

Conservation Congress Website Comments Report

Conservation Funding

Comment Date: 07/20/2009 12:10:04 PM

Comment: Many of the oppurtunities that citizens have can help produce some of the much needed funding. Such as instead of charging people to enter state parks, sell bicycle stickers to all who use parks, bicycle trails and the facilities. The many thousands that use the trails free of charge now would generate a considerable sum, not to mention building and upkeep of trails is expensive. Same for equestrian, charge a yearly permit fee, exemptions can be made even for those undder 16 or over 60. campers already pay fees, hunters pay license and permits and habitat stamps and the extra tax on hunting supplies. Fisherman have to purchase license, boat stickers and even purchase special access permits for certain facilities. Why do we pick and choose who will support. Over the past ten years look at the amount of money spent on bicycle trails. Spread the expense out. As a hunter, camper, fisherman have no problem with the cost associated with doing what I enjoy, but the talk of raising license fees, permit fees etc and then letting other groups that could share the load pay nothing seems extremely unfair. Thanks for your time.
Bill Wathan

Comment Name:

Organization:

Email:

Admin. Comments:

Comment Date: 07/21/2009 2:21:07 PM

Comment: We need more outreach to let private nonfarmer landowners know about incentives to help offset taxes on natural areas of their land. In Moultrie County, we had several small acreages sold to new home builders because the county changed the property classification from farmland to residential and the taxes more than doubled in one year.

Comment Name:

Organization:

Email:

Admin. Comments:

Comment Date: 07/22/2009 3:49:24 PM

Comment: I think one way to help fund natural resources management in IL is to inact a 1/8 of one percent sales tax to a deticated account. This has worked well in Missouri and was even reseached in public surveys on wildlife in the 90's (believe a U of I study - A large majority ~>90%???, approved of taxing as a funding option?) - now is the best time to do it as the increases in fees to recreation in 2010 will exclude a lot of users to our state parks and other recreation opportunities, leaving them nowhere to recreate which leads to higher crime, depressions, weights (of people), heath care, etc... all has been proven. since taxpayers have to pay for these "side effects" of lossing access to parks and recreation opportunities (too much \$\$) they should take a proactive stance and reduce the overall cost on society (PUBLIC OFFICIALS SHOULD BE OBLIGATED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS - THIS IS STILL FOR THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE???). Arkansas has the same tax but lacks the extensive tax bases of MO & IL.

Comment Name:

Organization:

Email:

Admin. Comments:

Comment Date: 07/28/2009 8:32:53 AM

Comment: I would like to offer a suggestion on a long term solution regarding funding of the Wm. G Stratton Lock and Dam. Wordsmith an I.G.A. with the Fox Waterway Agency to reflect a dollar amount given back to the State on every c.y./ ton of dredged material that is taken out of the system,processed and sold by the Fox Waterway Agency. This could be a self supporting solution. Dredge/process/sell/utilize profits to support Wm.G Stratton Lock and Dam and more Fox Waterway Agency Dredging . Profits could also be utilized for purchasing of Rip Rap for shoreline stabilizing.

If you have any questions please contact:

John W Palmieri
Lockmaster
Wm.G Stratton Lock and Dam
1 815 385 2848

Comment Name:

Organization:

Email:

Admin. Comments:

Comment Date: 07/28/2009 8:33:20 AM

Comment: I would like to offer a suggestion on a long term solution regarding funding of the Wm. G Stratton Lock and Dam. Wordsmith an I.G.A. with the Fox Waterway Agency to reflect a dollar amount given back to the State on every c.y./ ton of dredged material that is taken out of the system,processed and sold by the Fox Waterway Agency. This could be a self supporting solution. Dredge/process/sell/utilize profits to support Wm.G Stratton Lock and Dam and more Fox Waterway Agency Dredging . Profits could also be utilized for purchacing of Rip Rap for shoreline stabilizing.

If you have any questions please contact:

John W Palmieri
Lockmaster
Wm.G Stratton Lock and Dam
1 815 385 2848

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Admin. Comments:

Comment Date: 08/05/2009 10:25:48 AM

Comment: please take a look at the following. thank you for your consideration Illinois Forestry Development Act: Provides vital forest managemnt tools to private landowners while giving property tax incentives, and assits them in implementing forestry practices. These practices prvide wildlife habitat, wood products, recreation, etc... The landowner pays no fees to participate and in many cases receives substantial property tax breaks. We should be looking at an annual fee to help the Division of Forestry run this program.

Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement: The conduit for allowing the Red Carded, well trained, DNR employees to participate in wildland fire control. We are set up now to do this and have in the past brought over \$25,000 to the 905 fund. Through this program IDNR saleries, insurances, etc are paid by the Feds and IDNR recieves an additional 23% adminstrative fee. This program alone provides funding and could cover furlow days. DNR foresters and biologists also receive excellent training and experience in fire management and bring these back to our State for both application and stature

Comment Name:

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Email:

Admin. Comments:
