

Proposed

## Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission

### Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 26, 2018 at the Memorial Building, 101 S. Lincoln, Chanute, Kansas to consider the approval and adoption of proposed regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 1:00 p.m., April 26 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. then resume at 6:30 p.m. at the same location for the regulatory hearing and more business. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and evening meeting for any issues not on the agenda and additional comment periods will be available during the meeting on agenda items. Old and new business may also be discussed at this time. If necessary to complete business matters, the Commission will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. April 27 at the location listed above.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and may request the meeting materials in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the meeting should be made at least five working days in advance of the meeting 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.

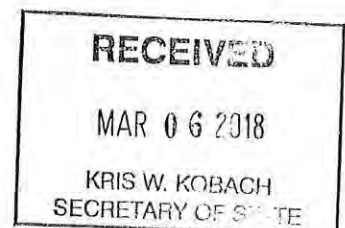
This 30-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulation.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, 1020 S. Kansas Ave, Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612 or to [sheila.kemmis@ks.gov](mailto:sheila.kemmis@ks.gov) if electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally in regard to 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. 115-25-7.** This proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting unit boundaries, bag limit, application periods and season dates for the 2018 firearm, muzzleloader, and archery antelope seasons. The proposed version merely updates calendar dates.

**Economic Impact Summary:** The proposed version of the regulation is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.



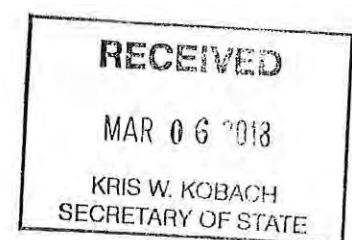
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**K.A.R. 115-25-8.** This proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting unit boundaries, bag limit, application periods and season dates for the 2018-2019 muzzleloader, archery, and firearm seasons for elk. The proposed version of the regulation adds a season in August and updates the season dates.

**Economic Impact Summary:** The proposed version of the regulation is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, small businesses, other agencies, or the public.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and its respective economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the chairman of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the department's website at [www.kdwpt.state.ks.us](http://www.kdwpt.state.ks.us), or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman



**115-25-7. Antelope; open season, bag limit, and permits.** (a) The open season for the taking of antelope shall be as specified in this subsection. The unit designations in this subsection shall have the meanings specified in K.A.R. 115-4-6.

(1) Archery season.

(A) The archery season dates shall be September 22, 2018 through September 30, 2018 and October 13, 2018 through October 31, 2018.

(B) The taking of antelope during the established archery season shall be authorized for Smoky Hill, unit 2; West Arkansas, unit 17; and Cimarron, unit 18. Unlimited archery permits for residents and nonresidents shall be authorized for the area.

(2) Firearm season.

(A) The firearm season dates shall be October 5, 2018 through October 8, 2018.

(B) The open units for the taking of antelope during the established firearm season and the number of permits authorized shall be as follows:

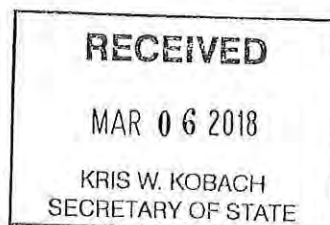
(i) Smoky Hill, unit 2: One hundred and twenty-two resident firearm permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(ii) West Arkansas, unit 17: Forty-four resident firearm permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(iii) Cimarron, unit 18: Fourteen resident firearm permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(3) Muzzleloader-only season.

(A) The muzzleloader-only season dates shall be October 1, 2018 through October 8, 2018. Muzzleloader permits also shall be valid in the unit for which the permit is authorized



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during the established firearm season dates.

(B) The open units for the taking of antelope during the established muzzleloader-only season and the number of permits authorized shall be as follows:

(i) Smoky Hill, unit 2: Thirty-four resident muzzleloader permits shall be authorized for the unit.

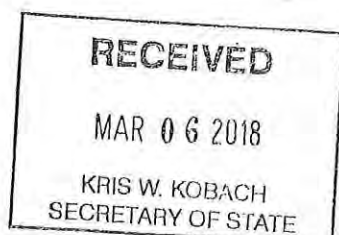
(ii) West Arkansas, unit 17: Ten resident muzzleloader permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(iii) Cimarron, unit 18: Six resident muzzleloader permits shall be authorized for the unit.

(b) The bag limit for each archery, firearm, and muzzleloader permit shall be one antelope of either sex.

(c) This regulation shall have no force and effect on and after March 1, 2019.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 32-937.)



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**115-25-8. Elk; open season, bag limit, and permits.** (a) The unit designations in this regulation shall have the meanings specified in K.A.R. 115-4-6b, except that the area of Fort Riley, subunit 2a, shall not be included as part of Republican-Tuttle, unit 2.

(b) The open seasons for the taking of elk shall be as follows:

(1) The archery season dates and units shall be as follows:

(A) Statewide, except Fort Riley, subunit 2a, and unit 1: September 17, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

(B) Fort Riley, subunit 2a: September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

(2) The firearm season dates and units shall be as follows:

(A) Statewide, except Fort Riley, subunit 2a, and unit 1: August 1, 2018 through August 31, 2018; November 28, 2018 through December 9, 2018; and January 1, 2019 through March 15, 2019.

(B) Fort Riley, subunit 2a:

(i) First segment: October 1, 2018 through October 31, 2018.

(ii) Second segment: November 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018.

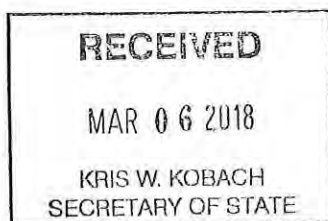
(iii) Third segment: December 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

(3) The muzzleloader season dates and units shall be as follows:

(A) Statewide, except Fort Riley, subunit 2a, and unit 1: September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

(B) Fort Riley, subunit 2a: September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

(c) A limited-quota either-sex elk permit shall be valid during any season using equipment authorized for that season. Twelve either-sex elk permits shall be authorized.



