



# Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism



Second Quarter Report  
April 1 - June 30, 2013

## Boating Benefits Kansas Economy



Boating brings a “boatload” of economic benefits to Kansas. In June, the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) reported the total annual economic impact of recreational boating in Kansas in 2012 was \$898.7 million. Consider these numbers for 2012:

- There were 97,672 registered boats in Kansas.
- Spending related to recreational boating was \$382.6 million.
- There were 137 boating-related businesses.
- Boating supported an estimated 7,063 jobs.
- The total estimated labor income was \$291.9 million.

## 2013 Significant Legislative Laws & Actions

### Vessel Taxation (SB 83)

This bill was a result of the ballot issue passed in November 2012 allowing the state constitution to be amended to allow a change to the way watercraft are taxed. The law reduces the percentage of value at which watercraft are assessed to 11.5 percent in 2014 and 5 percent in 2015 and thereafter. Signed April 16.

### Boating Under the Influence Time Period (HB 2218)

The old law made it unlawful to operate a vessel with a blood or breath alcohol concentration of .08 at the time of or within two hours of operating a vessel. This new law will increase the time period from two hours to three hours after operation of a vessel, making it consistent with state DUI laws for motor vehicles. Signed May 23.

### Wounded Warrior Deer Permits (HB 2030)

The law allows the department to issue 10 “Wounded Warrior Deer Permits” to disabled veterans who were injured in combat and have a service-connected disability of not less than 30 percent. Signed April 2.

### New Public Land

The legislature also approved the purchase of about 800 acres in Jefferson County to be used as a public hunting area. Seventy-five percent of the \$1.2 million cost will be funded with monies received from federal excise taxes on hunting and shooting equipment, and the remaining 25 percent will come from state wildlife fee funds.

## There's No Place Like Kansas

■ Tourism staff kicked off a five-month road trip across the state when they launched the third year of the Faces & Places Tour in June. Tourism staff and Kansas travel bloggers (“Roadies”) will visit events in more than 20 cities before the tour concludes in mid-October. The Roadies are slated to cover 10,000 miles in a graphic-wrapped minivan, underwritten in part by Briggs Auto Group.

■ Tourism staff attended the International Pow Wow (IPW), June 8-12 in Las Vegas. IPW is a tourism marketplace designed to generate international visits to the U.S. It attracted nearly 6,400 delegates from the U.S. and 70 other countries, including 1,300 tour operators that sell travel to U.S. and nearly 500 travel media.

Kansas had 51 appointments with tour operators and met with new tour operators from Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Italy, Netherlands and Australia.

■ On June 11, the Kansas Department of Transportation announced it awarded a \$1.5 million



federal Transportation Enhancement grant to KDWP to further the development of the Flint Hills Nature Trail. The 117-mile trail stretches across seven counties between Osawatomie and Herington.

## KWPT Commission Active in Second Quarter

■ At its **April 25th meeting in Wichita**, the Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism commission approved establishing short-term RV parking for a monthly fee of \$50 at Scott, Meade, Glen Elder, Kanopolis and Webster state parks. The commissioners also approved standard season dates for the 2013 elk and antelope seasons.

■ At the meeting on **June 27 in Garden City**, the commission rejected a staff recommendation to prohibit coyote hunting with the use of vehicles and two-way radios during the regular fire-arm deer season. KDWPT law enforce-

ment staff had requested changes to the coyote hunting regulations because of incidents involving individuals using vehicles and radios to hunt deer under the guise of coyote hunting. Current regulations allow coyotes to be hunted from vehicles and with the use of radios.

At the same meeting, commissioners approved a variety of changes to furharvesting regulations and approved a regulation requiring all hunters who hunt big game or wild turkeys with a crossbow to obtain a free Crossbow Survey Number from KDWPT before hunting.

## Cheyenne Bottoms Canal Update

In 2011, KDWPT authorized a project at Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area near Great Bend to replace five miles of water supply canal with 60-inch diameter water-tight concrete pipe. The project is located four miles west of Great Bend, and stretches from just north of US-56 to the north fork of Dry Walnut Creek.

