

Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission
Notice of Hearing on Proposed Administrative Regulation

A public hearing will be conducted by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission (the Commission) at 12:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2026 at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center, 3083 U.S. Highway 83, Oakley, KS 67748 to consider the approval and adoption of a proposed administrative regulation 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. The public hearing will be conducted in person and via video conferencing system.

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 regulation. All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chair of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Avenue, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66612, or to eleazar.p.hazel@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.

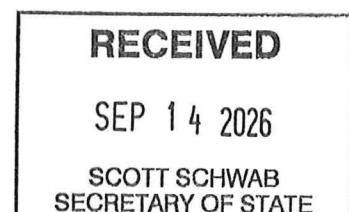
Copies of the complete text of the regulation and economic impact statement may be obtained by writing the Chair of the Commission at the address above, may be accessed electronically on the Department's website at www.ksoutdoors.com, or by calling 785-296-6373.

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 ten (10) business days in advance of the hearing by contacting the Department at 785-296-6373. 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.

Summaries of the proposed regulation and its economic impact follow. (Note: Statements indicating that "The Commission anticipates that the proposed amendment/new regulation will have minor to no economic impact" are intended to indicate that no economic impact on the Commission, other state agencies, persons subject to the proposed regulation, or the general public have been identified.)

K.A.R. 115-2-1

This regulatory amendment proposal will: (1) increase the fee for nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp as required by statute; (2) replace the current 5-year senior license with the new statutorily created license for individuals 65 years of age or older for a reduced cost; and (3) adjust the Resident Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license by expanding the current age range (6 to 7 years old) to a wider age range (6 to 15 years old) and reducing the fee for this license.



Economic Impact

The change to nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamps is expected to result in additional compliance costs of \$1,513,087.20. The other two changes to this regulation are expected to result in cost savings for individuals purchasing these licenses.

Whitney Damron, Chair
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission

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115-2-1. Amount of fees. The following fees and discounts shall be in effect for the following licenses, permits, and other issues of the department:

(a) Hunting licenses and permits.

Resident hunting license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	\$25.00
Resident hunting license (valid for five years from date of purchase).....	100.00
Resident senior hunting license (valid for one year from date of purchase, 65 years of age through 74 years of age).....	12.50
Resident senior hunting license (valid for five years from date of purchase, 65 years of age through 74 years of age).....	50.00
Resident youth hunting license (one-time purchase, valid from 16 years of age through 20 years of age, expiring at the end of that calendar year).....	40.00
Nonresident hunting license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	125.00
Nonresident junior hunting license (under 16 years of age).....	40.00
Resident big game hunting permit:	
General resident: either-sex elk permit.....	300.00
General resident: antlerless-only elk permit.....	150.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): either-sex elk permit.....	125.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): antlerless-only elk permit.....	50.00
Landowner/tenant: either-sex elk permit.....	150.00
Landowner/tenant: antlerless-only elk permit.....	75.00
Hunt-on-your-own-land: either-sex elk permit.....	150.00
Hunt-on-your-own-land: antlerless-only elk permit.....	75.00

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General resident: deer permit.....	40.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): deer permit.....	10.00
General resident: antlerless-only deer permit.....	20.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): antlerless-only deer permit.....	7.50
Landowner/tenant: deer permit.....	20.00
Hunt-on-your-own-land: deer permit.....	20.00
Special hunt-on-your-own-land: deer permit.....	40.00
General resident: antelope permit.....	50.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): antelope permit.....	10.00
Landowner/tenant: antelope permit.....	25.00
Antelope preference point service charge.....	10.00
Any-deer preference point service charge	10.00
Application fee for elk permit.....	10.00
Wild turkey permit:	
General resident: turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	25.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	5.00
Resident landowner/tenant: turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	12.50
Nonresident: fall turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	50.00
Nonresident tenant: fall turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	25.00
Nonresident: spring turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	75.00
Nonresident tenant: spring turkey permit (1-bird limit)	30.00
Nonresident youth (under 16 years of age): turkey permit (1-bird limit).....	10.00

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Resident: turkey preference point service charge.....	5.00
Nonresident: turkey permit application fee.....	10.00
Wild turkey game tag:	
Resident: turkey game tag (1-bird limit).....	15.00
Resident youth (under 16 years of age): turkey game tag (1-bird limit)	5.00
Nonresident: turkey game tag (1-bird limit).....	30.00
Nonresident youth (under 16 years of age): turkey game tag (1-bird limit).....	10.00
Spring wild turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit, must be purchased before April 1 of year of use):	
General resident: turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit).....	35.00
General resident youth (under 16 years of age): turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit).....	10.00
Resident landowner/tenant: turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit).....	17.50
Nonresident: turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit).....	85.00
Nonresident tenant: turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit).....	42.50
Nonresident youth (under 16 years of age): turkey permit and game tag combination (2-bird limit).....	20.00
Nonresident big game hunting permit:	
Nonresident hunt-on-your-own-land: deer permit.....	85.00
Nonresident tenant: deer permit.....	85.00
Nonresident: deer permit (antlered deer).....	400.00
Nonresident youth (under 16 years of age): deer permit (antlered deer).....	75.00

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Nonresident: deer permit (antlerless only).....	50.00
Nonresident: combination 2-deer permit (antlered deer and antlerless white-tailed deer).....	450.00
Nonresident youth (under 16 years of age): combination 2-deer permit (antlered deer and antlerless white-tailed deer).....	90.00
Nonresident: antelope permit (archery only).....	300.00
Nonresident tenant: antelope permit.....	85.00
Nonresident youth (under 16 years of age): antelope (archery only).....	100.00
Nonresident tenant: either-sex elk permit.....	300.00
Nonresident tenant: antlerless-only elk permit.....	150.00
Nonresident: deer permit application fee.....	25.00
Nonresident: mule deer stamp.....	150.00
Field trial permit: game birds.....	20.00
Lifetime hunting license	500.00
or eight quarterly installment payments of.....	67.50
<u>Resident</u> migratory waterfowl habitat stamp.....	8.00
<u>Nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp.....</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Sandhill crane hunting permit: validation fee.....	5.00
Disabled person hunt-from-a-vehicle permit.....	0

(b) Fishing licenses and permits.

Resident fishing license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	25.00
Resident fishing license (valid for five years from date of purchase).....	100.00

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Resident senior fishing license (valid for one year from date of purchase, 65 years of age through 74 years of age).....	12.50
Resident senior fishing license (valid for five years from date of purchase, 65 years of age through 74 years of age).....	50.00
Resident youth fishing license (one-time purchase, valid from 16 years of age through 20 years of age, expiring at the end of that calendar year).....	40.00
Nonresident fishing license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	75.00
Resident calendar day fishing license.....	3.50
Nonresident calendar day fishing license	10.00
Three-pole permit (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	6.00
Tournament bass pass (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	12.00
Paddlefish permit (six carcass tags).....	10.00
Paddlefish permit youth (under 16 years of age) (six carcass tags).....	5.00
Hand fishing permit.....	25.00
Lifetime fishing license.....	500.00
or eight quarterly installment payments of.....	67.50
Five-day nonresident fishing license	25.00
Institutional group fishing license.....	100.00
Special nonprofit group fishing license.....	50.00
Trout permit (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	17.50
Youth trout permit (under 16 years of age, valid for one year from date of purchase).....	4.50

(c) Combination hunting and fishing licenses and permits.

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Resident combination hunting and fishing license (valid for one year from date of purchase)

.....45.00

Resident combination hunting and fishing license (valid for five years from date of purchase)

.....180.00

Resident senior combination hunting and fishing license (valid for one year from date of

purchase, 65 years of age through 74 years of age).....22.50

~~Resident senior combination hunting and fishing license (valid for five years from date of~~

~~purchase, 65 years of age through 74 years of age).....90.00~~

Resident combination youth hunting and fishing license (one-time purchase, valid from 16 years

of age through 20 years of age, expiring at the end of that calendar year).....70.00

Resident lifetime combination hunting and fishing license.....960.00

or eight quarterly installment payments of.....130.00

Resident senior combination hunting and fishing license (one-time purchase, valid 65 years of

age and older).....45.00

Resident Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license:

5 years of age or younger.....300.00

6 through ~~7~~15 years of age.....~~500.00~~400.00

Nonresident combination hunting and fishing license (valid for one year from date of purchase)...

