

SB

7

FISCAL NOTE

Line 6

Bill Version: CS SB 7 (FIN)

(S) Publish Date: 2/25/97

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 2/19/97 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Hunting Sport Fish Trapping Fees/Licenses BRU: Sport Fish
 Component: Sport Fish
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requester: Senate Finance COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 464

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 100	FY 101	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	790.5	3,225.1	3,289.6	3,355.4	3,422.5	3,491.0

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1024 Fish and Game Fund	790.5	3,225.1	3,289.6	3,355.4	3,422.5	3,491.0
TOTAL	790.5	3,225.1	3,289.6	3,355.4	3,422.5	3,491.0

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Adoption of SB 7 as written, would result in a larger annual contribution to the Fish and Game Fund due to the changes in structure and price of non-resident sport fishing licenses and king salmon tags proposed in this legislation. The department's confidence in the models used to prepare this fiscal note is not high. Our ability to project market reaction to substantial changes in license structures and fees is limited.

See attached page for assumptions.

Prepared by: Kevin Delaney *[Signature]* Phone: 465-4180
 Division: Sport Fish Date: 2/19/97
 Approved by Commissioner: Frank Rue *[Signature]* Date: 2/19/97
 Agency: Fish and Game

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Assumptions used for license revenue calculations: (Bill becomes effective 1/1/98)

- Revenue calculations are based on Fiscal Year 1996 license sales statistics.
- Approximately 25% of sport fish license sales occur in the first half of a given calendar year (based on 3 year average 1993-1995). With this in mind, FY98 revenues are only 25% of calculated total for fiscal year.
- Annual license sales growth is estimated at 2% for revenue projections.
- The table below reflects Fiscal Year 1998 revenue projections with and without the enactment of this bill.
- Residents will purchase combination licenses out of convenience rather than for cost savings, therefore, same number of combination licenses will be purchased in the future.
- Nonresidents who currently purchase an annual license (other than ~850 who would qualify for the annual nonresident license as outlined in SB 7) will be forced to purchase a series of 14-day licenses. 50% will purchase two while the remaining 50% will purchase one 14-day license.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 14-day license, 75% will continue to do so, while 25% will now purchase a 7-day license.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 3-day license, 60% will purchase a 7-day license, 20% will purchase two 1-day licenses and 20% will purchase a single 1-day license.
- Those nonresidents who purchased a 1-day license will continue to do so.
- Of those nonresident hunters who currently purchase an annual sport fish license, 50% will now purchase two 14-day licenses and 50% will purchase one 14-day license.
- Of those nonresident hunters who currently purchase a 14-day license, 50% will now purchase a 14-day license and the remaining 50% will purchase a single 7-day license.
- Nonresidents who currently purchase an annual king salmon tag will be forced to purchase a series of 14-day tags. 50% will purchase two-14 day tags, while the remaining 50% will now purchase a single 14-day tag.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 3-day king salmon tag, 50% will purchase a 14-day tag, 25% will purchase two 1-day tags and the remaining 25% will purchase a single 1-day tag.
- Those nonresidents who purchased a 1 day king salmon tag will continue to do so.

Description	*Without SB7		*With SB7		
	# SOLD FY98	Revenue FY98	# SOLD FY98	Revenue FY98	Revenue Net (+/-)
* Sport Fish Revenue Portion only.					
Resident Sport Fishing	130,246	\$1,953.7	130,247	\$1,953.7	(\$0.0)
Resident Sport Fish & Hunt* (37.5%)	37,456	\$561.8	37,456	\$547.8	(\$14.0)
Resident, SF, Hunt & Trap* (27.3%)	5,186	\$77.9	5,186	\$75.0	(\$2.8)
Resident King Salmon Stamp	88,934	\$889.3	88,934	\$889.3	\$0.0
Nonresident Sport Fish	24,334	\$1,216.7	850	\$127.5	(\$1,089.2)
Nonresident 14-day Sport Fish	87,184	\$2,615.5	103,314	\$5,165.7	\$2,550.2
Nonresident 7-day Sport Fish	NA	\$0.0	60,664	\$1,819.9	\$1,819.9
Nonresident 3-day Sport Fish	63,193	\$947.9	NA	\$0.0	(\$947.9)
Nonresident 1-day Sport Fish	68,003	\$680.0	105,973	\$1,059.7	\$379.7
Nonresident Military Sport Fish	5,600	\$84.0	5,600	\$84.0	\$0.0
Nonresident Hunt & Sport Fish* (37%)	1,165	\$58.2	NA	\$0.0	(\$58.2)
Nonresident Hunt & 14-day SF* (26.1%)	1,905	\$57.2	NA	\$0.0	(\$57.2)
Nonresident Military SF & Small Game (37.5%)	301	\$4.5	301	\$4.5	(\$0.0)
Military King Salmon Stamp	2,322	\$46.4	2,322	\$46.4	\$0.0
Nonresident King Salmon Stamp	35,683	\$1,248.9	NA	\$0.0	(\$1,248.9)
Nonresident 14-day King Salmon Stamp	NA	\$0.0	68,500	\$2,055.0	\$2,055.0
Nonresident 3-day King Salmon Stamp	29,952	\$449.3	NA	\$0.0	(\$449.3)
Nonresident 1-day King Salmon Stamp	35,028	\$350.3	57,492	\$574.9	\$224.6
Duplicate KS Stamp	1,168	\$5.8	1,168	\$5.8	\$0.0
TOTALS		\$11,247.5		\$14,409.4	\$3,161.9

FISCAL NOTE

No. 5

Version: CSSB 7(EIN)

(S) Publish Date: 2/25/97

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 2/19/97 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Hunting, Sport Fish, Trapping Fees/Licenses BRU: Wildlife Conservation
 Component: Wildlife Conservation
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requester: Senate Finance COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 473

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other -- F&G Fund (1024)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)
TOTAL	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)

Estimate of any current year (F:97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Assumptions: (1) total sales of resident licenses will remain constant; (2) inflation will not increase in the future; (3) approximately 5% of these revenue losses would be borne by license vendors.

