

**AGENDA**  
**KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND PARKS**  
**COMMISSION MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Thursday, June 20, 2024**  
**Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center**  
**221 W 43<sup>rd</sup> St, Hays, KS**  
**including a**  
**Virtual ZOOM Meeting Option**

A) Log Into Zoom

1. Visit <https://ksoutdoors.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rd--rqjwuHtXrc3uoOQFfmskGQfPli1uQ>
2. Register by entering your first and last name, and email address.
3. Once registered, you will be provided a link to “join the meeting.”
4. Visitors will be muted upon entering the meeting. To comment or ask a question, use the “raise hand” feature or type into the chat area.

B) Call In

1. Call: 1-877-853-5257
2. When a meeting ID is requested, enter: 896 0634 7441#
3. When a participant ID is requested, enter: #

C) Watch Live Video/Audio Stream

1. Individuals may watch a live video/audio stream of the meeting on <https://ksoutdoors.com/commission-meeting>

**I. CALL TO ORDER AT 12:00 pm (noon)**

**II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**

**III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS**

**IV. APPROVAL OF April 25, 2024, MEETING MINUTES**

**V. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**A. Public Hearing (Administrative Rules and Regulations - Pursuant to KSA 77-421)**

1. **KAR 115-7-3 Fish; taking and use of baitfish or minnows (Bryan Sowards)**
2. **KAR 115-7-9 Weigh-in black bass fishing tournaments (Bryan Sowards)**
3. **KAR 115-7-10 Fishing; special provisions (Bryan Sowards)**
4. **KAR 115-17-3 Commercial fish bait permits; requirement, application, and general provisions (Bryan Sowards)**
5. **KAR 115-25-14 Fishing; creel limit, size limit, possession limit, and open season (Bryan Sowards)**

**VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**V. DEPARTMENT REPORT (continued)**

**B. Secretary's Remarks**

- 1. Agency and State Fiscal Status (Secretary Kennedy)**
- 2. Legislative Update (Martin de Boer)**

**C. General Discussion**

- 1. Turkey Regulations (Jeff Prendergast)**

**D. Workshop Session**

- 1. Trout permit cost (115-2-1) (Bryan Sowards)**
- 2. Fishing regulations - statewide regulations and water-body specific regulations (Bryan Sowards)**
- 3. Kansas River Invasive Carp summary and proposed snagging opportunity (Chris Steffen)**
- 4. Invasive species regulations (Bryan Sowards)**
- 5. Sportfish versus non-sport fish regulations (Nick Kramer)**
- 6. Carcass Movement Regulation (Richard Schultheis)**
- 7. Pending Regulations (no presentation, presented multiple times) (Dan Riley)**

**KAR 115-30-4 Fire extinguishers (at AGs office)**

**KAR 115-2-3 Camping, utility, and other fees (At Dept of Admin)**

**KAR 115-8-1 Public Lands regulations (reference document (waiting on edits)**

**KAR 115-8-26 new Public Lands regulation (waiting on edits)**

**KAR 115-4-4 Big game; legal equipment and taking methods (waiting on edits)**

**KAR 115-25-8 Elk 25-Series Regulations (waiting on edits)**

**KAR 115-25-9a Military Deer Seasons (waiting on edits)**

**VII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

If notified in advance, the department will have an interpreter available for the hearing impaired. To request an interpreter, call the Kansas Commission of Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698. Any individual with a disability may request other accommodations by contacting the Commission Secretary at (620) 672-5911. The next commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 29, 2024, Independence Gun Club Heritage Center, 212 Penn Ave, Independence, KS. Times have changed to start at NOON and run until we are finished, with no recess.

**Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Commission Meeting  
Thursday, April 25, 2024  
K-State Salina Campus, College Center Conference Room,  
2310 Centennial Rd, Salina, KS  
including a  
Virtual ZOOM Meeting Option**

Subject to  
Commission  
Approval

The April 25, 2024, meeting of the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission was called to order by Chairman Whitney Damron at 12:04 p.m.

Chairman Whitney Damron, Commissioners Emerick Cross, Lauren Sill, Commissioner Phil Escareno and Troy Sporer were present. Delia Lister and Warren Gfeller attended via Zoom.

## **II. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS**

The Commissioners and Department staff introduced themselves (Attendance Roster – Exhibit A).

## **III. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS**

Sheila Kemmis – There is a revised agenda on the table. Martin de Boer will not be here to present the legislative update, he said no change from presentation of last meeting, so skipping over that item.

Mission Statement (Exhibit B) and Agenda (Exhibit C).

## **IV. APPROVAL OF THE March 28, 2024, MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Lauren Sill moved to approve the minutes; Commissioner Phil Escareno second. *Approved* (Minutes – Exhibit D).

## **V. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

### **A. Administrative Rules and Regulation Procedure – Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-421 – Public Hearing**

1. 2024-2025 Kansas Waterfowl Season Dates, Bag and Possession Limits - Tom Bidrowski, migratory gamebird manager, presented these regulations (Exhibit E, PowerPoint Exhibit F). Consensus is required today in order to submit season selections to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) by May 1. The USFWS framework establishes maximum bag and possession limits, season lengths, and earliest opening and latest closing dates. The briefing item contains how the federal frameworks are developed and restrictions. States must operate within these frameworks when establishing state-specific migratory game bird regulations. Waterfowl seasons are set different than resident game, as well as other migratory species. They are adopted via consensus of this regulation instead of being adopted by a set regulation. This is due to season variability in later timeframe which seasons are addressed. Kansas adopts the seasons through KDWP commission consensus and then sent to the USFWS. The briefing item has a summary of the 2024/25 frameworks with no changes from the previous year. We remain in the liberal duck

harvest package. In 2021, Kansas incorporated a decision-making tool to assist in the season setting process by identifying important season date parameters for each of the waterfowl zones. This process is to develop season selection, stability, reduce bias and add transparency in the season, date and selection process. Staff recommends nine days in the high plains, beginning the third Saturday in September, and a 16-day season in the low plains beginning on the second Saturday of September. The difference in the days is due to the additional 23 days afforded during the 75-day general duck season of the high plains and the 107-day restriction in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Staff recommendations are two consecutive days for youth, veterans, and active military, held simultaneously, and held one week prior to the general opening seasons in each of the duck zones. Staff is incorporating instruction, decision tools, and to assist in removing bias and stabilize season date selections and review migration patterns, harvest hunter activity, habitat conditions, weather patterns, holidays, hunter surveys, and hunter communications. Staff believes this structure provides the best overall opportunity for the varied waterfall hunting in Kansas. Staff recommends goose season similar to the past seasons, and we are continuing with the recommended six Canada goose bag limit. Consistent with past seasons staff recommends a 15-day falconry season in the low plains zone due to 107-day restriction, additional hawking days are unavailable in the high plains. Since 2024 was leap year, the season starts one day later. This fall, KDWP will be hosting a series of public meetings as well as conducting a broad scale waterfowl hunter survey. This is being done on several items like season dates, preferences, and zone boundaries. Every five years the USFWS allows states to make changes to zone boundaries and the next change is in 2025. The only difference from previous staff recommendations is due to the calendar shift and that opens the goose split from two- to nine-days. Season selections are due to the USFWS by May 1. So, action is required. Commissioner Escareno – Have meeting dates been set? Bidrowski – No. Chairman Damron – Agenda says consensus, is any action needed? Chief Counsel Dan Riley – Vote to accept proposal, in terms of his recommendations. Chairman Damron – Motion to adopt recommendation? *Commissioner Phil Escareno moved to adopt as presented, Commissioner Troy Sporer second. Approved (Exhibit G).*

## **VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Tom Dill, Salina – I used to serve on this committee. Here to express displeasure of nonresident turkey hunting changes last year. In the past I took two of three grandsons from Nebraska hunting, this year that wasn't an option. When my three sons graduated from high school, they each received a Kansas lifetime hunting license. Eight of my eleven grandchildren don't live in Kansas and cannot come back to hunt and hunt primarily during turkey season. I got information from Jake George that 25% of nonresident youth did not get a tag this year, about 17% of remaining did not get a tag. Unfortunately, you limited youth the ability to have youth come back and hunt. I also would advocate landowner/tenant lineal descendant youth tag, not adults but youth, if we want to encourage youth to come back and hunt. I am not the only one with grandchildren living somewhere else. I don't know if this would have to change in statute or regulation. For next year, a certain number of permits allocated to youth, even if you leave it as nonresident draw, but advocate for landowner/tenant lineal descendant youth. Commissioner Sill – Those not successful, do they get preference point next year. Jake George – They will a get preference point if unsuccessful, which would guarantee them a tag next year. Commissioner Escareno – What was the number of youth that applied that did not get a tag? George – There were 1,009 applicants, 747 youth permits issued, and two youth permits were issued in Unit 2 leftovers. That means 260 nonresident youth were unsuccessful.

Norman Mantle, Salina – In the 2022/23 issue of Audubon of Kansas, on page 47, it says hazard to our insects, birds and entire ecosystem is chemicals, insecticides and pesticides we are putting on grain is causing the problem. That is why there are no birds and insects out there and we are eating

that stuff. There is one local seed company here and they said they don't care. Another issue is water. There is no water in this country, so need to learn to quit sucking water out of the ground. I have been to South America where it rains 72 inches a year. Soon we will be importing our food from South America where they have water. We used to have it but have used it all up. Can't do what we think we can anymore, we are not entitled to it.

## **V. DEPARTMENT REPORT (continued)**

### **B. Secretary's Remarks**

Secretary Christopher Kennedy – I am pleased to be here for my second Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission meeting. Since my first meeting I've got to know a few more faces in the audience. And I hope for those of you that are here to me that we get together very soon. Preferably holding a fish, walking through a prairie or waiting on a turkey. Given how fast my first six weeks has passed I'm not confident I'll get much time off in the field in the upcoming weeks. But that's all right because we've got a lot of challenging work ahead. I think it would be beneficial for newest commission chair as well as myself and anyone else who may be joining for the first time to go over a little bit of what we're here to contribute. For some of us, we are charting newish territory, so a quick refresher can't hurt. The relationship between the commission, the department and the public are a symbolic one. Meaning, when everything is working, every party involved should benefit in some capacity from our shared interactions. Commissioners have been charged with serving as a regulatory body for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. If advising the department, led by our secretary, on planning and policy issues that impact the general administration, to exclude issues related to personnel. Led by your chairman, our two entities have a shared mission of conserving and enhancing Kansas wildlife and its habitats, ensuring current and future generations appreciate and enjoy these living resources and associated recreation while informing the public of the status of Kansas natural resources, gaining understanding and support in achieving this mission. Much like a chairman, it is my duty to ensure that we stay on track. That the department provides the expertise, the data, and support necessary to uphold their mission and the decisions we make are in alignment with commission priorities. Both the commission and the department work on behalf of the public and on behalf of our natural resources, utilizing sound science and a diplomatic process for decision making. If we continue to prioritize the science, continue to work together on our shared mission, and continue to solicit value and integrate feedback from the public, I'm confident that we will reach the right solutions moving forward. Now onto funding. The funding that makes this good work possible.

1. Agency and State Fiscal Status Report – Secretary Chris Kennedy, presented this update to the Commission. We are approaching 10<sup>th</sup> month and staff will use the last two months to complete outstanding purchases and approvals that need to be completed this fiscal year. Our park fee fund, which is revenue derived from state park entrance fees, camping fees, and annual vehicle passes to our state parks, brought in \$1,163,188 for the month of March, an 8% decrease and the fiscal year to date is \$6.9 million a 22% increase compared to the same time last year. The cash balance of our cabin fee fund, which is revenue derived from parks and public land cabin rentals sits at \$1.9 million, a total revenue for March was \$146,497. A 29% decrease from the same time last year. The wildlife fee fund is funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, big game permits and tags, to include nonresident purchases, brought in \$981,013 in March. That account balance now sits at \$17.3 million, which is a 1.5% decrease compared to the same time last year. Our boating fee fund is derived from vessel registrations and renewals, saw \$135,796 in revenue last month and fiscal year to date cash balance is \$2.6 million, a 14% increase compared to this same time last year. It's worth noting that this report is merely one of revenue, not expenses which are undoubtedly great in order to run an organization of this size and manage the public

lands, waters, and state parks that we do. I conclude my report by sharing that our executive management team is already making budget preparations, especially those related to capital improvement projects for the next several years to ensure that we do not rest on our laurels, nor do we operate under the assumption that every year will be like this year's revenue or last year's revenue. If the COVID-19 pandemic taught us anything, it was that our outdoor use can change in a moment's notice for better or for worse. So as your new secretary, our physical fitness will remain a top priority of mine moving forward so that we may continue the good work while being prepared for the future.

At this point I would turn it over to, Martin De Boer who as Sheila said, is not here today and doesn't have anything to contribute to report on the legislative affairs.

2. Legislative Update – Martin DeBoer, government relations manager, presented this update to the Commission. *Martin could not be present; no changes to presentation made at last meeting.* Chairman Damron – I'll take prerogative and contribute on the legislative portion of this. I would note that the final day of the regular session, there were still discussions on potential changes to the commission makeup. As legal counsel Terry Bruce would note, it's not over until it's over. The legislature is back in town today and will probably conclude business by Tuesday. I think it's unlikely that changes will pass, but I would also say it's not impossible.

### **C. General Discussion**

1. Fishing regulations - statewide regulations and water-body specific regulations (including reference document) - Bryan Sowards, fisheries division director, presented these regulations to the Commission (Exhibit H). Mostly KAR 115-25-14 discussion today, or parts of it. The first one is KAR 115-25-14(b)(A) and (b)(B), which refers to trout type one waters and the trout season. As you will remember from last meeting's discussion on trout, we do not produce our own trout, we buy them from commercial vendors and those costs are going up. To truncate that season, we proposed change from November 1 through April 15 to December 1 through March 31 season. That has not moved to workshop, we backed it up into general discussion to be ran at the same time as other 115-25-14 regulation parts we are discussing. The other part of that is in workshop today, that if the fee increase for trout permits. The first is 115-25-14(b)(A) to change to new season, December 1 through March 31. In (b)(B) we want to remove "unit number 30, located in the Mined Land Wildlife Area", which is a popular area where you had to have a permit year around, it says November 1 to October 31, and we changed that a few years ago to fit in type one waters, so you will need a permit during normal trout season. Just a cleanup. In 115-25-14(c) is for type two trout water bodies. Type one waters requires everyone to have a permit during trout season if they are fishing and two waters if you are fishing for trout and possessing trout during trout season you have to have a permit, so you can fish for bluegill or something else and not have to have a permit. For type two waters we want to change the season to December 1 through March 31 and add Shawnee Mission Park Lake and Kill Creek Park Lake, in Johnson County, to list of type two trout water bodies. We recently were approached by Johnson County to work together; they have done things by themselves for a long time, and we are excited for this opportunity. They are eager to partner with us and this is beneficial given the large number of fishing license holders in Johnson County. Commissioner Cross – With those type two waters, where you can fish for anything and only have to have the permit if keeping or possessing fish. Does that present a problem for law enforcement? Sowards – It could be sticky, I'm sure it does. Jason Hawman, Captain region 1 - Not much out west but can be complicated in certain areas. Commissioner Sill – What is rationale for type two waters? Sowards – I believe rationale was to not limit opportunity on lakes that we have identified as having multiple opportunities, whether good crappie or bluegill in the winter. Or it is just a popular access point year-round. We don't want to create hurdles for

individuals already fishing for other things. It was a fairness thing in that respect. Commissioner Escareno – With regards to two waters that bought their own trout and stocked them, are they going to continue to make that contribution to stock those lakes financially? Sowards – We contribute towards purchase of trout on all Type one or two waters, those are not our lakes, those are community fisheries cooperators and are not in our traditional contract but we still stock through our CFAP lease agreements and access agreements to reimburse them for providing a winter fishing opportunity. We are paying for those trout in a couple of different ways. Sometimes they go above and beyond and buy extra trout. Commissioner Escareno – I was looking for avenue to save on the budget. Sowards – We recently had conversations about reducing those on CFAP agreements based on percentage that we contracted. If we reduce the season by 30% and reduce contracts by 30%. Based on the percentage we contracted for the season that will save a couple hundred thousand dollars. Commissioner Cross – Will trout permit fee stay the same? Sowards – No, we will be workshopping that in a little while and will raise from \$12 to \$17.50. In the 115-25-14, for Cheney Reservoir, on saugeye, add 21-inch minimum length limit, also 2/day creel; on crappie, change from 50/day to 20/day creel limit, based on increased population and angler harvest and survey of local anglers that asked for this reduction. Also, at Cheney, on blue catfish, remove the 5/day and 35-inch minimum length limit. Several of these are on blue catfish, remove the 5/day and 35-inch minimum length limit. I will come back to blue catfish. At Marion County Lake, on largemouth bass, change from 13–18-inch protective slot to the statewide 15-inch minimum length limit. At Overbrook City Lake, on channel catfish, change from 2/day creel limit and 15-inch minimum length limit to a 5/day creel limit and no minimum length limit. Back to blue catfish; changing to statewide length limit and creel limits, to 10/day, one fish over 30 inches. The statewide regulation is 5/day and no length restriction. Very few have that managed population regulation anymore. So, 10/day and one over 30 inches. For the reference document, look through the list and I will be happy to take questions. Commissioner Escareno – What is criteria for change from 50/day to 20/day at Cheney? Does it have to do with survey you conducted at the lake and feedback from anglers? Sowards – A number of things and this has been challenging for us. The reality comes back to if we have a biological concern, we don't, but we do have a sociological concern. With 50/day we understand there is a lot of harvest but based on research that hasn't been a biological concern because they rebound so quickly, in some cases it actually makes the population grow better. There is a sociological issue at 50 so we did an official survey and decided to reduce that. Commissioner Escareno – I had anglers from Scott Lake approach me about that who want to pursue opportunity to reduce numbers there. They say there are a lot of crappie in the lake that are reproducing and doing well. Deputy Secretary Schrag – A recent magazine came out with the annual fishing forecast in it. Explain how different species are listed and ranked on that survey. I have had specific questions about Cheney and what Commissioner Escareno was asking about crappie doing well, but they don't show up on the rankings. I assume that is due to survey data not available for that forecast. Correct? Sowards – We use wildlife and parks or American Fisheries Society standard methods and gear for sampling fish. For largemouth bass, for example we use electrofishing in a certain area of the lake near the shoreline in a given hour. That is what you are seeing on the forecast. Looking for quality fish which is a 12-inch largemouth bass, etc. For walleye we use gill nets, how many caught of a certain size per gill net night. If we see five in the 21-inch category, that is 5/net. It is way for us to make it transparent to the public what those populations look like. At Cheney we use fyke nets, they have shallow shorelines, which doesn't make using that other equipment very effective. We can't include all that information on the fishing forecast, but people find out by word of mouth.

2. Kansas River Invasive Carp summary and proposed snagging opportunity - Chris Steffen, aquatic invasive species coordinator, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit I, PowerPoint Exhibit J). We will discuss the status of invasive bighead carp and silver carp are abundant in the lower Kansas River. I will use invasive carp to cover both species. The Kansas

River is about 95% silver carp. They are filter feeding fish, they open their mouth and swim through the water eating the smallest particles of plankton. That makes it nearly impossible to catch them on traditional gear with a baited hook or lure. These fish are long-lived, some in upper 20s that we have aged. They can be up to 118 pounds, which is the world record out of Grand Lake last year. Silver carp are more like 60 pound and on the Kansas River, we are seeing them in the 15–20-pound range above Water Weir One and about six pounds below that. Depending on the water there are documented cases that show declines in native fish, over 90%. We have all seen videos of silver carp jumping out of the water, they can jump six to eight feet. It is unfortunate we have them in the lower Kansas River. Native paddlefish are competing with those invasives for plankton. The jumping carp are triggered by boats. It is a domino effect, when one jumps the whole school starts to jump and can cause damage. Timeline, they were introduced from Asia in early 1970s, used in aquaculture and research to clean out ponds and lagoons instead of using chemicals. In a couple years found in wild in Arkansas and documented in Kansas in late 1980s, the big head in 1987 and silver in 1991. From Arkansas they went up the Mississippi River, into the Missouri River and into the Kansas River about 15 years ago. In 2011 or 2012 their numbers exploded and in high abundance since then. In 2010, you could drive over the I-45 bridge and see a school of about four acres of 2-inch carp just below the dam, since then they have maintained a high abundance. They have fully infested the Missouri River and any tributary up to any dam or other blockage. In the Kansas River up to the Bowersock Dam. We have had six documented above that, likely related to the 1993 flood. Our big concern is about identification, they grow 20-60 pounds but start small. They are small and silver, and act and look like bait and people collect fish for that purpose. Nationally a lot of efforts to put them on the federal invasive species list with larger management plans designed. We have made regulation changes over the years and recognize the threat. In the last 4-5 years there has been significant federal funding available to us to take on this challenge. The Kansas River drains about the north half of the state and is one of the largest, depending on the prairie rivers and no mountains contributing to it. It is the third largest tributary to the Missouri River and many of our reservoirs are tributaries of the Kansas River. There is a dam 15 miles above the confluence of the Missouri River called the Weir One Dam and 35 miles above that is the Bowersock Dam and carp stop there. The Water One dam stops some, Bowersock is impassible for fish much of the time. The Weir One dam is also called the Edwardsville dam or the Johnson County weir, as well as others. The first project we did about these fish, was to learn about where they were, found no carp above Bowersock, some recruitment below Water One dam, which means eggs are hatching and those fish are returning and becoming adults, above Water One there was very little evidence of that. These fish lay eggs and they float downstream and hatch so there may not be enough miles of river between Bowersock and Water One for that to happen. Another finding was those fish in that section between two dams spent their entire life in that section of water, not leaving and coming back. The Bowersock dam is incredibly important for management of carp, and we need to do everything we can to reinforce it as a barrier to upstream movement. We have an opportunity here, with resident population and low recruitment, that removal could have impact between those two dams. We found that potentially at 51,000 cfs there could be movement of fish through the north powerhouse, so we worked with federal partners and other states on best way to keep those fish out. There is encouragement for an acoustic deterrent, which is putting noise in the water to repel those fish, but it is a large system installed in the last three years and we are looking at other options. There is a system used in the upper Midwest, called a head banger, when the fish try to jump, they hit the metal bars and fall back in the water where they came from. We are looking to install something like that, and the City of Lawrence is onboard with us and the folks at Bowersock power are excited as well. We have done initial work to be sure dam could hold this in place and grant submitted for funding to start this fall. Commissioner Cross – Are they cold and warm water fish? What is their optimal environment? Steffen – The Mississippi River is analogous to the Yangtze River basin in China where they are native. We have them in Minnesota all the way to the Gulf of Mexico, so they are



adaptable. A lot of our native fish reproduce when the water gets to the right temperature, crappy spawns are two to three weeks long and they will put on eggs and wait for flow event to release eggs and we have seen them spawn from April to October and not in one event. They may release some eggs at a time and hold some for later. They are a problematic invasive species and are highly adaptable. We would love to have you see one when they get in place. When we started two years ago, fish were about seven pounds, not seeing changes in size below Water One or in the Missouri River. We have 18–21-pound fish where we have been removing them and have caught a little over a ton of fish. Commissioner Cross – Has anyone figured out a use for them? Steffen – There are some processing facilities in Illinois, Kentucky and Tennessee and the states subsidize those by guaranteeing 10-15 cents a pound. They are processed and shipped back to China. In our case a lot of fish, but not enough for that. To process for food, they spoil really fast and have to be on ice within two hours. There are some efforts for using for fertilizer, but a matter of logistics and scale. Also, if you develop a market, people want to keep them around, so it becomes a catch 22. We are working with Emporia State University on how these fish are impacting native species. Good science behind it, looking at types of food fish are eating, compared to native fish where there are carp and where there aren't carp. Looking at ten different species, and seeing those fish are changing what they eat in presence of those carp, trying to find something carp aren't eating. We expect to see diets shift back to more natural state when carp are removed. Leading into the snagging proposal, we know river is here and people use it but not a lot more than that. Traditionally our creel surveys happen on reservoirs and other impoundments. With the federal grant money, we want to survey on how constituents are interacting and viewing these invasive fish. Throughout 2022, we ran creel up and down lower 15 miles to Water One dam. There are only three access points on that stretch and people are stacked at those three locations in shocking numbers. We had 80,000 angling trips in those 15 miles, and compared to our largest reservoir, Milford, it has 120,000 at 15-20 access points across the lake. As well as boat ramps and shoreline fishing. This is 80,000 at three boat ramps, so not easy. Water One dam has public access to walk but nowhere to park, people are paying at gas station to park and walk almost a mile to fish. Asking how they perceive and interact with carp and the favorable ones are using them as bait. We have large catfish and they like big bait. If it jumps in your boat, use it for bait. It is a mixed bag of feeling about the fish. We are encouraged that folks want to use them as bait, and we would be happy to have them remove them from the river for us. It is not legal to snag at that location. The way snagging seasons are set up is at specific locations and only for two months during the paddlefish season. So currently not legal but could legally catch these fish bowfishing or with rod and reel, which is extremely difficult, or with a net, which all are relatively ineffective. Snagging is putting a big hook with a weight and just ripping through the water trying to get the fish hooked, which is what we do with paddlefish because they will not hit on a lure or bait. The committee is concerned with what else we might catch with snagging and there is already a lot of people fishing there. We have data on what this would look like, people think you would catch a lot of fish with snagging, but it is incredibly physical, and most people are spent after 30-45 minutes, so you are looking at catch rate of 1.4 fish per hour. You could do other types of fish with higher success rate, so not catching much. If two-thirds of the fish caught were invasive carp but caught channel catfish and gar as well and a few paddlefish that we didn't know where there. Fisheries committees are supportive of snagging season. We are proposing allowing snagging for bighead carp and silver carp in the lower Kansas River. Allow snagging in the Kansas River from the Water One Weir downstream to the confluence with the Missouri River (15 river miles). Limit harvest to bighead carp and silver carp only; require barbless hooks; open year-round; no additional permit needed beyond standard fishing license; as well as no creel or possession limit on bighead carp or silver carp; and may not be possessed live or released live.

