

1999 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS
SB. 2019

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2019

Senate Appropriations Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 1/7/99; 2/9/99; 2/10/99

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	X		0-END
2		X	0-860
2/9/99	x 4115-end	x	50-462
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Glaudia Anderson</i>			
2/10/99	1	x	1800-2020

Minutes:

SENATOR NETHING: Opened the hearing on SB 2019; A BILL for an act to make an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the State Game and Fish Department.

DEAN HILDEBRAND: Let me begin by introducing Roger Rostordt and Paul Chadwell. We have a short 7 minute film we would like to show you and after that take any questions you may have. (tape 2, side A - 70-1290)

DEAN HILDEBRAND: One other program we push very hard is the hunter/land owner relation. We have a brochure here with information on how hunters can improve their relationship with land owners. We have instituted a new program with our game wardens. They have a new job in which they will visit with every single farmer in the state. They will go to 10 new farmers each month with a packet full of information on new programs. This year for the first time we will have a management hunt that will involve many things: 1) you can use artificial call, 2) there will be no limit, and 3) you can take the plug out of your shotgun. There are many things we don't understand about the program, it's still in the public hearing stage. We will be notified around the beginning of February whether or not the state of North Dakota will want to do it. If we do it the hunter/landowner problem will be there. We want to be prepared if it comes to that.

Last session you appropriated about \$500,000 for deer depredation, putting up deer fences. We procured about 250 sets of fencing, purchased those and contacted about 260 farmers. Out of that about 160 put up the fences. The program is working very well.

The additional \$2 placed on habitat stamps brought in about \$200,000 a year. We didn't know where to spend the money so we took a look at the CRP contracts that are coming due. We thought we would try adding up to \$20 per acre and pay that farmer if he would open up his land to hunting during the duration of his contract. We tested it with farmers from Ellendale to see what they would think and they liked it. We started the PLOTS program, and have gotten very good reports. Last time they mandated that \$500,000 from the Game and Fish be targeted for a Water Bank agreement in Devils Lake, and that program is working very well.

PAUL SCHADEWELL: Chief Services Division, ND Game and Fish Department. We are a special fund agency, we get most of our funds from federal funding, license fees, and private land funds. We do have our funds at the Bank of ND. We are having better revenue than we expected. One of the reasons is that license sales have been very high. There is a negative side, people are going to ask are there too many out-of-state hunters coming in. There will be about 20,000 nonresidents coming in to hunt small game each year. We are not asking for license fee increases. (tape 2, side A - 2300-2600)

SENATOR KRAUTER: When I look at your presentation compared to your budget you're short \$2M.

PAUL SCHADEWALL: That is right. We are showing a decline of approximately \$2M. The point I was trying to make was that our revenues are going to be higher than we expected. \$13M is probably too much for an agency as small as us to have in funds. In the long run, our expenditures are exceeding our revenues. We will have to watch it.

SENATOR ST. AUBYN: The non-game Wildlife, the fund shows \$13,000 yet the appropriations says a \$60,000 lesser amount. Why did it say \$60,000 instead of \$13,000?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: The appropriation request is \$120,000 with \$60,000 coming in from federal sources and \$60,000 coming in from donations and money in the account. Its the way the appropriation bill is set up. We are requesting a line item of \$120,000.

SENATOR ST.AUBYN: So you do anticipate \$120,000?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: Yes and that's an account where if we don't get the \$120,000 and we only get \$100,000 that's all we can spend. We can't deficit spend on that.

SENATOR ST.AUBYN: Is there a stipulation on those water bank agreements that those areas have to be open to hunting, too?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: Yes they do.

SENATOR SOLBERG: \$60,000 comes in from endangered species, what strings are attached to that?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: Not a lot. The strings attached are that we provide a report of results of surveys done.

SENATOR SOLBERG: So you do the surveying for them?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: We do some of it, Fish and Wildlife local offices do most of it.

SENATOR SOLBERG: And that's what you get for the \$60,000?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: That's from the Fish and Wildlife Service?

SENATOR SOLBERG: You're figuring on spending about \$380,000 on information technology this biennium is that correct?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: That's correct, and that's just maintaining the programs that we have.

SENATOR SOLBERG: And that's following pretty close to your technology plan? (tape 2, side A - 3107)

PAUL SCHADEWALL: I think exactly to our technology plan. On page four there are some details on what the money in different divisions is spent for. The Lonetree Funding is part of the Reformulation Act that was requested by the state. Game and Fish manage that area instead of a federal agency. Funding for the management is coming from the Bureau of Reclamation. There is \$200,000 for forest land acquisition, and \$800,000 for fisheries and boating facilities.

SENATOR NAA DEN: Do you have a grand design for boat ramps?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: We have lots of designs for boat ramps and we are doing projects all over the state.

SENATOR BOWMAN: In the land acquisition, what land are you trying to buy, private land?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: Normally it's private land, it's occasional that we will have some government entity that would have it.

SENATOR ST.AUBYN: It seems to me that its a fairly large increase to accommodate for the addition of 3 FT employees, are there some other adjustments that are being made there?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: No there are not.

SENATOR TOMAC: Is there any way the additional FTE's can help with the seasonal pheasant hunt when the wardens are about run to death? (tape 3847)

PAUL SCHADEWALL: There are ways to alleviate that. Right now there are some temporary game wardens hired.

DEAN HILDEBRAND: We have a tremendous amount of law enforcement work that needs to be addressed because it is expanding so rapidly.

PAUL SCHADEWALL: There was a record number of boats registered this past three-year period.

SENATOR KRAUTER: Is there a way that we can improve the control of noxious weeds? (tape 4505)

PAUL SCHADEWALL: In Hettinger County there is not a lot of Game and Fish land to describe so it should be pretty easy to find out where the problem is on that. We have successfully worked with County Weed Boards to have them spray the area and then we pay for it.

DEAN HILDEBRAND: I get a lot of phone calls about that. I have gone up and looked at those personally and every site that I have looked at, the land around our areas is worse than what we found in ours. We do a tremendous amount of work to control weeds.

PAUL SCHADEWALL: There are charts at the end that show trends in sales. We are a major economy in North Dakota. (tape 5030)

SENATOR BOWMAN: Where is the balance between trying to put the prairie dog on the endangered species and multiplying the problem for the cattleman on the land that they are paying rent on to try to make a living on?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: There are a small group of people or organizations that are pushing that.

DEAN HILDEBRAND: If you get phone calls about prairie dogs or coyotes call us. We don't support the moratorium on prairie dogs.

SENATOR KRAUTER: What I understand is that this \$493,000 means that we have utilized the \$500,000 that was appropriated.

DEAN HILDEBRAND: That's correct. And there's another \$200,000 in this budget to continue that program.

SENATOR KRAUTER: So the extra money is in account to be used?

DEAN HILDEBRAND: The \$200,000 isn't going to be made for payments on the current contracts it's going to be for new contracts.

SENATOR TALLACKSON: Are you making any effort to bring information about the Conservation Reserve Program to those counties that aren't aware of it?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: We're looking at expanding into other counties and letting people know.

DEAN HILDEBRAND: It is available in 18 counties, it moved from 16 to 18.

SENATOR TALLACKSON: Have you been in contact with anyone in the Cartright area that had a major problem? (tape 6145)

DEAN HILDEBRAND: Yes. Another program that has been good for us is the Women in the Outdoors. The Hunter Education Program needs instructors.

SENATOR TALLACKSON: Have you worked with local gun clubs? (tape 1, side B 250)

DEAN HILDEBRAND: Yes. We contact every one of them. One other thing, we have a new recipe book.

SENATOR SOLBERG: In the past the Game and Fish Department put money into consultation work with the State Veterinarian, is that also in the budget?

PAUL SCHADEWALL: It was \$30,000 in the past and was increased by about \$15,000 so its at about \$45,000.

SENATOR NETHING: Closed the hearing on SB 2019. (tape 1, side B 860)

2/9/99

Tape, Side A 4115-end; Side B 0-462

SENATOR NETHING: Reopened the hearing on SB 2019.

ALLEN KNUDSON: Explained the amendments to SB 2019, are changes to the compensation package and health insurance adjustments.

SENATOR HOLMBERG: Moved do pass the amendment to SB 2019.

SENATOR GRINDBERG: Seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Focused on the forest land acquisition in the Turtle Mountains Cavalier and Pembina Counties by Game and Fish.

2-9-99

ROLL CALL: Unanimous voice vote to approve amendments.

SENATOR NETHING: We will hold this bill until we can get someone here to answer the questions. (tape 4552)

SENATOR NAADEN: Called the hearing on SB 2019 back to order.

JOE MORRISSETTE: Both Dave and I have talked to Game and Fish. The parcels they're thinking about consist of 40-160 acres, located in the NE part of the state. In their budget request, they indicated they are in the Turtle Mountains in Cavalier and Pembina Counties. This would add to their public use areas. These requests would not have to go to the county commission. Those requests that do have to get commission approval are those to be purchased with federal funds.

SENATOR BOWMAN: Expressed his concern that this should be a county concern and not a legislative decision. He will have Legislative Council prepare a motion to that effect.

SENATOR NAADEN: Closed the hearing on SB 2019. (tape 5160)

SENATOR NETHING: Reopened the hearing on SB 2019.

SENATOR BOWMAN: Offered amendments to SB 2019. This provides that if Game & Fish desires to acquire land in any county, they can do that as long as the county commissioners approve that acquisition. (tape 5830-end)

DISCUSSION centered on the types of provisions that would be involved, and the provisions in the amendment.

PAUL SCHADEWALL: Chief Administrative Services, ND Game & Fish Dept. provided clarification on land acquisition. (tape 400-420)

SENATOR NETHING: Closed the hearing on SB 2019 until further information is gathered. (tape 462)

2/10/99

(Tape 1, Side A, 1800-2020)

SENATOR NETHING: Reopened the hearing on SB 2019.

SENATOR BOWMAN: Described an amendment regarding land acquisition that he will offer on the Senate floor.

Page 7

Senate Appropriations Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 2019.lwp

Hearing Date ~~1/7/99~~

2-10-99

SENATOR ROBINSON: Moved do pass SB 2019 as amended.

SENATOR KRINGSTAD: Seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: 13 Yeas; 1 Absent & Not Voting

MOTION CARRIED TO DO PASS SB 2019 AS AMENDED

Yeas: Nething; Naaden; Solberg; Lindaas; Tallackson; Tomac; Robinson; Krauter; St. Aubyn;

Grindberg; Kringstad; Bowman; Andrist

Absent & Not Voting: Holmberg

CARRIER: SENATOR TOMAC

SENATOR NETHING: Closed the hearing on SB 2019.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2019

Page 1, line 2, after "department" insert "; and to create and enact a new section to chapter 20.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to board of county commissioner approval of land acquisitions by the game and fish department"

Page 2, after line 16, insert:

"**SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 20.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Property acquisitions by department - Board of county commissioner approval required. Before the department may acquire any land, the board of county commissioners of the county in which the land is located must approve the acquisition. If the department desires to acquire property, the department shall first submit a proposed acquisition plan to the board of county commissioners of the county in which the property is located. The board of county commissioners shall approve or disapprove the acquisition within forty-five days after receipt of the proposed acquisition plan."