Estimated losses are "real" losses based on the decreased cost of licenses. The possibility exists that some losses could be offset by savings in vendor payments. The "offset" is estimated in the following scenario: all persons who purchase individual trapping licenses would purchase combination hunt/trap licenses; all persons who purchase hunting licenses would purchase hunt/fish licenses; all persons who purchase hunt/trap licenses would purchase hunt/trap/fish licenses. Although the division would save \$30.5 in vendor payments under this scenario, the division would lose 31.5 in decreased revenues from combination licenses currently sold plus an additional \$19.6 in decreased revenues for increased combination licenses that would be sold. Annual loss to the department would be \$20.6.

Prepared by: Phil Koehl, Wildlife Biologist *PK*
 Division: Wildlife Conservation
 Approved by Commissioner: Caron Bruce
 Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Phone: 465-4190
 Date: 2/19/97
 Date: 2/19/97

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FISCAL NOTE

No. 4

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO

Bill Version: CSSB 7 (RES)

(S) Publish Date: 2-11-97

Revision Date: 6 Feb. 97
 Title: An Act relating to the amendment of hunting and sport fishing license and tag fees
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requestor: Senate Resources Cmte.

Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 BRU: Fish & Wildlife Protection
 Component: Detachments
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0490

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (inflation not included)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Revenue Code						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1006 GF/MHTJA						
Other						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

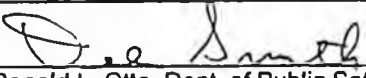
Estimate of current year (FY 97) impact: \$ _____

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This bill is consistent with the department's objectives.

Prepared By: Sandy Perry-Provost, Special Assistant to the Commissioner Phone: 465-4322
 Division: Commissioners Office Date: 6 Feb. 97
 Approved by Commissioner:  Date: 2/6/97
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Dept. of Public Safety

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FISCAL NOTE

CORRECTED: No. 3

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: _____ Bill Version: SB 7

Revision Date: _____

Dept. Affected: Public Safety

Title: An Act relating to the amendment of hunting and sport fishing license and tag fees

BRU: Fish and Wildlife Protection

Component: Detachments

Sponsor: Senator Donley

Requestor: _____

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0490

(S) Publish Date: 2-11-97

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (inflation not included)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Revenue Code						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

Estimate of current year (FY 97) impact: \$ -0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS. (Attach a separate page if necessary.)
 This Bill will impact this department's sport fishing enforcement programs by increasing the time necessary for troopers to determine the length of time nonresidents have been in the state, what their residency intentions are, and if they have the appropriate sport fishing license. However, this Bill is consistent with department objectives if changes are made.

Prepared By: Lt. Joel L. Hard
 Division: Fish and Wildlife Protection

Phone: 269-5409
 Date: January 29, 1997

Approved by Commissioner: *Ronald L. Otte*
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Department of Public Safety

Date: 1/29/97

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ANALYSIS CONTINUED:

FISCAL NOTE

No. 2

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: CSSB 7 (RES)

(S) Publish Date: 2-6-97

Revision Date: 2/5/97 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Hunting Sport Fish Trapping Fees/Licenses BRU: Sport Fish
 Component: Sport Fish
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requester: Senate Resources COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 464

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 100	FY 101	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	1,464.7	5,976.1	6,095.7	6,217.6	6,342.0	6,468.8
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1024 Fish and Game Fund	1,464.7	5,976.1	6,095.7	6,217.6	6,342.0	6,468.8
TOTAL	1,464.7	5,976.1	6,095.7	6,217.6	6,342.0	6,468.8

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Adoption of SB 7 as written, would result in a larger annual contribution to the Fish and Game Fund due to the increases in the price of non-resident sport fishing licenses and king salmon tags proposed in this legislation. The department's confidence in the models used to prepare this fiscal note is not high. Our ability to project market reaction to substantial changes in license fees is limited.

See attached page for assumptions.

Prepared by: Kevin Delaney *[Signature]* Phone: 465-4180
 Division: Sport Fish Date: 2/5/97
 Approved by Commissioner: Frank Rue *[Signature]* Date: 2/5/97
 Agency: Fish and Game

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Assumptions used for license revenue calculations:

- Effective date of bill will be 1/1/98.
- Revenue calculations are based on Fiscal Year 1996 license sales statistics.
- Approximately 25% of sport fish license sales occur in the first half of a given calendar year (based on 3 year average 1993-1995). With this in mind, FY98 revenues are only 25% of calculated total for calendar year.
- Annual license sales growth is estimated at 2% for revenue projections.
- The table below reflects Fiscal Year 1998 revenue projections with and without the enactment of this bill.
- Residents will purchase combination licenses out of convenience rather than for cost savings, therefore, same number of combination licenses will be purchased in the future.
- Nonresidents who currently purchase an annual license will be forced to purchase a series of 14 day licenses. 50% will purchase two while the remaining 50% will purchase one 14 day license.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 14 day license, 75% will continue to do so, while 25% will now purchase a 7 day license.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 3 day license, 75% will continue to do so, while 25% will now purchase a 7 day license.
- Those nonresidents who purchased a 1 day license will continue to do so.
- Of those nonresident hunters who currently purchase an annual sport fish license, 50% will now purchase two 14 day licenses and 50% will purchase one 14 day license.
- Of those nonresident hunters who currently purchase a 14 day license combination, 75% will now purchase a 14 day license and the remaining 25% will purchase a 7 day license.
- Nonresidents who currently purchase an annual king salmon tag will be forced to purchase a series of 14 day or alternate tags. 50% will purchase two 14 day tags, 25% will purchase one 14 day tag, while the remaining 25% will now purchase a 7 day tag.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 3 day king salmon tag, 75% will continue to do so, while 25% will now purchase a 7 day tag.
- Those nonresidents who purchased a 1 day king salmon tag will continue to do so.

Description	*Without SB7		*With SB7		
	# SOLD FY98	Revenue FY98	# SOLD FY98	Revenue FY98	Revenue Net (+/-)
* Sport Fish Revenue Portion only.					
Resident Sport Fishing	130,247	\$1,953.7	130,247	\$1,953.7	\$0.0
Resident Sport Fish & Hunt* (37.5%)	37,456	\$562.0	37,456	\$491.6	(\$70.4)
Resident. SF, Hunt & Trap* (27.3%)	5,186	\$77.9	5,186	\$70.8	(\$7.1)
Resident King Salmon Stamp	88,934	\$889.3	88,934	\$889.3	\$0.0
Nonresident Sport Fish	24,334	\$1,216.6	NA	\$0.0	(\$1,216.6)
Nonresident 14-day Sport Fish	87,184	\$2,615.6	105,065	\$6,296.5	\$3,680.9
Nonresident 7-day Sport Fish	NA	\$0.0	37,594	\$1,503.8	\$1,503.8
Nonresident 3-day Sport Fish	63,193	\$947.9	47,395	\$947.9	\$0.0
Nonresident 1-day Sport Fish	68,003	\$680.0	68,003	\$680.0	\$0.0
Nonresident Military Sport Fish	5,600	\$84.0	5,600	\$84.0	\$0.0
Nonresident Hunt & Sport Fish* (37%)	1,165	\$58.2	NA	\$0.0	(\$58.2)
Nonresident Hunt & 14-day SF* (26.1%)	1,905	\$57.2	NA	\$0.0	(\$57.2)
Nonresident Military SF & Small Game	301	\$4.5	301	\$4.5	\$0.0
Military King Salmon Stamp	2,322	\$46.4	2,322	\$46.4	\$0.0
Nonresident King Salmon Stamp	35,683	\$1,248.9	NA	\$0.0	(\$1,248.9)
Nonresident 14-day King Salmon Stamp	NA	\$0.0	44,603	\$2,676.2	\$2,676.2
Nonresident 7-day King Salmon Stamp	NA	\$0.0	16,409	\$656.4	\$656.4
Nonresident 3-day King Salmon Stamp	29,952	\$449.3	22,464	\$449.3	\$0.0
Nonresident 1-day King Salmon Stamp	35,028	\$350.3	35,028	\$350.3	\$0.0
Duplicate KS Stamp	1,168	\$5.8	1,168	\$5.8	\$0.0
TOTALS		\$11,247.5		\$17,106.5	\$5,859.0

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: 055B 7 (RES)

(S) Publish Date: 2-6-97

Revision Date: 2/5/97 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Hunting, Sport Fish, Trapping Fees/Licenses BRU: Wildlife Conservation
 Component: Wildlife Conservation
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requester: Senate Resources COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 473

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0.	0.0.	0.0	0.0.	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other -- F&G Fund (1024)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)
TOTAL	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)	(140.0)

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Assumptions: (1) sales of resident combination licenses will remain constant; (2) inflation will not increase in the future; (3) approximately 5% of these revenue losses would be borne by license vendors.

The division disagrees with the contention that the savings in vendor fees that could result from this bill would offset the loss in revenue that would result by lowering license fees. Even if EVERY current licensee opted to purchase a double or triple combination license, approximately 66,000 fewer licenses would be sold and the vendor savings to the Wildlife BRU would be \$45.2 for the \$1 license payments and an additional \$7.0 due to a reduction in 5% payments on gross sales. Under this unlikely (and overly optimistic) scenario, the division would still lose \$90.0 annually.

At its current price of \$40, today's hunting/trapping license costs less (in inflation adjusted dollars) than the same license cost at statehood (in 1960).

Prepared by: Phil Koehl, Wildlife Biologist *PK*
 Division: Wildlife Conservation
 Approved by Commissioner: Caron Bruce for
 Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Phone: 465-4190
 Date: 2/5/97
 Date: 2/6/97

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 7(RLS)

Revision Date: 2/27/97 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Hunting, Sport Fish, Trapping Fees/Licenses BRU: Wildlife Conservation
 Component: Wildlife Conservation
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requester: Senate Rules COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 473

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other -- F&G Fund (1024)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)
TOTAL	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)	(31.5)

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Assumptions: (1) total sales of resident licenses will remain constant; (2) inflation will not increase in the future; (3) approximately 5% of these revenue losses would be borne by license vendors.

