

**FISCAL NOTE**

	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>NON-ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT</b>			
Anticipated Revenue (decrease)			
GAME & FISH FUND	(\$112,025)	(\$224,050)	(\$112,025)
	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>NON-ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT</b>			
Anticipated Expenditure increase			
GAME & FISH FUND	\$33,073	\$29,660	\$0

Source of revenue (decrease) and expenditure increase:

This bill requires each resident elk license issued for calendar years 2026 and 2027 in a hunt area that is entirely outside the greater Yellowstone ecosystem recovery zone established by the United States Fish and Wildlife Services to include a bear coupon at no cost.

Programming changes to the Game and Fish licensing system will be required to ensure bear coupons are attached to each resident elk license issued outside the greater Yellowstone ecosystem recovery zone for calendar years 2026 and 2027.

**Assumptions:**

The Game and Fish Department indicates 4,767 resident black bear license holders also have a resident elk license, resulting in a revenue decrease in the form of resident bear license fees to the Game and Fish Fund for calendar years 2026 and 2027 in the amount of \$224,050 each year.

The Game and Fish Department estimates it will take approximately 56 hours of programming time at the rate of \$60.95 per hour to modify the licensing system to accommodate the changes to attach bear coupons to resident elk licenses, resulting in an estimated expenditure increase of \$3,413 from the Game and Fish Fund.

The Game and Fish Department also indicates different print stock paper will be required for resident elk licenses and the current paper stock is perforated to only accommodate two coupons and adding an additional coupon will likely require new stock to be configured and delivered before modifications to the print layout, resulting in an estimated expenditure increase of \$29,660, annually, from the Game and Fish Fund.

The expenditure increases reflected above could be considered an administrative cost. However, for simplicity and to follow consistent practice on legislation of this type, it is included on the fiscal note.

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