Renumber accordingly

Withdrawn for floor action

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2019

Page 1, line 10, replace "12,333,733" with "12,218,261"

Page 1, line 16, replace "2,703,973" with "2,703,224"

Page 1, line 20, replace "1,317,969" with "1,314,860"

Page 1, line 21, replace "30,525,366" with "30,406,036"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

DEPARTMENT 720 - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

SENATE - This amendment makes the following changes:

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	SENATE CHANGES	SENATE VERSION
Salaries and wages	\$12,333,733	(\$115,472)	\$12,218,261
Operating expenses	7,779,014		7,779,014
Equipment	771,505		771,505
Capital improvements	1,602,122		1,602,122
Grants	3,397,050		3,397,050
Noxious weed control	200,000		200,000
Land habitat and deer depredation	2,703,973	(749)	2,703,224
Grants, gifts, and donations	100,000		100,000
Nongame wildlife conservation	120,000		120,000
Waterbank program	200,000		200,000
Lonetree Reservoir	<u>1,317,969</u>	<u>(3,109)</u>	<u>1,314,860</u>
Total all funds	\$30,525,366	(\$119,330)	\$30,406,036
Less special funds	<u>30,525,366</u>	<u>(119,330)</u>	<u>30,406,036</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	131.00	0.00	131.00

Detail of Senate changes to the executive budget include:

	REDUCE COMPENSATION PACKAGE TO 2/2	INCREASE HEALTH INSURANCE COST	TOTAL SENATE CHANGES
Salaries and wages	(\$151,111)	\$35,639	(\$115,472)
Operating expenses			
Equipment			
Capital improvements			
Grants			
Noxious weed control			
Land habitat and deer depredation	(1,034)	285	(749)
Grants, gifts, and donations			
Nongame wildlife conservation			
Waterbank program			
Lonetree Reservoir	<u>(4,535)</u>	<u>1,426</u>	<u>(3,109)</u>
Total all funds	(\$156,680)	\$37,350	(\$119,330)
Less special funds	<u>(156,680)</u>	<u>37,350</u>	<u>(119,330)</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00

Senate changes narrative:

This amendment makes the following changes:

Reduces salary increases to two percent in July 1999 and two percent in July 2000.

Increases salaries and wages to reflect increased health insurance costs.

Date: 29-99
Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2019

Senate APPROPRIATIONS Committee

- Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 98041.0101

Action Taken DO PASS AMENDMENT

Motion Made By SENATOR HOLMBERG Seconded By SENATOR GRINDBERG

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Nething, Chairman					
Senator Naaden, Vice Chairman					
Senator Solberg					
Senator Lindaas					
Senator Tallackson					
Senator Tomac					
Senator Robinson					
Senator Krauter					
Senator St. Aubyn					
Senator Grindberg					
Senator Holmberg					
Senator Kringstad					
Senator Bowman					
Senator Andrist					

Total (Yes) UNANIMOUS No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 2-10-99
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2019

Senate APPROPRIATIONS Committee

Subcommittee on _____
 or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 98D41.0101

Action Taken DO PASS AS AMENDED

Motion Made By SENATOR ROBINSON Seconded By SENATOR KRINGSTAD

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Nething, Chairman	✓				
Senator Naaden, Vice Chairman	✓				
Senator Solberg	✓				
Senator Lindaas	✓				
Senator Tallackson	✓				
Senator Tomac	✓				
Senator Robinson	✓				
Senator Krauter	✓				
Senator St. Aubyn	✓				
Senator Grindberg	✓				
Senator Holmberg					
Senator Kringstad	✓				
Senator Bowman	✓				
Senator Andrist	✓				

Total (Yes) 13 No _____

Absent 1

Floor Assignment SENATOR TOMAC

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2019: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Nething, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2019 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 10, replace "12,333,733" with "12,218,261"

Page 1, line 16, replace "2,703,973" with "2,703,224"

Page 1, line 20, replace "1,317,969" with "1,314,860"

Page 1, line 21, replace "30,525,366" with "30,406,036"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

DEPARTMENT 720 - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

SENATE - This amendment makes the following changes:

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General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	131.00	0.00	131.00

Detail of Senate changes to the executive budget include:

	REDUCE COMPENSATION PACKAGE TO 2/2	INCREASE HEALTH INSURANCE COST	TOTAL SENATE CHANGES
Salaries and wages	(\$151,111)	\$35,639	(\$115,472)
Operating expenses			
Equipment			
Capital improvements			
Grants			
Noxious weed control			
Land habitat and deer depredation	(1,034)	285	(749)
Grants, gifts, and donations			
Nongame wildlife conservation			
Waterbank program			
Lonetree Reservoir	<u>(4,535)</u>	<u>1,426</u>	<u>(3,109)</u>
Total all funds	(\$156,680)	\$37,350	(\$119,330)
Less special funds	<u>(156,680)</u>	<u>37,350</u>	<u>(119,330)</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00

Senate changes narrative:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 10, 1999 3:32 p.m.

Module No: SR-27-2504
Carrier: Tomac
Insert LC: 98041.0101 Title: .0200

This amendment makes the following changes:
Reduces salary increases to two percent in July 1999 and two percent in July 2000.
Increases salaries and wages to reflect increased health insurance costs.

1999 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS
SB 2019

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2019

House Appropriations Committee
Education and Environment Division

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 2, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0-end
1		x	0-10.9
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Casey Davis</i>			

Minutes:

SB 2019 - A bill for an act to make an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the state game and fish department.

CHAIRMAN WENTZ called the hearing to order.

1A: 0.8 DEAN HILDEBRAND, Director of ND Game and Fish Department, testified in support of the bill by providing an overview of the department. A video entitled "North Dakota: A Wildlife Success Story" was shown. (See testimony.)

1A: 31.7 PAUL SHADWELL, ND Game and Fish Dept, provided an overview of the budget.

1A: 38.4 REP. NICHOLS asked about the issue of in lieu of taxes, whether the game and fish department pays the same as any farmer. Mr. Shadwell said that they do. In some cases the department actually pays more tax. This is determined by a formula set up by the legislature.

1A: 44.7 REP. CARLSON asked if any money has been taken out of the game and fish fund for non-game uses. Mr. Shadwell said that \$150,000 is available for Parks and Recreation, \$250,000 is available for boating facilities and state parks. The money is not going to be transferred, but will be used in joint projects.

1A: 48.4 REP. AARSVOLD asked if the deer-proof hay yards ends this biennium. Mr. Shadwell said that the \$500,000 segment ends this biennium. They are going to continue funding some, but not at this scale.

1B: 1.3 REP. LLOYD asked about the salary appreciation in the budget. Mr. Shadwell said that the 3% and 3% had been reduced by the Senate to 2% and 2%.

1B: 2.9 MR. HILDEBRAND discussed watchable wildlife and tourism.

1B: 8.0 JUDY CARLSON, Dept. of Agriculture, explained the waterbank program.

CHAIRMAN WENTZ closed the hearing.

General Discussion

- Committee on Committees
- Rules Committee
- Confirmation Hearings
- Delayed Bills Committee
- House Appropriations
- Senate Appropriations
- Other

Date March 17, 1999			
Tape Number	Side A	B Side	Meter #
1	x		0-15.1
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Casey Davis</i>			

Minutes:

SB 2019

CHAIRMAN WENTZ opened the meeting.

1A: 0.0 REP. NICHOLS presented the EE subcommittee's recommendation for the bill, along with the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments included changing the wildlife services line item from \$80,000 to \$100,000. The amendments would also require that \$10 million be maintained in the reserve fund.

1A: 6.0 Discussion followed regarding the duplication of services.

1A: 8.3 REP. MONSON asked about the Game and Fish department purchasing and leasing forest land from private owners. It has been the case in the past that the department leases the land and pays the citizen for 30 years in advance. There has been much concern regarding this practice. Rep. Carlson and Rep. Nichols, who had worked on the budget, were unable to provide information on this issue. They said they would contact the department and bring the information back to the subcommittee.

CHAIRMAN WENTZ closed the meeting.

General Discussion

- Committee on Committees
- Rules Committee
- Confirmation Hearings
- Delayed Bills Committee
- House Appropriations
- Senate Appropriations
- Other

Date March 18, 1999			
Tape Number	Side A	B Side	Meter #
1	x		31.7-48.0
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Casey Davis</i>			

Minutes:

SB 2019

CHAIRMAN WENTZ opened discussion on SB 2019.

1A: 31.7 JOE MORRISSETTE, Legislative Council, provided the committee with information regarding an earlier question about the Game and Fish department leasing forest lands. (See attached "Game and Fish Department - Forest Land Leases").

1A: 39.0 REP. NICHOLS explained the proposed amendments 0207 for SB 2019.

1A: 42.2 REP. AARSVOLD asked what the long term balance of the reserve fund is. Rep. Carlson replied that the maximum they have had in the fund was \$14.5 million. They currently have \$12,500,000 in that fund.

1A: 47.2 REP. NICHOLS made a motion to adopt amendments 0201 to SB 2019. The motion was seconded by Rep. Carlson. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

1A: 47.6 REP. NICHOLS made a motion for a Do Pass as amended. The motion was seconded by Rep. Monson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried with 6 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 absent and not voting. Rep. Nichols will carry the bill to the full committee.

General Discussion

- Committee on Committees
- Rules Committee
- Confirmation Hearings
- Delayed Bills Committee
- House Appropriations
- Senate Appropriations
- Other

Date March 19, 1999			
Tape Number	Side A	B Side	Meter #
1	x		0-32.2
Committee Clerk Signature		<i>Roxanne Hohl</i>	

Minutes:

Chairman Dalrymple opened the discussion on Senate Bill 2019.

1A: 1.0 Rep. Nichols presented the amendment 98041.0207 to the committee: Section 5 adds \$100,000 to the line item entitled wildlife services in section 1 of act and Section 6 amends the ND Century Code to provide that the balance of the game and fish fund must be at least \$10 million. The executive budget includes \$80,000 from the private land habitat and access improvement for grants to Wildlife Services, which in the House version will be used for private land habitat and access improvement initiatives determined by the department.

1A: 2.3 Rep. Hoffner asked about the language "access improvement initiatives." Rep. Nichols replied the language refers to helping with the cost sharing of the grass which is expensive for individual farmers. In return, their land is open to public hunting.

1A: 3.1 Rep. Nichols asked why such a large fund balance of \$10 million. Rep. Carlson replied the fund has been in place for many years and is generated by license fees and game and fish fees. The interest from fund goes into private land program. Now they are spending about \$1.5 of the money to fund the daily operations of the budget. They have to justify to the legislature what they spend.

1A: 5.5 Rep. Kerzman asked where in the state are the funds being spent. Rep. Nichols replied the money is going towards wildlife services such as waterfowl depredation among other examples. Don't particularly look at where the funds are spent.

1A: 8.2 Rep. Nichols moved to adopt the amendment 98041.0207. Rep. Carlson 2nd the motion.

1A: 8.3 Rep. Byerly asked about significant increases in line items. Realizes this is a special fund agency but still have a responsibility to look at them. Did you look at any of these things? Rep. Nichols replied did ask for explanations. The explanations are in the budget detail of the Legislative Council analysis. Commented on spending on completion of building in Jamestown and building new facility in Riverdale. FTEs will go from 128 to 131. One of the FTEs has already been hired during the interim. There are no general funds in the budget.