Estimated losses are "real" losses based on the decreased cost of licenses. The possibility exists that some losses could be offset by savings in vendor payments. The "savings" are estimated in the following scenario: all persons who purchase individual trapping licenses would purchase combination hunt/trap licenses; all persons who purchase hunting licenses would purchase hunt/lish licenses; all persons who purchase hunt/trap licenses would purchase hunt/trap/fish licenses. Under this scenario, savings in vendor payments of \$30.5 would be offset by fee reductions of \$31.5 in current combination licenses sold plus fee reductions (over individual licenses sold) of \$19.6 for increased sales of combination licenses for a net annual loss to the Fish and Game Fund of \$20.6.

Prepared by: Phil Kochl, Wildlife Biologist *PK*
 Division: Wildlife Conservation
 Approved by Commissioner: *Debra Buehler*
 Agency: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Phone: 465-4190
 Date: 2/27/97
 Date: 2/27/97

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 7(RLS)

Revision Date: 2/28/97 Dept. Affected: Fish and Game
 Title: Hunting Sport Fish Trapping Fees/Licenses BRU: Sport Fish
 Component: Sport Fish
 Sponsor: Senator Donley
 Requester: Senate Rules COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 464

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 100	FY 101	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CHANGE IN REVENUES (1024)	1,024.4	4,179.4	4,262.9	4,348.2	4,435.2	4,523.9

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1024 Fish and Game Fund	1,024.4	4,179.4	4,262.9	4,348.2	4,435.2	4,523.9
TOTAL	1,024.4	4,179.4	4,262.9	4,348.2	4,435.2	4,523.9

Estimate of any current year (FY96) cost: \$ 0.0

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Adoption of SB 7 as written, would result in a larger annual contribution to the Fish and Game Fund due to the changes in structure and price of non-resident sport fishing licenses and king salmon tags proposed in this legislation. The department's confidence in the models used to prepare this fiscal note is not high. Our ability to project market reaction to substantial changes in license structures and fees is limited.

See attached page for assumptions.

Prepared by: Kevin Delaney Phone: 465-4180
 Division: Sport Fish Date: 2/28/97
 Approved by Commissioner: Frank Rue Date: 3-3-97
 Agency: Fish and Game

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Bill Number: CSSB 7(RLS)

Title: Hunting Sport Fish Trapping Fees/ Licenses

Assumptions used for license revenue calculations: (Bill becomes effective 1/1/98)

- Revenue calculations are based on Fiscal Year 1996 license sales statistics.
- Approximately 25% of sport fish license sales occur in the first half of a given calendar year (based on 3 year average 1993-1995). With this in mind, FY98 revenues are only 25% of calculated total for fiscal year.
- Annual license sales growth is estimated at 2% for revenue projections.
- The table below reflects Fiscal Year 1998 revenue projections with and without the enactment of this bill.
- Residents will purchase combination licenses out of convenience rather than for cost savings, therefore, same number of combination licenses will be purchased in the future.
- Nonresidents who currently purchase an annual license (other than ~850 who would qualify for the annual nonresident license as outlined in SB 7) will be forced to purchase a series of 14-day licenses. 50% will purchase two while the remaining 50% will purchase one 14-day license.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 14-day license, 75% will continue to do so, while 25% will now purchase a 7-day license.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 3-day license, 60% will purchase a 7-day license, 20% will purchase two 1-day licenses and 20% will purchase a single 1-day license.
- Those nonresidents who purchased a 1-day license will continue to do so.
- Of those nonresident hunters who currently purchase an annual sport fish license, 50% will now purchase two 14-day licenses and 50% will purchase one 14-day license.
- Of those nonresident hunters who currently purchase a 14-day license, 50% will now purchase a 14-day license and the remaining 50% will purchase a single 7-day license.
- Nonresidents who currently purchase an annual king salmon tag will be forced to purchase a series of 14-day tags. 50% will purchase two 14-day tags, while the remaining 25% will now purchase a single 14-day tag, and 25% will purchase a 7-day tag.
- Of those nonresidents who currently purchase a 3-day king salmon tag, 60% will purchase a 7-day tag, 20% will purchase two 1-day tags and the remaining 20% will purchase a single 1-day tag.
- Those nonresidents who purchased a 1-day king salmon tag will continue to do so.

