



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2015 Biennium

Bill #	HB0440
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Title:	Dedicate hunting license fee money for easement procurement
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Primary Sponsor:	Kary, Doug
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Status:	As Amended in House Committee
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

	<u>FY 2014 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2015 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2016 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2017 Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wildlife Habitat Acq	(\$1,259,209)	(\$1,259,209)	\$0	\$0
Hunting Access Easement	\$1,259,209	\$1,259,209	\$0	\$0
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wildlife Habitat Acq	(\$1,259,209)	(\$1,259,209)		
Hunting Access Easement	\$1,259,209	\$1,259,209		

Description of fiscal impact: HB 440 requires the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) to reduce the allocation of funds to the Wildlife Habitat Acquisition account and redistribute the funds to a newly established Hunting Access Easement account, which results in a net zero impact to revenue.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

1. Because there is not an effective date, by default FWP assumes the effective date is October 1, 2013.
2. The amendments to 87-1-209, MCA, will terminate June 30, 2013 prior to the effective date of HB 440.
3. This bill establishes a new revenue account dedicated for the procurement of land access easements across private lands to adjoining public lands.
4. This bill changes the allocation of funds from the Wildlife Habitat Acquisition account to the new revenue account, Hunting Access Easement account.
5. This legislation requires the transfer of funds on a temporary basis that terminates June 30, 2015.
6. The hunting license sales for FY 2012 were used to determine the revenue impact from the redistribution of the funds.

7. The following table displays the changes.

Funding for Wildlife Habitat	Current Law		HB 440		Net Result
Habitat Trust Interest O&M	10%	\$ 503,684	10%	\$ 503,684	
Wildlife Habitat Trust	10%	\$ 503,684	10%	\$ 503,684	
Wildlife Habitat Acquisition	80%	\$ 4,029,468	55%	\$ 2,770,259	\$ (1,259,209)
Hunting Access Easement	0%	\$ -	25%	\$ 1,259,209	\$ 1,259,209
Total		\$ 5,036,836		\$ 5,036,836	\$ (0)

8. If HB 440 passes, the changes will need amended into the HB 5 appropriation request for FY 2014 and FY 2015.

	<u>FY 2014</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2015</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2016</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2017</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact:</u>				
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Wildlife Habitat Acq	(\$1,259,209)	(\$1,259,209)	\$0	\$0
Hunting Access Easem	\$1,259,209	\$1,259,209	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wildlife Habitat Acq	(\$1,259,209)	(\$1,259,209)	\$0	\$0
Hunting Access Easem	\$1,259,209	\$1,259,209	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Funding of Exp.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Revenues:</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wildlife Habitat Acq	(\$1,259,209)	(\$1,259,209)	\$0	\$0
Hunting Access Easem	\$1,259,209	\$1,259,209	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

17-1-507-509, MCA.

- a) **Are there persons or entities that benefit from this dedicated revenue that do not pay? (please explain)** Secondary beneficiaries of the hunting access easement account would be persons who do not purchase hunting licenses, but would appreciate the efforts of the department to procure hunting access easements.
- b) **What special information or other advantages exist as a result of using a state special revenue fund that could not be obtained if the revenue were allocated to the general fund?** These funds can only be used to procure hunting access easements. Using a state special revenue fund ensures FWP can comply with the law.
- c) **Is the source of revenue relevant to current use of the funds and adequate to fund the program activity that is intended? Yes / No (if no, explain)** The revenue generated from the sale of hunting licenses will determine the scope of negotiating and procuring hunting access easements and to maintain wildlife habitat.
- d) **Does the need for this state special revenue provision still exist? Yes No (Explain)** In order to provide appropriate accountability, a separate special revenue fund is needed.
- e) **Does the dedicated revenue affect the legislature’s ability to scrutinize budgets, control expenditures, or establish priorities for state spending? (Please Explain)**
No. These funds will still require legislative appropriations.
- f) **Does the dedicated revenue fulfill a continuing, legislatively recognized need? (Please Explain)**
If HB440 passes, the legislature has recognized the need for a Hunting Access Easement program. This fund will allow the department to appropriately account for the funds.
- g) **How does the dedicated revenue provision result in accounting/auditing efficiencies or inefficiencies in your agency? (Please Explain. Also, if the program/activity were general funded, could you adequately account for the program/activity?)**
The dedicated revenue provision ensures FWP utilizes the dedicated revenue as the legislature intended with passage of this bill.

Sponsor’s Initials

Date

Budget Director’s Initials

Date