Dan Riley – Have you considered including recommendations for euthanizing and disposing of fish if they do catch them? Steffen – Yes, we want to do creel evaluation surveys afterwards. We

would provide information on ethical methods of euthanizing and disposing of those fish. The survey would ask what they did with the fish when they encountered them.

Commissioner Sill – Is there paddlefish snagging currently on that river? Steffen – No, not on the Kansas River. Sowards – We have the proper disposal methods in regulation. Riley – It closes the loop in terms of recommendation.

3. Invasive species regulations - Chris Steffen, aquatic invasive species coordinator, presented these regulations to the Commission (Exhibit K). To KAR 115-7-10, AIS designated waters reference document we want to add Gardner City Lake to the list because zebra mussels were detected in 2023.

4. Sportfish versus non-sport fish regulations - Nick Kramer, district fisheries biologist and regional habitat coordinator at Perry, presented these regulations to the Commission (Exhibit L, PowerPoint Exhibit M). I am the chair of the alternative fish committee, and we oversee methods of snagging, bow fishing, gigging and spearing. A better way to understand these regulations is clarification of wanton waste or possession regulations as it pertains to non-native sport fish. Two different regulations deal with possessing and processing fish, 7-4 and 18-8. In 7-4, each person who takes any fish shall retain fish in their possession until processed or given away. In 18-8, it deals with retrieval and possession of game animals, sport fishing and migratory game birds; and retained until processed, consumed or given away or transport to a commercial place of preservation. One deals with any fish and the other applies to sport fish, the only difference is that 7-4 mentions that you can return the fish unrestrained to the water or dispose of it at a designated disposal location. I discussed with law enforcement and was asking if that meant people can kill carp and throw them in the ditch and that there was no wanton waste but could charge littering. At April 2003 meeting, our fisheries chief Doug Nygren mentioned no fish are covered by wanton waste regulations and added white perch to non-sportfish status. This was before sportfish were added to 18-8 in 2003. In 115-7-4 all fish are protected by wanton waste, since December 1989, so in the books for quite a while but people not aware of it. Chris just discussed opening snagging for big head and silver carp, and they are non-sportfish.

Non-sportfish are defined in KAR 115-1-1 and includes common carp, silver carp, big head carp, black carp, grass carp, drum, thread fin and gizzard shad, goldfish, gar, suckers and clean gar suckers, buffalo, eel, sturgeon, gold eye, white perch and bothid. Chris talked about silver and big head carp as non-native species. Over half of fish are non-sport or non-native fish. A lot of those native fish are generic term for sturgeon. We have the federal endangered pallid sturgeon that swims in the Missouri and Kansas rivers and under this definition and some interpretations of our wanton waste and possession laws, could just be thrown in a ditch and all they could be charged with is littering if they get caught. As well as the American eel that swims up from Mexico, so charismatic fish such as those; so, have non-native and rough fish as well lumped into this. There are native non-sportfish left that are under-studied. More recent focus and research are finding these fish can last a long time, some reach 20 years old, and a big mouth buffalo was found five years ago that was 112 years old, validated by radiocarbon dating. They also take a long time to sexually mature, some not until traditional sport fish are dying of old age; like freshwater drum don't mature until five years old and smallmouth buffalo until 9-11 years old. On top of that they have irregular recruitment and spawning and might not spawn every year, so not easily replaced when removed from the system. We propose to protect all fish, especially non-sportfish under both possession and wanton waste regulations. We do that by removing the definitions of sport and non-sportfish from KAR 115-1-1. That would also impact 115-7-1 which deals with legal equipment and methods of taking fish to remove those references. Then we add a list of species that can be targeted with certain gear or open to all gear. KAR 115-7-1 is broken into two sections, A and B: A deals with methods legal for sportfish and B deals with what methods legal for non-sportfish. Since we are striking definitions, we would have to add gear that is legal for take. KAR 115-7-2 is

general provisions and talks about definition of gear and methods, so again remove reference to sport fish or non-sportfish, and in section referring to snagging, add list of species that can be snagged in the waters posted or designated as open to snagging. Then we get into two possession regulations, 7-4 where we removed sport fish and non-sportfish and add line for common carp and prohibited species may be returned dead to the water where they were taken; and 7-7 that changes because already covered in 118-8, a way to remove support references. Then add common carp prohibited species may be returned dead to the water they were taken. In 18-8, it has a line that say shall prohibit the catch and release of live sport fish. This was discussed at length and want to change wording to “shall prohibit the catch and release of live fish caught using trot lines, set lines, tip ups, hand fishing, snagging and float lines”. Legal gear excludes spearing, gigging and bow fishing, so if these changes are accepted then anglers or bow fishers would no longer be able to shoot and release by bow fishing, largely due to study in Oklahoma, started in 2021 and published in 2023, that estimated cumulative mortality. So why does it matter and why do non-sportfish need protection? If you go back to the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, it has seven tenets we base our regulations and management on for fish and wildlife. One of those is wildlife can only be killed for legitimate purposes, some anglers might argue that shooting gar and buffalo is doing a great service to our sport fish by removing them. In defense of buffaloes another study was done in Iowa that published recently. They looked at annual change of water quality and sport fish community structure following the harvest of common carp and big mouth buffalo in lakes in Iowa. Commercial harvesters removed between nine and 63 pounds per acre in these systems. They found relatively few effects to other fish, but it did affect blue-green algae or chlorophyll A concentrations and significantly affected aquatic plan density and richness and removals were not associated with changes in nitrogen or phosphorus concentrations. So, removing them did not benefit the system. Another study in Oklahoma looked at diets of 45 long nose gar and found two freshwater drum, six gizzard shad, five red shiners, one blue veil and one black bullhead in their stomachs, not the number of stomachs but the total number of those fish found. A lot of stomachs were empty. They are not out there gorging themselves on native or non-native sportfish, fish tend to eat what is available or most abundant and thus benefitting the system not hurting it. Many of our native or non-sport fish are native fish, they are long-lived, maturing and have irregular recruitment and are experiencing some population declines and current interpretations of our regulations do not protect these fish from wanton waste. We propose this clarification to wanton waste regulations and limitation of catch and release.

Chairman Damron – Chris talked about snagging with barbless hooks, is there data on survivability? Kramer – Studies found mortality is low for snagging. Snagging hooks are maybe 1/8-inch thick, so smaller than an arrow or the barb on bowfishing gear. My master’s thesis looked at stress related snagging, and paddlefish were unaffected. So, snagging is less intrusive and less mortality. Commissioner Sporer – Does anyone commercially fish in Kansas? Kramer – There is one, but contract is about up. He has moved around the state. Bryan Sowards – One year left in his contract and he is going to retire, so we will reevaluate usefulness of that because of these topics.

*Break*

#### **D. Workshop Session**

1. Trout Permit Cost (115-2-1) – Bryan Sowards, fisheries division director, presented these regulations to the Commission (Exhibit N, PowerPoint Exhibit O). First workshop for increasing cost of trout permits. The impetus behind the increase is due to trout costs. We do not produce our own trout; we buy them, and prices have increased exponentially in last couple of years. The last time it raised was in 2016, and price has gone from \$1.57 per fish to \$3.53 today. We responded to the 2016 price increase by decreasing number we stocked but that didn’t seem prudent or a palatable solution to maintain the program and still provide a reasonable opportunity.

Revenue remains steady but costs are going up. We propose increasing the trout permit cost, in 115-2-1, from \$12.00 to \$17.50, with \$2.50 transaction fee that will be \$20. We do not propose increasing the youth trout permit for 16 and under, which I think is \$4.50. In 2011, the cost of 5/fish creel limit was \$7.85 to the department, today it costs \$17.65 to the department, so basically the new rate covers a one-day limit. Commissioner Cross – Is raising trout an option for us? Sowards – We can. The last few years we have bought trout from a commercial vendor and held them in our facilities and grew them up, we are good at that, but we have limited hatchery space, and we need to save space for highly preferred species like walleye, largemouth bass, saugeye and channel catfish. Commissioner Cross – We don't have a cost benefit analysis for producing or raising our own? Sowards – Not done cost analysis. Our space wouldn't allow it right now. Secretary Kennedy – We are saving hatchery space. Sowards – We do creel surveys each year and have a good idea of species preferred on reservoirs. Commissioner Cross – I heard trout producers are dwindling. Sowards – I don't know what the future of the program will be. Commissioner Sill – Is there cap on trout permit, what is it? Sowards – No statutory cap, it is in regulation only. Commissioner Escareno – Are we going to keep stocking the same amount we stocked in the past, growing the number or putting more fish in with increase in price? Sowards – We have changed a lot of things in the last year. We will decrease the number stocked, going to shorter season, December to March. Will stock similar amount per month but constricted time frame. Not increasing unless revenue goes up. Commissioner Gfeller – Escareno asked question, I was going to ask whether there were plans to reduce numbers further or increase numbers? Sowards – The angler experience, increase in price of fee, is more palatable if they still have a good experience.

1. KAR 115-25-9a Military deer seasons – Levi Jaster, big game coordinator, presented this regulation to the Commission (Exhibit P). Separate from statewide regulation to allow more time to work with military units to provide for their needs for training missions, etc. They can hunt under statewide regulations, but usually want some additional or changed dates. Number of days stays the same. It just suggests when those days occur on that location, which can provide additional opportunity for some hunters to take advantage of all the seasons. Fort Riley, in addition to regular whitetail season, they want additional antlerless season November 29, 2024, to December 1, 2024; firearm season December 14-22, 2024. They will only use one white-tail antlerless permit, strike that. They have requested five white-tailed antlerless-only permits. They are trying to increase antlerless harvest on the Fort. Fort Leavenworth is requesting firearm season from November 16-17, 2024; November 23-24, 2024; November 28, 2024, to December 1, 2024; December 7-8, 2024; and December 14-15, 2024. Same number of days, adjusted on calendar. They would like to participate in the extended firearms longest season January 1-19, 2025. The extended archery season for antlerless-only white-tailed deer will be January 20-31, 2025. Smokey Hill is requesting firearm season from December 4-15, 2024, which is the same as the statewide season. They also want the five additional antlerless white-tailed deer permits. All other statewide seasons they follow. We are asking for permission to move this forward to the promulgation process. Chairman Damron – Do we need a motion or just consensus? Chief Counsel Dan Riley – Motion is fine, just moving from workshop into promulgation process. *Commissioner Sill moved to move to promulgation process, Commissioner Sporer second. Approved.*

3. Carcass Movement Regulation – Levi Jaster, big game program, coordinator, presented this update to the Commission (Exhibit Q). Continuing to review what is going into this. Continue to refine definitions and terms not defined elsewhere. After discussions with law enforcement, we will likely bring back the 30-mile buffer around units. Don't have a whole lot more to discuss at this time. Commissioner Sill – Addresses deer, what about elk? Number of animals is different, and most hunters aren't going to butcher elk themselves, so that makes them different. However, for

consistently, do we need to consider expanding this to include elk? Can drag it around the state. Where do elk fit in? Jaster – That is why we define wild cervids, which includes elk and moose, if we ever have a huntable population. That is also why we spoke specifically on that in section B on export in 115-4-6, deer unit regulations, so would limit to unit harvested in. We realize elk units are vast, but we want to maintain limited time travel, so it calls specifically to that regulation in text. Commissioner Sill – I’m not hearing from public one way or the other on this. In thinking about comments made, sportsman need to be responsible, inform themselves about things that are happening, but concerned that this will potentially be impactful to a lot of hunters, and we are not hearing from them. Do we need to make note on website that it is being discussed or make note in other public notifications, so people know this topic is on the table? Jaster - We recognize that and realize it is going to take a major education effort to let people know about it and how to work within it. I think it is a little soon to publish anything until we have this more settled. We will work with public affairs folks to make that happen. Deputy Secretary Schrag –This came up at last meeting, the question about how taxidermists fall into the conversation. That is part of an ongoing conversation, and we are vetting it better. Secretary Kennedy – The heart of the conversation is that these strategies are brought forth to begin to head off and address chronic wasting disease (CWD). I challenge deer biologists to look at status in Kansas, where it is most prevalent and a whole host of strategies, we could utilize to address the disease itself. We have to work to help educate our governor and look at whole list and figure out what is palatable in state of Kansas. We are talking one strategy at a time, rather than looking at whole list of strategies and how we move forward. Chairman Damron – When we have clarity on the regulation, we will engage taxidermist and processors with public notification, perhaps even give recommendations for signage to give notice to people who walk in the door. Lists of rules to follow for movement, but that is down the road. Commissioner Sporer – Lauren’s comment in the past about the family that processes deer at Sawyer. They do hundreds a year. How is this going to affect them and how is it going to affect the deer hunters? This is a huge deal for those people. I was hoping it was going to be 100 miles, not 30 miles. When it hits the public and becomes law, it’s a problem for law enforcement and everybody.

4. Pending Regulations (Exhibit R) – Chief Counsel Dan Riley – As a word of explanation, this category catches all pending regulations that have gotten the commission’s blessing in terms of propagation process but have not completed promulgation process and come back to the commission for public hearing. The first four on aquatic invasive species is before joint committee on administrative rules and regulations this morning, so going through JCAR and will be coming out for approval. The rest are scattered out through the process at either the Department of Administration or Attorney General’s office or finishing up. Commissioner Sporer – Define waiting on edits? Chief Counsel Riley – That means it is working through the process. That is what the promulgation process is, a series of edits for different reasons, language and consistency with the standards of regulations, with Department of Administration based on a legal review for the Attorney General’s office and if it qualifies for budget, the impact from monetary basis from the budget office. The same thing at their staging process. Commissioner Sill – Those first four will be up for vote at next meeting? Chief Counsel Riley – Most likely, yes. JCAR tends to be the last part of the process before they come back for public hearing. Commissioner Escareno – Will that come back for a vote at the next meeting? Chief Counsel Riley – They will show up on the agenda as soon as they clear the process, which will probably be in next week to 10 days. Sheila will put them on the agenda as public hearing, and you will vote on them as official version of the regulation. Then they go back to the Secretary of State’s office to be published before they take effect. Deputy Secretary Schrag – See wheels turning and I feel there is further explanation needed on KAR 115-8-26, the public lands waterfowl regulation. That was sent to the promulgation process to the Department of Administration, they sent it back requesting edits. We have been

going back and forth with Department of Administration on that. Chief Counsel Riley – That is a little more detail on waiting edits.

- K.A.R. 115-7-3, 7-2, 7-9, 7-10 Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations
- K.A.R. 115-17-3 Commercial Fish Bait
- K.A.R. 115-30-4 Fire Extinguishers; Requirements
- K.A.R. 115-25-14 Fishing (Reference Document)
- K.A.R. 115-2-3 Camping, utility, and other fees
- K.A.R. 115-8-26 new Public Lands regulation (Reference Document)
- K.A.R. 115-4-4 – Big Game equipment
- K.A.R. 115-25-8 – Elk; open season, bag limit and permit

## **VII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Norman Mantle – On our lakes and public property, you have mountain bike trails that are causing erosion problems. Once the cover is gone the silt ends up in the lake. They are dredging at some boat ramps, and Milford is now, and it is already silted back shut. Shut down bike trails that are causing erosion and farmers should do no-till to keep the cover on. This is wrong.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

## **IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Future Meeting Locations and Dates**

*June 20 – Hays, Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center, 221 W 43rd St  
August 29 – Independence, location to be determined.*

Chairman Damron – Thank you for making me feel welcome. Thanks for taking time to come to these meetings and having expertise when questions come up and people here to answer them. I appreciate that.

Commissioner Sill – Kudos for fisheries on carp removal. It has been fun to see positive things in the newspaper.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 2:13 pm.

**Administrative  
Rules and  
Regulations  
Public  
Hearing**

**(pursuant to KSA 77-421)**

# Scott Schwab

## Kansas Secretary of State

### Kansas Register

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[Kansas Register](#) / [Issue 13 - March 28, 2024](#) / Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission

*Volume 43 - Issue 13 - March 28, 2024*

#### State of Kansas

### Wildlife and Parks Commission

#### Notice of Hearing on Proposed Administrative Regulations

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife and Parks Commission (the Commission) at 12:00 p.m. Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center, 221 W. 43rd St., Hays, KS 67601, to consider the approval and adoption of the proposed administrative regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Other Commission business will follow and will include general discussions, which may include educational presentations, workshop sessions, and public comment opportunity following the public hearing. The meeting will continue until all business is complete.

Any individual with a disability may request an accommodation to participate in the public hearing and may request the proposed regulations and economic impact statements in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the hearing should be made at least five working days in advance of the hearing by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission Secretary, at 620-672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This 60-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulations.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612, or to [sheila.kemmis@ks.gov](mailto:sheila.kemmis@ks.gov), if submitted electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally regarding the adoption of the proposed regulations. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted by interested parties will be considered by the Commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulations.

The regulations that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting are as follows:

**K.A.R. 115-7-9.** This regulation covers weigh-in black bass fishing tournaments.

#### **Economic Impact Summary**

This amendment is not expected to have any significant economic impact.

**K.A.R. 115-7-10.** This regulation covers special provisions for fishing.

#### **Economic Impact Summary**

This amendment is not expected to have any significant economic impact.

**K.A.R. 115-17-3.** This regulation covers the general provisions for commercial fish bait permits, requirements, and applications.

#### **Economic Impact Statement**



No enhancement or restriction of business activities is expected. The affected commercial fish bait permit would, on average, add 30 minutes of personnel time per year for about 125 bait shops. No other economic impact is anticipated.


Copies of the complete text of the regulations and economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the Chairperson of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the Department's website at <http://www.ksoutdoors.com>, or by calling 785-296-2281.


Gerald Lauber  
Chairman  
Wildlife and Parks Commission

Doc. No. 051996

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## Kansas Secretary of State


 Memorial Hall, 1st Floor  
120 SW 10th Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66612-1594

 785-296-4564

 [kssos@ks.gov](mailto:kssos@ks.gov)


 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Business Services Division

 785-296-4564

 [kssos@ks.gov](mailto:kssos@ks.gov)

## Elections Division

 800-262-VOTE(8683)

 [election@ks.gov](mailto:election@ks.gov)

## Publications Division

 785-296-BOOK(2665)

 [sos\\_lawbooks@ks.gov](mailto:sos_lawbooks@ks.gov)

**Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission  
Notice of Public Hearing**

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife and Parks Commission (the Commission) at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center, 221 W. 43<sup>rd</sup> St., Hays, Kansas 67601, to consider the approval and adoption of a proposed administrative regulation of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The public hearing will begin at 12:00 p.m., June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the location above. Other Commission business will follow and will include general discussions, which may include educational presentations, workshop sessions, and public comment opportunity following the public hearing. The meeting will continue until all business is complete.

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The regulation that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting is as follows:

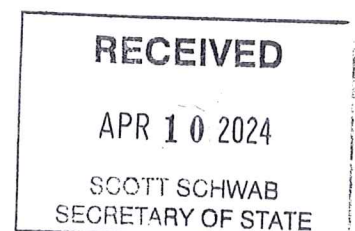
**K.A.R. 115-7-3.** This regulation concerns the taking and use of baitfish and minnows.

**Economic Impact Summary:**

There is no cost associated with this regulation change.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and economic impact statement may be obtained by writing the Chairperson of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the Department's website at [www.ksoutdoors.com](http://www.ksoutdoors.com), or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman



**115-7-3. Fish; taking and use of baitfish or minnows.** (a) Baitfish may be taken for noncommercial purposes by any of the following means:

- (1) A seine not longer than 15 feet and four feet deep with mesh not larger than 1/4 inch;
- (2) a fish trap with mesh not larger than 1/4 inch and a throat not larger than one inch in diameter;
- (3) a dip or cast net with mesh not larger than one inch; or
- (4) a fishing line.