Description	*Without SB7		*With SB7		
	# SOLD FY98	Revenue FY98	# SOLD FY98	Revenue FY98	Revenue Net (+/-)
* Sport Fish Revenue Portion only.					
Resident Sport Fishing	130,246	\$1,953.7	130,247	\$1,953.7	(\$0.0)
Resident Sport Fish & Hunt* (37.5%)	37,456	\$561.8	37,456	\$547.8	(\$14.0)
Resident SF, Hunt & Trap* (27.3%)	5,186	\$77.9	5,186	\$75.0	(\$2.8)
Resident King Salmon Stamp	88,934	\$889.3	88,934	\$889.3	\$0.0
Nonresident Sport Fish	24,334	\$1,216.7	850	\$127.5	(\$1,089.2)
Nonresident 14-day Sport Fish	87,184	\$2,615.5	103,314	\$5,165.7	\$2,550.2
Nonresident 7-day Sport Fish	NA	\$0.0	60,664	\$1,819.9	\$1,819.9
Nonresident 3-day Sport Fish	63,193	\$947.9	NA	\$0.0	(\$947.9)
Nonresident 1-day Sport Fish	68,003	\$680.0	105,973	\$1,059.7	\$379.7
Nonresident Military Sport Fish	5,600	\$84.0	5,600	\$84.0	\$0.0
Nonresident Hunt & Sport Fish* (37%)	1,165	\$58.2	NA	\$0.0	(\$58.2)
Nonresident Hunt & 14-day SF* (26.1%)	1,905	\$57.2	NA	\$0.0	(\$57.2)
Nonresident Military SF & Small Game (37.5%)	301	\$4.5	301	\$4.5	(\$0.0)
Military King Salmon Stamp	2,322	\$46.4	2,322	\$46.4	\$0.0
Nonresident King Salmon Stamp	35,683	\$1,248.9	NA	\$0.0	(\$1,248.9)
Nonresident 14-day King Salmon Stamp	NA	\$0.0	44,604	\$2,230.2	\$2,230.2
Nonresident 7-day King Salmon Stamp	NA	\$0.0	26,842	\$805.3	\$805.3
Nonresident 3-day King Salmon Stamp	29,952	\$449.3	NA	\$0.0	(\$449.3)
Nonresident 1-day King Salmon Stamp	35,028	\$350.3	52,999	\$530.0	\$179.7
Duplicate KS Stamp	1,168	\$5.8	1,168	\$5.8	\$0.0
TOTALS		\$11,247.5		\$15,344.9	\$4,097.4

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO: CSSB 7(RLS)

Revision Date: 3/4/97
 Title: An Act relating to the amendment of hunting and sport fishing license and tag fees
 Sponsor: Senator Donlev
 Requestor: S. Rules

Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 BRU: Fish and Wildlife Protection
 Component: Detachments
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 0490

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (inflation not included)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CHANGE IN REVENUES ()	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Revenue Code						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program						
1006 GF/MHTIA						
Other						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

Estimate of current year (FY 97) impact: \$ -0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

This Bill is consistent with the Division's program objectives, and will not adversely impact the budget.

Prepared By: Captain Joel L. Hard Phone: 269-5409
 Division: Fish and Wildlife Protection Date: March 4, 1997
 Approved by Commissioner: *Dee Smith* Date: 3/4/97
 Agency: Ronald L. Otte, Department of Public Safety

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ANALYSIS CONTINUED:

AMENDMENT

Offered in the Senate Rules Committee
To: CS SB 7 (FIN)

BY: SENATOR

Page 3, Section 7
Lines 13-14

Delete:

"(B) [FOR A THREE-DAY TAG 15
(C)] for a 14 day [OR ANNUAL] tag.....30 [35]."

Insert:

"(B) for a seven - day [THREE DAY] tag 30 [15]
(C) for a 14 day [OR ANNUAL] tag 50 [35]."

This amendment will make the non-resident anadromous king salmon tag fee increments and time periods match the non-resident sport fishing license fee increments and time periods found in Section 4 of the bill.

The resulting cost of an non resident anadromous king salmon tag will be:

a one day tag \$10
a seven day tag \$30
a fourteen day tag \$50

The resulting cost of a non-resident sport fishing license will be:

a one day license \$10
a seven day license \$30
a fourteen day license \$50



SENATOR DAVE DONLEY

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SPONSOR STATEMENT - CS SB 7(FIN) Reducing Fees for Resident Combination Licenses and Increasing Fees for Non-Resident Sport Fishing Licenses and Tags

CSSB 7(FIN) was introduced in response to escalating misuse of Alaska's sport fish resources by non-residents who commercially harvest, process and sell sport caught fish. Some non-residents are using proceeds from the sale of sport caught fish to pay for annual vacations in Alaska. CSSB 7(FIN) raises non-resident sport fishing license and tag fees to levels more consistent with similar fees in other states and creates a tool for enforcement officers to more easily trace those non-residents who abuse our sport fish resources.

The Senate Finance Committee, at the request of Fish & Game, reinstated the annual non-resident sport fish license for \$150. A provision was added to require proof of a current Alaska Business license and a current air taxi or commercial "6 pack" boat operator license upon purchase of the annual non-resident license. This enables non-residents who work as sport fish guides to obtain an annual license. Non-residents who do not work as guides will not be able to purchase an annual license therefore the Department will be able to more easily trace non-resident abusers of our sport fish resources who continually purchase 14 day licenses throughout the season.

Specifically, CSSB 7(FIN) creates a non-resident seven day sport fishing license for \$30, repeals the 3 day license and increases the non-resident 14 day license fee to \$50. In addition, the bill creates a 14 day non-resident anadromous king salmon tag for \$30 and repeals the 3 day tag.

In addition, CSSB 7(FIN) reduces the cost of the three types of resident combination licenses. Currently, the cost for combination licenses for residents are exactly the same, whether each license is purchased individually, or as a combination. CSSB 7(FIN) reduces the hunting and trapping, and the hunting and sport fishing licenses by \$1, and reduces the hunting, trapping and sport fishing license by \$2, creating an incentive for residents to purchase combination licenses. Purchasing combination licenses will save the State approximately \$1-2 in fees per combination license sold, thereby mitigating any loss of revenue, and will result in less paperwork for the Department to process.

If you have further questions, please contact Karen Brand of my staff at (907) 465-3892.

DD/kb 2/25/97

January-May: STATE CAPITOL • JUNEAU, AK • 99801-1182 • (907) 465-3892 • FAX: (907) 465-6595
June-December: 716 W. 4TH AVE. • STE. 430 • ANCHORAGE, AK • 99501 • (907) 258-8181 • FAX: (907) 258-1648

MEMBER: Senate Finance Committee • Legislative Budget & Audit Committee
• Senate Community & Regional Affairs Committee

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 7(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATORS DONLEY, Sharp

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act reducing certain resident sport fishing, hunting, and trapping license fees,
2 increasing certain nonresident sport fishing license and tag fees, and relating to
3 nonresident sport fishing and hunting licenses and tags; and providing for an
4 effective date."

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

6 * Section 1. AS 16.05.340(a)(3) is amended to read:

7 (3) Resident hunting and trapping license 39 [40]

8 * Sec. 2. AS 16.05.340(a)(5) is amended to read:

9 (5) Resident hunting and sport fishing license 39 [40]

10 * Sec. 3. AS 16.05.340(a)(6) is amended to read:

11 (6) Resident hunting, trapping, and sport fishing license . . . 53 [55];

12 (A) however, the fee is \$5 for an applicant who

13 (i) is receiving or has received assistance during the
14 preceding six months under any state or federal welfare program to aid

1 the indigent; [,] or

2 (ii) has an annual family gross income of less than
3 \$8,200 for the year preceding application;

4 (B) a person paying \$5 for a resident hunting, trapping, and
5 sport fishing license must provide proof of eligibility under this paragraph
6 when requested by the department [DEPARTMENTS].

7 * Sec. 4. AS 16.05.340(a)(7) is amended to read:

8 (7) Nonresident [SPECIAL] sport fishing license - valid for the period
9 inscribed on the license

10 (A) For 14-day license \$ 50 [\$ 30]

11 (B) For seven-day [THREE-DAY] license 30 [15]

12 (C) For one-day license 10

13 * Sec. 5. AS 16.05.340(a)(8) is amended to read:

14 (8) Nonresident annual sport fishing license 150 [50]

15 A nonresident may obtain a nonresident annual sport fishing license upon
16 presentation of proof of a current business license issued under AS 43.70 to
17 provide sport fish guide services and either a current air taxi/commercial operator
18 certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Administration or a current license to
19 carry passengers for hire issued by the Coast Guard.

20 * Sec. 6. AS 16.05.340(a)(15) is amended to read:

21 (15) Nonresident big game tags

22 A nonresident may not take a big game animal without previously purchasing a
23 numbered, nontransferable, appropriate tag, issued under this paragraph. The
24 tag must be affixed to the animal immediately upon capture and must remain
25 affixed until the animal is prepared for storage, consumed, or exported. A tag
26 issued but not used for an animal may be used to satisfy the tagging requirement
27 for an animal of any other species for which the tag fee is of equal or less value.

28 (A) Bear, black, each 225

29 (B) Bear, brown or grizzly, each 500

30 (C) Bison, each 450

31 (D) Caribou, each 325

1 (E) Deer, each 150
 2 (F) Elk, each 300
 3 (G) Goat, each 300
 4 (H) Moose, each 400
 5 (I) Sheep, each 425
 6 (J) Wolf, each 175
 7 (K) Wolverine, each 175
 8 (L) Musk oxen, each 1,100

9 * Sec. 7. AS 16.05.340(a)(24) is amended to read:

10 (24) Nonresident anadromous king salmon tag - valid for the period
 11 inscribed on the tag

- 12 (A) for a one-day tag \$10
 13 (B) [FOR A THREE-DAY TAG 15
 14 (C)] for a 14-day [OR ANNUAL] tag 30 [35].

15 A nonresident may not engage in sport fishing for anadromous king salmon without
 16 having a valid anadromous king salmon tag in the person's actual possession, unless
 17 that person is under the age of 16. Members [HOWEVER, MEMBERS] of the
 18 military service on active duty who are permanently stationed in the state, and their
 19 dependents, who do not qualify as residents under AS 16.05.940, may obtain an annual
 20 nonresident military anadromous king salmon tag for \$20.

21 * Sec. 8. AS 16.05.350(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) Licenses, permits, and tags required under AS 16.05.330 - 16.05.430,
 23 except biennial licenses, triennial licenses, the nonresident [SPECIAL] sport fishing
 24 licenses [LICENSE], the resident trapping license, the [ONE, THREE, OR 14-DAY]
 25 nonresident anadromous king salmon tags [TAG], the waterfowl conservation tag, and
 26 permits having a different specified expiration date, expire at the close of December
 27 31 following issuance.

28 * Sec. 9. AS 16.05.340(a)(10) is repealed.

29 * Sec. 10. This Act takes effect January 1, 1998.

Fish sting

9/12/96
ADN

Good folks, bad deeds

Just how many folks are ripping off Alaska's sportfish and selling them Outside? Nobody knows despite the recent busts on the Kenai Peninsula, yet the evidence suggests visiting fishermen are canning salmon up and down the Kenai.

The fishermen involved hardly fit the profile of criminals. "They're your average tourist coming to Alaska," says Fish and Wildlife Protection Sgt. Jim Cockrell. But they are out to pay for their vacation with canning ventures.

