

2013-14 Furbearer Harvest Survey

PERFORMANCE REPORT STATEWIDE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND SURVEYS

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2013-14 Furbearer Harvest Survey

Prepared by Matt Peek, Furbearer Biologist

The Furbearer Harvest Survey (FHS) is mailed to furharvesters at the end of the trapping season. Most years since 2001, 70% of the furharvester license holders from each of nine physiographic provinces in Kansas have been surveyed. This season, given the high number of license sales, we surveyed 56% from each physiographic province. Recipient names are randomly selected from an online database of all furharvester license buyers.

Survey questions are divided into 5 sections: general information, trapping activities, hunting activities, running activities, and a special section. Questions were the same from 1983-2008. However, in 2009, a change in question structure in the trapping section was made in an attempt to collect more accurate catch-per-unit-effort data (see questions 8-12 in Appendix 1).

Also beginning in 2009, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWP) began using SurveyMonkey™ to facilitate web-based surveys. Online surveys are cheaper and more efficient than paper. They save on paper, printing, postage, and data entry fees, plus they reduce human error associated with bulk data entry. However, not everyone is adequately equipped for online surveys, so they have been used in varying combinations with traditional paper surveys.

There were a total of 9107 furharvester licenses sold in 2013, including 8664 resident licenses, 329 junior resident licenses, and 114 nonresident licenses. From these, a sample of 5142 license holders (56%) was selected. The online database contained e-mails for 1427 (28%) of these individuals, but 146 (10%) had opted out of SurveyMonkey™ surveys. An initial e-mail was sent to the remaining 1281 on April 1, 2014 containing a request for participation and a link to the survey. A reminder e-mail was sent out on April 7, 2014.

A single mailing consisting of a 2-page, 8.5"x11" paper survey (Appendix 1) was sent out on April 16, 2014 to furharvesters without a deliverable e-mail on file and to the nonrespondents of our e-mail request (n = 4636). The survey directed recipients online to a survey link, but could also be completed and returned in an enclosed postage paid envelope. A summary of the survey effort including response rates can be found in Table 1. The number of responses and the response rate of furharvesters within each physiographic province can be found in Figure 1. Respondents to the paper survey for whom we did not have an e-mail address were asked to provide an e-mail address for future surveys if they have one. E-mail addresses were provided by 176 of these respondents.

Information provided by furharvesters is an estimate of their harvest and activities during the season. Results from bobcat and swift fox pelt tagging have always been lower than the harvest estimates derived from the FHS, suggesting an overestimate by the FHS. Consequently, harvest figures obtained from this survey should be considered representative of annual harvest indices rather than parameters.

Survey results were extrapolated to represent total harvest and activity. Sixty-nine percent of respondents indicated they participated in furharvesting activities during the 2013-14 season (i.e. were active). This is similar to the 71% from last season. Estimated furharvester distribution

based on the county in which they conducted most of their furharvesting activities can be found in Figure 2.

Furharvesters spent an estimated 287,495 user days in pursuit of furbearers, including 187,210 days trapping, 75,119 days hunting, and 25,166 days running. These figures represent an 8% increase in combined user days from the previous season. Average days afield by trappers, hunters, and runners were similar to last season (42, 20 and 49 last season versus 42, 18 and 44 this season, respectively) but more furharvesters reportedly afield led to the increase in total user days. Participation in various combinations of furharvesting activities is presented in Table 2.

Harvest, participation, and activity levels for trapping, hunting and running are presented in Tables 3-5, respectively. As is typically the case, trappers accounted for the majority of harvest of most furbearer species. Though far more coyotes are taken by hunters than trappers, most hunters who take coyotes by hunting do not have a furharvesting license, so take by these individuals isn't represented in this survey.

Historical furbearer harvest in Kansas based on the Furbearer Harvest Survey can be found in Table 6. Harvest was down for most species from last year, but this year's total harvest (242,508) was the second highest since the 1987-88 season, surpassed since that time only by last season's total of 259,722. Of the species most important to the fur trade in Kansas, bobcat and coyote harvest declined from last season by 16 and 21%, respectively, whereas raccoon harvest fell by just 3%. Harvest of the three remained above 5-year averages by 10, 18, and 31%, respectively.

Finally, at the end of each survey, furharvesters are given the opportunity to provide comments on furharvesting in Kansas. These comments can be found in Appendix 2. All comments are read by the furbearer biologist, and an effort is made to respond to direct questions. At times, common themes from this questionnaire are addressed in some broadly distributed form such as the annual regulations summary (i.e. why are bobcats tagged, why these season dates, etc.). Opposing viewpoints are also commonly expressed in this section by furharvesters, and it's certainly worth noting that there is opposition and support for nearly any regulatory change the Department could ever consider.

Table 1. Sample size and response rate of survey methods used to conduct the Furbearer Harvest Survey.

	Number	Non-deliverables	Response Rate	
			Number	Percent
E-mail	1281	15	506	40.0
Paper survey	4636 ^a	233	1265	28.7
Total	5142	233	1771	36.1

^aSent to those without e-mails and e-mail nonrespondents.

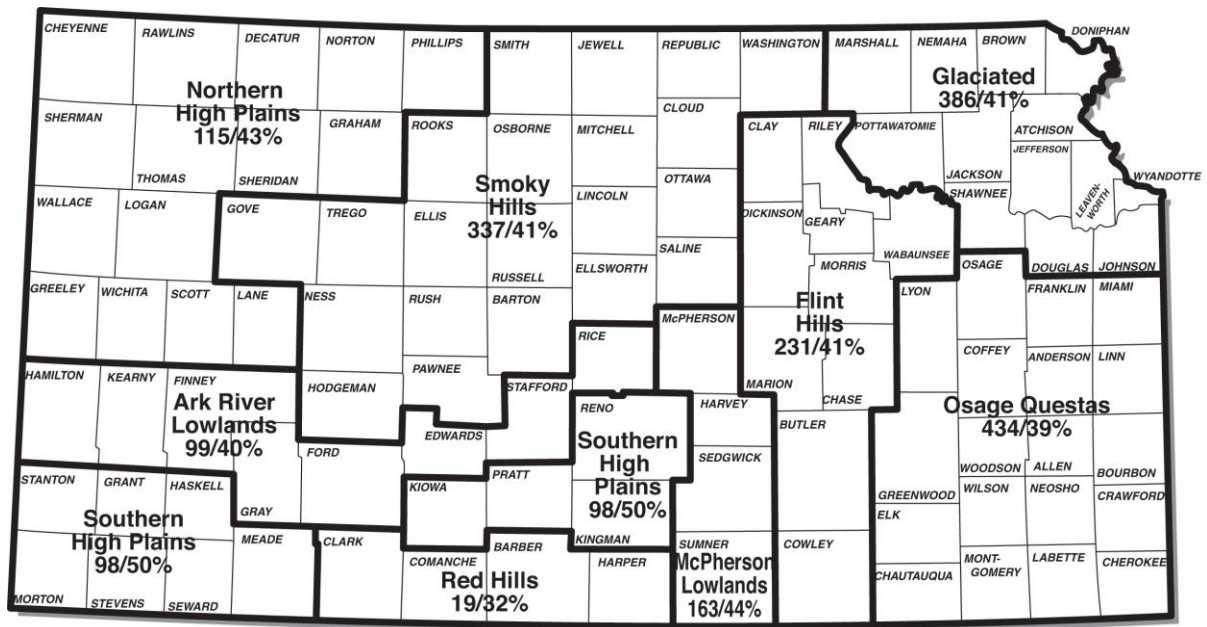


Figure 1. The number of survey respondents (number) and the response rate of furharvesters (percent) within each physiographic province in Kansas.

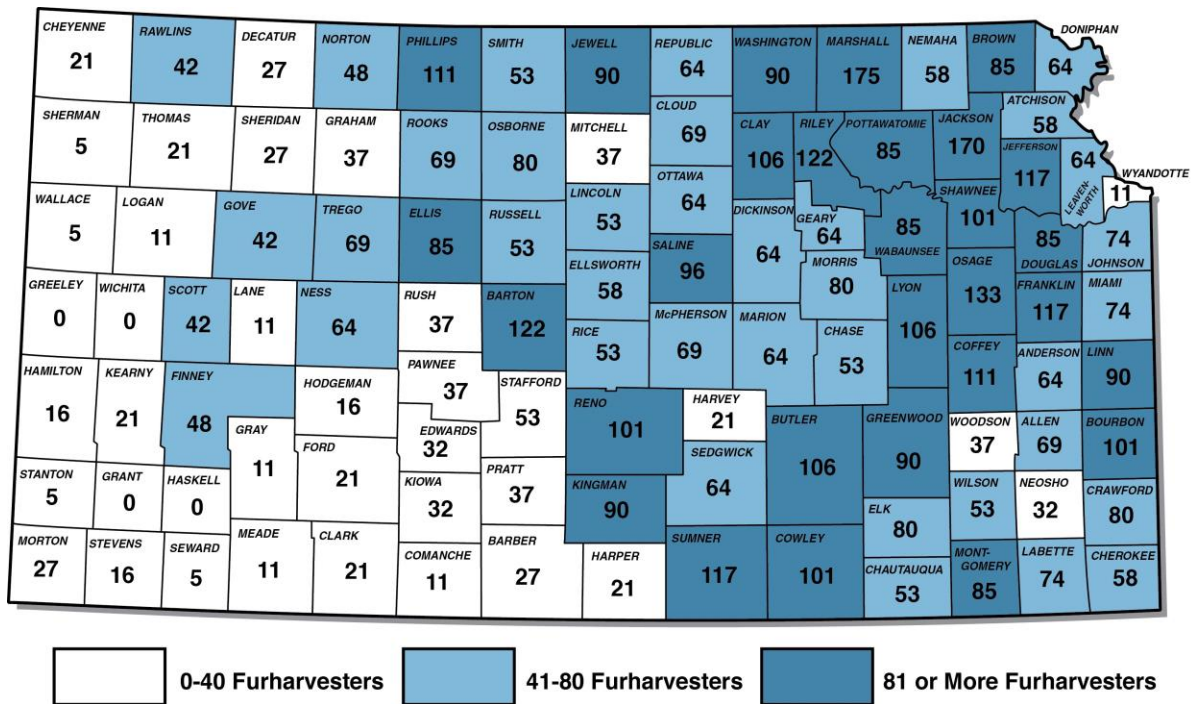


Figure 2. Estimated furharvester distribution in Kansas based on the county in which active survey respondents conducted most of their furharvesting activities.