The \$5,479,000 project began in January and was substantially complete by the end of June. Additional work has been scheduled to repair portions of the diversion dam on the Arkansas River that sends water into the canal when river flows allow.

## Education

■ Jim Bussone, hunter education instructor and KDWPT natural resource officer was selected as the 2012 Instructor of the Year by his fellow teachers. Each year, instructors select one of their own who has demonstrated extraordinary, above standard actions that reflect favorably on hunters, the Hunter Education Program and the KDWPT.

■ Nearly 300 students competed in the Kansas Archery in the Schools program hosted the fourth annual state archery tournament, Saturday, April 6, at Fort Hays State University in hopes of making nationals. The Kansas Archery program operates under the umbrella of KDWPT and the National Archery in the Schools (NASP) program.

■ In June, KDWPT assumed operation of the Southeast Kansas Nature Center (SEKNC) under a lease agreement with the city of Galena. The center is in Schermerhorn Park south of the city. KDWPT will lease the center and 10.1 acres of the park for \$1.00 annually for a term of two years, with an option to renew for two additional years.

KDWPT will manage the center, care for exhibits, maintain nature trails, and offer education programs. The city of Galena will continue to own and manage the park (including Schermerhorn Cave and the park area along Shoal Creek), as well as maintain the center.

## Parks

■ On June 11, the Kansas Department of Administration issued a request for bids for a qualified and experienced developer to design, construct, finance and operate a quality lake resort/conference center at Clinton Reservoir near Lawrence. The Department of Commerce is the lead agency for the proposed project.

■ The annual Country Stampede music and camping festival was held at Tuttle Creek State Park June 27-30. Approximately 150,000 people attended. The festival was first held in 1996.

■ Dennis Swanson, General Maintenance and Repair Technician at Lovewell State Park, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award during a state parks division meeting on April 24 at Wichita State University Hughes Metropolitan Complex.

■ KDWPT started an online forum and survey in June to learn more about what park-goers want, as part of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Public input is needed on topics including managed park use, issues and needs, and the types of experiences park-goers hope to have in the future. Input from the forum will be shared with the State Outdoor Recreation Plan Advisory Committee at their September meeting. The online forum is being moderated by Dr. Sid Stevenson of Kansas State University. The results will help planners and decision-makers develop strategies to address issues facing outdoor recreation in Kansas over the next five to 10 years. ■



Southeast Kansas Nature Center

## Fisheries

■ A fish barrier was installed at Lovewell Reservoir to prevent flushing fish through the outlet tube when water is released for irrigation.

■ KDWPT and the Waconda Lake Association hosted the 9th annual Youth Fishing Tournament at Waconda Lake (Glen Elder Reservoir) on Saturday, June 1st. Of the 136 youth who fished on the 33 boats volunteered by local anglers and the eight youth who fished off the bank, 76 were able to catch at least one fish. Nearly 300 people participated, including boat drivers and other volunteers. Eighty sponsors donated over \$2,500 in prizes. Each youth took home a fishing pole, t-shirt, goodie bag of tackle and gift certificates, and other prizes.

■ On June 6, KDWPT announced it will offer an Angler Education Program in conjunction with Fishing's Future (FF), a non-profit organization aimed at getting families outdoors



through fishing. Kansas has had aquatic education for some time, but the new

partnership with Fishing's Future will create an even more organized and useful program.

The Angler Education Program will enlist qualified volunteer instructors to teach classes on subjects ranging from current rules and regulations, species identification, fishing ethics and equipment to knot-tying, casting, fish habitat, aquatic nuisance species, conservation, and much more. Classes will also be given on family fishing, adult beginner fishing, specialized fishing techniques, and fishing for a particular species, schedules and resources permitting.

■ Bassmaster Magazine included Wilson Reservoir and Perry Reservoir in its list of the 100 Best Bass Lakes of 2013, announced in May.



