

Approved Jeffrey Freeman Date 4-5-88

MINUTES OF THE House Sub COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The meeting was called to order by Representative Jeff Freeman at
Chairperson

3:30 ~~a.m.~~/p.m. on February 1, 1988 in room 527-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:
Representative Charlton, (Excused)
Representative Burr Sifers, (Excused)
Representative Barr (Excused)

Committee staff present:
Raney Gilliland, Research Department
Paul West
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor's Office
Belva Sandmeyer, Recorder

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Representative Marvin Smith
Representative Elaine Hassler
Representative Ivan Sand
Senator Dan Theissen
John Kelhler, Holton
Mary Harper, Scott City
Dean Wilson, Kansas Wildlife Federation
Paul Fleenor, Kansas Farm Bureau
Ron Smith, Kansas Bow Hunters Association
Howard Tice, Kansas Wheatgrowers Association
Kent Montei, Wildlife and Parks Department
Secretary Robert Meinen, Kansas Wildlife & Parks
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association

Chairman Freeman opened the meeting and asked Paul West to give a briefing on HB 2216. Mr. West explained the HB 2216 mandates the issuance of deer permits to landowners and tenants. Current law determines the number of permits that can be issued during the regular season. 50% will be issued to landowners and tenants and immediate families for half price. Permits not claimed may be issued without regard to the 50% limitation to Kansas residents.

Representative Marvin Smith told the committee that he supports HB 2216. He felt the deer population is increasing at an alarming rate in Kansas. He cited crop damage as well as damage to farm machinery and the cost to the farmer. Representative Smith felt the agency should support this concept and should sell permits to every Kansan requesting one except those who have a violation and also suggested the agency hold hearings for citizen input. (Attachment 1)

Representative Elaine Hassler said she was speaking in behalf of Morris County and that they share many of the same problems and concerns that Representative Smith mentioned. Representative Hassler suggested year-round hunting rather than seasonal. (Attachment 2)

Representative Sand stated he was one of the sponsors of this bill and discussed the large herd of deer near the military reservation at Fort Riley and the over-population in some areas. Mention was made of the number of accidents caused by deer. Representative Sand felt the insurance companies should support legislation on this problem.

Senator Dan Theissen told the committee he supported HB 2216. He, also, discussed crop damage and the cost to the farmer. He did not feel it was unreasonable to give free permits to landowners and tenants.

Robert Meinen, Secretary, Wildlife and Parks Department, told the committee they appreciate the positive values and importance of private landowners in helping with the program which I consider a major success story. Deer recovery is a major success. Secretary Meinen did not feel free permits would solve the issue. He gave a general review of what the Wildlife and Park Department does for the landowner through their wildlife improvement programs.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SUB COMMITTEE ON HB 2216 & HB 2729,
room 526-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 a.m./p.m. on February 1, 1988

Secretary Meinen said the department opposes the bill because of the fiscal impact. The estimated fiscal direct impact is over \$450,000 to our fee fund and the impact to our federal Pitman Robinson funds. These are 3 to 1 monies and the impact may be more than a million dollars. We have presented a balanced fee budget to the Governor and this bill would require a reassessment of the budget. Secretary Meinen referred to lines 0049, page 2 and said he felt this was in conflict with Section C. (See attachment 3)

Paul Fleenor, Kansas Farm Bureau discussed resolutions and policy statements set forth by the Farm Bureau. The Kansas Farm Bureau supports the language of this bill. He said HB 2216 seeks to improve the situation by making more permits available. Referred to lines 95-96, page 3 and asked these be strengthened and suggested there should not be such limiting language as contained in lines 101-102. It might be appropriate to allow more than one landowner permit to allow a returning family member to hunt. (Attachment 4)

Mr. Fleenor spoke on HB 2729 indicating their policy position speaks in favor of non-resident permits. We also support public input meetings. Referred to line 156 stating those permits should be more readily available.

Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association said their association supported the measure. We feel a long-term plan is needed and asked the committee to consider an amendment to this legislation to provide a procedure for landowners to use a freedeer permit in a fee hunting programs. Discussed weekend retreats and provision of a guide. In this way, farmers could recoup their losses, thereby reducing the burden to the wildlife department. (See Attachment 5).

Howard Tice, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers told the committee they support HB 2216. Mr. Tice said he felt there was a lack of communication between the farmer and the Wildlife and Parks Department and lack of adequate notice of meetings being held in regard to the deer population. Mr. Tice suggested changing the language in lines 0049 and 0075-77 as he felt farmers are penalized. (Attachment 6)

John Kehler, Holton, told the committee he was one of the farmers the committee is talking about and ask that the department develop a complete and objective deer herd management program.

Mary Harper, Scott City told the committee that she felt the Wildlife and Parks Department was not educating the hunter and sportsman. She voiced concern over the fact that the Wildlife and Parks Department and hunters were not concerned about the farmers. She also felt there should be free and extra permits and more meetings should be held in their area.

Dean Wilson, Kansas Wildlife Federation representing 8,000 conservationists opposed HB 2216. He asked that the Department develop a complete and objective deer herd management program. (Attachment 7)

Ron Smith, Kansas Bow Hunters Association, also expressed opposition to HB 2216. saying the association feels it is bad timing for the bill. The Kansas Bow Hunters oppose allowing the landowner to resell deer permits as this will drive up the cost for the average sportsman and we have not heard any landowner say they need a free permit. He asked that the bill be killed or tabled until after their group held their meetings throughout the state.

Chairman Freeman told Mr. Smith that the bill was introduced in 1987 long before Wildlife and Parks scheduled hearings and this is a concern expressed by representatives. The legislature created the Wildlife and Parks Department. We have a role to play and a function to represent the interest of our constituents and we want to work with them with a manageable deer policy.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE SUB COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

room 526-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 a.m./p.m. on February 1, 1988

Kent Montei, Wildlife and Parks Department said he wanted to emphasize what Secretary Menien said. In answer to a question regarding the deer population Mr. Montei said he did not know the total population. We go by survey and trends to tell us the population. We do not have a system for counting the number and there are areas that have problems and we address the issue by having special hunts. Some landowners will not allow hunting and these areas become sanctuaries, thereby creating problems. We have received data on the harvest and hope to have it by the first of March. Mr. Montei said he felt the deer program is a good one.

Chairman Freeman thanked the conferees for appearing and said HB 2729 would not be heard today.

Meeting adjourned.

MARVIN E. SMITH
 REPRESENTATIVE, FIFTIETH DISTRICT
 SHAWNEE AND JACKSON COUNTIES
 123 N E 82ND STREET
 TOPEKA, KANSAS 66617-2209



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
 REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
 MEMBER: EDUCATION
 TAXATION
 TRANSPORTATION

Energy and Natural Resources Committee
 HB 2216

February 1, 1988

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

We appreciate the opportunity for a hearing on HB 2216 this year.

The deer population is increasing at an alarming rate in Kansas and especially here in eastern Kansas. In fact, if the deer population were reduced 50% we would still have an intolerable population.

Deer damage is costing Kansas agriculture and individual farmers enormous losses. The state agencies management is a failure. If cattle producers only harvested (sold) the small percentage that Wildlife and Park Agency allows in permits annually, we would have cattle numbers far exceeding our pasture and harvested crops capabilities for cattle production. The tolerance level for deer population was approximately ten years ago.

About two years ago I was in Wheeler Hardware and Supply at Larkinburg, Kansas in late fall. One of my constituent farmers was buying electric fence supplies for constructing a temporary fence around stubble fields of milo, corn, alfalfa, etc. But his comments were I don't know if I can keep up a fence for cattle while deer are running through the single wire fence. He said he counted 28 deer grazing the alfalfa patch that morning. Fence problems are costing farmers hundreds of dollars.

Machinery costs are a problem. One constituent had a fawn lying in the hay field (which he didn't see) that was picked up by the swather-conditioner and broke the tension linkage on the swather. Another farmer had a large rear tire on a tractor that

Energy & Natural Resources Committee
HB 2216
February 1, 1988
Rep. Marvin Smith
Page 2

was punctured by a rack of horns lying in the field. Those of us who have used Toxowik cattle oiler-mineral feeder combination for some time wondered why the curtains that cover the mineral tub were being torn before they were worn out. Now we know the deer horns are tearing the curtains which are very costly.

It has been reported in the media that deer killed by automobiles is approximately 10% of the total firearms and bow hunters tagged numbers. If the tagged numbers are 40,000, thus highways kill 4,000. Automobile accidents caused by deer and reported automobile deer killed by county should be reported annually to each Kansas legislator.

Crop damage is on the increase. The deer population is costing farmers and landowners dollars, dollars and more dollars, why shouldn't they have free licenses? In fact, the agency should support this concept without reservation. Also, the agency should sell permits to every Kansan who wants to purchase one, except those who have an infraction of hunter violations in the last five years, such as poaching, trespassing, nonpermit abuses. More Kansans would seek permits if they could just purchase them rather than having a drawing. Kansas farmers and ranchers and citizens should have first access to deer harvest, not out-of-state residents.

If the agency would hold hearings for citizen input on deer management in rural areas such as Holton, Ellsworth, Johnson, Marion and Oswego, they would receive a better cross section of citizen input!

I would appreciate a favorable consideration on HB 2216.

I would try to answer questions, but I know you have many conferees, so I will be available later in the hearing for questions.

Kansas deer herd continues to grow

By JIM RAMBERG
Capital-Journal outdoor writer

Thirty years ago this month, the director of the Kansas Fish & Game Commission, Dave Leahy, made this statement:

"The present herd of 5,000 deer will increase from 10 to 15 times in the next 10 years," he said. "I can foresee the day, if normal conditions prevail, we are going to have an open season on deer to reduce possible loss to agriculture."

Etch those words in stone.

More than 50,000 firearms permits were issued this year for the deer season that began Saturday. Biologists hope that hunters will harvest upwards of 30,000 animals during the nine-day season.

"We are hoping for around 33,000 but realistically it's going to be about 29-30,000," said Keith Sexson.

Sexson has been the Deer Project Leader for the Wildlife & Parks Commission for the last eight years and is nothing but optimistic about the growth of the Kansas herd.

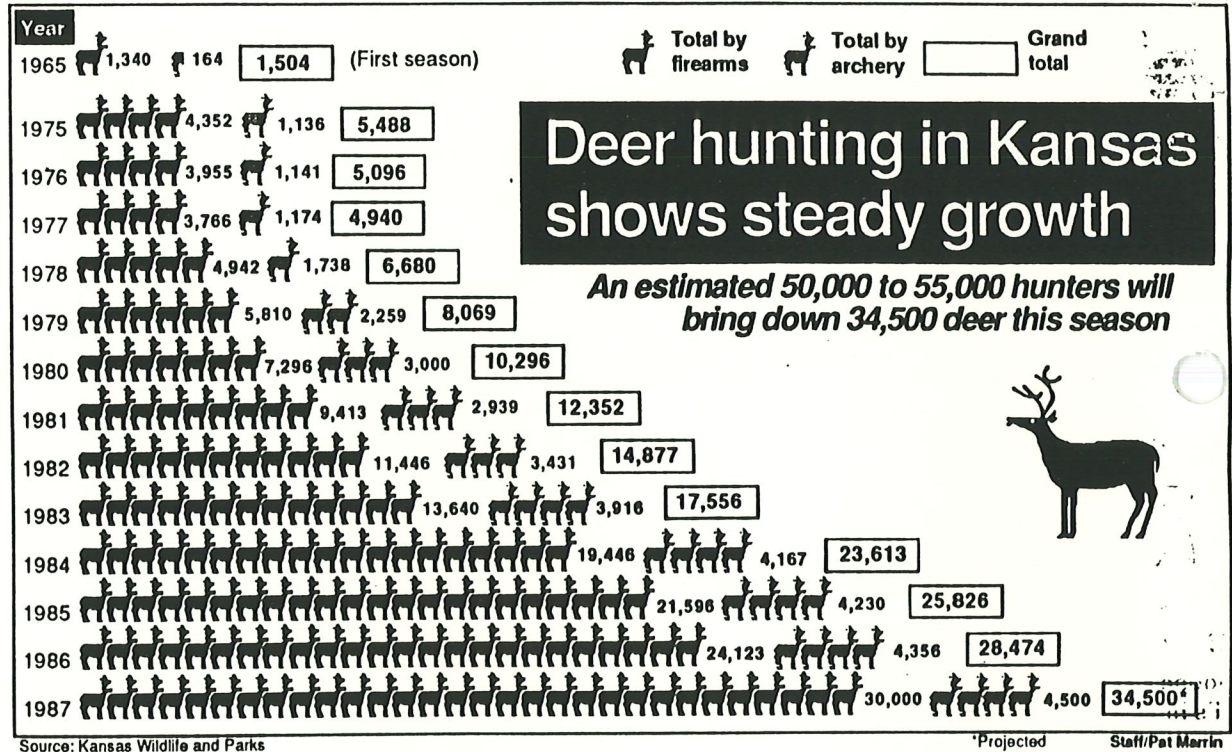
"There are no natural limiting factors (to growth)," Sexson said. "Hunting, poaching and highways are where the big numbers of deer are killed. Weather doesn't play a big part. But these factors aren't keeping the numbers of deer from growing."

You can find deer everywhere these days, a far cry from when the sighting of a single deer was considered a newsworthy event.

And the deer aren't just confined to the wilds.

"We have plenty of good deer habitat in the state," said Sexson. "The whitetail adapts to whatever the environment is. There are good populations in the Kansas City city limits and in Wichita and Topeka. The trend is toward more greenery in the cities and the deer filter into these areas."

Deer also filter into farmers' fields, resulting in an increasing



34 Sunday, December 6, 1987

The Topeka Capital-Journal

"If we're going to gain control of the population, which is our goal, we have to hunt deer."

— Keith Sexson

number of comments from farmers.

"They (the farmers) aren't really irate," said Sexson. "But we hear from them. And that's what the hunting seasons are really all about, that's the whole point of them."

"If we're going to gain control of the population, which is our goal, we have to hunt deer."

But the hunting season as a deer management tool is not succeeding.

"To be honest, no, it's not working. The deer herd is continuing to increase," said Sexson. "Even with the increase of antlerless (female) deer permits, it keeps growing."

The Wildlife & Parks Commission

is looking at several ways to increase the harvest of deer in order to have a stable population. One option is allow hunters to take one deer with a bow and one with a firearm.

"That's one example," Sexson said. "Another would be to let a bowhunter take a doe first and then hunt only for a buck. In some areas, we might let a firearms hunter take two deer — if one of them is a doe."

Sexson explained that it's unlikely that Kansas will ever see over-the-counter sales of deer permits common in other states like Missouri.

"Most of those states who have that system sell permits for bucks only," he said. "Quality hunting means control over the buck harvest. In a few years, there will be very few bucks of any size left."

"The firearms season will continue on a unit-to-unit and draw system."

And Kansas deer will stay in the family — no non-residents for the time being.

"I don't see non-residents hunting in Kansas in the real near future," said Sexson. "It could become part of our management scheme but right now there's opposition to it — from the sportsmen and from people in our own agency."

"But I think eventually it will come. The public thinks we're going to throw the gates open but it won't be like that at all. It will be at least three to five years before we even have the state set for that."

Corn Growers Worried About Deer Damage

By Frank J. Buchman

While corn planting time is just around the corner, the deer are gearing their appetites for the flavorful spring diet change.

And many farmers are already expressing concern about what to do when the deer invade their young corn fields.

"The best method to reduce the deer herd is through hunting," emphasized Bob Henderson, extension wildlife control specialist at Kansas State University in Manhattan.

"Deer populations are continuing to expand and there will be more damage in the future if the herd isn't reduced. People too often want to protect deer; they especially don't want to shoot does, but does must be killed to keep the population down," Henderson continued.

Sports hunters usually can be encouraged to hunt deer in problem areas. But since deer often range over adjacent property, encouraging neighbors to allow deer hunting can also be helpful, said Henderson, who emphasized that it needs to be a community effort and a "socially accepted deal."

But, the deer season is over

now and populations still are threatening new crops. Henderson and Keith Sexton, Emporia, big game biologist for the Kansas Fish and Game Commission, suggested methods to minimize this problem now. They also have a publication on controlling deer damage available at extension offices.

"Each situation is different and depends on the field location and deer populations in the area," Sexton pointed out. "Generally, corn next to timber makes a good ready feed source and high deer population adds to the situation."

Pointing out that the solution often depends on the size of the field, Sexton said damage is more difficult to control in a large field because the deer just move to another area of the field. "I'm not pulling any punches, but in some situations there just isn't a whole lot that can be done," he commented.

Effective Control

However, Sexton explained that noise-making devices are usually the most effective way to control deer in spring planted fields.

Gas exploders, shellcrackers (exploding projectiles

(continued on page 12)



Deer Damage Already Causing Worry For Corn Growers

Grass & Grain
February 24, 1987

12

(continued from page 1)

fired from a shotgun or a special handgun) and firecrackers attached to a slow-burning rope will scare away deer.

Propane guns can be borrowed from the Kansas Fish and Game Commission or can be purchased for about \$200. "We only have a limited number of exploders but if a farmer needs one he can contact us, and we'll get one for him to use. We're happy to come out and show the landowner how to use the exploder," Sexton said.

Generally, one propane gun will cover five to 10 acres. The guns have timeclocks which can be set to go off as frequent as the operator wants. "It's best to continue moving them around the field," he added.

