GENERAL INFORMATION

Most elk in Kansas are found on the Fort Riley Military Reservation. A free-ranging herd of wild elk on the 100,000-acre reservation provides limited hunting opportunities, allocated by a lottery drawing. Permits issued through the drawing are divided between military personal stationed on the fort and Kansas general residents, and those permits are valid statewide, except for Morton County. Both either sex elk and antlerless only permits are allocated. The state is divided into three elk hunting units. Unit 1 is an area of Morton County where no elk hunting is currently allowed. Unit two is an area around Fort Riley, including parts of Clay, Dickenson, Riley and Geary counties. Unit 2A is the Fort Riley reservation. Unit 3 is the remaining part of the state.

Applications for the limited permits are due the second Friday in July (July 10, 2015), and must be made online. Applicants without internet access may call 620-672-0728. Once a hunter receives an either-sex elk permit in the drawing, he or she is not eligible to apply again. A hunter who receives an antlerless-only elk permit in the drawing is not eligible to apply for another permit for a five-year period. Unsuccessful applicants will receive bonus points to increase their odds of drawing limited permits in subsequent drawings.

Wild elk do exist on private lands in other areas of the state, although they are rare and difficult to locate. Since 2010, unlimited resident and landowner/tenant elk permits have been available over the counter to allow the harvest of elk causing crop damage or other conflicts and for landowners to have the opportunity to maintain elk at desired numbers on their property.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Elk permits are available to Kansas residents, landowners, and tenants only. All individuals, regardless of land ownership or age, must have in possession a valid Kansas permit and carcass tag to hunt elk. In addition to the permit, a valid Kansas hunting license is required, unless exempt by Kansas law; a hunting license is not required while hunting on Kansas land you own or operate for agricultural purposes. A Kansas hunting license may be purchased online or at license vendors.

HUNTER EDUCATION

Youth 15 and younger may hunt without hunter education if directly supervised by an adult 18 or older. Anyone 16 or older may purchase a one-time deferral of hunter education, called an apprentice hunting license, for the same price as a regular hunting license. This license is valid only through the calendar year in which it is purchased, and the holder must be under the direct supervision of a licensed adult 18 or older. Hunter education is not required while hunting one's own land.

Otherwise, anyone born on or after July 1, 1957, must have hunter education. Anyone under 27 years old must carry a Kansas or other state approved hunter education card while hunting. In Kansas, you must be 11 years old to be certified, and may not hunt without adult supervision until 12.

Duplicate certificates may be purchased for $12.50 at department offices or online.

TAGGING AND POST-HARVEST INFORMATION

Sign Permit prior to hunting. Permit is not valid until signed.

After harvesting animal, sign, date, and affix carcass tag to animal in a visible manner. Carcass tag must be attached before moving carcass from harvest site.

Permits purchased through the internet include a carcass tag that is printed with the permit. To protect non-waterproof tags, place carcass tag in a clear plastic bag and attach it to the leg of the animal in a visible manner.

Carcass tag must remain attached to the carcass until processed for consumption. The permittee must retain the carcass tag until the carcass is consumed, given to another, or otherwise disposed of.

For all antlerless permits, the head of the animal shall remain naturally attached to the carcass while in transit from the site of the kill to the permittee's residence or to a place of processing or preservation. Nonresidents must also meet other states' requirements while in transit or possession of big game carcasses.

Any legally acquired meat may be given to and possessed by another, if a dated, written notice that includes the donor's printed name, signature, address, and permit number or license transaction number accompanies the meat.

Hunters may be sent a card in the mail directing them to an online survey website. State law (K.S.A. 32-937) requires that hunters receiving a harvest report card complete the survey. The information provided assists in managing the state's wildlife resources. In addition, big game teeth collection envelopes are mailed to a small portion of hunters, whose cooperation provides vital information used to manage the Kansas herd.

