

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

Recreational Fuels Tax Discussion



Review of What Happens To The 3% IDPR Receives

28%	Off-Road Motor Vehicle Fund (ORMV)
28%	Waterways Improvement Fund (WIF)
28%	Capital Improvement Fund (CIF)
15%	Road & Bridge Fund (R&B)
1%	<u>Search & Rescue</u>

100% Total Distribution

Follow up issues from our first meeting

- ž Non-motorized trail funding
- ž Idaho in comparison to other states funding.
- ž Resident/Non-Resident Camping rates
- ž Current IDPR fee structure
- ž Potential Alternative Funding

Non Motorized Trail Funding

- ž Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – patterned after Idaho’s state fuel tax program -Accounts for approximately \$1 million
- ž Park “N” Ski program - \$20,000
- ž Non motorized funding is lacking in most states – other than RTP, Ski \$, there is no tax base for supporting bicycling, kayaking, skiing, etc.

Idaho in Comparison to Other States' Funding

ž States that have expanded:

- Oregon – Expanding due to 7.5% share of State's Lottery \$
- Alaska – Expanding due to General Fund increases

ž States that are closing parks:

- California

ž Most states have done what Idaho has:

- Cut staff – Idaho has cut 25% of seasonal staff – (approx. 70-75), impacts – customer svc, cleaning, maintenance, etc.
- Reduced operating costs
- Cut Maintenance (Idaho has lost \$2.5 million). Wyoming has lost \$1.8 million.
- Washington initially looked to close parks – only State Department that Legislature passed new tax.

Resident/Non Resident Fees

- ž Of our neighboring states, Wyoming charges out of state customers more than in-state customers for camping.
- ž A handful of states charge more for day use/annual pass
- ž Idaho has taken the stance, like most states, that charging more for services should be based on value instead of where the customer is from. This was tried in the 1980's and was met with a great deal of resistance.

Current IDPR Fee Structure

- ž IDAPA fee structure is in your packet
- ž Covers fees for:
 - Camping
 - Day Use Fees
 - Cabin and Group facility fees

Alternative Funding Ideas

- Staff developed a list of funding alternatives that were carried forward to our Board at their July 2009 meeting in Harriman State Park.



Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

Those ideas were as follows:

- ž Increasing registration fees on off road motor vehicles, boats, and snowmobiles
- ž Sales tax from OHVs, snowmobiles, boats be distributed directly to IDPR as opposed to the general fund.

Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

- ž Additional tax on all sporting goods with the proceeds being distributed to IDPR and other Idaho governmental recreational entities
- ž Additional tax on and a % of that tax from the sale of soda pop and candy.
- ž Change in the distribution of the Dingell-Johnson funding.

Alternative Funding cont. – not endorsed by IDPR Board

Increase registration fees on off road motor vehicles, boats, and snowmobiles

At their meeting in Eastern Idaho, the Board passed a motion that they were adamantly opposed to raising the registration fees to replace fuel tax cutbacks.

Alternative Funding cont. – not endorsed by IDPR Board

Registration Type	Session Year	% Increase
Snowmobile	2005	5%
Snowmobile	2007	51%
Boats	2007	48%
Motorbike/ATVs	2009	20%

Alternative Funding Ideas cont. – not endorsed by IDPR Board

This option would have the motorized recreation users replace ALL gas tax funding through registrations.

z \$4,800,000 / *274,000 = \$ 17.52 increase per sticker

*274,000 represents the total number of snowmobile, ATV, Motorbike, UTV, and Boating registrations.

Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

- ž ***Sales Tax from Boats and OHVs*** —At our first meeting, you heard representatives from the Idaho Recreation Council provide estimates that sales tax generated would provide approximately \$9 million dollars annually.

Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

Additional tax on all sporting goods — A broader, dedicated funding approach like this to support recreation funding would certainly garner support from government entities like IDPR that provide recreation opportunities.

Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

Additional Sales Tax of Soda/Candy —This model is currently being used in a number of states (19) across the country.

The “average” income generated per state is \$94 million.

Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

- ž **Redistribution of Dingell-Johnson funds –**
Approximately \$900,000 of the total Dingell-Johnson (Sport Fish Restoration Funds) revenue allocated to Idaho are currently being utilized exclusively by IDFG for their boating facilities.

Dingell-Johnson redistribution cont.

These funds could be used in essentially the same fashion as IDPR's lost Waterways Improvement Funds (WIF).

While this would amount would certainly replace the WIF component of the lost recreational fuels tax, it certainly wouldn't cover the other approximately \$3.5 million.

Dingell-Johnson redistribution cont.

Additionally, it would be reasonable to assume that IDFG would then need to find ways to replace that previously exclusive revenue source for their boating facilities.

Alternative Funding Ideas cont.

- ž Motor Vehicle Registration Fee increase (approx. \$3) as presented by ISP –
 - Montana & Washington
- ž Allocate a portion of the Lottery proceeds to replace IDPR fuel tax funding.

Questions?