.....190.00

(d) Furharvester licenses.

Resident furharvester license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....25.00

Resident junior furharvester license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....12.50

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Lifetime furharvester license	500.00
or eight quarterly installment payments of	67.50
Nonresident furharvester license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	250.00
Nonresident bobcat permit (1-bobcat limit per permit).....	100.00
Resident fur dealer license	100.00
Nonresident fur dealer license	400.00
Field trial permit: furbearing animals	20.00
Resident night hunting equipment permit (expiring at the end of that season).....	25.00
Nonresident night hunting equipment permit (expiring at the end of that season).....	50.00

(e) Commercial licenses and permits.

Controlled shooting area hunting license (valid for one year from date of purchase).....	25.00
Missouri river fishing permit	25.00
Game breeder permit.....	10.00
Controlled shooting area operator license.....	200.00
Commercial dog training permit.....	20.00
Commercial fish bait permit (three-year permit).....	50.00
Commercial prairie rattlesnake harvest permit (without a valid Kansas hunting license)	20.00
Commercial prairie rattlesnake harvest permit (with a valid Kansas hunting license or exempt from this license requirement).....	5.00
Commercial prairie rattlesnake dealer permit.....	50.00
Prairie rattlesnake round-up event permit.....	25.00

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(f) Collection, scientific, importation, rehabilitation, and damage-control permits.

Scientific, educational, or exhibition permit.....	10.00
Raptor propagation permit.....	0
Rehabilitation permit.....	0
Wildlife damage-control permit.....	0
Wildlife importation permit.....	10.00
Threatened or endangered species: special permits.....	0

(g) Falconry.

Apprentice permit.....	75.00
General permit.....	75.00
Master permit.....	75.00
Testing fee.....	50.00

(h) Miscellaneous fees.

Duplicate license, permit, stamp, and other issues of the department.....	0
Duplicate vessel registration decal.....	10
Special departmental services, materials, or supplies.....	At cost
Vendor bond	
For bond amounts of \$5,000.00 and less.....	50.00
For bond amounts of more than \$5,000.00.....	50.00
plus \$6.00 per additional \$1,000.00 coverage or any fraction thereof.	

(i) Discounts.

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Discount for five or more licenses, permits, stamps, or other issues of the department purchased by an individual at the same time..... five percent of the total price

(Authorized by K.S.A. ~~2025~~2026 Supp. 32-807 and K.S.A. ~~2025~~2026 Supp. 32-988; implementing K.S.A. ~~2025~~2026 Supp. 32-807; K.S.A. 32-937; K.S.A. ~~2025~~2026 Supp. 32-988; ~~and~~ K.S.A. 2026 Supp. 32-9,101; and L. 2026 ch. 66, sec. 1; effective Dec. 4, 1989; amended Sept. 10, 1990; amended Jan. 1, 1991; amended June 8, 1992; amended Oct. 12, 1992; amended April 11, 1994; amended Aug. 29, 1994; amended June 5, 1995; amended Aug. 21, 1995; amended Feb. 28, 1997; amended July 30, 1999; amended Jan. 2, 2002; amended Jan. 1, 2003; amended Jan. 1, 2004; amended Feb. 18, 2005; amended Jan. 1, 2006; amended May 1, 2006; amended Jan. 1, 2007; amended Jan. 1, 2008; amended Jan. 1, 2009; amended Jan. 1, 2010; amended Aug. 1, 2010; amended Jan. 1, 2011; amended Jan. 1, 2013; amended April 19, 2013; amended Nov. 15, 2013; amended Jan. 1, 2015; amended Jan. 1, 2016; amended Jan. 1, 2018; amended April 26, 2019; amended Sept. 20, 2019; amended Jan. 1, 2021; amended Oct. 7, 2022; amended Dec. 29, 2023; amended Sept. 12, 2025; amended July 17, 2026; amended P-_____.)

