

Document No. \_\_\_\_\_

KANSAS REGISTER  
SUBMISSION FORM

Agency Number -- 710-01

Agency Name -- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Agency Address - 1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1233

Title of Document -- Public Hearing

Desired Date of Publication - June 19, 2014

**ITEMS SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE**

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I have reviewed the attached documents, and that they conform to all applicable Kansas Register publication guidelines and to the requirements of K.S.A. 75-431, as amended. I further certify that submission of these items for publication is a proper and lawful action of this agency, that funds are available to pay the publication fees and that such fees will be paid by this agency on receipt of billing.

Christopher J. Tymeson  
Liaison officer's typed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Liaison officer's signature

Department Attorney  
Title

(785) 296-2281  
Phone

---

This space for Register office use only

## 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, August 21, 2014 at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE K157 Hwy, Great Bend, 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., August 21 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. August 22 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 60-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on proposed administrative regulations.

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@ksoutdoors.com](mailto:sheila.kemmis@ksoutdoors.com) 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 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. 115-4-4.** This permanent regulation establishes legal equipment and taking methods for big game hunting. The proposed amendments would allow the use of dogs to track wounded or dead big game animals.

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

Copies of the complete text of the regulations and their 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

**115-4-4. Big game; legal equipment and taking methods.** (a) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game archery season shall consist of the following:

(1) Archery equipment.

(A) No bow shall have a mechanical device that locks the bow at full or partial draw.

(B) No bow or arrow shall have any electronic device attached to the bow or arrow that controls the flight of the arrow. Devices that may be attached to a bow or arrow shall include lighted pin, dot, or holographic sights; illuminated nocks; rangefinders; film or video cameras; and radio-frequency location devices.

(C) Each arrow used for hunting shall be equipped with a broadhead point incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded. A big game hunter using archery equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

(2) Crossbows and locking draws as authorized under K.A.R. 115-18-7.

(3) Crossbows using arrows that are equipped with broadhead points incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded. A big game hunter using crossbow equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

No crossbow or arrow shall have any electronic device attached to the crossbow or arrow that controls the flight of the arrow. Devices that may be attached to a crossbow or arrow shall include lighted pin, dot, or holographic sights; illuminated nocks; rangefinders; film or video cameras; and radio-frequency location devices.

(b) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game muzzleloader-only

season shall consist of the following:

(1) Archery and crossbow equipment as authorized in subsection (a); and

(2) muzzleloading rifles, pistols, and muskets that can be loaded only through the front of the firing chamber with separate components and are .40 inches in diameter bore or larger.

Only hard-cast solid lead, conical lead, or sabot bullets shall be used with muzzleloading rifles, pistols, and muskets.

(c) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game firearm season shall consist of the following:

(1) Archery and crossbow equipment as authorized in subsection (a);

(2) muzzleloader-only season equipment as authorized in subsection (b);

(3) centerfire rifles and handguns that are not fully automatic, while using only hard-cast solid lead, soft point, hollow point, or other expanding bullets; and

(4) shotguns using only slugs.

(d) ~~Accessory equipment.~~

(1) Each individual hunting deer or elk during a firearms deer or elk season and each individual assisting an individual hunting deer or elk as authorized by K.A.R. 115-4-2 or K.A.R. 115-18-15 during a firearms deer or elk season shall wear outer clothing of a bright orange color commonly referred to as daylight fluorescent orange, hunter orange, blaze orange, or safety orange. This bright orange color shall be worn as follows:

(A) A hat with the exterior of not less than 50 percent of the bright orange color, an equal portion of which is visible from all directions; and

(B) at least 100 square inches of the bright orange color that is on the front of the torso and is visible from the front and at least 100 square inches that is on the rear of the torso and is visible from the rear.

(2) Lures, decoys except live decoys, and nonelectric calls shall be legal while hunting big game.

(3) Any individual may use blinds and stands while hunting big game.

(4) Optical scopes or sights that project no visible light toward the target and do not electronically amplify visible light or detect infrared light or thermal energy may be used.

(5) Any range-finding device, if the device does not project visible light toward the target, may be used.

(6) Devices capable of dispensing lethal, debilitating, or immobilizing chemicals to take big game animals shall not be used.

(e) Shooting hours for deer, antelope, and elk during each day of any deer, antelope, or elk hunting season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

(f) Horses and mules may be used while hunting big game, except that horses and mules shall not be used for herding or driving big game.

(g) Firearm report-suppressing devices may be used.

(h) Handguns may be possessed during all big game seasons. However, no handgun shall be used to take deer except as legal equipment specified in subsection (c) during a big game firearms season.

(i) Dogs may be used to retrieve dead or wounded big game animals if the following

requirements are met:

(1) Each dog shall be maintained on a handheld leash at all times while tracking the big game animal.

(2) An individual tracking big game animals outside of legal shooting hours shall not carry any equipment capable of harvesting the big game animal.

(3) Each individual harvesting a big game animal shall be limited to the equipment type for the permit and the season that is authorized.

(4) Each individual participating in the tracking of the big game animal shall have a hunting license, unless the individual is exempt by law or regulation. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 32-807, as amended by L. 2012, Ch. 47, Sec. 25, and K.S.A. 2011 2013 Supp. 32-937, as amended by L. 2012, Ch. 154, Sec. 6; effective June 1, 2001; amended April 19, 2002; amended April 22, 2005; amended June 2, 2006; amended April 13, 2007; amended April 11, 2008; amended May 21, 2010; amended April 20, 2012; amended April 19, 2013; amended P-\_\_\_\_\_.)

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

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

**DESCRIPTION:** This regulation establishes legal equipment and taking methods for big game species. The proposed amendments would allow the use of dogs to track wounded or dead big game animals.

**FEDERAL MANDATE:** None.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:** The proposed amendment is not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:** None.