1A: 10.0 On a Voice Vote the amendments were adopted.

1A: 13.1 Rep. Kerzman asked about the grants line item. Rep. Nichols referred to Legislative Council Analysis: Grants include boating, fishing, and hatchery projects. Rep. Aarsvold also commented that the grants include involvement with Parks and Recreation of cost sharing.

1A: 14.9 Rep. Byerly asked about acquisition of land by Game and Fish. Rep. Nichols replied the land acquired is small unique forest areas. They bought to preserve the land due to its uniqueness. They pay \$350,000 in taxes to the county.

1A: 17.4 Chairman Dalrymple asked what the lands bought are used for. Rep. Nichols replied it has public access and will not be developed.

1A: 17.9 Rep. Aarsvold commented much of it is pristine native forest land that has the potential of being destroyed. They are seeking to protect it.

1A: 18.8 Rep. Monson commented on constituent in his area that was upset about program of leasing the land for 30 years. Constituent wanted to buy land. The seller leased the land to the Game and Fish. Leased it for more then what it was worth. In discussion, the Game and Fish assured that was the only case of a 30 year lease. Now they only have short term leases.

1A: 20.6 Rep. Monson commented the areas were about 160 acres that were very dense thick forest. Constituent was upset that it was opened to hunting.

1A: 22.4 Chairman Dalrymple asked if there is any progress being made towards spending more on sportsmen/fishermen success then on bureaucracy. There is more spending that isn't going to have a direct benefit to hunting/fishing success. Rep. Nichols replied one of the new FTEs is a step towards progress dealing with farmers private lands and hunting issues. Commented further on discussions with Game and Fish.

General Discussion
Page 3
House Appropriations
March 19, 1999

1A: 27.0 Rep. Delzer asked Rep. Carlson to comment on the equipment line regarding the computers. Rep. Carlson replied he will provide information regarding question.

Chairman Dalrymple closed the discussion. No action was taken.

General Discussion

- Committee on Committees
- Rules Committee
- Confirmation Hearings
- Delayed Bills Committee
- House Appropriations
- Senate Appropriations
- Other

Date March 26, 1999			
Tape Number	Side A	B Side	Meter #
2	x		0-19.0
Committee Clerk Signature <i>A. Sey Davis</i>			

Minutes:

SB 2019

CHAIRMAN DALRYMPLE opened discussion.

2A: 1.8 REP. NICHOLS discussed amendment 0208. He noted that this budget is 1 ½ % above the 1997 budget due to the 2% salary increase. He provided the IT breakdown for the agency. The total budget would be \$30,706,036, of which 40% is Federal funds and 60% is special funds.

2A: 8.5 REP. NICHOLS moved the adoption of amendment 0208. The motion was seconded by Rep. Wentz.

2A: 8.8 REP. POOLMAN asked if the \$200,000 in Section 6 is a continuing appropriation. Rep. Nichols replied that it is a one time appropriation. The Commissioner could use the money over more than one year.

2A: 10.4 REP. POOLMAN asked if the House version is \$150,000 above the Executive budget recommendation. Rep. Nichols replied that with the proposed changes it is.

2A: 11.9 REP. CARLISLE noted that Section 6 does not contain a minimum number of acres, and moved to delete that section. Rep. Hoffner seconded that motion.

2A: 11.9 REP. GULLESON asked where the money is coming from to fund the project in Section 6. Rep. Nichols replied that it comes from the Game and Fish General Fund.

2A: 12.8 REP. GULLESON said she thought a minimum acreage had been discussed. Rep. Nichols replied that they would probably use a 50 acre minimum and would use a 1 to 1 ratio of land around the water to ensure access for hunters.

2A: 15.5 REP. KERZMAN said he would resist the motion to further amend, as the agency is making a good effort to work with hunters.

2A: 17.1 REP. BERNSTEIN also said that many hunters appreciate another place to hunt.

General Discussion
Page 2
House Appropriations
March 26, 1999

2A: 18.2 A voice vote was taken and the motion to delete Section 6 failed.

2A: 18.4 A voice vote to adopt 0208 was taken and the motion carried.

2A: 18.6 REP. NICHOLS moved for a Do Pass as amended. Rep. Wentz seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried with 18 yeas and 2 nays. Rep. Nichols will carry the bill to the house floor.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2019

Page 1, line 2, after "department" insert "; and to amend and reenact section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the minimum balance of the game and fish fund"

Page 1, after line 19, insert:

"Wildlife services 100,000"

Page 1, line 21, replace "30,406,036" with "30,506,036"

Page 2, after line 16, insert:

"SECTION 5. WILDLIFE SERVICES. The amount of \$100,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled wildlife services in section 1 of this Act, is from the game and fish fund and must be used to provide grants to the wildlife services agency for projects to alleviate wildlife depredation and damage. Projects funded may include projects to alleviate waterfowl depredation and damage and must be approved by the director of the game and fish department.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

20.1-02-16.1. ~~Use of game~~ Game and fish fund - Use - Required balance - Budget section approval. All income of the state game and fish department; deposited by the director with the state treasurer must be credited to the state game and fish fund and the fund may be used only by the department. All money derived from the investment of the fund or portions ~~thereof of the fund~~ must be credited to the game and fish department private land habitat and access improvement fund. The department shall spend moneys in the game and fish fund within the limits of legislative appropriations, only to the extent the balance of the fund is not reduced below ten million dollars, unless otherwise authorized by the budget section."

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

DEPARTMENT 720 - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

HOUSE - This amendment adds \$100,000 from the game and fish fund for a special line item for grants to Wildlife Services for projects to alleviate waterfowl and other wildlife depredation and damage. In addition, the executive budget includes \$80,000 from the private land habitat and access improvement fund (land habitat and deer depredation line item) for grants to Wildlife Services, which in the House version will be used for private land habitat and access improvement initiatives determined by the department. This amendment also amends North Dakota Century Code Section 20.1-02-16.1 to provide that the balance of the game and fish fund must be at least \$10 million.

Date: 3-18-99

Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2019

House Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee on Education and Environment

or

Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 0201

Action Taken Do Pass as amended

Motion Made By Nichols Seconded By Monson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairperson Janet Wentz	✓				
Vice Chairman Ed Lloyd	✓				
Rep. Ole Aarsvold	✓				
Rep. James Boehm					
Rep. Al Carlson	✓				
Rep. David Monson	✓				
Rep. Ronald Nichols	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment NICHOLS TO FULL COMMITTEE

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2019

Page 1, line 2, after "department" insert "; and to amend and reenact section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the minimum balance of the game and fish fund"

Page 1, line 16, replace "2,703,224" with "2,903,224"

Page 1, after line 19, insert:

"Wildlife services 100,000"

Page 1, line 21, replace "30,406,036" with "30,706,036"

Page 2, line 13, remove "Priority must be given to contracts to"

Page 2, line 14, remove "increase upper basin storage and enhance wildlife habitat in the Devils Lake basin."

Page 2, after line 16, insert:

"SECTION 5. WILDLIFE SERVICES. The amount of \$100,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled wildlife services in section 1 of this Act, is from the game and fish fund and must be used to provide grants to the wildlife services agency for projects to alleviate wildlife depredation and damage. Projects funded may include projects to alleviate waterfowl depredation and damage and must be approved by the director of the game and fish department.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC ACCESS TO FLOODED AGRICULTURAL LAND - PAYMENTS TO LANDOWNERS. The amount of \$200,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled land habitat and deer depredation in section 1 of this Act is from the game and fish fund and must be used for providing payments to landowners with flooded agricultural land, as provided in this section. Payments shall be at the rate of two dollars per year per acre of flooded agricultural land which is taxable as agricultural land and is not normally inundated by water. Payments may be made on a one-time basis for a period not to exceed five years. The conditions under which land qualifies for payments under this section shall be determined by the director of the game and fish department and shall include public access to the flooded agricultural land.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

20.1-02-16.1. Use of game Game and fish fund - Use - Required balance - Budget section approval. All income of the state game and fish department, deposited by the director with the state treasurer must be credited to the state game and fish fund and the fund may be used only by the department. All money derived from the investment of the fund or portions thereof of the fund must be credited to the game and fish department private land habitat and access improvement fund. The department shall spend moneys in the game and fish fund within the limits of legislative appropriations, only to the extent the balance of the fund is not reduced below ten million dollars, unless otherwise authorized by the budget section."

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

DEPARTMENT 720 - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

HOUSE - This amendment make the following changes:

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	SENATE VERSION	HOUSE CHANGES	HOUSE VERSION
Salaries and wages	\$12,333,733	\$12,218,261		\$12,218,261
Operating expenses	7,779,014	7,779,014		7,779,014
Equipment	771,505	771,505		771,505
Capital improvements	1,602,122	1,602,122		1,602,122
Grants	3,397,050	3,397,050		3,397,050
Noxious weed control	200,000	200,000		200,000
Land habitat and deer depredation	2,703,973	2,703,224	\$200,000	2,903,224
Grants, gifts, and donations	100,000	100,000		100,000
Nongame wildlife conservation	120,000	120,000		120,000
Waterbank program	200,000	200,000		200,000
Wildlife services			100,000	100,000
Lonetree Reservoir	<u>1,317,969</u>	<u>1,314,860</u>		<u>1,314,860</u>
Total all funds	\$30,525,366	\$30,406,036	\$300,000	\$30,706,036
Less special funds	<u>30,525,366</u>	<u>30,406,036</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>30,706,036</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	131.00	131.00	0.00	131.00

Detail of House changes to the Senate version:

	ADD FUNDING FOR WILDLIFE SERVICES GRANTS	ADD FUNDING FOR PAYMENTS FOR FLOODED AGRICULTURAL LAND	TOTAL HOUSE CHANGES
Salaries and wages			
Operating expenses			
Equipment			
Capital improvements			
Grants			
Noxious weed control			
Land habitat and deer depredation		\$200,000	\$200,000
Grants, gifts, and donations			
Nongame wildlife conservation			
Waterbank program			
Wildlife services	\$100,000		100,000
Lonetree Reservoir			
Total all funds	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000
Less special funds	<u>100,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

House changes narrative:

This amendment makes the following changes:

Adds \$100,000 from the game and fish fund for grants to wildlife services for projects to alleviate waterfowl and other wildlife depredation and damage, as provided in Section 5 of the bill. In addition, the executive budget includes \$80,000 from the private land habitat and access improvement fund (land habitat and deer depredation line item) for grants to wildlife services, which in the House version will be used for private land habitat and access improvement initiatives determined by the department.

Adds \$200,000 from the game and fish fund for payments to landowners with flooded agricultural land, as provided in Section 6 of the bill.

Amends North Dakota Century Code Section 20.1-02-16.1 to provide that the balance of the game and fish fund must be at least \$10 million.

Removes the requirement in Section 4 of the bill that priority be given to waterbank contracts in the Devils Lake Basin.