Report Marked or Tagged Wildlife

Contact KDWPT as soon as you find or harvest any wildlife that has been marked with a collar, ear tag, or leg band. The location, date, and animal number will be useful. Wildlife scientists may ask to examine the animal and collect additional samples.

REPORT ALL WILDLIFE AND PARKS VIOLATIONS!
CALL OPERATION GAME THIEF
1-877-426-3843

2015 ELK SEASONS

Units 2 and 3
(Off Ft. Riley)

Muzzleloader: Sept. 1–30, 2015
Archery: Sept. 14–Dec. 31, 2015
Firearm: Dec. 2–Dec. 13, 2015 and Jan. 1–March 15, 2016

Unit 2a
(On Ft. Riley)

Muzzleloader: Sept. 1–30, 2015
Archery: Sept. 1–30, 2015
Firearm: Any-Elk: Oct. 1–Dec. 31, 2015
Antlerless Only First Segment: Oct. 1–31, 2015
Antlerless Only Second Segment: Nov. 1–30, 2015
Antlerless Only Third Segment: Dec. 1–31, 2015

SHOOTING HOURS

1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset

Information provided summarizes applicable laws or regulations relating to hunting elk.

For additional information, contact the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 512 SE 25th Avenue, Pratt, KS 67124-8174. (620) 672-5911, or log on to www.ksoutdoors.com.

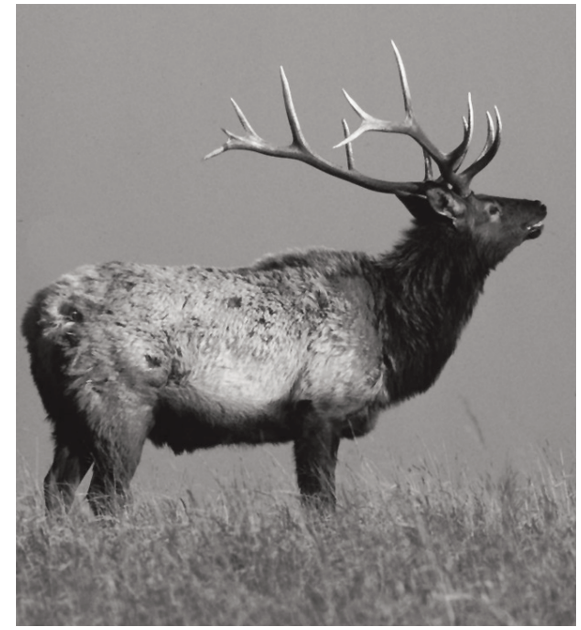
Online application period for limited Unit 2a permits:

June 8–July 10, 2015

Applicants can view draw results online two to four weeks after the close of the application period. Successful applicants should receive permits four to six weeks after application deadline.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 1020 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 06/15

2015 Kansas Elk Regulation Summary



Kansas
Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

KDWPT
512 SE 25th Ave.
Pratt, KS 67124

PERMIT CLASSES

RESIDENT

A resident is defined as any person who has continuously lived in Kansas for 60 days immediately preceding the person's application for a hunting license or permit. Members of the armed services on active duty who were Kansas residents at the time of entering the service, and immediate family members living with them, are considered residents regardless of duty station. Members of the armed services on active duty and officially stationed in Kansas may purchase resident licenses and permits, except for lifetime licenses. Any holder of a Kansas lifetime hunting license who has moved from the state may apply for permits as a resident. Any person who is a registered full-time student in residence at a public or private secondary, post secondary, or vocational school located in Kansas may purchase resident licenses and permits, except lifetime licenses. While hunting, the student must carry evidence of being a full-time student residing in Kansas.

LANDOWNER/TENANT

A landowner is any resident who owns 80 acres or more of Kansas farm or ranch land. When applying for a landowner/tenant permit, land owned must be in the unit applying for.