## Wildlife

■ One of North America's most highly sought after migratory birds, the dove, will be the focus of a national survey to be conducted beginning June 20 and running through the end of the year. A cooperative effort of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Flyway Councils, and state fish and wildlife agencies, the National Dove Hunter Survey will examine the experiences and opinions of dove hunters from across the nation.

■ The Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) recently recognized KDWPT small game coordinator Jim Pitman as the 2013 "Wildlife Biologist of the Year." Pitman was presented the award by KDWPT Assistant Secretary Keith Sexson at the June 27 Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission meeting.

## Boating

KDWPT boating education coordinator, Erika Brooks, piloting the "Wear It Kansas" boat, began a campaign in



June to educate boaters about life jacket and boating safety. As part of the campaign, Brooks will give away free t-shirts and tank tops to boaters wearing life jackets.

## Law Enforcement

■ The Law Enforcement Division held its 11th annual K-9 recertification training, April 22-25 at Milford Reservoir. The annual four-day training ensures that every dog and handler meets or exceeds current agency standards.



■ A tip received by KDWPT law enforcement officers led to a 10-month investigation resulting in the May conviction of four Louisiana men on deer poaching charges in Iowa and Kansas. KDWPT participated in the investigation, along with officers of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Louisiana Department of Game and Fish and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

■ KDWPT officers participated in Operation Dry Water June 28-30, on the lookout at eight lakes for boaters under the influence of drugs and alcohol. The activity resulted in 65 vessel inspections, 19 citations and 10 warnings and two arrests being made for boating under the influence (BUI). High winds kept the boating activity down.

Operation Dry Water is part of a national effort to reduce accidents and fatalities related to BUI and educate recreational boaters about the dangers of BUI. KDWPT officers are responsible for patrolling Kansas waters and conducting boat accident investigations, boat safety inspections, BUI checks, safety programs, educational classes and other boating related activities.

■ Seven people reportedly drowned in Kansas waters in May and June. Most of the drownings might have been prevented had the victim been wearing a life jacket. Nationally, nearly half of all drownings in the U.S. occur in natural water settings. KDWPT investigates boating-related drownings and may assist local law enforcement officials with search, rescue or recovery when a non-boating, natural water drowning occurs.



