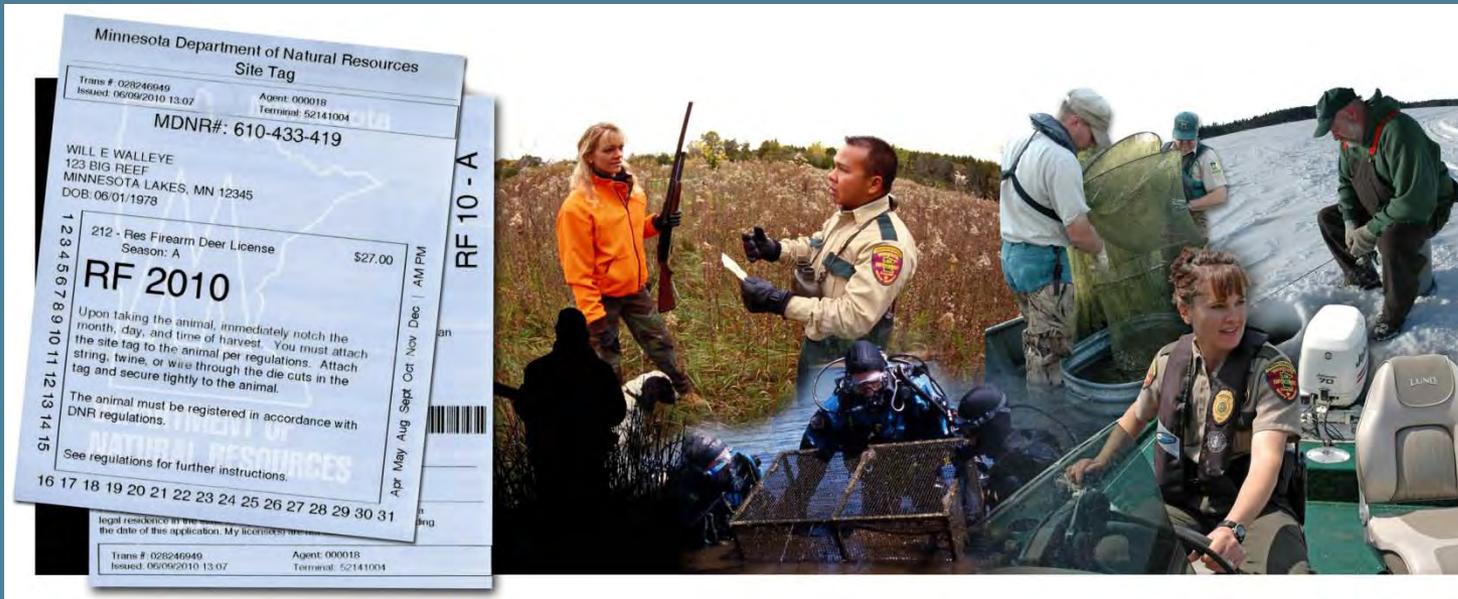


# Hunting and Fishing Heritage Initiative Governor's Budget Proposal Game and Fish Fund



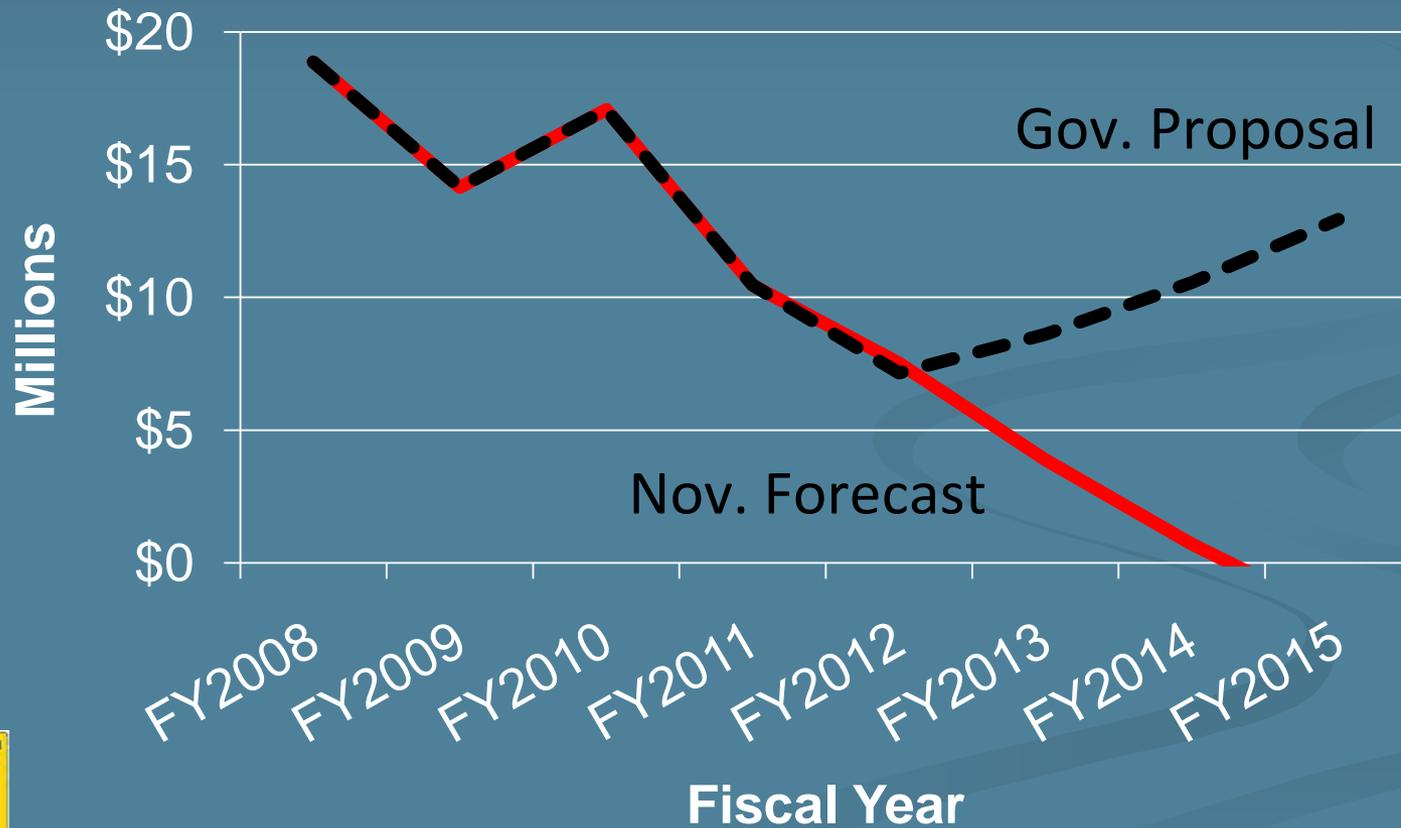
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

# Not a Standard “Fee Increase”

- Structural licensing changes
  - Reduced price youth licenses