Table 2. Estimated number and percent of furharvesters who participated in various furharvesting activities, and total estimated participation in trapping, hunting and running by furharvesters in 2013-14.

Activity	Number of Furharvesters	Percent of Furharvesters
Inactive	2838	31.0
Trap only	2109	23.2
Hunt only	1442	15.8
Run only	21	0.2
Trap and hunt	2125	23.3
Trap and run	16	0.2
Hunt and run	357	3.9
Trap, hunt and run	238	2.6
Total Participation		
Total trappers	4488	49.3
Total hunters	4162	45.7
Total runners	631	6.9

Table 3. Harvest, participation, and activity levels for trappers in Kansas during the 2013-14 harvest season.

Species	Number of Trappers Who Pursued (n)	Estimated Harvest	Total Days Traps Set	Ave Traps/Day	Captures/100 Trap Days	Maximum Harvest	Ave Harvest/Trapper
Badger	190	1,430	6,063	10.3	4.174	8	1.5
Beaver	227	8,063	4,302	5.58	10.341	150	6.9
Bobcat	489	6,325	19,864	10.5	1.121	85	2.5
Coyote	538	24,323	20,731	12.3	4.025	131	8.8
Red Fox	95	756	1,941	7.41	4.862	13	1.5
Gray Fox	11	41	405	4.7	0	3	0.7
Swift Fox	10	242	284	21	2.096	20	4.7
Mink	39	154	1,026	7.21	1.443	4	0.8
Muskrat	118	5,590	2,068	7.95	14.037	106	9.2
Opossum	588	44,517	19,883	12.8	4.699	300	14.7
Otter	25	175	495	4	5.982	2	1.4
Raccoon	799	94,047	30,776	14.7	7.564	280	22.9
Skunk	392	15,072	13,592	13.3	3.096	70	7.5
Weasel	2	5	30	2	0	1	0.5

Table 4. Harvest, participation, and activity levels for hunters in Kansas during the 2013-14 harvest season.

Species	Number of Hunters Who Pursued (n)	Estimated Harvest	Harvest/100 Days	Maximum Harvest	Ave Harvest/Hunter
Badger	42	231	29.404	4	1.1
Bobcat	338	1,106	9.409	14	0.6
Coyote	649	17,350	44.323	90	5.2
Red Fox	36	77	8.295	2	0.4
Gray Fox	16	10	0.606	1	0.1
Swift Fox	10	10	20	2	0.2
Opossum	65	1,934	32.976	40	5.8
Raccoon	314	22,770	94.888	100	14.1
Skunk	40	998	41.076	40	4.9

Table 5. Treeing success, participation, and activity levels for furharvesters in Kansas during the 2013-14 running season.

Species	Number of Runners Who Pursued (n)	Estimated Take*	Take/100 Days*	Maximum Take*	Ave Take/Runner*
Bobcat	6	46	12.588	6	1.5
Red Fox	1	0	0	0	0
Gray Fox	0	0	0	0	0
Opossum	18	288	57.222	6	3.11
Raccoon	113	21,423	112.01	250	36.87

*Take refers to the number of animals "seen or treed" while running.

Table 6. Historical harvest of furbearers in Kansas based on furbearer harvest survey.

Seasons	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat Tagging *	Bobcat	Coyote	Gray Fox	Red Fox	Swift Fox Tagging *	Swift Fox	Mink	Muskrat	Opossum	Otter Tagging*	Otter	Raccoon	Striped Skunk	Weasel
1969-70	311	8583		373	9758	81	193			2189	43773	10452			63004	2466	28
1970-71																	
1971-72																	
1972-73	305	5178		458	13385	102	508			1508	27828	11421			46101	3174	
1973-74																	
1974-75																	
1975-76	1202	6484		1454	30150	539	638			1875	51083	45994			102760	8703	
1976-77																	
1977-78	4054	5826		1705	35138	141	703			1764	38167	45625			74731	9824	
1978-79	4530	5315	825	1705	50195	193	533			2192	36639	51156			101450	15184	
1979-80	5882	19140	1050	1955	51380	245	888			3378	75962	56937			133311	23297	
1980-81	2501	14939	1027	1966	35238	274	645			3304	59063	49741			94754	16495	
1981-82	2673	5440	882	1730	32310	171	672			2342	30703	59916			93823	15917	
1982-83	3708	7653	1014	1686	36526	247	795		1000	3583	49528	58138			87425	11453	
1983-84	1754	8908	1334	2471	31466	93	1193		740	1600	21791	19347			67042	4985	
1984-85	1774	11814	1869	3212	33066	122	876		426	1937	24863	31142			108694	6806	
1985-86	1348	15543	1916	2837	34418	117	487		314	1507	15241	30955			96708	6909	
1986-87	3009	14732	2720	4522	40999	107	961		1161	2571	25561	59190			119488	10460	21
1987-88	2402	12474	3192	4805	41460	123	1113		650	2619	33814	54714			118878	8847	23
1988-89	1417	13989	2878	4492	25387	235	672		442	1545	22822	24117			72028	4233	5
1989-90	476	9607	1560	2482	15314	30	462		264	630	7114	9775			38274	2043	4
1990-91	442	5214	1409	1694	11968	34	242		76	423	4083	5493			27137	1258	0
1991-92	571	5429	2043	2453	15941	77	509		93	713	3043	12427			43977	3576	0
1992-93	687	3044	1618	2307	16076	59	328		64	252	2115	8101			33710	3125	2
1993-94	649	5288	2413	2900	16595	55	731		73	368	2571	12727			48203	2610	146
1994-95	781	12123	3590	5352	17022	204	1003	48	34	746	6215	19692			64951	4131	9
1995-96	522	8089	3020	3932	14009	99	753	33	45	291	3598	16120			58600	2877	2
1996-97	874	10653	4296	7041	19794	179	1232	33	144	473	5451	29980			93190	8065	40
1997-98	876	13337	3347	6233	14398	71	823	17	25	718	9679	49437			108727	9323	101
1998-99	958	8606	2385	3938	12125	152	490	7	15	419	7445	26512			71709	6375	107
1999-00	451	8845	2121	3578	11920	191	455	5	0	257	7252	13051			51307	3887	11
2000-01	1094	9388	2731	4018	15054	97	559	6	24	164	3964	14294			56143	5460	0
2001-02	434	9617	3597	5286	15329	35	584	32	0	180	3348	17080			72918	5559	0
2002-03	910	7716	5054	6521	18577	62	578	86	203	246	4596	32595			79538	10255	0
2003-04	1760	7250	5963	9654	25407	64	625	178	470	303	2823	42125			94506	10952	40
2004-05	1469	7737	5353	7062	23322	140	783	86	129	230	4845	43356			84132	10910	0
2005-06	1312	7186	6021	7458	21861	89	459	58	135	206	5733	38909			66458	12730	3
2006-07	1882	11028	7234	9998	32494	179	774	70	309	439	8150	46965			87241	15583	0
2007-08	2020	6658	5668	9381	29305	84	976	65	136	209	5120	51138			93687	17669	4
2008-09	1619	6855	4080	5944	27100	84	707	98	27	177	5767	46113			85061	16748	0
2009-10	1109	4572	1944	3210	21554	67	426	39	130	179	5681	18763			41355	7384	0
2010-11	1898	9774	4809	8098	39152	43	988	43	126	371	15193	48296			97858	12755	5
2011-12	1591	9191	5918	7412	36460	54	732	113	325	210	8282	43758	127	139	101924	14060	8
2012-13	2017	9535	5926	8164	52681	90	898	246	620	225	5396	43844	128	527	121232	17504	0
2013-14	1661	8063	4990	7431	41694	51	154	239	252	154	5590	46584	158	175	117069	16101	5

* Bobcat, otter and swift fox "tagging" values are based on pelt tagging records

Special Section

The “Special Section” of the Furbearer Harvest Survey changes annually and is used to collect information and opinions from furharvesters on a diversity of topics that relate to furharvesting or furbearers. Past surveys have addressed subjects such as furharvester recruitment, trap ownership and use, and regulatory preferences. This year’s special section addressed furbearer disease and population levels. A number of furharvesters have reported decreased populations of raccoons, coyotes and bobcats over the past year. We were interested in assessing whether this was more of an isolated, perhaps localized (i.e. trapline-specific) issue, or whether regional or statewide patterns might emerge.

In the case of raccoons and coyotes, disease issues can be detectable, and are often reported to the Department, by furharvesters. When a distemper outbreak occurs, finding sick or dead raccoons is not uncommon. Of course mange in coyotes is also very visible. Both of these can impact populations.

Furharvesters were asked how many “sick or dead disease-suspect raccoons” they found last season. Results are presented in Table 7. For ease of interpretation, a figure showing the mean number of disease suspect raccoons reported per furharvester by physiographic province is also provided (Figure 3). Results on the number of coyotes with mange furharvesters killed during season are found in Table 8. Again, for ease of interpretation, a figure showing the mean number of mangy coyotes harvested per furharvester by physiographic province is provided (Figure 4).

Furharvesters were also asked their opinion about the population of raccoon, coyote and bobcat populations compared to what they were five years ago. Statewide results are found in figure 5, and results by physiographic province for each species are found in Figure 6. Mean opinion about the status of each species is found in Figure 7.

The population status of raccoon based on the results of these questions appears to be stable. There was very little pattern to the sick/dead raccoon reports based on location (by physiographic province), and the mean opinion about raccoon populations compared to five years ago was “about the same” basically across the state, with the exception being a weak decline in northwest Kansas (the Northern High Plains (NHP)).

Furharvesters did report a regional pattern of mange and population level change with coyotes. The highest number of coyotes with mange harvested by furharvesters reportedly occurred in the Red Hills and the lowest occurred to the east. However, the Red Hills had a small sample size, and percent of total coyote harvest with mange is also worth considering. The highest percent of coyote harvest with mange occurred in the NHP, and generally decreased to the south and east of there, with the lowest mangy coyote harvest percentages in eastern and southcentral Kansas. Northwest Kansas (the NHP) is also the one location where furharvesters reported a declining (though slightly) coyote population, whereas furharvesters in southern and eastern Kansas (where reported mange was generally less prevalent) reported increasing populations.