Date: 3-26-99

Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2019

House Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 0208

Action Taken ~~0208~~ Do Pass As Amended

Motion Made By Nichols Seconded By Wentz

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Dalrymple	x		Nichols	x	
Vice-Chairman Byerly	x		Poolman		x
Aarsvold	x		Svedjan	x	
Bernstein	x		Timm	x	
Boehm	x		Tollefson	x	
Carlson	x		Wentz	x	
Carlisle	x				
Delzer		x			
Gulleson	x				
Hoffner	x				
Huether	x				
Kerzman	x				
Lloyd	x				
Monson	x				

Total (Yes) 18 No 2

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Nichols

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2019, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Dalrymple, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (18 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2019 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 2, after "department" insert "; and to amend and reenact section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the minimum balance of the game and fish fund"

Page 1, line 16, replace "2,703,224" with "2,903,224"

Page 1, after line 19, insert:
"Wildlife services 100,000"

Page 1, line 21, replace "30,406,036" with "30,706,036"

Page 2, line 13, remove "Priority must be given to contracts to"

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Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

DEPARTMENT 720 - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

HOUSE - This amendment make the following changes:

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FTE	131.00	131.00	0.00	131.00

Detail of House changes to the Senate version:

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Operating expenses			
Equipment			
Capital improvements			
Grants			
Noxious weed control			
Land habitat and deer depredation		\$200,000	\$200,000
Grants, gifts, and donations			
Nongame wildlife conservation			
Waterbank program			
Wildlife services	\$100,000		100,000
Lonetree Reservoir			
Total all funds	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$300,000
Less special funds	<u>100,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

House changes narrative:

This amendment makes the following changes:

Adds \$100,000 from the game and fish fund for grants to wildlife services for projects to alleviate waterfowl and other wildlife depredation and damage, as provided in Section 5 of the bill. In addition, the executive budget includes \$80,000 from the private land habitat and access improvement fund (land habitat and deer depredation line item) for grants to wildlife services, which in the House version will be used for private land habitat and access improvement initiatives determined by the department.

Adds \$200,000 from the game and fish fund for payments to landowners with flooded agricultural land, as provided in Section 6 of the bill.

Amends North Dakota Century Code Section 20.1-02-16.1 to provide that the balance of the game and fish fund must be at least \$10 million.

Removes the requirement in Section 4 of the bill that priority be given to waterbank contracts in the Devils Lake Basin.

1999 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2019

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2019C

Senate Appropriations Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date April 7, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
4	X		3190-4456
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Kathy C. Kotteleroch</i>			

Minutes:

SENATOR NAA DEN: Opened the conference committee hearing on SB2019.

ROLL CALL: Present; Senator Naaden, Senator Holmberg, Senator Tomac, Representative Carlson, Representative Wentz, Representative Nichols.

SENATOR NAA DEN: I visited with Representative Carlson and we did ask the Council to prepare some amendments. The amendments were passed out to the committee members.

REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON: We made three adjustments on the way the bill came to us from the Senate. #1 was, the proposal came to us from several legislators in the Devils Lake Basin in regards to inundated land. They were trying to get some tax relief. The way we passed it out, there would have been requirements established by the Game & Fish which would require that it would be open to public access this inundated land and that there be dry land to match with the inundated land so that there would be something for the hunters to use & in exchange they would pay them up to \$2.00 an acre for tax payments. The sponsors of that bill after they came back and started talking further about trying to meet the requirements that were in the bill, said they did not think they could make that happen at all. they requested that we could remove that language and that funding from the bill. Rep. Nichols can explain the 2nd change better than I can.

REPRESENTATIVE NICHOLS: With regard to the \$100,00 to be used by Wildlife Services. In the past there has been a total of \$80,000 available. About \$20,000 of that was not used very often because of the agreement that was made and the fact that it was not very useable by Wildlife Services. There have been a lot more depredation problems recently, especially with problems around urban areas, and areas that are growing into the countryside. Everything from skunks to beavers to deer depredation. They can also used this for wildlife depredation purposes.

We visited both with Game & Fish and the Wildlife Services, and they are in agreement on the use of these funds.

REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON: They were thrilled to death that we were willing to move it over and give it to them because those are the kinds of complaints they do not want to handle. They do not have the equipment to handle those complaints, they do not want anything to do with it, and they said we would not mind if you took this money and made a line and transferred it. That is what we did. Those were the two major changes we made in the bill when it came to us from the Senate. That \$100,000 is still there. That is Section 5 of the Amendments.

SENATOR HOLMBERG: When we passed the bill out, we had that section about priority to water bank contracting, Devils Lake Basin. The way the bill stands now, is there not priority?

REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON: There is still \$200,000 in there of the water bank program for Devils Lake Basin. Last time it was \$500,000, this time the request was for \$200,000. It is exactly the way it came from you to us. We did not change that at all.

REPRESENTATIVE NICHOLS: We did take out those 2 lines regarding priority. Last time basically, all of that \$500,000 was used in that area for those purposes. This time in visiting both with the Agriculture Department and Game & Fish Department, they did want that language removed so that they would have the ability to do some of these transactions in other parts of the state as well.

SENATOR HOLMBERG: So they are storing water, like Nelson County and some of the other ones. I think that was the reason.

REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON: There are some additional federal funds being matched to the \$200,000. It is going to amount to over \$500,000.

REPRESENTATIVE NICHOLS: There was an allotted change on the part of the Devils Lake area.

REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON: They showed no opposition to that. The AG Department did come in and speak in favor of what we had done. Game & Fish fund usage's require the balance over the biennium. A high of about \$14.5M in their fund, which is just revenues and savings they have made over the years. This budget if you look at, they funded about \$1.5M of this budget out of their reserves. We put language in there, because the interest off of that pays for the private land habitat and the access programs and many other programs as well. Put a limit of \$10M on that fund, however, they can come to the budget section and get that reduced if they want to. We are trying to protect the base of money that has been saved over the years. The interest is used for all these Game & Fish related items, and that is the other change that we made.

SENATOR HOLMBERG: You said that it was at a high of \$14M. What is it today?

REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON: It is \$12.5 today. So they still have \$2.5M and even if they used all \$1.5M in the budget. If they had budgeted out to come of there, they are still at \$11M. in their fund. If they drop below \$10M, we want you to come in and find out why, because maybe we are not charging enough for our licenses or whatever is happening there, because it bothers me a little bit to see the steady decline of that money that has been saved over the years as operating expenses. It was my initiative to put that in there.

SENATOR HOLMBERG: I move that the House recede from its amendments as printed, and the Engrossed Senate bill #2019 be further amended. It is 98041.0209. We want it to reflect the Conference Committee report.

REPRESENTATIVE WENTZ: I second the motion.

SENATOR TOMAC: I have a question for whoever wrote the amendments. Is this the \$100,000 increase to the deprecation fund or is it a \$20,000 increase. My confusion is that I look at the executive budget, I do not see the line item there. It says it adds a Hundred to that. It is my understanding that this is the fund that the Commissioner of Agriculture accesses on a grant basis to take care of some of the deprecation issues, and contracts with the US Fish & Wildlife through that service. Is that correct?

JOE MORRISSETTE: That \$100,000 will be for that purpose. In the executive budget, there was \$80,000 and that was included in the land habitat & deer deprecation line item. You did not see it broken out separately, it was just part of that line item. Because that \$80,000 is going to stay in that line item, it can be used for other programs, other land habitat programs. The \$100,000 is a new amount they take from the Game & Fish fund for this purpose.

SENATOR TOMAC: We did not reduce the land habitat and deer deprecation line item then?

JOE MORRISSETTE: No, we left that the same. There is \$100,000 now, there was \$80,000 in the executive budget.

SENATOR NAADEN: The clerk will take the roll.

ROLL: 6 YEAS; 0 NAYS; 0 ABSENT & NOT VOTING. THE MOTION CARRIED.

There being no other business, Senator Naaden adjourned the committee, and indicated that members would have to sign a report when it is completed.

(Bill Number) SB 2019 (, as (re)engrossed):

Your Conference Committee

Attendance	SENATORS	Vote
P	Naaden	Y
P	Holmberg	Y
P	Tomac	Y

Attendance	REPRESENTATIVES	Vote
P	Carlson	Y
P	Wentz	Y
P	Nichols	Y

recommends that the (SENATE/HOUSE) (ACCEDE to) (RECEDE from) the (Senate/House) amendments on (SJ/HJ) page(s) 935 - 37

and place _____ on the Seventh order.

, adopt (further) amendments as follows, and place _____ on the Seventh order:

having been unable to agree, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed.

((Re)Engrossed) _____ was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

DATE: ___/___/___

CARRIER: Naaden

LC NO. 98041 . 0208 of amendment

LC NO. 98041 . 0200 of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted _____

Statement of purpose of amendment _____

(1) LC (2) LC (3) DESK (4) COMM.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2019, as engrossed: Your conference committee (Sens. Naaden, Holmberg, Tomac and Reps. Carlson, Wentz, Nichols) recommends that the **HOUSE RECEDE** from the House amendments on SJ pages 935-937, adopt further amendments as follows, and place SB 2019 on the Seventh order:

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on pages 935-937 of the Senate Journal and pages 1029 and 1030 of the House Journal and that Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2019 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 2, after "department" insert "; and to amend and reenact section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the minimum balance of the game and fish fund"

Page 1, after line 19, insert:
"Wildlife services 100,000"

Page 1, line 21, replace "30,406,036" with "30,506,036"

Page 2, line 13, remove "Priority must be given to contracts to"

Page 2, line 14, remove "increase upper basin storage and enhance wildlife habitat in the Devils Lake basin."

Page 2, after line 16, insert:

"SECTION 5. WILDLIFE SERVICES. The amount of \$100,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled wildlife services in section 1 of this Act, is from the game and fish fund and must be used to provide grants to the wildlife services agency for projects to alleviate wildlife depredation and damage. Projects funded may include projects to alleviate waterfowl depredation and damage and must be approved by the director of the game and fish department.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

20.1-02-16.1. ~~Use of game~~ Game and fish fund - Use - Required balance - Budget section approval. All income of the state game and fish department, deposited by the director with the state treasurer must be credited to the state game and fish fund and the fund may be used only by the department. All money derived from the investment of the fund or portions ~~thereof~~ of the fund must be credited to the game and fish department private land habitat and access improvement fund. The department shall spend moneys in the game and fish fund within the limits of legislative appropriations, only to the extent the balance of the fund is not reduced below ten million dollars, unless otherwise authorized by the budget section."

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

DEPARTMENT 720 - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE - This amendment make the following changes:

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (420)
April 8, 1999 8:48 a.m.

