

LICENSE SIMPLIFICATION



Simpler, Easier, Better Value



What is being proposed?

Legislation to allow the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to set future license structure and fees directly through a streamlined, customer focused process as opposed to the current complex, legislative and rulemaking process

Includes (Title 5: watercraft registration; fees)



Background on License Simplification & Fee Flexibility

Process began in December 2011

DGO #2 (2011)

- securing additional revenue in existing funds
- use an analytical and business model approach

DGO #9 (2011-12)

- develop a simpler license structure
- provide more value to traditional customers
- establish a consistent definition for Youth

New Combined DGO (Aug. 2012)

The Department will seek measures to provide the Commission authority and flexibility to fully implement a new basic license structure (including license, tags and permits). The new structure will generate additional revenue in the Game and Fish Fund, be easier to understand, and provide more value to recruit and retain customers.



Why is it being proposed?

- **YOU our customers, have asked for a simpler structure**
 - Complexity is barrier to recruitment and retention
- **Like a business, AGFD operates primarily with revenue it generates**
 - The Department receives no Arizona tax dollars (general fund)
 - Must be able to react to changing conditions



Constraints of current process

- Prevents timely reaction to changing customer needs or market conditions
- Complex and time-consuming (3 years)
- Commission needs legislative approval to revise license structure. Once approved, Commission must go through the regular rulemaking process



Current Process-3 Years

GRRC approves Rulemaking to finalize changes

AGFD Conducts rulemaking to implement changes

Legislature passes laws to enact proposed changes

Commission drafts legislation to allow changes

AGFD receives customer input for proposed changes



Governor's Regulatory Review Council

AGF Commission

Legislature

AGF Commission

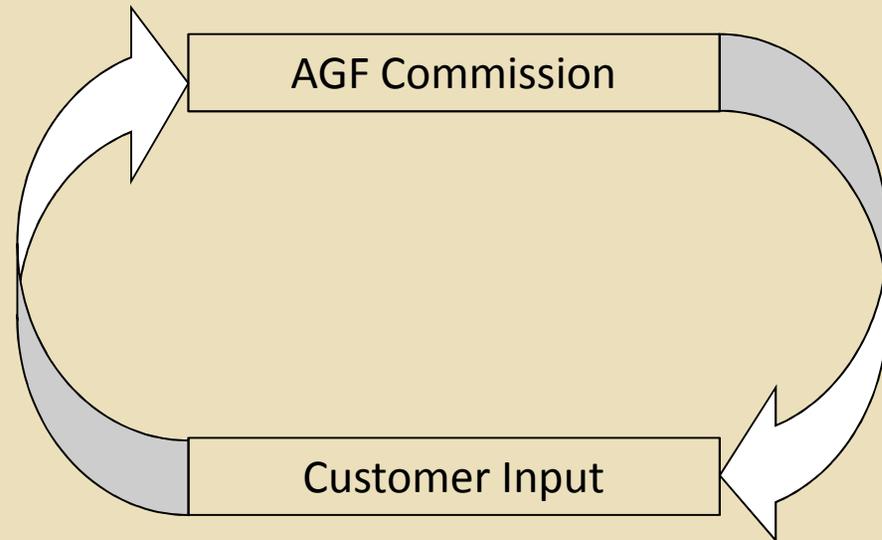
Customer Input



Proposed Process

Commission works directly with Department and Customers to implement changes

AGFD receives input on changes to consider





Rulemaking Process

Temporary Fee Decrease/Promotion

- Commission action at single meeting
- Allows quick response to market conditions
- Short implementation

New Products /New Fees/Fee Increase

- Minimum of 2 publicly noticed meetings
- Required 30 day comment period
- Estimate 6 months to complete
- File with SOS

Current Rulemaking Process

- Involves Department, GRRC & SOS
- Mandatory public comment periods
- Estimate 9 - 18 months to complete



Temporary Fee Decrease/Promotion

Used to temporarily reduce a fee or offer promotions:

- Publicly Noticed Commission Meeting
- Commission discusses and provides direction to Department
- Department notices public of fee reduction/promotion

- Examples?





New Products/New Fees/Fee Increase

Publicly Noticed Commission Meeting

- Public input
- Department presents recommendations and Commission provides direction (1st Mtg)

Public comment period occur (30-day min.)