  - Lower cost options for casual participants
  - Convenience packages
- Business model
  - Economics and jobs
  - Cost reduction strategies
  - Market research
- Options/prices based on market research and analysis



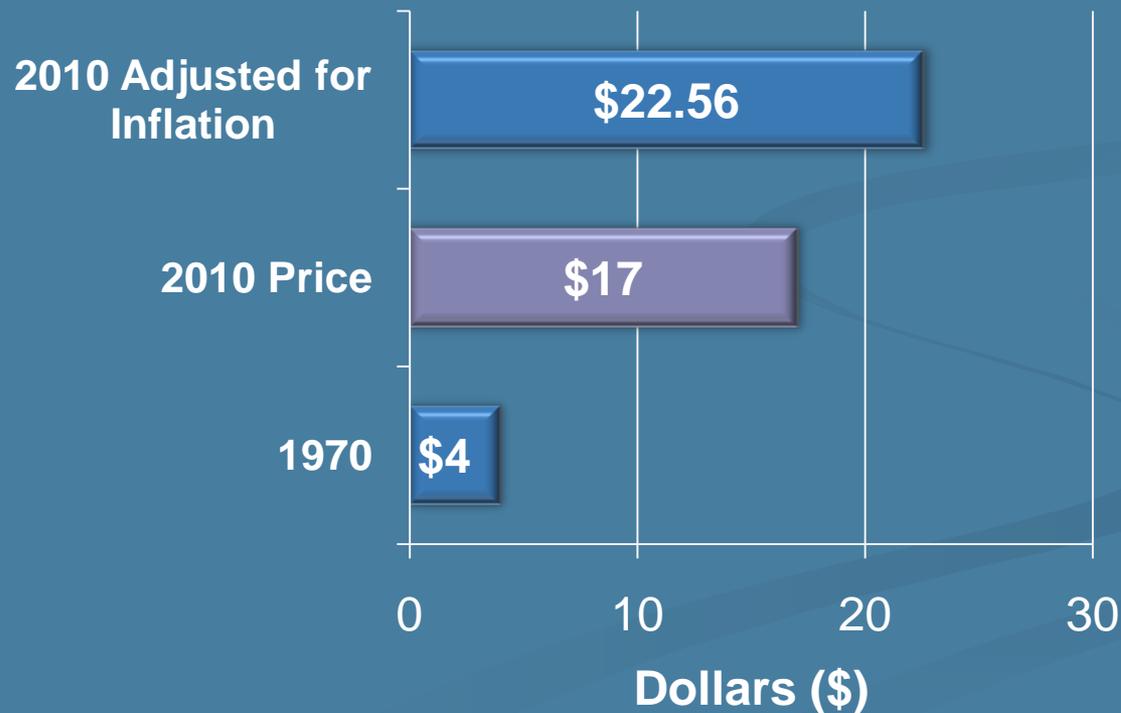
# Game and Fish Fund Balance Forecast vs. Proposed (Nov. 2010 Forecast)



