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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
3           Commission; reenacting s. 20.331, F.S., relating to the  
4           establishment of the commission; amending ss. 328.48 and  
5           328.56, F.S., relating to vessel registration and vessel  
6           registration numbers; clarifying the term "non-motor-  
7           powered vessel" for purposes of an exception from  
8           registration requirements; amending s. 328.72, F.S.,  
9           relating to vessel registration fees; increasing such fees  
10          for all vessels requiring registration; providing for  
11          future adjustment of the vessel registration fees based on  
12          the percentage change in the Consumer Pricing Index;  
13          requiring the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to  
14          report to the Legislature on how the increase in fees will  
15          be used; exempting certain non-motor-powered vessels from  
16          requirements concerning vessel registration fees; amending  
17          s. 372.57, F.S., relating to recreational hunting and  
18          fishing licenses; providing for future adjustment of the  
19          recreational hunting and fishing licenses based on the  
20          percentage change in the Consumer Pricing Index; requiring  
21          the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to report to  
22          the Legislature on how the increase in license and permit  
23          fees will be used; requiring the Office of Program Policy  
24          Analysis and Government Accountability to review and  
25          report on the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's  
26          public relations, outreach, and education activities and  
27          staffing levels by a date certain; requiring the Fish and  
28          Wildlife Conservation Commission to review and report on  
29          specific activities within the agency by a date certain;

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30 repealing sections 372.107, 372.5714, 372.673, and  
31 372.992, F.S., relating to the Federal Law Enforcement  
32 Trust Fund, the Waterfowl Advisory Council, the Florida  
33 Panther Technical Advisory Council, and the Nongame  
34 Wildlife Advisory Council; providing an effective date.  
35

36 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
37

38 Section 1. Section 20.331, Florida Statutes, is reenacted.

39 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 328.48, Florida  
40 Statutes, is amended to read:

41 328.48 Vessel registration, application, certificate,  
42 number, decal, duplicate certificate.--

43 (2) All vessels used on the waters of the state must be  
44 registered, either commercial or recreational as defined in this  
45 chapter, except as follows:

46 (a) A vessel used exclusively on private lakes and ponds.

47 (b) A vessel owned by the United States Government.

48 (c) A vessel used exclusively as a ship's lifeboat.

49 (d) A non-motor-powered vessel less than 16 feet in length,  
50 and any non-motor-powered canoe, kayak, racing shell, or rowing  
51 scull, regardless of length.

52 Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 328.56, Florida  
53 Statutes, is amended to read:

54 328.56 Vessel registration number.--Each vessel that is  
55 used on the waters of the state must display a commercial or  
56 recreational Florida registration number, unless it is:

57 (4) A non-motor-powered vessel less than 16 feet in length,  
58 and any non-motor-powered canoe, kayak, racing shell, or rowing

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59 scull, regardless of length.

60 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (14) of section 328.72,  
61 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

62 328.72 Classification; registration; fees and charges;  
63 surcharge; disposition of fees; fines; marine turtle stickers.--

64 (1) VESSEL REGISTRATION FEE.--

65 (a) Vessels that are required to be registered shall be  
66 classified for registration purposes according to the following  
67 schedule, and the registration certificate fee shall be in the  
68 following amounts:

69 Class A-1--Less than 12 feet in length, and all canoes to  
70 which propulsion motors have been attached, regardless of length:  
71 \$5.50 ~~\$3.50~~ for each 12-month period registered.

72 Class A-2--12 feet or more and less than 16 feet in length:  
73 \$16.25 ~~10.50~~ for each 12-month period registered.

74 (To county): 2.85 for each 12-month period registered.

75 Class 1--16 feet or more and less than 26 feet in length:  
76 \$28.75 ~~18.50~~ for each 12-month period registered.

77 (To county): 8.85 for each 12-month period registered.

78 Class 2--26 feet or more and less than 40 feet in length:  
79 \$78.25 ~~50.50~~ for each 12-month period registered.

80 (To county): 32.85 for each 12-month period registered.

81 Class 3--40 feet or more and less than 65 feet in length:  
82 \$127.75 ~~82.50~~ for each 12-month period registered.

83 (To county): 56.85 for each 12-month period registered.

84 Class 4--65 feet or more and less than 110 feet in length:  
85 \$152.75 ~~98.50~~ for each 12-month period registered.

86 (To county): 68.85 for each 12-month period registered.

87 Class 5--110 feet or more in length: \$189.75 ~~122.50~~ for each

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88 12-month period registered.

89 (To county): 86.85 for each 12-month period registered.

