

Hunting and Fishing Heritage Initiative

Governor's Budget Proposal

Game and Fish Fund



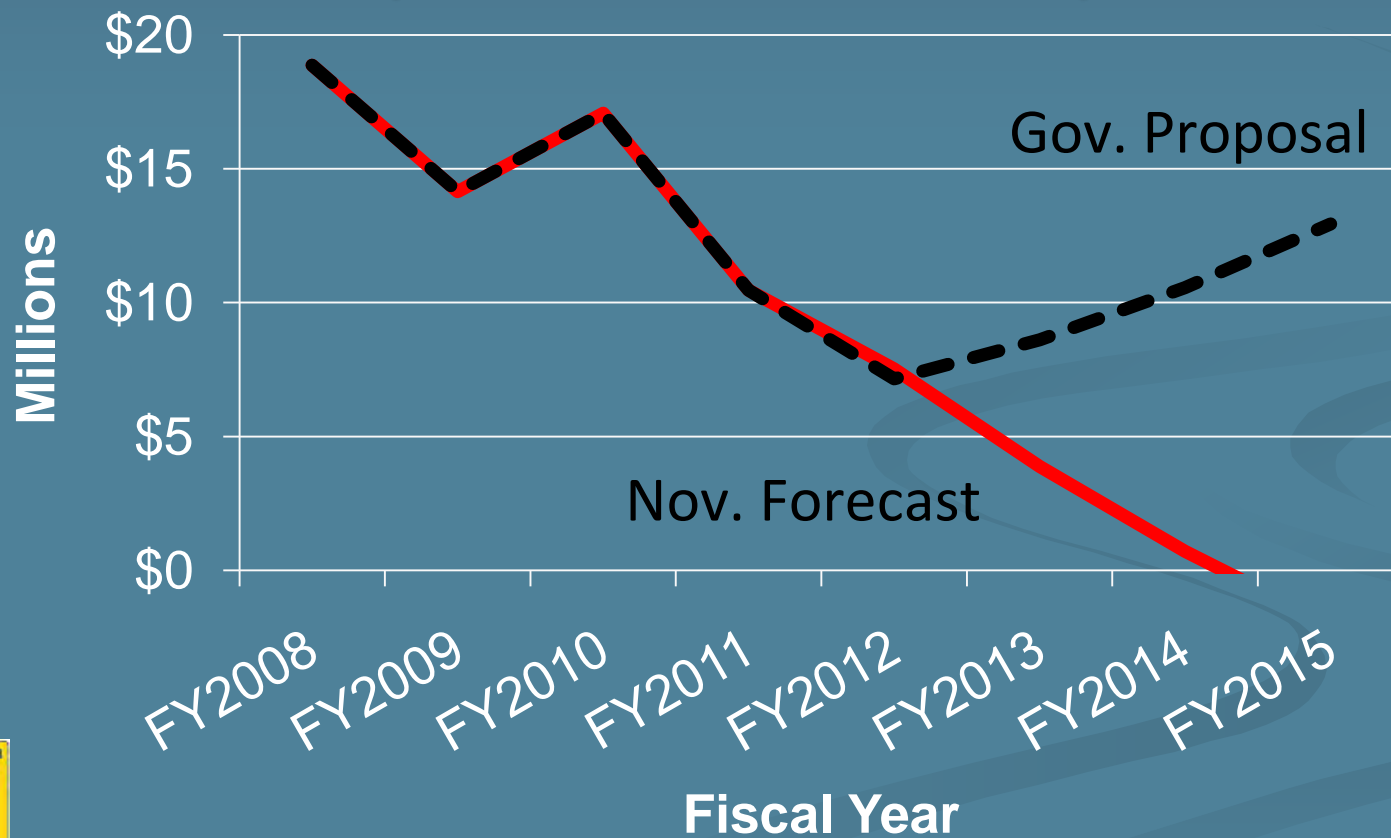
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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



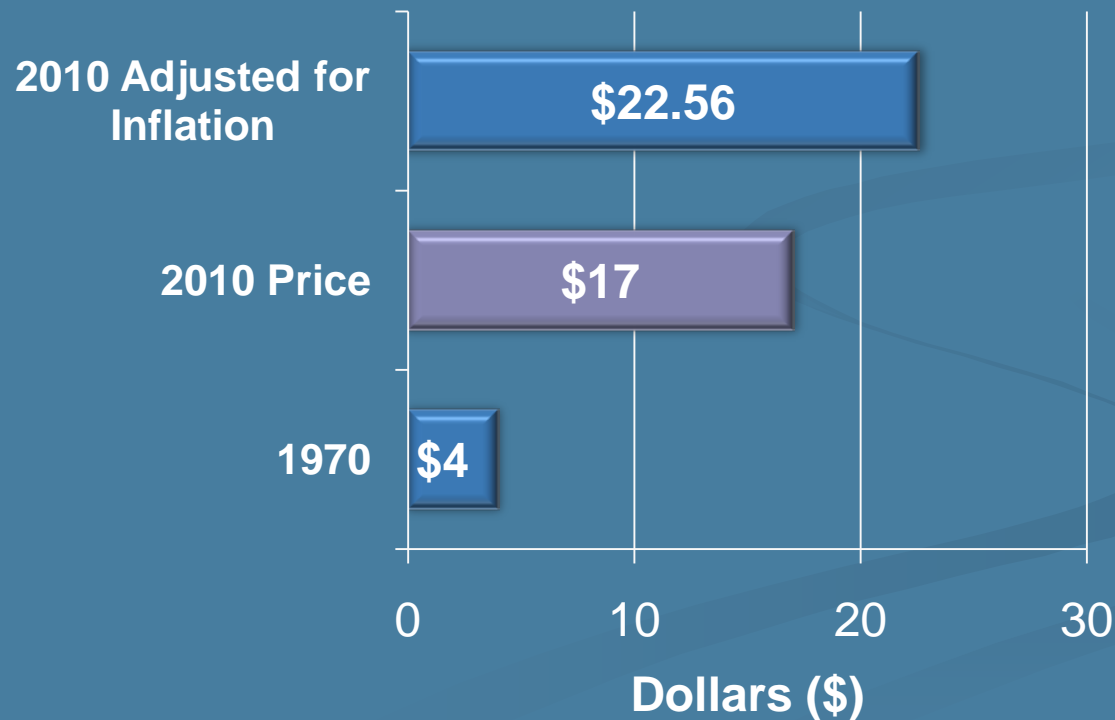
Game and Fish Fund Balance Forecast vs. Proposed (Nov. 2010 Forecast)



Situation

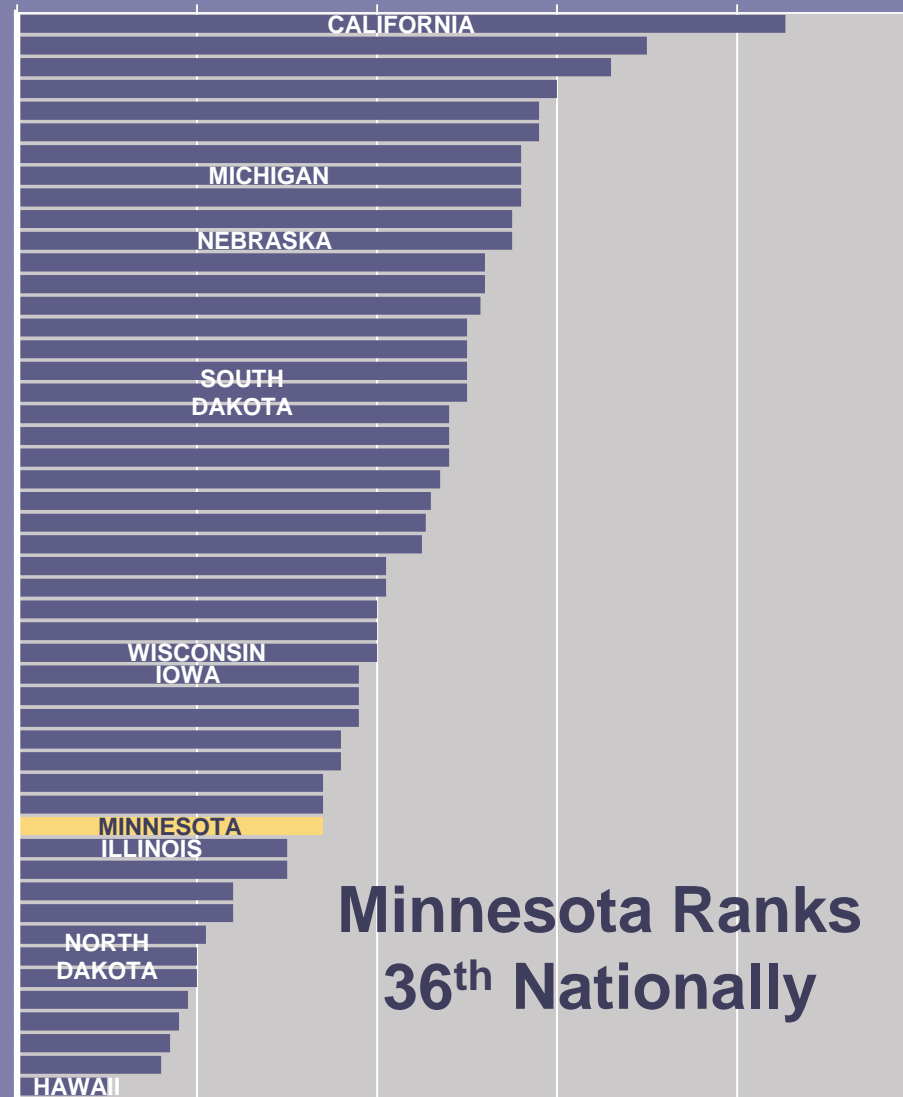
- License revenue not keeping up with inflation