(b) Each fish trap shall be tagged with the operator's name and address when the fish trap is in use.

(c) Baitfish taken, except gizzards shad, silver carp, and bighead carp, shall not exceed 12 inches in total length. Silver carp and bighead carp shall not be transported from the water alive.

(d) The possession limit shall be 500 baitfish.

(e) For the species specified in this subsection, the department's applicable creel and possession limits shall apply.

Live baitfish, crayfish, leeches, amphibians, and mussels, except for bluegill and green sunfish from non-designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive waters and baitfish, crayfish, leeches, amphibians, and mussels from designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive waters, may be caught and used as live bait only within the common drainage where caught. However, live baitfish, crayfish, leeches, amphibians, and mussels shall not be transported and used above any upstream dam or barrier that prohibits the normal passage of fish. Bluegill and green sunfish collected from non-designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive waters may be possessed or used as live bait anywhere in the state. Live baitfish, crayfish, leeches, amphibians, and mussels collected from

**APPROVED**

**MAR 21 2024**

**DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION**

**APPROVED**

**APR 02 2024**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**RECEIVED**  
**APR 10 2024**  
**SCOTT SCHWAB**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

# Proposed

K.A.R. 115-7-3

Page 2 of 2

designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive waters shall be possessed or used as live bait only while on that water and shall not be transported from the water alive.

(f) No person shall import live baitfish that does not meet the requirements of K.A.R. 115-17-2 and K.A.R. 115-17-2a.

~~This regulation shall be effective on and after January 1, 2021.~~ (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. ~~2019~~2023 Supp. 32-807; effective Sept. 10, 1990; amended Jan. 1, 2012; amended Jan. 1, 2013; amended Jan. 1, 2015; amended Jan. 1, 2019; amended Dec. 20, 2019; amended Jan. 1, 2021, amended P-\_\_\_\_\_.)

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**MAR 21 2024**

**DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION**

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**APR 10 2024**

**SCOTT SCHWAB  
SECRETARY OF STATE**

# Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

KDWP  
Agency

Dan Riley  
Agency Contact

296-1032  
Contact Phone Number

115-7-3  
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 over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024 (as calculated in Section III, F)?

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, the Attorney General, AND the Division of the Budget. The regulation(s) and the EIS will require Budget 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. 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.

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)

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**Section I**

Brief description of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s).

We are changing the wording of “nuisance” to “invasive” in this regulation. Invasive is consistent with language used by other state and federal conservation agencies to describe species detrimental to our environment, among other economic detriments

**Section II**

Statement by the agency if the rule(s) and regulation(s) exceed the requirements of applicable federal law, and a statement if the approach chosen to address the policy issue(s) is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or the federal government. *(If the approach is different or exceeds federal law, then include a statement of why the proposed Kansas rule and regulation is different.)*

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;

No expectation of this regulation change enhancing or restricting any business activities and growth.

- 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 would be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole;

No quantifiable economic effect is anticipated.

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

None

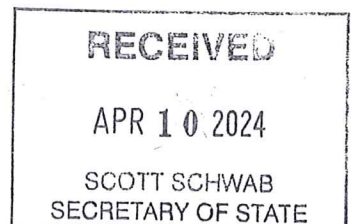
- D. Benefits of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) compared to the costs;

No economic benefit is expected.

- 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

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)



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 members of the public.  
*Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized.*

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$0  
Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0  
Costs to Members of the Public – \$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.

Not applicable

- Yes If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024, and prior to the submission or resubmission of the proposed rule(s)
- No and regulation(s), did the agency hold a public hearing to find that the estimated costs
- Not Applicable 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.

If applicable, click here to enter public hearing information.

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

Not applicable

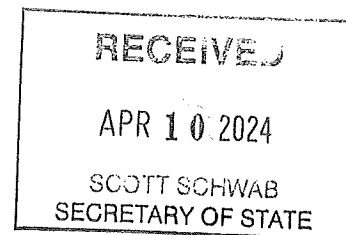
Provide an estimate of any immediate or long-range economic impact of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) on any individual(s), small employers, and the general public. If no dollar estimate can be given for any individual(s), small employers, and the general public, give specific reasons why no estimate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

Not applicable

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

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)



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

This was discussed and included in three public workshop sessions at Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission meetings.

Section IV

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

- [X] 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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

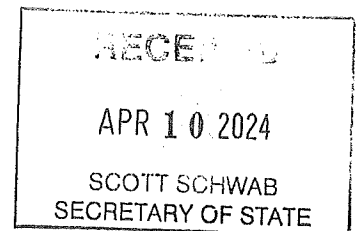
C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, as well as the persons who would bear the costs and would be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).

Minimal costs expected if the regulation is not adopted.

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

Not applicable

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (if Required)





**Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission  
Notice of Public Hearing**

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife and Parks Commission (the Commission) at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center, 221 W. 43<sup>rd</sup> St., Hays, KS 67601 to consider the approval and adoption of the proposed administrative regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The public hearing will begin at 12:00 p.m. June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the location above. Other Commission business will follow and will include general discussions, which may include educational presentations, workshop sessions, and public comment opportunity following the public hearing. The meeting will continue until all business is complete.

Any individual with a disability may request an accommodation to participate in the public hearing and may request the proposed regulations and economic impact statements in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the hearing should be made at least five working days in advance of the hearing by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission Secretary, at (620) 672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This 60-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulations.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Avenue, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or to [sheila.kemmis@ks.gov](mailto:sheila.kemmis@ks.gov), if submitted electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally regarding the adoption of the proposed regulations. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted by interested parties will be considered by the Commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulations.

The regulations that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting are as follows:

**K.A.R. 115-7-9.** This regulation covers weigh-in black bass fishing tournaments.

**Economic Impact Summary:** This amendment is not expected to have any significant economic impact.

**K.A.R. 115-7-10.** This regulation covers special provisions for fishing.

**Economic Impact Summary:** This amendment is not expected to have any significant economic impact.

**K.A.R. 115-17-3.** This regulation covers the general provisions for commercial fish bait permits, requirements, and applications.

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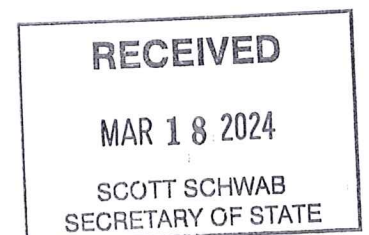
MAR 18 2024

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SECRETARY OF STATE

**Economic Impact Statement:** No enhancement or restriction of business activities is expected. The affected commercial fish bait permit would, on average, add 30 minutes of personnel time per year for about 125 bait shops. No other economic impact is anticipated.

Copies of the complete text of the regulations and economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the Chairperson of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the Department's website at [www.ksoutdoors.com](http://www.ksoutdoors.com), or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman



**115-7-9. Weigh-in black bass fishing tournaments.** (a) Each individual or organization conducting a weigh-in black bass fishing tournament shall ensure that all of the following minimum requirements are met when conducting weigh-in procedures:

- (1) One individual shall provide work crew support for each 10 registered anglers.
- (2) One weigh-in tank filled with an electrolyte chemical-water solution and fitted with recirculation and aeration accessories shall be maintained for each 25 registered anglers.
- (3) If the water temperature at the tournament location is 75 degrees Fahrenheit or cooler, the water contained in the weigh-in tank shall be maintained at the same temperature as that of the tournament location water.
- (4) If the water temperature at the tournament is warmer than 75 degrees Fahrenheit, the water in the weigh-in tank shall be maintained at a temperature that is between five and 10 degrees Fahrenheit cooler than the tournament location water but shall not exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit at any time.
- (5) Not more than four anglers shall be in the weigh-in line at any one time.
- (6) Each weigh-in bag containing water from the well of the vessel shall be reinforced, reusable, and capable of holding up to 15 pounds of live fish and two gallons of water.
- (7) The weigh-in site shall meet the following requirements:
  - (A) Be located near the vessel mooring site and the release site, vehicle, or vessel; and
  - (B) be located at all times under a portable awning, in an event tent, or in the shade.
- (8) Only fish that meet the special length limit for the specific body of water where the weigh-in tournament is being conducted shall be weighed within the period beginning June 16 and ending August 31.

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(b) Each individual or organization conducting the tournament shall ensure that all of the following minimum requirements are met when conducting the release procedures:

(1) The direct release of fish into the tournament location water after the weigh-in shall not be permitted.

(2) If the tournament is conducted with release tubes, vehicles, or vessels, the holding tanks shall contain a one-half percent noniodized salt solution.

(3) If the tournament is conducted without release tubes, vehicles, or vessels, the fish shall be dipped, for a period ranging from 10 seconds to 15 seconds before release, in a three percent noniodized salt solution having the same temperature as that of the water in the weigh-in tank.

(4) The release site shall meet the following conditions:

(A) Be located in water reaching at least three feet in depth with good circulation and a hard bottom; and

(B) be located away from vessel traffic and public-use vessel ramps.

(c) Each tournament participant shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Ensure that each well in the participant's vessel used in the tournament is properly working and contains an electrolyte chemical-water solution; and

(2) ensure that the participant's vessel used in the tournament is cleaned before and after the tournament in compliance with department guidelines regarding the prevention of aquatic nuisanceinvasive species.

(d) The provisions of paragraph (a)(7)(A) may be waived by the secretary within the period beginning September 1 and extending through June 15 if the proximity proposed to the release site does not pose an inordinate risk to the wildlife resource and all other requirements of

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this regulation are met. (Authorized by K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-807; implementing K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. ~~2010 Supp.~~ 32-1002; effective Jan. 1, 2008; amended April 11, 2008; amended Nov. 19, 2010; amended May 20, 2011, amended P-\_\_\_\_\_.)

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115-7-10. Fishing; special provisions. (a) A person who takes any fish from a body of water shall not tag, mark, brand, clip any fin of, mutilate, or otherwise disfigure any fish in a manner that would prevent species identification, examination of fins, recovery of tags, or determination of sex, age, or length of the fish before releasing the fish back into the body of water, unless a permit authorizing this activity has been issued to that person by the department.

(b) No person may possess any live fish upon departure from any designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive species body of water, except during a department-permitted fishing tournament. During a department-permitted fishing tournament, any individual may possess live fish upon departure from designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive species waters along the most direct route to the weigh-in site if the individual possesses a department authorization certificate as a participant in the tournament. Designated aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive species waters shall be those specified in the department's "Kansas aquatic ~~nuisance~~invasive species designated waters," dated ~~November 17, 2022~~June 2, 2023, which is hereby adopted by reference.

(c) No person may fish or collect bait within, from, or over a fish passage, fish ladder, fish steps, or fishway. "Fish passage, fish ladder, fish steps, or fishway" shall mean a structure that facilitates the natural migration of fish upstream on, through, or around, an artificial barrier or dam. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-807; effective Nov. 20, 2009; amended Jan. 1, 2012; amended Jan. 1, 2013; amended Nov. 15, 2013; amended Nov. 14, 2014; amended Nov. 20, 2015; amended Nov. 28, 2016; amended Dec. 22, 2017; amended Jan. 11, 2019; amended Dec. 20, 2019; amended Dec. 25, 2020; amended Sept. 15, 2023. P-

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**115-17-3. Commercial fish bait permit; requirement, application, and general provisions.**

(a) A commercial fish bait permit shall be required for the harvest, sale, or purchase for resale of fish bait, except that a commercial fish bait permit shall not be required for the sale of nonliving, commercially packaged fish bait, the harvest or sale of annelids or insects, or the purchase of annelids or insects for resale.

(b) Any person may apply to the secretary for a commercial fish bait permit. The application shall be submitted on forms provided by the department and completed in full by the applicant. The application must also be accompanied by proof that the applicant has successfully completed the department's online aquatic invasive species certification course. Each incomplete application shall be returned to the applicant.

(c) Each commercial fish bait permit shall be valid for only those wildlife species specified in the permit.

(d) Each commercial fish bait permit shall authorize the permittee to perform any of the following:

(1) Sell fish bait to any person for use as fish bait;

(2) purchase fish bait for resale as fish bait, if the purchase is made from a person who meets at least one of the following requirements:

(A) Possesses a valid commercial fish bait permit;

(B) is a commercial fish grower, as defined by K.S.A. 32-974 and amendments thereto;

or

(C) is authorized by another state to export and sell fish bait; or

(3) import fish bait for sale as fish bait.

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(e) Each permittee harvesting or purchasing fish bait shall maintain records of the following information and, if requested by the secretary, shall provide a report to the department containing the following information:

- (1) The permittee's name;
- (2) the permit number;
- (3) the number, location, and species of wildlife harvested;
- (4) the number and species of wildlife sold;
- (5) for each permittee purchasing fish bait, the name, address, and phone number of each individual distributor or producer from whom the permittee purchased; and
- (6) for each permittee purchasing fish bait, the delivery date of each purchase.

(f) Each permittee shall make records required under the permit available for inspection by any law enforcement officer or department employee upon demand.

(g) Each permittee shall make the fish and the distribution or retail holding tanks that are subject to sample testing pursuant to K.A.R. 115-17-2a available for inspection by any law enforcement officer or department employee upon demand.

(h) Each permittee shall respond to any survey regarding activities conducted under the permit if requested by the secretary.

(i) In addition to other penalties prescribed by law, a commercial fish bait permit or application may be denied or revoked by the secretary if either of the following conditions is met:

- (1) The application is incomplete or contains false information.
- (2) The permittee fails to meet permit requirements or violates permit conditions.

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**DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION**

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SECRETARY OF STATE**



(j) Each commercial fish bait permit shall expire three years after the date the permit is issued.

(k) A permittee may possess and sell legally acquired wildlife for fish bait for not more than 30 days following expiration of the permit. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 32-941; effective Jan. 1, 1991; amended Jan. 1, 2012; amended Jan. 1, 2018; amended Oct. 14, 2022, amended P-\_\_\_\_\_.)

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MAR 08 2024

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SECRETARY OF STATE

# Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

KDWP  
Agency

Dan Riley  
Agency Contact

296-1032  
Contact Phone Number

115-7-9  
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 over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024 (as calculated in Section III, F)?

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, the Attorney General, AND the Division of the Budget. The regulation(s) and the EIS will require Budget 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. 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.

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MAR 18 2024  
  
SCOTT SCHWAB  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**Section I**

Brief description of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s).

We are changing the wording of “nuisance” to “invasive” in one location in this regulation. Invasive is consistent with language used by other state and federal conservation agencies to describe species detrimental to our environment, among other economic detriments.

**Section II**

Statement by the agency if the rule(s) and regulation(s) exceed the requirements of applicable federal law, and a statement if the approach chosen to address the policy issue(s) is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or the federal government. *(If the approach is different or exceeds federal law, then include a statement of why the proposed Kansas rule and regulation is different.)*

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;

No expectation of this regulation change enhancing or restricting any business activities and growth.

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 would be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole;

No quantifiable economic effect is anticipated.

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

None

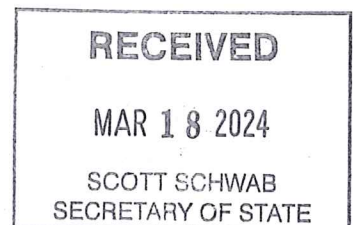
D. Benefits of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) compared to the costs;

No economic benefit is expected.

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

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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 members of the public.  
*Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized.*

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$0

Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0

Costs to Members of the Public – \$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.

[Click here to enter agency response.](#)

- Yes
  - No
  - Not Applicable
- If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024, and prior to the submission or resubmission of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), 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.

If applicable, click here to enter public hearing information.

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

Not applicable

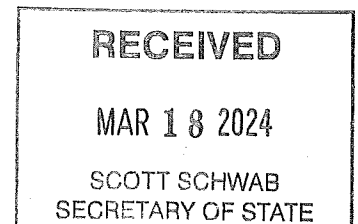
Provide an estimate of any immediate or long-range economic impact of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) on any individual(s), small employers, and the general public. If no dollar estimate can be given for any individual(s), small employers, and the general public, give specific reasons why no estimate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

Not applicable

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

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)



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

This was discussed and included in three public workshop sessions at Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission meetings.

**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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

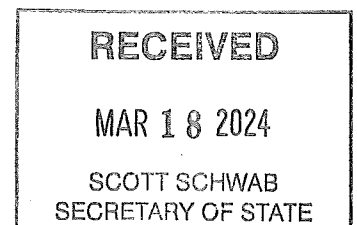
C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, as well as the persons who would bear the costs and would be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).

None expected

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

Not applicable

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)



Proposed

# Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Agency

Dan Riley  
Agency Contact

782-296-1032  
Contact Phone Number

115-7-10  
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 over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024 (as calculated in Section III, F)?
- 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, the Attorney General, AND the Division of the Budget. The regulation(s) and the EIS will require Budget 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. 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.

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (if Required)

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MAR 18 2024

SCOTT SCHWAB  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**Section I**

Brief description of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s).

We are changing the wording of “nuisance” to “invasive” in this regulation. Invasive is consistent with language used by other state and federal conservation agencies to describe species detrimental to our environment, among other economic detriments. We are also adding Willow Lake and the Riley County portion of the Kansas River to the list of Aquatic Invasive Species Designated Waters. These waters carry regulations that prohibit certain physical movements of fish and other aquatic wildlife from those locations to curb the spread of invasive species.

**Section II**

Statement by the agency if the rule(s) and regulation(s) exceed the requirements of applicable federal law, and a statement if the approach chosen to address the policy issue(s) is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or the federal government. *(If the approach is different or exceeds federal law, then include a statement of why the proposed Kansas rule and regulation is different.)*

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;

No expectation of this regulation change enhancing or restricting any business activities and growth.

- 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 would be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole;

No quantifiable economic effect is anticipated.

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

None

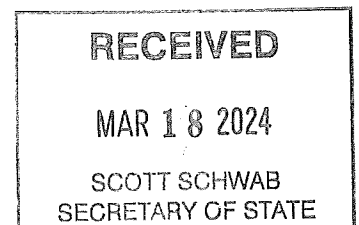
- D. Benefits of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) compared to the costs;

No economic benefit is expected. The only benefit is environmental by restricting the spread of live aquatic organisms from two additional locations in Kansas to other water bodies.

- 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

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)



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 members of the public.  
*Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized.*

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$0  
Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0  
Costs to Members of the Public – \$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.

Not applicable

- Yes If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024, and prior to the submission or resubmission of the proposed rule(s)
- No and regulation(s), did the agency hold a public hearing to find that the estimated costs
- Not Applicable 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.

If applicable, click here to enter public hearing information.

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

Not applicable

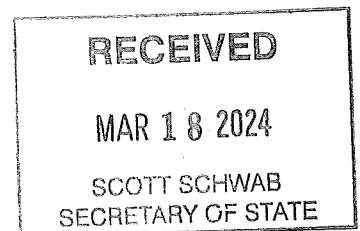
Provide an estimate of any immediate or long-range economic impact of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) on any individual(s), small employers, and the general public. If no dollar estimate can be given for any individual(s), small employers, and the general public, give specific reasons why no estimate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

Not applicable

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

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)





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

This was discussed and included in three public workshop sessions at Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission meetings.

**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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

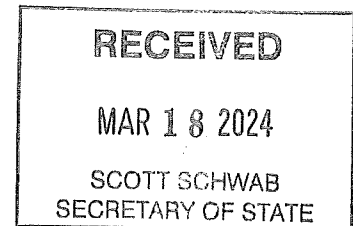
C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, as well as the persons who would bear the costs and would be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).

Minimal costs expected if the regulation is not adopted. However, it is possible that moving fish and other aquatic organisms from these locations to other water bodies could result in considerable costs if removal of these invasive species would be deemed necessary.

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

No applicable

DOB APPROVAL STAMP (If Required)



# Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

KDWP  
Agency

Dan Riley  
Agency Contact

296-1032  
Contact Phone Number

115-17-3  
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 over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024 (as calculated in Section III, F)?

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, the Attorney General, AND the Division of the Budget. The regulation(s) and the EIS will require Budget 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. 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.

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**Section I**

Brief description of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s).

We are adding a requirement to bait shops that apply to the secretary for a commercial fish bait permit to show proof that the applicant has successfully completed KDWP's online Aquatic Invasive Species Certification Course.

**Section II**

Statement by the agency if the rule(s) and regulation(s) exceed the requirements of applicable federal law, and a statement if the approach chosen to address the policy issue(s) is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or the federal government. *(If the approach is different or exceeds federal law, then include a statement of why the proposed Kansas rule and regulation is different.)*

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;

No expectation of this regulation change enhancing or restricting any business activities and growth.

- 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 would be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole;

There are typically 125 bait shops that apply for this commercial fish bait permit. This regulation would, on average, add 30 minutes of personnel time for the owner per year to complete the online course. If the average salary for an employee is conservatively \$20/hr this could cost each business \$10 per year. Given 125 bait shops the overall economic impact statewide could be estimated at \$1,250.

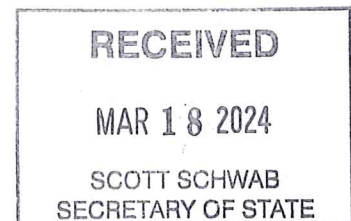
- C. Businesses that would be directly affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s);

Bait shops that sell live fish that would apply to the secretary of KDWP for a commercial bait permit.

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

The regulation is designed to add awareness of identification and impacts of aquatic invasive species to bait shops. The awareness aims to protect water bodies across the state by deterring the spread of invasive species. Aquatic invasive species have significant financial and ecological impacts to Kansas. The benefits of invasive species awareness and control far outweigh an annual cost of \$1,250.

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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;

KDWP has designed an efficient online certification course to minimize personnel time.

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 members of the public.

Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized.

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$1,250

Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0

Costs to Members of the Public – \$0

**Total Annual Costs – \$1,250**

(sum of above amounts)

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

There are typically 125 bait shops that apply for this commercial fish bait permit. This regulation would, on average, add 30 minutes of personnel time for the owner per year to complete the online course. If the average salary for an employee is conservatively \$20/hr this could cost each business \$10 per year. Given 125 bait shops the overall economic impact statewide could be estimated at \$1,250.

- Yes
  - No
  - Not Applicable
- If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024, and prior to the submission or resubmission of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), 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.

If applicable, click here to enter public hearing information.

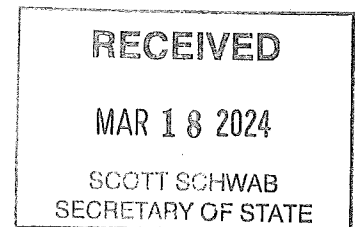
Provide an estimate to any changes in aggregate state revenues and expenditures for the implementation of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), for both the current fiscal year and next fiscal year.