In the case of bobcat, the statewide trend was slightly decreasing, but of particular interest was the reported status by physiographic province. The one area where furharvesters reported

increasing bobcat populations was northwest Kansas (the NHP), which was also the one place where coyote populations were reported in slight decline. Declining bobcat populations were reported in physiographic provinces encompassing most of the southern border of Kansas where coyote populations were reported to be increasing (the Southern High Plains, Red Hills and Osage Questas). There were additional areas where coyotes were reported on the increase and bobcats were reported stable so these findings are not definitive, but they do seem to indicate a trend.

Table 7. Summary of sick or dead disease-suspect raccoon observations during the 2013-14 furharvesting season by furharvesters.

Physiographic Province	n	total sick raccoons	mean reports	% reporting 1 or more sick raccoon	max # reported
Ark Riv Low	83	47	0.57	16.9	10
Flinthills	178	65	0.37	12.9	10
Glaciated	315	195	0.62	15.6	40
Mcp Well Lnds	110	22	0.20	9.1	6
N High Plains	95	24	0.25	11.6	6
Osage Questas	309	197	0.64	16.2	20
Red Hills	16	6	0.38	25.0	2
S High Plains	81	14	0.17	8.6	4
Smoky Hills	269	191	0.71	17.1	20
STWD	1485	761	0.51	14.5	40

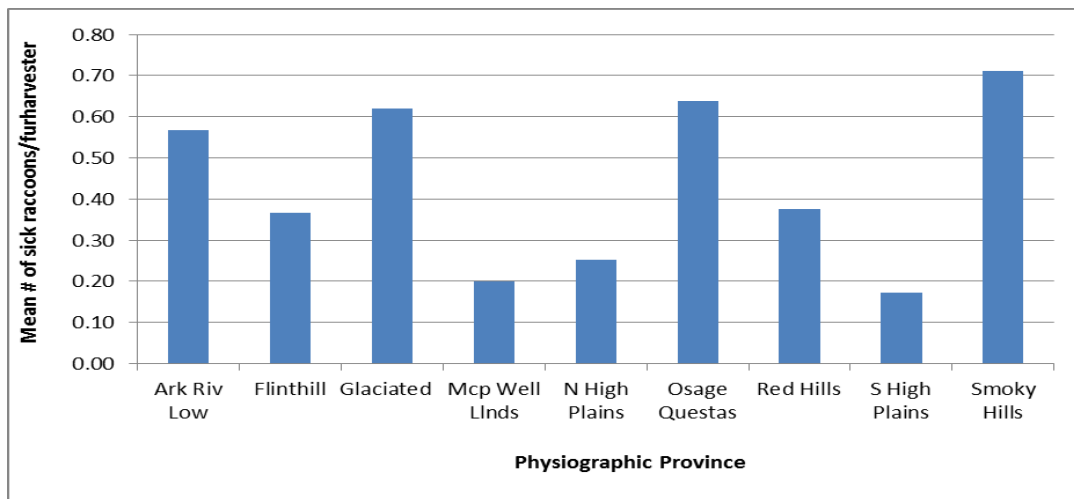


Figure 3. Mean number of sick raccoons reportedly observed in each physiographic province per furharvester during the 2013-14 furharvesting season.

Table 8. Summary of mangy coyote harvest during the 2013-14 furharvesting season by furharvesters.

Physiographic Province	n	total mangy coyotes harvested	total harvest	mean mangy coyote harvest	% of harvest with mange	% reporting 1 or more mangy coy	max # reported
Ark Riv Low	83	187	510	2.3	37	42	50
Flinthills	185	375	1294	2.0	29	38	81
Glaciated	308	267	1084	0.9	25	26	25
Mcp Well Llnds	112	77	337	0.7	23	27	8
N High Plains	97	167	387	1.7	43	49	25
Osage Questas	302	294	1507	1.0	20	30	28
Red Hills	15	54	282	3.1	19	67	18
S High Plains	82	175	464	2.1	38	35	70
Smoky Hills	274	430	1231	1.6	35	41	35
STWD	1487	2118	7558	1.4	28	35	81

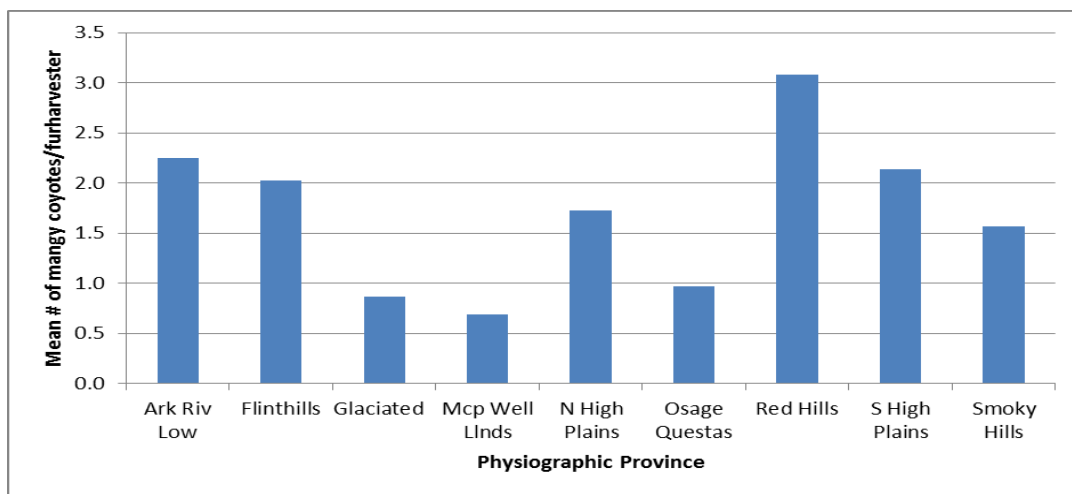


Figure 4. Mean number mangy coyotes reportedly harvested in each physiographic province per furharvester during the 2013-14 furharvesting season.

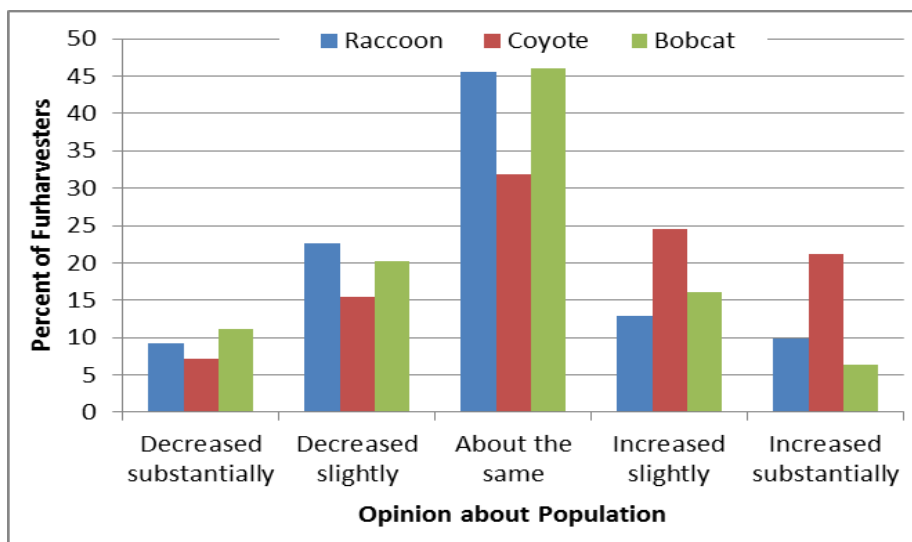


Figure 5. Furharvester opinions about the status of raccoon, coyote and bobcat populations compared to what they were five years ago.

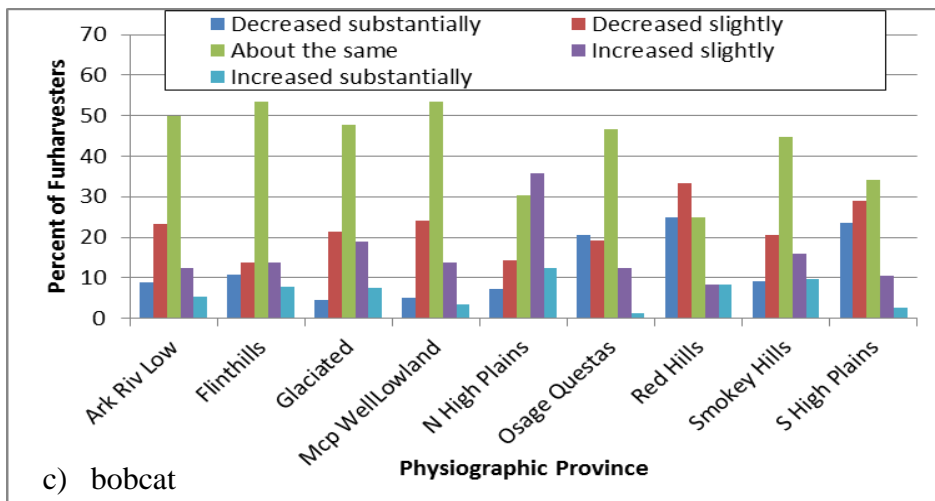
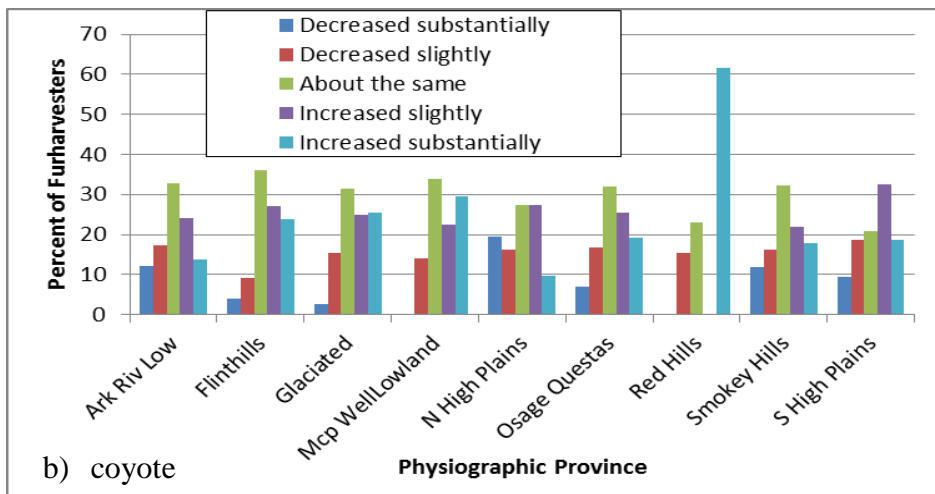
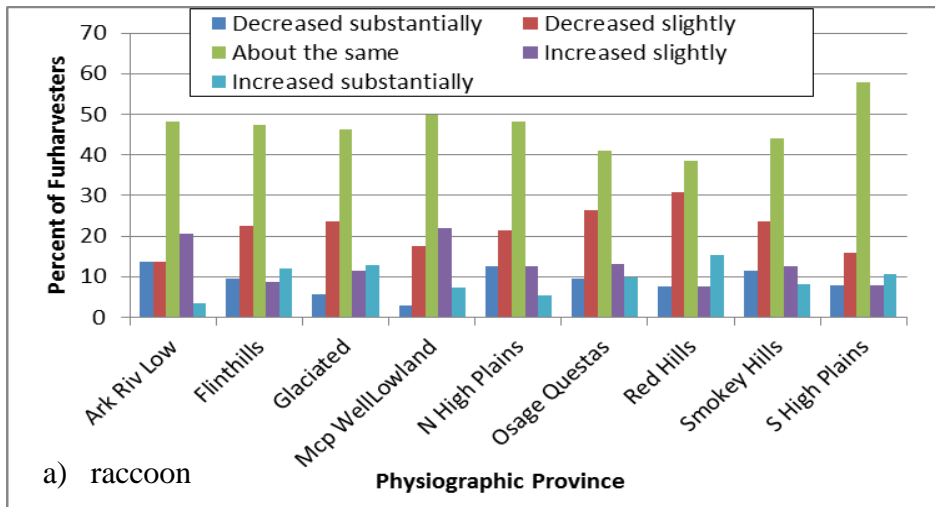