Price of an Annual Fishing License



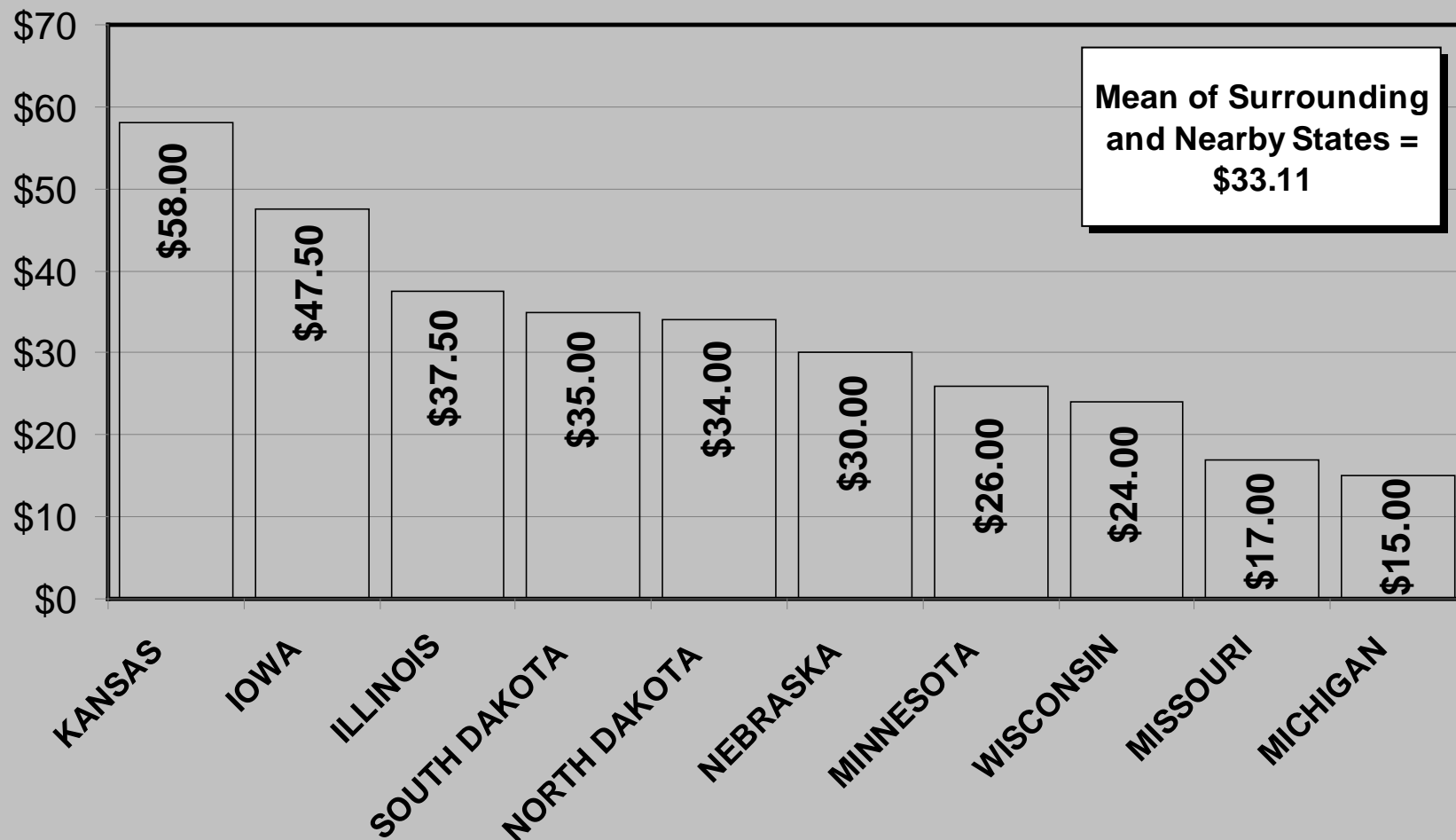


\$0 \$10 \$20 \$30 \$40 \$50



Minnesota Ranks 36th Nationally

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



Seeking Solutions

- 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