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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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, associations, local governments, state agencies, or institutions and members of the public that may be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s).

This was discussed and included in three public workshop sessions at Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission meetings.

**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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected beyond the potential \$1,250 annual cost to bait shops.

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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

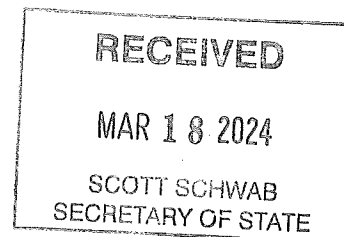
C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, as well as the persons who would bear the costs and would be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).

Failure to adopt this regulation might not cost anything. However, the risk of bait shops spreading aquatic invasive species is a constant nationwide concern. If invasive species spread from this source the economic and ecological costs would vary but would potentially exceed the minimal costs of implementation.

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

There are many peer-reviewed manuscripts on the economic and ecological costs of invasive species.

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## Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife and Parks Commission (the Commission) at 12:00 p.m., on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at The Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center, 221 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hays, KS 67601, to consider the approval and adoption of a proposed administrative regulation of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The public hearing will begin at 12:00 p.m., Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the location above. Other Commission business will follow and will include general discussions, which may include educational presentations, workshop sessions, and public comment opportunity following the public hearing. The meeting will continue until all business is complete.

Any individual with a disability may request an accommodation to participate in the public hearing and may request the proposed regulation and economic impact statement in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the hearing should be made at least five working days in advance of the hearing by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission Secretary, at (620) 672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This 30-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulation.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Avenue, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or to [sheila.kemmis@ks.gov](mailto:sheila.kemmis@ks.gov), if submitted electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally regarding the adoption of the proposed regulation. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted by interested parties will be considered by the Commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulation.

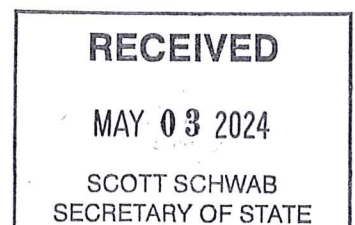
The regulation that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting is as follows:

**K.A.R. 115-25-14.** This regulation is on fishing creel limit, size limit, possession limit, and open season.

**Economic Impact Summary:** This amendment is not expected to have any measurable economic impact.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and economic impact statement may be obtained by writing the Chairperson of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the Department's website at [www.ksoutdoors.com](http://www.ksoutdoors.com), or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman



115-25-14. Fishing; creel limit, size limit, possession limit, and open season. (a) The open season for the taking of fish in Kansas shall be January 1 through December 31, with the following exceptions:

(1) The flowing portions and backwaters of the Missouri river and any oxbow lake through which the Kansas-Missouri boundary passes, for which the open snagging season for the taking of paddlefish shall be March 15 through May 15;

(2) the flowing portions of the Kansas river from its origin downstream to its confluence with the Missouri river and the flowing portions of the Arkansas river from its origin downstream to the Kansas-Oklahoma border and on federal reservoirs from 150 yards away from the dam to the upper end of the federal property, for which the open hand-fishing season for the taking of flathead catfish shall be from sunrise to sunset, June 15 through August 31;

(3) for floatline fishing, only on designated federal reservoirs; and

(4) those areas closed by posted notice.

(b) Pursuant to K.A.R. 115-18-12, a trout permit shall be required for each individual who wants to fish on the following waters during the specified time periods:

~~(A)~~(1) November 1 through April 15 (type one waters):

~~(1)~~(A) Dodge City Lake Charles;

~~(2)~~(B) Coffeyville LeClere Lake;

~~(3)~~(C) Eisenhower State Park Pond;

~~(4)~~(D) Fort Scott Gun Park Lake;

~~(5)~~(E) Garnett Crystal Lake;

~~(6)~~(F) Glen Elder Reservoir Outlet;

~~(7)~~(G) Glen Elder State Park Pond;

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~~(8)~~(H) Kanopolis Seep Stream;

~~(9)~~(I) Lake Henry, located in Clinton State Park;

~~(10)~~(J) Unit number 30, located in the Mined Land Wildlife Area;

~~(11)~~(K) Pratt Centennial Pond;

~~(12)~~(L) the following Sedgwick County Park waters:

(i) Vic's Lake; and

(ii) Slough Creek;

~~(13)~~(M) Scott State Park Pond;

~~(14)~~(N) Topeka Auburndale Park;

~~(15)~~(O) Walnut River Area, located in El Dorado State Park;

~~(16)~~(P) Webster Stilling Basin;

~~(17)~~(Q) Willow Lake, located in Tuttle Creek State Park;

~~(18)~~(R) King Lake-Emporia; and

~~(19)~~(S) OJ Watson Park.

~~(B)~~(2) November 1 through October 31: unit number 30, located in the Mined Land Wildlife Area.

(c) Pursuant to K.A.R. 115-18-12, a trout permit shall be required for each individual who wants to fish for and possess trout on the following waters from November 1 through April 15 (type two waters):

(1) Atchison City Lake No. 1;

(2) Belleville City Lake (Rocky Pond);

(3) Cameron Springs, located on Fort Riley;

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- (4) Cedar Bluff Stilling Basin;
- (5) Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko);
- (6) Cimarron Grasslands Pits;
- (7) Great Bend Veterans Memorial Park Lake;
- (8) Great Bend Stone Lake;
- (9) Herington-Father Padilla Pond;
- (10) Holton-Elkhorn Lake;
- (11) Hutchinson Dillon Nature Center Pond;
- (12) Kanopolis State Park Pond;
- (13) Lake Shawnee, located in Shawnee County;
- (14) Meade State Fishing Lake;
- (15) Moon Lake, located on Fort Riley;
- (16) Salina Lakewood Lake;
- (17) Sandsage Bison Range and Wildlife Area Sandpits;
- (18) Scott State Fishing Lake;
- (19) the following Sedgwick County Park waters:
  - (A) Moss Lake; and
  - (B) Horseshoe Lake;
- (20) Solomon River between Webster Reservoir and Rooks County #2 Road;
- (21) Syracuse-Sam's Pond;
- (22) Colby-Villa High Lake; and
- (23) Sherman County Smokey Gardens Lake.

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**APR 11 2024**

**DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATION**

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**SCOTT SCHWAB**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

(d) The following daily creel limits and size limits shall apply to each pond, lake, impoundment, and other water of the state that is open to public fishing access and to all perennial and intermittent watercourses of the state, unless special creel limits and size limits apply pursuant to subsection (f).

<u>Species</u>	<u>Creel Limit</u>	<u>Size Limit</u>
Black bass: largemouth, spotted, or smallmouth	5*	15"
Channel catfish (fewer than 30 rays in the anal fin)	10	--
Blue catfish (30 or more rays in the anal fin)	5	--
Trout	5*	--
Flathead catfish	5	--
Walleye, sauger, saugeye	5*	15"****
Pike family: northern pike, tiger, or muskellunge	2*	30"
Striped bass	5	--
Wiper: striped bass hybrid	5	--
Paddlefish	2**/2#	--
Crappie: white or black	50*	--
All other species	No limit	--

\* The daily creel limit shall be composed of a single listed species or a combination of the species in the listed species group.

\*\* The total snagging creel limit of paddlefish per calendar year shall be six paddlefish.

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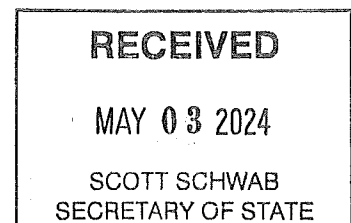
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\*\*\* The 15" length limit on walleye, sauger, and saugeye shall not apply to streams, rivers, and tailwaters.

Any individual younger than 16 years of age may use an adult's paddlefish permit while accompanied by that adult with at least one unused carcass tag in possession. Each paddlefish snagged and kept by the individual younger than 16 years of age shall be included as part of the daily creel limit of the permit holder.

(e) The possession limit shall be three daily creel limits.

(f) Special size limits, creel limits, and bait restrictions for designated waters shall be those limits and restrictions specified in the department's "Kansas special size limits, creel limits, and bait restriction tables," dated ~~November 17, 2022~~ September 7, 2023, which is hereby adopted by reference. All fish caught from these designated waters that are of a size or number that is illegal to possess shall be released unrestrained to the water immediately. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 32-807; amended P-\_\_\_\_\_.)

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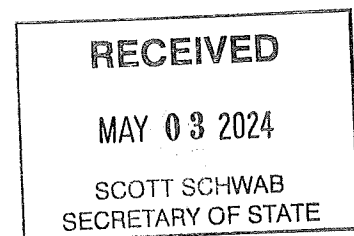
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APR 25 2024

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# Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

KDWP  
Agency

Dan Riley  
Agency Contact

296-1032  
Contact Phone Number

115-25-14  
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 over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024 (as calculated in Section III, F)?

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, the Attorney General, AND the Division of the Budget. The regulation(s) and the EIS will require Budget 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. 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.

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**Section I**

Brief description of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s).

These regulation changes adjust length and creel limits at specific water bodies for sport fish species.

**Section II**

Statement by the agency if the rule(s) and regulation(s) exceed the requirements of applicable federal law, and a statement if the approach chosen to address the policy issue(s) is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or the federal government. *(If the approach is different or exceeds federal law, then include a statement of why the proposed Kansas rule and regulation is different.)*

Not applicable

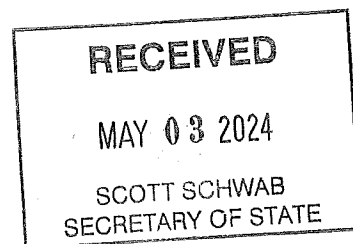
**Section III**

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;  
 No expectation of this regulation change enhancing or restricting any business activities and growth. Some length and creel restrictions can affect fishing guide businesses if they are too restrictive. However, this proposal does not restrict the harvest of sport fish beyond acceptable levels. In fact, for Blue Catfish we have proposed an increase to creel limits, allowing more fish to be harvested.
- 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 would be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole;  
 No quantifiable economic effect is anticipated. Changes to length and creel limits for sport fish have never affected the number of fishing licenses sold by the state nor has it noticeably impacted local businesses, sectors, public utility ratepayers, individuals, and local governments.
- C. Businesses that would be directly affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s);  
 Local gas stations, motels, fishing guides, and state parks would be affected. The affect is anticipated to be neutral; not positive or negative.
- D. Benefits of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) compared to the costs;  
 No economic benefit is expected.
- 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

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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 members of the public.  
*Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized.*

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$0

Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0

Costs to Members of the Public – \$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.

Click here to enter agency response.

- Yes If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million over any two-year period through June 30, 2024, or exceed \$3.0 million over any two-year period on or after July 1, 2024, and prior to the submission or resubmission of the proposed rule(s)
- No and regulation(s), did the agency hold a public hearing to find that the estimated costs
- Not Applicable 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.

If applicable, click here to enter public hearing information.

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

Not applicable

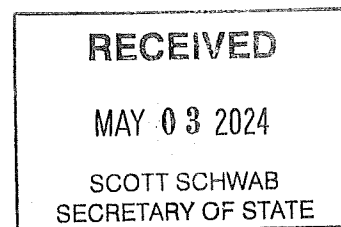
Provide an estimate of any immediate or long-range economic impact of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) on any individual(s), small employers, and the general public. If no dollar estimate can be given for any individual(s), small employers, and the general public, give specific reasons why no estimate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

Not applicable

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

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

This was discussed and included in three public workshop sessions at Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission meetings.

**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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

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 persons who would bear the costs.

None expected

C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, as well as the persons who would bear the costs and would be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).

None expected

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

Not applicable

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# Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism

## Kansas Special Size Limits, Creel Limits, and Bait Restriction Tables

Dated: September 7, 2023

### Blue Catfish Creel Limits

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Wilson Reservoir

#### **10 fish daily creel limit**

The entirety of the Caney River and all of its tributaries, the entirety of the Little Caney River and all of its tributaries, the Verdigris River from the Oklahoma-Kansas state line to the Toronto Reservoir dam and all of its tributaries including the Elk River to the Elk City Reservoir dam, the Fall River to the Fall River Reservoir dam and Big Hill Creek to the Big Hill Reservoir dam, the Neosho River from the Oklahoma-Kansas state line to the John Redmond Reservoir dam and all its tributaries including Labette Creek to the Parsons City Lake dam and Wolf Creek to the Coffey County Lake dam, the Arkansas River from the Oklahoma-Kansas state line to the 21<sup>st</sup> Street North dam in Wichita, the Ninescah River from its confluence with the Arkansas River to its confluence with the South Fork of the Ninescah River and the South Fork of the Ninescah River to the Kingman City dam, Clinton Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, John Redmond Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Elk City Reservoir, Milford Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Reservoir

### Blue Catfish Length Limits

**28 – 40-inch slot limit with no more than 1 fish 40-inch or larger.** Blue Catfish between the lengths of twenty-eight (28) and forty (40) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Milford Reservoir

#### **Only 1 fish 30-inch or larger**

Clinton Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, John Redmond Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Elk City Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Reservoir

**32 – 40-inch slot limit with no more than 1 fish 40-inch or larger.** Blue Catfish between the lengths of thirty-two (32) and forty (40) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Wilson Reservoir

**35 inch minimum.** Blue catfish of a length less than thirty-five (35) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:



Cheney Reservoir, Kanopolis Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Perry Reservoir

### **Channel Catfish Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Andale-Renwick USD 267 Pond, Andover - Lake George, Arma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Blue Mound City Lake, Bonner Springs - North Park Lake, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Buhler City Pond, Butler State Fishing Lake, Chanute City Lake, Clinton State Park - Lake Henry, Clinton State Park - Picnic Area Pond, Columbus - VFW Pond, Colwich City Lake, Emporia - Jones Park Ponds, Emporia - Peter Pan Park, Fall River State Park Kids Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Gardner City Lake, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Greenbush Community Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, Hays - Vineyard Park Pond, Haysville - Riggs Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South, Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kechi Lake, Kingman State Fishing Lake, Lansing City Lake, Lansing - Billy Blackwell Lake, Lawrence - Mary's Lake, Lawrence - Oregon Trail Park Pond, Lawrence Pat Dawson Billings N & S, Lawrence - Sandra Shaw Community Health Park Pond, Leavenworth - Jerry's Lake, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Leawood - Ironwoods Park Pond, Leawood - Tomahawk Parkway Middle, Leawood - Tomahawk Parkway North , Leawood - Tomahawk Parkway South , Lebo City Lake, Lebo Kid's Pond, Lenexa - Mize Blvd. Lake, Lenexa - Rose's Pond, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Marquette - Eisenhower Park Pond, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Mound City Lake, Mt. Hope - Woodland Park Pond, Mulberry City Park Lake, Mulvane - Cedar Brook Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, New Strawn City Lake, Newton - Spring Lake Ponds, North Newton - Sunfield Pond, Olathe - Black Bob Park Pond, Olathe - Cedar Lake, Olathe - Frisco Lake, Olathe - Mahaffie Farmstead Pond, Olathe - North Waterworks Park Lake, Olathe - Prairie Center Park Pond, Olathe - Prairie Center Pond, Olathe - Settler's Park Pond, Olathe - Waterworks Lake, Olpe - Jones Park Pond, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overbrook - Kids' Pond, Overland Park - Amesbury Lake, Overland Park - Kingston Lake, Overland Park - Regency Lake, Overland Park - South Lake, Overland Park - Summercrest Lake, Overland Park - Wilderness Lake, Parker City Lake, Pittsburg - Lincoln Park Pond, Pittsburg - Lakeside Park Lake, Pittsburg - Wilderness Pond, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Salina - Lakewood Lake, Shawnee Co. Shawnee Jr., Spring Hill Woodland Ridge Pond, Topeka-Auburndale Park Stream, Topeka - Cedar Crest Pond, Topeka - Central Park Lake, Topeka - Clarion Lake, Topeka - Freedom Valley Lake, Topeka - Governor's Ponds East & West, Topeka-Horseshoe Bend Park Pond, Topeka - West Lake, Uniontown School Pond, Valley Center - McLaughlin Pond, Wichita - Harrison Park Lake, Windom City Pond, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Big 11, Wyandotte Co. Bonner Lake, Wyandotte Co. Pierson Park Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir - New

#### **5 fish daily creel limit**

Agra City Lake, Altamont City Lake, Arkansas City - Knebbler #2, Arkansas City 6th Street Pond, Arkansas City, Knebbler #1, Atchison City Lakes 1-4, 6-9, 23, 24, Atchison County Lake, Atwood Lake, Barber Lower, Barber Upper, Belleville City Lake (Rocky Pond), Benton - Poling Lake, Black Kettle State Fishing Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Chase State Fishing Lake, Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko), Cimarron Grasslands Fishing Pits, Clark State Fishing Lake, Clearwater - Chisholm Ridge Lake, Coffeyville-LeClere Lake, Colby - Villa High Lake,

Coldwater City Lake, Concannon State Fishing Lake, Council Grove City Lake, Cowley State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Derby - High Park, Derby - Rainbow Valley, Derby - Stone Creek, Dodge City - Lake Charles, Dodge City - Mariah Hills Golf Course, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Edna City Lake, Ellis City Lake, Eureka City Lake, Finney State Fishing Lake, Ford State Fishing Lake, Fort Scott - Rock Creek Lake, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Geary State Fishing Lake, Goodman State Fishing Lake, Graham County - Antelope Lake, Graham County - Trexler Lake, Great Bend Stone Lake, Great Bend Veteran's Park, Hain State Fishing Lake, Hamilton State Fishing Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Herington - Father Padilla Pond, Hiawatha City Lake, Hodgeman State Fishing Lake, Holton - Elkhorn Lake, Holton City (Prairie) Lake, Holyrood City Lake, Horsethief Reservoir, Horton Little Lake, Horton Mission Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Hutchinson - Carey Park Lagoon, Hutchinson - Carey Park Pond, Hutchinson - Dillon Nature Center, Independence Community College - Campus Pond, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Jeffrey Energy Center, Jetmore City Lake, Jewell City Lake (Emerson Lake), Jewell State Fishing Lake, Junction City - Bluffs, Junction City - Helland Pond, Junction City - Rim Rock Lake, Junction City - Riverwalk, Junction City - Wetland Park, Kiowa State Fishing Lake, LaCrosse Warren Stone Memorial, Lenexa - Resurrection Pond, Liberal-Arkalon Recreation Area, Logan City Lake, Logan State Fishing Lake, Louisburg City Lake, Louisburg - Lewis Young Park Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Madison City Lake, Marion County Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Miami State Fishing Lake, Milford State Park Pond, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Moline New City Lake, Moline Old City Lake, Montgomery State Fishing Lake, Neodesha City Lake, Neosho State Fishing Lake, Neosho Wildlife Area Pond, Newton-Sand Creek, Ogden City Lake, Olathe - East High School Pond, Olathe - Heatherstone Park Pond, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Olathe - Oregon Trail Pond, Olathe - Stagecoach Park Pond, Olpe City Lake, Osage City Lake, Osawatomie - Beaver Lake, Osawatomie City Lake, Ottawa State Fishing Lake, Park City - Chisholm Pointe, Parsons City Lake, Plainville Township Lake, Pottawatomie 1, Pottawatomie 2, Pottawatomie Co. Cross Creek Lake, Prescott City Lake, Rooks State Fishing Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Salina - Indian Rock Pond, Saline State Fishing Lake, Sandsage Bison Range & Wildlife Area, Scott State Fishing Lake, Sedan New City Lake, Sedan Old City Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Severy City Lake, Shawnee - Monticello Springs Lake, Shawnee State Fishing Lake, Sheridan State Fishing Lake, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Sherman State Fishing Lake, St. Francis - Keller Lake, St. Francis Sand Pits, Syracuse-Sam's Pond, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Troy - 4-H Lake, Ulysses City Lake, Washington State Fishing Lake, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Emery Park Pond, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - SP1, Wichita - SP2, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Wilson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake

### **Channel Catfish Length Limits**

**15 inch minimum.** Channel catfish of a length less than fifteen (15) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Agra City Lake, Altamont City Lake, Arma City Lake, Atchison City Lakes 1-4, 6-9, 23, 24, Atchison County Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Atwood Lake, Belleville City Lake (Rocky Pond), Black Kettle State Fishing Lake, Blue Mound City Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Butler State Fishing Lake, Chanute City Lake, Chase State Fishing Lake, Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko), Columbus - VFW Pond, Cowley State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Edgerton - Bridgewater Lake, Edna City Lake, Emporia - Jones Park Ponds, Emporia - Peter Pan Park, Eureka City Lake, Fall River State Park Kid's Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Gardner City Lake,

Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Greenbush Community Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, Harvey County West Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Hiawatha City Lake, Holton Elkhorn Lake, Holton City Prairie Lake, Horton Little Lake, Horton Mission Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Independence Community College-Campus Pond, Jackson County - Banner Creek Reservoir, Jewell City Lake (Emerson Lake), Jewell State Fishing Lake, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South, Kingman State Fishing Lake, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Logan City Lake, Louisburg-Middle Creek SFL, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Marquette – Eisenhower Park Pond, Madison City Lake, Marion County Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Melvern River Pond, Miami State Fishing Lake, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Moline New City Lake, Moline Old City Lake, Montgomery State Fishing Lake, Mound City Lake, Mulberry City Park Lake, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Neodesha City Lake, Neosho State Fishing Lake, Neosho Wildlife Area Pond, New Strawn City Lake, Olathe-Stagecoach Park Pond, Olpe City Lake, Olpe - Jones Park Pond, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Osawatomie - Beaver Lake, Osawatomie City Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overland Park - Amesbury Lake, Overland Park - Summercrest Lake, Overland Park - Wilderness Lake, Parker City Lake, Parsons City Lake, Pittsburg - Lincoln Park Pond, Pittsburg - Lakeside Park lake, Pittsburg - Wilderness Pond, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Pottawatomie 1, Pratt County Lake, Prescott City Lake, Richmond City Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Sabetha City Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sedan New City Lake (South), Sedan Old City Lake (North), Severy City Lake, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Spring Hill Woodland Ridge Pond, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Troy 4-H Lake, Uniontown School Pond, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wilson State Fishing Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **Crappie Creel Limits**

#### **10 fish daily creel**

Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Gridley City Lake, Holton - Elkhorn Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Lebo City Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, New Strawn City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Troy - 4-H Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Yates Center - South

#### **20 fish daily creel**

Atchison State Fishing Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Brown State Fishing Lake, Clinton Reservoir, Council Grove City Lake, Council Grove Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Frontenac City Lake, Glen Elder Reservoir, Hillsdale Reservoir, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Kanopolis Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Marion County Lake, Marion Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, Perry Reservoir, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Wellington City Lake, Winfield City Lake, Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **Crappie Length Limits**

**10 inch minimum.** Crappie species of a length less than ten (10) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir, Frontenac City Lake, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Glen Elder Reservoir, Gridley City Lake, Hillsdale Reservoir, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Lebo City Lake, Lovewell Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, Melvern River Pond, Perry Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake – West, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Yates Center - South

