ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

K.A.R. 115-18-19. Paddlefish permit; requirements, restrictions, and permit duration.

DESCRIPTION: This new permanent regulation establishes the paddlefish permit. As part of a larger regulatory package involving paddlefishing, a paddlefish permit would be required to fish for paddlefish during open snagging seasons and in waters designated in K.A.R. 115-25-14. In addition, a mandatory reporting process would be required for permit holders and the department would discontinue use of tagging and registration stations.

FEDERAL MANDATE: None.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: The proposed regulation regarding the paddlefish permit with accompanying carcass tags is a result of fisheries roundtables that occurred throughout the state this past summer and fall. The purpose of the permit and carcass tags is reduce individual angler pressure on mature fish paddlefish populations while at the same time increasing angler opportunity in harvest. It is part of a larger regulatory package for fishing being proposed. As this is an entirely new permit, it is estimated that 300 permits at a cost of \$10 per permit will be sold generating \$3000 in both FY 07 and FY08. Otherwise, no substantial economic impact to the department, other state agencies or members of the public is anticipated.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: None.