A tenant is any resident or nonresident who is actively engaged in the agricultural operation of 80 acres or more of Kansas farm or ranch land for the purpose of producing agricultural commodities or livestock and (A) has a substantial financial investment in the production of agricultural commodities or livestock on such farm or ranch land and the potential to realize substantial financial benefit from such production or, (B) is a bona fide manager having an overall responsibility to direct, supervise and conduct such agricultural operation and have the potential to realize substantial benefit from such production in the form of salary, shares of such production or some other economic incentive based upon such production. Evidence of tenancy, if requested, shall be provided to the department and may include, but is not limited to, Natural Resource Conservation Service records, Farm Service Agency records, or written agricultural contract or lease documentation. Land must be located in the unit you are applying for to qualify.

Members of the immediate family who are domiciled with a resident landowner or tenant may apply for a resident big game permit as a landowner or as a tenant, but at least 80 acres must be owned by such landowner or operated by such tenant for each individual applying as a landowner or as a tenant.

NONRESIDENT LANDOWNER

To qualify as a nonresident landowner, a person must own property in simple ownership with their name on the deed. Property held in a trust, LLC, partnership, or other legal entity is owned by that legal entity. Permits on properties owned by a legal entity are available only to tenants who either farm at least 80 acres, or manage an 80-acre or larger farm that produces an agricultural commodity such as crops or cattle. Serving as a board member, trustee, non-managing partner or other such position does not qualify a person for a Kansas landowner deer permit. There are exceptions. For details, phone (620) 672-5911 and ask for Law Enforcement.

PERMIT DESCRIPTIONS

ELK EITHER SEX

Bag limit: One (1) bull, spike, cow, or calf elk

Resident, $252.50; landowner/tenant, $127.50; Hunt-own-land, $127.50; Youth, $127.50. Unlimited resident and landowner/tenant Either-sex Elk permits authorized for Unit 3 are available online and over-the-counter Aug. 3, 2015 through March 15, 2016. Unlimited hunt-own-land Either Sex permits authorized for Units 2 and 3 are available online and over-the-counter through March 15, 2016. A limited number of Either Sex permits authorized for Units 2A (Ft. Riley), 2 and 3 are available through lottery draw by online application; application period, June 8–July 10, 2015. Either Sex permits are valid during any elk season with equipment legal for that season.

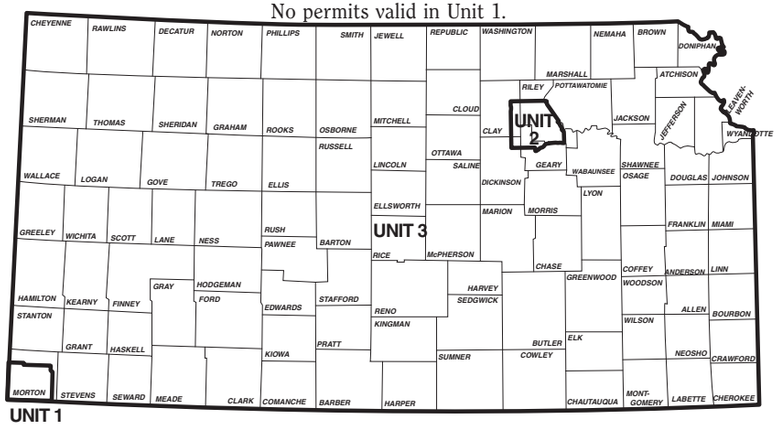
ELK ANTLERLESS ONLY

Bag limit: One (1) Elk without a visible antler protruding from skull

Resident, $102.50; Landowner/tenant, $52.50; Hunt-own-land, $52.50; Youth $52.50. Unlimited resident and landowner/tenant Antlerless-only Elk permits authorized for Unit 3 are available online and over the counter through March 15. An unlimited number of Hunt-own-land Antlerless-only Elk permits authorized for Units 2 and 3 are available online and over-the-counter through March 15, 2016. They are valid during any season with equipment authorized for that season. A limited number of Antlerless Only permits valid in Units 2A (Ft. Riley), 2 and 3 are available through lottery draw by online application; application period, June 8–July 10, 2015. Unit 2a Antlerless only permits are valid for the season segment printed on the permit; one-third of the permits are valid in the first segment (Oct. 1-31); one-third are valid in the second segment (Nov. 1-30); and one third are valid in the third segment (Dec. 1-31). All limited-quota Antlerless Only permits authorized for Unit 2a are valid during the Sept. 1–30, 2015, archery and muzzleloader seasons.