Module No: SR-64-6793

Insert LC: 98041.0209

	EXECUTIVE BUDGET	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES	CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VERSION	HOUSE VERSION	CONFERENCE COMPARISON TO HOUSE VERSION
Salaries and wages	\$12,333,733	\$12,218,261		\$12,218,261	\$12,218,261	
Operating expenses	7,779,014	7,779,014		7,779,014	7,779,014	
Equipment	771,505	771,505		771,505	771,505	
Capital improvements	1,602,122	1,602,122		1,602,122	1,602,122	
Grants	3,397,050	3,397,050		3,397,050	3,397,050	
Noxious weed control	200,000	200,000		200,000	200,000	
Land habitat and deer depredation	2,703,973	2,703,224		2,703,224	2,903,224	(\$200,000)
Grants, gifts, and donations	100,000	100,000		100,000	100,000	
Nongame wildlife conservation	120,000	120,000		120,000	120,000	
Waterbank program	200,000	200,000		200,000	200,000	
Wildlife services			\$100,000	100,000	100,000	
Lonetree Reservoir	<u>1,317,969</u>	<u>1,314,860</u>		<u>1,314,860</u>	<u>1,314,860</u>	
Total all funds	\$30,525,366	\$30,406,036	\$100,000	\$30,506,036	\$30,706,036	(\$200,000)
Less special funds	<u>30,525,366</u>	<u>30,406,036</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>30,506,036</u>	<u>30,706,036</u>	<u>(200,000)</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	131.00	131.00	0.00	131.00	131.00	0.00

Detail of Conference Committee changes to the Senate version:

	ADD FUNDING FOR WILDLIFE SERVICES GRANTS	TOTAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHANGES
Salaries and wages		
Operating expenses		
Equipment		
Capital improvements		
Grants		
Noxious weed control		
Land habitat and deer depredation		
Grants, gifts, and donations		
Nongame wildlife conservation		
Waterbank program		
Wildlife services	\$100,000	\$100,000
Lonetree Reservoir		
Total all funds	\$100,000	\$100,000
Less special funds	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
General fund	\$0	\$0

Conference Committee changes narrative:

This amendment makes the following changes:

Adds \$100,000 from the game and fish fund for grants to wildlife services for projects to alleviate waterfowl and other wildlife depredation and damage, as provided in Section 5 of the bill. In addition, the executive budget includes \$80,000 from the private land habitat and access improvement fund (land habitat and deer depredation line item) for grants to wildlife services, which in the Conference Committee version will be used for private land habitat and access improvement initiatives determined by the department.

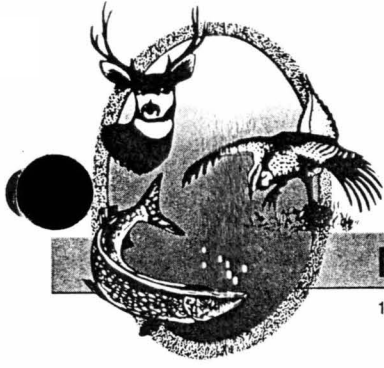
Amends North Dakota Century Code Section 20.1-02-16.1 to provide that the balance of the game and fish fund must be at least \$10 million.

Removes the requirement in Section 4 of the bill that priority be given to waterbank contracts in the Devils Lake Basin.

Engrossed SB 2019 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

1999 TESTIMONY

SB 2019



"VARIETY IN HUNTING AND FISHING"

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

100 NORTH BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501-5095 PHONE 701-328-6300 FAX 701-328-6352

March 1, 1999

1999-2001 Appropriation Request North Dakota Game and Fish Department

The Game and Fish Department is a special fund agency using only hunting, fishing, and boat license revenue and federal funding. The total budget request is \$30,406,036. This is an increase of \$2,496,035 (8.9%) from the 1997-99 appropriation. Department funding will easily support this level of funding. This request includes the following amounts:

Game and Fish Fund	\$27,586,066
Nongame Wildlife Fund	\$120,000
Private Land Habitat Fund	\$2,700,000

Appropriation Total \$30,406,066

Fund Balances - Fund balance projections are as follows:

	<u>6/30/97</u>	<u>6/30/99</u>	<u>6/30/2001</u>
Game and Fish Fund	\$13,703,476	\$13,504,203	\$12,400,677
Private Land Habitat Fund	\$2,087,250	\$1,737,250	\$1,337,250
Non-Game Wildlife Fund	\$13,029	\$3,029	\$3,029

Revenue - Federal revenue is expected to be as follows:

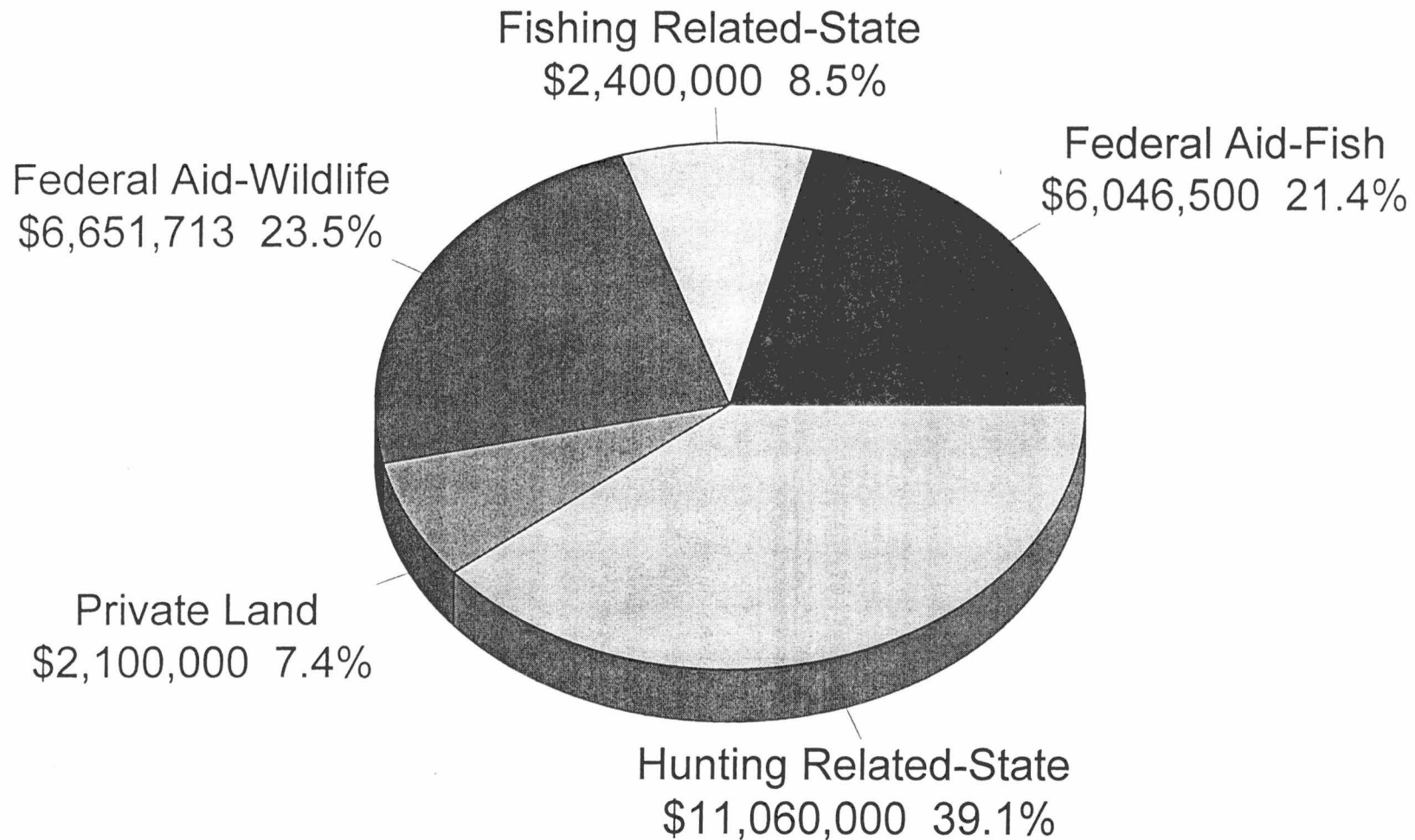
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act	\$5,091,713
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act	\$5,500,045
Recreational Boating Safety Program	\$546,480
Bureau of Reclamation(Lonetree)	\$1,500,000
Endangered Species Act	<u>\$60,000</u>
Total Federal Revenue	\$12,698,238

State Revenue by Fund:

Game and Fish Fund(Licenses + Misc.)	\$13,400,000
Private Land Habitat Fund	\$2,100,000
Nongame Wildlife Fund(Donations)	\$60,000
Total State Revenue	\$15,560,000
Total All Revenue	\$28,258,238

1999-2001 Revenue Projection

ND Game and Fish Department



Total = \$28,258,213

Items of Special Interest

Brief details on the budgets for the Department's six divisions are presented below. Included in these budgets are projects related to boating and shoreline fishing access, youth fishing/recreation ponds, state fair Pathways to Fishing and Hunting facilities, television video production, in lieu of tax payments, private land habitat programs, including a new position, some land acquisition funding and remodeling/adding to the Riverdale office.

1. Administrative Services Division Budget - Costs in this Division include the following:

- *Secretarial support for all Divisions
- *Licensing section costs
- *Accounting costs
- *All Department utility, telephone, office rental, janitorial, office supply, insurance, postage, aircraft costs, office machine rental, and other similar costs.
- *Legal services
- *Costs for the Game and Fish Advisory Board
- *In Lieu of Tax payments for all Department lands-\$700,000
- *North Dakota Wetland Trust funding-\$25,000
- *Costs for the Director, Deputy Director, Administrative Services Division Chief, Data Processing Coordinators and Planner.
- *Capital improvement funds for office and shop facilities-\$135,891
- *The Department Donation account-\$100,000
- *Statewide Cost Allocation-\$250,000
- *Hunter Information Program(HIP) Costs-\$90,000

The Administrative Services Division budget is increased 1.5% from 1997-99. Inflationary increases are included in the operating expense line for travel, tax payments and printing. \$590,000 is budgeted for completion of the Jamestown regional office and remodeling/addition to the Riverdale office. \$135,891 is included for extraordinary repairs at all department facilities.

2. **Fisheries Division Budget** - This program includes fish production and distribution, fishery research and surveys, and fishing area and boating facility development and maintenance. This division budget is increased by 29%. This increase is possible because federal funds will be available for this work. This increase is mainly in the grant and capital improvement lines. Grants are used for cost sharing with local governments on fishing and boating facilities and to pay the department's share of costs for the Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery. Grants are also used for creel survey and other fisheries management work. Capital improvements are used for fishing and boating facilities on Department managed lands. The Department receives 75% federal funding for most of the work in this division. In some cases the 25% match comes from local partners such as park boards.

3. **Enforcement Division** - This budget supports a staff of thirty law enforcement staff. This program is increased by 8%. Most of this increase is a \$100,000 adjustment for travel costs. State fleet costs are expected to increase and are over 80% of the operating costs for this division. Game wardens are very dependant on State Fleet vehicles to effectively do their work. Replacement boats, motors, campers, and computers are budgeted in the equipment line item.

4. **Information and Education Division** - Programs include aquatic and hunter education, ND Outdoors magazine, boating education, and supplying general information to the public. This Division's budget request is a 14% increase from 1997-99. Equipment funds are needed to replace and enhance computer systems and video production equipment. Grants are increased to provide funding for local shooting range projects.

5. **Natural Resource Division** - Natural resource related reviews and recommendations are provided to private and government entities. This division also includes the nongame wildlife program. It is supported by an income tax checkoff and federal matching funds. This Division budget is submitted at a level 9% above 1997-99. Increases are mainly in the salary line item to support current salary levels and include the 1997-99 salary package. The operating expense budget is increase by \$2,000 for anticipated higher state fleet rates.

6. **Wildlife Division** - This budget includes private land habitat

and deer depredation programs, operating costs for department managed lands, and wildlife surveys and investigations. This Division's budget it increased by about 5% from 97-99. The Private Land and Depredation Program is decreased by \$450,000 because the one-time deer proof hay yard project has been completed. The Waterbank Program line is reduced to zero, but \$200,000 is included for this in the grant line. Salaries are increased to support current staff. Operating expenses are increased by \$100,000, mainly due to increased state fleet rates. \$210,000 in capital improvements is included for fences, roads, and other small project on Department lands. \$200,000 is included for forest and acquisition in the northeastern part of the state.

Lonetree Funding - A \$1,300,000 appropriation(+\$333,346) is requested to operate the Lonetree area. The Lonetree area consists of over 30,000 acres of land managed for wildlife purposes. The North Dakota Game and Fish Department provides technical services for this area for the State of North Dakota as laid out in the Garrison Diversion Reformulation Act. 100% of the funding for these services come from the Bureau of Reclamation. This is the amount of funding anticipated for 1999-2001.

Appropriation Increase(8.9% or +\$2,496,035)

The Game and Fish Department's budget request is a 8.9% increase over 1997-99. Department funds and anticipate revenue are adequate to support this increase. This money is to be used in the following areas:

Misc.Equipment-Computers, video radios, boats	\$133,355
Forest Land Acquisition	\$200,000
Fisheries and Boat Facility Grants-	\$848,750
Lonetree-Increased BOR funding	\$333,346
Salaries - To maintain FY99 salary level	\$381,273
Operating Expenses - State fleet & inflation	\$302,000
1999-2001 Salary Adjustment Package	\$464,272

REQUEST / RECOMMENDATION COMPARISON SUMMARY

720 GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT

Biennium: 1999-2001

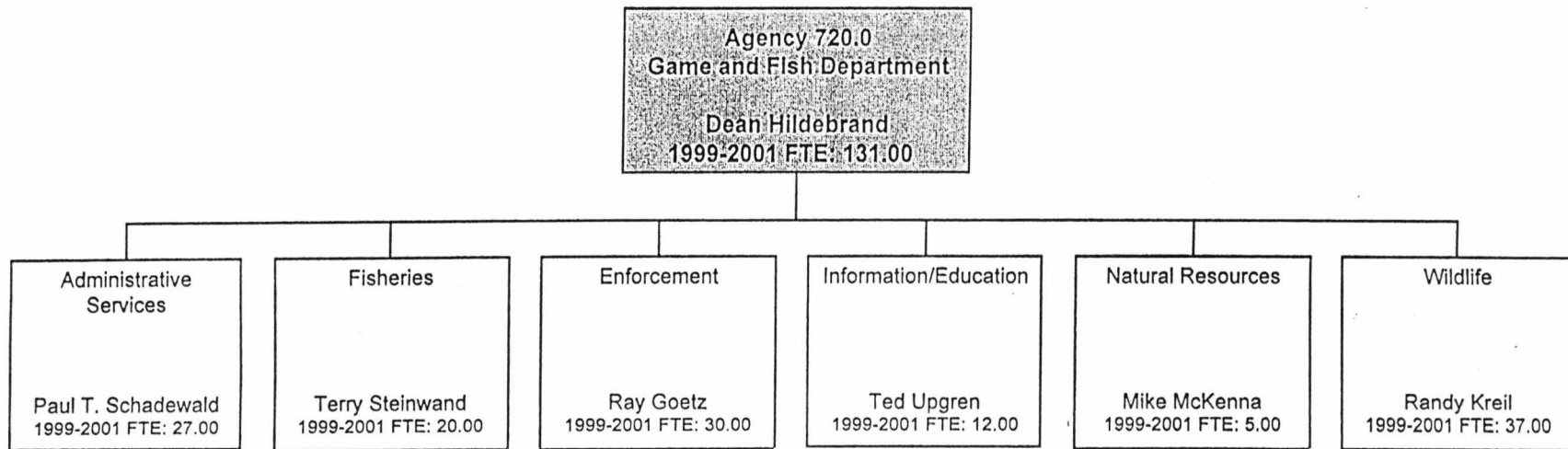
Bill #: SB2019

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Description	Expenditures Prev Biennium 1995-1997	Present Budget 1997-1999	1999-2001 Requested		Requested Budget 1999-2001	1999-2001 Recommended		Executive Recommendation 1999-2001
			Incr (Decr)	% Chg		Incr (Decr)	% Chg	
BY MAJOR PROGRAM								
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	5,438,375	7,203,678	(491,300)	-6.8%	6,712,378	109,003	1.5%	7,312,681
FISHERIES	4,356,116	4,663,999	1,024,269	22.0%	5,688,268	1,359,664	29.2%	6,023,663
ENFORCEMENT	3,140,033	3,616,227	151,615	4.2%	3,767,842	292,083	8.1%	3,908,310
INFORMATION/EDUCATION	2,164,722	2,015,947	118,474	5.9%	2,134,421	273,202	13.6%	2,289,149
NATURAL RESOURCES	732,870	779,375	44,109	5.7%	823,484	68,908	8.8%	848,283
WILDLIFE	8,028,710	9,630,775	132,707	1.4%	9,763,482	512,505	5.3%	10,143,280
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMS	23,860,826	27,910,001	979,874	3.5%	28,889,875	2,615,365	9.4%	30,525,366
BY LINE ITEM								
SALARIES & WAGES	10,294,660	11,292,661	381,273	3.4%	11,673,934	1,041,072	9.2%	12,333,733
OPERATING EXPENSES	6,476,789	7,262,014	302,000	4.2%	7,564,014	517,000	7.1%	7,779,014
EQUIPMENT	606,971	638,150	133,355	20.9%	771,505	133,355	20.9%	771,505
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	763,317	1,132,122	180,000	15.9%	1,312,122	470,000	41.5%	1,602,122
GRANTS-GAME AND FISH	2,194,897	2,548,400	599,900	23.5%	3,148,300	848,650	33.3%	3,397,050
LAND HABITAT & DEER DEPREDATION	2,300,101	3,150,000	(450,000)	-14.3%	2,700,000	(446,027)	-14.2%	2,703,973
NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL	170,569	200,000	0	0.0%	200,000	0	0.0%	200,000
GRANT-GIFT-DONATION	60,328	100,000	0	0.0%	100,000	0	0.0%	100,000
NONGAME WILDLIFE CONSERVATION	103,263	120,000	0	0.0%	120,000	0	0.0%	120,000
WATERBANK PROGRAM	0	500,000	(500,000)	-100.0%	0	(300,000)	-60.0%	200,000
LONETREE RESERVOIR	889,931	966,654	333,346	34.5%	1,300,000	351,315	36.3%	1,317,969
TOTAL LINE ITEMS	23,860,826	27,910,001	979,874	3.5%	28,889,875	2,615,365	9.4%	30,525,366
BY FUNDING SOURCE								
GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	10,598,355	10,457,000	2,241,213	21.4%	12,698,213	2,489,686	23.8%	12,946,686
SPECIAL FUNDS	13,262,471	17,453,001	(1,261,339)	-7.2%	16,191,662	125,679	0.7%	17,578,680
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCE	23,860,826	27,910,001	979,874	3.5%	28,889,875	2,615,365	9.4%	30,525,366
TOTAL FTE	126.00	128.00	1.00	0.8%	129.00	3.00	2.3%	131.00



Statutory Authority – North Dakota Century Code Title 20.1.

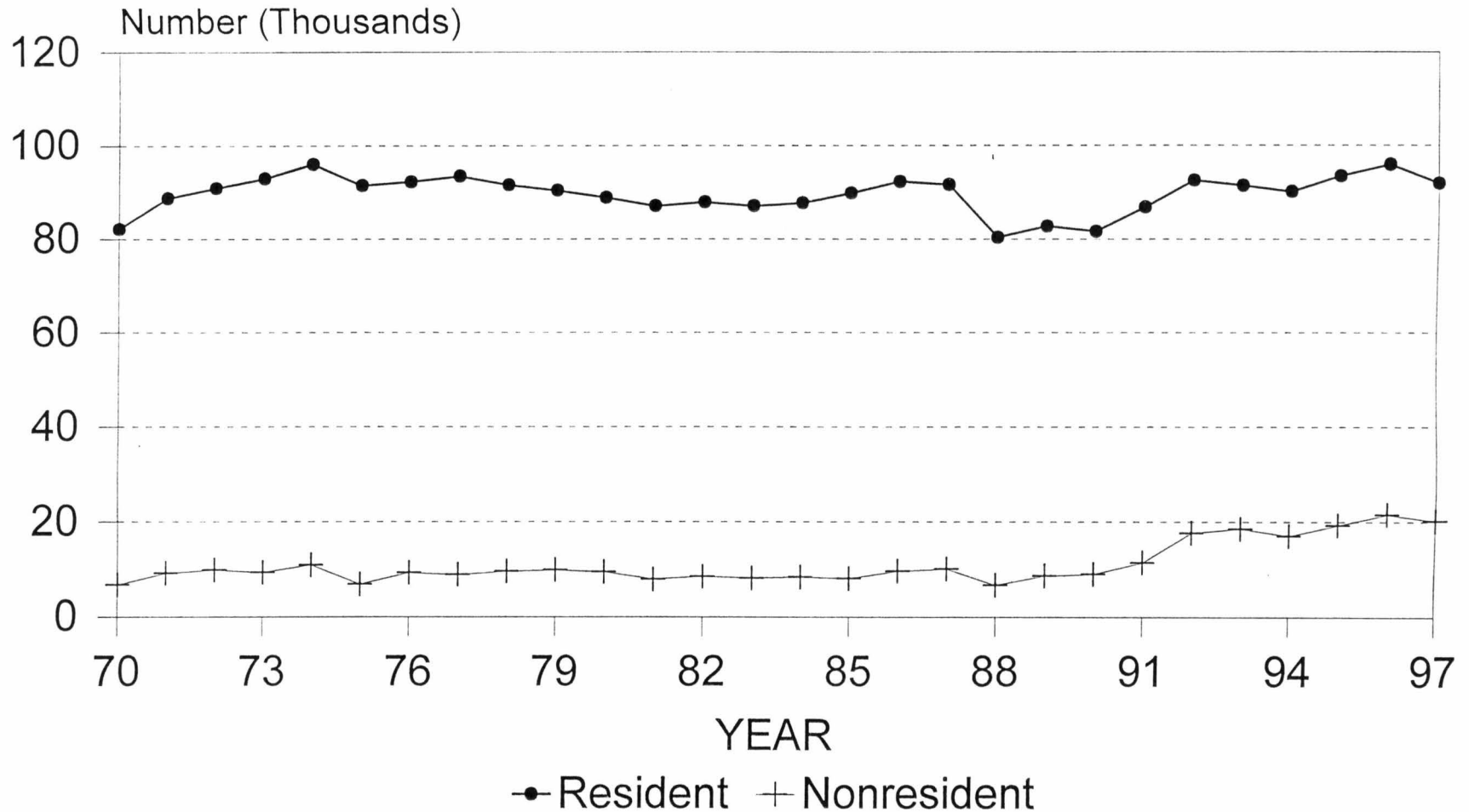
Mission Statement – The mission of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department is to protect, conserve, and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for sustained public consumptive and appreciative use.