### **Largemouth Bass Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Agra City Lake, Andale-Renwick USD 267 Pond, Andover - Lake George, Arma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Atwood Lake, Benton - Poling Lake, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Buhler City Pond, Carbondale East Lake, Chanute City Lake, Clearwater - Chisholm Ridge Lake, Coffeyville - LeClere Lake, Columbus - VFW Pond, Colwich City Lake, Concannon State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Derby - High Park, Derby - Rainbow Valley, Derby - Stone Creek, Dodge City - Lake Charles, Emporia-Jones Park Ponds, Emporia - Peter Pan Park, Fall River State Park Kids Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Greenbush Community Lake, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, Harvey County West Lake, Hiawatha City Lake, Holton City (Prairie) Lake, Horton Little Lake, Horton Mission Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park , Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South , Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kechi Lake, Lansing City Lake, Lebo City Lake, Lebo Kid's Pond, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Madison City Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Mt. Hope - Oak Street Park Pond, Mulberry Park Lake, Mulvane - Cedar Brook Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, New Strawn City Lake, Newton - Spring Lake Ponds, North Newton - Sunfield Pond, Olpe - Jones Park Pond, Osage City Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overbrook - Kids' Pond, Overland Park - Kingston Lake, Overland Park - Regency Lake, Overland Park - South Lake, Park City - Chisholm Pointe, Parker City Lake, Pittsburg - Lincoln Park Pond, Pittsburg - Lakeside Park lake, Pittsburg - Wilderness Pond, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Sandsage Bison Range & Wildlife Area, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Shawnee County - Lake Shawnee, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Uniontown School Pond, Valley Center - Arrowhead Park Lake, Valley Center - McLaughlin Pond, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Emery Park Pond, Wichita - Harrison Park Lake, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - SP1, Wichita - SP2, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Wyandotte Co. Bonner Lake

### **Largemouth Bass Length Limits**

**13 -18-inch slot limit.** Largemouth bass between the lengths of thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Altamont City Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Chase State Fishing Lake, Council Grove City Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Garnett City Lake South, Goodman State Fishing Lake, Graham County - Antelope Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Holton - Elkhorn Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Jetmore City Lake, Lenexa - Lake Lenexa, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Louisburg City Lake, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Marion County Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Melvern River Pond, Miami State Fishing Lake, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Moline Old City Lake, Montgomery State Fishing Lake,

Mound City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Osawatomie - Beaver Lake, Osawatomie City Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Paola - Lake Miola, Parker City Lake, Pottawatomie Co. Cross Creek Lake, Richmond City Lake, Sedan New City Lake, Sedan Old City Lake, Severy City Lake, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Troy - 4-H Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake

**15 -21-inch slot limit.** Largemouth bass between the lengths of fifteen (15) and twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Big Hill Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Yates Center Reservoir – New

**18 inch minimum.** Largemouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Agra City Lake, Alma City Lake, Andale-Renwick USD 267 Pond, Andover - Lake George, Arma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Atwood Lake, Benton - Poling Lake, Black Kettle State Fishing Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Buhler City Pond, Carbondale East Lake, Centralia City Lake, Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko), Clearwater - Chisholm Ridge Lake, Clinton Reservoir, Clinton State Park - Lake Henry, Clinton State Park - Picnic Area Pond, Coffeyville - LeClere Lake, Colwich City Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Derby - High Park, Derby - Rainbow Valley, Derby - Stone Creek, Dodge City - Lake Charles, Edna City Lake, Emporia-Jones Park Ponds, Emporia-Peter Pan Park, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Eureka City Lake, Fall River State Park Kids Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Ford State Fishing Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Glen Elder Park Pond, Glen Elder Reservoir, Greenbush Community Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Harveyville City Lake, Herington City Lake - New, Herington City Lake - Old, Herington - Father Padilla Pond, Hillsdale Reservoir, Holton City (Prairie) Lake, Horton - Mission Lake, Horton Little Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Jewell City Lake (Emerson Lake), Jewell State Fishing Lake, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek North Pond, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek South Pond, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park , Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South , Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kechi Lake, Kingman State Fishing Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Lebo City Lake, Lebo Kid's Pond, Linn County Critzer Reservoir, Logan City Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Madison City Lake, Marion Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, Moline New City Lake, Mt. Hope - Oak Street Park Pond, Mulvane - Cedar Brook Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Neosho State Fishing Lake, Olathe - Cedar Lake, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Olpe City Lake, Olpe-Jones Park Pond, Osage City Lake, Park City - Chisholm Pointe, Perry Reservoir, Plainville Township Lake, Pratt County Lake, Rooks State Fishing Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Salina - Indian Rock Pond, Salina - Lakewood Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Tuttle Creek Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Willow Lake, Uniontown School Pond, Valley Center-Arrowhead Park Lake, Valley Center - McLaughlin Pond, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Emery Park Pond, Wichita - Harrison Park Lake, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - SP1, Wichita - SP2, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Yates Center - South

**21 inch minimum.** Largemouth bass of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Big Hill Wildlife Area, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, New Strawn City Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West

**Smallmouth Bass Creel Limit**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Atchison State Fishing Lake, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett City Lake North, Gridley City Lake, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, New Strawn City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Woodson State Fishing Lake

**Smallmouth Bass Length Limit**

**18 inch minimum.** Smallmouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Alma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Big Hill Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett City Lake North, Glen Elder Park Pond, Great Bend Stone Lake, Gridley City Lake, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Marion County Lake, Melvern Reservoir, New Strawn City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Perry Reservoir, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake

**21 inch minimum.** Smallmouth bass of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Glen Elder Reservoir

**Spotted Bass Creel Limit**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Chanute City Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond

**Spotted Bass Length Limit**

**18 inch minimum.** Spotted bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Eureka City Lake, Melvern Reservoir

**Walleye Creel Limits**

## **2 fish daily creel limit**

Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Cheney Reservoir, Crawford State Fishing Lake, El Dorado Reservoir, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Graham County – Trexler Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Jeffery Energy Center, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Marion County Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Milford Reservoir, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Mound City Lake, New Strawn City Lake, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Paola - Lake Miola, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Shawnee Co. - Lake Shawnee, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir – New

## **3 fish daily creel limit**

Marion Reservoir

### **Walleye Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Walleye of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Alma City Lake, Big Hill Reservoir, Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Centralia City Lake, Chase State Fishing Lake, Council Grove City Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Eureka City Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Glen Elder Reservoir, Graham County – Trexler Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harveyville City Lake, Herington City Lake - New, Hillsdale Reservoir, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Kanopolis Reservoir, Keith Sebelius (Norton) Reservoir, Kingman State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Marion County Lake, Marion Reservoir, Melvern River Pond, Melvern Reservoir, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Mound City Lake, Osage City Lake, Perry Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pomona Reservoir, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Scott State Fishing Lake, Shawnee Co. - Lake Shawnee, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wilson State Fishing Lake, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake

**21 inch minimum.** Walleye of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cedar Bluff Reservoir, Cheney Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Milford Reservoir, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton

### **Maximum of 2/day greater than 15 inches but less than 18 inches allowed in the 5/day creel**

Cedar Bluff Reservoir

### **Maximum of 1/day 21 inches or longer allowed in the 3/day creel**

Marion Reservoir

**Sauger Creel Limit**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Jackson County - Banner Creek, Jeffrey Energy Center, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond

**Sauger Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Sauger of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Jackson County - Banner Creek, Melvern Reservoir, Perry Reservoir

**Saugeye Creel Limits**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Chanute City Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Gardner City Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Marion County Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Sabetha City Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Sterling City Lake, Washington State Fishing Lake, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake

**Saugeye Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Saugeye of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Centralia City Lake, Chanute City Lake, Chase State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Eureka City Lake, Gardner City Lake, Geary State Fishing Lake, Graham County - Antelope Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Harveyville City Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Kanopolis Reservoir, Keith Sebelius (Norton) Reservoir, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Madison City Lake, Marion County Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Melvern Reservoir, Moline New City Lake, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Olpe City Lake, Parsons City Lake, Perry Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pomona Reservoir, Sabetha City Lake, Scott State Fishing Lake, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake

**21 inch minimum.** Saugeye of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:



Great Bend – Veteran’s Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sterling City Lake, Washington State Fishing Lake

**Striped Bass Creel Limits**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Cheney Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, LaCygne Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake – East, Wilson Reservoir

**Striped Bass Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Striped bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

LaCygne Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake – East

**21 inch minimum.** Striped bass of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir

**Trout Creel Limits**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Salina – Lakewood Lake

**Wiper Creel Limits**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Atchison City Lake #7, Atwood Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Cedar Bluff Reservoir, Centralia City Lake, Council Grove Reservoir, Cheney Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Ellis City Lake, El Dorado Reservoir, Eureka City Lake, Great Bend Stone Lake, Glen Elder Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Gridley City Lake, Herington City Lake – New, Horton Little Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Region 1 & 3, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park Lake, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Jeffrey Energy Center, John Redmond Reservoir, Jetmore City Lake, Kanopolis Reservoir, Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kiowa State Fishing Lake, Lawrence - Mary's Lake, Louisburg City Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Lebo City Lake, Lovewell Reservoir, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Madison City Lake, Middle Creek State Fishing Lake, Melvern Reservoir, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Marion County Lake, Moline New City Lake (North), New Strawn City Lake, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Olpe City Lake, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overbrook - Kids' Pond, Pleasanton City Lake – East, Pomona Reservoir, Pratt County Lake, Plainville Township Lake, Salina - Lakewood Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Sterling City Lake, Topeka - West Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - West KDOT, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Wyandotte Co. Bonner Lake, Yates Center - South (Owl), Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **Wiper Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Wipers of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Atchison City Lake #7, Carbondale East Lake, Chanute City Lake, Clinton Reservoir, Council Grove Reservoir, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Great Bend Stone Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Horton Little Lake, Jetmore City Lake, Kiowa State Fishing Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Marion County Lake, Melvern River Pond, Mined Land Wildlife Area, New Strawn City Lake, Olathe - Cedar Lake, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Ottawa State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Plainville Township Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pomona Reservoir, Pratt County Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir - New

**21 inch minimum.** Wipers of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes

### **Paddlefish Length Limits**

**34-inch minimum length limit.** Measured from eye to middle of fork of tail.

Marais des Cygnes River

**Length and Creel Limits for the Missouri River (Kansas-Missouri Boundary Waters which includes the Browning Oxbow):**

Length limits on that portion of the Missouri River which bound the Kansas-Missouri state boundary (Kansas-Missouri Boundary Waters and the Browning Oxbow): Black bass (largemouth, spotted and smallmouth bass) of a length less than twelve (12) inches, Channel Catfish, Sauger, and Walleye of a length less than fifteen (15) inches, and only paddlefish of a length less than twenty-four (24) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately.

Daily creel limits on that portion of the Missouri River which bound the Kansas-Missouri state boundaries (Kansas-Missouri Boundary Waters and the Browning Oxbow): Catfish (Blue and Flathead) daily creel limit of five (5) fish each; Channel Catfish daily creel limit of ten (10) fish; Crappie (white and black; single species or in combination) daily creel limit of thirty (30) fish; Walleye, Sauger and their hybrids (single species or in combination) daily creel limit of four (4) fish; *Morone* *sps.* (Yellow bass, Striped bass, White bass and their hybrids; single species or in combination) daily creel limit of fifteen (15) fish; Paddlefish daily creel limit of two (2) fish; Black Bass (Largemouth, Spotted, and Smallmouth; single species or in combination) daily creel limit of six (6) fish; all other species (excluding T&E and SINC species) daily creel limit of fifty (50) fish.

All fish caught from the Missouri River Boundary Waters that are a size or number that is illegal to possess, shall be released unrestricted to the water immediately.

**Kanopolis Seep Stream (Sand Creek):**

Artificial bait only (lures or fly fishing) at power poles number 9 through number 16.

**Pratt Backwaters, Pratt Centennial Pond & Pratt Kids' Fishing Pond:**

Pratt Centennial Pond: Fishing hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. All species of fish caught shall be immediately returned to the waters of Centennial Pond, except there shall be a daily creel limit of two (2) rainbow trout.

Pratt Kids' Fishing Pond: Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Children ten (10) years of age or less shall be accompanied by a person sixteen (16) years of age or older. The following creel limits apply on the Pratt Kids' Fishing Pond: Two fish of a single species or a combination of species per day.

Pratt Backwaters: Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

**Dodge City Demon Lake:**

Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Children ten (10) years of age or less shall be accompanied by a person sixteen (16) years of age or older. Licensed adults may fish only if accompanied by a person younger than sixteen (16) years of age who is actively engaged in fishing. The following creel limits apply on Dodge City Demon Lake: Catch and release only.

**Emporia - Peter Pan Park Pond:**

No cast nets and seining allowed.

**Garden City Kids' Fishing Pond:**

Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Children ten (10) years of age or less shall be accompanied by a person sixteen (16) years of age or older. The following creel limits apply on the Garden City Kids' Fishing Pond: Two fish of a single species or a combination of species per day.

**Sherman County – Smoky Gardens:**

Catch and release only for largemouth bass, bluegill, and redear sunfish.

**Youth/Mentor Fishing Locations:**

Licensed adults may fish only if accompanied by a person younger than sixteen (16) years of age who is actively engaged in fishing. Normal creel limits apply on Youth/Mentor locations.

- Elk City State Park Pond
- Emporia - Jones Park Ponds. No cast nets and seining allowed.
- Fall River State Park Pond
- Kanopolis State Park Pond
- Melvern Mentoring Pond
- Olpe - Jones Park Pond. No cast nets and seining allowed.
- Wilson State Park Pond

**Length and Creel Limits for Coffey County Lake:**

Length limits on Coffey County Lake: Wipers of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches, largemouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches, smallmouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches, walleye of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches, and crappie (black and white species) of a length less than twelve (12) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately. Daily creel limits on Coffey County Lake: Wiper creel limit of one (1), largemouth bass creel limit of two (2), smallmouth bass creel limit of two (2), crappie, black and white species (single species or in combination) creel limit of five (5), walleye creel limit of two (2), blue catfish creel limit of five (5), and channel catfish creel limit of ten (10) per day. No trotlines or setlines allowed.

**Paddlefish Snagging Locations:**

Locations open to paddlefish snagging during the paddlefish season (March 15-May 15): Posted areas inside the city parks at Burlington and Chetopa on the Neosho River, Neosho River at lola downstream from dam downstream to posted lola city property boundary, Marais des Cygnes River below Osawatomie Dam downstream to posted boundary, Marais des Cygnes River on the upstream boundary of the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Area downstream to Kansas-Missouri state line, and the Browning Oxbow Lake of the Missouri River.

At the posted area inside the city park at Chetopa on the Neosho River, each individual fishing for paddlefish shall use barbless hooks while fishing. "Barbless hook" shall mean a hook without barbs or upon which the barbs have been bent completely closed.

**Float Fishing Locations:**

Locations open to float fishing during the float fishing season (July 15-September 15): Council Grove Reservoir, Elk City Reservoir, Fall River Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, Hillsdale Reservoir, John Redmond Reservoir, Kanopolis Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Pomona Reservoir, Toronto Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir.

**Tallgrass Prairie Preserve F.I.S.H. Properties:**

All species of fish are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from this property.

**Wichita - Chisholm Island Pond:**

All fishing shall be with artificial flies and lures only and shall be the only tackle allowed on such person while fishing this water, except for during KDWP-sponsored fishing clinics. All species of fish caught shall be immediately returned to the waters of Wichita - Chisholm Island Pond.

**Sedgwick County - Slough Creek:**

All fishing during trout season (October 15-April 15) will be done with flies only. A fly is defined as: a device constructed on a single-pointed hook from feather, chenille, yarn, silk, rayon, nylon thread or floss, with or without a spinner. The following are not flies and are not allowed in your possession while fishing this area: Molded plastic or rubber baits; foods and organic baits such as worms, grubs, crickets, leeches, minnows and fish eggs; and manufactured baits, including imitation fish eggs, dough baits and stink baits.

**Length and Creel Limits for Grand Osage Wildlife Area:**

Length limits on Grand Osage Wildlife Area: Largemouth bass between the lengths of thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) inches, and channel catfish of a length less than fifteen (15) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately.

Daily creel limits on Grand Osage Wildlife Area: Largemouth bass creel limit of five (5), and channel catfish creel limit of two (2).

**Trophy Sunfish Length and Creel Limits:**

A 6- to 9-inch slot length limit on bluegill, redear sunfish, green sunfish, and their hybrids. In addition, a 5/day creel limit (single species or in combination) for any of these species greater than 9 inches and unlimited creel number for fish under 6 inches.

Graham County-Antelope Lake, Jewell State Fishing Lake, Lenexa - Lake Lenexa, Miami State Fishing Lake, Pottawatomie State Fishing Lake No. 2.

**Length and Creel Limits for Johnson County Kill Creek Park Lake:**

15-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Channel Catfish, 15- to 18-inch slot length limit and a 10/day creel limit for Largemouth Bass, 18-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Smallmouth Bass, 18-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Walleye, 18-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Wiper, 50/day creel limit for Black and White Crappie (single species or combination), and 4/day creel limit for Rainbow Trout.

**Length and Creel Limits for Johnson County Lexington Park Lake:**

15-inch minimum length limit and 2/day creel limit for Channel Catfish, 10-inch minimum length limit and 15/day creel limit for Black and White Crappie (single species or combination), 15- to 18-inch slot length limit and 5/day creel limit for Largemouth Bass, and 4/day creel limit for Rainbow Trout.

# Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism

## Kansas Special Size Limits, Creel Limits, and Bait Restriction Tables

Dated: September 7, 2023

### Blue Catfish Creel Limits

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Wilson Reservoir

#### **10 fish daily creel limit**

The entirety of the Caney River and all of its tributaries, the entirety of the Little Caney River and all of its tributaries, the Verdigris River from the Oklahoma-Kansas state line to the Toronto Reservoir dam and all of its tributaries including the Elk River to the Elk City Reservoir dam, the Fall River to the Fall River Reservoir dam and Big Hill Creek to the Big Hill Reservoir dam, the Neosho River from the Oklahoma-Kansas state line to the John Redmond Reservoir dam and all its tributaries including Labette Creek to the Parsons City Lake dam and Wolf Creek to the Coffey County Lake dam, the Arkansas River from the Oklahoma-Kansas state line to the 21<sup>st</sup> Street North dam in Wichita, the Ninnescah River from its confluence with the Arkansas River to its confluence with the South Fork of the Ninnescah River and the South Fork of the Ninnescah River to the Kingman City dam, Clinton Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, John Redmond Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Elk City Reservoir, Milford Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Reservoir

### Blue Catfish Length Limits

**28 – 40-inch slot limit with no more than 1 fish 40-inch or larger.** Blue Catfish between the lengths of twenty-eight (28) and forty (40) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Milford Reservoir

#### **Only 1 fish 30-inch or larger**

Clinton Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, John Redmond Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Elk City Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Reservoir

**32 – 40-inch slot limit with no more than 1 fish 40-inch or larger.** Blue Catfish between the lengths of thirty-two (32) and forty (40) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Wilson Reservoir

**35 inch minimum.** Blue catfish of a length less than thirty-five (35) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir, Kanopolis Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Perry Reservoir

### Channel Catfish Creel Limits

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Andale-Renwick USD 267 Pond, Andover - Lake George, Arma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Blue Mound City Lake, Bonner Springs - North Park Lake, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Buhler City Pond, Butler State Fishing Lake, Chanute City Lake, Clinton State Park - Lake Henry, Clinton State Park - Picnic Area Pond, Columbus - VFW Pond, Colwich City Lake, Emporia - Jones Park Ponds, Emporia - Peter Pan Park, Fall River State Park Kids Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Gardner City Lake, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Greenbush Community Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, Hays - Vineyard Park Pond, Haysville - Riggs Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South, Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kechi Lake, Kingman State Fishing Lake, Lansing City Lake, Lansing - Billy Blackwell Lake, Lawrence - Mary's Lake, Lawrence - Oregon Trail Park Pond, Lawrence Pat Dawson Billings N & S, Lawrence - Sandra Shaw Community Health Park Pond, Leavenworth - Jerry's Lake, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Leawood - Ironwoods Park Pond, Leawood - Tomahawk Parkway Middle, Leawood - Tomahawk Parkway North , Leawood - Tomahawk Parkway South , Lebo City Lake, Lebo Kid's Pond, Lenexa - Mize Blvd. Lake, Lenexa - Rose's Pond, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Marquette – Eisenhower Park Pond, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Mound City Lake, Mt. Hope - Woodland Park Pond, Mulberry City Park Lake, Mulvane - Cedar Brook Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, New Strawn City Lake, Newton - Spring Lake Ponds, North Newton - Sunfield Pond, Olathe - Black Bob Park Pond, Olathe - Cedar Lake, Olathe - Frisco Lake, Olathe - Mahaffie Farmstead Pond, Olathe - North Waterworks Park Lake, Olathe - Prairie Center Park Pond, Olathe - Prairie Center Pond, Olathe - Settler's Park Pond, Olathe - Waterworks Lake, Olpe - Jones Park Pond, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overbrook - Kids' Pond, Overland Park - Amesbury Lake, Overland Park - Kingston Lake, Overland Park - Regency Lake, Overland Park - South Lake, Overland Park - Summercrest Lake, Overland Park - Wilderness Lake, Parker City Lake, Pittsburg - Lincoln Park Pond, Pittsburg - Lakeside Park Lake, Pittsburg - Wilderness Pond, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Salina - Lakewood Lake, Shawnee Co. Shawnee Jr., Spring Hill Woodland Ridge Pond, Topeka-Auburndale Park Stream, Topeka - Cedar Crest Pond, Topeka - Central Park Lake, Topeka - Clarion Lake, Topeka - Freedom Valley Lake, Topeka - Governor's Ponds East & West, Topeka-Horseshoe Bend Park Pond, Topeka - West Lake, Uniontown School Pond, Valley Center - McLaughlin Pond, Wichita - Harrison Park Lake, Windom City Pond, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Big 11, Wyandotte Co. Bonner Lake, Wyandotte Co. Pierson Park Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **5 fish daily creel limit**