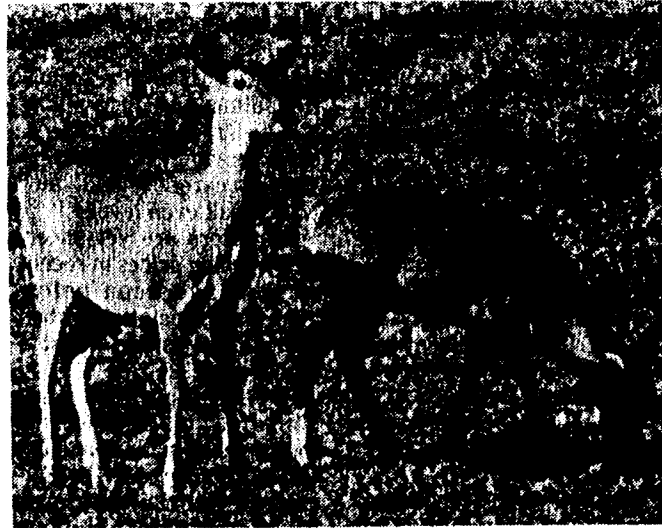
Shellcrackers for use in 12-gauge shotguns are also

available from the Fish and Game Commission. "These are usually shot into the air, and a single-shot gun works best because the user must check the barrel for possible plugging after each shot," Sexton explained.

Sprinkling the deer with No. 8 bird shot from a shotgun at 50 to 75 yards is effective along with the shellcrackers, he commented.

Before mentioning other possible damage control procedures, Sexton also emphasized, "The best way to manage deer population is through hunting and landowners need to encourage hunters to take does."

Besides corn damage, deer also frequently cause losses for farmers by trampling or feeding on milo, soybean, alfalfa, wheat and other crops. They occasionally



While deer do more noticeable damage to corn and milo fields, they can also cause problems in alfalfa.

damage nursery, shelterbelt and landscape plantings by feeding on buds, stems and small branches or by breaking small trees while rubbing their antlers.

Feeding by deer on hay stacks occasionally is a problem during winter when other foods are covered with snow.

More Control Methods

Suggestions listed in the Controlling Deer Damage publication include:

Plastic mesh tubes can be used to protect seedling trees and a cylinder of welded wire can protect an individual tree.

Wooden pens and solid fencing have been used to protect haystacks. A vertical 8-foot-high woven wire fence and a slanted seven-wire fence are both said to be effective in controlling deer damage.

Several types of electric fences have been used effectively. A vertical electric

fence can be constructed with five or seven wires. The spacing of the wires is critical to the effectiveness of the fence.

"Some taste and odor repellents work in limited situations, but there is a problem with moisture. Whenever it rains, the repellent is washed off and must be reapplied," Sexton said.

According to the extension publication, "Repellents are generally impractical for use on row crops or other large areas because of the high cost and limited effectiveness."

Few cultural practices can be employed to prevent deer damage effectively, it was noted. Whenever possible, crops should be harvested as soon as possible to reduce exposure to deer.

Planting readily damaged crops as far away from woody areas as possible was said to be of only limited benefit. Planting decoy crops can lure

deer away from more valuable crops, and supplemental feeding can accomplish the same thing.

Trapping and other means of live removal of deer from problem areas is difficult, time-consuming, expensive and survival of captured deer often is low, according to the specialists.

"Some farmers have asked about shooting problem deer, but we strongly discourage that activity," Sexton said.

"Shooting deer is a last resort and farmers definitely can't pick up the deer. All other techniques to reduce the problem must be tried first. We will work with individual landowners to control their specific damage problem," Sexton said.

While deer must feed on agricultural crops, it is essential to keep this at a "tolerable level for the landowner," Sexton pointed out. "We

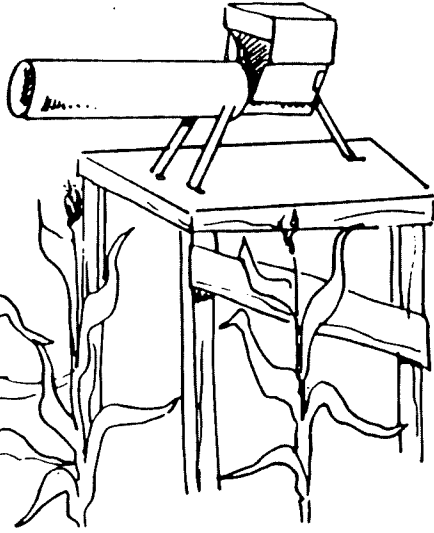
looking at a special doe season for January 1988 to reduce deer population in problem areas."

Claim Reports

Due to the increasing reports of deer damage, offi-

cial of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Manhattan, have worked with farmers to file a special claim for damages against the state.

"We have file claim forms available and encourage any-



Propane exploders may be useful in scaring deer from particular areas.

one with deer damage to fill out one of these forms, but this doesn't guarantee a payment," said John Blythe, who has been in charge of the project.

"We hope that there will be payment to farmers for their damage, but of the 15 damage claims I have sent to the state so far, none of them have been processed yet. And I don't know of any claims like this that have been paid in the past," Blythe explained.

Funds for payment if approved by the claims department would have to come from the Kansas Fish and Game Commission. However, it is not that agency's policy to make payment for damage, Sexton emphasized, noting that some states including Colorado and Wyoming do pay for wildlife damages.

"Instead we work with landowners to alleviate the problem. If we ever got into paying damages, it would break the agency," Sexton said.

According to a discussion on wildlife damage control, Henderson said 40 state wildlife agencies, including Kansas, do not pay damages. "Those state laws treat wildlife damages as an 'Act of God' just as rain, hail, storms and lightning are viewed. However, out of the 50 states, 26 are required to investigate damage complaints."

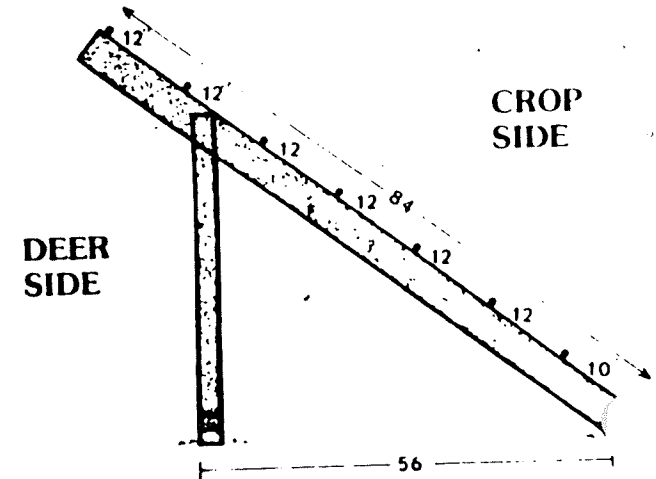
Blythe said, "Our purpose in asking our farmers to file a claim is two-fold. We'd be happy if they were reimbursed for feeding the deer, but we especially want to bring to the attention of the legislature and the Fish and Game Commission that there is an overpopulation of deer in

Grass & Grain **13** February 24, 1987

some areas of the state."

All county Farm Bureau offices have the file claims available for farmers who wish to make a claim. Blythe again said, "Filing a claim will not guarantee a payment, but it might."

"Deer depredation is not a problem unique to Kansas. There are increasing whitetail populations throughout the Midwest. Landowners need to allow and encourage deer and especially doe hunting. That is our No. 1 technique to manage the deer herd in the state," concluded Sexton, who asked farmers with seemingly uncontrolled damage problems to contact his office.



This slanted seven wire fence is effective in controlling damage under high deer pressure.

Many Deer-Car Collisions Can Be Avoided

Wildlife biologists estimate that Kansas supports 300,000 to 400,000 white-tailed and mule deer.

However, it also can be a problem on the state's highways. Last year, more than 3,000 deer were hit on roads and highways.

In many cases, deer-car collisions can be avoided if the driver will take some special precautions, according to officials of the Department of Kansas Wildlife and Parks at Pratt.

First, be aware of seasonal activity. During most times of the year, deer are most ac-

tive during late evening, night and early morning.

But during the breeding season, or the rut, deer may move day and night. The rut in Kansas usually begins in late October and runs through November.

Drivers should be most cautious when driving near shelter-belts, wooded draws or any other heavy cover that intersects the roadway. Deer will usually use the linear cover to travel along. If a deer is seen crossing the road, the driver should immediately slow down.

This time of year, there will usually be several deer following. And a buck following

a doe will be oblivious to its surroundings.

During low-light periods, watch the road ditches for glowing eyes. A deer's eyes will reflect the car's headlights from more than 100 yards away. If deer are seen, slow down, blink the lights and even honk the horn.

A deer standing at roadside may be blinded by the headlights and could lunge in front of the car.

The deer rut is just beginning in Kansas, so drivers should be especially careful. Deer-vehicle collisions can be dangerous and usually result in several hundred dollars in damage to the vehicle.

Grass & Grain
January 26, 1988

The Topeka Capital-Journal

Sunday, January 31, 1988

DEER MEETINGS SET UP

Wanted: Deer hunters who have ideas on managing the Kansas deer herd.

They're invited to attend a public meeting of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to discuss those ideas.

At its January meeting, W&P commissioners heard options for future deer seasons. Those options include making more permits available, making the season longer and adding special seasons (doe only, muzzleloader, etc.).

The 1987 firearms season saw over 2,000 permits unclaimed. In some areas, particularly the eastern third of the state, the deer herd is over-populated.

Before the commission members voted on anything, they requested special public meetings scheduled throughout the state. The one closest to the northeast Kansas area takes place in Lawrence on Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Lawrence Holidome.

The other meetings are: Feb. 8 in Hays at 7 p.m. at the Ft. Hays Experimental Station; Feb. 10 in Dodge City at the Dodge City Community College; and Feb. 11 at the Chanute National Guard Armory.

Commission members and department biologists will be present at all meetings.

Commission Looks At Deer Count, Sets Public Meets

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks commissioners discussed the deer season management at their January meeting.

As the state's deer herd continues to grow, more permits are issued each year. But the number of hunters applying for permits hasn't kept pace.

In 1986, the number of permits was increased by 23 percent while applications increased by 16 percent. A total of 636 permits were left unfilled.

In 1987, the number of permits was increased by 21 percent while applications increased by 9 percent. A total of 2,321 permits were left unfilled.

The current management goal is to stabilize the growing deer herd. If an adequate number of applicants can't be generated, then regulations and procedure must be changed to allow managers more flexibility when allocating permits.

During the week of Feb. 8-12, public meetings will be held in Lawrence, Chanute, Dodge City and Hays to receive public input on such management options.

Injured man trapped in car for three hours after crashing

By STEVE FRY
Capital-Journal law enforcement writer

A 32-year-old Harveyville man, rapped in his wrecked car for more than three hours Friday morning, was in serious condition at a Topeka hospital late Friday.

Michael L. Smith was injured when the compact car he was driving struck a deer running across the road, then slammed into a concrete bridge in southeast Wabaunsee County. He was pinned in the car until a passing motorist heard his cries for help.

Smith suffered a compound fracture of his lower right leg, fractures in his right foot, a fractured upper right arm, a cut above his right eye and a cut on his left calf, said Gene Smith, the injured man's father. Michael Smith also complained of pain in the right jaw and the lower back, his father said.

Smith was admitted to the intensive care unit at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center after surgery.

The accident occurred about 2 a.m. Friday on S.W. 89th, also known as the Eskridge-Harveyville Road, on a north-south stretch of roadway about two miles west of the Shawnee County-Wabaunsee County line and about seven miles north of Harveyville.

When the accident occurred, Michael Smith was driving south to his home about seven miles west of Harveyville after leaving the U.S. Postal Service's detached mail center in North Topeka, where he is a mail clerk. He was alone in the car.

"(Michael Smith) said the deer came out of nowhere. He swerved to try to miss him and hit him anyway," a man who helped Smith said Friday.

Wabaunsee County deputy sheriff Tony Palangi said, "When he hit the deer, it flopped on the hood of the car and he lost sight of the road, causing him to go to the left side of the road and hit the bridge." The deer was running east when the car struck it.

After hitting the deer, the car

went about 75 feet before its front slammed into a small concrete bridge.

A woman driving to her job in Topeka about 5:30 a.m. Friday saw the wrecked car, heard Smith yelling for help, found him pinned in the car and went to a nearby house to get help. Residents at the house called an ambulance, and two brothers living at the home went to the crash scene.

The older brother, 19, said he and his brother, 15, pried open the driver's side door, which was jammed shut by the fender.

On impact with the deer and bridge, Michael Smith's seat had slid

forward, pinning him between the dash and the seat.

"His legs were caught underneath the clutch pedal. He was conscious, but he was in a lot of pain," said the older brother, who declined to be identified.

The brothers removed Smith from the wreckage and waited for the ambulance to arrive. Medevac Mid-America ambulance transported Smith to St. Francis.

The car, a 1971 Opel GT, was destroyed in the accident. The bridge pillar almost reached the dash of the car, and the engine and radiator were pushed back almost to the fire wall.

"The deer came into the windshield, and when he hit the bridge, (the impact) threw it into the creek," the man said.

Palangi said the body of the deer, a buck, was found in the creek about 35 feet from the road.

"(Smith) was lucky to come out of the accident even breathing," Palangi said. He credited the seat belt Smith was wearing with saving him from more severe injury or death.

"It's what kept him in the vehicle. If he wasn't wearing his seat belt, it would have popped him into the creek... like he was shot out of a cannon."

The deer population is heavy in

into deer

the area of the wreck, the man who helped Smith said.

"It's unbelievable how thick the deer are. I came home from work Wednesday, and between Auburn and my house, which about 10 miles, I saw 18 deer," many next to the road, he said. "It sounds as though they need to put out a few more (deer hunting) permits. When people almost lose their lives, something needs to be done."

Palangi said, "We have plenty of (accidents involving deer) all the time. In the last six months, I've worked seven or eight deer accidents. Deer are pretty plentiful in this part of Wabaunsee County."

STATE OF KANSAS

ELAINE R. HASSLER
REPRESENTATIVE, SIXTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT
DICKINSON AND MORRIS COUNTIES
ROUTE 2
ABILENE, KANSAS 67410



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
VICE CHAIRMAN: PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
MEMBER: EDUCATION GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
CHAIRMAN: KANSAS DAY CARE COMMITTEE
MEMBER: ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Energy and Natural Resources Committee
HB 2216

February 1, 1988

My remarks this afternoon will be in representation of drivers and farmers of Morris County although in certain spots of Dickinson County they would be appropriate, too.

Reading the Council Grove paper shows an almost daily tally of auto encounters with deer, fortunately none with fatalities. But the car body shop can attest to increased business. In self protection, vehicle owners in large numbers are installing the deer alert devices. But as you know, if either one of the devices becomes clogged neither will work and that is a common problem since air passing into the devices often carries dirt and solid matter such as leaves. Body shop operators tell me they are fixing as many vehicles with the alerts on as without.

The financial loss to some farmers becomes an issue, too, in acres of crops eaten. We have no documented amounts of vehicle damage and crop loss to give you, only a report that it has greatly increased the last few years to a driving danger issue and a real dollar loss to many of the Flint Hill farmers.

None are asking to get rid of the deer, just please institute controls to keep them at reasonable numbers. Certainly, we're urging more licenses for land owners, perhaps unlimited seasons even, as well as longer hunting seasons for the general public. After all, a week season for most working people really just means two or three days so let's have several weeks.

We urge your consideration of more hunting in those areas of harmful numbers so that a balance of nature can be restored.

H.B. 2216

TESTIMONY PROVIDED TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FREE DEER PERMITS TO
LANDOWNERS - Febraury 1, 1988

PROVIDED BY: KANSAS DEPT. OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

Mr. Chairman:

I Appreciate the positive values and importance of private landowners statewide in helping with the success story of the deer herd we have today. It wasn't that long ago that efforts were started to re-establish deer herd in Kansas.

The very reason we are here today discussing giving away permits to landowners is really the result of a huge success story. A very positive success story that involves cooperation between our agency and private landowners. The deer are back and doing well - I might say, too well in some peoples minds.

We can manage the herd and the Commission has stepped forward to make efforts to do that with our deer meetings and willingness to change regulation.

Free landowner/tenant permits is not a good way to continue the success story.

The value of landowners to deer hunting has been recognized by both the legislature and wildlife managers for years. Consider that recognition:

- 1) 50% of all tags go to land owner tenants.
- 2) Landowners get a 50% reduction in the price of tags.
- 3) We are authorized to give land owner/tenants a permit, even if they do not succeed in any drawings. And we have done this.
- 4) Land owners can hunt their own land without a state hunting license.

So, the bottom line is that every land owner/tenant in Kansas should, if they try, be getting a permit for their land and their total cost is \$15.00.

You may ask what does Wildlife and Parks do for the \$15.00.

- Currently, we spend a lot of time working with private landowners providing technical assistance on wildlife habitat improvements and wildlife problems.
- We do a lot of law enforcement that directly benefits the private land owner such as trespass enforcement.
- We provide financial assistance to landowners through our Wildlife improvement program (WHIP) to improve their lands.

I question if this bill really represents the majority of the landowners thinking.

We did a recent landowner random survey.

- Only 9% of the responses said they wanted free permits.
- Over 61% were satisfied with the fees and the permit system.

Our agency opposes this bill for several reasons.

- 1) The fiscal impact would be devastating to our programs and may in fact inhibit our ability to manage the natural resources of the state.

Our estimated fiscal direct impact is over \$450,000 to our fee fund. This does not address the impact to our federal Pittman Robertson funds. These are 3 for 1 monies. Potentially, at a 3 to 1 ratio the impact may be more than 1 million dollars.

I presented a balanced fee fund budget to the Governor. He approved of that. This bill would require a reassessment of that budget.

- 2) We feel the sportsman of the state would be short-changed by not having an opportunity to participate in choice hunts.

- 3) I feel the bill is flawed in its drafting.

Section C basically would give all qualified landowner/tenants a free permit. This conflicts with line 0049 through 0077 of the bill. Why would there be a need for the 50% section of the process? This is confusing and leaves a question as to how the law would be administered by our agency.

Mr. Chairman, our agency and the Commission is ready and willing to work with the landowners and the sportsman to have a program that provides a balanced deer herd that gives a good outdoor recreation experience to hunters within limited impacts to landowners. House bill 2216 is not a positive step to continuing a good success story. Let's work together and look at our alternatives.