ELK MANAGEMENT UNITS

No permits valid in Unit 1.



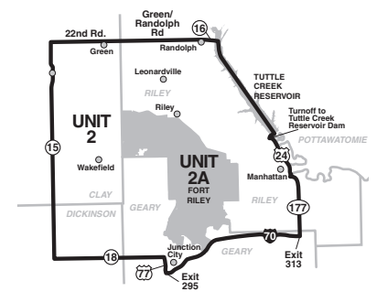
OTHER PERMITS

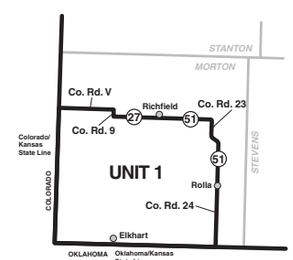
FORT RILEY ACCESS PERMIT

All hunters, regardless of age, must be NRA-certified or have verification of completing an approved hunter education course prior to purchasing a Fort Riley access permit for the purpose of hunting on Fort Riley. Fort Riley access permits may be purchased at any KDWPT license vendor or online for $27.50. For more information about access permits, contact Fort Riley by phone at (785) 239-6211, or www.riley.army.mil. Fort Riley military reservation or portions of it may be closed at any time, without prior notice, due to military activities. The military mission has precedence over any announced hunting seasons.

DISABILITY ASSISTANCE PERMITS

A Kansas hunting license is required (unless exempt by Kansas law) to herd or drive big game for a permit holer. Permanently disabled persons may use bows with locking draws while hunting big game during the archery season, as permitted under KAR 115-18-7, by application and special permit. Any person with a permanent physical or visual disability that prevents the person's ability to hunt safely, as certified by a physician, may be eligible to obtain a permit to designate someone else to take a legal limit of game for the permit holder. For more information or application, contact the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism.





DUPLICATE PERMITS

In the event of loss or theft, a duplicate big game permit may be obtained from any department office, license agent, or online for the fee of $12.50. If you harvest any big game that is not edible, a duplicate permit will not be issued.

LEGAL EQUIPMENT

ARCHERY

Longbows, recurve bows, and compound bows that do not have a mechanical device that locks them at full or partial draw, and crossbows. Disabled hunters who, in addition to an elk permit, possess a disability assistance permit as authorized under KAR 115-18-7, may hunt with bows that have a draw-lock device attached. No bow, crossbow or arrow may have any electronic device attached 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. Arrows used for hunting big game and turkeys must be equipped with broadhead points that cannot pass through a ring 3/4-inch in diameter when fully expanded. Non-broadhead arrows may be in possession while hunting but may not be used to take or attempt to take big game animals. Devices capable of dispensing lethal, debilitating or immobilizing chemicals may not be used to take big game animals. Handguns may be possessed during big game archery seasons but may not be used to take big game.

FIREARMS

Centerfire rifles and handguns that are not fully automatic using only hard-cast solid lead, soft point, hollow point, or other expanding bullets; shotguns using only slugs. Persons who legally posses suppressors may use them with firearms legal for hunting elk.

MUZZLELOADERS

Muzzleloading rifles, pistols or muskets that can be loaded only through the front of the firing chamber with separate components and that fire a bullet of .40 inches in diameter or larger. Only hard-cast solid lead, conical lead, or saboted bullets may be used in muzzleloading rifles, pistols or muskets. Range-finding devices and optical scopes or sights that do not project visible light or electronically amplify visible or infrared light may be used.