

**DRAFT ONLY  
NOT APPROVED FOR  
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Game and fish license fees.

Sponsored by: Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and  
Cultural Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; adjusting license,  
2 application, entry, stamp and permit fees annually;  
3 adjusting landowner coupon payments annually; requiring  
4 reports; authorizing rulemaking; and providing for an  
5 effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-505 is created to read:

10

11 **23-1-505. Annual fee adjustments.**

12

1           (a) As provided in W.S. 23-1-701(b), 23-2-101(e), (f)  
2 and (j), 23-2-107(c)(ii) and (e), 23-2-201(d), 23-2-301(c),  
3 23-2-306(a) and (b), 23-2-307(b) and 23-3-105(b) the  
4 changes in the implicit price deflator for state and local  
5 government purchases of goods and services, as published by  
6 the United States department of commerce, shall be used by  
7 the commission as the index to determine an annual rate of  
8 increase or decrease in the application fees, entry fees  
9 and fees for licenses, stamps, permits and tags issued by  
10 the department, selling agent fees collected by authorized  
11 selling agents and landowner coupon payments paid by the  
12 department.

13

14           (b) The commission shall determine the change in the  
15 implicit price deflator for state and local government  
16 purchases of goods and services, as published by the United  
17 States department of commerce, for the quarter ending March  
18 31 of the current year compared to the quarter ending March  
19 31 of the previous year. The relative amount of the change  
20 shall be multiplied by the current application fee or entry  
21 fee and for each current license, stamp, permit and tag  
22 issued by the department, the current selling agent fee  
23 collected by authorized selling agents and the current

1 landowner coupon payment paid by the department. The  
2 product shall be rounded to the nearest twenty-five cents  
3 (\$0.25) and the resulting amount shall be added to the fee  
4 for the current year. The resulting amount shall be the  
5 fee for the license year beginning on or after January 1 of  
6 the next succeeding calendar year for the application fee  
7 and license, stamp, permit and tag issued by the  
8 department, selling agent fee collected by authorized  
9 selling agents and landowner coupon payment paid by the  
10 department that is adjusted under this section.

11

12 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the  
13 commission may recalculate the current fees charged for  
14 each application fee, entry fee and license, stamp, permit  
15 and tag issued by the department, selling agent fee  
16 collected by authorized selling agents and landowner coupon  
17 payment paid by the department to determine that all  
18 appropriate indexing has been included in the current fees.

19

20 (d) The calculations provided for in this section  
21 shall be reported to the legislature and the governor in  
22 the annual report provided in W.S. 23-1-503.

23

1           (e)    The commission shall, at least every five (5)  
2 years, analyze all application fees and fees for licenses,  
3 stamps, permits and tags issued by the department, selling  
4 agent fees collected by authorized selling agents and  
5 landowner coupon payments paid by the department to ensure  
6 the appropriate fee is charged. Where appropriate, the  
7 commission shall recommend to the legislature that fees  
8 established by statute be adjusted to ensure that those  
9 fees are appropriate.

10  
11           **Section 2.**    W.S. 23-1-302(a) by creating a new  
12 paragraph (xxxii), 23-1-701(b), 23-2-101(e), (f)(intro),  
13 (j)(intro), 23-2-107(c)(ii), (e), 23-2-201(d)(intro),  
14 23-2-301(c)(intro), 23-2-306(a)(intro), (b)(intro) and  
15 23-3-105(b) are amended to read:

16  
17           **23-1-302. Powers and duties.**

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19           (a) The commission is directed and empowered:

20  
21                   (xxxii) By rule and regulation, to adjust  
22 application fees, entry fees and fees for licenses, stamps,  
23 permits and tags issued by the department, selling agent

1 fees collected by authorized selling agents and landowner  
2 coupon payments paid by the department annually to an  
3 amount computed under W.S. 23-1-505.