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Kansas Administrative Regulations Economic Impact Statement (EIS)

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Agency

Eleazar Hazel
Agency Contact

(785)559-0844
Contact Phone Number

K.A.R. 115-2-1
K.A.R. Number(s)

☒ Permanent ☐ Temporary

Is/Are the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) mandated by the federal government as a requirement for participating in or implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program?

- ☐ Yes If yes, continue to fill out the remaining form to be included with the regulation packet submitted in the review process to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General. Budget approval is not required; however, the Division of the Budget will require submission of a copy of the EIS at the end of the review process.
- ☒ No If no, do the total annual implementation and compliance costs for the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), calculated from the effective date of the rule(s) and regulation(s), exceed \$1.0 million or more in implementation and compliance costs that are reasonably expected to be incurred by or passed along to businesses, local governmental units and individuals as a result of the proposed rule and regulation over the initial five-year period following adoption of such rule(s) and regulation(s) (as calculated in Section III, F)?
- ☒ Yes If "Yes," then the agency shall not adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s) until the rule(s) and regulation(s) has been ratified by the Legislature with a bill, unless the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are: 1) mandated by the federal government as a requirement for participating in or implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program, as described in K.S.A. 77-416(b)(1)(B), and amendments thereto; 2) temporary rule(s) and regulation(s) adopted pursuant to K.S.A. 77-422, and amendments thereto; or 3) rules and regulations adopted pursuant to K.S.A. 2-3710 (Kansas Agricultural Remediation Board). Continue to fill out the remaining EIS form to be included with the regulation packet in the review process to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General. The submitted EIS will be independently analyzed by the Division of the Budget for approval.
- ☐ No If no, continue to fill out the remaining form to be included with the regulation packet submitted in the review process to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General. The submitted EIS will be analyzed by the Division of the Budget for approval.

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Section I

Analysis, brief description, and cost and benefit quantification of the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s). If the approach chosen by the Kansas agency to address the policy issue is different from that utilized by agencies of contiguous states or of the federal government, the economic impact statement shall include an explanation of why the Kansas agency's rule and regulation differs.

The proposed amendment to this regulation will establish a resident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp and a nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp. The current cost of a migratory waterfowl habitat stamp is \$8.00 for both residents and nonresidents. The fee for the resident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp will be the same as the current migratory waterfowl habitat stamp; accordingly it will not create any new compliance costs. The fee for the nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp will be the newly established statutory minimum of \$100 (an increase of \$92). This change is required by 2026 Session Law Ch. 100, sec. 3 which set the minimum fee for a nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp to \$100. By setting a statutory minimum in this law the legislature has ratified this amendment to the regulation.

Since 2021, the Department has received extensive public comments on increased hunting pressure affecting migratory waterfowl on public lands in Kansas. From the 2017-2018 hunting season to the 2024-2025 hunting season, the annual sale of waterfowl stamps to nonresidents has almost doubled (from 9,800 to 18,000). During the same period, the sale of migratory waterfowl stamps to residents has remained steady (around 22,000 to 24,000 annually). This has resulted in a dramatic shift in the percentage of waterfowl stamps made to nonresidents as well. In 2007 just 24% of waterfowl stamp sales were to nonresidents, compared to 43% in the most recent season. This regulatory change is expected to result in increased annual compliance costs of \$ 1,513,087.20. The legislature set this statutory minimum to reduce the sale of nonresident migratory waterfowl stamps, which will help to address the increased pressure on public lands in Kansas created by nonresident waterfowl hunters. This will afford resident migratory waterfowl hunters additional hunting opportunities and will provide additional funds to support the development of migratory waterfowl habitats. Other states in the union have higher fees for nonresident migratory waterfowl permits, than for resident migratory waterfowl permits. The difference between these fees varies. In Oklahoma there is \$10 difference between the two fees. In Missouri the difference is \$97. In Montana the difference is \$140. Federal regulations have a single migratory waterfowl stamp and fee.