- Outreach

Internal Department Review

Publicly Noticed Commission Meeting

- Public input
- Department presents recommendations and Commission provides direction (2nd Mtg)

Department files final rules with Secretary of State

- Commission determines effective date

The Department anticipates this process will take 6 months



Oversight – Checks/Balances

- Legislature can give or take away authorities, assign audits
- Legislature always maintains oversight to approve, deny or modify spending authority for any agency
- Legislation requires Commission to submit annual reports to legislature and every 5 years the Joint Legislative Audit Committee to hold a public hearing to review annual report

BILL LANGUAGE: ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION RELATING TO LICENSE CLASSIFICATIONS, FEES FOR LICENSES, PERMITS, TAGS AND STAMPS AND ANY OTHER FEES THAT THE COMMISSION PRESCRIBES BY RULE. ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2019 AND EACH FIFTH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE SHALL ASSIGN A COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AND REVIEW THE ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION.



Benefits of proposed legislation

- ***Simpler, easier-to-understand license structure***

- ✓ Over 40 license types significantly reduced
- ✓ 13 definitions for Youth – reduced to one

- ***Better Products – Increased Value***

- ✓ 365-day license – choose your start date
- ✓ Licenses may include certain stamp privileges
- ✓ No more “Do I have the license I need?”
- ✓ Discounted licenses for Youth
- ✓ Unlimited one-day combo licenses



License Options (Example)	Possible Privileges
Resident Fishing	Urban, trout, Colorado River and 2-pole
Non-Resident Fishing	Urban, trout, Colorado River and 2-pole
Resident Hunt	
Non-Resident Hunt	
Resident Combo	Urban, trout, Colorado River, 2-pole, Unit 12A, AZ Duck
Non-Resident Combo	Urban, trout, Colorado River, 2-pole, Unit 12A, AZ Duck
R/NR Youth Combo	Urban, trout, Colorado River, 2-pole, Unit 12A, AZ Duck
1 day Hunt/Fish Combo	Hunt, Fish, Urban - consecutive or non- consecutive days, unlimited number
Urban Fishing	2-pole

Note: Licenses valid for 365 days (except for 1-day)



Benefits of proposed legislation

- ***Flexibility***

- ✓ React more quickly to biological factors, customer needs, market opportunities
- ✓ Reduced price for leftover javelina tags
- ✓ Discounted licenses as incentives

- ***Hunter and Angler Input***

- ✓ Public access/interaction with Commission
- ✓ 5-member Commission
- ✓ Reduced government
- ✓ Legislature maintains oversight
 - Authority already provided to ASLD, ADWR, ADEQ



Does this mean you'll raise fees?

- **Currently, Commission can raise fees up to Legislative maximum**
- **Fees have not been raised since 2007**
 - ✓ Commission kept its commitment to not raise fees for 5 years
 - ✓ New structure/fees cannot be implemented before 2014
- **Fees will likely change - some may be raised and some may be lowered base on:**
 - ✓ Value
 - ✓ Principles of the North American Model
 - ✓ Customer input and feedback
 - ✓ Commission decision
- **Provides Commission a tool that allows:**
 - ✓ Increased flexibility to provide better products
 - ✓ Reduced license fees for youths, benefiting families
 - ✓ Added value at a reduced cost



• Will take to the Arizona Legislature in 2013 session

What is the timeline for this proposal?

- **The Commission/Department will take this proposal to the Arizona Legislature during the 2013 session for consideration**

What happens next?

- **If legislation passes:**
 - Commission will establish simpler license structure and fees through streamlined rulemaking process
 - Process will be customer focused – input is instrumental
- **If legislation does not pass:**
 - Current complex license structure remains in place
 - Fees adjusted in Rule under current Commission authority



Sportsmen's Groups & Public Mtgs

- Arizona Antelope Foundation
- Arizona BASS Federation Nation
- Arizona Bowhunters Association
- Arizona Deer Association
- Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
- Arizona Elk Society
- Arizona Flycasters
- Arizona Predator Callers
- AZ Sportsman for Wildlife Conservation
- Anglers United
- Arizona Wildlife Federation
- Chandler Rod & Gun Club
- Coconino Sportsman's Club
- Desert Flycasters
- Desert Christian Archers
- Ducks Unlimited
- Mogollon Sporting Association
- Mohave Sportsman's Club
- Mule Deer Foundation
- National Wild Turkey Federation-State Chapter
- Northern Arizona Flycasters
- Parker Bass Club
- Phoenix Varmint Callers
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Safari Club International, AZ Chapter
- Trout Unlimited
- Southern Arizona Predator Callers
- Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club
- Sportsmen's Constituent Group
- Tucson Public Meeting
- Flagstaff Public Meeting
- Pinetop Public Meeting
- Yuma Public Meeting
- Kingman Public Meeting
- Prescott Public Meeting
- Phoenix Public Meeting



• Will take to the Arizona Legislature in 2013 session

Can We Count on Your Support?



QUESTIONS?

For more information, visit:

www.azgfd.gov/LicenseSimplification

COMMENTS?

We want your feedback! If you have comments, please e-mail:

LicenseSimplification@azgfd.gov