Thank you.

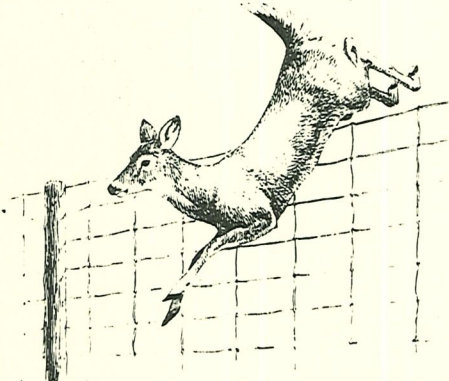
**LANDOWNER DEER SURVEY
WINTER 1984-1985**

Statewide Wildlife Surveys
Federal Aid Project FW-9-P-3



Kansas Fish and Game Commission

Bill Hanzlick
Director



Prepared by
Keith Sexson
Deer Project Leader

Darrell Montei, Chief
Game Division

Bill Hlavachick, Supervisor
Species Management Section

December, 1985

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
List of Tables	ii
List of Figures	v
List of Appendices	v
Introduction	1
Methods	1
Results	2
Population Estimates	2
Status of the Deer Population	3
Deer Damages	4
Attitudes Concerning Hunter Access	5
Attitudes Concerning Deer Permit Numbers and Future Growth of the Population	7
Attitudes Concerning System for Issuing Firearm Permits and the Cost of those Permits	8
Deer Mortality	9
Comments by Respondents	9
Summary	10

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Mailing and response rates for landowner deer surveys.	11
2	Resident deer reported, sample acreage and deer densities, 1971, 1975, 1979, and 1984.	11
3	Derivation of deer population estimates, 1971-1984.	13
4	Deer population estimates by deer management unit, 1984-85.	14
5	Deer density estimates by deer management unit, 1979-80 and 1984-85.	15
6	Relative evidence of deer (Question Number 1) by deer management unit as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	16
7	Relative deer population change (Question Number 4) for the three year period 1982 through 1984 by deer management unit as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	17
8	Relative status of the 1984 deer population as compared to 1983 (Question Number 5) by deer management unit as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	18
9	Relative deer population change for the period 1982 through 1984 by deer management unit as reported by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	19
10	Relative status of the 1984 deer population as compared to 1983 by deer management unit as reported by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984; from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	20
11	A comparison of occurrence and frequency of deer depredation complaints (Question Number 13) by deer management unit as reported from the 1979-80 and 1984-85 landowner deer surveys.	21
12	Statewide deer damage by type and frequency of occurrence, as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	22
13	Landowner responses to living on the farm or ranch (Question Number 16) and whether or not immediate family hunts on that farm or ranch (Question Number 17), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	23
14	Landowner responses to whether or not outsiders are allowed to hunt on their farm or ranch (Question Number 18) and does the family hunt deer (Question Number 19), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	24

<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
15	Landowner responses to whether or not their family hunts deer and the allowing of "outsiders" to hunt on their land by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, by deer management units; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	25
16	Landowner responses regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm or ranch compared to 1983 (Question Number 20), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	26
17	Landowner responses regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm compared to 1983 by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	27
18	Landowner responses regarding the number of deer hunting permits they would like the Fish and Game Commission to issue (Question Number 21), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	28
19	Landowner responses regarding how many deer hunting permits should be issued by the Fish and Game Commission by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	29
20	Landowner response to the question "Are you satisfied with the current system for issuing landowner-tenant firearms deer permits", by deer management units; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85. Percentage of respondents to the question.	30
21	Landowner response regarding current system for issuing landowner-tenant firearm deer permits by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to hunting deer, by deer management unit; Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	31
22	Landowner response to the question "Are you satisfied with the current cost of a landowner-tenant firearms deer permit", by deer management unit, as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85. Percentage of respondents to the question.	32
23	Landowner response regarding current cost of landowner-tenant firearm deer permits by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to hunting deer, by deer management unit; as reported from Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	33

<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
24	Summary of comments received from landowners who responded as dissatisfied with either the current system for issuing landowner tenant permits or the cost of those permits, from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85. Percent of total comments by deer management units	34
25	A comparison of reported deer mortality (Question Numbers 6-12) on sample farms as reported from the landowner deer surveys, 1979-80 and 1984-85.	35
26	Statewide summary of comments received from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1979-80 and 1984-85.	36
27	Percent of the total comments received from landowners by deer management units; from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.	37
28	A comparison of relative evidence of deer by landowner deer survey periods.	39
29	Relative deer population changes by landowner deer survey periods. Reported as a percent of the responses to the question.	40
30	A comparison of occurrence of deer depredation complaints by landowner deer survey periods.	42
31	Deer damage by type and frequency of occurrence expressed as a percent of the total responses by landowner deer survey period.	44
32	Landowner response to whether or not "outsiders" are allowed to hunt on their farm or ranch, does the family hunt deer, and the response to hunting by those who reported deer damage, by landowner deer survey period. Reported as a percent of the respondents to the questions.	45
33	Landowner response regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm or ranch as compared to the year prior to the survey period.	46
34	Landowner response regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm or ranch as compared to the year prior to the survey period by those who responded "yes" or "no" to having reported deer damage.	46
35	Landowner response regarding how many firearm deer hunting permits should be issued by landowner deer survey period.	47
36	Landowner response regarding how many firearm deer hunting permits should be issued by those reporting "yes" and "no" to having had deer damage, by landowner deer survey periods.	47

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Kansas deer population growth trend derived from estimates provided by the Landowner Deer Survey.	12
2	Response trend to the question "During the past three years has the deer population in your area increased, remained the same, or decreased?" by landowner deer survey periods.	41
3	Trend in deer damage reports derived from the Landowner Deer Survey.	43

LIST OF APPENDICES

<u>Appendix No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
A	Landowner Deer Survey questionnaire, 1984-85.	48
B	Kansas Deer Management Units.	50

Introduction

Periodic landowner deer surveys have been conducted in Kansas since February, 1964. Surveys were conducted in the winters of 1963-64, 1966-67, 1971-72, 1975-76, 1979-80, and the most recent in 1984-85. The purpose of the survey is to determine deer population trends, assess the impact that deer may have on farm-ranch operations, and to determine landowner attitudes toward the deer population and the management of that population.

Methods

A stratified, random sample of 3,500 farm owner-operators was mailed a questionnaire. For sampling purposes, the state is divided into a 31 county western area comprising the major mule deer range, and a 74 county eastern area comprising the white-tailed deer range. The percent of the states known deer mortality (1979-1983), the percent of the states farm units (1982 Census of Agriculture) and the percent of the states rural acreage (1982 Census of Agriculture) in these 2 areas was used to arrive at the allocation of the 3,500 questionnaires into the western and eastern areas. As a result, 840 (24%) questionnaires were allotted to the western area and 2,660 (76%) were allotted to the eastern area.

Within each of the 2 areas, the sampling unit was reduced to the county level. The allocation of the total number of area questionnaires into each county was based on the same 3 factors used to arrive at the east and west area allocations. Within each county, a

random sample of farm owner-operators was selected and a mailing list was prepared. The state office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service cooperated by providing a current computer tape with farm owner-operator names and addresses for each county in Kansas.

The questionnaire used is presented in Appendix A.

Information is available at the county level, but county data analysis was not performed for this report.

Results

From the sample of 3,500 questionnaires mailed, 2,173 (62%) questionnaires provided usable information (Table 1) after one follow-up mailing. This compares to a 59% usable return rate for the 1979-80 survey. The usable sample represented approximately 3.0% of Kansas' farm units and 2.6% of the rural acreage, these percentages compare to 2.6% and 3.8%, respectively, for the 1979-80 survey.

Population Estimates

Sample farms reported 12,459 deer on 1,217,864 acres resulting in adjusted calculated statewide densities of 6.38 deer/square mile and 100.3 acres/deer (Table 2). This represents a 325% increase in deer/square mile and a 76% decrease in acres/deer as compared to calculated data for 1979-80. Table 3 presents information relative to the calculation of an estimate for the "statewide deer population". As stated in previous Landowner Deer Survey reports, it is important to remember that the trend data obtained from this survey are more reliable than the actual population figures. These data indicate that

the Kansas deer population has increased substantially over the 5-year period 1980 to 1985. Figure 1 depicts the trend of change in the Kansas deer population from landowner deer estimates.

Tables 4 and 5 provide population estimates and density information, respectively, by deer management unit (Appendix B).

The formula for arriving at a population estimate and the correction factors involved are presented with Table 3.

Status of the Deer Population

Results of question number 1, "Did you see deer or evidence of deer on your farm in 1984", is provided in Table 6. A comparison of previous survey periods is provided in Table 28. The trend for seeing many deer or evidence of many deer has increased from 6.2% of the respondents in 1971-72 to 25.8% in 1984-85. The trend for seeing no evidence has decreased from 35.0% of the respondents in 1971-72 to 17.9% in 1984-85.

Question numbers 4 and 5 of the questionnaire ask for a comparison between the present (1984) deer population and past population levels.

There was a total of 1,965 responses to question number 4 ["During the past three years (1982-84) has the deer population in your area..."] with 41.0% indicating no population change, 47.9% indicating the herd had increased and 11.1% indicating a decrease. This compares to 47.7% indicating no change, 38.8% indicating an increase and 13.5% indicating a decrease among respondents in 1979-80 (Figure 2). Table 7 presents response information by deer management unit and a comparison of previous survey periods is presented in Table 29.

Responses totaled 1,918 for question number 5 ("Compared with this time last year (1983) is the present deer population...") with 56.8% indicating "no change" in the population as compared to 1 year ago, 29.6% indicated it has increased, and 13.6% indicated it had decreased. This compares to 58.0% "no change", 26.1% "higher" and 15.9% "lower" among 1979-80 respondents (Figure 2). Table 8 presents response data by deer management unit and Table 29 provides a comparison of response data between survey periods.

Although the majority of responses still indicate a stable population there has been a shift from the "decreasing" and "no change" responses to a response of an "increasing" population.

Of those respondents who reported having deer damage, 72.4% indicated the deer population had been increasing in the years 1982-84; this compares to 37.3% for those who reported no damage. When the 1984 population was compared to 1983, of those who reported damage from deer, 53.7% indicated the population was higher while 19.2% of those who reported no damage indicated a higher population. Tables 9 and 10 present response data for questions 4 and 5 by "yes" or "no" to deer damage in 1984-85 by deer management unit.

Deer Damages

Question number 13 ("Did deer cause damage on your land in 1984?") received a total of 2,105 responses of which 28.1 indicated "yes" they did have deer damage. This compares to 23.1% reporting damage in 1979. Table 11 presents deer damage data by deer management unit. Milo (23.2%), wheat (20.7), fences (14.2%), hay and alfalfa

(12.3%), soybeans (10.0%), and corn (6.6%) accounted for 87% of the 1,253 occurrences of reported damages (Table 12). A comparison of farms reporting damage and deer damage by crop types for previous survey periods is provided in Tables 30 and 31, respectively. Figure 3 depicts the trend of change in deer damage reports by survey periods.

Attitudes Concerning Hunter Access

Question number 16 ("Do you live on this farm or ranch?") received 2,131 responses with 68.2% indicating "yes" they live on the farm and 31.8% indicated they did not live on the farm they owned or operated; this compares to 75.2% and 24.8%, respectively, for 1979-80. Question number 17 ("Do you or your immediate family hunt on the farm or ranch?") received 2,126 responses with 39.3% indicating they do not hunt on the farm and 60.7% indicating they do not hunt on the farm, this compares to 51.9% and 48.1%, respectively, for 1979-80. A further analysis of these two questions indicated that of those who responded to question 16 and 17, 27.1% both live and hunt on the farm, 41.1% live but do not hunt on the farm; 12.1% do not live on the farm but do hunt there, and 19.6% do not live and they do not hunt on the farm they own or operate. Table 13 presents a summary of questions 16 and 17 by deer management unit.

Question number 18 ("Do you allow outsiders to hunt on your land?") received 2,102 responses. "Outsiders" means relatives, friends and strangers, and 63.3% of the respondents indicated they do allow "outsiders" to hunt with 36.7% indicating no "outsiders" are

allow "outsiders" to hunt with 36.7% indicating no "outsiders" are allowed to hunt, this compares to 72.9% and 27.1%, respectively, in 1979-80. Of those who indicated that "outsiders" were allowed to hunt, 6.9% allowed just relatives, 28.5% allowed just friends and 64.6% allowed both relatives and friends; this compares to 7.1%, 20.3%, and 72.6%, respectively, for 1979-80. Of the "yes" respondents to allowing "outsiders" to hunt, 21.4% indicated "yes" to allowing strangers, 41.6% indicated they sometimes allowed strangers, 32.5% indicated no strangers were allowed to hunt. Table 14 presents a summary of question number 18 by deer management unit. Table 32 provides a comparison of the "outsider" question for previous survey periods.

Question number 19 ("Do you or members of your immediate family hunt deer?") received 2,138 responses with 26.9% responding "yes" and 73.1% indicating "no" to hunting deer; this represents no change from 1979-80. Of those who hunt deer on their own land, 83.8% also allow "outsiders" to hunt; this compares to 86.6% in 1979-80. Of those who do not hunt deer on their own land, 55.6% allow "outsiders" to hunt; this compares to 67.9% in 1979-80. Table 14 presents question number 19 data by deer management unit and Table 32 provides a comparison by previous survey periods.

Of those respondents who reported having had deer damage (591 respondents) in 1984, 37.2% indicated they hunt deer themselves and 82.8% indicated they allow "outsiders" to hunt on their land (Table 14). In 1979-80, 86.1% of the respondents who reported damage allowed

outsiders to hunt. A comparison by previous survey periods is provided in Table 32.

Attitudes Concerning Deer Permit Numbers and Future Growth of the Population

Question number 20 ("How many deer would you like to have around your farm or ranch?") received 2,061 responses. Of the responses, 28.8% wanted "more" deer, 48.4% wanted the "same" number of deer, 11.2% wanted "fewer" deer and 11.6% wanted "no" deer on their farm (Table 16). This compares to 35.7% and 47.8%, 6.5%, and 10.0%, respectively, for 1979-80. Table 33 provides a comparison by survey period.

Of those respondents who indicated deer damage, 8.2% wanted "more" deer, 43.3% wanted the "same" number, 32.3% wanted "fewer" and 16.2% wanted no deer (Table 17). However, of those respondents who reported no damage, 37.3% wanted "more" deer, 50.3% wanted the "same" number, 2.8% wanted "fewer" deer and 9.6% wanted "no" deer (Table 17). Table 34 provides a comparison by survey periods.

Question number 21 ("Do you feel that the Fish and Game Commission should issue . . . firearms deer hunting permits in your area?") received 1,960 responses. Of the responses, 23.8% wanted "more" permits, 55.3% wanted the "same" number of permits and 20.9% wanted "fewer" permits (Table 18); this compares to 16.4%, 57.9%, and 25.7%, respectively, for 1979-80. Table 35 provides a comparison by survey periods.

Of those respondents who indicated deer damage, 47.4% wanted "more" permits, 43.5% wanted the "same" number of permits and 9.1% wanted "fewer" permits (Table 19); this compares to 35.9%, 52.3%, and 11.7%, respectively, for 1979-80. Of those who reported no deer damage, 14.0% wanted "more" permits, 60.6% wanted the "same" number of permits and 25.4% wanted "fewer" permits (Table 19). A comparison by previous survey periods is provided in Table 36.

Attitudes Concerning the System for Issuing Firearm Permits and the Cost of those Permits

The 1984-85 survey was the first to include a question concerning the landowners satisfaction for the system used in issuing firearm permits and the cost of those permits.

Question 22 asked "Are you satisfied with the current system for issuing landowner-tenant firearms deer permits?" There were 2,091 respondents and 40.9% indicated they were satisfied, 10.2% were not satisfied, 37.0% indicated they did not know what the system was and 11.9% had no opinion (Table 20). When this question was summarized by those respondents who indicated they hunted deer, 59.0% were satisfied, 20.5% were not satisfied, 12.8% did not know what the system was and 7.7% had no opinion (Table 21). For those who did not hunt deer, 37.1% were satisfied, 7.1% were not satisfied, 35.7% did not know what the system was, and 20.0% had no opinion (Table 21).

Question 23 asked "Are you satisfied with the current cost of the landowner-tenant firearms deer permit?" A total of 2,081 responded to this question with 36.2% being satisfied, 10.5% were not satisfied,

41.3% had no knowledge of the costs and 12.0% had no opinion (Table 22). Of those respondents who indicated they hunt deer, 60.7% were satisfied with the cost, 21.6% were not satisfied, 12.9% did not know the cost and 4.8% had no opinion; of those who indicated they did not hunt deer, 27.0% were satisfied, 6.2% were not satisfied, 52.0% did not know the cost, and 14.8% had no opinion (Table 23).

If respondents answered NO to either of the questions they were asked to make any comments relative to their desired permit issuing system and/or cost. There were 255 comments received with 71.0% wanting free permits, 25.5% for reduced costs and 3.5% for increased costs (Table 24).

Deer Mortality

Questions 6 through 12 concerned the reporting of deer mortality in the respondents area. A total of 1,742 respondents reported 3,386 deer mortalities. This represents a 29.8% increase from mortality reported (1,609) in 1979-80. Table 25 presents a summary of the reported mortality by cause. As in past survey periods the data when expanded to a statewide basis provides an overestimation of deer mortality. This trend information is an indicator of an increasing population.

Comments by Respondents

A total of 464 comments was provided and assigned to 24 different categories. This compares to 614 comments in 1979-80. Table 26 presents a list of the different comment categories and Table 27 presents the comments data by deer management unit.