The proposed amendment to this regulation will also eliminate current 5-year senior hunting, fishing, and combination licenses and replace them with a new resident senior hunting and fishing combination license, which will be a one-time purchase license. The current fee for a senior hunting and fishing combination license is \$90. The current senior hunting license and senior fishing license each cost \$50. In accordance with 2026 Session Law Ch. 100, sec. 1, the new resident senior hunting and fishing combination license will cost \$45. The Department estimates that approximately 228 resident senior hunting licenses; 1,620 resident senior fishing licenses; and 1,068 resident senior combination hunting and fishing licenses are sold each year. The current annual compliance cost of this regulation is estimated to be \$188,520. The change in this regulation is expected to result in \$57,320 of reduced compliance costs. Similar licenses are sold by several neighboring states, including Missouri (\$81.50), South Dakota (\$43), and Oklahoma (\$60). Missouri even has a similar point after which resident senior's do not need a license. In Missouri, it is 65 year old, and in Kansas, it is 75 years old. The federal government does not sell this type of license.

Finally, the proposed amendment to this regulation will increase the age range for the Resident Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing combination license from 6 through 7 to 6 through 15 and will lower the cost of this license to \$400. This new fee is required by 2026 Session Law Ch. 100, sec. 2. Over the last four years, the Department has sold an average of 379 Resident Kansas kids lifetime hunting and fishing combination licenses annually. The current regulations have an estimated compliance cost of \$189,500. This regulatory amendment will

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result in a \$37,900 reduction in annual compliance costs. There are other states in the union that have a lifetime license for children. However, the licenses in each of these states cost more than the license in Kansas: Florida (\$701.50), Georgia (\$600), and Tennessee (\$988). The federal government does not sell this type of license.

Section II

Explain whether the proposed rule and regulation is mandated by federal law as a requirement for participating in or implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program and whether the proposed rules and regulations exceed the requirements of applicable federal law.

The proposed regulation is not mandated by federal law.

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;

The proposed regulations may restrict the sale of hunting leases to nonresident waterfowl hunters, as the cost of a nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamps will increase which may encourage some nonresident waterfowl hunters to hunt migratory waterfowl in other states. However, any specific compliance costs to these businesses is purely speculative, because the Department does not typically gather this type of data. *See* K.S.A. 77-415(c)(3) (defining implementation and compliance costs as those that are readily ascertainable based on "standard business practices").

The amendment to this regulation is expected to enhance business activities around the sale of bait, tackle, and hunting equipment, as more seniors and kids engage in hunting and fishing, as a result of the reduced costs of licenses. Once again the exact amount of this positive business activity and growth is purely speculative, as the Department does not have a means of estimating the activity based on standard business practices.

- B. The economic effect, including a detailed quantification of implementation and compliance costs, on the specific businesses, sectors, public utility ratepayers, individuals, and local governments that will be affected by the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) and on the state economy as a whole;

This regulatory amendment will not directly impose any compliance costs on specific businesses, sectors, or local governments. It is expected that the addition of a \$100 nonresident migratory waterfowl stamp will result in annual compliance costs to those individuals of approximately \$1,513,087.20, because roughly 18,274 migratory waterfowl stamps are currently sold to nonresidents annually and the Department anticipate a 10% reduction in the sale of these stamps. Nonresident waterfowl hunters are typically not static, routine visitors. There is a high churn rate for nonresident hunter stamp purchases. The decision to purchase or forgo a Kansas stamp is often based on the quality of hunting in the nonresident's state and perceived opportunities elsewhere. Nonresident migratory waterfowl hunters will follow the ducks. When the fee increase was implemented in Oklahoma, there was a 10% reduction in the sale of the relevant nonresident stamps. However, biologists with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation attributed this decrease at least in part to poor hunting in the state in the same year. When this increased fee is combined with the new prohibitions and requires on public lands, the Department expects a similar 10%

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reduction in nonresident migratory waterfowl stamps.

The changes to kids lifetime licenses and senior combination hunting and fishing licenses are expected to result in costs savings to individuals of roughly \$95,220. The total compliance cost of the reduced license fees and nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamps is \$1,513,087.20 per year or \$7,560,436 over the initial 5 year period following the adoption of the amendment to the regulation.

