

1 AN ACT relating to elk hunting.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 150.390 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) No person shall possess, take, pursue, or attempt to take or pursue or otherwise  
5 molest any wild elk, deer, wild turkey, or bear in any manner contrary to any  
6 provisions of this chapter or its regulations.

7 (2) No person shall use a dog to chase or molest wild elk or deer in any manner, at any  
8 time, or at any place. Any conservation officer, peace officer, sheriff, or constable  
9 may take necessary steps to stop, prevent, or bring under control any dog or dogs  
10 found chasing or molesting wild elk or deer at any time.

11 (3) The department shall establish by administrative regulation the conditions under  
12 which depredation permits may be issued without cost to persons suffering damage  
13 from wild elk to allow the taking of wild elk.

14 (4) If Kentucky's wild elk population reaches a level that will sustain limited hunting,  
15 the department may establish by administrative regulations the conditions and  
16 permits that would allow the controlled taking of wild elk.

17 **(5) *Every year that the department holds a drawing to determine participation in an***  
18 ***elk quota hunt, the department shall establish a preference point system for elk***  
19 ***permit applicants as follows:***

20 **(a) *An applicant shall accrue one (1) preference point in each permit category***  
21 ***to which he or she applied but was not drawn;***

22 **(b) *Preference points shall accumulate for each permit category for each year***  
23 ***that an applicant is not drawn for that category, and there shall be no limit***  
24 ***on the number of preference points that an applicant may accumulate;***

25 **(c) *The department shall count each accumulated preference point as a free***  
26 ***additional application for that applicant the next time he or she purchases***  
27 ***an application for a permit in that category;***

- 1        (d) Once an applicant is drawn for a permit category, his or her preference  
2                points shall be reset to zero (0) only for that permit category, regardless of  
3                whether the permit is utilized;
- 4        (e) Preference points shall not be transferrable from one (1) applicant to  
5                another or from one (1) category to another; and
- 6        (f) An applicant's preference points shall be reset to zero (0) for a permit  
7                category to which the applicant has not applied for five (5) consecutive  
8                years.