

Carver Sportsmen's Club Inc
PO Box 14 South Carver Massachusetts 02366



The Carver Sportsmen's Club Comments on Proposed License and Fee Increases.

- We support the positions of the Mass Conservation Alliance and Plymouth County League of Sportsmen as spelled out herein.
- Proposed increase for permits and stamps need to be reviewed and reduced.
- Proposed new stamps should be reviewed and not negatively impact R3 efforts.
- We support new general fund reimbursements to compensate for free licenses consistent with SD1453. New revenues should be used to reduce the proposed fee increases.
- We support efforts to fund a portion of DFW fixed costs such as retirement costs and other benefits consistent with the way other state agencies are funded through the general fund. Revenues generated should be used to offset the proposed fee increases.
- Increasing hunting opportunity is key to long term financial viability and preferable to fee increases alone. Fee increases negatively impact R3 efforts and do not address the shrinking base of licensees.
- We support legislation to increase hunting opportunity by removing the statutory prohibition on crossbow use (HD2393/SD1166)
- We support and prefer efforts to increase hunting opportunity by repealing the prohibition on Sunday hunting (HD915) but also support compromise legislation allowing Sunday deer hunting (HD767).
- We support increasing hunting opportunity by reducing archery setbacks which open new lands to archery hunting (SD2110)
- We support the programs and staff of the Division of Fish and Wildlife and oppose cuts in programs and services.
- We request detailed estimates of the funds each proposed increase is anticipated to generate in revenues and a total of the revenues required to fully fund the programs of the Division.
- We do not oppose reasonable increases in licenses and fees. We seek changes to financing models to reduce the increases by sharing costs with other users and or general fund contributions.
- We encourage a cooperative effort between the sporting community, the DFW, the legislature, the Governor and other interested parties to reduce excessive increases proposed.