Figure 6. Furharvester opinions about the status of a) raccoon, b) coyote, and c) bobcat populations by physiographic province compared to what they were five years ago.

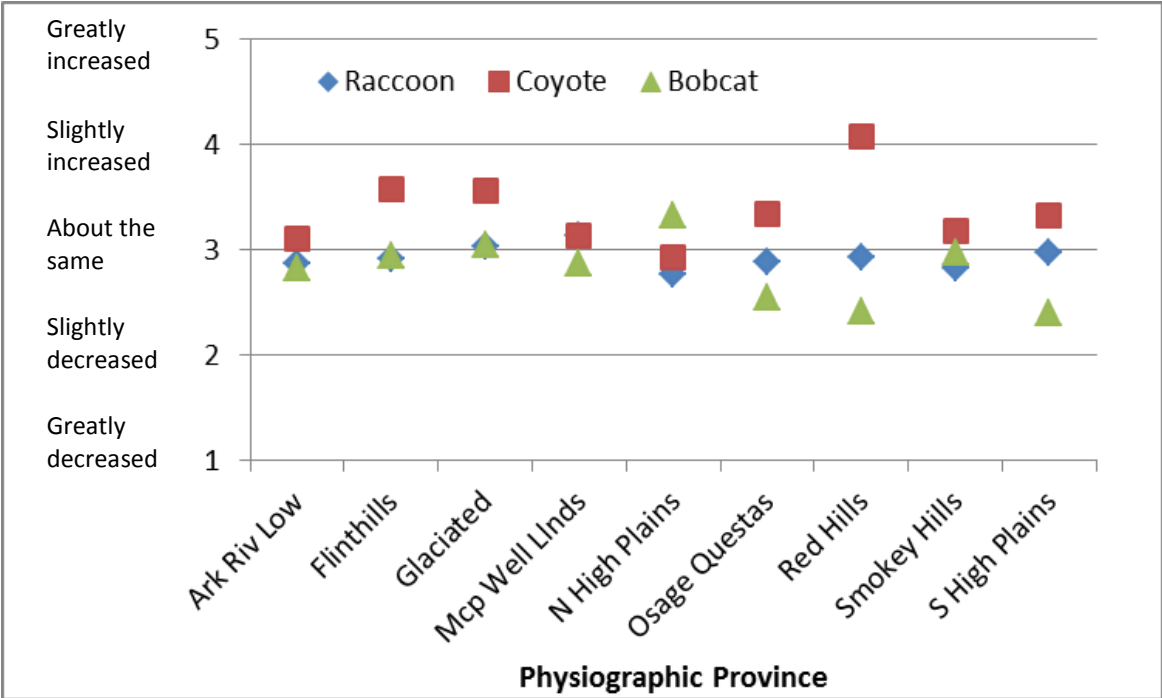


Figure 9. Mean furharvester opinion about the status of raccoon, coyote and bobcat populations by physiographic province compared to what they were five years ago.

Appendix 1.

Paper Version of the
2013-14 Furbearer Harvest Survey

2013-14 Furbearer Harvest Survey

Dear Fname Lname – ID#
Address
City, state, zip

You have been selected to participate in the Kansas Furbearer Harvest Survey. Your name was randomly chosen from the list of furbearers who purchased a license in 2013 or 2014. This survey provides our best estimate of furbearer activity, and is used to guide furbearer management decisions in Kansas.

Please complete the survey within 7 days and return in the postage paid envelope. Or if you have internet access, we would rather you completed this survey online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Fur13>.

Thank you for your participation!
Matt Peek, KDWP furbearer biologist

Instructions:

- Please complete the survey even if you did not furbear this year.
- Estimate your harvest activities even if you can't remember the exact numbers.
- Include your harvest information only. Do not include a hunting/trapping partner's catch.

1. Did you hunt or trap furbearers during the 2013-14 season, or did you pursue furbearers with dogs during the running season in 2013?

Yes No (If no, skip to question 21.)

2. In which county did you do most of your furbearing in 2013-14? _____

3. Did you TRAP for furbearers in Kansas during the 2013-14 season?

Yes No (If no, skip to question 13.)

4. How many of each did you harvest by TRAPPING in Kansas during the 2013-14 season? (Enter "0" for those you trapped for but didn't harvest.)

Badger: _____	Gray Fox: _____	Beaver: _____	Opossum: _____
Bobcat: _____	Red Fox: _____	Muskrat: _____	Raccoon: _____
Coyote: _____	Swift Fox: _____	Mink: _____	Striped Skunk: _____
		Otter: _____	Weasel: _____

5. How many total calendar days did you TRAP furbearers or coyotes in Kansas during the 2013-14 season? *The trapping season was 95 days (Nov 13-Feb 15) for all furbearers except beaver and otter, which were 139 days (Nov 14-Mar 31).*

Total days: _____

6. How many calendar DAYS did you trap for each species? (Enter "0" if none.) *Count any day you had sets out that were intended or likely to catch that species. For example, if you caught opossums in your raccoon sets, record your raccoon trapping days for opossum also.*

Badger: _____ days	Opossum: _____ days
Bobcat: _____ days	Raccoon: _____ days
Coyote: _____ days	Striped Skunk: _____ days

7. During the time you trapped each species, how many TRAPS did you have set per day on average? *Count any trap that was intended or likely to catch that species. For example, if you caught opossums in your raccoon sets, record your raccoon trap numbers for opossum also.*

Badger: _____ traps	Opossum: _____ traps
Bobcat: _____ traps	Raccoon: _____ traps
Coyote: _____ traps	Striped Skunk: _____ traps

8. Did you set traps specifically for BEAVER?

Yes No (If no, skip to question 9.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for BEAVER? _____ days

b. During this time, how many BEAVER TRAPS did you have set per day on average? _____ traps

9. Did you set traps specifically for OTTER?

Yes No (If no, skip to question 10.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for OTTER? _____ days

b. During this time, how many OTTER TRAPS did you have set per day on average? _____ traps

10. Did you set traps specifically for RED FOX, GRAY FOX, or SWIFT FOX?

Yes No (If no, skip to question 11.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for each FOX species? (Enter "0" if none.) *Count any day you had sets out that were intended or likely to catch that species.*

Red fox: _____ days
Gray fox: _____ days
Swift fox: _____ days

b. During the time you trapped each species, how many TRAPS did you have set per day on average? *Count any trap that was intended or likely to catch that species.*

Red fox: _____ traps
Gray fox: _____ traps
Swift fox: _____ traps

11. Did you set traps specifically for MUSKRAT or MINK?

O Yes O No (If no, skip to question 12.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for MUSKRAT or MINK? (Enter "0" if none.) Count any day you had sets out that were intended or likely to catch that species.

Muskrat: ____ days

Mink: ____ days

b. During the time you trapped MUSKRAT or MINK, how many TRAPS did you have set per day on average? Count any trap that was intended or likely to catch that species.

Muskrat: ____ traps

Mink: ____ traps

12. Did you set traps specifically for WEASEL?

O Yes O No (If no, skip to question 13.)

a. How many DAYS did you trap for WEASEL? ____ days

b. During this time, how many WEASEL TRAPS did you have set per day on average? ____ traps

13. Did you HUNT for furbearers or coyotes in Kansas during the 2013-14 season?

O Yes O No (If no, skip to question 17.)

14. How many of each did you harvest by HUNTING in Kansas during the 2013-14 season? (Enter "0" for those you hunted but didn't harvest.)

Badger: ____ Gray Fox: ____ Opossum: ____

Bobcat: ____ Red Fox: ____ Raccoon: ____

Coyote: ____ Swift Fox: ____ Striped Skunk: ____

15. How many total calendar days did you HUNT furbearers or coyotes in Kansas during the 2013-14 season? The furbearer hunting season was 95 days (Nov 13-Feb 15).

Total days: _____

16. How many calendar DAYS did you HUNT for each species? (Enter "0" if none.)

Badger: ____ days Gray Fox: ____ days Opossum: ____ days

Bobcat: ____ days Red Fox: ____ days Raccoon: ____ days

Coyote: ____ days Swift Fox: ____ days Striped Skunk: ____ days

17. Did you RUN furbearers in Kansas during the 2013 running season (Mar1-Nov8, 2013)?

O Yes O No (If no, skip to question 21.)

18. How many of each did you "tree" during the 2013 running season in Kansas? (Enter "0" for those you hunted but didn't tree.)

