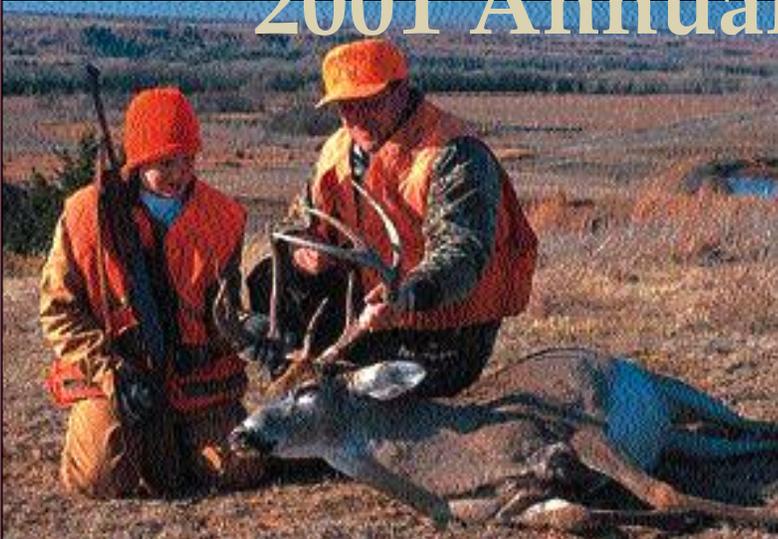


2001 Annual Report



Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

This report briefly details a number of department accomplishments in the past year. The department continued to make progress in the Pass It On program, initiated to recruit new hunters and reverse the declining trend in hunter numbers. This fall marks only the second time in history that Kansas sportsmen and women have the opportunity to take a youth hunting during three special seasons – Youth Upland Bird, Youth Deer, and Youth Waterfowl. Numerous area-specific youth hunts were held around the state, with the emphasis on providing young hunters quality opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Water Works Wonders, a national program to recruit and retain anglers, also took shape this year and is building momentum.

The popular Walk-In Hunting Area (WIHA) program continued to inch toward our goal of 1 million acres, with more than 830,000 acres enrolled this fall. A pilot Spring Turkey WIHA program began successfully, as well. The counterpart fishing program – Fishing Impoundments and Stream Habitats (FISH) – continued its growth. A record number of deer permits were again offered, along with a simplified application process.

The Parks Division again hosted numerous special events, including the inaugural Outdoor Kansas for Kids Day (OK Kids). The \$10 million facelift to our state parks' infrastructure was completed and helped spur annual attendance at the parks to record levels.

Providing quality programs and customer service to our constituents remain the top priorities of our department. Through the efforts of our dedicated staff, the support of Gov. Bill Graves, and the backing of our diverse constituency, I believe KDWP took another definitive step forward in 2001. We are one step closer to reaching our goal of becoming one of the nation's premier providers of outdoor recreation opportunities through the best in stewardship of wildlife and park resources.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Williams". The signature is written in a dark ink on a light-colored background.

Secretary, Kansas Department of



State Park Improvements

State park visitation reached 7.2 million in 2000, the highest year on record. All projects made possible by the Kansas Legislature's approval of Gov. Bill Graves' \$10 million appropriation proposal were completed by the end of the 2001 recreation season. Some projects initially scheduled had to be deleted or modified as bids came in over estimates. The Bureau of Reclamation provided extensive funding for major projects at Cheney State Park, as well as small projects at west region parks. A component of the AmeriCorps grant paid for access improvements to several park offices. Some motorboat access projects were funded under the Dingell-Johnson federal aid grant program. Money raised by Friends groups paid for other projects, including playground equipment at several parks. The KCC's solar grant provided to means to add solar lights to boat ramps, campgrounds, pit toilets, and signs at many parks. The Land and Water Conservation program that was so instrumental in building Kansas state parks was revitalized and provided approximately \$25,000 for capital improvement or renovation projects that were authorized and begun in 2000.

AmeriCorps

The department was awarded a second year of the AmeriCorps grant, beginning the new program at about the same time as members completed the first round of the program. Several members elected to enroll for a second term. The program awards members an educational credit of \$4,725 for serving 1,700 hours with the department. Members receive a living stipend while serving, and perform a variety of tasks, such as renovating facilities, presenting public programs, and assisting at local disaster sites throughout the state. During 2000, for example, 15 members provided 272 hours of service to relief efforts following the tornado at Parsons. An additional AmeriCorps grant was awarded to the department to present training on Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) issues.