90 Dealer registration certificate: \$25.50 ~~16.50~~ for each 12-  
91 month period registered.

92

93 The county portion of the vessel registration fee is derived from  
94 recreational vessels only.

95 (b) In 2013 and every 5 years thereafter, vessel  
96 registration fees shall be adjusted by the percentage change in  
97 the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers since the fees  
98 were last adjusted, unless otherwise provided by general law. By  
99 February 1 of each year in which an adjustment is scheduled to  
100 occur, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall submit  
101 a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
102 House of Representatives detailing how the increase in vessel  
103 registration fees will be used within the agency. The vessel  
104 registration fee increases shall take effect July 1 of each  
105 adjustment year.

106 (14) EXEMPTIONS.--The following vessels are exempt from  
107 provisions of subsection (1):

108 (a) A vessel that is ~~Vessels~~ owned and operated by Sea  
109 Explorer or Sea Scout units of the Boy Scouts of America, the  
110 Girl Scouts of America, the Florida Association of Christian  
111 Child Caring Agencies, Inc., Safe Harbor Haven, Inc., or the  
112 Associated Marine Institutes, Inc., and its affiliates, ~~or which~~  
113 ~~are~~

114 (b) An antique vessel ~~vessels~~ as defined in paragraph  
115 (2) ~~(a) are exempt from the provisions of subsection (1).~~

116 (c) A non-motor-powered sailing vessel that is owned by a

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117 nonprofit entity and used exclusively for teaching boating  
118 safety, boat handling, or seamanship skills, including the racing  
119 of such sailing vessels.

120

121 Such vessels shall be issued certificates of registration and  
122 numbers upon application and payment of the service fee provided  
123 in subsection (7).

124 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 372.57, Florida  
125 Statutes, is amended to read:

126 372.57 Recreational licenses, permits, and authorization  
127 numbers; fees established.--

128 (1) LICENSE, PERMIT, OR AUTHORIZATION NUMBER REQUIRED.--

129 (a) Except as provided in s. 372.562, no person shall take  
130 game, freshwater or saltwater fish, or fur-bearing animals within  
131 this state without having first obtained a license, permit, or  
132 authorization number and paid the fees set forth in this chapter.  
133 Such license, permit, or authorization number shall authorize the  
134 person to whom it is issued to take game, freshwater or saltwater  
135 fish, or fur-bearing animals, and participate in outdoor  
136 recreational activities in accordance with the laws of the state  
137 and rules of the commission.

138 (b) In 2013 and every 5 years thereafter, license and  
139 permit fees established in subsections (4) and (5) shall be  
140 adjusted by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for  
141 All Urban Consumers since the fees were last adjusted, unless  
142 otherwise provided by general law. By February 1 of each year in  
143 which an adjustment is scheduled to occur, the Fish and Wildlife  
144 Conservation Commission shall submit a report to the President of  
145 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives

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146 detailing how the increase in license and permit fees will be  
147 used within the agency. The license and permit fee increases  
148 shall take effect July 1 of each adjustment year.

149 Section 6. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and  
150 Government Accountability is directed to review and compare the  
151 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's public relations and  
152 outreach staffing levels in its Executive Direction and  
153 Administrative Services division to an agency of similar makeup  
154 and size in order to determine whether any efficiencies can be  
155 achieved through restructuring or downsizing. The office shall  
156 provide its findings and recommendations in the form of a report  
157 to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
158 Representatives by January 1, 2009.

159 Section 7. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and  
160 Government Accountability is directed to review the outreach and  
161 education activities of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
162 Commission's Freshwater Fisheries and Marine Fisheries Management  
163 divisions in order to determine if there is any duplication of  
164 efforts with other state agencies or if efficiencies can be  
165 achieved through restructuring or combining programs. The office  
166 shall provide its findings and recommendations in the form of a  
167 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
168 House of Representatives by January 1, 2009.

169 Section 8. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is  
170 directed to complete a 5-year "Air Station" conceptual plan,  
171 designed to improve agency aircraft operations and maintenance  
172 efficiency, and provide its finding and recommendations in a  
173 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
174 House of Representatives by January 1, 2009.

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175           Section 9. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is  
176 directed to review its current land management activities and  
177 provide recommendations for combining duplicative activities with  
178 other state agencies or for outsourcing activities in order to  
179 gain efficiencies or create cost-saving benefits. The commission  
180 shall provide its findings and recommendations in a report to the  
181 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
182 Representatives by January 1, 2009.

183           Section 10. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
184 is directed to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the activities  
185 of the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI), such as, but  
186 not limited to, its geographic information system (GIS) technical  
187 support, and provide recommendations on any efficiencies or cost-  
188 savings benefits that may be gained from outsourcing those  
189 activities. The commission shall provide its findings and  
190 recommendations in a report to the President of the Senate and  
191 the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2009.

192           Section 11. Sections 372.107, 372.5714, 372.673, and  
193 372.992, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

194           Section 12. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.