

FISCAL NOTE

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
NON-ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT			
Anticipated Revenue increase			
GAME & FISH FUND	\$0	\$359,000	\$359,000

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
NON-ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT			
Anticipated Expenditure increase			
GAME & FISH FUND	\$20,000	\$0	\$0

Source of revenue increase:

The revenue increase would be a result of implementing resident preference points for elk, deer and antelope. With a proposed effective date of January 1, 2016, the revenue increase will not be recognized until FY 2017 after the June 2016 draws are completed.

Assumptions:

Based on a survey conducted in 2008 of residents with regards to their willingness to pay for preference points for elk, deer and antelope, the survey indicated that of those residents that were willing to support the implementation of resident preference points they were not willing to pay more than \$10.00, regardless of species. Therefore, \$10.00 for any non-youth applicant and \$5.00 for any youth applicant is the price the Department would anticipate charging if the proposed bill were to pass and is also the price used in the above revenue calculations.

Based on the language of the bill in the current draft, the resident elk, deer and antelope preference point system would be handled similar to the current nonresident elk, deer and antelope preference point system in that the applicant would have the choice to participate or not in the preference point system. If the applicant chooses to participate, they would remit the additional \$10.00 or \$5.00 assumed preference point fee with their license application fees remitted for the limited quota drawing. If the applicant is unsuccessful in drawing their license, they will be awarded a preference point and the WGFDD would retain the preference point fee. If they draw a license, the preference point fee would be refunded. The applicant would also have the opportunity to purchase an elk, deer or antelope preference point by remitting the appropriate fee during a special application period without participating in the limited quota drawing process. However, in no case would an applicant be able to obtain their first choice license in the limited quota drawing and purchase a preference point in the same year.

The five (5) year average from 2010 to 2014 indicates, there are 34,685 resident elk, 18,305 resident deer, and 27,319 resident antelope applicants that participated in the limited quota drawing with 38,088 unsuccessful applicants (16,611 elk, 10,426 deer, and 11,051 antelope). The unsuccessful applicant pool of 38,088 is being used to calculate the revenue impact for this proposed bill.

Based on the above referenced survey, 25% of the survey respondents indicated that they would not be willing to participate in any resident elk, deer or antelope preference point system. Based on this survey, we have included a range from 75% to 100% of the five (5) year average from 2010 to 2014 of unsuccessful resident elk, deer and antelope applicants, 38,088 is being used to calculate the revenue impact. 75% of which is 28,566. Of the 38,088 and 28,566 unsuccessful applicants that will be used in the projected revenue calculation, 4,309 and 3,232, respectively, are youth.

If resident preference points were enacted for elk, deer and antelope, there may be an increased interest in high demand areas for residents to participate in the limited quota drawing. There may be a significant increase in the applicant pool impacting drawing odds for those high demand areas from residents that are currently purchasing general hunting licenses, or not participating on a regular basis, that may submit applications for these high demand limited quota areas.

This fiscal note and related projections were prepared based on the assumption that the intent of the proposed bill is to implement resident preference points in the same manner that nonresident preference points are administered for elk, deer and antelope as illustrated above.

The provision in the bill allowing certain resident party applicants to be grouped with the party member holding the highest number of preference points has potential to provide a disincentive for some party applicants to accumulate preference points over time. Quantifying this potential fiscal impact is nearly impossible.

Source of expenditure increase:

A one-time programming cost of \$20,000 to modify the electronic license allocation program to create a new application and drawing process for the implementation of resident preference points for elk, deer and antelope.

Assumptions:

Wyoming Game & Fish Department's system development programming staff would complete the system changes within the timeframe required.