The fact that the perpetrators look more like Uncle Bud than Baby Face Nelson doesn't diminish the insult to Alaska's salmon fishery. Canning sportfish and selling them is against the law. It's criminal behavior. And no amount of whining "I only wanted to pay for my Alaska summer" changes that. How would the people of Arizona, where canned Kenai sportfish are sold, respond if they knew Alaskans were stealing their resources to pay for winter vacations?

Solutions are not readily at hand. Sportfishing and commercial fishing alike depend in large measure on the integrity of the fishermen. The state can't put a Fish and Wildlife Protection officer in every campground. Sting operations are costly and time-consuming. Changing the possession limits affects the honest and dishonest alike and is bound to provoke controversy.

But clearly it's time for the Legislature and the Fish Board to pay attention to the everyday folks stealing fish. Lawmakers and board members can gather information, ask questions, and explore the best way to protect the fishery. Then they can determine who should take the appropriate action.

Alaska welcomes visitors who want to explore its streams and land some salmon for dinner. But it doesn't welcome folks who come here with thievery on their minds.

FISH: Undercover investigation finds tourists are smoking and selling salmon

Salmon sellers targeted

Undercover agent
busts campgrounds

By TOM KIZZIA
Daily News reporter

He looked like just another "snowbird" from the Lower 48. He'd fish for a few days, learning from other campers how to smoke and can his salmon. Then he'd move the pickup truck and trailer to another campground on the Kenai Peninsula.

Everywhere he camped this summer, from Ninilchik to the Russian River, the man with Montana plates found tourists smoking and canning fish to sell when they got back home, according to investigators with the Alaska State Troopers' Fish and Wildlife Protection division.

The man from Montana was an undercover agent.

"Every campground he was in, there were people commercializing the salmon, even showing other people how to do it," said Fish and Wildlife Protection Sgt. Jim Cockrell.

Fish and Wildlife Protection officials said they sent the agent out in a trailer this year not to bust violators, but to check out widespread reports they'd been hearing of legal salmon sales in the Lower 48 and in Europe, especially Germany.

"We wanted to see if it was a real problem," said Cockrell. "I think we verified everything we were being told."

In late August, troopers busted three "mom-and-pop" operations in Kenai River campgrounds, seizing about 1,000 pounds of frozen or canned salmon. But troopers say the problem of selling sport-caught fish appears much larger — and in most cases, there's little the state

can do about it.

The three busted operations all sold fish to the undercover agent in Alaska, according to the state. Three people have pled no contest and paid \$1,500 fines, while two others say they're not guilty and want a trial.

But the long arm of Alaska law does not reach to Arizona or Florida, where the tourists reportedly planned to sell most of their salmon. Had the tourists waited until they left Alaska, they couldn't have been charged by the state with selling sport-caught fish.

Troopers say they need to determine how widespread the practice is before proposing legal solutions. Among the possibilities: appeal to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for help in chasing violators across state lines, or pass a law limiting how many fish a non-resident angler can keep.

"We could lower the possession or processed-possession limits," said Mitch Doerr, an investigator with Fish and Wildlife Protection's commercial crimes bureau. "But that becomes a political deal. Are you going to start losing tourism?"

"I don't know if the problem is great enough to warrant limits on out-of-state fish," said Ben Ellis, executive director of the Kenai River Sportfishing Association. "I'd prefer to see them deal with it with sting operations like this one. How many fish are we talking about? A few hundred or 10,000?"

Anglers have caught an average of 170,000 red salmon each year for the past decade along the Kenai River.

This year, with a big run and the daily bag limit raised from three fish to six, canners and smokers were busy.

Much of the activity is legitimate, troopers say. Beyond the daily take, there's no limit to how many fish a non-resident angler can take home to eat or give away.

The commercial canning operations broken up in August had processed fairly small volumes of fish.

"For the most part, the person isn't trying to get rich off it, but they're trying to pay for their vacation to Alaska," Cockrell said.

Melvin and Barbara Gibb were canning fish in jars in their motor home parked all summer at River Quest campground outside Soldotna. Troopers said they targeted the Gibbs because a retired trooper stumbled on them in Arizona last winter selling canned Alaska salmon at a flea market.

Doerr said the Gibbs had 200 to 300 pounds of frozen salmon when troopers seized their equipment Aug. 23, along with 12 cases of canned fish. He said they expected to receive \$4 a pint for the salmon.

"They were real nice retired people," said Sean Cude, manager of the River Quest campground, who said he was surprised by the bust.

Anchorage
Daily
News
9/11/96

"They probably had about enough fish to make money for gas in their big chug-a-lug motor home," said Cude.

"But it's against the law and they're stealing fish from you and me and our kids. If everybody does it, we're going to be like Oregon and Washington, with all our rivers fished out."

Barbara Gibb, reached on her mobile phone in Soldotna earlier this week, refused to answer questions about selling fish in the Lower 48. She admitted she and her husband sold several silver salmon to the man from Montana, however.

"The man begged us," she said. "He said he was heading back to Montana but he hadn't caught any silvers yet. He came knocking on our door."

Also fined was Richard Willet, a Florida man who troopers said had sold smoked fish from Alaska in the past and planned to expand his market. Willet told the undercover agent he expected to leave with 800 pounds of vacuum-sealed salmon, which he could sell for \$10 a pound. But he only had 100 pounds of salmon when the bust occurred, said Doerr.

