

**Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Katie Sullivan - (S) Fish and Game**

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Maxwell Parson,

HB0907.001.002

HOUSE BILL NO. 907

INTRODUCED BY K. SULLIVAN,

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO HUNTING LICENSES; REVISING THE NONRESIDENT BONUS POINT APPLICATION FEE; ALLOWING FOR ~~NONRESIDENT~~ LANDOWNERS TO PURCHASE AN ADDITIONAL BONUS POINT IF THEY PARTICIPATE IN A BLOCK MANAGEMENT HUNTING ACCESS PROGRAM; AMENDING SECTIONS 87-2-113 AND 87-2-115, MCA; REPEALING SECTION 87-2-714, MCA; AND PROVIDING A DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 87-2-113, MCA, is amended to read:

**"87-2-113. Application fees.** (1) (a) Except as provided in subsection (1)(b), when the department determines a drawing is necessary prior to issuance of hunting licenses for any game species during a hunting season, it shall collect a \$5 ~~per species~~ application fee for each species.

(b) The department shall collect the following ~~per species~~ special license application fees for each species:

- (i) moose--resident, \$10; nonresident, \$50;
- (ii) mountain goat--resident, \$10; nonresident, \$50;
- (iii) mountain sheep--resident, \$10; nonresident, \$50;
- (iv) wild buffalo or bison--resident, \$10; nonresident, \$50.

(2) (a) If a resident participates in the bonus point system adopted by the commission, the department shall collect an additional application fee of \$2 ~~per~~ for each species.

(b) (i) If a nonresident participates in the bonus point system adopted by the commission, the department shall collect an additional application fee of \$20 ~~per~~ \$25 for each species.

(ii) A ~~nonresident~~ landowner may purchase an additional bonus point for an elk or deer license or permit drawing for the fee established in 87-2-113 if the ~~nonresident~~ landowner:

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1           (A) owns at least 640 contiguous acres in fee title;

2           (B) was enrolled in a department-administered private land hunting access program pursuant to  
3 87-1-265 in the previous license year; and

4           (C) has purchased a Class B-10 license for the current license year.

5           (3) Application fees collected pursuant to this section must be deposited in the state special  
6 revenue fund to the credit of the department as set forth in 87-1-601.

7           (4) The payment of an application fee confers no hunting rights or privileges.

8           (5) The commission may waive the provisions of subsection (1) when a drawing is required for a  
9 special season under 87-1-304."

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11           **Section 2.** Section 87-2-115, MCA, is amended to read:

12           **"87-2-115. Nonresident elk and deer license preference point system.** (1) The department shall  
13 establish a preference point system to distribute Class B-10 nonresident big game combination licenses and  
14 Class B-11 nonresident deer combination licenses.

15           (2) Nonresidents applying to purchase a Class B-10 or Class B-11 license may purchase a  
16 preference point, ~~upon~~on payment of a nonrefundable \$100 fee, that gives an applicant who has more  
17 preference points priority to receive a Class B-10 or Class B-11 license over an applicant who has purchased  
18 fewer preference points.

19           (3) An applicant may:

20           (a) purchase only one preference point ~~per~~each license year except a nonresident hunting with an  
21 outfitter licensed pursuant to Title 37, chapter 47, part 3, and providing the documentation required in  
22 subsection (8), may purchase two preference points ~~per~~each license year. No applicant may accumulate more  
23 than three preference points total.

24           (b) purchase a preference point without applying for a Class B-10 or Class B-11 license. An  
25 applicant not applying for a Class B-10 or Class B-11 license may purchase a preference point only between  
26 July 1 and December 31 of that license year.

27           (4) (a) The department shall delete an applicant's accumulated preference points if the applicant: