

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0005

Yellowstone and Grand Teton wildlife conservation fees.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sommers, Allen, Flitner,
Gierau and Schwartz and Senator(s) Coe

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION to the United States Secretary of the
2 Interior and the Director of the National Park Service
3 relating to the imposition of wildlife conservation fees at
4 Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park.

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6 WHEREAS, Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National
7 Park are rich in wildlife that attracts millions of
8 visitors each year to the parks; and

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10 WHEREAS, the wildlife in Yellowstone National Park and
11 Grand Teton National Park migrate throughout the year
12 within and outside the wide boundaries of the parks and
13 across Wyoming, Montana and Idaho; and

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1 WHEREAS, a significant portion of the winter and
2 transitional habitats of these wildlife, and in particular
3 the habitats of big game animals, are provided by federal,
4 state and private lands adjacent to Yellowstone National
5 Parks and Grand Teton National Park; and

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7 WHEREAS, these states are financially responsible for
8 managing their wildlife, protecting wildlife migration
9 corridors and wildlife habitats and mitigating impacts of
10 diseases by wildlife that migrate to and from Yellowstone
11 National Park and Grand Teton National Park; and

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13 WHEREAS, these states are also financially responsible for
14 improving human safety, reducing wildlife-vehicle
15 collisions and resolving conflicts with big game animals
16 and large carnivores that migrate to and from Yellowstone
17 National Park and Grand Teton National Park; and

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19 WHEREAS, states have traditionally addressed these
20 responsibilities and managed wildlife through consumptive
21 uses of wildlife; and

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1 WHEREAS, states request the assistance of all Yellowstone
2 National Park and Grand Teton National Park visitors to pay
3 a fee to protect and mitigate impacts to wildlife and the
4 public within and outside the boundaries of the parks; and

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6 WHEREAS, the imposition of a wildlife conservation fee is
7 important to the benefits and services provided to visitors
8 and would provide an opportunity for these states to
9 address these responsibilities and manage wildlife through
10 nonconsumptive uses of wildlife; and

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12 WHEREAS, the wildlife conservation fees will be prioritized
13 to address the responsibilities described above but will
14 allow the states to utilize a portion of these dollars for
15 general wildlife management in their states.

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17 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*
18 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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20 **Section 1.** That the Wyoming Legislature requests the
21 United States Secretary of the Interior and the Director of
22 the National Park Service to enter into an agreement with
23 the State of Wyoming to impose a wildlife conservation fee

1 at Grand Teton National Park and the States of Wyoming,
2 Montana and Idaho to impose a wildlife conservation fee at
3 Yellowstone National Park. The agreements shall provide
4 that revenue collected from the fee be transferred back to
5 these states for wildlife conservation efforts.

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7 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
8 transmit copies of this resolution to the Wyoming
9 Congressional Delegation, to the United States Secretary of
10 the Interior, to the Director of the National Park Service,
11 to the Governors of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho and to the
12 directors of the Wyoming, Montana and Idaho game and fish
13 agencies.

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(END)