Willet sold a 35-pound king salmon and two smoked fillets to the undercover agent at River Quest, Doerr said.

Robert and Edith Miller, who camped at Riverbend Campground, were charged with selling halibut from their son's sportfishing charter. They have pleaded not guilty. Charges against their son, Robert J. Miller, are pending, troopers said.

ADN 9/11/96

Illegal fishing

They broke the law; law broke them

Alaska welcomes visitors with open arms, but there are some guests Alaskans would prefer never to see again. Recently, officers of the Fish and Wildlife Protection Division fingered a bunch of them — folks, some in league with their Alaska hosts, who had been canning and freezing sportfish they caught on the Kenai Peninsula and selling it Outside to finance their summer vacations.

This kind of illegal salmon fishing apparently can be found in just about every campground on the Kenai Peninsula. It's so prevalent, in fact, that Sgt. Bruce Lester of fish and wildlife protection says, "We have a second, unregulated commercial fishery going on down here."

Make no mistake: The violators knew exactly what they were doing. Several of them showed an undercover officer how to put together a salmon-canning operation — and reminded him to keep mum about canning sports fish because it is illegal.

People who abuse Alaska's fish in this fashion don't fit our everyday image of criminals. They're typically middle-class folks who would stand out in a police lineup. But they are bandits nonetheless. They stole fish that didn't belong to them — and their thievery was as real and as destructive as true nasty guys' behavior. That's why the sale of sport-caught fish is a misdemeanor that can lead violators to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$5,000.

A successful fisherman needs a mixture of talent, patience, timing and the right equipment. And once successful, a fisherman needs a conscience. The law simply cannot be on every bank of every stream enforcing honorable behavior.

These folks did not have a conscience, and now they're going to pay for it. Perhaps their example will awaken the conscience of other abusers; if it doesn't, Alaska's fish and wildlife protection officers will have to show them just how harsh the law can be.

8/28/96 ADN

Vacationers' fish seized

Undercover officers say salmon financed trips

The Associated Press

KENAI — Law enforcement officers have confiscated six freezers of fish and 30 cases of canned salmon as part of a undercover investigation of illegal fish-selling operations.

Officers of the Fish and Wildlife Protection Division have long suspected that some retirees and other Alaska visitors have been canning and freezing sport-caught fish on the Kenai Peninsula to help pay for their vacations. Now Fish and Wildlife Protection troopers are cracking down.

"One of our goals was to show that we have a second, unregulated commercial fishery going on down here," said Sgt. Bruce Lester of the Fish and Wildlife Protection Division's commercial crimes division.

An investigation this summer led to the seizure of the freezers and cases of canned salmon, according to Sgt. James Cockrell of the Fish and Wildlife Protection Division in Soldotna.

Lester said most, if not all, of the fish seized were caught by sportfishing methods, though limits may have been exceeded. It doesn't take a ge-

nius to catch a limit, change clothes and catch another limit, Lester said.

"One individual stated that just the fish his wife caught paid for the trip," Lester said.

Cockrell said three separate groups were targeted in the recent seizures. Charges have not yet been filed, so he would not reveal their identities.

The three groups of suspects, from Washington, Oregon and Alaska, are all retired and travel extensively, Lester said. The couple claiming Alaska residency have a son who lives on the Kenai Peninsula.

That son, Lester said, also will be charged with running an unlicensed charter operation and growing marijuana.

Sale of sport-caught fish is a misdemeanor. Violators can be sentenced to a year in jail and fined up to \$5,000.

"I think this is pretty prevalent, based on the information we're getting from the Lower 48," Cockrell said. "Once the reds hit the (Kenai) river, they fish them solid. They all plan on showing up here around the 10th of July."

STING: Sales of sportfish targeted

Continued from Page B-1

This year the operations were so blatant, fish were being sold in the campgrounds right on the Kenai Peninsula, Cockrell said.

"Some of those operations have really sophisticated gear and they work long,

hard hours. Those canners and smokers are going all night," Lester said.

"One operator even had a commercial outlet to sell his fish down south," he said.

An undercover officer was stationed in a peninsula campground this summer after a retired officer bought

some canned Alaska salmon at a flea market in Arizona, Lester said.

Veteran violators return year after year, Cockrell said.

"They teach the new people — give them tips on how to pay for their trips to Alaska," he said.



Senator David Donley
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
via fax

Re: Senate Bill No. 7 Modifying Sport Fishing License Fees

Dear Senator Donley,

Thank you for forwarding us a copy of the subject bill. The bill, when signed into law, would accomplish many positive things for the resident sport angler.

- It would reduce aggregate fees should he or she purchase multiple licenses (fishing/hunting/trapping).
- It would bring the level of non-resident fees more closely in line with other states and provinces. It would show the visitors that we Alaskans value our fisheries as much as they do theirs. Based on comments I have heard from our visitors, there is no doubt in my mind that the visitors will gladly pay this small increase to participate in Alaska's incredible fisheries.
- The elimination of the non-resident annual fishing license will provide ADF&G with data that could enumerate who is staying for an extended period and might be a lead sheet for investigations into the illegal sale of sport caught fish. Most residents abhor the illegal sale of sport caught fish by non-residents and want this illegal activity eliminated.

The Alaska Sportfishing Association supports this bill and urges its passage.

Phil Cutler, President