Summary

1. The Kansas deer population has increased substantially since 1979.
2. There was a slight increase in the number of respondents reporting deer damages as compared to 1979.
3. There was a slight decrease from 1979 in the number of landowners or immediate family members who hunt on the farm.
4. There was a slight decrease from 1979 in the number of landowners who allow "outsiders" to hunt. Of those who allow "outsiders", a slightly higher number allow strangers as compared to 1979.
5. There was no change from 1979 in the proportion of landowners or immediate family members that hunt deer.
6. The majority of landowners would like to see the deer herd stabilized. When compared to 1979, there was a decrease in the proportion of landowners who wanted more deer and an increase in the proportion who wanted fewer deer.
7. Most respondents wanted no change in the number of hunting permits. However, when compared to 1979, a greater proportion of the landowners wanted an increase in numbers of permits and there was a decrease in the proportion of landowners who wanted fewer permits.
8. The majority of landowners who hunt deer were satisfied with the cost and system for issuing firearm permits.

Table 1. Mailing and response rates for landowner deer surveys.

	Survey Period					
	1963-64	1966-67	1971-72	1975-76	1979-80	1984-85
Total Mailed	3,512	3,518	3,504	3,374	3,500	3,500
Sampling Rate	4.1% ¹	4.1% ¹	4.1% ¹	3.9% ¹	4.4% ²	4.8% ³
Usable Responses	2,950	2,811	2,390	2,085	2,063	2,173
Usable Sampling Rate	3.4%	3.3%	2.8%	2.4%	2.6%	3.0%
Percent Deliverable Questionnaires Returned	84.9%	80.4%	68.2%	66.0%	61.7%	62.1%

¹Approximately 86,057 farm units in Kansas (1969 Census of Agriculture).

²Approximately 79,188 farm units in Kansas (1974 Census of Agriculture).

³Approximately 73,318 farm units in Kansas (1982 Census of Agriculture).

Table 2. Resident deer reported, sample acreage and deer densities, 1971, 1975, 1979, and 1984.

Year	Size of Sample		Deer Reported	Deer/Sq. Mi.		Acres/Deer	
	No. Farms	Acreage		Sample	Calculated	Sample	Calculated
1971-72	2,179	2,039,817	3,189	1.00	0.34	639.6	1,869.0
1975-76	2,034	1,971,342	4,823	1.57	0.49	408.7	1,309.8
1979-80	1,958	1,809,072	9,669	3.42	1.50	187.1	426.0
1984-85	1,447	1,217,864	12,459	6.55	6.38	97.8	100.3

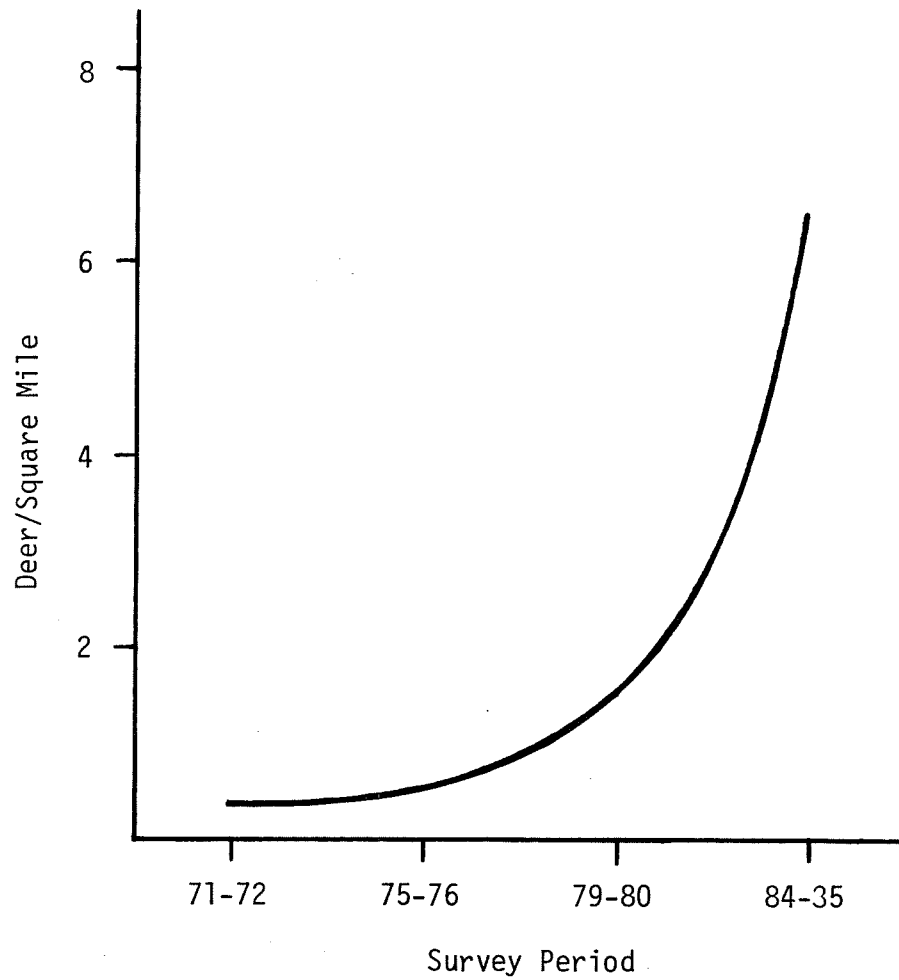


Fig. 1. Kansas deer population growth trend derived from estimates provided by the Landowner Deer Survey.

Table 3. Derivation of deer population estimates, 1971-1984.

Year	Rural Acreage (State)	Deer Pop. Est. ¹ (Not Adjusted)	Corr. Factor ²	Adjusted Pop. Est.	Final ³	Adjusted Pop. Est. (Mgmt. Unit Totals)
1971-72	49,390,369	77,216	0.61318	47,347	28,408	26,238
1975-76	49,390,369	120,836	0.59224	71,564	42,938	37,439
1979-80	47,945,722	256,257	0.65531	167,928	110,021	112,544
1984-85	47,048,367	481,314	0.76243	366,968	279,123	468,843

¹ Using the formula:

$$X = \frac{BC}{A}, \text{ when}$$

A = Total sample area
 B = Total sample deer population
 C = Total rural acreage for state
 X = Estimated deer population

² $\frac{\text{Ave. State Farm Size}}{\text{Ave. Sample Farm Size}} = \frac{641.70}{841.65} = 0.76243$

³ $\frac{1.97\% \text{ (Farms Sampled)}}{2.59\% \text{ (Land Sampled)}} = 0.76062$

Table 4. Deer population estimates by deer management unit, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Resident Deer Reported (B)	Area (acres) in Sample (A)	Area (acres) in Mgmt. Unit (C)	Percent Sampled	Deer Population Estimates (Corrected) ¹	Percent change from 79-80
High Plains (1)	1,521	139,925	3,537,175	3.96	14,786	+ 90.5
Smoky Hill (2)	798	177,905	3,545,289	5.02	4,821	+ 38.0
Kirwin-Webster (3)	573	77,699	2,498,869	3.11	9,016	+ 102.2
Kanopolis (4)	814	46,546	1,488,404	3.13	12,662	+ 329.0
Pawnee (5)	549	74,703	1,874,090	3.99	5,256	+ 64.4
Middle Arkansas (6)	166	23,636	1,471,430	1.61	9,787	+ 320.0
Solomon (7)	891	57,018	2,738,892	2.08	31,275	+ 377.3
Republican (8)	682	44,065	2,364,421	1.86	29,871	+ 592.1
Tuttle Creek (9)	1,034	37,029	1,974,443	1.88	44,722	+ 341.2
Kaw (10)	750	35,347	3,767,403	0.94	129,610	+ 299.4
Osage Prairie (11)	787	63,496	2,218,057	2.86	14,609	+ 172.0
Chautauqua Hills (12)	625	43,816	1,495,254	2.93	11,072	+ 82.1
Lower Arkansas (13)	63	4,878	535,122	0.91	11,533	+ 577.2
Flint Hills (14)	883	63,093	4,011,043	1.57	54,289	+ 851.1
Ninnescah (15)	798	53,992	3,495,699	1.54	50,887	+ 523.7
Red Hills (16)	346	60,920	1,591,658	3.82	3,593	+ 114.1
West Arkansas (17)	684	106,975	5,107,518	2.09	23,720	+ 705.2
Cimarron (18)	495	106,821	3,333,600	3.20	7,334	+ 125.4
Statewide	12,459	1,217,864	47,048,367	2.59	468,843	+316.6

¹ Uncorrected deer population estimates were first reduced and/or increased as the sample in each unit varied from two percent. Finally, each estimate was multiplied by a factor of .76062 (1.97% farms/2.59% land sampled).

Table 5. Deer density estimates by deer management unit, 1979-80 and 1984-85.

Management Unit	Calculated Deer/Sq. Mi. ¹		Percent Change	Calculated Acres/Deer		Percent Change
	1979-80	1984-85		1979-80	1984-85	
High Plains (1)	1.38	2.68	+ 94.2	464.4	239.2	- 48.5
Smoky Hill (2)	0.62	0.87	+ 40.3	1,034.0	735.4	- 28.9
Kirwin-Webster (3)	1.12	2.31	+ 106.2	571.2	277.2	- 51.5
Kanopolis (4)	1.24	5.44	+ 338.7	513.8	117.5	- 77.1
Pawnee (5)	1.07	1.80	+ 68.2	597.4	356.5	- 40.3
Middle Arkansas (6)	0.99	4.26	+ 330.3	643.6	150.3	- 76.6
Solomon (7)	1.50	7.31	+ 387.3	426.0	87.6	- 79.4
Republican (8)	1.15	8.08	+ 602.6	558.3	79.1	- 85.8
Tuttle Creek (9)	3.22	14.50	+ 350.3	198.5	44.1	- 77.8
Kaw (10)	5.41	22.02	+ 307.0	118.3	29.1	- 75.4
Osage Prairie (11)	1.52	4.21	+ 177.0	420.9	151.8	- 63.9
Chautauqua Hills (12)	2.55	4.74	+ 85.9	250.6	135.0	- 46.1
Lower Arkansas (13)	2.00	13.79	+ 589.5	320.2	46.4	- 85.5
Flint Hills (14)	0.89	8.66	+ 873.0	716.1	73.9	- 89.7
Ninnescah (15)	1.46	9.32	+ 538.3	436.6	68.7	- 84.3
Red Hills (16)	0.66	1.44	+ 118.2	966.6	443.0	- 54.2
West Arkansas (17)	0.36	2.97	+ 725.0	1,766.8	215.3	- 87.8
Cimarron (18)	0.61	1.41	+ 131.1	1,044.3	454.6	- 56.5
Statewide	1.50	6.38	+ 325.3	426.0	100.3	- 76.5

¹ Includes all rural acreage as reported in 1982 Census of Agriculture.

Table 6. Relative evidence of deer (Question Number 1) by deer management unit as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Many		Few		None		Sample Size	Did Not Respond
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
High Plains (1)	44	38.6	60	52.6	10	8.8	114	0
Smoky Hill (2)	28	32.6	56	65.1	2	2.3	86	2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	26	26.8	61	62.9	10	10.3	97	0
Kanopolis (4)	18	26.9	39	58.2	10	14.9	67	2
Pawnee (5)	23	26.7	56	65.1	7	8.1	86	1
Middle Arkansas (6)	12	13.5	48	53.9	29	32.6	89	1
Solomon (7)	34	30.6	57	51.4	20	18.0	111	2
Republican (8)	29	22.0	80	60.6	23	17.4	132	1
Tuttle Creek (9)	46	33.8	69	50.7	21	15.4	136	1
Kaw (10)	40	22.0	113	62.1	29	15.9	182	1
Osage Prairie (11)	50	25.4	105	53.5	42	21.3	197	0
Chautauqua Hills (12)	39	41.0	47	49.5	9	9.5	95	0
Lower Arkansas (13)	6	19.3	19	61.3	6	19.3	31	0
Flint Hills (14)	49	28.0	92	52.6	34	19.4	175	1
Ninnescah (15)	23	17.0	81	60.0	31	23.0	135	2
Red Hills (16)	13	22.0	33	55.9	13	22.0	59	0
West Arkansas (17)	20	18.9	63	59.4	23	21.7	106	2
Cimarron (18)	16	21.0	41	54.0	19	25.0	76	0
Unknown	37	21.4	89	51.4	47	27.2	173	10
Statewide	553	25.8	1,209	56.3	385	17.9	2,147	26

Table 7. Relative deer population change (Question Number 4) for the three year period 1982 through 1984 by deer management unit as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	<u>Increased</u>		<u>No Change</u>		<u>Decreased</u>		Sample Size	Did Not Respond
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
High Plains (1)	56	50.9	40	36.4	14	12.7	110	4
Smoky Hill (2)	47	56.0	29	34.5	8	9.5	84	4
Kirwin-Webster (3)	37	39.4	45	47.9	12	12.8	94	3
Kanopolis (4)	25	39.1	30	46.9	9	14.1	64	5
Pawnee (5)	42	53.2	33	41.8	4	5.1	79	8
Middle Arkansas (6)	32	41.0	39	50.0	7	9.0	78	12
Solomon (7)	55	52.4	46	43.8	4	3.8	105	8
Republican (8)	63	51.2	46	37.4	14	11.4	123	10
Tuttle Creek (9)	57	44.5	53	41.4	18	14.1	128	9
Kaw (10)	63	37.5	71	42.3	34	20.2	168	15
Osage Prairie (11)	92	50.8	78	43.1	11	6.1	181	16
Chautauqua Hills (12)	50	56.2	32	36.0	7	7.9	89	6
Lower Arkansas (13)	13	44.8	12	41.4	4	13.8	29	2
Flint Hills (14)	81	50.0	61	37.6	20	12.3	162	14
Ninnescah (15)	55	46.6	49	41.5	14	11.9	118	19
Red Hills (16)	31	60.8	15	29.4	5	9.8	51	8
West Arkansas (17)	42	44.7	41	43.6	11	11.7	94	14
Cimarron (18)	29	45.3	26	40.6	9	14.1	64	12
Unknown	72	50.0	59	41.0	13	9.0	144	39
Statewide	942	47.9	805	41.0	218	11.1	1,965	208

Table 8. Relative status of the 1984 deer population as compared to 1983 (Question Number 5) by deer management unit as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	<u>Increased</u>		<u>No Change</u>		<u>Decreased</u>		Sample Size	Did Not Respond
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
High Plains (1)	35	32.4	59	54.6	14	13.0	108	6
Smoky Hill (2)	29	36.2	42	52.5	9	11.2	80	8
Kirwin-Webster (3)	23	24.5	52	55.3	19	20.2	94	3
Kanopolis (4)	13	20.3	40	62.5	11	17.2	64	5
Pawnee (5)	23	29.9	47	61.0	7	9.1	77	10
Middle Arkansas (6)	20	26.0	49	63.6	8	10.4	77	13
Solomon (7)	30	28.6	62	59.0	13	12.4	105	8
Republican (8)	40	33.3	67	55.8	13	10.8	120	13
Tuttle Creek (9)	36	28.1	76	59.4	16	12.5	128	9
Kaw (10)	40	24.8	87	54.0	34	21.1	161	22
Osage Prairie (11)	51	29.3	103	59.2	20	11.5	174	23
Chautauqua Hills (12)	42	47.7	36	40.9	10	11.4	88	7
Lower Arkansas (13)	10	34.5	15	51.7	4	13.8	29	2
Flint Hills (14)	45	28.7	91	58.0	21	13.4	157	19
Ninnescah (15)	28	25.7	70	64.2	11	10.1	109	28
Red Hills (16)	20	40.0	25	50.0	5	10.0	50	9
West Arkansas (17)	22	23.7	56	60.2	15	16.1	93	15
Cimarron (18)	19	30.6	33	53.2	10	16.1	62	14
Unknown	41	28.9	80	56.3	21	14.8	142	41
Statewide	567	29.6	1,090	56.8	261	13.6	1,918	255

Table 9. Relative deer population change for the period 1982 through 1984 by deer management unit as reported by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Deer Damage	Increased		No Change		Decreased		Sample size	Did Not Respond
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
High Plains (1)	Yes	35	77.8	7	15.6	3	6.6	45	0
	No	21	32.8	32	50.0	11	17.2	64	4
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	28	80.0	5	14.3	2	5.7	35	0
	No	17	36.2	24	51.0	6	12.8	47	4
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	19	65.5	8	27.6	2	6.9	29	1
	No	18	28.1	36	56.2	10	15.6	64	1
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	10	66.7	5	33.3	0	0.0	15	0
	No	15	31.9	23	48.9	9	19.2	47	4
Pawnee (5)	Yes	17	85.0	3	15.0	0	0.0	20	2
	No	22	39.3	30	53.6	4	7.1	56	5
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	14	70.0	6	30.0	0	0.0	20	0
	No	18	31.0	33	56.9	7	12.1	58	10
Solomon (7)	Yes	25	73.5	8	23.5	1	2.9	34	0
	No	29	41.4	38	54.3	3	4.3	70	8
Republican (8)	Yes	24	61.5	14	35.9	1	2.6	39	1
	No	38	45.8	32	38.5	13	15.7	83	8
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	38	79.1	9	18.8	1	2.1	48	0
	No	19	24.0	44	55.7	16	20.3	79	9
Kaw (10)	Yes	31	66.0	10	21.3	6	12.8	47	0
	No	31	26.3	60	50.8	27	22.9	118	14
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	34	82.9	7	17.1	0	0.0	41	2
	No	57	41.6	69	50.4	11	8.0	137	14
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	26	81.2	4	12.5	2	6.2	32	0
	No	24	43.6	26	47.3	5	9.1	55	6
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	5	83.3	1	16.7	0	0.0	6	0
	No	8	34.8	11	47.3	4	17.4	23	2
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	29	74.4	9	21.1	1	2.5	39	0
	No	52	43.0	51	42.1	18	14.9	121	12
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	24	63.2	13	34.2	1	2.6	38	0
	No	31	39.2	35	44.3	13	16.5	79	17
Red Hills (16)	Yes	11	68.8	5	31.2	0	0.0	16	0
	No	19	55.9	10	29.4	5	14.7	34	8
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	18	56.2	10	31.2	4	12.5	32	2
	No	24	39.3	30	49.2	7	11.5	61	12
Cimarron (18)	Yes	13	76.5	3	17.6	1	5.9	17	0
	No	16	34.8	22	47.8	8	17.4	46	11
Unknown	Yes	21	70.0	0	26.7	1	3.3	30	0
	No	41	41.4	46	46.5	12	12.1	99	24
Statewide	Yes	422	72.4	135	23.2	26	4.4	583	8
	No	500	37.3	652	48.6	189	14.1	1,341	173

