

Kansas Wildlife Federation

2003 Resolution

SUPPORT FOR SOUND DEER MANAGEMENT IN KANSAS

Whereas, the deer population in Kansas has been reduced significantly in most areas of the state in the past few years with increased resident permits, emphasis on antlerless deer harvest, a special January deer season, and allowing non-resident deer hunting since 1994; and

Whereas, many resident deer hunters and landowners are concerned by this significant reduction in deer numbers and impacted by the decreased quality of their deer hunting experience; and

Whereas, the increase in nonresident deer permits and the increased interest in trophy deer hunting in Kansas has led to many acres of private land being leased for deer hunting; and

Whereas, the resident deer hunters and the young generation of Kansas deer hunters are increasingly finding access to private land limited by leasing and high trespass or trophy fees; and

Whereas, there are still some groups in Kansas that want to increase non-resident permit numbers including the Secretary of Wildlife and Parks; and

Whereas, the Kansas Legislature has been increasingly involved in Kansas deer management by authorizing non-resident transferable landowner permits; and

Whereas, non-resident transferable landowner permit use should be restricted to lands owned and operated by the applicant for agriculture purposes, as currently stipulated by law;

Whereas, the Kansas Legislature has been unwilling to allow the Department of Wildlife and Parks (who has the biological and scientific staff) to manage for a quality deer herd even though they are charged with this responsibility; and

Whereas, deer hunting in Kansas has become commercialized and because of that we are diminishing our respect for the animal itself and we are diminishing our self respect as hunters; and

Whereas, a trophy deer should not be something that you buy – it should be something that you earn; and

Whereas, our youngsters and their youngsters may never have the opportunity to harvest a trophy of their dreams – whether it be a magnificent buck, a small buck, or even a doe -if we continue to privatize deer management in Kansas;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kansas Wildlife Federation assembled during its annual meeting February 15, 2003 in Manhattan, Kansas, urges the Kansas Legislature allow the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks do their task of quality deer management in Kansas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the KWF urges the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks hold non-resident deer permit numbers at or below 2002 levels and allow the non-resident transferable deer permits to end when that law sunsets in 2004; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks manage deer with the maximum quality of the deer herd and with the resident/young deer hunters of Kansas in mind; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kansas Wildlife Federation provide this resolution to the Governor of the State of Kansas, the Chairperson of the House Environment Committee, the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Kansas Wildlife Federation

2003 Resolution

SUPPORT FOR SOUND SITING GUIDELINES FOR WIND GENERATORS

Whereas, wind generation is a renewable, clean source of energy; and

Whereas, increases in wind generation production will reduce the nations reliance on fossil fuels and reduce ozone depleting gases; and

Whereas, wind generation facilities can impact wildlife utilization of habitat in the vicinity of the towers, especially native grasslands of Kansas; and

Whereas, extensive grasslands and open horizons are essential components of Greater Prairie-Chicken habitat; and

Whereas, the development of wind generator facilities in the Flint Hills and other native grassland areas will seriously fragment Greater Prairie-Chicken home ranges, nesting and brood rearing habitat and lekking areas; and

Whereas, property tax exemption for wind generation facilities granted by previous legislation promotes facility construction in Kansas regardless of the impacts on wildlife;

Whereas, the Kansas Renewable Energy Working Group (KREWG) Environmental and Siting Committee in January 2003 has developed a set of siting guidelines to minimize the impact of the facilities; and

Whereas, placing wind generation facilities in areas already ecologically fragmented will help alleviate siting impacts; and

Whereas, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks needs to actively be involved in minimizing the impacts of wind generator facilities to keep the Greater Prairie-Chicken from becoming listed on the federal Threatened and Endangered species list;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kansas Wildlife Federation assembled during its annual meeting, February 15, 2003 in Manhattan, Kansas, urges all wind generator facilities be required to meet siting guidelines developed by the Kansas Renewable Energy Working Group Environmental and Siting Committee in January 2003; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that KWF urges the Kansas Legislature remove property tax exemption status for those wind generation facilities which do not meet the January 2003 KREWG Environmental and Siting Committee guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kansas Wildlife Federation provide this resolution to the Governor of the State of Kansas, the Chairperson of the House Environment Committee, the Chairperson of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee, the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, the Director of the Kansas Biological Survey and the Kansas Congressional Delegation.