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

No businesses will be directly affected by the regulation. Some business may be indirectly affected by this regulation due to losses of nonresident migratory waterfowl hunting leases and increased sale of bait, tackle, and hunting equipment for resident kids and resident seniors. Any quantification of the effects by the Department would be purely speculative.

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

The benefits of the proposed amendments to this regulation will be (1) decreased hunting pressure on migratory waterfowl on public lands throughout the state, (2) additional hunting opportunities for resident migratory waterfowl hunters, (3) additional funds to support the development of migratory waterfowl habitat, (4) a more affordable resident senior combination hunting and fishing license that will last longer, and (5) a more affordable resident Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license that will be available to a larger number of children. The compliance costs of this regulation will be born by nonresidents. The overall benefits of this regulation to Kansas residents include additional migratory waterfowl hunting opportunities, improved migratory waterfowl habitats, reduced license fees, longer license duration, and increased license availability. These benefits outweigh the costs of the proposed regulation.

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;

These regulatory amendments will not have a cost or direct impact on business or economic development within the State of Kansas nor will it have an impact on local government. These regulatory changes are required by law in 2026 Session Laws Ch. 66 and Ch. 100. The Department has set the nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp at the statutory minimum. This minimum is the largest amount that the agency is permitted by law to mitigate costs to nonresidents.

Each of the other regulatory changes will reduce compliance costs for resident kids and resident senior licenses. There are not costs or a negative impacts which must be minimized for these resident license changes. Accordingly, no such measures were necessary with respect to those changes.

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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 individuals. *Note: Do not account for any actual or estimated cost savings that may be realized. Implementation and compliance costs determined shall be those additional costs reasonably expected to be incurred and shall be separately identified for the affected businesses, local governmental units, and individuals.*

Costs to Affected Businesses – \$0

Costs to Local Governmental Units – \$0

Costs to Individuals – \$1,513,087.20

Total Annual Costs – \$1,513,087.20
(sum of above amounts)

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

The Department began by finding the difference (\$92) between the current fee (\$8) and the proposed fee (\$100). Next to assess the anticipated direct compliance costs the Department used historical stamp sale data from its licensing section. To avoid inadvertently using skewed data, the Department regularly uses five-year averages when assessing the effects of proposed changes. The Department then took these numbers and multiplied them by the difference between the current and proposed fee to calculate the additional cost to individuals, which also reflects the additional revenue for migratory waterfowl habitat. Finally, to account for potential reductions in nonresident purchases of nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamps, the agency applied a conservative adjustment to account for the portion of nonresident waterfowl hunters who may choose not to hunt in Kansas because of the increased fee. Accordingly, a 10% reduction in projected nonresident migratory waterfowl hunting and nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp purchases was applied. This resulted in total estimated annual compliance costs of \$1,513,087.20.

- ☒ Yes If the total implementation and compliance costs exceed \$1.0 million or more in implementation and compliance costs over the initial five-year period following adoption of such rule(s) and regulation(s) that are reasonably expected to be incurred by or passed along to businesses, local governmental units and individuals as a result of the proposed rule and regulation, did the agency hold a public hearing to find that the estimated costs have been accurately determined and are necessary for achieving legislative intent? If applicable, document when the public hearing was held, those in attendance, and any pertinent information from the hearing.
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Applicable

At the August 27, 2026 meeting of the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission in Pittsburgh Director of Wildlife Jake George held a public hearing to ensure that the estimate compliance costs were accurately determined and necessary for achieving the legislative intent. The published agenda, which was made available to the public on the Department's website (ksoutdoors.gov), clearly indicated that the hearing was being conducted "pursuant to K.S.A. 77-420(a)(3)(A)(ii)," which is the provision governing economic impact hearings. During the hearing, Mr. George detailed the fee increase and the additional compliance costs imposed on nonresident migratory waterfowl hunters.