## 2nd Qtr. Licenses & Permits

## Other 2nd Qtr. Sales

## 2nd Qtr. Park Visits

| Fish & Wildlife License or Permit Type                 | # Sold         | Revenue             | YTD Sold       | YTD Revenue         | State Park Permits                                | # Sold        | Revenue               | YTD Sold        | YTD Revenue         | Location                  | 2nd Qtr          | YTD              |
|--|----------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|---|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Resident Fish (\$18)                                   | 94,316         | \$1,697,688         | 125,140        | \$2,252,520         | Annual Vehicle (variable)                         | 25,826        | \$535,163             | 41,780          | \$827,382           | Cedar Bluff               | 58,627           | 63,277           |
| Nonresident Fish (\$40)                                | 5,916          | 236,640             | 8,364          | \$334,560           | Annual Camp (variable)                            | 657           | 131,350               | 2,641           | \$428,950           | Cheney                    | 98,040           | 142,310          |
| Resident Combination Hunt/Fish (\$36)                  | 9,026          | 324,936             | 27,898         | \$1,004,328         | Duplicate Vehicle (variable)                      | 92            | 950                   | 107             | \$1,100             | Clinton                   | 146,135          | 213,323          |
| Nonresident Combination Hunt/Fish (\$110)              | 411            | 45,210              | 871            | \$95,810            | Daily Vehicle (variable)                          | 19,988        | 298,805               | 24,971          | \$322,793           | Crawford*                 | 92,109           | 106,649          |
| 5-Day Trip Fish (\$20)                                 | 2,217          | 44,340              | 2,358          | \$47,160            | Daily Camp (variable)                             |               | 153,331               | 344             | \$160,890           | Cross Timbers             | 91,700           | 165,716          |
| 24-Hour Fish (\$3)                                     | 27,572         | 82,716              | 30,899         | \$92,697            | Camp w/utility w/prime (variable)                 |               | 770,823               | 0               | \$979,024           | Eisenhower                | 50,034           | 62,787           |
| 3-Pole Permit (\$4)                                    | 9,893          | 39,572              | 17,759         | \$71,036            | 14-Day Camp (variable)                            | 320           | 31,666                | 708             | \$64,646            | El Dorado                 | 292,279          | 370,407          |
| Trout Permit (\$10)                                    | 2,201          | 22,010              | 9,859          | \$98,590            | Utilities (variable)                              |               | 156,119               | 236             | \$199,943           | Elk City                  | 52,889           | 67,023           |
| Lifetime Fish (\$440)                                  | 26             | 11,440              | 54             | \$23,760            | Prime Sites (\$2)                                 | 2,810         | 6,935                 | 2,844           | \$7,003             | Fall River                | 67,423           | 106,607          |
| Lifetime Combination Hunt/Fish (\$880)                 | 61             | 53,680              | 140            | \$123,200           | Group Camping (variable)                          |               | 2,573                 | 0               | \$3,701             | Glen Elder                | 96,157           | 110,093          |
| Lifetime Hunt (\$440)                                  | 94             | 41,360              | 248            | \$109,120           | Annual Trail Permits (\$10)                       | 182           | 1,820                 | 353             | \$3,530             | Hillsdale                 | 220,552          | 275,396          |
| Lifetime Furharvester (\$440)                          | 3              | 1,320               | 11             | \$4,840             | Daily Trail Permits (\$2)                         | 916           | 1,832                 | 937             | \$1,907             | Kanopolis                 | 74,041           | 90,174           |
| Lifetime Payments (variable)                           | 197            | 21,940              | 462            | \$48,919            | Reservations (\$11)                               | 3,103         | 31,034                | 3,730           | \$37,931            | Kaw River                 | 7,100            | 13,800           |
| Resident Hunt (\$18)                                   | 3,626          | 65,268              | 19,060         | \$343,080           | Country Stampede and Other Festivals (variable)   |               | 5,008                 | 6               | \$55,505            | Lovewell                  | 72,172           | 85,767           |
| Nonresident Hunt (\$70)                                | 17,705         | 1,239,350           | 25,132         | \$1,759,240         | Yellow/Summons Penalties                          | 213           | 3,734                 | 247             | \$4,237             | Meade                     | 34,840           | 41,011           |
| Nonresident Jr Hunt (\$35)                             | 883            | 30,905              | 1,227          | \$42,945            | Concession Marina Income PFF                      | 15            | 17,590                | 65              | \$91,786            | Milford                   | 150,557          | 200,895          |
| Controlled Shoot Area (\$15)                           | 17             | 255                 | 4,036          | \$60,540            | Shelter Revenue (variable)                        |               | 3,340                 | 0               | \$8,246             | Perry                     | 72,526           | 86,935           |
| 48-Hour Waterfowl (\$25)                               | 1              | 25                  | 802            | \$20,050            | Kansas State Park Passport                        | 23,123        | 346,845               | 31,798          | \$476,970           | Pomona                    | 27,822           | 49,426           |
