

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2963
Version:	CCS
Author:	Sears
Date:	5/13/2010
Impact:	Revenue neutral to the Department, no cost to state

Bill Summary

Research Analyst: Colin Swearingen

The CCS for HB2963 incorporates many of the suggestions made during a 2009 interim study on hunting and fishing licenses.

Section 1 specifies that any person in the United States Armed Forces, and their dependents, is presumed to be an Oklahoma resident for the purpose of purchasing any license issued by the Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Section 2 creates new hunting licenses (and fees) that expire on June 30 of the year issued. The following June 30-expiration hunting licenses are created: annual nonresident license for game other than deer, antelope, or elk; annual resident hunting licenses for those 18 years of age or older; annual resident hunting licenses for those 16 or 17 years of age; and the annual resident combination hunting/fishing licenses.

Section 3 does three main things:

- Consolidates the lifetime hunting licenses. Instead of selling lifetime licenses for both 60+ and 64+ years-old, the Wildlife Commission would be able to sell one senior citizen (65+ years-old) lifetime hunting and fishing license.
- Deletes the exemption from a fishing license for Oklahoma citizens serving in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces outside the state, who are on properly authorized leave.
- Raises the annual non-resident fishing license fee and changes the 5-day non-resident fishing license to a 6-day license.

Section 4 does three main things:

- Deletes the exemption from a hunting license for Oklahoma citizens serving in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces outside the state, who are on properly authorized leave.
- Increases nonresident hunting license fees across the board
- Adds black bear to the list of species exempt from a substitute temporary license and 5-day non-resident hunting license

Section 5 lists the fees for resident hunting licenses that expire on December 31 of the year purchased and for those that expire on June 30 of the fiscal year purchased. It also specifies the amount of money from each fee to be deposited in the Oklahoma Wildlife Land Fund.

Section 6 deals with lifetime hunting, fishing, and combination licenses:

- Sets the fee for both the senior citizen lifetime hunting and fishing license for persons 65 years of age and older at \$15. The senior citizen lifetime combination license fee is set at \$25. All privileges of these three licenses are the same as that of a regular lifetime licenses.
- Deletes the lifetime hunting, fishing, and combination licenses for persons age 60 and older.
- Allows residents under 18 years of age to pay for a lifetime hunting, fishing, or combination license in installments, not to exceed a three-year period of time.

Section 7 exempts all residents with a lifetime hunting or lifetime combination license from trapping license requirements. Annual trapping licenses will expire the last day of February.

Section 8 makes the state fishing license valid for trout fishing, thereby eliminating the current fees for trout fishing licenses.

Section 9 deletes the option of buying an Oklahoma resident lifetime waterfowl hunting license and provides the option of a substitute temporary license for persons arrested for hunting waterfowl without a valid Oklahoma license.

Section 11 specifies that for hunting licenses that expire on June 30 of the fiscal year purchased, the Oklahoma Wildlife Land Stamp, included in that license, will also expire on June 30 of the fiscal year purchased.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Analyst: Mark Nichols

The CCS for HB 2963 combines several bills into one omnibus Wildlife bill and makes several changes to licensing.

Fiscal Analysis

Officials at the Department of Wildlife estimate that the provisions of the measure would be revenue neutral and since the Department is nonappropriated, there is no cost to the state.

Long Term Fiscal Considerations

None

Fiscal Analysis Reviewed By:

Janice Buchanan

House Fiscal Director

