

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

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RE: SB213

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Troy Sporer. I live in Oakley, Kansas. I was a commissioner for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) for seven years. During that time, I worked to pass a regulation to stop the invasion of non-resident waterfowl hunters onto public lands.

After four years, KDWP paid staff came up with a regulation that non-resident hunters could only hunt waterfowl on public lands on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

The back story is that, throughout COVID, young adult males started hunting seven days a week on public lakes and marshes. When one group of non-resident hunters would return home, there would be another group show up using pin locations to hunt the best areas.

The non-resident hunters are very aggressive. If they weren't hunting, they were looking for a place to hunt. This style of hunting has run off all the waterfowl. More importantly, it has caused Kansas residents to stop hunting our public lands. This led the commission to pass regulation 115-8-26 Non-resident Waterfowl Hunting a year ago.

This regulation was put on hold due to HB 2648, requiring an economic study on the matter. Paid staff at KDWP is using the excuse that they don't have any one on staff that can put together an economic study. The bottom line is the average non-resident hunts three days per year, so there is minimal economic impact. The ten percent of non-residents causing the problems will be impacted. However, they are resourceful and will find private land to hunt on. This will minimize the financial impact on the state.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Troy Sporer