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(d) A limited-quota antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid during any season using equipment authorized for that season, except that a limited-quota antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only as follows:

(1) A first-segment antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only during the first segment. Six first-segment antlerless-only elk permits shall be authorized.

(2) A second-segment antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only during the second segment. Six second-segment antlerless-only elk permits shall be authorized.

(3) A third-segment antlerless-only elk permit shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, only during the third segment. Six third-segment antlerless-only elk permits shall be authorized.

(4) All antlerless-only elk permits shall be valid on Fort Riley, subunit 2a, during the September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018 archery and muzzleloader seasons.

(e) The bag limit shall be one elk as specified on the permit issued to the permittee.

(f) An unlimited number of hunt-on-your-own-land antlerless-only elk permits and either-sex elk permits shall be authorized in units 2 and 3. A hunt-on-your-own-land permit shall be valid during any open season. The bag limit for each hunt-on-your-own-land elk permit shall be one elk as specified on the permit.

(g) An unlimited number of over-the-counter antlerless-only elk permits and either-sex elk permits shall be authorized in unit 3.

(h) This regulation shall have no force and effect on and after April 1, 2019.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 32-937.)

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## ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

**K.A.R. 115-25-7.** Antelope; open season, bag limit, and permits.

**DESCRIPTION:** This proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting unit boundaries, bag limit, application periods and season dates for the 2018 firearm, muzzleloader, and archery antelope seasons. The hunting units include all of the area included during the 2017 season. An unlimited number of archery permits are authorized, however, recent trends indicate that about 300 people may apply for these permits for residents. 6 nonresident archery permits were issued in 2017 and it is anticipated that a like number will be issued in 2018.

The proposed unit boundaries for the 2018 firearm hunting season are the same as the 2018 unit boundaries. A total of 180 firearms permits are proposed in three management units as follows: Unit 2-122 permits, Unit 17-44 permits, and Unit 18-14 permits, the same as last season. In addition, 50 muzzleloader permits are proposed in three management units as follows: Unit 2-34 permits, Unit 17-10 permits, and Unit 18-6 permits, the same as last season.

**FEDERAL MANDATE:** None.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** It is anticipated that 500 antelope hunting permits will be authorized. Estimated revenue if all permits are issued would be approximately \$25,000. That amount represents equal participation in the antelope season by landowner/tenants and general residents, as well as nonresident participation. Approximately 1000 people will apply for an antelope permit or preference point. A \$10 nonrefundable application fee from all applicants will generate an additional \$10,000. Other administrative costs associated with the season are borne by the Department.

Approximately 2500 days of hunting activity will occur. The national survey of fishing, hunting, and wildlife associated recreation conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated that an average big game hunter spent more than \$1100 per season, thus the antelope season may generate \$550,000 in direct economic benefits to businesses providing goods and services. There will be no other economic impact on the general public, small businesses or on other state agencies.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:** None.

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## ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

**K.A.R. 115-25-8.** Elk; open season, bag limit and permits.

**DESCRIPTION:** This proposed exempt regulation establishes hunting unit boundaries, bag limit, application periods and season dates for the 2018-2019 muzzleloader, archery, and firearm seasons for elk. The units allow for statewide use for limited-quota permits, except in a portion of Morton County. Limited-quota elk and unlimited hunt-on-your-own-land (HOYOL) hunters would be allowed to hunt during any open season with the equipment that was allowed during that season. Unlimited general either-sex and antlerless-only permits would allow the use of the permits in all units but would exclude two units. Unlimited HOYOL either-sex and antlerless-only permits would be allowed statewide, except a portion of Morton County, Unit 1. The proposed regulation would allow elk hunting from August 1, 2018 through March 15, 2019 statewide (outside Fort Riley, except Unit 1). Eighteen limited-quota antlerless permits would also be valid during a September muzzleloader and archery equipment season on Fort Riley, Subunit 2a. However, only six limited-quota antlerless-only elk permits at a time would be made available for use during each of three seasons on subunit 2a (Fort Riley) (October 1, 2018 through October 31, 2018; November 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018; and December 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018). Twelve limited-quota either-sex elk permits would be valid from September 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 on subunit 2a and from August 1, 2018 through March 15, 2019 in the remainder of the state, except Unit 1. Fort Riley military personnel would continue to control access to the military grounds for the purpose of elk hunting, and are expected to provide hunting access only during a portion of the available days during the open seasons. The seasons are intended to provide increased opportunity for those hunters drawing elk permits, and increased flexibility to address elk that may disperse off the Fort as well as those animals beginning to appear within other locations in the State. This represents no change for either-sex elk permits and an increase of three antlerless only permits from the total limited-quota permits for 2017.

**FEDERAL MANDATE:** None

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** It is anticipated that 30 limited-quota elk permits will be issued. Based on 2017 numbers, it is estimated that at least another 35 HOYOL permits will be issued and as well as 10 unlimited general permits. In addition, it is estimated that 1000 people will apply for the drawing permits or bonus points and those individuals pay a \$10 nonrefundable application fee. The application fee generates \$10,000. Estimated revenue if all permits are issued would be approximately \$13,350. Administrative costs associated with the season are borne by the Department. Approximately 360 days of hunting activity may occur, thus providing \$79,200 economic benefit to businesses providing goods and services. To the extent the expanded unit, seasons, and permit numbers help prevent dispersal of elk onto private land, and therefore help prevent occurrence of damage from dispersed elk, there may be some positive economic impact to the general public. No other economic impact on the general public, small businesses, or on other state agencies is anticipated.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:** None.