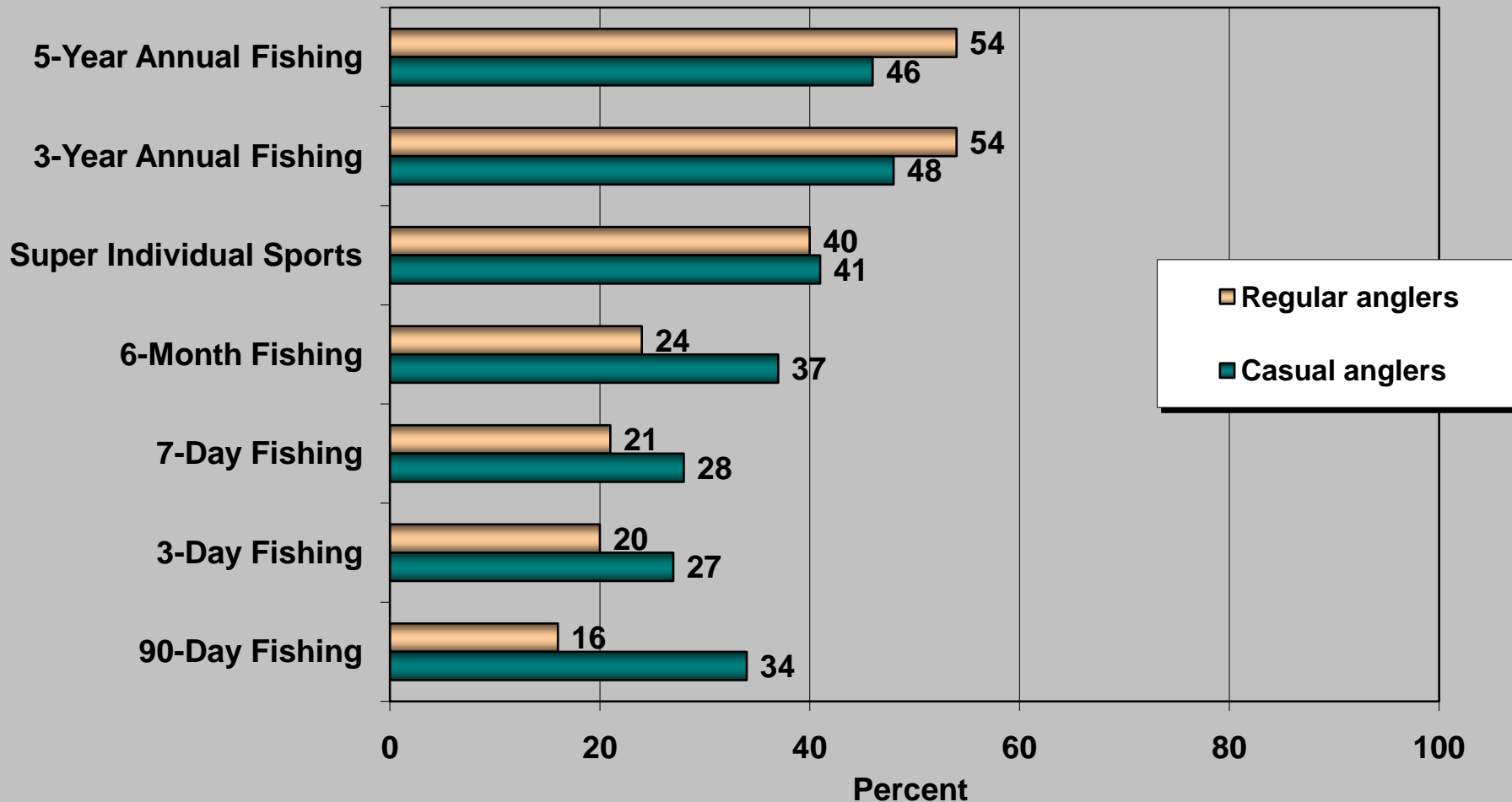


Anglers/Hunters Today

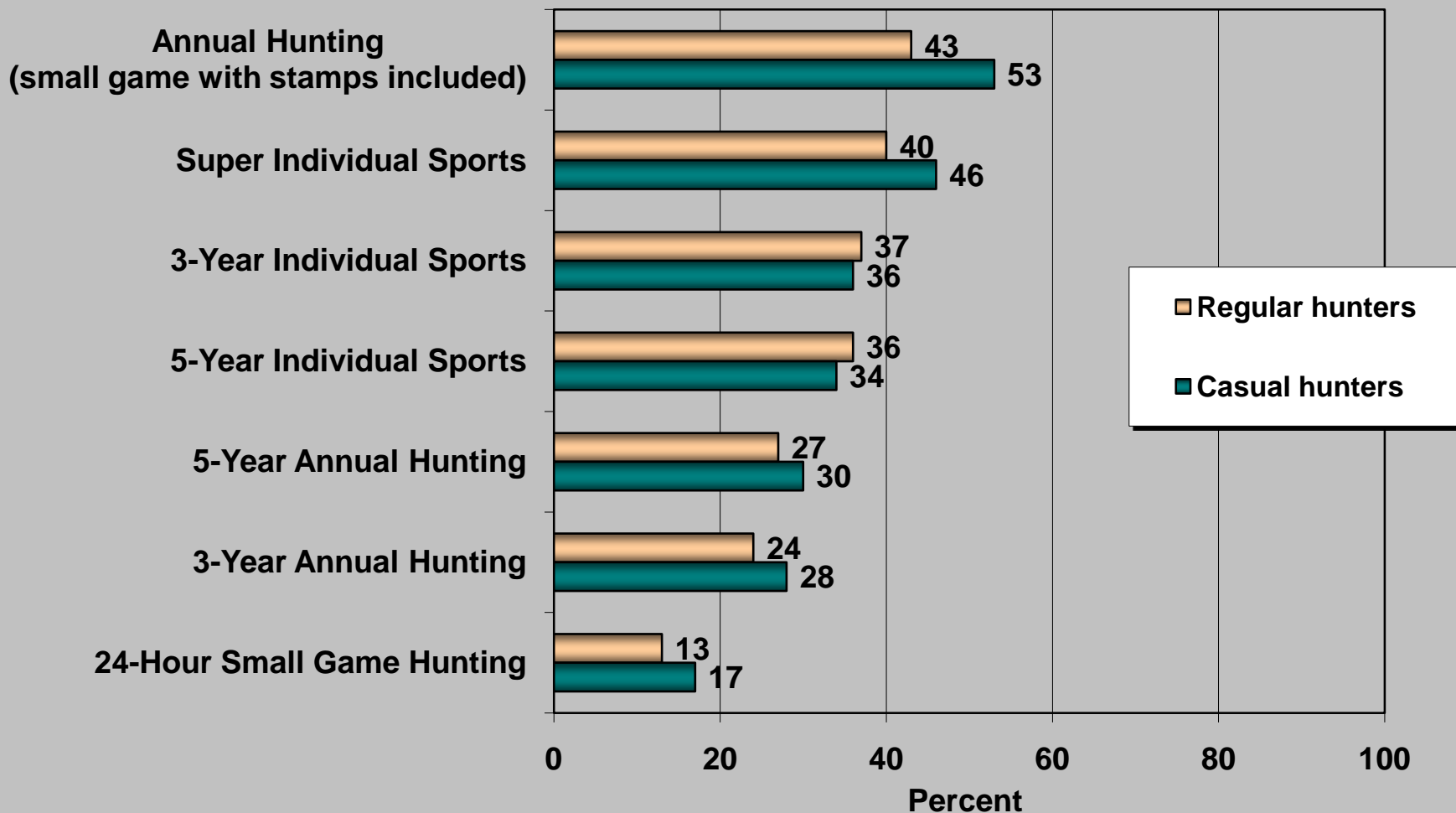
Number of years <u>licensed</u> <u>out of 5</u>	Percent of <u>anglers</u>	Percent of <u>hunters</u>
1 out of 5 yrs	32%	20%
5 out of 5 yrs	<u>27%</u>	<u>49%</u>



**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

- 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

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

- 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?

