

**IF&W Working Group Meeting with the State Department of IF&W
October 21, 2009
Questions & Concerns**

The Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Working Group for the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors' & Treasurers' Association and the Maine Town & City Clerks' Association met with the State Department of IF&W on October 21, 2009 at their office in Augusta to review the items listed below. The questions are in black and the answers are in red. The State staff members at the meeting were Bill Swan, Sue Connors, Dale Freise and Linda Ahearn and the committee members in attendance were Vera Parent of Peru, Kelly Thibodeau of Saint Agatha and John Myers of Buxton.

IF&W Responses in RED

1. Is the list on the State's website of places that do non resident snowmobiles up to date? I get this question a lot and I'm not sure if it's correct.

Yes, the list is accurate.

2. We have heard a lot about a saltwater fishing license effective in 2010. Some general questions:

- A. Are we correct in telling our customers there will be a saltwater license in 2010?

There will not be a 2010 saltwater license. This was discussed at length by the legislature last spring and no decision was made.

If a SW license will be required:

- B. Will the existing complimentary and lifetime licenses incorporate SW?
 - C. Will there be a 2-way fishing license or an endorsement for SW?
 - D. Will there be a 3-way combination license or will there be an endorsement?
 - E. Will there be a SW only license available?
3. On May 1, 2009 I received 2010 ATV stickers and the form to return unused 2009 stickers. However, preprints and the control sheets were not included. I anticipated the forms were being printed and would be received soon. So when citizens wished to re-register I used blank forms, completing them individually. This continued until I exhausted my supply of blanks on June 10. I called IFW and inquired about the availability of preprints. The staff person stated that some

preprints were in "a bucket" and she would notify her supervisor of my inquiry. A few minutes later the same staff person called me back and reported that indeed our preprints were "in the bucket". When I asked why they were not mailed to me, she stated that it was in an IFW effort to save on postage. Should I expect the same next year?

We are still mailing preprints to all towns (with the exception of those MOSES agents who have told us they don't need them any longer). If you do not receive preprints, you should call us to ask about them and we will look into it for you.

4. Is it true that under the current State budget concerns, that there will be very few changes to the MOSES program? We can make suggestions, but changes are unlikely?

It is true that IF&W has had to make significant cuts in our budget and the MOSES budget is no exception. However, there is still funding to do some enhancements to the system and we will continue to do them. A recent example is the online boat registration process implemented last spring.

5. I believe this has been mentioned before, but I think it would be great if the account notice had a break down of licenses, registrations, and sales tax. It would be a big help.

You can get this type of a breakdown by running the Sales by Authority Type report.

6. It would be very advantageous for us to have in place some kind of mechanism in MOSES that would flag anyone in violation and not eligible to purchase a hunting or fishing license or to register a recreational vehicle or boat.

MOSES has this functionality but we have chosen not to use it. The main reason is that we do not want to put you, the agents, in direct conflict with someone under revocation that is attempting to buy a license. The people under revocation know they are under revocation. We investigate and prosecute these cases all the time.

7. We had a situation last week with a MOSES transaction. The customer had an over 70 lifetime license and wanted to add all the things he could to it that were free. The clerk at the window did not realize that they are all included now as part of the license. The clerk had pulled up the resident on the system and was about to sell him migratory water fowl, night coyote etc., all at a charge. I would think that if this resident held the lifetime license these items would not be available for purchase and would be whited out. Luckily for us, I returned and was able to show the customer in the manual that he was all set without those authorities being on a printed license. Can MOSES be changed to not allow the purchase?

We will work on making this change.

8. We would like to be able to select more than one atv or boat etc if the person is registering more than one rather than having to go back. Could this be looked into?

Looking at streamlining the registration process is on the list of things to do. However, it is not one of our top priority items. Also, using the Town and County report we send out with the registration materials may be helpful to you.

9. Will Moses be changed to calculate the excise tax for completing a Moses sale?

Yes, this is one of our top priority items and will be worked on in the next year.

10. Will IF&W have Moses compatible with the BMV printer so we can cut time per Moses sale for the Use Tax Certificate to print out through the printer instead of by hand?

We will add this to the list of requested enhancements.

11. When looking up a customer and you find them more then once and one says Moses and the other says Bull.....when can we delete these old records?

Even after all these years, there are still times when the Bull record is the only record in the system for a customer ... so we cannot delete them. If you search by MOSES ID, you will not see any Bull records. Also, the MOSES records are always on the top so you don't have to look far to find them.

12. Any chance that MOSES agents will be able to click on their town and pull up only those customers that are residents in their town, instead of every John Smith in the state?

No, there are a number of reasons why this would not work. But, if you search by MOSES ID or by Name and DOB, you will not get multiple people. Even for a name like John Smith ... we don't have more than one John Smith in our database with the same DOB.

13. If Boats have to pay excise, and camper trailers have to pay excise, then why don't snowmobiles and ATV's have to pay excise? It would seem to me that they more accurately fit the description of "luxury tax", more so than the automobiles that people use everyday to get to work and bring home their groceries.

An excise tax on snowmobiles and ATVs would be something that would have to be passed by the legislature.

14. Could you please ask why it is necessary to send electronic towns so many manual IFW reports? We rarely use them and it seems wasteful. If they could send a couple, and allow us to request additional if needed, I think it would be better. I don't think I used a single one last year.

This is a good suggestion and we will look at sending fewer manual agent report forms to MOSES agents in the future.

15. Customers are already asking when we can sell them a 2010 game license. Is it December 1st? Yes.

16. Options that IF&W could use to pass on information to Municipal Agents are the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors' & Treasurers' Association's newsletter, the Maine Town & City Clerks' Association's newsletter and both groups have email list serves. If you have information that you would like to get out to the agents quickly let the IF&W Working Group know and they will pass the information on to the agents.

This is a good suggestion and we will keep this in mind in the future.

17. Is there any information that you would like to pass on to Municipal Agents at this time?

Nothing at this time.