Bobcat: ____ Red Fox: ____ Raccoon: ____

Gray Fox: ____ Opossum: ____

19. How many total calendar days did you RUN furbearers in Kansas during the 2013 season? The furbearer running season was 253 days (Mar1-Nov8).

Total days: _____

20. How many calendar DAYS did you RUN each species? (Enter "0" if none.)

Bobcat: ____ days Red Fox: ____ days Raccoon: ____ days

Gray Fox: ____ days Opossum: ____ days

Special Section – Furbearer Diseases

21. Please tell us about the sick or dead disease-suspect furbearers you observed during the 2013-14 season (Nov13-Feb15). Enter "0" if none.

Number of sick or dead disease-suspect raccoons: _____

Number of different occasions you found disease-suspect raccoons: _____

Number of coyotes with mange you killed during season (Nov13-Feb15). _____

22. Compared to 5 years ago, what is your opinion of the population of these furbearers?

	Greatly Decreased	Slightly Decreased	About the Same	Slightly Increased	Greatly Increased	Not Sure
Raccoon	O	O	O	O	O	O
Coyote	O	O	O	O	O	O
Bobcat	O	O	O	O	O	O

23. If you have an e-mail address and are willing to receive a direct link to surveys such as this in the future, should your name be selected, please include it here: _____

24. If you have any comments or suggestions on furbearer management in KS, you can provide them here: _____

The results of this survey will be posted on the KDWPT website once the report has been completed. Last year's Furbearer Harvest Survey report and several other furbearer-related reports are currently posted on the site. From the "Furharvesting" page, just click on the "Furbearer Reports" link. Thank you for your time.

Appendix 2.

Furharvester Comments from the
2013-14 Furbearer Harvest Survey

If you have any comments or suggestions on furbearer management in Kansas, please provide them here.
1) I'm a biologist and retired physician (double-boarded MD), as well as FGPNC board member & volunteer, only stated since 2) A need exists for agencies to communicate with each other. 3) Most problematic in our area have been skunks, & when I trapped a likely rabid one, animal control simply shot it & left the mess in our backyard-without testing (which I stated I would pay for. 2 weeks prior, a confirmed skunk rabies case was noted 2-3 miles N. of our house.) Yesterday, we again noted a skunk in daylight, following 20 yards to the side of our path..albeit not obviously sick. So, communication & agreement upon simple protocols, with respect toward those who may have a good knowledge base. I wasn't able to hunt or trap in '13, unfortunately, so my opinion is not very current re: rural trapping, etc.
1. Would like to see bobcats easier to tag 2. Favor of off set jaws on K9-cat sets
5 cat limit per year per person. 10 coon limit per day for runners
A more accessible furbearer training class in North Central Kansas.
A new law is being voted on in Kansas for trespassing on land with or without purple posts. This law is too strict and will effect all hunters using dogs. The deer hunters and big game outfitters will receive the benefit. This law is unfair to all men hunting with dogs and should be reevaluated for all hunters.
A two day check for killing water sets would be very helpful in increasing catches.
Additional fur education work shops in the KC area would be nice.
All road kill 8 skunks, 6 coons, 2 coyotes. Linn and Miami Co.
All season need to run until March 31, like beaver
All the bobcats and coyotes that I seen looked to be healthy and in great shape. Hunted private land on my own and had a great time. I can't wait to get back out to your state and hunt more predators.
allow for a 48 hour trap check when using conibears.
Allow more technical equipment for coyote hunting and furbearers, night vision, thermal etc.
allow night hunting like Texas
Always have people saying it is legal to hunt c oyotes at night. I always correct them and tell them they need to be trapped only to shoot them at night. Regulations need to be more specific that their is no hunting after hours, trapping only... thanks.
AS A FUR BUYER I SAW A LOT OF MANGE IN COYOTE AND SOME IN COON. JUST RECENTLY WE SHOT A COON THAT HAD NO HAIR EXCEPT FOR 2 RINGS IN ITS TAIL. PICTURES TO MATT.
As an out of state trapper from MN. I felt that a 24 hour check on body grip killer traps was to often. It would have been more economical to have a 72 hour check in this situation. Thanks
bad winter for me
be able to call predators at night with the aid of a hand held light, from dates Jan. 1 - Feb. 15 this would be after buck deer season. This may help our pheasant population, or from Feb. 1-15 after doe season and after bucks lost their antlers. I think some states have this law.
Be nice if we could call coyotes at night and be able to use artificial light. From what I have seen they are becoming more nocturnal and respond better in evening to moon light calling sets. That way we can try to control more on the population.
Beaver season shouldn't open till mid December. Rats should be same ending as beaver. 10 incidental rats is a joke. thank you
because of damage caused by beaver, longer season should be in order
better drop me from your survey list, I moved to New Mexico
Big deer leases have hurt my hunting of coyote and bobcat. They lease for deer hunting and think that they own it and little guy is left out. Wonder how many fawns coyotes and bob cats kill
bobcat numbers in my hunting area are the lowest in my lifetime! Lots of pressure on them- high value money people calling and shooting them during deer season. Rabbits extremely low numbers and loss of cover. hope they can come back when rabbits cycle up. lots of coyotes= not many cats!
bobcat season should start later dec. and end later march like other states less un prime coats tagging cats swifts is a big head ache that should be eliminated it bothers me to see the (withheld) co. wild life employees all trapping it seems that they are getting paid to work and to trap when I see them tending traps and hunting during their work hours using fish & game equipment or trapping and hunting on the (wildlife area withheld) in vehicles while everyone else is walking
CAT SEASON AND BADGER SEASON SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO MARCH 15
Caught a ton of (species withheld)... 22 to be exact
Coon pop down this year - where heavily trap - for year - don't think - pop down - but - disease is there where heavy coon - Darin Brown is doing a great job as game warden.
coon was down in area's where no water was most of the summer
Coyote's are becoming a problem. Seen three around cow having calf trying to get it. Coons are problems, for getting in feed tearing sacks coons are really thick along highways or where deer hunters will not let you hunt, they have them on cameras and I think they are killing them illegal. Purple paint is being abused in some areas. We now have a good warden in our county 1st good one in years I've hunted over 50 years.
coyotes are killing adult deer, running them down. I've witnessed this on 4 different occations.
Coyotes are more call shy than previous years.
DEER SET OFF A LOT OF MY LITTLE LIVE TRAPS. DEER TO THICK
Delay the start of season till at least 20th of November & end it the 15th or 30th of January. except for Beaver
Did not answer Q#22 because this was our first year. My son and thoroughly enjoyed it and will be continuing in the future. We called numerous times for coon, bobcat, fox, and coyotes with no success. We seem to have a heavy amount of coyote runners here Pottawatomie County. We have a small area to trap but plan to educate some neighbors and hope to get permission to expand (for coon and coyotes).
Did not catch any animals but hope to next season.
DID NOT HUNT OR TRAP!

Did not hunt/trap. Only get license to help grandson bait traps and carry out dead animals.
did not trap because of illness
Did not trap price too low not going to give them away.
Did see coyotes with mange. Need to cut cedar trees, they are taking over some areas.
didn't see as much mange in coyote population this year
didn't trap during year but during daily chore and rounds seen a few coyotes, not as many as in the past. don't hear near as many in the evening when they start howling. seems as if every other one you see has mange.
Didn't trap real hard mostly mean bridge because I still work. look forward to next season
Difficult to know where to or find buyers locally. Would be nice to possibly have a list of fur buyers in the state and they are located. We have one that comes through occasionally but unless you know someone who is a regular it is difficult to sell things when you have them.
Distemper hit the area that i hunt/trap about 4-5 years ago. I found alot of dead coons for a couple years. This year wasnt as bad but the coon numbers werent as stong as they have been in the past.
DO A BETTER JOB OF INFORMING THE PUBLIC ABOUT CALLING COONS AT NITE WITH ARTIFICIAL LIGHT. MOST DON'T KNOW
do away with bobcat tag systems
Do away with bobcat tagging.
don't have a season next year to let the populations increase
Don't release mountain lions. They scare the crap out of me when I'm deer hunting
Due to illness and time issues, I was unable to go out during the 2013-2014 furharvesting season. I hope to get out next season.
Enact regulations to prohibit shooting at coyotes from roadways before a predator caller gets shot and injured or killed. Too many violators using "I was shooting at a coyote" as an excuse to break game laws. Far more callers out there today than just five years ago, some of whom are using decoys. Someone will be hurt getting shot at someone on a road shooting either at their decoy or at a coyote responding to the call. The time has come to implement this change.
Enforce a limit on the number of bobcats taken each season per person, adjust the limit over the years according to studies & surveys on the strength or weakness of the populations in the area.
every thing is good i think the season is great. just wish i had more luck with bobcats and that there would be a class on tips for trapping other than that iam very proud to be able to trap in kansas
Excellent handling of rules regarding otter harvest & numbers allowing retention of incidental catches of muskrats also is a very good change. Overall, excellent decisions are being make regarding furbearers and harvest of them in Kansas. I know 35-40 trappers and only 3 hand-hunters- can we get the coon season opened at SUNRISE or such on opening day? 1/2 day to set traps is tough on trappers. 1st day yet gives a full nite/day to hound hunters. Opening at noon gives a FULL night for handsman vs 1/2 day for trappers to set traps to make this equal you'd have to open hand-hunting at 1 AM Thurs!
extend Bobcat season to end of February since they prime so late
Extend muskrat and mink seasons to the end of beaver season. Mainly to avoid incidentals, and for convenience to a water trapper. Extend bobcat season a little to take advantage of full prime season.
extended bobcat season could be beneficial. Easy to target them specifically. also, if you'd like a copy of my daily log/spreadsheet with species harvested, I'd be glad to share.
find a way to increase numbers of muskrats
First off I must applaud wildlife and parks about allowing us trappers to use footholds with teeth 7"+ and bodygrippers 8"+ for water sets. I am very proud of that fact. I have to suggest the KDWPT change that ridicules law about not being able to use artificial light when hunting furbearers and allow us to use flashlights, night vision scopes, and such. On a minor note while I understand the reasoning behind the policy of the 24hr check. I think it can safely be expanded to a longer length of time provided the use of killing traps/sets are used.
For the land that I trap foot holds, snares, and conibears are not allowed do to neighboring domesticated animals. I am limited to box/cage traps, hence the large number of skunks I trapped.
found coon pop. down 50% where I trap. Theories: 1. daytime calling where 25-30 taken in single day. 2. deer feeders congregate large numbers of coons in small area (trail cams proven) if not trapping near feeders no luck.
found disease-suspect raccoons during corn planting
Fur prices are so low- trapping is hard work and very seldom pays back
FURBEARER POPULATION WAS DOWN SLIGHTLY. EXCEPT FOR MUSKRAT AND MINK, DOWN A LOT! MINK ARE USUALLY INCIDENTALS IN TRAPPING MUSKRAT! NO. OF COONS REPORTED IN RUNNING SEASON IS HARD TO DETERMINE BECAUSE OF LEAVES!
Good job.
Great job Matt! Thanks for what you do.
Had open heart surgery didn't hunt.
have 80 acres in Doniphan all animals where trapped only on it
Have a muskrat season thru beaver season
Hire professional coyote killers and may I be one.
Hunters should be able to hunt coyotes at night using artificial light. That's when they are out and they need to be thinned down.
I am a avid houndsmen but I mainly run my dogs during the running season to avoid traps and other hunters in the spots I hunt. I am a very active member in the Kansas Federation of Houndsmen and would like to see the regulations made simpler and easier for UKC and PKC clubs to use public land for thier hunts and I would also like to see the run season be year round like it is in most other states with coon numbers like ours. I would also like to see all conibear sets have to be in the water to cut down on dog catches. Catching a person's house dog in a conibear is bad for hunting as a whole. If you have any questions feel free to call