Outdoor Recreation Grants

KDWP's Parks Division distributed \$500,000 to 40 Kansas communities for development of local recreation facilities. The Kansas Legislature appropriated the funding to assist city and county governments in recreation development such as ballfield construction and renovation, acquisition of playground equipment, and disabled-access improvements. This



was the third year for this grant program.

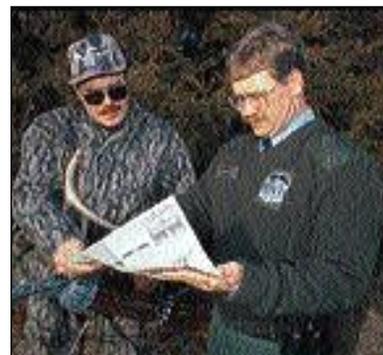
Land and Water Conservation Fund LWCF funding made possible two state park projects and 16 community projects, ranging from playground equipment acquisition to stadium renovation. These projects most likely would not have been done if the U.S. Congress had not approved appropriations for the program.

Regulation Review

The Law Enforcement Division made substantial progress in reviewing all regulations, in response to a Governor's Executive Order. An internal working group has identified regulations that can be clarified and consolidated. The Division is leading discussion on those proposed changes at Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission public meetings, and most significant revisions will be complete by the end of 2001.

Law Enforcement Statistics

Last year, KDWP conservation officers conducted a total of 71,224 hunting and fishing license checks, and 16,994 boat inspections. The field checks resulted in a total of 6,663 violations — an 8 percent violation rate. KDWP park rangers conducted a total of 87,829 park permit checks, which resulted in 7,811 total violations — a 2.5 percent violate rate. The resulting fines and court costs assessed violators totalled \$507,829. Officers investigated a total of 45 boating accidents in 2000, resulting in total property damage of \$55,017. There were no boating fatalities in 2000.



OK Kids Day

KDWP was a major partner in the inaugural Outdoor Kansas for Kids Day (OK Kids), hosting events at 20 of the state parks. Organized by the Kansas Wildscape Foundation, a non-profit foundation focused on providing outdoor recreation opportunities in Kansas, OK Kids brought thousands of youth from across Kansas into the outdoors on Sept. 8. Activities included



fishing, hiking, biking, birdwatching, shooting instruction, and hunter education courses.

Safe Hunting

A record low 19 hunting accidents occurred in Kansas in 2000, continuing the long-term improvement in hunting safety since the state initiated mandatory hunter education in 1973. Department officials credited the efforts of the 1,500 volunteer instructors around the state, who conduct about 350 courses statewide each year, and certify 12,000 to 13,000 new hunters annually. Instructors are required to undergo training every three years. The department sponsored the first Kansas Hunter Education Instructor Academy in March of this year, an event designed to enhance instructors' teaching skills. Governor Bill Graves proclaimed Sept. 22, 2001 as Hunter Education Instructor Recognition Day, acknowledging that instructors are "...a vital link in protection of our hunting heritage."

Birding in Kansas

The department co-sponsored the first Wings 'n Wetlands Weekend at Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge in April of this year. Hundreds of bird-watching enthusiasts from Kansas and many other states attended the event, which was also sponsored by the Great Bend Convention and Visitors Bureau and other local groups. Officials plan to make the event a regular occurrence.

Milford Wetlands Development

Nearly a decade of planning and cooperation culminated at a ground-breaking ceremony June 29 for the Milford Lake Habitat Restoration Project. Also known as the Milford Wetlands, the project will restore and add more than 2,000 acres of multi-use wetland cells around the north end of Milford Reservoir. Initially conceived in 1991, the project took off when the Kansas Wildscape Foundation agreed to the challenge of raising more than \$1 million in donations to match federal dollars available through the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. Construction is slated for completion in 2003.

Outdoor Access

KDWP's popular Walk-In Hunting Areas program, in which the department leases privately-owned lands for



general hunting access, continued to grow substantially. More than 834,000 acres of WIHA are available for the 2001 hunting seasons, an increase of nearly 100,000 acres over the 2000 acreage total. The aquatic counterpart to that program — Fishing Impoundments and Stream Habitats (FISH) — also continued to grow; more than 1,300 acres of privately-owned ponds and lakes, as well as 60 stream miles were enrolled in the 2001 FISH program.

Cheyenne Bottoms Honored

Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area was officially named one of 100 "Globally Important Bird Areas" by the American Bird Conservancy. The Bottoms had previously been designated a "Wetland of International Importance" by the Ramsar Convention, and also had been tagged a "Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve" by the Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network. A

massive renovation project was completed at Cheyenne Bottoms in 2000.

