

Greetings,

HOW TO PROSPECT FOR A NEW ADFG FUNDING MECHANISM

The 2015 ISER cost Analysis on fishing tourism and mining showed tourism in Alaska returning a maximum benefit for its people.

The Economic Importance of Alaska's Wildlife (ADFG 2014) further clarifies the maximum use consistent with public interest:

- Resident viewer and hunter constituencies equally spent 1 billion dollars each in Alaska.

Wildlife tourism spending showed:

- \$1.2 Billion dollars spent by nonresidents to utilize wildlife to observe.
- \$150 Million dollars spent by nonresidents to utilize wildlife to hunt.

This is One Billion dollars more spent by tourists who utilize wildlife for observation than hunting. \$1 Billion dollars is significant.

For the fiscal health of our state, recognizing this additional \$1,000, 000,000 dollars spent, \$231,000,000 dollars in government revenue, and \$976,000,000 in labor income from the viewing constituency, advises legislative recognition. A determination to design a flow through funding mechanism for the effectual management of our Division of Wildlife Conservation is in the public interest.

This can be tied in with the entry of this constituency into Alaska, linked to the 900,000 cruise ship passengers, hotel, bed and breakfast, and fuel taxes. It can also be a mandatory licensing for the commercial photographers and marine and land based viewing guides who make money from utilizing wildlife.

A cost effective way to initiate new revenue is by adding wording and price to existing statute AS 16.05.340(a) for this viewing or commercial customer.

ADFG has a new internet hunting fishing license shopping cart to purchase a utilization license and expand contribution base.

This license in 2001 was divided into 25 CLASSES of use for citizens who utilize fish and wildlife in Alaska. Legislative authority can create new Classes and fees, for citizens who view wildlife or commercially utilize wildlife for photography or guiding income.

The new Legislative Language added to AS 16.05.340(a), would address:

- Voluntary compliance by citizens, who view
- Mandatory compliance with citizens who commercially make a living with wildlife, yet forgo the harvest.
- language to remove prohibition of viewing constituents access without this license.

1. Resident Tracker (viewer)

Created for residents who hunt, pursue, search for, and track wildlife, yet forgo the harvest. They invest in the U.S. as well as the Alaskan economy and the jobs that support their endeavor with travel, equipment, lodging, clothing, gear, firearms and Federal, State, and Borough taxes.

- **resident (R) tracker \$5.00**

2. Non-Resident Tracker

Created for non-residents, tourists, cruise ship travelers etc. who hunt, pursue, search for, and track wildlife, yet forgo the harvest. They invest in the U.S as well as the Alaskan economy and the jobs that support their endeavor with travel, equipment, lodging, clothing, gear, firearms and Federal, State, and Borough taxes.

- **non-resident (NR) tracker \$5.00**

3. Commercial/Photographers (mandatory license)

Created for those who make their commercial living through photographing or observing wildlife. This dedicated CLASS of citizens hunts wildlife with their physical exertion, eyes, and ears, or follow carefully with costly camera, binoculars or spotting scope equipment. Their chosen wildlife activity creates jobs, and invests in the Alaskan/ U.S. economy with travel, equipment, lodging, clothing, gear and firearms and taxes. This could be divided into

- a. resident Commercial/Photographer \$10.00**
- b. Non-Resident Commercial/Photographer \$20.00**

ADMINISTRATION/COST OF ADDITIONAL CLASSES

As per the finance licensing administrator, the Alaska Sport Fishing, Hunting, Trapping License form and database can easily, with minimal cost, be altered to accommodate additional classes on line.

The 2001 Alaska Sport Fishing, Hunting, Trapping License has 25 CLASS boxes available to accommodate citizens. One choice is allowed; a single activity or combo to be paper punched out. The simple addition of Tracker or commercial/photographer to this present list would round out the human dimension and diversity of utilization, interest and support for wildlife.

These 25 punch out CLASS categories are:

CLASS	RESIDENT	\$	CLASS	NON
RESIDENT	\$			
1 Sport Fish	15.00	6A 14-Day	Sport Fish	50.00
2 Hunting	25.00	6B 3-Day	Sport Fish	20.00
3A Hunting/Trapping	39.00	6C 1-Day	Sport Fish	10.00
3B Trapping	15.00	6D 7-Day	Sport Fish	30.00
4 Hunt/Sport Fish	39.00	7	Sport Fish	100.00
5 Hunt/Trap/Sport Fish	53.00	8	Hunting	85.00
1A Blind Sport Fish	.25	8A	Small Game Hunt	20.00
2A Blind Hunting	25.00	9	Hunt/Sport Fish	
185.00				
5A Income Restriction	5.00	9C	Fish/ 7-day/Hunt	
115.00				
5B Duplicate Class 5A	2.00	10	Hunt/Trap	
250.00				

18	Duplicate License	5.00	12	Military Sport Fish	15.00
			13	Military Small Game	15.00
			14	Small Game/Sp Fish	40.00
			15	Alien Big Game	300.00

To advance contribution opportunity to broad constituencies of wildlife users Numbers 11 in the Non Resident Class and numbers 16 and 17 in the Resident Class appear available :

1. CLASS 11 Non Resident (NR) Tracker/Photographer

NR
CLASS 11
\$5.00
Tracker/ Photo

2. CLASS 16 Resident (R) Tracker/Photographer

RES.
CLASS 16
\$ 5.00
Tracker/ Photo

3. CLASS 16A Resident (R) Restricted Tracker/Photographer

RES
CLASS 16A
\$10.00 res income
Tracker/photo

4. CLASS 17 Commercial/ Photographer

R/NR
Class 17
Comm Photo
\$20.00

To allow this pilot program the flexible ability to grow into future funding opportunity and to avoid confusion and create accurate statistical data, and it will be important to

- **fine tune CLASS name to accurately define targeted shareholders**
- **Acknowledge that this user group forgos harvest.** (depict FH for forgo harvest)
- **Create palatable cost that promotes**
 - annual sustained support
 - Future programs to be affixed to this pilot plan such as limited edition wildlife stamp program like the waterfowl stamp or mimic the \$10.00 King Salmon Stamp Program.

Thank-you kindly for your consideration,

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