I am a junior in high school and am very interested in persuing a career in wildlife management/law enforcement/biologist. Can you have Matt Peek email me at the address above. I would be interested in finding out more about his career.
I am concerned about coyote hunting with dogs. In our area this is done from a moving vehicle. Shots fired from a moving vehicle are very dangerous. No control at all. Shots being fired onto private property at long ranges to get animals moving seems to be legal hear. Concerned for hunters safety as well hunters rights thanks
I am happy with current regulations and season lengths.
I am just starting to hunt furbearer. I am trying to help farmers, ranchers and families trying to raise chickens and small livestock. Also this will help reduce the predators killing small game that I enjoy hunting as well; pheasant, quail and rabbit.
I am new to trapping but I LOVE it!!!
I AM RELATIVELY INACTIVE BUT I DO PURCHASE A LICENSE AND HELP WITH THE FUR HARVESTED EDUCATION PROGRAM AND YHE KFHA CONVENTION ANNUALLY
I am sorry to say I became ill right before season and did not set a trap. I hope to resume next season. Thank you.
I believe if HB2694 "The written permission bill" were to pass that the number of raccoons, coyotes, etc., will grow to ever increasing numbers were they will become a nuisance. I have lots of places that I have the ability to coon and have for the past 20 years. Every year I go to reaffirm my permission I always ask for written permission but I am told ah you don't need that. When I explain that if they paint any part of their property with purple paint and I am without written permission I will be charged with criminal hunting the response I get is no way. You bring that law enforcement officer up here and I'll straighten them out. I have been told by many that the issue they have is that once they give me written permission if I'd happen to fall in the creek and break something etc., they fear they could be financially liable. I have signed a waiver in the past releasing the landowner of all responsibility in regards to my safety. Hopefully the KDWP&T will oppose this nonsense bill.
I believe that there is too many otters in the state due to a lot less fish caught out of our creeks & lakes. I do not believe there should be a limit on these animals
I believe the distemper epidemic that came through Emporia in 2013 effected the raccoon population where we liked to trap. We used corn and cameras to watch racoon poulation in other areas along the cottonwood river and found some raccoon population to be uneffected and racoon population was good. I did hear stories where racoons were found dead around some corn fields on various properties around the time of the distemper was at it's worse in Emporia. But those were stories and I have no fact to back it up.
I bought a furharvester license because I had seen some bobcat on my deer lease.
I bought a license and never used it, I never caught anything or set traps.
I buy a fur license so I can legally take fur while hunting small & big game
I coyote harvested while sitting in tree stand during archery season, bobcat during pheasant hunting other coyotes called w/ rifle and electronic call
I did not get time to do any hunting on trapping this year. I will try again next year.
I did not get to hunt or trap any this year.
I did not predator hunt much last year. I buy furbearer license in case I can shoot a bobcat.
I did not trap in Kansas in 2013.
I did not trap or hunt furbearers 5 years ago. This was my 3rd year. (for Q#22)
I didnt have time to hunt or trap last season, but did tag a salvage (road kill) bobcat from RL county.
I didn't hunt or trap in 2013 or 14.
I didn't hunt.
I do have questions on deer mgmt., muzzle loaders, & out of state deer permits. Can I receive an email on who to talk with about these concerns? Thx Tim
I don't even hunt anymore but just purchase lisencc every first of year just in case I have a chance to shoot a coyote. So I'll be legal.
I don't get out to trap or hunt a lot, but the last two seasons I have noticed an unusually high number of dead coons evidently from disease. Also, skunk numbers appear to be high and going up.
I don't hunt for hides anymore just like to go coon hunting and listen to the dogs!
I don't know what happened to the cats I was trapping in places no one has trapped for 10 yrs. No cats!!!
I don't think that body gripping traps should be allowed on public hunting land.
I feel like furharvest season, opens a week to 10 days to early. Would like to see Beaver season open Jan.1st.
I feel the drought has had a negative impact on the raccoon population, as areas that once had good running creeks/streams, we've hunted in the past (with good success) are now dry or if there is water it's stagnate pools, choked with algae. No water - no game. If the game has to rely on the stagnate puddles, the game runs the risk of disease. Makes sense also, too many overlapping hunting seasons (deer) that ultimately brings out the trigger happy boobs that shoot at anything that moves, including other hunters.
I felt like there was a lot of coons coyotes and opossum. I have had a lot of fun trapping.
I get randomly drawed every year! Get someone else next year
I got my permits to keep fur bearer programs alive. Thank you
I greatly appreciate the season length & great freedom we have in this state. The greatest restriction I come across as a trapper is the out of state deer hunters leasing ground & refusing to let trappers in.
I had a bad knee injury this year. So I was not able to hunt or trap at all. I'm hoping I will get around to turkey hunt but it's not looking good either.
I have been furharvester most of my like and I am looking for places, land's to trap I have lost most land because of leases for deer season to "long"
I have put trap tags on all my traps that have my Fur Harvesters Cert. # on them instead of the 9 digit number. Here I am helping you folks with this survey and you can't help us by letting us use a 5 digit number instead of a 9 digit. I make my tags myself and I put my number and my sons number on them and that many digits would be to much.
I have stopped trapping/ hunting furbearers' but continue to by a fur harvester license to support Ks fur harvester program
I hunt and trap coyotes 365 days a year, I lose \$50- 65,000.00 a year to coyotes

I like the fact that the seasons are open for all of the furbearers for the entire season w/ exception of otters and beaver. I like to forget about all the nonsense when I go into the field. With most of the other fish and game regs constantly changing you have to look up all kinds of rules special creel limits, length limits, opening and closing of seasons. It is getting to the point that although you are trying to be 100% in compliance, with all of the changing regs you don't know keep seasons consistent. Keep regs simple. No more special stamps. If you have a fishing license you should not need trout stamp, third pole stamp etc...
I noticed in Barber Co. where the family farm is there seems to be a severe decrease in the rabbits 7 small animals. Even during and sometimes after the snow during deer season there weren't many tracks at all. thought if might be due to coyote, so I set up for that for weeks on weekends and couldn't even bring them in Very Concerned.
I predator call, and for me this year, things were slow.
I purchase license mostly to support KDWP. It is getting a lot harder to have places to hunt, as places where I used to hunt now has houses or is owned by an owner & doesn't allow hunting hand owns lots of ground
I really like the fact that I don't feel pressured into hunting because of limited time
I really like the fact that we can now keep 10 muskrats during beaver season. I'd still like to see the muskrat season extended, but at least we can keep incidentals now which is a big plus. It would also be nice if Kansas became a reciprocal state. It isn't right that guys from states like Minnesota can come here to trap, but we can't go there.
I still don't see the need to have a season on bobcats. They are extremely good predators, but are very difficult to hunt. We could get a few more if we could shoot them anytime like other states. There is no concern with killing to many.
I suspect distemper in coon between JC and Manhattan numbers there were way down. In Northern Pott. Co about average.
I think bobcat and muskrat mink seadon could go to end feb maybe
I think it would greatly increase hunting opportunities if even just WIHA had extended open dates into February being as that is a very prime and popular hunting time for predators. Thanks!
I think that snares should be only used on beaver and otter and no snares should be used on public landnd
I think that spotlights should be legal for use on furbearers as long as they are independent of vehicles.
I think that the numbers were way down. The summer was really dry I saw dead coons by the river. The year before I caught 80 coons
I think that the state of Kansas needs to allow running season to be all year.
I THINK THE RUNNING OF FURBEARERS SHOULD BE ILLEGAL. SUCH AS RUNNING COYOTES, THERE ARE NONE AROUND BECAUSE OF IT, IT IS ALSO CRUEL.
I think the season is great and you guys do a good job. But my dad and I have found snares with no identification and in a 1/4 mile stretch of creek there was more than 200 of them it a problems around the cohrtland & Scandia area along the Rublican River! thanks!
I think the trapping season should end the end of January. Coyotes & other animals start rubbing in February, pelts are worthless thank you
I think things are fine.
I think this is a great thing to do ,,,
I think we should close the season on quail & prairie chicken.
I think you should have 220 on land in all states, and coloney traps
I used to trap a lot, especially in the 70s and 80s, then occasionally in the 90s to present. I didn't trap this past season and probably won't trap anymore due to the high cost of gasoline. I cannot afford to buy the gas and the fun prices do not offset the gasoline prices (cost).
I WAS NOT SURE IF I NEEDED A FURBEARS LISCENSE TO SHOOT COYOTE, I CALLED 2 DIFFERENT OFFICERS, AND GOT 2 DIFFERENT ANSWERS. I SAID IF I SELL THE FUR, THE OTHER SAID I HAD TO TO SHOOT ANY COYOTE.
I was sent a small game survey card to go on a computer to fill out. I don't do computers or cell phones. Wish you would send one in the mail as small game hunting is what I do. I buy the fur harvester tag to help the state.
I was unsuccessful at calling in a bobcat this year, which is why I aquired a furharvesters license in the first place. I was successful in calling in a number of coyotes. However, as an Animal Control Officer in Johnson county, I respond to many calls for wildlife, including raccoons with distemper and coyotes and foxes with sarcoptic mange. I did not find this last year to have had an unusually high number of raccoons with distemper, it was about average. We will see what the spring brings though. On the coyotes, I have responded to a few more calls of animals presenting signs of mange than in the past, and the red fox population in my City (Shawnee) is way down. I suspect that mange is the main contributor for this.
I wish Kansas had a longer check period then 24 hrs for beaver-otter-muskrats trapped with conibers dorwner sets or colony cages that drown. I would boat trap some lakes but if the wind blows for 2 days and I could not check traps safely I would be in violation of current law.
I wish KS would allow lights for hunting predators at night. Many states do and I would like to chance to do it here in KS
I wish that the coyote waggons were banned for good. Tired of being shot at when I take my two boys calling coyotes or just down in a creek cutting wood. They have no respect for anything at all.
I WISH THE SEASON RAN FROM Dec 1ST TO February 28TH DUE TO UNREADY FUR.
I wish we could trap walk-in-hunting even if it was box traps or snares, or maybe extend bobcat season an extra 15 days so we could trap walk-in after it opened.
I would like the season to be longer for fur bearers.
I would like to be able to call coyotes at night using a spot light
I would like to be able to call furbears at night using a light, like many of the other states.
I would like to see Kansas adopt the 48 hour check law that some of the other states have in place. I would also like to see our season open at sunrise opening day and close at sunset closing day.
I would like to see some kind of night hunting for coyotes with a light or night vision. Most of my coyote hunting I do anymore are farmers having problems with them.
I would like to see the bobcat season extended into March 15. It seems like the makes run better during this time. Raccoon and furbearer season should be opened Dec 1st because this is the time when the fur is prime.
I would like to see the bobcat season start later and run later when fur is more prime.