# Situation

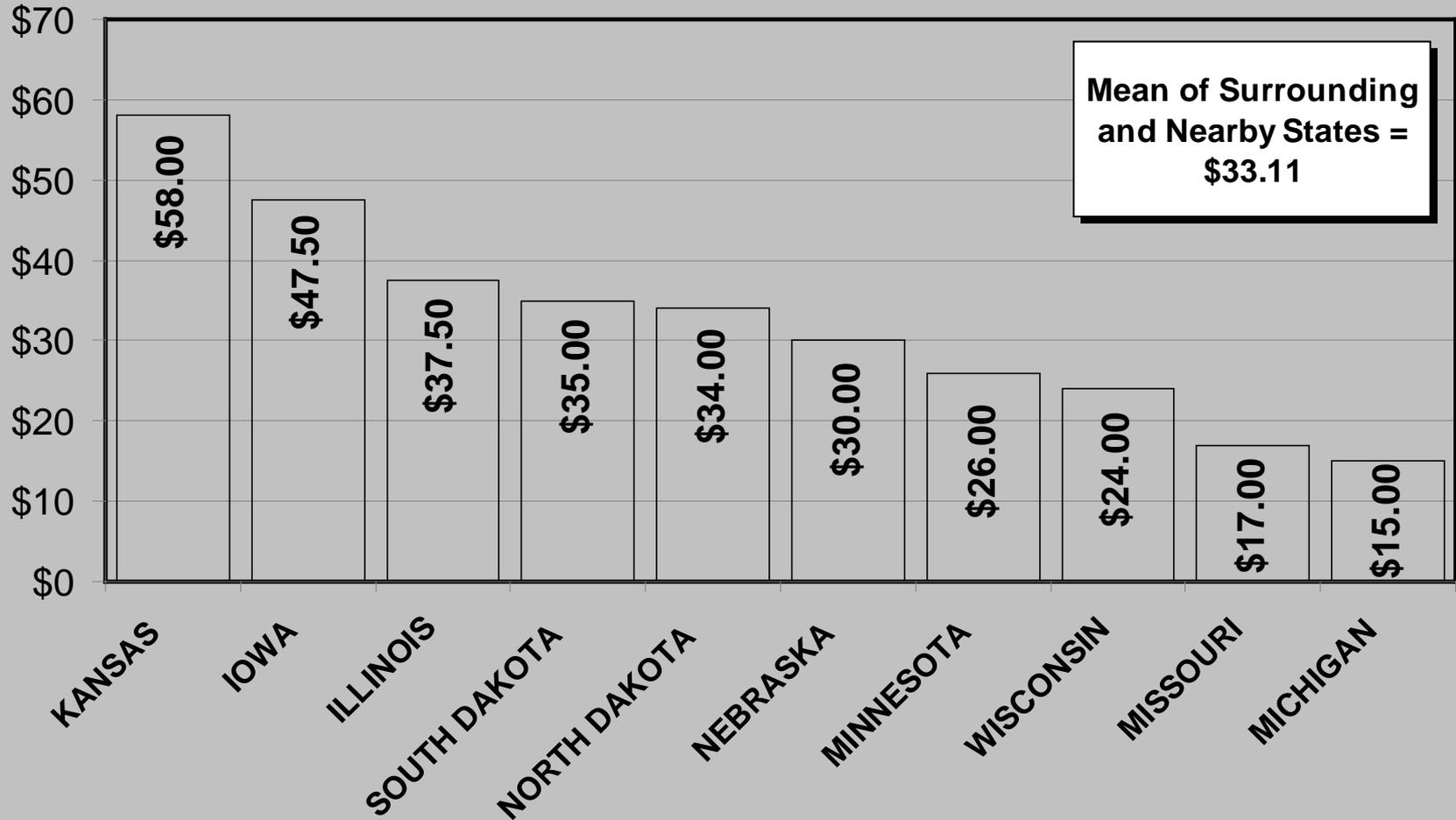
- License revenue not keeping up with inflation