Table 10. Relative status of the 1984 deer population as compared to 1983 by deer management unit as reported by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984; from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Deer Damage	No Change		Increased		Decreased		Sample size	Did Not Respond
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent		
High Plains (1)	Yes	13	29.6	28	63.6	3	6.8	44	1
	No	45	71.4	7	11.1	11	17.5	63	5
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	13	39.4	18	55.6	2	6.0	33	2
	No	29	63.0	10	21.7	7	15.2	46	5
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	9	31.0	16	55.2	4	13.8	29	1
	No	43	67.2	7	10.9	14	21.9	64	1
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	8	53.3	6	40.0	1	6.7	15	0
	No	31	66.0	7	14.9	9	19.1	47	4
Pawnee (5)	Yes	8	40.0	12	60.0	0	0.0	20	2
	No	37	4.3	11	20.0	7	12.7	55	6
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	9	45.0	11	55.0	0	0.0	20	0
	No	40	70.2	9	15.8	8	14.0	57	11
Solomon (7)	Yes	12	35.3	17	50.0	5	14.7	34	0
	No	50	71.4	12	17.1	8	11.4	70	8
Republican (8)	Yes	29	50.0	19	50.0	0	0.0	38	2
	No	48	58.5	21	25.6	13	15.9	82	9
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	20	42.6	26	55.3	1	2.1	47	1
	No	56	70.0	10	12.5	14	17.5	80	8
Kaw (10)	Yes	17	37.8	22	48.9	6	13.3	45	2
	No	68	60.2	18	15.9	27	23.9	113	19
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	12	30.8	23	59.0	4	10.3	39	4
	No	88	66.7	28	21.2	16	12.1	132	19
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	6	18.7	23	71.9	3	9.4	32	0
	No	29	53.7	18	33.3	7	13.0	54	7
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	0	0.0	5	83.3	1	16.7	6	0
	No	15	65.2	5	21.7	3	13.0	23	2
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	21	55.3	16	42.1	1	2.6	38	1
	No	69	59.0	29	24.8	19	16.2	117	16
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	19	51.4	16	43.2	2	5.4	37	1
	No	50	70.4	12	16.9	9	12.7	71	25
Red Hills (16)	Yes	7	43.8	9	56.2	0	0.0	16	0
	No	17	51.5	11	33.3	5	15.2	33	9
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	15	46.9	12	37.5	5	15.6	32	2
	No	40	66.6	10	16.7	10	16.7	60	13
Cimarron (18)	Yes	4	25.0	11	68.8	1	6.2	16	1
	No	28	62.2	8	17.8	9	20.0	45	12
Unknown	Yes	10	34.5	16	55.2	3	10.3	29	1
	No	63	64.3	18	18.4	17	17.3	98	25
Statewide	Yes	222	39.0	306	53.7	42	7.4	570	21
	No	846	64.6	251	19.2	213	16.2	1,310	204

Table 11. A comparison of occurrence and frequency of deer depredation complaints (Question Number 13) by deer management unit as reported from the 1979-80 and 1984-85 landowner deer surveys.

Management Unit	Number Farms Reporting		No. Reporting Depredation				Freq. of all Complaints	
	1979	1984	1979	Percent	1984	Percent	1979	1984
High Plains (1)	136	113	49	36.0	45	39.8	10.8	7.6
Smoky Hill (2)	96	86	28	29.2	35	40.7	6.2	5.9
Kirwin-Webster (3)	114	95	29	25.4	30	31.6	6.4	5.1
Kanopolis (4)	53	66	11	20.8	15	22.7	2.4	2.5
Pawnee (5)	87	83	19	21.8	22	26.5	4.2	3.7
Middle Arkansas (6)	78	88	18	23.1	20	22.7	4.0	3.4
Solomon (7)	110	112	26	23.6	34	30.4	5.7	5.8
Republican (8)	121	131	32	26.4	32	30.5	7.0	6.8
Tuttle Creek (9)	119	136	28	23.5	48	35.3	6.2	8.1
Kaw (10)	146	179	28	19.2	47	26.3	6.2	8.0
Osage Prairie (11)	219	194	36	16.4	43	22.2	7.9	7.3
Chautauqua Hills (12)	76	93	18	23.7	32	34.4	4.0	5.4
Lower Arkansas (13)	23	31	4	17.4	6	19.4	0.9	1.0
Flint Hills (14)	165	172	40	24.2	39	22.7	8.8	6.6
Ninnescah (15)	146	134	31	21.2	38	28.4	6.8	6.4
Red Hills (16)	51	58	11	21.6	16	27.6	2.4	2.7
West Arkansas (17)	145	107	32	22.1	34	31.8	7.0	5.8
Cimarron (18)	76	74	13	17.1	17	23.0	2.9	2.9
Unknown	6	153	1	16.7	30	19.6	0.2	5.1
Statewide	1,967	2,105	454	23.1	591	28.1	100.0	100.0

Table 12. Statewide deer damage by type and frequency of occurrence, as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Type of Damage	Number of Complaints	Frequency of Occurrence	
		1979-80	1984-85
Crops			
Milo (grain sorghums)	291	19.0	23.2
Winter wheat	259	18.0	20.7
Corn	83	9.5	6.6
Soybeans	126	7.8	10.0
Forage sorghums	56	4.9	4.5
Alfalfa (hay)	154	11.6	12.3
Specialized crop	22	3.1	1.8
Orchards	48	2.5	3.8
Livestock	16	---	1.3
Fences	178	22.1	14.2
Motor vehicles	20	1.5	1.6
Total	1,253	100.0	100.0

Table 13. Landowner responses to living on the farm or ranch (Question Number 16) and whether or not immediate family hunts on that farm or ranch (Question Number 17), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	<u>Live on Farm (%)</u>		<u>Hunt on Farm (%)</u>		% Who Live & Hunt on Farm	% Who Live But Do Not Hunt on Farm	% Who Do Not Live But Do Hunt on Farm	% Who Do Not Live on Do Not Hunt on Farm
	Yes	No	Yes	No				
High Plains (1)	59.8	40.2	42.5	57.5	28.6	31.2	13.4	26.8
Smoky Hill (2)	64.8	35.2	50.6	49.4	33.3	32.2	17.4	17.2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	56.7	43.3	49.5	50.5	27.8	28.9	21.6	21.6
Kanopolis (4)	58.8	41.2	34.8	65.2	27.9	30.9	7.4	33.8
Pawnee (5)	52.3	47.7	34.5	65.5	17.4	34.9	16.3	31.4
Middle Arkansas (6)	72.7	27.3	30.3	69.7	23.0	49.4	5.8	21.8
Solomon (7)	51.4	48.6	57.3	42.7	33.6	17.3	23.6	25.4
Republican (8)	62.4	37.6	45.9	54.1	26.3	36.1	19.6	18.0
Tuttle Creek (9)	79.4	20.6	38.1	61.9	28.6	51.1	9.0	11.3
Kaw (10)	78.1	21.9	34.1	65.9	25.8	52.8	8.2	13.2
Osage Prairie (11)	79.5	20.5	35.9	64.1	25.9	53.4	10.4	10.4
Chautauqua Hills (12)	80.0	20.0	42.1	57.9	35.8	44.2	6.3	13.7
Lower Arkansas (13)	90.0	10.0	30.0	60.0	30.0	60.0	0.0	10.0
Flint Hills (14)	80.6	19.4	42.5	57.5	34.7	45.7	8.1	11.6
Ninnescah (15)	74.5	25.5	31.4	68.6	23.4	51.1	8.0	17.5
Red Hills (16)	50.0	50.0	43.1	56.9	24.6	24.6	19.3	31.6
West Arkansas (17)	52.8	47.2	37.7	62.3	22.1	30.8	15.4	31.7
Cimarron (18)	65.3	34.7	43.2	56.8	31.5	34.2	12.3	21.9
Unknown	63.3	36.7	28.2	71.8	18.3	45.1	9.8	26.8
Statewide	68.2	31.8	39.3	60.7	27.1	41.1	12.1	19.6

Table 14. Landowner responses to whether or not outsiders are allowed to hunt on their farm or ranch (Question Number 18) and does the family hunt deer (Question Number 19), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Can "Outsiders" Hunt? ¹		If "Yes" to Allowing Outsiders Then Who is Allowed? (%)				Does Family Hunt Deer?	
	Yes (%)	No (%)	Relatives Only	Friends Only	Both	Strangers	Yes (%)	No (%)
High Plains (1)	76.6	23.4	5.3	15.8	79.0	33.8	34.5	65.5
Smoky Hill (2)	84.5	15.5	3.1	17.2	79.7	33.9	40.7	59.3
Kirwin-Webster (3)	78.3	21.7	4.2	31.9	63.9	22.4	38.1	61.9
Kanopolis (4)	68.7	31.3	6.8	13.6	79.6	23.5	33.3	66.7
Pawnee (5)	65.1	34.9	5.7	49.0	45.3	21.0	26.4	73.6
Middle Arkansas (6)	50.0	50.0	5.1	35.9	59.0	21.2	16.9	83.1
Solomon (7)	83.8	16.2	5.8	23.0	71.2	37.7	37.8	62.2
Republican (8)	71.8	28.2	11.2	23.6	65.2	16.5	31.6	68.4
Tuttle Creek (9)	58.4	41.6	6.6	32.9	60.5	18.3	24.1	75.9
Kaw (10)	48.1	51.9	3.6	37.4	59.0	11.5	26.8	73.2
Osage Prairie (11)	61.4	38.6	4.6	41.7	53.7	18.4	21.3	78.7
Chautauqua Hills (12)	55.3	44.7	8.2	32.6	59.2	14.3	30.8	69.2
Lower Arkansas (13)	51.7	48.3	28.6	14.3	51.1	25.0	25.8	74.2
Flint Hills (14)	56.2	43.8	12.6	27.4	60.0	9.3	27.3	72.7
Ninnescah (15)	49.6	50.4	4.8	33.3	61.9	8.2	15.4	84.6
Red Hills (16)	70.2	29.8	10.5	21.1	68.4	7.4	15.5	84.5
West Arkansas (17)	66.4	33.6	3.2	21.0	75.8	19.0	30.8	69.2
Cimarron (18)	71.2	28.8	5.8	19.2	75.0	38.1	27.6	72.4
Unknown	58.2	41.8	11.1	30.6	58.3	26.9	16.5	83.5
Statewide	63.3	36.7	6.9	28.5	64.6	21.4	26.9	73.1

¹ "Outsiders" mean relatives, friends and strangers.

Table 15. Landowner responses to whether or not their family hunts deer and the allowing of "outsiders" to hunt on their land by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, by deer management units; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Deer Damage	Does Family Hunt Deer?		Are Outsiders Allowed to Hunt?	
		Yes (%)	No (%)	Yes (%)	No (%)
High Plains (1)	Yes	40.9	59.1	93.3	6.7
	No	30.9	69.1	66.1	33.9
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	50.0	50.0	100.0	0.0
	No	36.0	64.0	72.3	27.7
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	46.7	53.3	93.3	6.7
	No	35.4	64.6	73.8	26.2
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	46.7	53.3	86.7	13.3
	No	29.4	70.6	64.0	36.0
Pawnee (5)	Yes	40.9	59.1	71.4	28.6
	No	23.0	77.0	63.9	36.1
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	15.0	85.0	75.0	25.0
	No	17.9	82.1	43.1	56.9
Solomon (7)	Yes	47.1	59.9	94.1	5.9
	No	34.2	65.8	79.0	21.0
Republican (8)	Yes	22.5	77.5	82.0	18.0
	No	35.2	64.8	68.1	31.9
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	37.5	62.5	77.1	22.9
	No	17.0	83.0	48.9	51.1
Kaw (10)	Yes	48.9	51.1	70.2	29.8
	No	18.9	81.1	40.2	60.0
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	34.9	65.1	78.0	22.0
	No	17.9	82.1	56.6	43.4
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	40.6	59.4	65.6	34.4
	No	26.7	73.3	50.0	50.0
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	33.3	66.7	60.0	40.0
	No	24.0	76.0	50.0	50.0
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	46.2	53.8	87.2	12.8
	No	21.8	78.2	48.1	51.9
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	15.8	84.2	73.0	27.0
	No	15.8	84.2	40.9	59.1
Red Hills (16)	Yes	12.5	87.5	93.3	6.7
	No	14.6	85.4	61.0	39.0
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	44.1	55.9	88.2	11.8
	No	25.0	75.0	55.6	44.4
Cimarron (18)	Yes	41.2	58.8	93.8	6.2
	No	24.6	75.4	64.3	35.7
Unknown	Yes	23.3	76.7	82.8	17.2
	No	15.8	84.2	52.5	47.5
Statewide	Yes	37.2	62.8	82.8	17.2
	No	23.3	76.7	56.1	43.9

Table 16. Landowner responses regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm or ranch compared to 1983 (Question Number 20), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	More		Same		Fewer		None		Sample Size	Did Not Respond
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)		
High Plains (1)	15	13.9	58	53.7	20	18.5	15	13.9	108	6
Smoky Hill (2)	13	15.1	46	53.5	19	22.1	8	9.3	86	2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	13	13.5	57	59.4	11	11.5	15	15.6	96	1
Kanopolis (4)	24	36.4	30	45.5	5	7.6	7	10.6	66	3
Pawnee (5)	15	18.3	44	53.7	12	14.6	11	13.4	82	5
Middle Arkansas (6)	24	28.9	45	54.2	9	10.8	5	6.0	83	7
Solomon (7)	26	23.6	55	50.0	18	16.4	11	10.0	110	3
Republican (8)	34	26.4	70	54.3	12	9.3	13	10.1	129	4
Tuttle Creek (9)	37	28.7	53	41.1	22	17.1	17	13.2	129	8
Kaw (10)	79	44.4	73	41.0	13	7.3	13	7.3	178	5
Osage Prairie (11)	71	36.8	94	48.7	9	4.7	19	9.8	193	4
Chautauqua Hills (12)	20	21.5	52	55.9	13	14.0	8	8.6	93	2
Lower Arkansas (13)	9	29.0	17	54.8	1	3.2	4	12.9	31	0
Flint Hills (14)	66	39.1	76	45.0	13	7.7	14	8.3	169	7
Ninnescah (15)	40	30.3	63	47.7	15	11.4	14	10.6	132	5
Red Hills (16)	13	24.1	21	38.9	8	14.8	12	22.2	54	5
West Arkansas (17)	31	30.1	46	44.7	9	8.7	17	16.5	103	5
Cimarron (18)	20	27.0	33	44.6	9	12.2	12	16.2	74	2
Unknown	44	30.3	64	44.1	13	9.0	24	16.6	145	38
Statewide	594	28.8	997	48.4	231	11.2	239	11.6	2,061	112

Table 17. Landowner responses regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm compared to 1983 by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Deer Damage	More (%)	Same (%)	Fewer (%)	None (%)
High Plains (1)	Yes	0.0	34.9	44.2	20.9
	No	23.4	65.6	1.6	9.4
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	5.7	31.4	51.4	11.4
	No	22.4	69.4	2.0	6.1
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	3.3	46.7	20.0	30.0
	No	17.2	67.2	7.8	7.8
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	20.0	40.0	26.7	13.3
	No	42.9	46.9	2.0	8.2
Pawnee (5)	Yes	0.0	45.4	45.4	9.1
	No	25.9	56.9	3.4	13.8
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	5.0	55.0	35.0	5.0
	No	37.1	53.2	3.2	6.4
Solomon (7)	Yes	3.0	45.4	45.4	6.1
	No	32.9	52.6	2.6	11.8
Republican (8)	Yes	10.0	50.0	20.0	20.0
	No	34.1	56.8	3.4	5.7
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	12.8	31.9	38.3	17.0
	No	37.0	46.9	4.9	11.1
Kaw (10)	Yes	10.6	53.2	25.5	10.6
	No	56.9	36.1	0.8	6.2
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	14.3	54.7	14.3	16.7
	No	43.2	46.6	2.0	8.1
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	9.4	43.7	25.0	21.9
	No	28.8	62.7	6.8	1.7
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	0.0	50.0	16.7	33.3
	No	36.0	56.0	0.0	8.0
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	12.8	48.7	30.8	7.7
	No	47.6	43.0	0.8	8.6
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	10.5	50.0	31.6	7.9
	No	38.0	47.8	3.3	10.9
Red Hills (16)	Yes	6.2	25.0	43.8	25.0
	No	32.4	43.2	2.7	21.6
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	3.0	48.5	18.2	30.3
	No	43.5	42.0	4.4	10.1
Cimarron (18)	Yes	11.8	23.5	52.9	11.8
	No	30.4	51.8	0.0	17.8
Unknown	Yes	11.1	29.6	37.0	22.2
	No	35.4	46.9	2.7	15.0
Statewide	Yes	8.2	43.3	32.3	16.2
	No	37.3	50.3	2.8	9.6