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Pass It On

The department's Hunter Recruitment and Retention Program, popularly known as "Pass It On," gained momentum in its second year of operation. The program is designed to increase the state's hunting participation rate to 15 percent by 2005. It features a variety of strategies, such as development of outdoor mentors, enhanced shooting opportunities, enhanced hunting access, and special hunts. Youth hunts have been especially well received by hunters. In addition to dozens of specially-planned, mentored hunts for youth and disabled persons around the state, the program also features specially-designated youth seasons for waterfowl, deer, upland bird, and spring turkey.



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Fish Stocking

The department's Fish Culture Section stocked a total of 20.6 million fish, comprising 12 species, in Kansas' public fishing waters. In addition, a total of more than 125,000 channel catfish were stocked in urban lakes and ponds for the department's Urban Fishing Program. The popular trout fishing program benefitted from stocking a total of 129,000 catchable-sized trout.



Income July 2000-June 2001

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks relies on fees paid by the people it serves for most of its income. The sale of hunting and fishing licenses and associated permits accounts for about 48 percent of the department's annual income. Another 27 percent is derived from excise taxes paid on hunting and fishing gear and other outdoor equipment, which is distributed back to the state by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Park permits, boat registrations, and other license and permit sources account for another 14 percent. About 11 percent of the agency's funding comes from state general fund revenues. The tables on this page summarize calendar year 2000 license and permit sales.

FISHING/HUNTING/FURHARVESTING

License/permit	Number sold	Revenue
Resident Fish (\$15.00)	184,444	\$2,766,660
Combination Fish/Hunt (\$30.00)	46,097	\$1,382,910
Nonresident Fish (\$35.00)	8,966	\$313,810
Five-Day Trip Fish (\$15.00)	4,910	\$73,650
24-Hour Fish (\$3.00)	85,593	\$256,779
Trout Stamp (\$7.50)	10,236	\$76,770
Lifetime Fish (\$240.00)	235	\$56,400
Lifetime Comb. Fish/Hunt (\$440.00)	865	\$380,600
Lifetime Fish (payments) (\$35.00)	40	\$1,400
Lifetime Comb. (payments) (\$35.00)	267	\$9,345
Lifetime Hunt (payments) (\$35.00)	119	\$4,165
Lifetime Hunt (\$240.00)	1,040	\$249,600
Resident Hunt (\$15.00)	90,863	\$1,362,945
Nonresident Hunt (\$65.00)	51,863	\$3,371,095
Nonresident Junior Hunt (\$30.00)	1,792	\$53,760
Controlled Shooting Area (\$13.00)	6,289	\$81,757
48-Hour Waterfowl (\$20.00)	589	\$11,780
Deer Permit (variable)	166,872	\$4,401,705
Turkey Permit (variable)	43,226	\$711,430
Adult Furharvester (\$15.00)	3,816	\$57,240
Junior Furharvester (\$7.50)	96	\$720
TOTAL	708,218	\$15,624,521

THREE- YEAR BOAT REGISTRATIONS

Registration Type	Number Sold	Revenue
Boats under 16 feet (\$15.00)	18,775	\$281,625
Boats over 16 feet (\$18.00)	19,230	\$346,140
TOTAL	38,005	\$627,765

STATE PARKS

Permit Type	Number Sold	Revenue
Annual Vehicle (\$29.50)	29,077	\$857,772
Annual Camp (\$100)	2,898	\$289,800
Second Vehicle (\$14.50)	9,884	\$143,318
Duplicate Vehicle (\$5.00)	819	\$4,095
Exempt/Handicap Vehicle (\$0)	27,363	\$0
Daily Vehicle (\$3.50)	269,383	\$942,841
Daily Handicap Vehicle (\$0)	105	\$0
Daily Camp (\$4.50)	113,101	\$508,954
14-Day Camp (\$50.00)	1,486	\$74,300
Utility (1) (\$5.00)	13,696	\$68,480
Utility (2) (\$6.00)	114,625	\$687,750
Utility (3) (\$7.00)	20,319	\$142,223
Youth Group Camping (\$2.50)	337	\$843
30-Day Camp (\$90.00)	16	\$1,440
TOTAL	603,109	\$3,721,815

FEDERAL AID

Reimbursement Type	Number Sold	Revenue
Coast Guard (boating safety)		\$ 653,012
Dingell-Johnson (fish)		\$3,950,546
Pittman-Robertson (wildlife)		\$2,091,288
Other		\$2,143,876
TOTAL		\$8,838,722

Expenditures (7/00 - 6/01)



	Fish & Wildlife	\$21,073,922	64 %
	Parks	\$8,102,442	24 %
	Boating	\$1,028,625	3 %
	Administration	\$3,098,187	9 %
	Totals	\$33,303,176	100 %