## Price of an Annual Fishing License





# Comparison of Costs to Hunt Deer Among Surrounding and Nearby States - 2010 License Year



# Seeking Solutions

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- Collaborated with the citizens' Game and Fish Fund Budgetary Oversight Committee
- Ideal solutions will address:
  - ✓ Capacity to manage and improve fishing and hunting opportunities / high quality experiences
  - ✓ Ability to maximize federal dollars
  - ✓ Long-term stability of the Game and Fish Fund
  - ✓ Customer friendly structure and value
  - ✓ Fisheries and Wildlife expenditure imbalance





- Also developed a series of “*Bottom Line*” supporting documents, including background on:
  - Game and Fish Fund supplies the foundation of conservation delivery in Fisheries Management, Wildlife Management, and Enforcement
  - Legacy (Constitutional Amendment) Funds cannot supplant license revenues and federal aid for conservation delivery



# License Dollars at Work



*Maintaining the Foundation of Outdoor Recreation*

# Quality of Life....and an Economic Engine



✓ Fishing expenditures:  
**\$3.05 billion**

Fishing jobs: **43,812**



✓ Hunting expenditures:  
**\$552 million**

Hunting Jobs: **11,911**

✓ Wildlife watching  
expenditures:

✓ **\$699 million**



# Expenditure reductions

- Driving less (10% reduction)
- Fuel efficient vehicles
- Vacant field positions and officers
- Consolidation of field stations
- Efficiencies in operations
  - Private contracting
  - Use of Technology

