer season) night vision hunting season for coyotes and add other species such as raccoons and opossum.
Year round or more months of winter thermal/night vision on coyotes. I couldn't make it out very many nights with my work schedule but the population is very high
You guys do a great job! Keep it up!
YOUR Year end nuisance / damage control report is not anywhere to be found easily on the KDWP Website. It should be easier to find and report to KDWP what animals were taken through damage control permit holders.