Executive Budget Recommendation –

- Provides funding for the construction of a regional office located in Riverdale, and for the purchase of small tracts of forest lands in the Turtle Mountains and Cavalier and Pembina counties.
- Approves request for 3.00 FTE: secretarial position at Jamestown regional office, Eastern program coordinator position located in Fargo, and private lands initiative position (approved by Emergency Commission during 1997-99 biennium).
- Provides funding to Parks and Recreation for operating and maintenance costs of fish cleaning stations, boat ramps and boat ramp vault toilets at four state parks located on Lake Sakakawea and Devils Lake.
- Provides 75% of estimated required funding for boat ramp projects at Lake Sakakawea State Park and Lewis and Clark State Park.
- Provides funding for Waterbank Program.

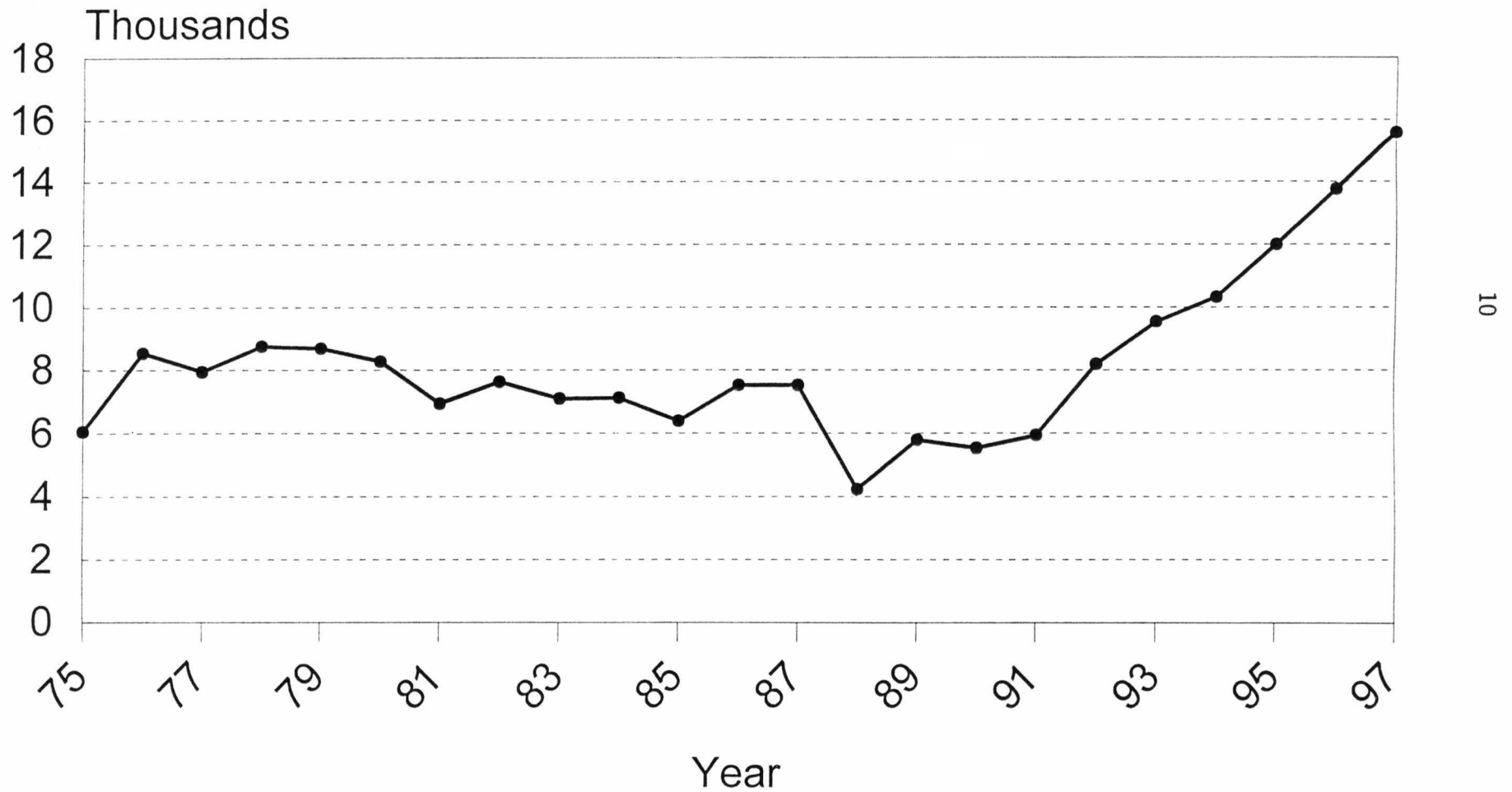
NORTH DAKOTA

GENERAL GAME LICENSE SALES



Non-Resident Waterfowl Licenses

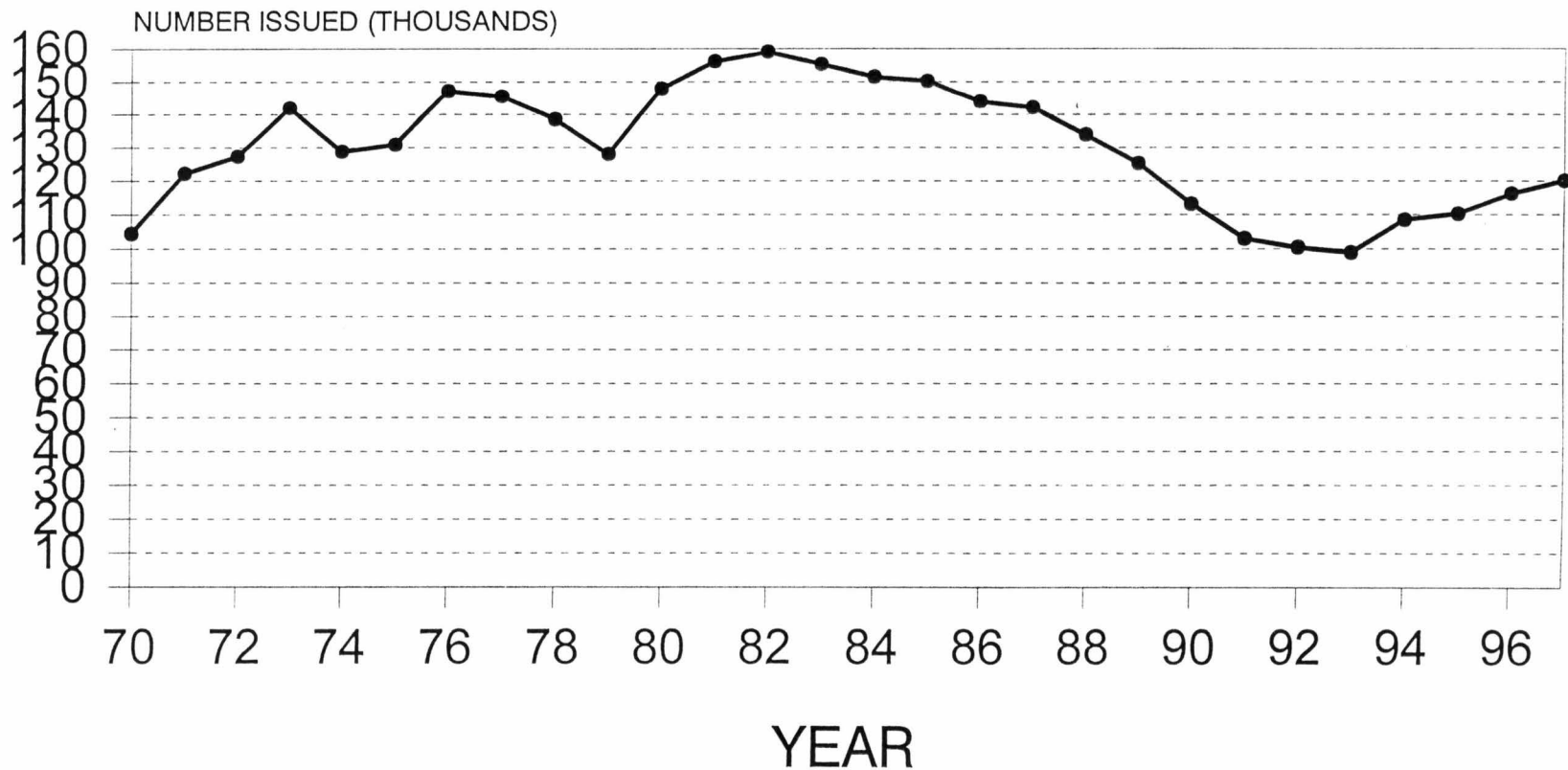
North Dakota



waterfwl

RESIDENT FISHING LICENSE SALES

North Dakota Game and Fish Department



NONRESIDENT FISHING LICENSE SALES



GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT - FOREST LAND LEASES

The 1997 Legislative Assembly authorized the Game and Fish Department to carry out a private land habitat and access improvement program, which pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 20.1-02-05(19) includes leasing and developing fish and wildlife habitat or sport fishing areas on private land. During the 1997-99 biennium, the department began a program to preserve native forest land through lease agreements with landowners. Through the first 20 months of the biennium, the department has spent approximately \$100,000 for 23 lease agreements for a total of 5,010 acres. Lease agreements extend from 3 to 30 years. Payments for 3-, 6-, and 10-year leases are equal annual payments which extend over the term of the lease agreement. Payments for 30-year leases include an initial payment and additional payments extending over 30 years. The department has indicated that any future lease agreements will be for three- or six-year

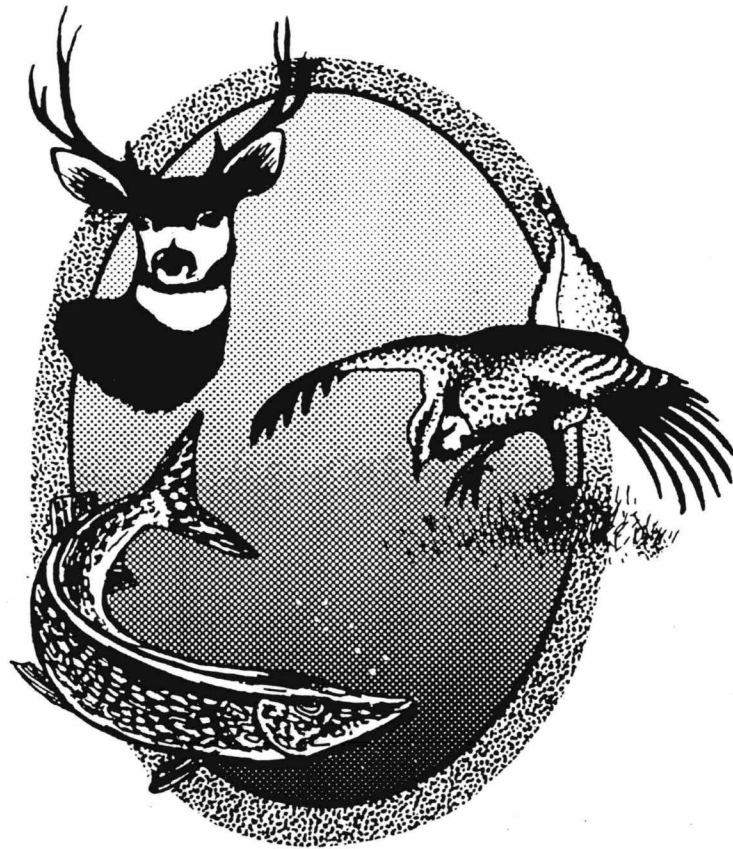
terms, cancelable by the department or the landowner upon 30 days' notice.