I would like to see the season for bobcats extended another month. We only hunt them after all deer seasons are closed and this makes for a very short window.
I'd like to find a good resource (or have a current resource promoted more) of information regarding any public land available for trapping...is it the same as hunting?
I'd like to see the season go till the end of Feb bobcats don't normally get prime till January so a lot of people don't kill them till then it would be nice to have a little more time. They take a lot of skill to kill.
I'm not sure on question 22 as I want out as much as in the past years, but this is more ranked by talking to others who were trapping. I would be curious to see results of #22 & data from fur buyers
IMO the draught hurt cat numbers a bunch and coyotes some. several landowners told me they had bad water in ponds. coons were all incidentals in coyote and cat sets. not sure on their population. seemed to be ok in pastures though.
In Ness County and Trego everything is down dramatically! Need to pull the season off pheasants! And double the price of out-of-state deer licenses! An antlerless elk license in Colorado it is now \$450! West of 283 deer numbers are down dramatically hunted these areas for 35 years. When I called and talk to your biologists about deer numbers being down.. I was told they were in the large herds and I was basically too stupid to find them! Stupid is not admitting we have a problem! Looks like poor rainfall in this area will continue this year with emergency haying of CRP it can wipe out pheasants completely from one area! With the farming practices we have now we need to rethink the length of pheasant season it's just as long now as when we used to have wheat stubble fields that had six-foot tall sunflowers in them so the birds could hide in and feed all winter.. I know your department once the money!! But make it off your out-of-state deer permits.. Break pheasant down into management units you do it for deer if you think you have enough in an area to keep the season on that long! West of 283 the deer will be much like the pheasants eventually. Nonexistent. Saw an incredible decline in Whitetail antlerless deer in unit two this year compared to last. Some cameras saw as much as 7 to 1 buck to doe. Ratio! Good for hunting right now!
In north central KS due to drought conditions, I feel that many of our furbearer numbers are down. I would like to see Bobcat season not open no earlier than Dec. 20. Would love to see sa season on coyote due to our low numbers. Coyote should not be harvested no earlier than Nov. 15 and stop by Feb. 1 or 15. Fox species are nearly none We need to harvest furbearers only when they are of any value. why harvest animals when they are pregnant with next years your.
Is there any chance of ever hunting coyotes at night by light.
It is hard to find m-rat and mink and I believe that raptors are the culprits. I have noticed a correlation between ponds w/ trees around them and not, and believe owls are taking most of the rats and mink.
It would be awesome if furbearer management would be allowed at night with artificial light
It would be good to have a higher limit on otters. Especially in counties along the Missouri border. There are a greater number of otter in these counties.
I've been coon hunting with dogs since I was in 4th grade, the hunting was never a problem until out of state deer hunters drove up lease property, they pay so much they don't want anybody in their property, but yet they bitch about all the coons on their corn feeders
Jack rabbits need to be protected in the state as there are very few left
Just getting started I took my furbearers test plus bought my license for this up coming season. Hopefully next year I'll have some results to share with you.
JUST STARTED THIS SEASON
Just trying to take out raccoons that are effecting deer hunting by eating corn. Trapped one red raccoon.
Kansas should allow trapping on public road right of way (bridges and culverts) to control the number of road kill furbearers and to open up more opportunities for beginners.
KEEP COYOTE TRAPPING IOEN YEAR RIYBD, QUESTION #5 WAS CONFUSING. sounded LIKE COYOTES WERE LISTED IN THE 95 DAY SEASON.
keep up the good work
Kill hawks they eat quail.
leave kill season open through Feb. I seen plenty of coon after season was over
Let anyone hunt furbearers on a small game license! Since price of furs are way down all furbearers are up at the cost of quail, prairie chickens (the ones left fescue has not killed out!) pheasant, aquatic wildlife (especially where water is polluted), etc... Why do you not address these and other issues through the citizens? I never see your "Wildlife Department" do much of anything except give tickets! and that is usually given to a citizen who is young and /or financially limited. The real "Bad Ones" always go free when I get the chance to watch!
Let us use night vision scopes with IR illumination. This should not be considered "casting a light".
Limit bobcat catches to 15 or so.
Limit the amount of bobcat tags. Numbers seem to be way down.
Limiting trap numbers per trapper. I enjoy trapping, but there are a handful of guys who blanket over 2 or 3 counties and only check once to twice a week.
LINCOLN COUNTY HAS A HORRIBLE MANGE PROBLEM.
Local populations are down significantly. 5 years ago I was infested with coons, skunk, opossum, etc. I have only seen coyotes, coons and a few bobcats this winter around my house. They can travel to water, the smaller species are gone.
longer season
longer seasons- some people work out of town!
Looks to me the Rules and Regs are outstanding for us few that participate Thanks
lots of hawks (Predator Birds) around killing precious pheasants and quail. What can we do about this problem we have? Something needs done before we have no pheasants and quail left.
Lower prices on license, or have state of Ks. pass law allowing furbear license holders permission to kick anti-hunt & trapping people square in the balls.
Make Bobcat season longer!!!!
MAKE CROW SEASON ALL YEAR ROUND!!!
Make it illegal to shoot Bobcats with a shotgun during birding season to many cats the last several years have shot in them! Or don't open Bobcat season until mid to late Dec and leave it open 2 or 3 later
MAKE IT LEGAL HUNT WITH SPOTLIGHTS
management is great
MANGE WAS TERRIBLE THIS YEAR ALMOST ALL COYOTES WERE BALD AND SCABBED UP FROM HEAD TO TOE

Maybe make the season a little bit longer
Maybe some contact info. for landowners that need furbearers removed.
MINK NEEDS TO BE REGULATED IN CHEROKEE/CRAWFORD COUNTY AND SOME REPOPULATION BY THE STATE IN THESE COUNTIES.
My beavers and some coyotes were caught in snares. I'm only a beginner; completing the furharvester's course last fall. I am positive that my catch next year will be bigger, time allowing. Thank you for your interest!
My season was shortened by the weather and late start.
My suggestion is to consider the benefits to upland birds when the Furbearing hunter is concerned. In the larger part all furbearers are predators and upland birds in thier life cycle fall prey to theses predators 365 days a year. The state of Kansas has seen a decline of upland birds for various reasons over the last several decades. Fur price's being so low hunters need every incentive to hunt these predators. What cannot been done is a reduction of protected raptors that are most likely the real over all reason for upland bird decline. raptors have been federally protected the same length of time we have seen the Bob White population decline. As raptor numbers grew the quail has declined. I know my suggestion is not perfect but it has it's good points I hope you put into the think tank.
Need a longer season because the cats fur is not set till later in the seasons end.
Need more places to hunt - because landowner are now leasing their lands to deer hunters and turkey hunters.
Need more public land to hunt, fish, etc. in Doniphan County.
Need to extend coon season by 15 days to March 31st
Need to make general public more aware of the need to control the furbearing wildlife/ and reasons why. I'll leave the reasons up to your biologists.
Need to pay bounty for coyotes or pay to stock pheasants
Need to shorten kill season Because Breeding Time is about Jan 20 to Feb 10 for Raccon. Rubs on there necks & pelts. Can't sell the pelts
night hunting for coyotes
no comments or suggestions at this time
No comments re: mgt Low populations last year. No small coon poor coon body condition.
No problems - things are fine - weather a big factor in my decline in harvest this year!!
Nonresident trappers should have limits. They do not manage the resource.
Not sure about trapping coyotes after Feb. 15th. Saw a trap set well after Feb 15th for a bobcat, too easy to say trapper is traping coyotes. I did inform game warden in Franklin county through and he took care of it. Keep up the good work, fight the good fight
Note - Bought license to hunt fur harvesting but never had the time to do so only ran the coon dogs this year and spotted one raccoon.
Nothing currently, thank you for the survey.
OCCASIONALLY I WILL SEE DISEASE-SUSPECT RACCOONS BYT NOT IN SEASON. I FEEL THE DROUGHT-DRY CONDITIONS HAVE HAD SOME IMPACT ON FURBEARERS AND OTHER WILDLIFE IN MY AREA.
one of the raccoons had mange
Only comment I have is I have trapped the last two year after a 25 year absence from trapping. I think you are doing a good job with the trapping rules and regulations, Sorry I didn't reply sooner, we were in AZ for about six weeks. Can't wait for next season!!
Only trapped a few days because fur prices were so low
Open raccoon season a week or 2 earlier!
Open up an otter season while you still have fish left, they have decimated the fish in farm ponds and streams here in parts of Missouri.
OTTERS OUT OF CONTROL
Out of state trappers taking to many bobcats and depleting populations.
Outfitters are poisoning coon at deer feeders
Outlaw people running coyotes with pickups and or dogs. Please make it illegal for people to shoot coyotes out of a vehicle.(ESPECIALLY) during deer season. It does nothing but make it easy for them to get away with poaching all species whether they shoot them and leave them lay or simply find them and come back to poach at a later time. It also aggravates farmers who are the stewards of the land as well as pays the taxes. Coyotes should be hunted by walking, calling, trapping, etc. just like every other species.
please control the turkey population better in Rawlins Co Ks. too populous; and the deer population is growing to be a slight nuisance also-vehicle damage.
PLEASE STOP PUTTING GATES UP AROUND MILFORD LAKE, IT TAKES TOO LONG TO WALK SO FAR IN TO PLACES TO SET TRAPES. 5 TO 7 YEARS AGO IT WAS MUCH EASIER TO GET TO PLACES; NOW THEY ARE LOCKED UP!! PLEASE LEAVE MORE WATER IN THE LAKE SO MUSKRATS AND BEAVERS HAVE A PLACE TO LIVE!!!! P.S. SORRY IT IS LAKE GTETTING BACK TO KDWPT!
Predator Hunt On The flinthills national Wildlife Refuge
PRICES HAVE BEEN DOWN, SO I'VE NOT LOOKED FOR COON. I THINK COYOTES ARE OVER POPULATED. I ALSO THINK OUTFITTER SHOULD BE TAXED AND HAVE TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH/DISABLED HUNTERS GUYS LIKE (name withheld). DRIVE THE DEER AND MAKE 80K IN A FEW MONTHS
PUT A BOUNDY ON COYOTES
Raccoon, coyote, bobcat, opossum, skunk, and badger hurt the pheasant population. They need to be control some how!
Raccoons and coyote numbers seem to be on the rise. I seen more this past winter than I have over the past ten years. Beaver numbers seem to be up also for I see them in just about every hole of water.
raccoons are very scarce in some areas of the county
Ramdomly chosen- I have lifetime! Need limit on number of animals each trapper can harvest hunters & hoodsman are not after just a big # number for talk.
Rooks county is full of "bad" trappers. To many traps for one to check daily, not checking traps & trapping without permission. It is annoying to see traps that haven't been checked for days on land that they are not supposed to be on. (name withheld) needs to be put in jail.