Agra City Lake, Altamont City Lake, Arkansas City - Knebbler #2, Arkansas City 6th Street Pond, Arkansas City, Knebbler #1, Atchison City Lakes 1-4, 6-9, 23, 24, Atchison County Lake, Atwood Lake, Barber Lower, Barber Upper, Belleville City Lake (Rocky Pond), Benton - Poling Lake, Black Kettle State Fishing Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Chase State Fishing Lake, Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko), Cimarron Grasslands Fishing Pits, Clark State Fishing Lake, Clearwater - Chisholm Ridge Lake, Coffeyville-LeClere Lake, Colby - Villa High Lake, Coldwater City Lake, Concannon State Fishing Lake, Council Grove City Lake, Cowley State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Derby - High Park, Derby - Rainbow Valley, Derby - Stone Creek, Dodge City - Lake Charles, Dodge City - Mariah Hills Golf Course, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Edna City Lake, Ellis City Lake, Eureka City Lake, Finney State Fishing Lake, Ford State Fishing Lake, Fort Scott - Rock Creek Lake, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Geary State Fishing Lake, Goodman State Fishing Lake, Graham County - Antelope Lake, Graham County – Trexler Lake, Great Bend Stone Lake, Great Bend Veteran's Park, Hain State Fishing Lake, Hamilton State Fishing Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Herington - Father Padilla Pond, Hiawatha City Lake, Hodgeman State Fishing Lake, Holton - Elkhorn Lake, Holton City (Prairie) Lake, Holyrood City Lake, Horsethief Reservoir, Horton Little Lake, Horton Mission Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Hutchinson - Carey Park Lagoon, Hutchinson - Carey Park Pond, Hutchinson - Dillon Nature Center, Independence Community College - Campus Pond, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Jeffrey Energy



Center, Jetmore City Lake, Jewell City Lake (Emerson Lake), Jewell State Fishing Lake, Junction City - Bluffs, Junction City – Helland Pond, Junction City - Rim Rock Lake, Junction City - Riverwalk, Junction City - Wetland Park, Kiowa State Fishing Lake, LaCrosse Warren Stone Memorial , Lenexa - Resurrection Pond, Liberal-Arkalon Recreation Area, Logan City Lake, Logan State Fishing Lake, Louisburg City Lake, Louisburg - Lewis Young Park Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Madison City Lake, Marion County Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Miami State Fishing Lake, Milford State Park Pond, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Moline New City Lake, Moline Old City Lake, Montgomery State Fishing Lake, Neodesha City Lake, Neosho State Fishing Lake, Neosho Wildlife Area Pond, Newton-Sand Creek, Ogden City Lake, Olathe - East High School Pond, Olathe - Heatherstone Park Pond, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Olathe - Oregon Trail Pond, Olathe - Stagecoach Park Pond, Olpe City Lake, Osage City Lake, Osawatome - Beaver Lake, Osawatome City Lake, Ottawa State Fishing Lake, Park City - Chisholm Pointe, Parsons City Lake, Plainville Township Lake, Pottawatomie 1, Pottawatomie 2, Pottawatomie Co. Cross Creek Lake, Prescott City Lake, Rooks State Fishing Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Salina - Indian Rock Pond, Saline State Fishing Lake, Sandsage Bison Range & Wildlife Area, Scott State Fishing Lake, Sedan New City Lake, Sedan Old City Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Severy City Lake, Shawnee - Monticello Springs Lake, Shawnee State Fishing Lake, Sheridan State Fishing Lake, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Sherman State Fishing Lake, St. Francis - Keller Lake, St. Francis Sand Pits, Syracuse-Sam’s Pond, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Troy - 4-H Lake, Ulysses City Lake, Washington State Fishing Lake, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Emery Park Pond, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - SP1, Wichita - SP2, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Wilson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake

### **Channel Catfish Length Limits**

**15 inch minimum.** Channel catfish of a length less than fifteen (15) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Agra City Lake, Altamont City Lake, Arma City Lake, Atchison City Lakes 1-4, 6-9, 23, 24, Atchison County Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Atwood Lake, Belleville City Lake (Rocky Pond), Black Kettle State Fishing Lake, Blue Mound City Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Butler State Fishing Lake, Chanute City Lake, Chase State Fishing Lake, Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko), Columbus - VFW Pond, Cowley State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Edgerton - Bridgewater Lake, Edna City Lake, Emporia - Jones Park Ponds, Emporia - Peter Pan Park, Eureka City Lake, Fall River State Park Kid’s Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Gardner City Lake, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Greenbush Community Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, Harvey County West Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Hiawatha City Lake, Holton Elkhorn Lake, Holton City Prairie Lake, Horton Little Lake, Horton Mission Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Independence Community College-Campus Pond, Jackson County - Banner Creek Reservoir, Jewell City Lake (Emerson Lake), Jewell State Fishing Lake, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park , Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South , Kingman State Fishing Lake, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Logan City Lake, Louisburg-Middle Creek SFL, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Marquette – Eisenhower Park Pond, Madison City Lake, Marion County Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Melvern River Pond, Miami State Fishing Lake, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Moline New City Lake, Moline Old City Lake, Montgomery State Fishing Lake, Mound City Lake, Mulberry City Park Lake, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Neodesha City Lake, Neosho State Fishing Lake, Neosho Wildlife Area Pond, New Strawn City Lake, Olathe-Stagecoach Park Pond, Olpe City Lake, Olpe - Jones Park Pond, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Osawatome - Beaver Lake, Osawatome City Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overland Park - Amesbury Lake, Overland Park - Summercrest Lake, Overland Park - Wilderness Lake, Parker City Lake, Parsons City Lake, Pittsburg - Lincoln Park Pond,

Pittsburg - Lakeside Park lake, Pittsburg - Wilderness Pond, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Pottawatomie 1, Pratt County Lake, Prescott City Lake, Richmond City Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Sabetha City Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sedan New City Lake (South), Sedan Old City Lake (North), Severy City Lake, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Spring Hill Woodland Ridge Pond, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Troy 4-H Lake, Uniontown School Pond, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wilson State Fishing Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **Crappie Creel Limits**

#### **10 fish daily creel**

Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Gridley City Lake, Holton - Elkhorn Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Lebo City Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, New Strawn City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Troy - 4-H Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Yates Center - South

#### **20 fish daily creel**

Atchison State Fishing Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Brown State Fishing Lake, Clinton Reservoir, Council Grove City Lake, Council Grove Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Frontenac City Lake, Glen Elder Reservoir, Hillsdale Reservoir, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Kanopolis Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Marion County Lake, Marion Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, Perry Reservoir, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Wellington City Lake, Winfield City Lake, Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **Crappie Length Limits**

**10 inch minimum.** Crappie species of a length less than ten (10) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir, Frontenac City Lake, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Glen Elder Reservoir, Gridley City Lake, Hillsdale Reservoir, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Lebo City Lake, Lovewell Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, Melvern River Pond, Perry Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake – West, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Yates Center - South

### **Largemouth Bass Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Agra City Lake, Andale-Renwick USD 267 Pond, Andover - Lake George, Arma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Atwood Lake, Benton - Poling Lake, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Buhler City Pond, Carbondale East Lake, Chanute City Lake, Clearwater - Chisholm Ridge Lake, Coffeyville - LeClere Lake, Columbus - VFW Pond, Colwich City Lake, Concannon State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Derby - High Park, Derby - Rainbow Valley, Derby - Stone Creek, Dodge City - Lake Charles, Emporia-Jones Park Ponds, Emporia - Peter Pan Park, Fall River State Park Kids Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Greenbush Community Lake, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, Harvey County West Lake, Hiawatha City Lake, Holton City (Prairie) Lake, Horton Little Lake, Horton Mission Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North Pond, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co.

Antioch North & South , Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kechi Lake, Lansing City Lake, Lebo City Lake, Lebo Kid's Pond, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Madison City Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Mt. Hope - Oak Street Park Pond, Mulberry Park Lake, Mulvane - Cedar Brook Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, New Strawn City Lake, Newton - Spring Lake Ponds, North Newton - Sunfield Pond, Olpe - Jones Park Pond, Osage City Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overbrook - Kids' Pond, Overland Park - Kingston Lake, Overland Park - Regency Lake, Overland Park - South Lake, Park City - Chisholm Pointe, Parker City Lake, Pittsburg - Lincoln Park Pond, Pittsburg - Lakeside Park lake, Pittsburg - Wilderness Pond, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Sandsage Bison Range & Wildlife Area, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Shawnee County - Lake Shawnee, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Uniontown School Pond, Valley Center - Arrowhead Park Lake, Valley Center - McLaughlin Pond, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Emery Park Pond, Wichita - Harrison Park Lake, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - SP1, Wichita - SP2, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Wyandotte Co. Bonner Lake

### **Largemouth Bass Length Limits**

**13 -18-inch slot limit.** Largemouth bass between the lengths of thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Altamont City Lake, Bone Creek Reservoir, Chase State Fishing Lake, Council Grove City Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Garnett City Lake South, Goodman State Fishing Lake, Graham County - Antelope Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Holton - Elkhorn Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Jetmore City Lake, Lenexa - Lake Lenexa, Linn Co. Strip Pits, Louisburg City Lake, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Marion County Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Melvern River Pond, Miami State Fishing Lake, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Moline Old City Lake, Montgomery State Fishing Lake, Mound City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Osawatomie - Beaver Lake, Osawatomie City Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Paola - Lake Miola, Parker City Lake, Pottawatomie Co. Cross Creek Lake, Richmond City Lake, Sedan New City Lake, Sedan Old City Lake, Severy City Lake, Thayer City Lake (New), Thayer City Lake (Old), Troy - 4-H Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake

**15 -21-inch slot limit.** Largemouth bass between the lengths of fifteen (15) and twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Big Hill Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Yates Center Reservoir – New

**18 inch minimum.** Largemouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Agra City Lake, Alma City Lake, Andale-Renwick USD 267 Pond, Andover - Lake George, Arma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Atwood Lake, Benton - Poling Lake, Black Kettle State Fishing Lake, Brown State Fishing Lake, Buhler City Pond, Carbondale East Lake, Centralia City Lake, Cherryvale City Lake (Tanko), Clearwater - Chisholm Ridge Lake, Clinton Reservoir, Clinton State Park - Lake Henry, Clinton State Park - Picnic Area Pond, Coffeyville - LeClere Lake, Colwich City Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Derby - High Park, Derby - Rainbow Valley, Derby - Stone Creek, Dodge City - Lake Charles, Edna City Lake, Emporia-Jones Park Ponds, Emporia-Peter Pan Park, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Eureka City Lake, Fall River State Park Kids Pond, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake Fern, Ford State Fishing Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Fort Scott Community College Lakes, Frontenac City Lake, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Glen Elder Park Pond, Glen Elder Reservoir, Greenbush Community Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Harveyville City Lake, Herington City Lake - New, Herington City Lake - Old, Herington - Father Padilla Pond, Hillsdale Reservoir, Holton City (Prairie) Lake, Horton - Mission Lake, Horton Little Lake, Humboldt - Franklin Street Pond, Hutchinson - North

Pond, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Jewell City Lake (Emerson Lake), Jewell State Fishing Lake, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek North Pond, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek South Pond, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park , Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Pond, Johnson Co. Antioch North & South , Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kechi Lake, Kingman State Fishing Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Lebo City Lake, Lebo Kid's Pond, Linn County Critzer Reservoir, Logan City Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Madison City Lake, Marion Reservoir, Melvern Reservoir, Moline New City Lake, Mt. Hope - Oak Street Park Pond, Mulvane - Cedar Brook Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Neosho State Fishing Lake, Olathe - Cedar Lake, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Olpe City Lake, Olpe-Jones Park Pond, Osage City Lake, Park City - Chisholm Pointe, Perry Reservoir, Plainville Township Lake, Pratt County Lake, Rooks State Fishing Lake, Rose Hill - School Street Pond, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Salina - Indian Rock Pond, Salina - Lakewood Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Tuttle Creek Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Willow Lake, Uniontown School Pond, Valley Center-Arrowhead Park Lake, Valley Center - McLaughlin Pond, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - K-96 Lake, Wichita - Dillon's Pond, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Emery Park Pond, Wichita - Harrison Park Lake, Wichita - South Lake, Wichita - SP1, Wichita - SP2, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Yates Center - South

**21 inch minimum.** Largemouth bass of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Big Hill Wildlife Area, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Fort Scott - Gunn Park Lake West, Harvey Co. Camp Hawk, New Strawn City Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West

### **Smallmouth Bass Creel Limit**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Atchison State Fishing Lake, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett City Lake North, Gridley City Lake, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, New Strawn City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pleasanton City Lake - West, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Woodson State Fishing Lake

### **Smallmouth Bass Length Limit**

**18 inch minimum.** Smallmouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Alma City Lake, Atchison State Fishing Lake, Big Hill Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett City Lake North, Glen Elder Park Pond, Great Bend Stone Lake, Gridley City Lake, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Marion County Lake, Melvern Reservoir, New Strawn City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Perry Reservoir, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake

**21 inch minimum.** Smallmouth bass of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Glen Elder Reservoir

### **Spotted Bass Creel Limit**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Chanute City Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond

### **Spotted Bass Length Limit**

**18 inch minimum.** Spotted bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Eureka City Lake, Melvern Reservoir

### **Walleye Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Cheney Reservoir, Crawford State Fishing Lake, El Dorado Reservoir, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Graham County – Trexler Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Jackson County - Banner Creek , Jeffery Energy Center, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Marion County Lake, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Milford Reservoir, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Mound City Lake, New Strawn City Lake, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Paola - Lake Miola, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Shawnee Co. - Lake Shawnee, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir – New

#### **3 fish daily creel limit**

Marion Reservoir

### **Walleye Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Walleye of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Alma City Lake, Big Hill Reservoir, Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Cedar Creek, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Centralia City Lake, Chase State Fishing Lake, Council Grove City Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Eureka City Lake, Fort Scott - Lake Fort Scott, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Glen Elder Reservoir, Graham County – Trexler Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harveyville City Lake, Herington City Lake - New, Hillsdale Reservoir, Jackson County - Banner Creek, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Kanopolis Reservoir, Keith Sebelius (Norton) Reservoir, Kingman State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Linn Co. - Critzer Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Marion County Lake, Marion Reservoir, Melvern River Pond, Melvern Reservoir, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Mound City Lake, Osage City Lake, Perry Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pomona Reservoir, Pratt County Lake, Richmond City Lake, Sabetha City Lake, Scott State Fishing Lake, Shawnee Co. - Lake Shawnee, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wilson State Fishing Lake, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake

**21 inch minimum.** Walleye of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cedar Bluff Reservoir, Cheney Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Milford Reservoir, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton

**Maximum of 2/day greater than 15 inches but less than 18 inches allowed in the 5/day creel**

Cedar Bluff Reservoir

**Maximum of 1/day 21 inches or longer allowed in the 3/day creel**

Marion Reservoir

**Sauger Creel Limit**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Jackson County - Banner Creek, Jeffrey Energy Center, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond

**Sauger Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Sauger of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Jackson County - Banner Creek, Melvern Reservoir, Perry Reservoir

**Saugeye Creel Limits**

**2 fish daily creel limit**

Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Chanute City Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Gardner City Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Marion County Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Sabetha City Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Sterling City Lake, Washington State Fishing Lake, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake

**Saugeye Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Saugeye of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Bone Creek Reservoir, Bourbon Co. Elm Creek Lake, Bourbon State Fishing Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Centralia City Lake, Chanute City Lake, Chase State Fishing Lake, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas State Fishing Lake, Eskridge - Lake Wabaunsee, Eureka City Lake, Gardner City Lake, Geary State Fishing Lake, Graham County - Antelope Lake, Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Harveyville City Lake, Howard - Polk Daniels Lake, Kanopolis Reservoir, Keith Sebelius (Norton) Reservoir, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Madison City Lake, Marion County Lake, Meade State Fishing Lake, Melvern Reservoir, Moline New City Lake, Nebo State Fishing Lake, Olpe City Lake, Parsons City Lake, Perry Reservoir,

Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pomona Reservoir, Sabetha City Lake, Scott State Fishing Lake, Sherman County - Smoky Gardens, Wellington - Hargis Creek Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake

**21 inch minimum.** Saugeye of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Great Bend – Veteran’s Lake, McPherson State Fishing Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sterling City Lake, Washington State Fishing Lake

### **Striped Bass Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Cheney Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, LaCygne Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake – East, Wilson Reservoir

### **Striped Bass Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Striped bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

LaCygne Reservoir, Pleasanton City Lake – East

**21 inch minimum.** Striped bass of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir

### **Trout Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Salina – Lakewood Lake

### **Wiper Creel Limits**

#### **2 fish daily creel limit**

Atchison City Lake #7, Atwood Lake, Carbondale East Lake, Cedar Bluff Reservoir, Centralia City Lake, Council Grove Reservoir, Cheney Reservoir, Clinton Reservoir, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Ellis City Lake, El Dorado Reservoir, Eureka City Lake, Great Bend Stone Lake, Glen Elder Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Gridley City Lake, Herington City Lake – New, Horton Little Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Impounded F.I.S.H. Waters, Region 1 & 3, Johnson Co. - Shawnee Mission Park Lake, Johnson Co. - Kill Creek Park Lake, Jeffrey Energy Center, John Redmond Reservoir, Jetmore City Lake, Kanopolis Reservoir, Kanopolis State Park Pond, Kiowa State Fishing Lake, Lawrence - Mary's Lake, Louisburg City Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Lebo City Lake, Lovewell Reservoir, Lyon State Fishing Lake, Madison City Lake, Middle Creek State Fishing Lake, Melvern Reservoir, Melvern River Pond, Milford Hatchery Water Supply Pond, Mined Land Wildlife Area, Marion County Lake, Moline New City Lake (North), New Strawn City Lake, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Olpe City Lake, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Overbrook - Kids' Pond, Pleasanton City Lake – East, Pomona Reservoir, Pratt County Lake, Plainville Township Lake, Salina - Lakewood Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Sedgwick Co. Lake Afton, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes, Sterling City Lake, Topeka - West Lake, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita

- Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - West KDOT, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Wyandotte Co. Bonner Lake, Yates Center - South (Owl), Yates Center Reservoir - New

### **Wiper Length Limits**

**18 inch minimum.** Wipers of a length less than eighteen (18) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Atchison City Lake #7, Carbondale East Lake, Chanute City Lake, Clinton Reservoir, Council Grove Reservoir, Crawford State Fishing Lake, Douglas County - Lonestar Lake, Garnett - Cedar Valley Reservoir, Garnett City Lake North, Garnett City Lake South, Great Bend Stone Lake, Gridley City Lake, Harvey County West Lake, Horton Little Lake, Jetmore City Lake, Kiowa State Fishing Lake, LaCygne Reservoir, Leavenworth State Fishing Lake, Lebo City Lake, Louisburg - Middle Creek, Marion County Lake, Melvern River Pond, Mined Land Wildlife Area, New Strawn City Lake, Olathe - Cedar Lake, Olathe - Lake Olathe, Osage City Lake, Osage State Fishing Lake, Ottawa State Fishing Lake, Overbrook City Lake, Plainville Township Lake, Pleasanton City Lake - East, Pomona Reservoir, Pratt County Lake, Sabetha - Pony Creek Lake, Shawnee Co. Lake Shawnee, Wellington City Lake, Wichita - Buffalo Park Lake, Wichita - Chisholm North Lake, Wichita - East KDOT, Wichita - Watson Park Lake, Wichita - West KDOT, Winfield City Lake, Woodson State Fishing Lake, Wyandotte Co. Lake, Yates Center - South, Yates Center Reservoir - New

**21 inch minimum.** Wipers of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from the following waters:

Cheney Reservoir, El Dorado Reservoir, Sedgwick Co. Park Lakes

### **Paddlefish Length Limits**

**34-inch minimum length limit.** Measured from eye to middle of fork of tail.

Marais des Cygnes River



## **Length and Creel Limits for the Missouri River (Kansas-Missouri Boundary Waters which includes the Browning Oxbow):**

Length limits on that portion of the Missouri River which bound the Kansas-Missouri state boundary (Kansas-Missouri Boundary Waters and the Browning Oxbow): Black bass (largemouth, spotted and smallmouth bass) of a length less than twelve (12) inches, Channel Catfish, Sauger, and Walleye of a length less than fifteen (15) inches, and only paddlefish of a length less than twenty-four (24) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately.

Daily creel limits on that portion of the Missouri River which bound the Kansas-Missouri state boundaries (Kansas-Missouri Boundary Waters and the Browning Oxbow): Catfish (Blue and Flathead) daily creel limit of five (5) fish each; Channel Catfish daily creel limit of ten (10) fish; Crappie (white and black; single species or in combination) daily creel limit of thirty (30) fish; Walleye, Sauger and their hybrids (single species or in combination) daily creel limit of four (4) fish; *Morone* spp. (Yellow bass, Striped bass, White bass and their hybrids; single species or in combination) daily creel limit of fifteen (15) fish; Paddlefish daily creel limit of two (2) fish; Black Bass (Largemouth, Spotted, and Smallmouth; single species or in combination) daily creel limit of six (6) fish; all other species (excluding T&E and SINC species) daily creel limit of fifty (50) fish.

All fish caught from the Missouri River Boundary Waters that are a size or number that is illegal to possess, shall be released unrestricted to the water immediately.

### **Kanopolis Seep Stream (Sand Creek):**

Artificial bait only (lures or fly fishing) at power poles number 9 through number 16.

### **Pratt Backwaters, Pratt Centennial Pond & Pratt Kids' Fishing Pond:**

Pratt Centennial Pond: Fishing hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. All species of fish caught shall be immediately returned to the waters of Centennial Pond, except there shall be a daily creel limit of two (2) rainbow trout.

Pratt Kids' Fishing Pond: Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Children ten (10) years of age or less shall be accompanied by a person sixteen (16) years of age or older. The following creel limits apply on the Pratt Kids' Fishing Pond: Two fish of a single species or a combination of species per day.

Pratt Backwaters: Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

### **Dodge City Demon Lake:**

Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Children ten (10) years of age or less shall be accompanied by a person sixteen (16) years of age or older. Licensed adults may fish only if accompanied by a person younger than sixteen (16) years of age who is actively engaged in fishing. The following creel limits apply on Dodge City Demon Lake: Catch and release only.

### **Emporia - Peter Pan Park Pond:**

No cast nets and seining allowed.

### **Garden City Kids' Fishing Pond:**

Fishing Hours shall be from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Children ten (10) years of age or less shall be accompanied by a person sixteen (16) years of age or older. The following creel limits apply on the Garden City Kids' Fishing Pond: Two fish of a single species or a combination of species per day.

**Sherman County – Smoky Gardens:**

Catch and release only for largemouth bass, bluegill, and redear sunfish.

**Youth/Mentor Fishing Locations:**

Licensed adults may fish only if accompanied by a person younger than sixteen (16) years of age who is actively engaged in fishing. Normal creel limits apply on Youth/Mentor locations.

Elk City State Park Pond

Emporia - Jones Park Ponds. No cast nets and seining allowed.

Fall River State Park Pond

Kanopolis State Park Pond

Melvern Mentoring Pond

Olpe - Jones Park Pond. No cast nets and seining allowed.

Wilson State Park Pond

**Length and Creel Limits for Coffey County Lake:**

Length limits on Coffey County Lake: Wipers of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches, largemouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches, smallmouth bass of a length less than eighteen (18) inches, walleye of a length less than twenty-one (21) inches, and crappie (black and white species) of a length less than twelve (12) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately.

Daily creel limits on Coffey County Lake: Wiper creel limit of one (1), largemouth bass creel limit of two (2), smallmouth bass creel limit of two (2), crappie, black and white species (single species or in combination) creel limit of five (5), walleye creel limit of two (2), blue catfish creel limit of five (5), and channel catfish creel limit of ten (10) per day.