4  
5 **23-1-701. Selling agents; administration of oaths;**  
6 **licenses, permits and game tags.**

7  
8 (b) Each license selling agent shall charge a fee as  
9 provided in this subsection for each license, permit or  
10 stamp he sells or distributes pursuant to this act. The  
11 fee shall not be charged if this act specifies that the  
12 issuance shall be without fee or fails to establish a fee  
13 for the issuance of the license, permit or stamp. Each  
14 license, permit or stamp sold or distributed under this act  
15 shall display the total amount only of all fees and other  
16 charges required under this act or otherwise provided by  
17 law. Each selling agent shall retain two dollars (\$2.00)  
18 for each license and fifty cents (\$.50) for each stamp or  
19 permit he sells as adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505. For  
20 failure to comply with this section, selling agents shall  
21 not be entitled to retain the amounts specified in this  
22 subsection and shall be liable on their bond. No employee  
23 of the commission shall receive any commission on licenses,

1 stamps or permits sold, but the department shall charge the  
2 additional fee specified in this subsection, or otherwise  
3 provided by law, for each license, stamp or permit sold by  
4 commission employees. The fee charged under this  
5 subsection shall be in addition to the amount otherwise  
6 established by this act for the license, permit or stamp  
7 and shall be as follows:

8  
9 (i) Two dollars (\$2.00) for each license as  
10 adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505, except that this  
11 additional fee shall not be charged for licenses under W.S.  
12 23-1-705(e) or (k), 23-2-101(j)(xi), (xvi), (xvii), (xx),  
13 (xxi), (xxxii), (xxxiii), (xliv) or (xlv), 23-2-201(d)(iii)  
14 or (iv) or (f) or 23-2-301(c)(xiii);

15  
16 (ii) Fifty cents (\$.50) for each stamp as  
17 adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505;

18  
19 (iii) Fifty cents (\$.50) for each permit as  
20 adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505, except that this  
21 additional fee shall not be charged for permits under W.S.  
22 23-1-302(m).

23

1           **23-2-101. Fees; restrictions; nonresident application**  
2 **fee; nonresident licenses; verification of residency**  
3 **required.**

4  
5           (e) Resident and nonresident license applicants shall  
6 pay an application fee in an amount specified by this  
7 subsection upon submission of an application for purchase  
8 of any limited quota drawing for big or trophy game license  
9 or wild bison license. The resident application fee shall  
10 be five dollars (\$5.00) and the nonresident application fee  
11 shall be fourteen dollars (\$14.00) as adjusted pursuant to  
12 W.S. 23-1-505. The application fee is in addition to the  
13 fees prescribed by subsections (f) and (j) of this section  
14 and by W.S. 23-2-107 and shall be payable to the department  
15 either directly or through an authorized selling agent of  
16 the department. At the beginning of each month, the  
17 commission shall set aside all of the fees collected during  
18 calendar year 1980 and not to exceed twenty-five percent  
19 (25%) of the fees collected thereafter pursuant to this  
20 subsection to establish and maintain a working balance of  
21 five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00), to compensate  
22 owners or lessees of property damaged by game animals and  
23 game birds.

1

2 (f) Forty percent (40%) of available nonresident elk  
3 licenses, forty percent (40%) of available nonresident deer  
4 licenses and forty percent (40%) of available nonresident  
5 antelope licenses for any one (1) calendar year shall as  
6 established by the commission, be offered to nonresident  
7 applicants upon receipt of the fee prescribed by this  
8 subsection. Seventy-five (75) of the nonresident deer  
9 licenses set aside pursuant to this subsection shall be  
10 used for a national bow hunt for deer. The licenses  
11 authorized by this subsection shall be offered by drawing  
12 to nonresident applicants prior to the drawing for the  
13 remaining nonresident licenses issued. The licenses  
14 offered under this subsection shall be issued in a manner  
15 prescribed by rules and regulations promulgated by the  
16 commission. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit any  
17 unsuccessful applicant for a nonresident license pursuant  
18 to this subsection from submitting an application for any  
19 licenses remaining after the drawing during the calendar  
20 year in which the application under this subsection was  
21 submitted. The following fees as adjusted pursuant to W.S.  
22 23-1-505 shall be collected by the department and are in  
23 addition to the nonresident license fee for the appropriate



1 big game species imposed under subsection (j) of this  
2 section and the application fee imposed under subsection  
3 (e) of this section:

4

5 (j) Subject to W.S. 23-2-101(f), 23-1-705(e) and the  
6 applicable fee under W.S. 23-1-701, the following hunting  
7 licenses and tags may be purchased for the fee indicated as  
8 adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505 and subject to the  
9 limitations provided:

10

11 **23-2-107. Wild bison licenses.**

12

13 (c) The commission shall promulgate reasonable rules  
14 and regulations regulating wild bison licenses and the  
15 management of wild bison. The rules shall provide for:

16

17 (ii) A nonrefundable entry fee for the drawing  
18 of a license, which shall be a minimum of six dollars  
19 (\$6.00) as adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505;

20

21 (e) A resident applicant shall pay a license fee of  
22 four hundred dollars (\$400.00) as adjusted pursuant to W.S.  
23 23-1-505 and shall pay the fee required by W.S.

1 23-2-101(e). A nonresident applicant shall pay a license  
2 fee of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) as  
3 adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505 and shall pay the fee  
4 required by W.S. 23-2-101(e). The fee charged under W.S.  
5 23-1-701 shall be in addition to the fee imposed under this  
6 subsection.

7

8 **23-2-201. Fees; restrictions; verification of**  
9 **residency required.**

10

11 (d) The following fishing licenses may be purchased  
12 for the fee indicated as adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505  
13 in addition to the applicable fee under W.S. 23-1-701 and  
14 subject to the limitations provided:

15

16 **23-2-301. Miscellaneous fees; verification of**  
17 **residency required.**

18

19 (c) The following licenses and tags may be purchased  
20 for the fee indicated as adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505  
21 in addition to the applicable fee under W.S. 23-1-701 and  
22 subject to other requirements of this article:

23

1           **23-2-306. Conservation stamp; exemptions.**

2

3           (a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c) of this  
4 section and the applicable fee under W.S. 23-1-701, each  
5 sportsman licensed under W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or  
6 23-2-201 shall purchase a single conservation stamp for  
7 twelve dollars (\$12.00) as adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-  
8 505 which shall be valid for one (1) calendar year and the  
9 stamp or an authorization signifying purchase of the stamp  
10 shall be in the possession of any person exercising rights  
11 under any fishing or hunting license issued pursuant to  
12 W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or 23-2-201. Holders of special  
13 limited fishing permits issued under W.S. 23-2-207 and  
14 holders of licenses only under W.S. 23-2-101(j)(v) and  
15 (vi), 23-2-201(d)(vi) and (vii), 23-2-201(f) and  
16 23-2-201(g) are exempt from the provisions of this section  
17 when exercising hunting or fishing privileges provided  
18 under those specific licenses. Revenues collected from the  
19 sale of each stamp under this subsection shall be deposited  
20 as follows:

21

22           (b) A lifetime conservation stamp may be purchased  
23 for one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00) as adjusted

1 pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505 plus the applicable fee under  
2 W.S. 23-1-701. Revenues collected from the sale of each  
3 stamp under this subsection shall be deposited as follows:  
4

5 **23-3-105. Antelope, deer and elk coupons; payment to**  
6 **landowner; kill on federal or state land.**

7  
8 (b) The landowner's coupon shall promptly be  
9 detached, dated, signed and delivered to the landowner.  
10 The landowner, on or before March 1 following the year for  
11 which the license was issued, shall deliver to the  
12 department the coupon and an affidavit that the antelope,  
13 deer or elk for which the coupon was delivered was killed  
14 on his land. Upon receipt of the coupon and affidavit the  
15 department shall pay the landowner sixteen dollars (\$16.00)  
16 as adjusted pursuant to W.S. 23-1-505 for each coupon from  
17 an antelope, deer or elk license. Landowner's coupons are  
18 not transferable. Any unauthorized person attempting to  
19 collect any sum for any landowner's coupon is guilty of a  
20 high misdemeanor punishable as provided in W.S.  
21 23-6-202(a)(ii). Effective January 1, 2000, the department  
22 shall provide a checkoff box on each landowner coupon  
23 affidavit claim form that offers the claimant the

1 opportunity to designate the animal damage management board  
2 to receive his payment amount for landowner coupons claimed  
3 on that form. For each claim made where the landowner has  
4 designated his payment to the animal damage management  
5 board, the department shall transfer that amount to the  
6 animal damage management account created by W.S. 11-6-306  
7 and the department shall retain the fees related to those  
8 administrative costs of the transfer.

9

10 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon  
11 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
12 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
13 Constitution.

14

15

(END)