Fiscal Note 2015 Biennium

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Bill #	SB0397	**Title:**	Establishing provisional hunting seasons for certain large predators
Primary Sponsor:	Boulanger, Scott	**Status:**	As Introduced

- ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact
- ☑ Needs to be included in HB 2
- ☑ Technical Concerns
- ☐ Included in the Executive Budget
- ☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts
- ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	FY 2014 Difference	FY 2015 Difference	FY 2016 Difference	FY 2017 Difference
Expenditures:				
General Fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
State Special Revenue	$25,676	$25,676	$26,061	$26,452
Revenue:				
General Fund	$0	$0	$0	$0
State Special Revenue	$282,783	$282,783	$282,783	$282,783
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	$0	$0	$0	$0

Description of fiscal impact: SB397 creates additional hunting and trapping licenses for provisional seasons generating additional revenue for the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP).

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP)

Black Bear, Mountain Lion, and Wolf Provisional Season Licenses

1. SB 397 creates black bear, mountain lion, and wolf hunting and trapping licenses to be used during provisional seasons.
2. Because SB 397 does not change the price or the opportunity for residents for these species, no resident *provisional* licenses would be sold.
3. Resident *general* licenses would increase by 5% based on the opportunities created in provisional seasons (can be used for both general seasons and the new provisional seasons), generating $49,623 in additional revenue.
    a. Wolf: 20,535 current licenses x 5% x $19 = $19,508

   b. Mountain Lion: 4,964 current licenses x 5% x $19 = $4,716
   c. Black Bear: 26,736 current licenses x 5% x $19 = $25,399

4. SB 397 creates a nonresident *provisional* license that is substantially cheaper than the *general* nonresident license. For this reason, FWP assumes no additional nonresident *general* license purchases.
5. Based on Idaho's (Idaho has a history of similar pricing for wolf licenses) actual 2011 nonresident percentage of 10% and FWP's current nonresident percentage of 4%, FWP assumes an additional 6% increase in nonresident purchases of licenses for *provisional* seasons (10% - 4% = 6%) generating additional revenue of $95,100.
   a. Mountain Lion: 4,964 current licenses x 6% x $50 = $14,892
   b. Black Bear: 26,736 current licenses x 6% x $50 = $80,208
   c. No additional nonresident wolf licenses would be sold because HB 73 passed by the current legislature and signed by the governor enables nonresidents to purchase up to 3 licenses at $50 that could be used in the provisional season.

Hound Handler's License

6. SB 397 establishes a hound handler's license for the new *provisional* season generating additional revenue of $44,378.
   a. FWP estimates 50% of current resident mountain lion license holders would purchase the new handler's license. 4,964 current licenses x 50% x $12.75 = $31,646
   b. Nonresident hound hunting licenses are capped at 50. FWP assumes all would sell. 50 x $169.75 = $8,488
   c. A person who has moved to Montana but not yet qualified as a resident may also purchase a nonresident license (above the nonresident cap of 50). FWP estimates an additional 50% of the nonresident cap would be purchased. (50 x 50% = 25) x $169.75 = $4,244

Bear Baiting License

7. SB 397 establishes a bear baiting license for the new *provisional* seasons.
8. FWP assumes 25% of current bear license holders would purchase the bear baiting licenses generating $93,682 in revenue.
   a. Resident: 26,736 current bear licenses x 25% x $12.75 = $85,221
   b. Nonresident: 1,066 current bear licenses x 25% x $31.75 = $8,461
9. SB 397 requires FWP to provide a tag to be used to mark each bait site at a cost of $25,676.
   a. Printing costs:
      i. 26,736 + 1,066 = 27,802 x 25% = 6,951 number of licenses sold.
      ii. 6,951 x 3 tags per hunter x 150% (for inventory) = 31,380 tags.
      iii. 31,380 tags x $.71/tag for paper and printing = $22,280
   b. Distribution costs to license providers:
      i. $12.35 average postage cost x 275 license providers = $3,396

	FY 2014 Difference	FY 2015 Difference	FY 2016 Difference	FY 2017 Difference
Fiscal Impact:				
Expenditures:				
Operating Expenses	$25,676	$25,676	$26,061	$26,452
TOTAL Expenditures	$25,676	$25,676	$26,061	$26,452
Funding of Expenditures:				
General Fund (01)	$0	$0	$0	$0
State Special Revenue (02)	$25,676	$25,676	$26,061	$26,452
TOTAL Funding of Exp.	$25,676	$25,676	$26,061	$26,452
Revenues:				
General Fund (01)	$0	$0	$0	$0
State Special Revenue (02)	$282,783	$282,783	$282,783	$282,783
TOTAL Revenues	$282,783	$282,783	$282,783	$282,783
Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):				
General Fund (01)	$0	$0	$0	$0
State Special Revenue (02)	$257,107	$257,107	$256,722	$256,331

Technical Notes:

1. SB 397 establishes a wolf season from September 1 through June 30. The wolf license year is from March 1 through February 28. It's likely a wolf hunter would be required to purchase two licenses for one season.

Sponsor's Initials	*Date*	*Budget Director's Initials*	*Date*