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

The proposed amendment to K.A.R. 115-2-1 are expected to result in an increase in Migratory waterfowl propagation and protection funds generated through the sale of nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamps. For both the current fiscal year and the next fiscal year, the proposed amendment is expected to generate \$1,513,087.20. It is also anticipated that the sale of the new Kansas resident kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license may affect the sale of licenses to residents ages 16 to 20. The Department anticipates the possibility the new sales of these lifetime licenses to individuals from 7-15 could decrease the sale of the Kansas resident youth licenses that the Department offers for residents ages 16-20. In 2025, the agency sold 2,868 Kansas resident youth licenses, and these sales generated \$142,320 in revenue. There may be a decrease; however, the Department is unable to speculate regarding an exact amount of revenue that may be lost.

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.

The immediate economic impact of these regulations will be experienced by individuals. The compliance costs of these regulations will be born by nonresident waterfowl hunters purchasing nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamps. The Department expects to collect \$1,513,087.20 from the sale of these stamps. The reduction in license fees will be enjoyed by resident Kansas hunters. It is anticipated that this may result in increased sales of these licenses.

- 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.

The proposed amendments do not increase or decrease revenue of cities counties or school districts, nor do they impose new functions on cities, counties, or school districts that will increase expenditures or fiscal liability.

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

The Department publicized and discussed the regulatory changes to the resident Kansas kids lifetime combination hunting and fishing license, resident senior combination hunting and fishing license, and nonresident migratory waterfowl habitat stamp at two Wildlife and Parks Commission Meetings:

- April 9, 2026
- June 18, 2026

The Department discussed issues with migratory waterfowl hunting and hunting pressure on public lands

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created by nonresident migratory waterfowl hunters extensively in many Commission meetings beginning in January of 2021.

2021

During the January 14, 2021, Wildlife and Parks Commission meeting, members of the public commented about the increased hunting pressure on public lands and commissioners stated that they had begun to receive emails from resident hunters, and the Commission extensively discussed the topic. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission's Chairman asked the Department to provide a presentation at the next meeting to discuss the growing concern.

At the April 29, 2021, meeting, the Department's Public Land Division Director presented on the matter, highlighting the main waterfowl hunting properties, the number of resident and nonresident hunters using these properties, and ongoing wetland projects.

2022

During 2022, the Department, Commission, and public discussed nonresident waterfowl hunting pressure on public lands at the following meetings:

- January 13, 2022
- March 31, 2022
- April 21, 2022
- August 4, 2022

At the end of 2022, the Department conducted a formal survey of all public lands managers, many of whom indicated that nonresident waterfowl hunting pressure on public lands was negatively impacting waterfowl activity by not permitting them to use wetlands for food and rest.

2023

During 2023, the Department, Commission, and public discussed nonresident waterfowl hunting pressure at the following meetings:

- January 12, 2023
- March 9, 2023
- April 27, 2023
- June 22, 2023
- August 17, 2023
- September 7, 2023
- November 30, 2023

Between January and June 2023, the Department met with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel to discuss these changes.

2025-26

At the following Wildlife and Parks Commission meetings, the Department, Commission, and members of the public continued to discuss the issue of nonresident waterfowl pressure on public lands:

- June 26, 2025

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- August 14, 2025
- November 20, 2025
- January 8, 2026
- April 9, 2026

At the June 18, 2026, Wildlife and Parks Commission meeting, the Commission reviewed the current proposed regulation and voted in favor of moving the regulation into promulgation.

In April 2026, the changes to the senior license and kids license were mandated by the legislature in 2026 Session Laws Ch. 66. At the two commission meetings discussing this regulation, there has been strong support for moving these regulations through the filing process as quickly as possible so that individuals can enjoy the benefit of the more affordable and available licenses.

Section IV

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

- ☐ Yes If yes, complete the remainder of Section IV.
- ☒ No If no, skip the remainder of Section IV.

- A. Describe the capital and annual costs of compliance with the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), and the individuals or entities who would bear the costs.

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

- B. Describe the initial and annual costs of implementing and enforcing the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s), including the estimated amount of paperwork, and the state agencies, other governmental agencies, or other individuals who will bear the costs.

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

- C. Describe the costs that would likely accrue if the proposed rule(s) and regulation(s) are not adopted, the individuals or entities who will bear the costs and who will be affected by the failure to adopt the rule(s) and regulation(s).

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

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

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

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