| Resident Combination Hunt/Fish Multi-year 16-20 (\$70) | 172            | 12,040              | 316            | \$22,120            | Land Leases for Private Cabins on KDWPT Property  | 5             | 1,113                 | 136             | \$38,709            | Prairie Dog               | 86,383           | 103,450          |
| Resident Fish Multi-year 16-20 (\$40)                  | 333            | 13,320              | 441            | \$17,640            | <b>TOTAL STATE PARK PERMITS</b>                   | <b>77,250</b> | <b>\$2,500,031</b>    | <b>110,903</b>  | <b>\$3,714,251</b>  | Prairie Spirit Rail Trail | 17,700           | 26,950           |
| Resident Hunt Multi-year 16-20 (\$40)                  | 28             | 1,120               | 87             | \$3,480             |   |               |                       |                 |                     | Sand Hills                | 6,631            | 10,044           |
| Resident Deer Permits/Tags (variable)                  | 0              | 0                   | 4,072          | \$58,118            |   |               |                       |                 |                     | Scott                     | 50,457           | 70,474           |
| Nonresident Deer Permits/Tags (variable)               | 21,158         | 7,084,069           | 21,714         | \$7,113,165         |   |               |                       |                 |                     | Tuttle Creek              | 330,825          | 417,533          |
| Resident Turkey Permits/Tags (variable)                | 31,840         | 476,210             | 50,677         | \$675,387           |   |               |                       |                 |                     | Webster                   | 97,656           | 112,968          |
| Nonresident Turkey Permits/Tags (variable)             | 19,788         | 509,200             | 23,352         | \$643,330           |   |               |                       |                 |                     | Wilson                    | 92,414           | 104,633          |
| Resident Elk Permits (variable)                        | 0              | 0                   | 4              | \$826               |   |               |                       |                 |                     | <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>2,387,069</b> | <b>3,097,648</b> |
| Antelope Permits (variable)                            | 780            | 26,700              | 780            | \$26,700            |   |               |                       |                 |                     |                           |                  |                  |
| Resident Furharvester (\$18)                           | 152            | 2,736               | 3,872          | \$69,696            | <b>Three-Year Boat Registrations</b>              | <b># Sold</b> | <b>Revenue</b>        | <b>YTD Sold</b> | <b>YTD Revenue</b>  |                           |                  |                  |
| Nonresident Furharvester (\$250)                       | 6              | 1,500               | 36             | \$9,000             | Boats (\$30)                                      | 12,868        | \$386,040             | 19,084          | \$572,520           |                           |                  |                  |
| Junior Furharvester (\$10)                             | 12             | 120                 | 126            | \$1,260             | Boat Dealers (variable)                           | 30            | 250                   | 33              | \$265               |                           |                  |                  |
| Nonresident Bobcat License (\$100)                     | 20             | 2,000               | 39             | \$3,900             | Boat Duplicates (\$10)                            | 521           | 5,210                 | 638             | \$6,380             |                           |                  |                  |
| Other Hunt/Fish/Big Game Permits (variable)            | 4,387          | 21,605              | 11,693         | \$42,376            | <b>TOTAL BOAT REGISTRATIONS</b>                   | <b>13,419</b> | <b>\$391,500</b>      | <b>19,755</b>   | <b>\$579,165</b>    |                           |                  |                  |
| Duplicate Hunt/Fish/Big Game                           | 1,445          | 14,450              | 1,989          | \$19,890            |   |               |                       |                 |                     |                           |                  |                  |
| Commercial Licenses/Permits                            | 225            | 18,150              | 721            | \$28,957            | <b>Cabin Revenue</b>                              |               | <b>Gross Revenue*</b> |                 | <b>YTD Revenue</b>  |                           |                  |                  |
| Senior Hunt/Fish Licenses (variable)                   | 3,248          | 30,861              | 5,578          | \$39,938            | Park Cabins                                       |               | \$335,244             |                 | \$631,304           |                           |                  |                  |
| Senior Hunt/Fish Lifetime Pass (\$40)                  | 2,955          | 118,200             | 7,341          | \$293,640           | Public Land Cabins                                |               | 18,200                |                 | \$35,070            |                           |                  |                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>260,714</b> | <b>\$12,290,936</b> | <b>407,158</b> | <b>\$15,601,818</b> | <b>TOTAL CABIN REVENUE*</b>                       |               | <b>\$353,444</b>      |                 | <b>\$666,374</b>    |                           |                  |                  |
|  |                |                     |                |                     | <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>                              |               | <b>\$15,535,911</b>   |                 | <b>\$20,561,608</b> |                           |                  |                  |
|  |                |                     |                |                     | * Gross cabin revenue before payment to Wildscape |               |                       |                 |                     |                           |                  |                  |

**New in 2013**