

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0005

Yellowstone wildlife conservation fee.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sommers, Allen, Flitner,  
Gierau and Schwartz and Senator(s) Coe

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION to the United States Secretary of the  
2 Interior and the Director of the National Park Service  
3 relating to the imposition of a wildlife conservation fee  
4 at Yellowstone National Park.

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6 WHEREAS, our nation's first national park, Yellowstone  
7 National Park, is rich in wildlife that attracts millions  
8 of visitors each year to the park; and

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10 WHEREAS, the wildlife in Yellowstone National Park migrate  
11 throughout the year within and outside the wide boundaries  
12 of the park that expand across Wyoming, Montana and Idaho;  
13 and

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1 WHEREAS, a significant portion of the winter and  
2 transitional habitats of these wildlife, and in particular  
3 the habitats of big game animals, are provided by federal,  
4 state and private lands adjacent to Yellowstone National  
5 Park; and

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7 WHEREAS, these states are financially responsible for  
8 managing their wildlife, protecting wildlife migration  
9 corridors and wildlife habitats and mitigating impacts of  
10 diseases by wildlife that migrate to and from Yellowstone  
11 National Park; and

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13 WHEREAS, these states are also financially responsible for  
14 improving human safety, reducing wildlife-vehicle  
15 collisions and resolving conflicts with big game animals  
16 and large carnivores that migrate to and from Yellowstone  
17 National Park; and

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19 WHEREAS, states have traditionally addressed these  
20 responsibilities and managed wildlife through consumptive  
21 uses of wildlife; and

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1 WHEREAS, states request the assistance of all Yellowstone  
2 National Park visitors to pay a small fee to protect and  
3 mitigate impacts to wildlife and the public within and  
4 outside the boundaries of the park; and

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6 WHEREAS, the imposition of this wildlife conservation fee,  
7 in addition to any other fees currently charged at  
8 Yellowstone National Park, is important to the benefits and  
9 services provided to its visitors and would provide an  
10 opportunity for these states to address these  
11 responsibilities and manage wildlife through nonconsumptive  
12 uses of wildlife; and

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14 WHEREAS, the wildlife conservation fee will be prioritized  
15 to address the responsibilities described above but will  
16 allow the states to utilize a portion of these dollars for  
17 general wildlife management in their states.

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19 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*  
20 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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22 **Section 1.** That the Wyoming Legislature requests the  
23 United States Secretary of the Interior and the Director of

1 the National Park Service to enter into an agreement with  
2 the States of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho to impose a  
3 wildlife conservation fee at Yellowstone National Park.  
4 The agreement shall provide that revenue collected from the  
5 fee be transferred back to these states for wildlife  
6 conservation efforts.

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8       **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming  
9 transmit copies of this resolution to the Wyoming  
10 Congressional Delegation, to the United States Secretary of  
11 the Interior, to the Director of the National Park Service,  
12 to the Governors of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho and to the  
13 directors of the Wyoming, Montana and Idaho game and fish  
14 agencies.

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(END)