No trotlines or setlines allowed.

**Paddlefish Snagging Locations:**

Locations open to paddlefish snagging during the paddlefish season (March 15-May 15): Posted areas inside the city parks at Burlington and Chetopa on the Neosho River, Neosho River at Iola downstream from dam downstream to posted Iola city property boundary, Marais des Cygnes River below Osawatomie Dam downstream to posted boundary, Marais des Cygnes River on the upstream boundary of the Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Area downstream to Kansas-Missouri state line, and the Browning Oxbow Lake of the Missouri River.

At the posted area inside the city park at Chetopa on the Neosho River, each individual fishing for paddlefish shall use barbless hooks while fishing. "Barbless hook" shall mean a hook without barbs or upon which the barbs have been bent completely closed.

**Float Fishing Locations:**

Locations open to float fishing during the float fishing season (July 15-September 15): Council Grove Reservoir, Elk City Reservoir, Fall River Reservoir, Glen Elder Reservoir, Hillsdale Reservoir, John Redmond Reservoir, Kanopolis Reservoir, Lovewell Reservoir, Pomona Reservoir, Toronto Reservoir, Tuttle Creek Reservoir, Wilson Reservoir.

**Tallgrass Prairie Preserve F.I.S.H. Properties:**

All species of fish are protected and must be returned to the water immediately when taken from this property.

**Wichita - Chisholm Island Pond:**

All fishing shall be with artificial flies and lures only and shall be the only tackle allowed on such person while fishing this water, except for during KDWP-sponsored fishing clinics. All species of fish caught shall be immediately returned to the waters of Wichita - Chisholm Island Pond.

**Sedgwick County - Slough Creek:**

All fishing during trout season (October 15-April 15) will be done with flies only. A fly is defined as: a device constructed on a single-pointed hook from feather, chenille, yarn, silk, rayon, nylon thread or floss, with or without a spinner. The following are not flies and are not allowed in your possession while fishing this area: Molded plastic or rubber baits; foods and organic baits such as worms, grubs, crickets, leeches, minnows and fish eggs; and manufactured baits, including imitation fish eggs, dough baits and stink baits.

**Length and Creel Limits for Grand Osage Wildlife Area:**

Length limits on Grand Osage Wildlife Area: Largemouth bass between the lengths of thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) inches, and channel catfish of a length less than fifteen (15) inches are protected and must be returned to the water immediately.

Daily creel limits on Grand Osage Wildlife Area: Largemouth bass creel limit of five (5), and channel catfish creel limit of two (2).

**Trophy Sunfish Length and Creel Limits:**

A 6- to 9-inch slot length limit on bluegill, redear sunfish, green sunfish, and their hybrids. In addition, a 5/day creel limit (single species or in combination) for any of these species greater than 9 inches and unlimited creel number for fish under 6 inches.

Graham County-Antelope Lake, Jewell State Fishing Lake, Lenexa - Lake Lenexa, Miami State Fishing Lake, Pottawatomie State Fishing Lake No. 2.

**Length and Creel Limits for Johnson County Kill Creek Park Lake:**

15-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Channel Catfish, 15- to 18-inch slot length limit and a 10/day creel limit for Largemouth Bass, 18-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Smallmouth Bass, 18-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Walleye, 18-inch minimum length limit and a 2/day creel limit for Wiper, 50/day creel limit for Black and White Crappie (single species or combination), and 4/day creel limit for Rainbow Trout.

**Length and Creel Limits for Johnson County Lexington Park Lake:**

15-inch minimum length limit and 2/day creel limit for Channel Catfish, 10-inch minimum length limit and 15/day creel limit for Black and White Crappie (single species or combination), 15- to 18-inch slot length limit and 5/day creel limit for Largemouth Bass, and 4/day creel limit for Rainbow Trout.

# **Secretary's Remarks**

**Legislative Update**

**No briefing book items – possible handout after the meeting**

# **General Discussion**

## VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT

### C. General Discussion

#### 1. 2025-2026 Turkey Regulations

##### Background

The Fall Turkey Season was suspended in 2023. The Spring 2024 Turkey Season was open from April 1 to May 31 and included three season segments: Youth/Disabled, Archery, and Regular Season. Turkey hunting is regulated within six turkey management units for both the spring and fall seasons (Figure 1). The six hunt units align with the management units the department uses to monitor turkey populations and hunter activity, which allows both population and harvest data to guide harvest and season recommendations.

In spring 2024, a resident could purchase a spring turkey permit over-the-counter that was valid in Units 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6. There were 9,700 unit specific non-resident tags authorized within units 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 that non-residents could apply for (Table 1). No additional game tags were available for any unit. Three hundred and fifty spring permits were issued for Unit 4 through a resident only draw.

Table 1. Non-Resident Draw statistics for spring turkey permits 2024.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Permits Authorized</b>	<b>Total Apps. (1<sup>st</sup> Choice)</b>	<b>Total Apps. (2<sup>nd</sup> Choice)</b>	<b>Total Draw</b>	<b>Total Leftover</b>
Unit 1	700	740	427	700	0
Unit 2	2,400	2,017	1,888	2,320	80
Unit 3	2,800	4,627	1,174	2,801	0
Unit 4	<i>Resident Only</i>				
Unit 5	900	1,106	1,191	900	0
Unit 6	2,900	2,900	1,741	2,900	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,00</b>	<b>11,838</b>	<b>6,421</b>	<b>9,621</b>	<b>80</b>

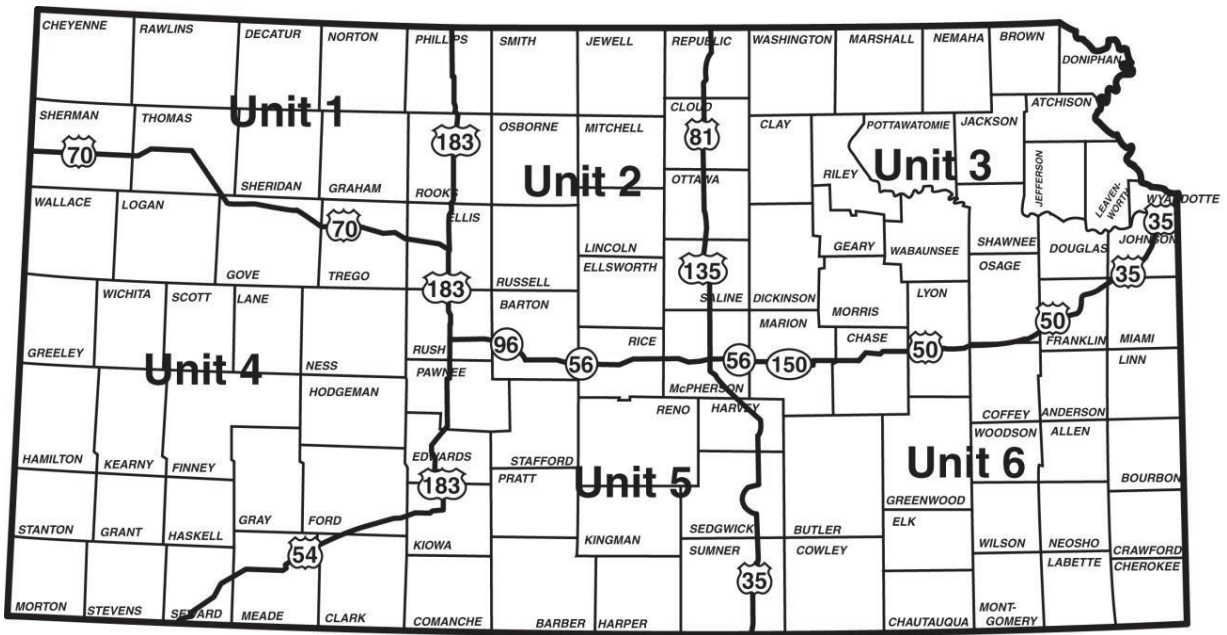


Figure 1. Kansas turkey hunting units.

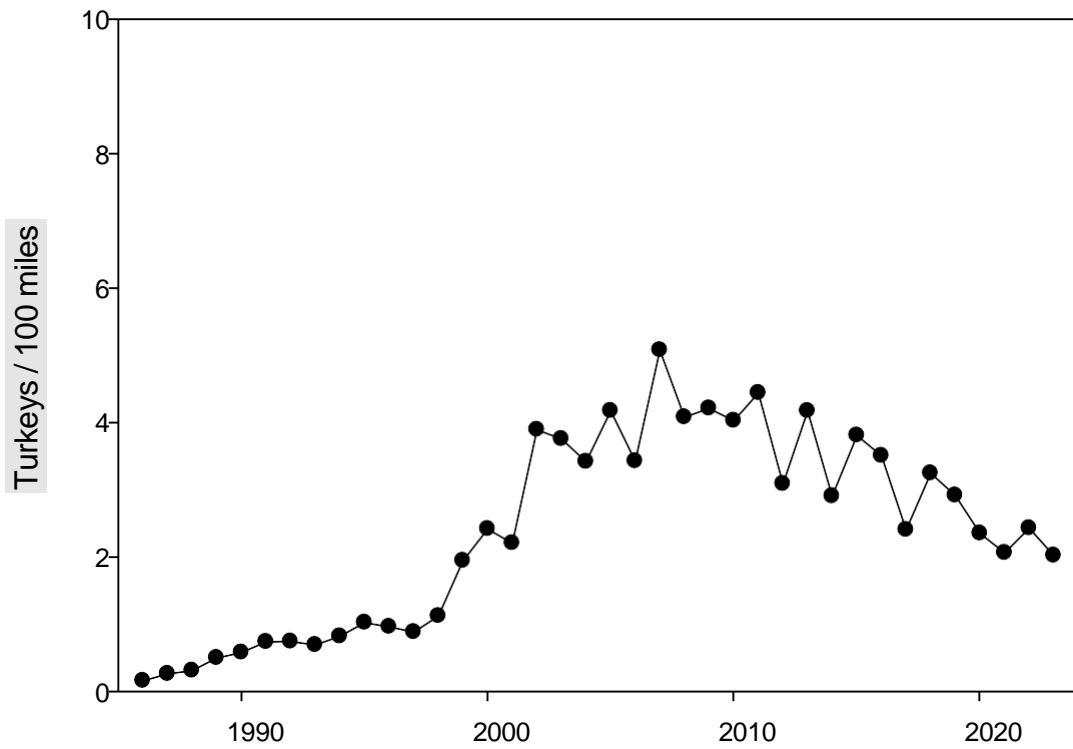


Figure 2. Statewide spring rural mail carrier index (birds/100 miles traveled) to wild turkey populations from 1986-2023.



# **Workshop Session**

## **Trout Regulations Proposal**

Rainbow trout are purchased from commercial sources and stocked throughout approximately 30 water bodies in the state every winter. The season has been Nov. 1 through April 15th. Trout prices have risen from \$1.50 per fish in 2010 to \$3.50 per fish in 2023. The total cost of the program has risen from \$171,000 in 2010 to \$280,000 in 2023. Unfortunately, during that same timeframe the number of anglers purchasing a trout permit has remained relatively steady, contributing only \$125,000 annually. That equates to approximately 10,000 trout permits sold every year. Due to fiscal concerns, it has become evident that the department needs to make some changes.

In 2023 the Fisheries Division surveyed trout anglers to gain a better understanding of the program and its users. Some of the more significant takeaways from this survey indicate that these anglers are typically not harvest oriented, want to catch fish, and this is not their main fishing activity for the year. Nearly all would still buy an annual fishing license if trout were not available to them. Therefore, this program is an opportunistic one that simply adds to their annual experience of fishing in Kansas. It's a great program to make necessary changes to as the risk seems to be low. However, these changes should be made in a positive way where the opportunity still exists at a reasonable level.

Based on fiscal concerns and using the survey for guidance, we propose constricting the trout season and increasing the cost of the trout permit. We propose changing the trout season from Nov. 1 through April 15 to Dec. 1 through March 31. Many of the survey participants also suggested increasing the cost of a trout permit if it meant maintaining the program. We propose increasing the trout permit cost from \$12.00 to \$17.50. We do not propose increasing the youth trout permit.

### **115-2-1- Amount of fees**

- Increase trout permit fee from \$12.00 to \$17.50.

## **Fisheries Regulations**

Fishing regulations – statewide regulations and water-body specific regulations

**115-25-14(b)(A)** – Change date of trout season for Type I trout water bodies from November 1 through April 15 to December 1 through March 31. Remove section A from the language.

**115-25-14(b)(B)** – Remove this regulation: “November 1 through October 31: unit number 30, located in the Mined Land Wildlife Area.” Remove section B from the regulation.

### **115-25-14(c) – Type II trout water bodies**

- Change the date of trout season for Type II trout water bodies from November 1 through April 15 to December 1 through March 31.
- Add Shawnee Mission Park Lake and Kill Creek Park Lake, Johnson County, to list of type II trout water bodies.

### **115-25-14(d) – Statewide length limit table**

- Blue Catfish – Change the statewide length and creel limit from no length limit and 5/day creel limit to a 10/day creel limit and only 1 fish greater than 30 inches.
  - All other Blue Catfish regulations currently different than this regulation will remain as exemptions in the reference document.

### **115-25-14 - Reference Document “Kansas special size limits, creel limits, and bait restriction tables”**

- Cheney Reservoir – Saugeye - add 21-inch minimum length limit for Saugeye
- Cheney Reservoir – Crappie - Change from 50/day to 20/day creel limit but maintain 10-inch minimum length limit
- Cheney Reservoir – Blue Catfish – Remove the 5/day and 35-inch minimum length limit
- Lovewell Reservoir – Blue Catfish – Remove the 5/day and 35-inch minimum length limit
- Marion County Lake – Largemouth Bass – Change from 13-18 inch protective slot to the statewide 15-inch minimum length limit.
- Overbrook City Lake – Channel Catfish – Change from 2/day creel limit & 15-inch minimum length limit to a 5/day creel limit and no minimum length limit.
- Perry Reservoir – Blue Catfish – Remove the 5/day and 35-inch minimum length limit
- Wilson Reservoir – Blue Catfish – Remove the 5/day and 35-inch minimum length limit
- Sedgwick County – Slough Creek: Change trout season date to December 1 – March 31.

## **Kansas River Invasive Carp Summary and Proposed Snagging Opportunity**

Invasive bighead carp and silver carp are abundant in the lower Kansas River. Currently, legal rod and reel harvest of these fish is very limited as they are planktivorous filter feeders and are very unlikely to be caught using standard baited-hook fishing methods. We are proposing allowing snagging for bighead carp and silver carp in the lower Kansas River. The proposed KS River Invasive Carp Snagging Opportunity is outlined as such:

- Allow snagging in the Kansas River from the WaterOne Weir downstream to the confluence with the Missouri River (15 river miles)
- Limit harvest to bighead carp and silver carp only (these two invasive carp species are the most ecologically detrimental and readily identifiable invasive fishes present; minimizes harvest of non-target species)
- Require barbless hooks (as is required for our other snagging opportunities; minimizes hook and release mortality of non-target fishes)
- Open year round (maximizes opportunity to catch and remove invasive carp)
- No additional permit needed beyond standard fishing license
- No creel or possession limit on bighead carp or silver carp (current regulation)
- Bighead carp and silver carp may not be possessed live or released live (current regulation)

## **Invasive Species Regulations**

115-7-10. Reference document “Kansas aquatic invasive species designated waters”

- Add Gardner City Lake to list – Zebra Mussels detected here in 2023.

## Sportfish versus Non-sport Fish Regulations

Research from the past ten years is casting new light on the group of fishes currently defined in K.A.R. 115-1-1 as ‘nonsport fish.’ These studies have found many of these species to exhibit life histories that warrant more conscientious management actions than currently afforded by our Kansas regulations unchanged. Montague et al. (2023) state:

*“The native nongame fishes targeted by the sport (bowfishing) have greater conservation value (Rypel et al. 2021) and can be more sensitive to overharvest than previously recognized (Scarnecchia and Schooley 2020; Scarnecchia et al. 2021). Many of these ecologically valuable native nongame species are now known to be long lived with irregular or episodic recruitment and therefore are highly vulnerable to unregulated harvest (Scarnecchia and Schooley 2020; Scarnecchia et al. 2021).”*

As such, the regulation changes proposed in the following pages aim to provide more protections to these fish by simply removing the ‘sport’ and ‘nonsport fish’ labels from the definitions and subsequent references to those definitions. In place of those references a list of species is provided if the regulation does not, or should not, apply to all fishes. In removing the ‘sport’ and ‘nonsport’ labels, these changes clarify that all fishes are protected under possession/wanton waste regulations as stated in K.A.R. 115-7-4 and K.A.R. 115-18-8.

The greatest change from this regulation proposal is the inclusion, or exclusion, of gears exempt from possession as defined in K.A.R. 115-18-8 so long as those fish are released alive. Previously the exemption only applied to ‘*the catch and release of live sport fish.*’ The proposed change suggests ‘*Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the catch and release of live fish caught using hook and line, trotlines, setlines, tip-ups, hand fishing, snagging, and floatlines.*’ This would exclude bowfishing, spearing, and gigging from releasing fish landed with those methods. These methods are assumed to have high mortality associated with the method of capture. Montague et al. (2023) evaluated the mortality of fish shot and released with bowfishing equipment in Oklahoma and found that 208 of 240 (87%) shot fish died because of the activity within 120 hours. Of the shot fish, 60% sustained injuries to internal organs, 17% to the head, and 7% to the spine. These areas were considered critical wounds and fish with those injuries died 96% of the time.

It is assumed that spearing and gigging also expose the fish to increased mortality and thus, the three methods are excluded from the live release exemption to possession. Specifically, fish shot, speared, or gigged with bowfishing gear, spear-gun, or gig would stay in the fisher’s possession until processed for consumption, transported to the individual’s residence, transported to a place of commercial preservation, transported to a place of commercial processing, or given to another person in accordance with K.A.R. 115-7-4 and K.A.R. 115-18-8.

KARs affected:

115-1-1  
115-7-1  
115-7-2  
115-7-4  
115-7-7  
115-18-8

## **Movement of wild cervid carcasses.**

- (1) Definitions
  - (A) Carcass shall mean the dead body of an animal,
  - (B) Wild cervid shall mean any member of the family Cervidae which has not been legally obtained to be sold or raised or maintained in a confined area for: breeding stock; any carcass, skin, of part of such an animal; exhibition, or companionship.
- (2) Importation of legally taken wild cervid carcasses into Kansas.
  - (A) Wild cervid carcasses (or parts thereof) taken from or obtained outside of Kansas may not be imported, transported, or possessed in Kansas, except for carcasses (or parts thereof) listed as exempt.
  - (B) Export of legally taken wild cervid carcasses taken or obtained within Kansas.
    - (A) Wild cervid carcasses (or parts thereof) taken within Kansas may not be moved outside of the deer management unit boundary as defined in K.A.R. 115-4-6 within which it was taken, except for carcasses (or parts thereof) listed as exempt.
- (3) Exempt carcasses (or parts thereof)
  - (A) Whole carcasses (or parts thereof) after a “not detected” or equivalent result from a chronic wasting disease test performed by an accredited laboratory is received or from a certified or accredited field test,
  - (B) Carcasses or quarters from which the head and spinal column materials are removed,
  - (C) Deboned meat,
  - (D) Cut and wrapped meat,
  - (E) Hides without the head or spinal column attached,
  - (F) Skulls cleaned of all muscle and brain tissue,
  - (G) Skull plate (cap) with antlers attached and all muscle and brain tissue removed,
  - (H) Antlers without skull plate (cap) attached,
  - (I) Teeth or lower mandibles with all muscle tissue removed,
  - (J) Finished taxidermy products,
  - (K) Heads with capes with not more than 6 inches of neck attached or antlers attached to uncleaned skull plate (cap) if they are submitted to a taxidermist within 72 hours,
  - (L) Tissues for use at a diagnostic or research laboratory facility,
  - (M) Tissues for research, not being used at a diagnostic or research laboratory, with prior approval by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.
- (4) Proof of submission to taxidermist, processor, or laboratory must be provided if requested. Proof of chronic wasting disease test results must be provided if requested.
- (5) Proof of sex as required by K.A.R. 115-4-2 shall still be maintained by anyone transporting cervid carcasses (or parts thereof) within Kansas.

**Pending Regulations** (the items listed below will have no presentation, they have been presented multiple times – regulation included in briefing book for your convenience)

- **KAR 115-30-4 Fire extinguishers (at AGs office)**
- **KAR 115-2-3 Camping, utility, and other fees (At Dept of Admin)**
- **KAR 115-8-1 Public Lands regulations (reference document (waiting on edits)**
- **KAR 115-8-26 new Public Lands regulation (waiting on edits)**
- **KAR 115-4-4 Big game; legal equipment and taking methods (waiting on edits)**
- **KAR 115-25-8 Elk 25-Series Regulations (waiting on edits)**
- **KAR 115-25-9a Military Deer Seasons (waiting on edits)**



## **Boating Regulations Changes**

### **#2 K.A.R. 115-30-4 (Current Regulation)**

**115-30-4. Fire extinguishers; requirements.** (a) United States coast guard approved hand portable fire extinguishers of type B, size I or type B, size II or both shall be carried on board each motorboat as determined by the following classes:

(1) Class A: at least one type B, size I fire extinguisher shall be carried if any one or more of the following conditions exist:

(A) an inboard engine;

(B) closed compartments under thwarts and seats where portable fuel tanks may be stored;

(C) double bottom construction not sealed to the hull or not completely filled with flotation materials;

(D) closed compartments in which combustible or flammable materials are stored; or

(E) permanently installed fuel tanks. Fuel tanks that cannot be moved in case of fire or other emergency or if the weight of the fuel tank precludes movement of the tank by an individual on board shall be considered permanently installed.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) shall not apply if the motorboat has a United States coast guard approved built-in or affixed fire extinguisher in the motor area.

(3) Class 1: at least one type B, size I fire extinguisher shall be carried, except the provisions of this subsection

not apply if the motorboat has a United States coast guard approved built-in or affixed fire extinguisher in the motor area.

(4) Class 2: at least two type B, size I fire extinguishers or one type B, size II fire extinguisher shall be carried, except each motorboat that has a United States coast guard approved built-in or affixed fire extinguisher in the motor area shall only be required to carry at least one type B, size I fire extinguisher.

(5) Class 3: at least three type B, size I fire extinguishers or one type B, size I fire

extinguisher and one type B, size II fire extinguisher shall be carried, except each motorboat that has a United States coast guard approved built-in or affixed fire extinguisher in the motor area shall only be required to carry at least two type B, size I fire extinguishers or one type B, size II fire extinguisher.

(b) Each vessel, including each motorboat having an approved built-in or affixed fire extinguisher in the motor area, that has enclosed living spaces or galleys shall carry at least one United States coast guard approved type B, size I or type B, size II fire extinguisher in the living space or galley. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 1989 Supp. 32-1119; effective Jan. 1, 1991.)