saw 6 coyotes with mange
severe die offs of coon skunk and badger from distemper. I am a dvm, so not just guessing. lower bobcat populations due to drought and subsequent drops in feed and cover. mange in coyotes still everywhere. have to throw away one in every 3 or 4. some locations 100%
should allow calling for preadtors' at night with the use of artificial light, many other states' do and don't seem to have a worse poaching problems than Kansas.
Since managing our property for whitetail we've seen a vast increase in the number of coyotes traveling our land. Faun crops have decreased as the coyote numbers go up. It would be great to see even a small bounty placed on coyotes to help with deer herd numbers.
Sorry, but I did not have as much time to be afield as I would have liked
START TRAPPING A WEEK EARLIER WOULD BE GREAT
Started a new job this year and did not get out to hunt any fur bearers this year. Next year yes. I will be out there.
stop coyote hunting from a vehicle and radios
Taxidermist - have to carry license to possess
thank you for supporting trapping & hunting with all equipment
Thank you!
thanks and keep up the good work
thanks for letting non-res hunt your state
the coons in my area died off in the 12'-13 season
The coyotes and bobcats are becoming a major problem with over-population. They are making a large negative impact on the deer and turkey populations and hunting in general. The pheasant and quail populations have been down or low in recent years and they cannot make a come back with predators climbing at an alarming rate.
The only year that I did any traping was 2012/2013
the otters in eastern Ks. are cleaning my ponds and other ponds out!
the past two seasons have been very poor for bobcat, coon, opossum and skunk. Which I attribute to the drought, there are very few small game animals around and I trap about 12 sections of land. 2/3 of the coon and bobcat I caught this year were harvested on two new sections of land I trapped which had never been trapped in at least 30 years.
THE PRICE FOR LICENSE IS HIGH. FIGURE ALL THE EXPENSES IT'S NOT WORTH FURHARVESTING WITH FUR PRICES SO LOW.
the raccoons are decresed do too deer hunters poisoning tham at feedrds and thay tale you thay do it too if you are not kdwp
The regulation of fur prices and how to keep buyers from monopolizing the market
the state needs a program for land owners to enroll in to that enables trappers to trap their land
THE TRAPPING SEASON FOR (BEAVER & OTTER) SHOULD BE ENDED ABOUT THE 15TH OF MARCH. RACCOON & POSSUM ETC. SHOULD END ABOUT THE 31ST OF JAN. BADGER-COULD STAY OPEN UNTIL THE END OF FEB OR THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH.
The walk in hunting program is great for us. Just need more of it.
There are no muskrat or mink on the Solomon River any more, ten years ago there were a good number of each, and there has been very little trapping.
There are too many deer seasons - we are afraid to go call predators for fear of having some loon deer hunter shoot us. We called den trees that 2-3 years ago had great success, this year they were blank - no water in creeks and what water was there was not good. Did not see many road killed coon this year either. Had same amount of success with squirrels - city squirrels are thick - not many country squirrels to shoot at.
Things are busy and I have not been getting out in the field as much as I would like.
THIS WAS ANOTHER BAD YEAR FOR TRAPPING FUR BEARERS ON DRY GROUND. THANK IN ROUGHER TO THE DROUGHT. I THINK
This was my first year trapping and only 3rd year calling coyotes/bobcats so I have no history to base populations on.
too costly & will not hunt again!
Too hard to get bobcats sealed... Wardens hate to do it and dodge the chore... I had to drive 75 miles each way to a state park.. no good.
Too many deer
TOO MANY LOCKED GATES TO PUBLIC HINTING AROUND MILFORD LAKE
Total number of furbearers were less this year compared to last year. Lower prices was probably the reason but all my trappers seemed to catch less critters this year.
Try to keep the river levels the same with no release of water from the resevoirs
Use of snares on landowner land only. Except for beaver.
VERY hard to find buyers sometimes
Was not in the field much this year.
WASNT ABLE TO HUNT
Water levels was bad, hope better 2014/15 season.
WE FARM IN NORTHERN RILEY COUNTY AND THE COYOTES HAVE BECOME GREATLY OUT OF HAND. WE KILL A REDICULOUS BETWEEN A GROUP OF US BUT IT DOESN'T SEEN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
We have a serous coyote problem I am a deer processor and taxidermist and every customer talks about how many coyotes they are seeing. Including myself there are lots of deer hunters who have coyotes beat them to their harvested deer. Most of the time 2-3 hours is too long to wait. I would suggest legalizing some very effective eradication methods.
we have very few Prairie Chickens left why do you have a season on them? Close the season to save what few we have left.
WE NEED ABOUT A TWO WEEK LONGER SEASON ON COONS.
We need more coyote hunters there are too many

We need more public land for trapping! Close the Walking in Hunting down one month early and open it to trapping only. This would help the game birds a ton by removing some predators in those areas.
We've heard that hunter education and fur harvester education has went mainly to online certification. Since we do not have the internet or even a computer this makes it difficult for us to obtain proper certification there's nothing like good old "hands on" training without the "screen".
When the new is gone, otters will be a danger to farm ponds in eastern Kansas. There is an established population please open the season up asap. With higher prices it is great to see renewed interest in trapping especially in younger people, maybe it will help the small game rebound and keep traditions alive.
When you burn and spray Cattail plants you kill or run off muskrats, mink, beaver and raccoons. Where there once was thousands of furbearer animals in our marshes they are virtual gone. DU has Kansas managing the marshes for feathers, the furbearer have been thrown under the bus. No one is throwing big money at the furbearer. MONEY TALKS AND DU HAS IT
Why does my fur harvesters license expire on 12/31 it is one season that oversees the beginning and the end of the year and I have to buy a new license? Water fowl stamps and some deer permits cover both seasons why not fur harvesters??? Please respond
why isn't furharvest license like HIP stamp, waterfowl & rest? Not calendar year?
Why we can't coyote hunt walk in hunting with land owners permission we buy license to help pay for walk in hunting.
wish I had more time to spend trapping
Wish the season was extended
with high gas prices 48hr check on killer traps
With multiple game cameras out throughout the year on multiple farms photos would suggest coyotes and bobcats population is up. I find it increasingly difficult to trap w/ food holds for coyotes. Snares were the only method of take for yotes.
With seemingly fewer numbers and more methods of hunting recently Kansas residents should receive a greater opportunity to furbearer hunt/trap than non-residents. i.e. higher cost out-of-state permits and shortened out-of state seasons. You should do a poll to see how many RESIDENTS have trouble acquiring a place to hunt due to out of state leasing and outfitter leasing for out of state hunters. You may be shocked! It is after all a KANSAS resource.
Would appreciate more educational opportunities on trapping and fur preparation in the Lawrence, KS area.
would like to see a 2 day check on leathal water sets
would like to see furbearer season extended to the end of February specifically for bobcats
would like to see Kansas allow night hunting with light and shotgun for furbearers
would live to see a legal size increase on body grip traps for use on large coons and badger re: Beaver size for use outside of water sets.
Would love to trap KDWP ground but would hate to catch someones hunting dog in a connibear. There is no surviving
you all do a great job. thanks!
you are doing a good job
You folks are doing great! Keep up the good work!!! I'm always looking forward to trapping season! :)
You guys do a fine job down there, the 2 P.O.'s that have tagged my fur are a pleasure to work with. Keep up the good work.
You need to allow night hunting for coyotes. They are getting harder to call during the day with all the pressure. Lots of states allow it. Just set the season after Deer season after the antlers fall off to reduce poaching temptations.
you need to get the coyote population down. We had coyotes come in on us while coon hunting on several occasions. They would be as close as 5 feet. They are loosing their fear of people when there are such big packs. Also another problem with the large number of coyotes is that we don't see that many rabbits. We used to see them almost every day, now were lucky to see one once a month. I hope this will help you, the only reason I started trapping for coyotes is to get the numbers down, but I feel I didn't even make a dent.
you should allow redlight for night hunting predators, some other states allow that
You're doing a good job!