

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0073

Preference points for hunting licenses.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; granting the game and  
2 fish commission authority to establish preference point  
3 programs for hunting licenses and permits; authorizing the  
4 establishment of fees; making conforming amendments; and  
5 providing for effective dates.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-501(e), 23-1-703 by creating a  
10 new subsection (g) and by amending and renumbering (g) as  
11 (h), 23-2-101(k), by creating a new subsection (m) and by  
12 renumbering (m) as (n) and 23-2-109 are amended to read:

13

14 **23-1-501. Game and fish fund.**

15

1 (e) An account within the game and fish fund is  
2 created. Revenues collected under W.S. ~~23-2-101(m)~~  
3 23-2-101(n), 23-2-201(e) and as specified under W.S.  
4 23-2-306(a) shall be deposited within the account. The  
5 commission shall use revenues in the account to purchase  
6 access easements to provide access to public and private  
7 lands. The commission shall notify in writing the  
8 appropriate boards of county commissioners before  
9 purchasing any access easements under this subsection. In  
10 addition and on or before February 1 of each year, the  
11 commission shall annually report to the legislature on  
12 easements purchased pursuant to this subsection during the  
13 preceding fiscal year.

14

15 **23-1-703. Limitation of number of big or trophy game**  
16 **animal licenses; reservation of certain licenses;**  
17 **reservation of certain unused licenses.**

18

19 (g) In addition to the authority granted under  
20 subsection (b) of this section, the commission may through  
21 rule and regulation develop and implement a preference  
22 point program for nonresident antelope, nonresident deer  
23 and nonresident elk licenses which are limited in quota and  
24 would otherwise be issued through a random drawing. A

1 program established pursuant to this subsection may be  
2 implemented for all or selected hunt areas and may be  
3 applied to all or portions of licenses for any particular  
4 species. The commission may charge nonresident license  
5 applicants a nonrefundable fee to accumulate preference  
6 points under the program as provided in W.S. 23-2-101(m).

7  
8 ~~(g)~~(h) Rules and regulations shall be promulgated by  
9 the game and fish commission to carry out subsections (a)  
10 through (f) of this section and may be promulgated as  
11 provided in subsection (g) of this section.

12  
13 **23-2-101. Fees; restrictions; nonresident application**  
14 **fee; nonresident licenses; verification of residency**  
15 **required.**

16  
17 (k) ~~Effective January 1, 2000,~~ Any person qualified  
18 to purchase a moose or big horn sheep hunting license under  
19 subsection (b) of this section may pay a fee of seven  
20 dollars (\$7.00) in lieu of applying for a moose or big horn  
21 sheep hunting license. Payment of the fee for a particular  
22 species under this subsection shall authorize the person to  
23 accumulate points under W.S. 23-1-703(b) for that year in  
24 the same manner as if he had unsuccessfully applied for a

1 hunting license for that species. Payment of the fee shall  
2 be made in compliance with application dates.

3

4 (m) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, as  
5 part of any preference point program for nonresident  
6 antelope, nonresident deer or nonresident elk, the  
7 commission may establish a nonrefundable fee to be retained  
8 from the license fee submitted, and may also establish a  
9 fee to be paid in lieu of applying for the limited quota  
10 license. Retention of the established fee or payment of  
11 the fee in lieu of applying shall authorize the person to  
12 accumulate a preference point for future limited quota  
13 drawings for the applicable species in accordance with  
14 rules of the commission. The rules may provide for the  
15 loss of all accumulated points for persons failing to apply  
16 or to pay the in lieu fee in any calendar year. The fee  
17 for any program under this subsection shall be established  
18 by rule and shall not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) per  
19 species. Payment of the fee shall be made in compliance  
20 with application dates.

21

22 ~~(m)~~ (n) In addition to other fees under this section,  
23 persons applying for a license or tag under this section  
24 may pay any whole dollar amount to fund the purchase of

1 access easements by the commission to provide access to  
2 public and private lands.

3

4 **23-2-109. Multiple applications for limited licenses**  
5 **prohibited; penalty.**

6

7 Except as otherwise authorized by law or rule of the  
8 commission, no person shall submit more than one (1)  
9 application for a license for the same big or trophy game  
10 species or for wild turkey, if the issuance of the license  
11 has been limited by the commission. A violation of this  
12 subsection shall be punishable as a 5th degree misdemeanor,  
13 by the loss of all points then assigned to the person  
14 pursuant to W.S. 23-1-703(b) or (g), and disqualification  
15 in the year of submission for any license for the species  
16 for which the multiple applications were submitted.

17

18 **Section 2.** The game and fish commission may adopt  
19 rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this  
20 act upon the effective date of this section.

21

22 **Section 3.**

23

1           (a) Section 2 of this act is effective immediately  
2 upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become  
3 law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
4 Constitution.

5

6           (b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this  
7 section, this act is effective January 1, 2004.

8

9

(END)