USCG REGULATION CHANGE (REQUIRES UPDATING REGULATION)

## Fire Protection for Recreational Boats

New regulation goes into effect on 04/20/2022

Start Here

Is Fire Extinguisher  
Readily Accessible?

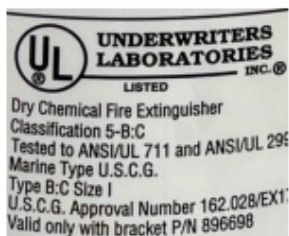
- ✓ Marine Type U.S.C.G.?
- ✓ Correct Classification (Note 1)?
- ✓ Not > 12 years old (Note 2)?

Good & Serviceable?  
(Note 3)

- Note 1 – a.** Extinguishers **UL Classified 5-B:C/10-B:C** (or greater) meet carriage requirements for ALL recreational vessels regardless of vessel age.
- b.** Extinguishers rated as **Marine Type USCG Type B:C, size I or size II** are only acceptable on vessels built model year 2017 or earlier.  
*(Model year means the period beginning June 1 of a year and ending on July 31 of the following year and being designated by the year in which it ends.)*
- c.** Ratings that include higher numbers or more letters are acceptable.
- d.** One 20-B extinguisher may be carried to replace two required 5-B extinguishers.
- e.** There are special rules for vessels built prior to 1952.
- Note 2 –** Make sure disposable fire extinguisher is not more than 12 years old from date stamp on bottle. Must be removed from service on 31 December of the 12<sup>th</sup> year.
- Note 3 –** See Good & Serviceable meaning below.

[Link to Federal Register Notice: 2021-22578.pdf \(govinfo.gov\)](#)

### Label example



### Date Stamp Example



**Good and serviceable** working condition means:

- (i)** If the extinguisher has a pressure gauge reading or indicator it must be in the operable range or position;
- (ii)** The lock pin is firmly in place;
- (iii)** The discharge nozzle is clean and free of obstruction; and
- (iv)** The extinguisher does not show visible signs of significant corrosion or damage.

[WWW.USCGBOATING.ORG](http://WWW.USCGBOATING.ORG)

**115-2-3. Camping, utility, and other fees.** (a) Each overnight camping permit shall be valid only for the state park for which it is purchased and shall expire at 2:00 pm on the day following its effective date.

(b) Any annual camping permit may be used in any state park for unlimited overnight camping, subject to other laws and regulations of the secretary. This permit shall expire on December 31 of the year for which the permit is issued.

(c) Any 14-night camping permit may be used in any state park. This permit shall expire when the permit has been used a total of 14 nights, or on December 31 of the year for which the permit is issued, whichever is first.

(d) Camping permits shall not be transferable.

(e) The fee for a designated prime camping area permit shall be in addition to the overnight, annual, 14-night, or other camping permit fee, and shall apply on a nightly basis.

(f) Fees shall be due at the time of campsite occupancy and by noon of any subsequent days of campsite occupancy.

(g) Fees set by this regulation shall be in addition to any required motor vehicle permit fee specified in K.A.R. 115-2-2.

(h) The following fees shall be in effect for state parks and for other designated areas for which camping and utility fees are required:

We are proposing to adjust to a more market level camping fees and to remove the annual camping permit.

**Workshop Session – Pending Regulations**  
**Public Lands Reference Document**  
**June 20, 2024**

**KAR 115-8-1. Department lands and waters: hunting furharvesting, and discharge of firearms.**

**Background**

Subsection (e) of this regulation covers the Department’s Public Lands Division Special Use Restrictions. This reference document within the regulation is reviewed annually for revisions.

**Discussion**

The issue of excessive pressure on our public waterfowl hunting areas and concern over the negative impacts on waterfowl and resident hunter satisfaction has prompted additional action by the Department.

**Recommendations**

**I.) Access Restrictions**

The following properties have **specified** access restrictions (~~curfews~~) ~~during specific times during a 24 hour period.~~

**Region 1**

- Hain WA & SFL-no vehicle access during waterfowl seasons
- Greeley WA- Closed to all activities February 1 through August 31
- Pratt Backwater Channel-open 6 a.m. through 10 p.m.
- Sandsage Bison Range & WA--access subject to Posted Notice

**Region 2**

- Benedictine WA-use of parking lot ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise restricted to individuals authorized by permit
- Pillsbury Crossing WA-open 6 a.m. through 10 p.m.

**Region 3**

- Grand Osage WA – Access by Special Permit Only  
Access Through Main Gates Only
- Maxwell Wildlife Refuge-access restricted to main road, area closed to all activities, except during special events
- ~~-Neosho WA— no access into the wetland before 5:00AM and must exit wetland by one hour after sunset~~
- No access into a wetland before 5:00AM and must exit the wetland within one hour after sunset
- Neosho WA
- McPherson Valley Wetlands
- Slate Creek Wetlands
- Byron Walker WA
- Perry WA Wetlands

**Section VI. Boating Restrictions:**

**a.) No Motorized Boats**

**Region 1**

-Cheyenne Bottoms WA and Jamestown WA-motorized watercraft permitted only during the waterfowl seasons. ~~No boats permitted from 4/15 through 8/15.~~ No out of water propeller driven watercraft permitted at any time.

-Cheyenne Bottoms WA – Pool 3A

-Cheyenne Bottoms WA – Pool 4A after 1:00PM only

-Jamestown WA- Pintail, Puddler, Buffalo Creek, and Gamekeeper West Marshes

-Talmo Marsh

**Region 2**

-Milford WA-no motorized boats are allowed in any wetland areas except Mall Creek/Peterson Bottoms

**-Perry WA -motorized watercraft permitted in wetlands only during waterfowl seasons**

**Region 3**

-Elk City WA-Widgeon, Simmons, Housemound Marshes

-McPherson Valley Wetlands

-Neosho WA-motorized watercraft permitted only during waterfowl seasons. No motorized watercraft in Pools 4A and 4B. No out of water propeller driven watercraft permitted at any time

**Add subsection (d) No vessels allowed**

**-Cheyenne Bottoms WA = vessels permitted only during waterfowl seasons**

Vessel = watercraft or other artificial contrivance used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on water, other than a public vessel (USCG)

**XII.) Refuges**

The following properties have portions of the area designated as a refuge during specific periods of the year, or year-round. Access and activity restrictions are for refuge management, special hunts, or special permits.

**a.) Refuge Area Closed to All Activities Year Round**

**Region 1**

-Cedar Bluff WA (Operations Area East of Dam)

-Cheyenne Bottoms WA-Pool 1

-Lovewell WA (designated land area)

**Region 2**

-Benedictine WA

-Jeffrey Energy Center-Area #3

-Marais des Cygnes WA

**Region 3**

-Fall River WA

-McPherson Wetlands - South Refuge

-Mined Land WA Bison Pen located on Unit 1

-Byron Walker WA; around headquarters and archery range

**-Cherokee Lowlands WA (Perkin's east and Bogner center tracts)**

## **XV. Daily Hunt Permits**

*The Department is recommending adding all Public Lands properties (state fishing lakes and wildlife areas) into the electronic check-in/check-out system. This requirement would be for hunting activity only.*

Electronic ~~D~~daily use permits are required ~~on the following properties~~ through the department's licensing system for hunting activity on the following properties:

### **Statewide**

~~-All Department managed lands and waters (Wildlife Areas and State Fishing Lakes)~~

~~\*Excluding Maxwell Wildlife Refuge, Big Basin Prairie Preserve, and all State~~

### **Parks**

~~-iWIHA properties~~

### **Region 1**

~~-Cheyenne Bottoms WA - In addition to daily hunt permit, trapping permit is required from the manager to trap~~

~~-Glen Elder WA~~

~~-Isabel WA~~

~~-Jamestown WA - In addition to daily hunt permit, trapping permit is required from the manager to trap~~

~~-Lovewell WA - In addition to daily hunt permit, trapping permit is required from the manager to trap~~

~~-Talmo Marsh~~

~~-Texas Lake WA~~

### **Region 2**

~~-Benedictine Bottoms~~

~~-Blue Valley WA~~

~~-Bolton WA~~

~~-Clinton WA~~

~~-Dalbey WA~~

~~-Douglas SFL~~

~~-Elwood WA~~

~~-Hillsdale WA~~

~~-Jeffrey Energy Center WA Area # 2~~

~~-Kansas River WA~~

~~-La Cygne WA~~

~~-Lyon SFL~~

~~-Marais des Cygnes WA~~

~~-Melvern WA~~

~~-Milford WA~~

~~-Oak Mills WA~~

~~-Perry WA~~

~~-Tuttle Creek WA~~

**Region 3**

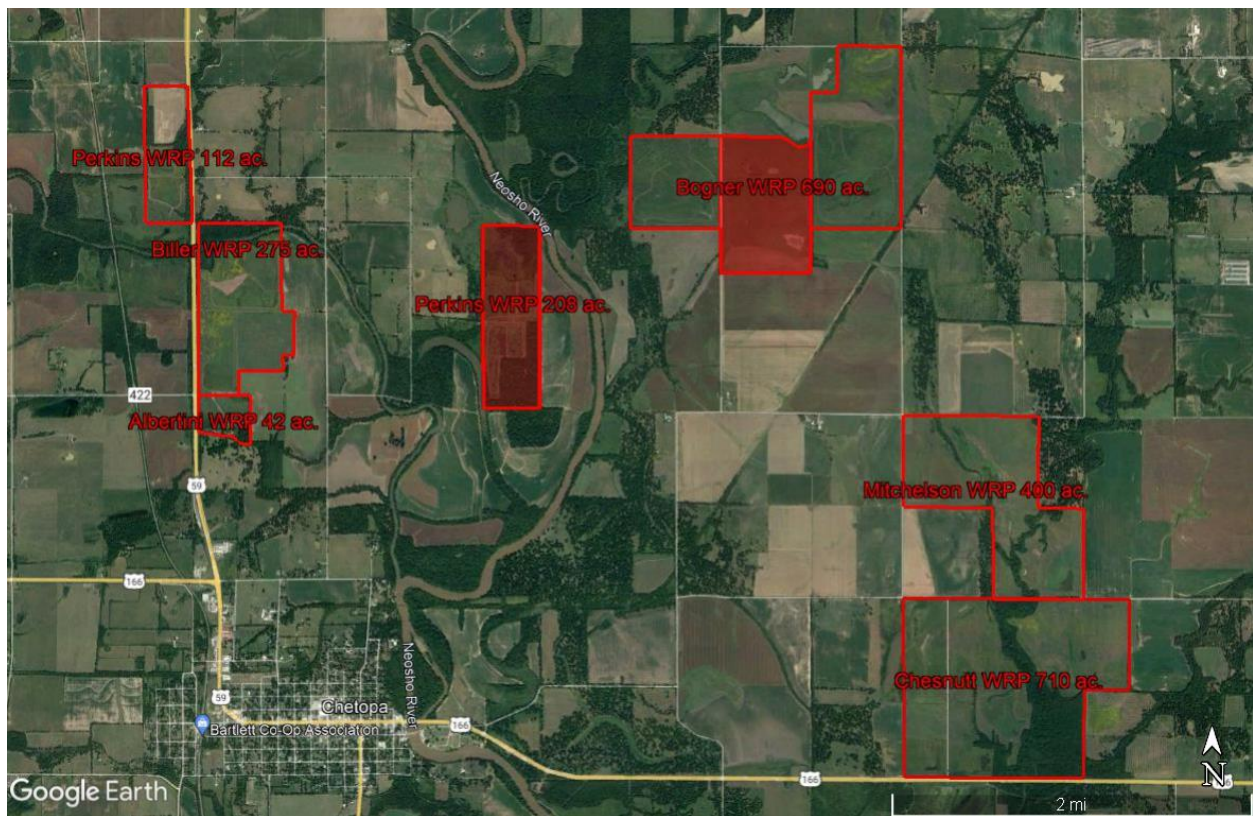
- Berentz/Dick WA
- Marion WA
- McPherson Wetlands
- Neosho WA
- Slate Creek Wetland

**XVI. Daily Use Permits**

~~Electronic~~ Daily use permits are ~~available~~ **required** electronically through I-Sportsman e-permit the **department's licensing** system for ALL activities.

**Region 2**

- Buck Creek WA
- Noe WA





**115-8-26. Nonresident waterfowl hunting.** (a) During any established hunting season for migratory waterfowl, a nonresident shall be restricted to Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays for the hunting and taking of migratory waterfowl at the following locations:

(1) department lands and waters;

(2) federal lands and waters owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Army, U.S. Army Corp of Engineer at the following reservoirs: Big Hill, Clinton, Council Grove, El Dorado, Elk City, Fall River, Hillsdale, John Redmond, Kanopolis, Marion, Melvern, Milford, Perry, Pomona, Toronto, Tuttle Creek, and Wilson; and

(3) federal lands and waters owned by the United States and administered by the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation at the following reservoirs: Cedar Bluff, Cheney, Glen Elder (Wakonda Lake), Lovewell, Norton (Keith Sebelius Lake), and Webster.

(4) federal lands and waters owned by the United States and administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge, Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge, and Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge.

(b) The following definitions shall apply to this regulation:

(1) "Migratory waterfowl" shall have the same meaning as K.S.A. 32-1008(a)(2), and amendments thereto.

(2) "Nonresident" shall have the same meaning as K.S.A. 32-701(1), and amendments thereto, but it shall not include:

(A) a nonresident lifetime license holder, pursuant to K.S.A. 32-930(a)(2), and amendments thereto;

(B) a nonresident active-duty military personnel, pursuant to K.S.A. 32-980(b)(1), and amendments thereto;

(C) an active-duty military personnel and the immediate family members domiciled with such individual, pursuant to K.S.A. 32-980(b)(2), and amendments thereto; or

(D) a nonresident full-time student, pursuant to K.S.A. 32-930(b)(3), and amendments thereto.

(3) "Department lands and waters" shall have the same meaning as K.A.R. 115-1-1(a)(14)

(c) These restrictions shall not apply to the spring snow goose Conservation Order season.

(d) These restrictions shall not apply to property enrolled and designated as either a walk-in hunting access (WIHA) area or an integrated walk-in hunting access (iWIHA) area.

(e) These restrictions shall not apply to the navigable rivers in Kansas which are the Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas rivers.

## **VI. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

### **D. Workshop Session**

#### **Pending**

All permanent regulations dealing with big game will be discussed together at this meeting. In recent years these regulations have been brought forward in the General Discussion portion of the Commission Meeting in August to allow public comments and to determine if further review was needed.

#### **a) K.A.R. 115-4-4. Big game; legal equipment and taking methods.**

#### **Background**

This regulation contains the following items:

- Specific equipment differences for hunting various big game species.
- Specifications for bright orange colored clothing, which must be worn when hunting during certain big game seasons.
- Accessory equipment such as calls, decoys, and blinds.
- Shooting hours
- Special restrictions on the use of horses or mules to herd or drive elk.

#### **Discussion**

Recently, questions regarding the materials allowable muzzleloader projectiles may be made from have arisen. Currently the allowable projectiles include only: tumble-on-impact, hard-cast solid lead, conical lead, or sabot bullets. The regulation as written may not allow bullets made from modern nontoxic materials.

#### **Recommendation**

Upon completion of department review, changes may be recommended to the allowable muzzleloader projectiles.

## **KAR 115-25-8**

### **Elk; open season, bag limit and permits**

#### **Background**

This regulation pertains to seasons, bag limits, unit boundaries, permits and tags for elk hunting.

Elk were first reintroduced onto Fort Riley in 1986, and a hunting season was initiated in 1990. Most of the hunting opportunity in the state occurs on the Fort. However, elk do exist on private lands, though unpredictably in most of the state, with parts of southwest Kansas being the main exception. Elk also occur in the vicinity of Cimarron National Grasslands, but these elk are primarily found in neighboring states, and the Grasslands have been closed to elk hunting since 1995, following several years of heavy harvest pressure.

Since 1999, longer seasons and less restrictive permitting options have been authorized except near Fort Riley and the Grasslands. This framework is intended to allow for elk that may be causing crop damage or other conflicts on private land to be harvested, and for landowners to have the opportunity to maintain elk at desirable numbers on their own property while at the same time allowing the Fort Riley and Cimarron herds to be maintained.

#### **Discussion & Recommendations**

We do not currently anticipate any changes to bag limits or permit types.

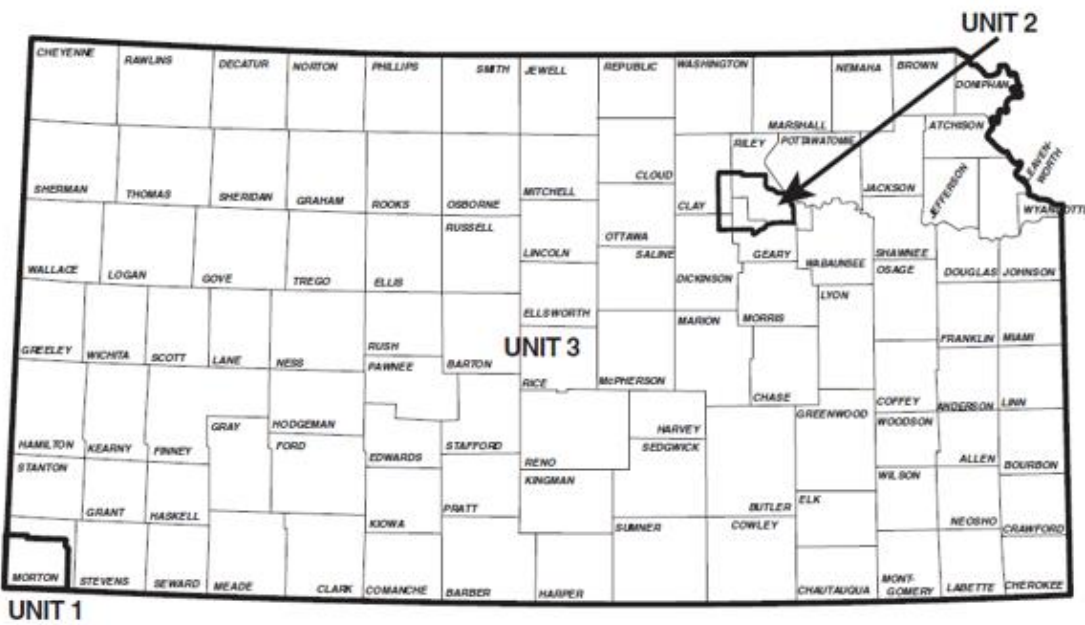
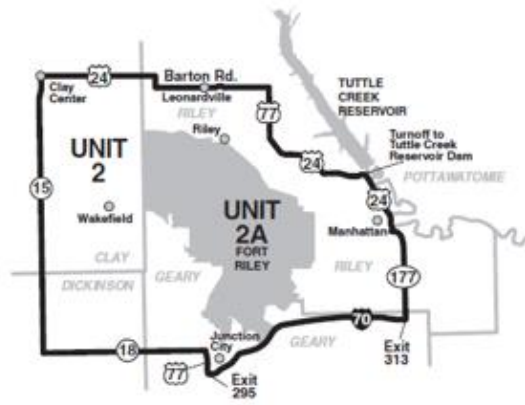
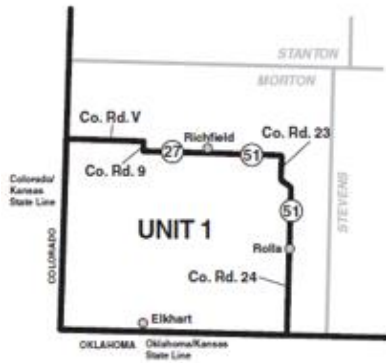
Unit boundaries are defined in K.A.R. 115-4-6b. Units 2 and 3 will be open to hunting.

Durable season dates are now established in this regulation and shall remain standard for existing seasons.

In addition to established seasons, we propose creating an additional firearms season on Fort Riley from January 1-31, 2025 open to all unfilled Fort Riley permit holders. It is hoped that this season will result in the harvest of a few more elk and create a little more flexibility in dealing with elk coming off the Fort.

Elk permits will be available only to Kansas residents, and permit applications will be separated into military and nonmilitary applicants. We propose that 12 any elk and 18 antlerless elk permits be authorized for Unit 2, which is the same number that has been authorized for the past 5 years. An unlimited number of hunt-on-your-own-land antlerless-only and either-sex elk permits will also be authorized in Units 2 and 3. An unlimited number of general resident and landowner tenant antlerless-only and any-elk permits will be authorized in Unit 3.

# Elk Units



## **K.A.R. 115-25-9a. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits; additional considerations; Smoky Hill ANG, Fort Riley, and Fort Leavenworth**

### **Background**

This regulation has typically been brought to a Public Hearing in June. This later period to finalize the seasons on the Kansas military subunits is necessary as the schedules for military training activities are occasionally unknown at the time KAR 115-25-9 is approved. The regulation has also been used to address legislative actions pertaining to deer hunting that were made after KAR 115-25-9 was approved.

### **Discussion**

We shall address all deer season on military subunits under one regulation. Personnel at Smoky Hill ANG, Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth have been contacted and we have received preliminary information on the season dates that they prefer.

The proposed regulation:

**115-25-9a. Deer; open season, bag limit, and permits; additional considerations; military subunits.** (a) In addition to the pre-rut antlerless white-tailed deer only season specified in K.A.R. 115-25-9, in the Fort Riley subunit 8A an additional antlerless white-tailed deer only season shall also be November 29, 2024 to December 1, 2024.

(b) In the Fort Riley subunit, the open firearm season for the taking of deer shall be December 14, 2024 through December 22, 2024.

(c) Five additional antlerless-only white-tailed deer permits shall be valid in subunit 8A.

(d) In the Fort Leavenworth subunit 10A, the open firearm season for the taking of deer shall be November 16, 2024 through November 17, 2024; November 23, 2024 through November 24, 2024; November 28, 2024 through December 1, 2024; December 7, 2024 through December 8, 2024; and December 14, 2024 through December 15, 2024.

(e) In the Fort Leavenworth subunit, the extended firearms season for the taking of antlerless-only white-tailed deer shall be January 1, 2025 through January 19, 2025.

(f) In the Fort Leavenworth subunit, the extended archery season for the taking of antlerless-only white-tailed deer shall be January 20, 2025 through January 31, 2025.

(g) In the Smokey Hill subunit, the open firearm season for the taking of deer shall be December 4, 2024 through December 15, 2024.

(h) Five additional antlerless white-tailed deer permits shall be valid in subunit 4A. This regulation shall have no force and effect on and after March 1, 2025. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 32-807 and K.S.A. 32-937.)

### **Recommendation**

To accommodate both the U.S. Armed Forces' mission needs and deer hunting on the Kansas military subunits, adopt the proposed regulation providing for adjustments to the Kansas statewide deer seasons at those subunits.