Table 18. Landowner responses regarding the number of deer hunting permits they would like the Fish and Game Commission to issue (Question Number 21), by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	More		Same		Fewer		Sample Size	Did Not Respond
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
High Plains (1)	31	28.4	63	57.8	15	13.8	109	5
Smoky Hill (2)	27	32.1	47	56.0	10	11.9	84	4
Kirwin-Webster (3)	27	30.3	50	56.2	12	13.5	89	8
Kanopolis (4)	13	19.7	41	62.1	12	18.2	66	3
Pawnee (5)	20	24.7	46	56.8	15	18.5	81	6
Middle Arkansas (6)	14	17.5	40	50.0	26	32.5	80	10
Solomon (7)	25	23.3	69	64.5	13	12.2	107	6
Republican (8)	36	29.8	66	54.5	19	15.7	121	12
Tuttle Creek (9)	38	31.7	59	49.1	23	19.2	120	17
Kaw (10)	18	10.7	99	58.9	51	30.4	168	15
Osage Prairie (11)	29	15.9	120	65.9	33	18.2	182	15
Chautauqua Hills (12)	36	40.9	35	39.8	17	19.3	88	17
Lower Arkansas (13)	12	40.0	13	43.3	5	16.7	30	1
Flint Hills (14)	29	17.6	97	58.8	39	23.6	165	11
Ninnescah (15)	21	16.9	58	46.8	45	36.3	124	13
Red Hills (16)	16	33.3	30	62.5	2	4.2	48	11
West Arkansas (17)	21	21.6	54	56.7	22	22.7	97	11
Cimarron (18)	17	25.0	36	52.9	15	22.1	68	8
Unknown	36	27.1	62	46.6	35	26.3	133	50
Statewide	466	23.8	1,085	55.3	409	20.9	1,960	213

Table 19. Landowner responses regarding how many deer hunting permits should be issued by the Fish and Game Commission by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to having had deer damage in 1984, by deer management unit; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Deer Damage	More (%)	Same (%)	Fewer (%)
High Plains (1)	Yes	60.5	30.2	9.3
	No	7.7	76.9	15.4
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	55.9	44.1	0.0
	No	14.6	66.7	18.7
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	60.0	33.3	6.7
	No	15.5	67.2	17.2
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	33.3	53.3	13.3
	No	14.5	66.7	18.8
Pawnee (5)	Yes	33.3	47.6	19.1
	No	19.3	63.2	17.5
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	36.8	36.8	26.3
	No	11.7	53.3	35.0
Solomon (7)	Yes	48.5	48.5	3.0
	No	11.0	72.6	16.4
Republican (8)	Yes	44.7	47.4	7.9
	No	21.0	59.3	19.7
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	57.8	35.6	6.6
	No	16.2	58.1	25.7
Kaw (10)	Yes	30.4	58.7	10.9
	No	3.3	59.2	37.5
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	34.1	56.1	9.8
	No	10.9	68.8	20.3
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	66.7	20.0	13.3
	No	26.8	50.0	23.2
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	83.3	0.0	16.7
	No	29.2	54.2	16.6
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	37.8	56.8	5.4
	No	11.9	58.7	29.4
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	35.3	44.1	20.6
	No	10.2	48.9	40.9
Red Hills (16)	Yes	69.2	30.8	0.0
	No	20.6	73.5	5.9
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	43.3	53.3	3.3
	No	12.1	57.6	30.3
Cimarron (19)	Yes	53.3	46.7	0.0
	No	17.3	53.8	28.9
Unknown	Yes	51.7	37.9	10.3
	No	20.2	48.5	31.3
Statewide	Yes	47.4	43.5	9.1
	No	14.0	60.6	25.4

Table 20. Landowner response to the question "Are you satisfied with the current system for issuing landowner-tenant firearms deer permits", by deer management units; as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85. Percentage of respondents to the question.

Management Unit	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	What Is It?	No Opinion	Sample Size	Did Not Respond
High Plains (1)	45.5	11.8	27.3	15.5	110	4
Smoky Hill (2)	48.8	12.8	31.4	7.0	86	2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	53.1	6.3	28.1	12.5	96	1
Kanopolis (4)	42.0	11.6	33.3	13.0	69	0
Pawnee (5)	37.6	14.1	32.9	15.3	85	2
Middle Arkansas (6)	40.4	1.1	40.4	18.0	89	1
Solomon (7)	52.7	9.8	27.7	9.8	112	1
Republican (8)	41.5	6.9	43.8	7.7	130	3
Tuttle Creek (9)	37.9	10.6	38.6	12.9	132	5
Kaw (10)	40.9	10.8	39.2	9.1	176	7
Osage Prairie (11)	40.1	10.9	40.1	8.9	192	5
Chautauqua Hills (12)	40.2	16.3	35.9	7.6	92	3
Lower Arkansas (13)	48.4	6.5	29.0	16.1	31	0
Flint Hills (14)	37.1	15.4	34.9	12.6	175	1
Ninnescah (15)	29.3	5.3	50.4	15.0	133	4
Red Hills (16)	39.7	12.1	37.9	10.3	58	1
West Arkansas (17)	40.0	5.7	41.9	12.4	105	3
Cimarron (18)	32.4	13.5	41.9	12.2	74	2
Unknown	40.4	10.3	34.2	15.1	146	37
Statewide	40.9	10.2	37.0	11.9	2,091	82

Table 21. Landowner response regarding current system for issuing landowner-tenant firearm deer permits by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to hunting deer, by deer management unit; Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Hunt Deer	Satisfaction Response (%)				Sample Size	No Response
		Satisfied	Not Satisfied	What is It?	No Opinion		
High Plains (1)	Yes	59.0	20.5	12.8	7.7	39	0
	No	37.1	7.1	35.7	20.0	70	4
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	62.9	14.3	17.1	5.7	35	0
	No	40.8	10.2	40.8	8.2	49	2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	62.2	13.5	16.2	8.1	37	0
	No	47.5	1.7	35.6	15.2	59	1
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	60.9	21.7	17.4	0.0	23	0
	No	32.6	6.5	41.3	19.6	46	0
Pawnee (5)	Yes	50.0	45.4	0.0	4.6	22	1
	No	33.3	3.2	44.4	19.1	63	1
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	73.3	0.0	26.7	0.0	15	0
	No	34.2	1.4	42.5	21.9	73	1
Solomon (7)	Yes	76.2	19.0	4.8	0.0	42	0
	No	39.1	4.4	40.6	15.9	69	0
Republican (8)	Yes	67.5	12.5	20.0	0.0	40	2
	No	30.0	4.4	54.4	11.1	90	1
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	60.6	21.2	15.2	3.0	33	0
	No	30.3	7.1	46.5	16.1	99	5
Kaw (10)	Yes	60.4	18.8	14.6	6.2	48	1
	No	33.6	7.8	48.4	10.2	128	6
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	59.5	21.4	16.7	2.4	42	0
	No	34.7	8.0	46.7	10.7	150	5
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	62.1	20.7	13.8	3.4	29	0
	No	30.6	14.5	45.2	9.7	62	3
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	87.5	0.0	12.5	0.0	8	0
	No	34.8	8.7	34.8	21.7	23	0
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	52.1	31.2	12.5	4.2	48	0
	No	31.5	9.4	43.3	15.8	127	1
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	65.0	10.0	15.0	10.0	20	1
	No	22.3	4.5	57.1	16.1	112	3
Red Hills (16)	Yes	33.3	44.4	22.2	0.0	9	0
	No	39.6	6.2	41.7	12.5	48	1
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	57.6	9.1	18.2	15.1	33	0
	No	23.4	4.2	52.1	11.3	71	3
Cimarron (18)	Yes	40.0	50.0	10.0	0.0	20	1
	No	29.6	0.0	53.7	16.7	54	1
Unknown	Yes	69.6	17.4	8.7	4.3	23	3
	No	34.7	8.2	39.7	17.4	121	11
Statewide	Yes	61.1	20.3	14.1	4.4	566	9
	No	33.4	6.4	45.4	14.7	1,514	49

Table 22. Landowner response to the question "Are you satisfied with the current cost of a landowner-tenant firearms deer permit", by deer management unit, as reported from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85. Percentage of respondents to the question.

Management Unit	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	What Is It?	No Opinion	Sample Size	Did Not Respond
High Plains (1)	42.2	11.9	28.4	17.4	109	5
Smoky Hill (2)	41.9	11.6	38.4	8.1	86	2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	44.7	11.7	33.0	10.6	94	3
Kanopolis (4)	42.6	5.9	30.9	20.6	68	1
Pawnee (5)	40.2	8.5	36.6	14.6	82	5
Middle Arkansas (6)	37.1	6.7	44.9	11.2	89	1
Solomon (7)	42.9	14.3	34.8	8.0	112	1
Republican (8)	39.2	10.8	43.8	6.2	130	3
Tuttle Creek (9)	29.0	14.5	42.7	13.7	131	6
Kaw (10)	35.6	10.2	42.4	11.9	177	6
Osage Prairie (11)	33.3	13.2	44.4	9.0	189	8
Chautauqua Hills (12)	36.7	22.2	36.7	4.4	90	5
Lower Arkansas (13)	41.9	9.7	45.2	3.2	31	0
Flint Hills (14)	30.9	13.7	41.7	13.7	175	1
Ninnescah (15)	25.4	2.2	56.7	15.7	134	3
Red Hills (16)	37.9	8.6	41.4	12.1	58	1
West Arkansas (17)	31.7	4.8	47.1	16.3	104	4
Cimarron (18)	37.0	6.8	42.5	13.7	73	3
Unknown	36.9	6.7	42.3	14.1	149	34
Statewide	36.2	10.5	41.3	12.0	2,081	92

Table 23. Landowner response regarding current cost of landowner-tenant firearm deer permits by those landowners who responded "yes" or "no" to hunting deer, by deer management unit; as reported from Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Hunt Deer	Satisfaction Response (%)				Sample Size	No Response
		Satisfied	Not Satisfied	What is It?	No Opinion		
High Plains (1)	Yes	48.7	24.3	13.5	13.5	37	2
	No	39.4	4.2	36.6	19.7	71	3
Smoky Hill (2)	Yes	62.9	11.4	17.1	8.6	35	0
	No	28.6	10.2	53.1	8.1	49	2
Kirwin-Webster (3)	Yes	59.5	24.3	13.5	2.7	37	0
	No	35.1	3.5	45.6	15.8	57	3
Kanopolis (4)	Yes	65.2	13.0	17.4	4.4	23	0
	No	31.1	2.2	37.8	28.9	45	1
Pawnee (5)	Yes	73.9	21.7	0.0	4.3	23	0
	No	27.1	3.4	50.9	18.6	59	5
Middle Arkansas (6)	Yes	73.3	6.7	20.0	0.0	15	0
	No	30.1	6.9	49.3	13.7	73	1
Solomon (7)	Yes	71.4	26.2	2.4	0.0	42	0
	No	26.1	7.2	53.6	13.0	69	0
Republican (8)	Yes	72.5	12.5	15.0	0.0	40	2
	No	24.4	10.0	56.7	8.9	90	1
Tuttle Creek (9)	Yes	59.4	25.0	9.4	6.2	32	1
	No	19.2	11.1	53.5	16.2	99	5
Kaw (10)	Yes	64.6	18.8	8.3	8.3	48	1
	No	24.8	7.0	55.0	13.2	129	5
Osage Prairie (11)	Yes	48.8	29.3	19.5	2.4	41	1
	No	29.0	8.9	51.3	10.8	148	7
Chautauqua Hills (12)	Yes	57.1	35.7	3.6	3.6	28	1
	No	27.9	16.4	50.8	4.9	61	4
Lower Arkansas (13)	Yes	87.5	0.0	12.5	0.0	8	0
	No	26.1	13.0	56.5	4.4	23	0
Flint Hills (14)	Yes	52.1	35.4	10.4	2.1	48	0
	No	22.8	5.5	53.5	18.1	127	1
Ninnescah (15)	Yes	57.1	14.3	19.1	9.5	21	0
	No	18.8	0.0	64.2	17.0	112	3
Red Hills (16)	Yes	44.4	44.4	11.1	0.0	9	0
	No	35.4	2.1	47.9	14.6	48	1
West Arkansas (17)	Yes	51.5	12.1	24.2	12.1	33	0
	No	22.9	1.4	57.1	18.6	70	4
Cimarron (18)	Yes	65.0	25.0	10.0	0.0	20	1
	No	26.4	0.0	54.7	18.9	53	2
Unknown	Yes	60.0	12.0	24.0	4.0	25	1
	No	32.0	5.7	46.7	15.6	122	10
Statewide	Yes	60.7	21.6	12.9	4.8	565	10
	No	27.0	6.2	52.0	14.8	1,505	58

Table 24. Summary of comments received from landowners who responded as dissatisfied with either the current system for issuing landowner-tenant permits or the cost of those permits, from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85. Percent of total comments by deer management units.

Management Unit	Free Permits	Increase Permit Cost	Decrease Permit Cost	Total Comments
High Plains (1)	73.9 (17) ¹	8.7 (2)	17.4 (4)	23
Smoky Hill (2)	83.3 (10)	8.3 (1)	8.3 (1)	12
Kirwin-Webster (3)	75.0 (12)	0.0	25.0 (4)	16
Kanopolis (4)	100.0 (3)	0.0	0.0	3
Pawnee (5)	62.5 (5)	12.5 (1)	25.0 (2)	8
Middle Arkansas (6)	80.0 (4)	0.0	20.0 (1)	5
Solomon (7)	62.5 (10)	6.2 (1)	31.2 (5)	16
Republican (8)	52.9 (9)	5.9 (1)	41.2 (7)	17
Tuttle Creek (9)	60.0 (12)	0.0	40.0 (8)	20
Kaw (10)	60.9 (14)	4.3 (1)	34.8 (8)	23
Osage Prairie (11)	75.8 (25)	0.0	24.2 (8)	33
Chautauqua Hills (12)	94.7 (18)	0.0	5.3 (1)	19
Lower Arkansas (13)	66.7 (2)	0.0	33.3 (1)	3
Flint Hills (14)	63.3 (19)	0.0	36.7 (11)	30
Ninnescah (15)	83.3 (5)	16.7 (1)	0.0	6
Red Hills (16)	66.7 (6)	0.0	33.3 (3)	9
West Arkansas (17)	66.7 (4)	16.7 (1)	16.6 (1)	6
Cimarron (18)	100.0 (6)	0.0	0.0	6
Statewide	71.0 (181)	3.5 (9)	25.5 (65)	255

¹ (number of comments).

Table 25. A comparison of reported deer mortality (Question Numbers 6-12) on sample farms as reported from the landowner deer surveys, 1979-80 and 1984-85.

Cause	Number of Deer		Freq. of Occurrence	
	1979-80	1984-85	1979-80	1984-85
Archery and firearms season	1,003	1,582	48.5	46.7
Deer-vehicle collisions	528	967	25.5	28.6
Illegal (poaching)	209	229	10.1	6.8
Dogs and/or coyotes	94	194	4.5	5.7
Miscellaneous	115	132	5.6	3.9
Fences	44	151	2.1	4.4
Farm machinery	76	131	3.7	3.9
Total	2,609	3,386	100.0	100.0

Table 26. Statewide summary of comments received from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1979-80 and 1984-85.

Comment Number	Comment	% of Total Comments	
		1979-80	1984-85
1	Hunters disrespectful of landowner's rights; fail to ask permission to hunt; discourteous; shooting off road.	13.0	9.1
2	Very particular about who hunts on land.	0.3	1.3
3	Have had livestock killed in past years or are concerned about the danger to stock.	1.0	2.4
4	Opposed to or concerned about high-powered rifles; shotguns.	3.8	2.4
5	Landowner-tenant or county residents get first choice of permits.	9.9	14.7
6	Landowners get free permits or don't need permits	7.6	10.3
7	Concerned about crop damage, fences, etc. or have experienced damage in the past.	8.5	11.2
8	Do not want deer around.	1.8	2.4
9	Concerned about automobile hazard and disposal.	4.2	6.0
10	Deer carry and spread disease among livestock.	1.6	0.4
11	Concerned about people shooting deer on other people's permits.	1.5	0.4
12	Generally like to see deer on their land, would be happy if saw more.	13.0	8.0
13	Opposed to hunt; don't like to kill deer.	3.3	5.6
14	Opposed to or want less bow hunting; too many crippled deer.	4.9	1.9
15	Too many permits, not enough deer locally.	3.3	0.9
16	More permits.	1.6	1.0
17	Less buck permits, more doe permits.	1.8	0.0
18	More doe permits.	3.4	0.4
19	Less doe permits.	0.6	0.6
20	Concerned about poaching; violators.	9.6	9.9
21	Meat hunters; not sport anymore.	1.0	0.0
22	Licenses too expensive.	0.2	0.9
23	More black powder, special season, etc.	0.8	0.9
24	Pleased with deer management.	3.3	9.3

Table 27. Percent of the total comments received from landowners by deer management units; from the Landowner Deer Survey, 1984-85.

Management Unit	Comment Number ¹											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
High Plains (1)	11.1	3.7	3.7	3.7	7.4	22.2	3.7		3.7			3.7
Smoky Hill (2)	13.8	3.4		3.4	17.2	6.9	10.3	3.4	6.9			6.9
Kirwin-Webster (3)	15.8		5.2		5.2	21.0	10.5	5.3	5.3			5.3
Kanopolis (4)	7.1				21.4	14.3	35.7		7.1		7.1	
Pawnee (5)	7.1			7.1	28.6	14.3	7.1					7.1
Middle Arkansas (6)				6.7			20.0	6.7	6.7		6.7	13.3
Solomon (7)	10.7	7.1			21.4	3.6	17.8		17.8			3.6
Republican (8)	12.1		3.0		18.2	12.1	9.1	3.0	6.1			6.1
Tuttle Creek (9)	11.1				11.1	13.9	13.9	5.5	8.3			2.8
Kaw (10)	7.3			4.9	12.2	7.3	7.3		7.3			7.3
Osage Prairie (11)	13.9		2.8	2.8	13.9	13.9	8.3		2.8			11.1
Chautauqua Hills (12)	3.3		3.3	3.3	6.7	16.7	10.0			3.3		10.0
Lower Arkansas (13)						20.0	40.0		20.0			20.0
Flint Hills (14)	5.9	5.9	11.7	2.9	14.7	2.9	14.7		2.9	2.9		11.8
Ninnescah (15)	13.5		5.4	2.7	10.8		5.4	2.7				16.2
Red Hills (16)					33.3	16.7	16.7		16.7			
West Arkansas (17)	7.1				10.7	10.7	3.6	7.1	14.3			10.7
Cimarron (18)					38.9	5.6	16.7	11.1	5.6			5.6
Statewide	9.1	1.3	2.4	2.4	14.7	10.3	11.2	2.4	6.0	0.4	0.4	8.0

¹See Table 26 for comment narrative.