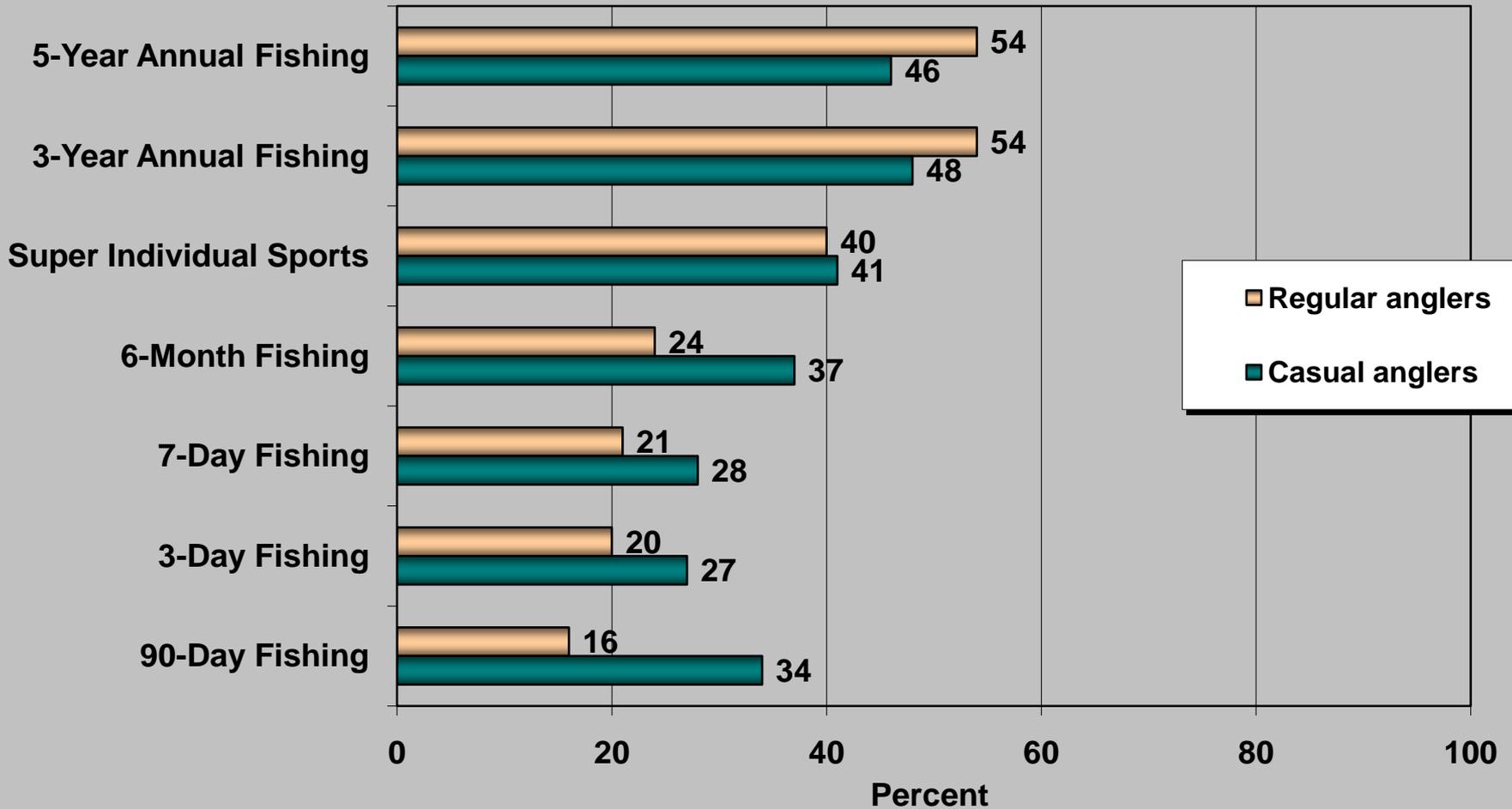


# Anglers/Hunters Today

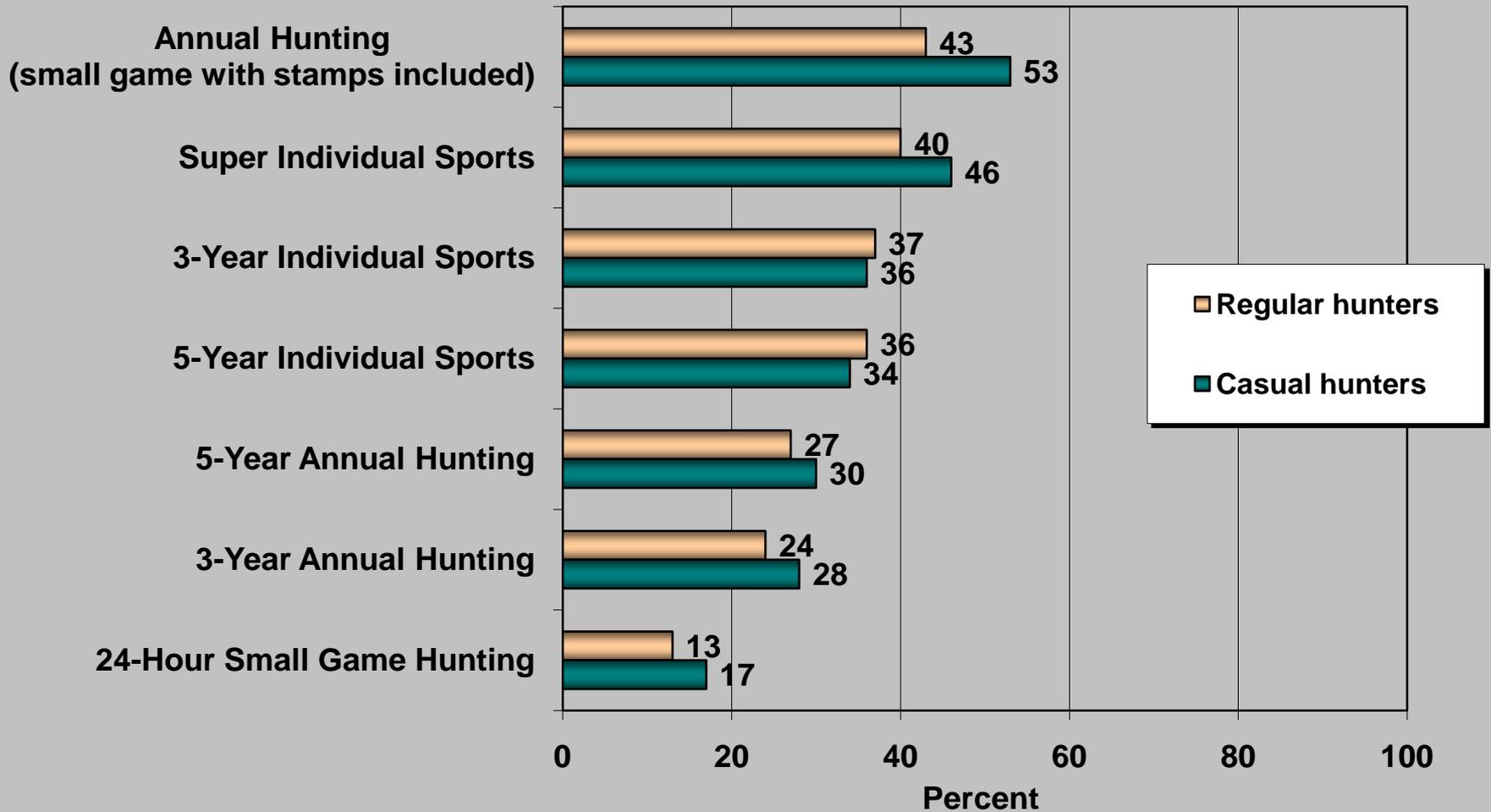
Number of years <u>licensed</u> <u>out of 5</u>	Percent of <u>anglers</u>	Percent of <u>hunters</u>
1 out of 5 yrs	32%	20%
5 out of 5 yrs	<u>27%</u>	<u>49%</u>



**Q7. Percent who indicated that it would be very desirable to them personally to have the following potential fishing license types available for purchase.  
(Residents.)**



**Q17. Percent who indicated that it would be very desirable to them personally to have the following potential hunting license types available for purchase.  
(Residents.)**



# Proposed Changes

## *Resident Angling*

- Individual Angling (\$24)
- Husband and Wife Combination (\$40)
- Add 90-day angling (\$18)
- Add 3-day (no trout stamp required) (\$12)
- Youth (16 & 17 yr. olds) (\$12)
- Spearing only (\$18)



# Proposed Changes

## *Resident Hunting*

- Small game (\$22)
- Deer (\$30)
- Add 3-day small game (stamps not required) (\$19)
- Add Small game package (pheasant and duck stamps included) (\$37)
- Youth 50% discount
- ~15% price increase on most licenses



# Proposed Changes Convenience Packages

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- Sports License (Angling and Small Game) \$43
- Add Super Sports - \$99
  - ✓ Individual angling and trout stamp
  - ✓ Small Game and pheasant and duck stamp
  - ✓ Deer
- Combination Super Sports - \$125



# Hunting and Fishing Heritage Initiative

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## *Summary of Proposed Changes*

- Structural changes
  - Reduced price youth licenses
  - Lower cost shorter term options for casual participants
  - Convenience packages
- Prices/license options based on research and analysis



# Hunting and Fishing Heritage Initiative – Status

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- Strong stakeholder support
- Included in Governor's proposed Biennial Budget
- Approach well received by Legislative Finance Committees and individual legislators (but majority caucus considers a fee = a tax)
- Was not included in the initial natural resources budget bill passed by the legislature
- Absence was noted as a problem in Governor's veto message...



# Hunting and Fishing Heritage Initiative – Supporting Conservation

- \$9.86 million new fishing license revenue
- \$4.6 million new hunting license revenue
  - ✓ Capacity to manage and improve opportunities and provide high quality fishing and hunting experiences
  - ✓ Customer friendly structure and value
  - ✓ Ability to maximize federal dollars
  - ✓ Stability of the Game and Fish Fund
  - ✓ Fisheries and Wildlife expenditures better balanced



# Questions?

