

Chapter 63

GAME AND FISH-CONSERVATION STAMP FEE

Original House Bill No. 17

AN ACT relating to game and fish licenses; increasing conservation stamp fees; establishing a perpetual trust account within the game and fish fund; depositing fee increases as specified; specifying account investment and disposition of investment earnings; imposing commission reporting requirements on specified account expenditures; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 23-1-501(e) and by creating a new subsection (f) and 23-2-306(a) are amended to read:

23-1-501. Game and fish fund.

(e) An account within the game and fish fund is created. Revenues collected under W.S. 23-2-101(m), ~~and 23-2-201(e)~~ and as specified under W.S. 23-2-306(a) shall be deposited within the account. The commission shall use revenues in the account to purchase access easements to provide access to public and private lands. The commission shall notify in writing the appropriate boards of county commissioners before purchasing any access easements under this subsection. In addition and on or before February 1 of each year, the commission shall annually report to the legislature on easements purchased pursuant to this subsection during the preceding fiscal year.

(f) A trust account separate and apart from the trust account established under subsection (d) of this section is created within the Wyoming game and fish fund. The account shall consist of those funds appropriated or designated to the account by law or by gift from whatever source. Funds deposited within the account are intended to be inviolate and constitute a permanent or perpetual trust account which shall be invested by the state treasurer as authorized under W.S. 9-4-711 and in a manner to obtain the highest return possible consistent with preservation of the account corpus. Any interest earned from investment of the account corpus shall be credited by the state treasurer into the Wyoming game and fish fund to be expended by the commission for purposes specified under subsection (b) of this section.

23-2-306. Conservation stamp; exemptions.

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, each sportsman licensed under W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or 23-2-201 shall purchase a single conservation stamp for ~~five dollars (\$5.00)~~ ten dollars (\$10.00) which shall be valid for one (1) calendar year and in the possession of any person exercising rights under any fishing or hunting license issued pursuant to W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or 23-2-201. Holders of pioneer licenses as defined under W.S. 23-1-705(d) and (e), of special limited fishing permits

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issued under W.S. 23-2-207 and holders of licenses only under W.S. 23-2-101(j)(v) and (vi) and 23-2-201(d)(vi) and (vii) are exempt from the provisions of this section. Revenues collected from the sale of each stamp under this subsection shall be deposited as follows:

(i) Two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) into the account created under W.S. 23-1-501(e);

(ii) Of the amount remaining:

(A) Fifty percent (50%) into the trust account created under W.S. 23-1-501(f); and

(B) Fifty percent (50%) into the game and fish fund.

Section 2. This act is effective January 1, 2001.

Approved March 13, 2000.