



NEW YORK BOWHUNTERS, INC.

P.O. Box 619
LaFayette, N.Y. 13084

March 1, 2009

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

In 2005 the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) enacted regulation changes that resulted in the loss of significant bowhunting opportunity during the early, archery-only season in the southern zone. Since that time the DEC has repeatedly turned a deaf ear to bowhunters of this state in our efforts to restore this lost hunting time. Now the DEC is asking for our support for hunting, fishing and trapping license fee increases, which have to be approved by our state legislators. We are willing to pay our fair share of reasonable fee increases; however **we are not willing to pay more for less hunting opportunity!** We now have leverage with the DEC, via our state legislators, to restore our lost hunting time. Therefore it is imperative that we do the following;

#1. Contact the chairmen of the Environmental Conservation (ENCON) Committees in the NYS Senate & Assembly. Enclosed is a generic letter for Governor Patterson, Assemblyman Robert Sweeney and the **newly appointed chairman**, Senator Antoine Thompson. **If you send these letters, remember to place your address and date at the top of page and sign the letters at the bottom.** You can also contact the ENCON chairmen at the following;

Robert Sweeney: phone - (518) 455-5787, e-mail sweeney@assembly.state.ny.us

Antoine Thompson: phone (518) 455-3371, e-mail athompson@senate.state.ny.us.

Senator Thompson represents the 60th district in Erie & Niagara Counties. Constituents in this district should make an extra effort to visit/contact his office at 65 Court St., Buffalo, NY. **Phone (716) 854-8705.**

#2. Contact your individual legislators, as they will respond positively to the constituents that vote them into office. You can obtain the addresses, phone number, office locations and e-mail addresses via the following web sites;

www.assembly.state.ny.us

www.senate.state.ny.us

#3. Contact Governor Patterson's office and flood his email address with your comments. Email fwwildlf@gw.dec.state.ny.us. Go to the web site www.ny.gov/governor, simply (1) click on "contact the governor", (2) click on "to email the governor" and (3) fill out the info, hit send.

Write: Governor David A. Patterson
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Phone: (518) 474-8390

#4. Spread the word at your clubs and other fellow sportspersons.

Please become involved ASAP as the future of our bowhunting seasons is in your hands.
This is a just cause and as such is worth the effort expended!

Date:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Senator Antoine Thompson
Legislative Office Building, Room 902
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Thompson,

I am writing to you in regards to the Governor's Budget Bill (#A-159 & # S-59), referring to Part "KK" (Environmental Conservation) that increase the fees for hunting, fishing and trapping licenses. I am willing to pay my fair share of reasonable fee increases, however

I am not willing to pay more for less hunting opportunity!

In 2005 the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) enacted a regulation change, contrary to my concerns, that opened the southern zone, early archery-only season on the Saturday after Columbus Day, ending on the 3rd Friday in November. As a result of this regulation change the 2008 early archery season in the southern zone was shortened to 28 days as compared to a 35 day season in 2007. Thus the 2008 season was seven (7) days shorter than the 2007 season and up to ten (10) days shorter when compared to the old season structure that always opened on October 15th and ended on the Sunday before the regular gun season. Prior to enactment of this regulation change, DEC officials gave bowhunters their assurance, that in exchange for our support to open the regular big game southern zone season on a Saturday, as opposed to the then current Monday opening date, we would be compensated for this loss of hunting opportunity by opening the early archery-only season on October 1st. Bowhunters gave their support and the DEC reneged on their promise. Many attempts to engage the DEC in a working dialog on this issue has been frustratingly fruitless.

I could support a reasonable license fee increase if Budget Bill A159/S59, Part KK is amended so that the southern zone, early archery-only season is annually opened on October 1st, which is the beginning of the license year and corresponds with the opening of the archery-only season in Suffolk County. Without this amendment I will not support **any** fee increases.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and I am hopeful that your office can assist bowhunters in our justified quest to restore hunting opportunity to the southern zone archery-only season.

Sincerely yours,

Date:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Assemblyman Robert K. Sweeney
Legislative Office Building, Room 837
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Assemblyman Sweeney,

I am writing to you in regards to the Governor's Budget Bill (#A-159 & # S-59), referring to Part "KK" (Environmental Conservation) that increase the fees for hunting, fishing and trapping licenses. I am willing to pay my fair share of reasonable fee increases, however

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Governor David A. Patterson
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

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Sincerely yours,

Conservation Fund Advisory Board License Fee Proposal

<u>Resident License / Permit Type</u>	<u>Current Fee</u>	<u>Proposed Fee</u>	<u>Change</u>
Conservation Legacy	\$76	\$96	+20
Super Sportsman	\$68	\$88	+20
Sportsman	\$37	\$47	+10
Sportsman (Sr. 65+)	\$5	\$10	+5
Small and Big Game	\$19	\$29	+10
Fishing	\$19	\$29	+10
Fishing (Sr. - 70+)	\$5	\$5	0
Fishing (Blind)	\$0	\$5	+5
Deer Management Permit (DMP)	\$0	\$5	+5 per tag ?
Deer Management Permit (DMP) with small & big game license or Jr. Hunting	\$10	\$10	0
Military Disability	\$5	\$5	0
Bow Hunting	\$16	\$21	+5
Bow Hunting (Sr. 70+)	\$0	\$0	0
Bow Hunting (Jr.)	\$9	\$9	0
Muzzleloading	\$16	\$21	+5
Muzzleloading (Sr. 70+)	\$0	\$0	0
Small Game	\$16	\$26	+10
Junior Hunting	\$5	\$5	0
Turkey Permit	\$5	\$10	+5
Trapping	\$16	\$21	+5
Trapping (Sr. 70+)	\$0	\$5	+5
Trapping (Jr.)	\$6	\$6	0
7-day Fishing	\$12	\$15	+3
1-day Fishing	\$15	deleted	----

Additional License Fees being considered: (1) \$10 Trout & Salmon Stamp, (2) \$? Pheasant Stamp (3) \$19 Marine Fishing License (\$40 non-resident)

Life Time Licenses

Sportsman (age 0- 4)	\$300	\$380	+80
Sportsman (age 5-11)	\$420	\$535	+115
Sportsman (age 12-65)	\$600	\$765	+165
Sportsman (age 65+)	\$50	\$65	+15
Small and Big Game	\$350	\$535	+185
Fishing (age 0-64)	\$350	\$460	+110
Fishing 65+	\$50	\$100	+50
Trapping	\$300	\$395	+95
Bow Hunting	\$180	\$235	+55
Muzzleloading	\$180	\$235	+55

Non-Resident Licenses/Permits generally increase by \$30 with a range from \$10 to \$55