Table 27. Continued.

Mgt. Unit	Comment Number ¹												Total Comments
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
(1)		3.7		3.7		3.7	3.7	3.7			3.7	14.8	27
(2)	3.4	3.4						3.4				17.2	29
(3)			5.2					5.2		5.2		10.5	19
(4)												7.1	14
(5)	3.6			7.1		3.6	7.1		3.6		3.6		28
(6)			6.7				6.7					26.7	15
(7)	7.1								3.6		7.1		28
(8)	6.0		3.0					9.0				12.1	33
(9)	8.3	27.8	2.8					8.3				11.1	36
(10)	9.8	4.9						14.6			2.4	14.6	41
(11)	8.3						2.8	16.7				2.8	36
(12)	6.7							16.7		3.3	3.3	13.3	30
(13)													5
(14)	5.9					2.9		14.7					34
(15)	2.7	5.4						24.3				10.8	37
(16)	16.7												6
(17)	14.3	7.1		3.6				7.1				3.6	28
(18)			5.6					5.6			5.6		18
Statewide	5.6	1.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	0.4	0.6	9.9	0.0	0.9	0.9	9.3	464

¹ See Table 26 for comment narrative.

Table 28. A comparison of relative evidence of deer by landowner deer survey periods.

Survey Period ¹	Relative Evidence of Deer(%)			Sample Size
	Many	Few	None	
1971-72	6.2	58.8	35.0	2,180
1975-76	9.7	62.9	27.3	2,042
1979-80	18.9	65.1	16.0	1,872
1984-85	25.8	56.3	17.9	2,147

¹ Data not available for periods 1963-64 and 1966-67.

Table 29. Relative deer population changes by landowner deer survey periods. Reported as a percent of the responses to the question.

"During the past three years has the deer population in your area increased, remained the same, or decreased?"

Survey Period	Increased	No Change	Decreased	Total Responses	No Response
1963-64	53.8	40.2	5.9	1,820	833
1966-67	34.3	50.0	15.7	1,749	651
1971-72	24.4	50.0	25.6	1,869	310
1975-76	25.7	50.6	23.6	1,814	271
1979-80	38.8	47.7	13.5	1,745	318
1984-85	47.9	41.0	11.1	1,965	208

"Compared with this time last year, is the present deer population the same, higher, or lower?"

Survey Period	Higher	Same	Lower	Total Responses	No Response
1963-64	30.0	62.9	7.1	1,697	956
1966-67	63.3	17.7	19.0	1,653	747
1971-72	58.7	7.0	34.3	1,764	415
1975-76	16.2	58.7	25.0	1,773	312
1979-80	26.1	58.0	15.9	1,718	345
1984-85	29.6	56.8	13.6	1,918	255

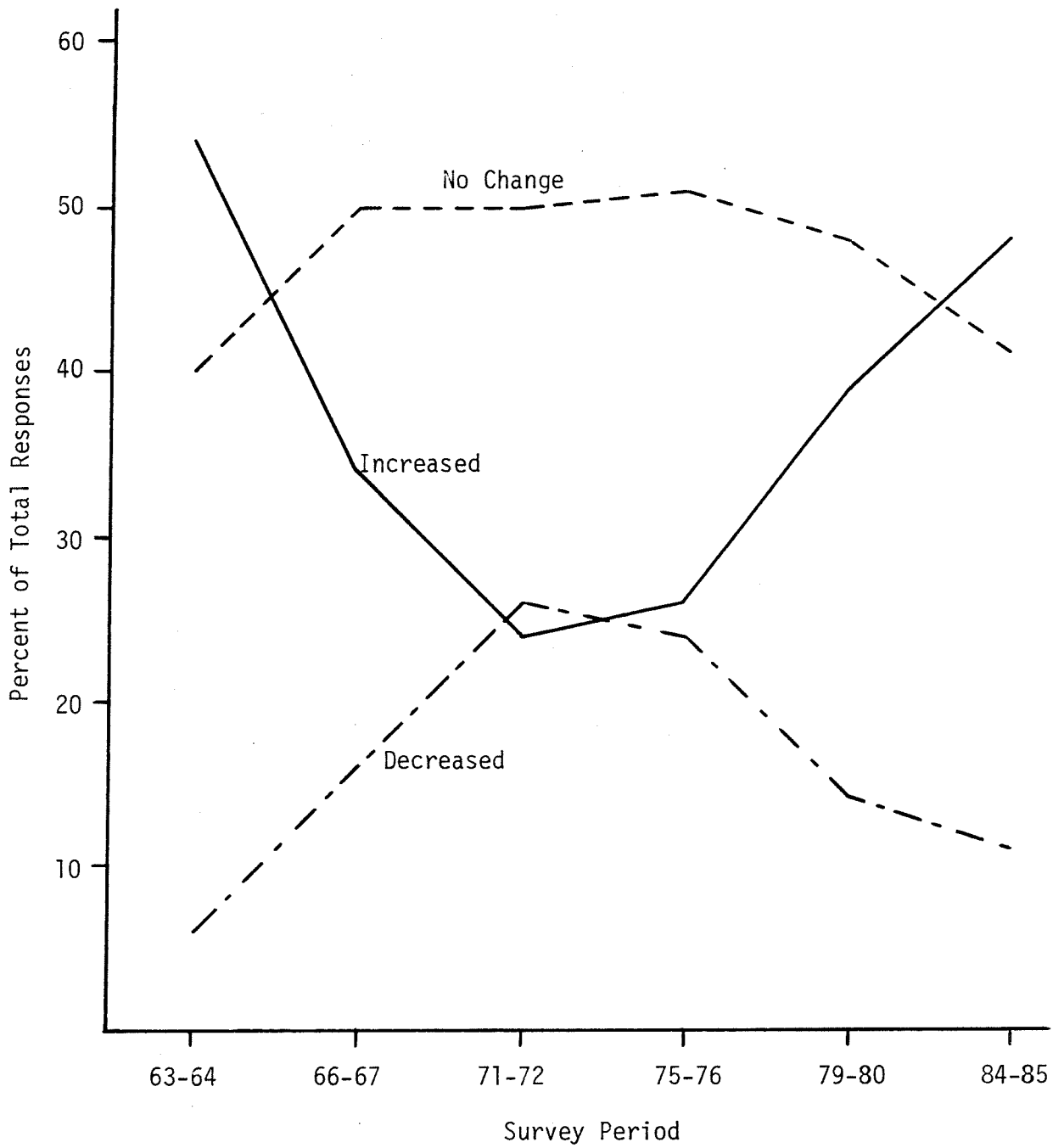


Fig. 2. Response trend to the question "During the past three years has the deer population in your area increased, remained the same, or decreased?" by landowner deer survey periods.

Table 30. A comparison of occurrence of deer depredation complaints by landowner deer survey periods.

Survey Period	Number of Farms Responding	Farms Reporting Damage		No Response
		No.	%	
1963-64	2,782	183	6.6	168
1966-67	2,576	176	6.8	59
1971-72	2,179	350	16.1	0
1975-76	2,034	261	12.8	51
1979-80	1,967	454	23.1	96
1984-85	2,105	591	28.1	68

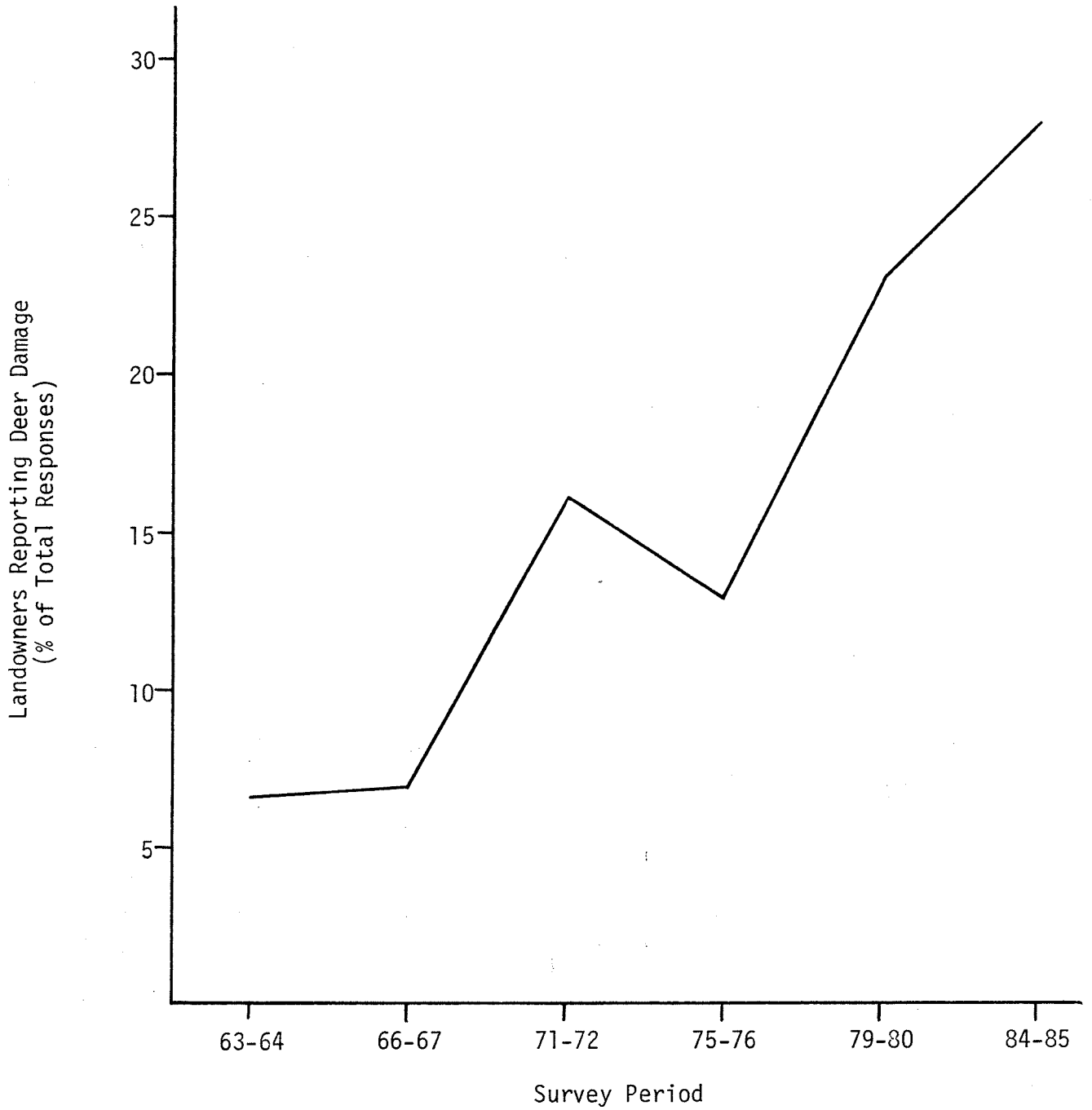


Fig. 3. Trend in deer damage reports derived from the Landowner Deer Survey.

Table 31. Deer damage by type and frequency of occurrence expressed as a percent of the total responses by landowner deer survey period.

Type	Landowner Deer Survey Period ¹				
	63-64	66-67	75-76	79-80	84-85
Wheat	16.6	17.2	17.6	18.0	20.7
Milo	16.6	28.4	18.6	19.0	23.2
Corn	26.0	15.2	14.3	9.5	6.6
Forage Sorghum	9.8	1.0	7.3	4.9	4.5
Soybeans	5.1	10.6	4.8	7.8	10.0
Alfalfa (Hay)	9.4	10.6	7.5	11.6	12.3
Special Crop	4.2	0.5	4.7	3.1	1.8
Orchard	0.8	1.0	1.2	2.5	3.8
Fences	12.3	15.2	22.5	22.1	14.2
Vehicles	----	----	1.4	1.5	1.6
Livestock	----	----	----	----	1.3

¹ Data not available for the 1971-72 survey period.

Table 32. Landowner response to whether or not "outsiders" are allowed to hunt on their farm or ranch, does the family hunt deer, and the response to hunting by those who reported deer damage, by landowner deer survey period. Reported as a percent of the respondents to the questions.

Survey Period	Allow Outsiders ¹ Yes	If "Yes" to Outsiders Then Who Is Allowed				Does Family Hunt Deer? Yes	Reported Deer Damage	
		Relatives Only	Friends Only	Both	Strangers		Family Hunts Deer Yes	Allow Outsiders Yes
1963-64 ^{2,3}	77.0				48.0			
1966-67 ^{2,3}	75.0				44.0			
1971-72 ²	65.8				44.2	13.5		
1975-76	73.7	7.4	19.8	72.9	18.0	17.9		88.8
1979-80	72.9	7.1	20.3	72.6	17.1	26.7	34.4	86.7
1984-85	63.3	6.9	28.5	64.6	21.4	26.9	37.2	82.8

¹ "Outsiders" mean relatives, friends and strangers.

² Data does not allow analyses of relatives and friends categories.

³ "Does family hunt deer" not a question on survey.

Table 33. Landowner response regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm or ranch as compared to the year prior to the survey period.

Survey Period	More (%)	Same (%)	Fewer (%)	None (%)
1963-64	37.2	29.3	2.9	30.6
1966-67	50.8	26.1	2.5	20.6
1971-72	48.9	32.4	2.2	16.5
1975-76	39.6	43.1	3.6	13.7
1979-80	35.7	47.8	6.5	10.0
1984-85	28.8	48.4	11.2	11.6

Table 34. Landowner response regarding the relative number of deer wanted on their farm or ranch as compared to the year prior to the survey period by those who responded "yes" or "no" to having reported deer damage.

Survey Period	Deer Damage	More (%)	Same (%)	Fewer (%)	None (%)
1963-64	Yes	25.1	40.6	11.4	22.8
	No	57.1	19.7	1.4	21.8
1966-67	Yes	18.3	41.4	13.0	27.2
	No	49.4	25.6	2.5	22.5
1971-72	Yes	13.2	51.5	10.1	25.1
	No	53.3	30.0	1.3	15.4
1975-76	Yes	9.8	53.8	15.8	20.7
	No	-----	-----	-----	-----
1979-80	Yes	12.3	50.1	20.8	16.8
	No	42.9	47.3	2.0	7.7
1984-85	Yes	8.2	43.3	32.3	16.2
	No	37.3	50.3	2.8	9.6

Table 35. Landowner response regarding how many firearm deer hunting permits should be issued by landowner deer survey period¹.

Survey Period	More (%)	Same (%)	Fewer (%)
1975-76	10.4	51.7	37.9
1979-80	16.4	57.9	25.7
1984-85	23.8	55.3	20.9

¹ The question relative to issuing permits was not included on the survey for periods prior to 1975-76.

Table 36. Landowner response regarding how many firearm deer hunting permits should be issued by those reporting "yes" and "no" to having had deer damage, by landowner deer survey periods¹.

Survey Period	Deer Damage	More (%)	Same (%)	Fewer (%)
1975-76	Yes	26.9	56.9	16.9
	No	-----	-----	-----
1979-80	Yes	35.9	52.3	11.7
	No	10.1	59.8	30.1
1984-85	Yes	47.4	43.5	9.1
	No	14.0	60.6	25.4

¹ The question relative to issuing permits was not included on the survey for periods prior to 1975-76.

APPENDIX A. Landowner Deer Survey questionnaire, 1984-85.

KANSAS DEER QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to provide effective conservation practices which are the best possible for deer in Kansas and which are in the best interest of the farmer and rancher, it is necessary to maintain a fairly accurate idea of the number of deer that are in the state. Of course, it is also necessary to know how many deer are killed each year in fences, by farm machinery, illegally, by motor vehicles and by hunters. In this way we can keep track of about how large the deer herd is in Kansas. The questions below are designed for this purpose. When questions refer to your "land" or to your "farm or ranch" please include information concerning all of the rural land you own or operate.

HOW MANY DEER ARE THERE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

- (1) Did you see deer or evidence of deer on your farm or ranch in 1984 (January 1 to December 31, 1984)?
Many _____, Few _____, None _____
(1) (2) (3)
- (2) What is the largest number of deer you or your family have seen on your farm or ranch during the past winter (since Thanksgiving 1984)? DO NOT include deer seen off your land. Number of deer _____.
- (3) About how many deer tended to stay on your farm or ranch regularly during the past winter?
Number of deer _____
- (4) During the past three years (1982-1984) has the deer population in your area increased _____, remained the same _____, or decreased _____?
(1) (2) (3)
- (5) Compared with this time last year, is the present deer population the same _____, higher _____, or lower _____?
(1) (2)

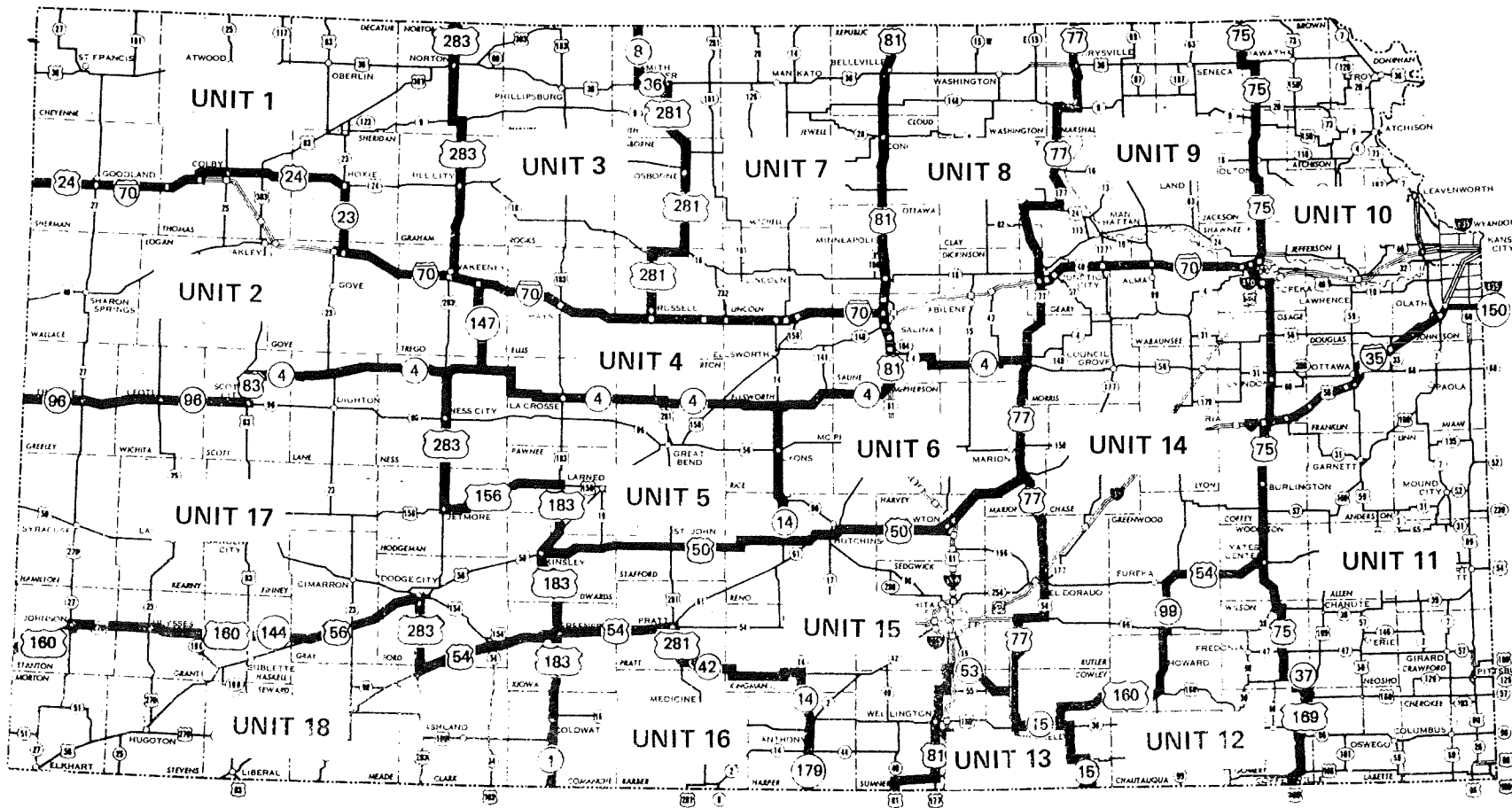
HOW MANY DEER DIE OR ARE KILLED IN YOUR AREA?

As nearly as you can remember, how many deer were killed on your land:	Number
(6) in fences in 1984?	_____
(7) (fawns) by farm machinery in 1984?	_____
(8) by dogs and/or coyotes in 1984?	_____
(9) by motor vehicles in 1984 on public roads adjoining your land?	_____
(10) illegally during 1984?	_____
(11) during the 1984 archery _____ and firearms _____ season?	Total _____
(12) in 1984 by causes other than those specified above?	_____
Cause of death if known _____	

Please answer questions on BOTH SIDES of this sheet.

HOW DO DEER AFFECT YOU AND YOUR FARM OR RANCH?

- (13) Did deer cause damage on your land in 1984? Yes_____. No_____.
(Mark those damaged) (1) (2)
Winter wheat_____ Grain sorghum (milo)_____ Corn_____ Forage sorghum_____
Soybeans_____ Alfalfa (hay)_____ Fences_____ Car or truck_____
Orchard_____ Specialized crop_____ Livestock_____
- (14) How much farm or ranch land do you own or operate?_____acres.
- (15) In what part of the state is your farm or ranch located? County_____
(Please note the Survey Area Number on the enclosed map
which corresponds to the location of your farm or ranch.) Area Number_____.
- (16) Do you live on this farm or ranch? Yes_____. No_____.
(1) (2)
- (17) Do you or your immediate family hunt on your farm or ranch? Yes_____, No_____.
(1) (2)
- (18) Do you allow outsiders to hunt on your land? Yes_____, No_____.
If yes, do you allow: Relatives_____. Friends_____.
Strangers: Yes_____, No_____, Sometimes_____.
(1) (2) (4) (5)
- (19) Do you or members of your immediate family hunt deer? Yes_____, No_____.
(1) (2)
- (20) How many deer would you like to have around your farm or ranch? More than you have now_____
about the same number_____, fewer_____, or none_____.
(2) (3) (4)
- (21) In your opinion, do you feel that the Fish and Game Commission should issue more_____
about the same number_____, or fewer_____. FIREARMS deer hunting permits in your area.
(2) (3) (4)
- (22) Are you satisfied with the current system for issuing landowner-tenant FIREARMS deer permits? Yes_____,
No_____, Don't know what the current system is_____, No opinion_____.
(2) (3) (4)
- (23) Are you satisfied with the current cost of a landowner-tenant FIREARMS deer permit? Yes_____,
No_____, Don't know what the current cost is_____, No opinion_____.
(2) (3) (4)
- 24) If you answered NO to question 22 or 23 would you tell us what system or costs you would like to see used.
- (25) If you have any other comments which you like to make, please write them on a separate sheet.



APPENDIX B. Kansas Deer Management Units



PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT

HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Re: H.B. 2216, Relating to Issuance of Game Permits
and Legislation Concerning Non-Resident Deer Hunting Permits

February 1, 1988
Topeka, Kansas

Presented by:
Paul E. Fleener, Director
Public Affairs Division
Kansas Farm Bureau

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Paul E. Fleener. I am the Director of Public Affairs for Kansas Farm Bureau. We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today concerning the issuance of free deer permits for landowners, the topic of H.B. 2216. We appreciate, as well, the opportunity to make brief comments concerning the legislation the Committee agreed to introduce concerning non-resident deer hunting permits.

Two of the Resolutions (policy positions) adopted by our farmers and ranchers at the most recent Kansas Farm Bureau Annual Meeting (November 30 - December 1, 1987) are attached. We want to provide you with a paragraph from each of those in our discussion about the legislation in front of you. In our **Hunting and Fishing Regulations** policy, our members said this:

"We urged the Wildlife and Parks Departments to increase the number of big game permits granted each year. We believe each farmer, whether a landowner or tenant, who requests

the big game permit for hunting on his own land or that on which he is a tenant or operator should be guaranteed, and such permit should be granted at no cost."

In our resolution on **Wildlife and Parks Department**, our people said this:

"We asked that legislation be enacted that would require the Wildlife and Parks Department to conduct big game population control measures or pay for damages upon petition from landowners and/or operators.

"We urge the Wildlife and Parks Department to establish a toll-free telephone number to be used by farmers and other citizens to report wildlife damage to crops and other property."

Now to the specifics of H.B. 2216. We appreciate the new language in lines 90 - 106 on page 3. We might ask, given the facts presented to this Committee last week by Mr. Keith Sexson, Deer Project Specialist for Wildlife and Parks, that since deer numbers are up significantly perhaps there should not be such limiting language as is contained on lines 101 - 102. That language presently says: **"Only one permit shall be issued to each landowner or tenant."** With the numbers up and population control measures being necessary ... in fact, Mr. Sexson said hunting is the preferred population control measure ... it would seem appropriate to make available more than one landowner permit. Let him or her have an opportunity to invite some family members back

to the farm to enjoy the sport of deer hunting. This would do two things: It would help with the population control of deer, and it would provide good family activity.

We do appreciate the opportunity to make brief observations on the legislation. We would encourage you to proceed with the non-resident licensing introduced as a Committee bill last week. We would be pleased to respond to any questions.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

We believe the hunting season for upland game birds should be reduced in length with the season ending the first week in January.

We urge enactment of legislation requiring those who hunt and fish to possess written permission, signed by the landowner or operator, stating the days hunting or fishing is permitted, and giving a description and location of land on which permission is granted. The landowner or operator should be exempt from liability for accidents regardless of the granting of written permission. All hunting and fishing licenses issued by the Wildlife and Parks Department should include the printed statement, "Written permission must be obtained from landowner, tenant or other agent." We request a warning be included in Wildlife and Parks Department regulations to indicate clearly that rural littering is unlawful and offenders will be prosecuted.

We urge the Wildlife and Parks Department to increase the number of big game permits granted each year. We believe each farmer, whether landowner or tenant, who requests a big game permit for hunting on his own land or that on which he is tenant or operator should be guaranteed, and such permit should be granted at no cost.

Wildlife and Parks Department

We favor establishment of a land-leasing policy giving first-choice farm tenancy privileges to the original landowner. Should the original landowner not desire to lease Wildlife and Parks property, a uniform procedure for bid-basis land leasing should prevail through all Wildlife and Parks service regions.

We are opposed to the Wildlife and Parks Department having the authority to use the power of eminent domain.

We believe the Wildlife and Parks Department should pay property taxes, or make an in-lieu-of tax payment to the county and school districts in which Wildlife and Parks property is located.

We ask that legislation be enacted that would require the Wildlife and Parks Department to conduct big game population control measures or pay for damages upon petition from landowners and/or operators.

We urge the Wildlife and Parks Department to establish a toll-free telephone number to be used by farmers and other citizens to report wildlife damage to crops and other property.



2044 Fillmore • Topeka, Kansas 66604 • Telephone: 913/232-9358
Owns and Publishes The Kansas STOCKMAN magazine and KLA News & Market Report newsletter.

STATEMENT
OF THE
KANSAS LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION
IN SUPPORT OF
HOUSE BILL 2216
BEFORE THE NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVE JEFF FREEMAN, CHAIRMAN
PRESENTED BY
MIKE BEAM
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, COW-CALF/STOCKER DIVISION
FEBRUARY 1, 1988

The Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) is a trade organization made up of nearly 10,000 members located in all of the 105 counties. KLA, founded in 1894, has members who are actively involved in numerous aspects of livestock production which include cow-calf/stocker producers, feeders, sheep producers, swine operators and general farming and ranching enterprises.

Mr. Chairman and subcommittee members, I'm Mike Beam with the Kansas Livestock Association. I appear before you today in support of House Bill 2216. Our association supports this measure because it's one small step to

compensate farmers and ranchers for the nuisances, headaches and financial burden from our states deer population.

Last week, a representative from the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department indicated "that the greatest limiting factor on deer population numbers in Kansas would be landowner tolerance for deer." We believe that the population has triggered this tolerance level and feel strongly that the department and the legislature should take actions to address this situation.

I am sure there are numerous reports and records which verify that the Kansas deer herd has grown substantially in the last few years. Lately, we have continued to hear complaints from our members who are fed-up with paying the bills for the state's deer herd. As Secretary Meinen said, you continually hear people talk about the size of the deer herd. Anytime that you go to an agricultural gathering, such as a state board of agriculture annual meeting, you'll hear farmers and ranchers say its time to do something about this problem. I am confident that many of you have heard complaints from constituents which has probably resulted in this special hearing.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), a provision of the 1985 Farm B bill, will likely be a major factor in the size of the deer herd during the next 10 years. To date, approximately 2 million acres in Kansas have been enrolled in this program. I am confident that we will find this land to be a prime habitat for wildlife including deer. After the land has been seeded and maintained for a few years, we'll likely see trees and shrubs growing which will provide a habitat situation that could let the deer herd population run rampant.

I was glad to hear the department admit there is a deer population

problem and they are looking at management alternatives to address the problem. I only hope they make this a priority in 1989 and involve farmers and ranchers in the planning and development of this project.

I only wanted to mention the deer population because it does have a bearing on the appropriateness of this legislation. Yes, state law specifically says the wildlife belong to the people of the state. However, farmers and ranchers are stuck with paying the bills for feeding and providing habitat for the wildlife population. Providing a free deer permit to landowners, is just a small token to compensate them or tenants for the costs associated with the state's deer herd.

What does it cost a farmer or rancher to feed one deer? Grazing specialist claim that a white tail deer amounts to .15 to .2 animal units. This compares to .5 to .6 animal units for a yearling steer. With this calculation, you'll find that a white tail deer will consume approximately 32 percent of the forage as a yearling steer. If you assume it cost a rancher \$50.00 to run a yearling during a 6 month grazing period, you'll find that this would be equivalent to \$16.00 for one white tail deer.
($\$50.00 \times 32\% = \16.00)

I realize that a deer will often eat forbes and not graze on wheat pasture, cool season grasses, or native pastures. I think the \$16.00 is still a conservative figure since it only is calculated for 6 months of the year. It does not include hay which is consumed from the haystacks and fences that are torn down or stretched by deer. In addition, this only accounts for one deer. I am sure there are thousands of farmers or ranchers which have at least four deer per section. If this is the case it could amount to over \$125.00 based on the \$32.00 per deer cost. Providing landowners with a free deer permit, valued today at \$10.50, is just a small

price to pay for the damage and feeding costs.

Mr. Chairman, I'd ask the committee to also consider an amendment to the legislation. Perhaps the statutes could be amended to provide a procedure for landowners to use a free deer permit in a fee hunting program. I can see landowners advertising a weekend retreat and provide a guide service and deer hunt. I am not sure that the landowner could legally do this today. If this option was available to landowners, it would be another method for them to recoup their cost without placing anymore financial burden on the Kansas Wildlife and Parks budget.

In closing, I'd like to thank the committee for the opportunity to provide comments on the deer population and HB2216. Our association is willing to work with the legislature and the department in addressing the deer population dilemma. Thank you



KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF WHEAT GROWERS
"ONE STRONG VOICE FOR WHEAT"

TESTIMONY ON HB 2216

House Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
Natural Resources Subcommittee

Rep. Jeff Freeman, Vice-Chairman

February 1, 1988

Mr. Vice Chairman, members of the sub-committee, I want to first thank you for the opportunity to appear this afternoon, on behalf of the members of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, in support of HB 2216.

Our members have been voicing concern for quite some time about the rapid rise in the deer population in Kansas. While these animals are fun to watch at times, and provide good sport for Kansas hunters, many of whom are farmers, they are also very destructive to crops. I recall two conversations last fall during our county meetings, where area landowners spoke of counting up to 150 deer grazing in a one acre wheat field. Other comments I have heard concern deer that knock down electric fences, and turn cattle loose to be lost, killed or injured, or at the very least, cause the owner the extra time and work to get them back where they belong.

Not only are these concerns valid reasons for seeking ways to increase the legal harvest of deer, but they are also valid reasons for seeking easier access to deer permits for farmers.

At our annual convention in December, our committee on Natural Resources passed two resolutions that speak to this issue:

"We need more and better wildlife increase control in Kansas to contain the excess damage to crops and other farming interests, without retaliation from the Kansas Parks & Wildlife Commission."

A land owner or a tenant has a right to a deer permit each year for buck or doe, (his choice) at \$5.00, without a valid hunting license being required."

The first resolution supports a larger deer harvest, and the second points out the right of the landowner or tenant to a deer permit each year. While some farmers would not pursue that right, many would, and their daily knowledge of the habits of deer on their land would be a strong asset to a larger deer harvest.

Perhaps the most obvious reason for supporting this bill is the issue most often overlooked by many, especially those who would view this as an economic development issue. It is the farmers who are footing the bill for feeding the deer. They not only pay through lost crops, but they also have to stand the expense for fences and any other property that might be damaged by the big game. In addition, with the exception of a relatively small number of acres of public hunting area, the land used for big game hunting is privately owned.

The bottom line is simple. Farmers furnish the habitat and food for deer, and in the case of federal conservation program acres, are required to plant trees and grass. They also furnish the land itself for the game to roam, and the hunters to pursue their quarry. Unfortunately, they also often provide alternate targets in the form of cattle and horses. A free deer permit is the very least Kansas can offer in return.

In reading the bill, there is one section that causes some concern. Lines 75-77 limit permits to one per 80 acres. Especially in some areas, the cost of raising the deer is certainly high enough to justify more than one permit per 80 acres. Smaller farmers shouldn't be penalized in this manner.

KANSAS WILDLIFE FEDERATION
PO Box 5715, Topeka, KS. 66605
(913) 296-6185

Testimony H2216
House Committee on Energy & Natural Resources

February 1, 1988

The Kansas Wildlife Federation, representing 8000 conservationists across the State is in opposition to H2216.

The deer resource, in Kansas, is a recognized and valuable resource to the citizens of our State. It is a natural resource in the trust of the State to be managed for the equal use and enjoyment of all Kansans, both for hunting and non-hunting interests for now and into the future.

This bill being considered will further erode equal opportunity of all Kansans to have equal access and enjoyment of the deer resource. Current state law, rules and regulations already provide for special landowner-tenant privileges that include:

1. Receive 50% of the deer permits within each management unit.
2. Unsuccessful landowner-tenant permit applicants can receive special permits from KDWP to hunt deer on their land within the management unit.
3. Deer hunting permits that cost 1/2 of those for general residents.
4. A privileged permit system that virtually allows the landowner-tenant to obtain a permit every year.

Because of the existing deer hunting privileges that landowner-tenants now receive, and because of the estimated fiscal impact to KDWP, KWF is asking this bill be not passed.

KWF, like all of you recognize Kansas deer herd growth and associated problems. We recommend that the Legislature encourages the new KDWP to undertake the planning necessary to develop a complete and objective deer herd management program. A program that considers use, herd problems, equal opportunity, the deer resource and its importance to all Kansans.