Lease agreements have been for the following terms:

Term of Lease (Years)	Number of Leases
30	1
10	3
6	14
3	5
Total	23

The 1999-2001 biennium executive budget for the department includes \$110,000 for forest land lease agreements, to be funded through the department's private land habitat and access improvement program. The department estimates that of this amount, approximately \$90,000 will be needed to continue lease agreements entered into during the 1997-99 biennium.

Private Land Initiative



**North Dakota Game and Fish
Department**

NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

PRIVATE LAND INITIATIVE

Private Land Initiative (PLI) - The North Dakota Game and Fish Department's mission is to protect, conserve, and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for sustained public use. The Private Land Initiative is the Department's overall mechanism for applying this mission onto the private landscape of North Dakota.

The PLI has 3 main goals:

- 1) Conservation of habitats for fish and wildlife populations
- 2) Provide landowners interested in wildlife conservation with cost-share assistance for developing and protecting wildlife habitat.
- 3) Provide the public with opportunities to access fish and wildlife resources on private land. The primary focus of this goal is hunting access.

The PLI is funded with revenue from the sale of Habitat Stamps and the interest accrued from the Department's general fund balance. Three full-time employees located in the Department's central office in Bismarck head up this initiative and administer its budget. District biologists and technicians in the field offices work locally with landowners to provide for delivery of the program components across the state. The PLI provides financial and technical assistance to private landowners through the following array of components and activities.

Habitat Establishment/Enhancement Cost-sharing Programs

- ◆ Grass Plantings
- ◆ Wildlife Tree/Shrub Plantings
- ◆ Aspen Management
- ◆ Wildlife Water Developments
- ◆ Nesting Structures
- ◆ Cooperative Projects

Conservation PLOTS (Private Land Open To Sportsmen) Agreements

- ◆ Habitat Plot Program - 3 to 6 year rental contracts to create/protect/enhance habitat and provide public access
- ◆ Food Plot Program - single year establishment and rental contracts to provide wildlife food and public access
- ◆ Private Forest Conservation Program - multi-year rental contracts to protect/enhance unique forest tracts and provide public access
- ◆ CRP Cost-sharing Program - to assist in habitat establishment (grass, trees, and food) and provide public access on Conservation Reserve Program acres

Deer Depredation Programs

- ◆ Deer Depredation Fund - provides dollars for activities used to alleviate/minimize damage to private livestock feed supplies caused by deer (manpower, technical assistance, temporary fencing, repellents, scare devices, and intercept baiting)
- ◆ Deer-proof Hay Yard Program (Special Appropriation -\$500,000) - provides materials and supplies for the establishment of deer-proof hay yards in/around private farmsteads with chronic deer problems

Cooperative Grants

- ◆ State WaterBank Program (Special Appropriation - \$500,000) - provides funds for 10 year rental contracts for wetland tracts improving water storage in Devils Lake Basin through ND Dept. of Agriculture program
- ◆ North American Wetland Conservation Act - provides matching dollars for federal grants for waterfowl habitat projects in North Dakota contributing to the goals of the North American Waterfowl Plan
- ◆ APHIS / Animal Damage Control - provides matching dollars for cooperative projects to alleviate/minimize damage to private livestock caused by coyotes

Habitat Plot Program

The NDGFD Habitat Plot Program is a short-term, multi-year rental of private land providing nesting, wintering, and other key wildlife habitat. The Habitat Plot can be newly established cover, existing cover, or a combination of both.

GOAL: To provide and enhance wildlife habitat in locations most likely to benefit and sustain wildlife populations and to provide access to this habitat for the public utilization of the wildlife resource.

General Program Guidelines:

- ◆ Tracts of newly established and/or existing habitat will be considered for enrollment

New Habitat Establishment

- ▶ NDGFD will provide 50% cost-share (up to \$20/acre) to establish herbaceous cover on cropland. NDGFD will work w/landowner to determine seed mix.
- ▶ 6 year agreement
- ▶ Rental payment based on soil classification and regional location
 - ▶ Class II-III - \$20-\$30/acre
 - ▶ Class IV - \$13-\$20/acre
 - ▶ Class VI-VII - \$7-\$10/acre

Existing Habitat

- ▶ Areas for consideration include grasslands, wetlands, woodlands, and riparian zones.
 - ▶ Existing habitat can be enrolled in combination with converted cropland
 - ▶ 3 year agreement for Existing Habitat Plot requiring no new habitat establishment
 - ▶ Rental payment same as New Habitat Establishment (see above). Most Existing Habitat Plots are in the \$7-\$10/acre payment range.
- ◆ Priority for acceptance given to areas greater than 80 acres in size.
 - ◆ Plots are posted with NDGFD Conservation PLOTS (Private Land Open To Sportsman) signs

Cooperators must agree to:

- ◆ Allow unrestricted walk-in public use of tract enrolled in program
- ◆ Not hay or graze the tract
- ◆ Allow the NDGFD to sign and publicize the tract open to public use



Food Plot Program

The NDGFD Food Plot Program provides an annual establishment and rental payment for the planting of agricultural crops left unharvested for a wildlife food source during the winter.

GOAL: To provide and enhance wildlife food sources in locations most likely to benefit and sustain wildlife populations and to provide access to this habitat for the public utilization of the wildlife resource.



General Program Guidelines:

◆ Cost-Share Rates

- ▶ Food Plots (cropland/non-CRP)
 - ▶ Establishment
 - ▶ \$23/acre for small grains
 - ▶ \$38/acre for row crops
 - ▶ Rental-payment based on soil classification and regional location
 - ▶ Class II-III - \$20-\$30/acre
 - ▶ Class IV - \$13-\$20/acre
 - ▶ Class VI-VII - \$7-\$10/acre
- ▶ CRP Food Plots
 - ▶ Establishment payment only, **NO rental**
 - ▶ \$23/acre for small grains
 - ▶ \$38/acre for row crops

◆ Terms of Agreement-

- ▶ All food plots must be open to walking access and accessible to the public through adjacent land.
- ▶ CRP food plots-the entire field containing the food plot must be open to walking access and accessible to the public through adjacent land.
- ▶ NDGFD and landowner will work together to determine food plot locations that are proximate to winter cover (multi-row tree planting, natural woody areas, large cattail slough)
- ▶ The food plot must be planted by date specified by Federal Crop Insurance. The cooperator must certify planting date.
- ▶ Cooperator must use a reliable seed variety which has dependable germination and vigor (corn must be 95 day or less variety)
- ▶ The food plot and other access acres will be posted with NDGFD Conservation PLOTS (Private Land Open To Sportsman) signs

Tree Planting Cost-Share Program

The NDGFD Tree Planting Program offers cost-share funds to landowners as an incentive for establishing wildlife tree plantings on private land.

GOAL: To establish and enhance thermal (winter) and forage habitat components for wildlife in locations most likely to benefit and sustain resident wildlife populations.

General Program Guidelines:

- ◆ **WHIP** -Through this program, NDGFD provides cost-sharing for large block plantings. NDGFD is focusing cost-share funds in specific counties identified by the Department Ring-necked Pheasant Strategic Plan.
 - ▶ **25% cost-share** is offered on trees and weed barrier in the counties of Dickey, Divide, Grant, McIntosh, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Richland, Sargent, and Williams.
 - ▶ **25% cost-share** for trees only in other counties-dependent upon county rank within NDGFD habitat development goals and fund availability.
 - ▶ No public access required

- ◆ **CRP (18th Signup)** - Through this program, NDGFD provides cost-sharing for tree and scattered shrub planting on CRP acres open for public access.
 - ▶ **50% cost-share** is offered on trees in the eighteen county priority area of Adams, Burleigh, Dickey, Divide, Dunn, Emmons, Grant, Hettinger, McIntosh, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sargent, Souix, Stark, and Williams.
 - ▶ Cost-share acres **will not exceed 5%** of CRP contract acreage
 - ▶ Landowner must be willing to sign an agreement with Department allowing access for walking hunting from Sept. 1 - April 1 on and to respective CRP acres for the term of the CRP contract (does not pertain to motorized vehicle use, trapping, or any other non-hunting activities). **Minimum 80 acres** access area required.
 - ▶ Tree planting and CRP acres will be posted with NDGFD Conservation PLOTS (Private Land Open To Sportsman) signs

Private Forest Conservation Program

The NDGFD Private Forest Conservation Program provides a multi-year rental payment for maintaining and protecting native woodland habitat on private land.

Goal: To maintain and protect North Dakota's diminishing native forest resource in private ownership and to provide public access to this habitat for the public utilization of the wildlife resource.



General Program Options:

Landowners enroll in the PFCP through a conservation agreement and choose from two forest conservation options:

- ◆ Short term - landowner receives an annual \$10.00 per acre lease payment and has the option to renew annually within a six year contract period.
- ◆ Long term - landowner receives variable annual payments based on forest acreage, land value, and term of conservation agreement. Agreement term ranges from 10 to possibly 30 years. The conservation agreement runs with the land unless the landowner implements the buy-back option. Compensation starts at 35% (10 year agreement) and increases 1.5% each successive year to a maximum 65% (30 year agreement) of the land value.

Cooperators must agree to:

- ◆ Prohibit permanent clearing of the forest
- ◆ Prohibit grazing, forest subdivision, and agricultural use
- ◆ Allow the NDGFD to sign and publicize the tract open to public walking access

Eligibility:

A private landowner having a tract of continuous native forest that would:

- ◆ Abut existing public lands; or
- ◆ Be threatened by present or future conversion to non-forest uses; or
- ◆ Exhibit connective habitats between forested areas

CRP Costsharing Program

The NDGFD CRP Cost-sharing Program offers cost-share funds to landowners for establishing cover on acres enrolled in USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in exchange for public access to these tract acres.

Goal: To assist in the establishment of wildlife habitat on CRP and to provide access to this habitat



General Program Guidelines:

This program provides cost-sharing assistance to qualifying landowners for establishing three wildlife habitat cover types on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres. These are grass, trees/shrubs, and food plots. The guidelines for each cover type are as follows:

Grass Seed Cost-share:

The ND Game and Fish Department (NDGFD) will provide up to 50% cost-sharing on grass seed for **selected** CRP grass plantings. This cost-sharing can be applied to both new and renovation grass seedings to be planted in 1998 - 2000.

To qualify, a landowner must:

- ◆ Have CRP acres in the eighteen county priority area of Adams, Burleigh, Dickey, Divide, Dunn, Emmons, Grant, Hettinger, McIntosh, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sargent, Souix, Stark, and Williams
- ◆ Be willing to sign an agreement with the Department allowing access for walking hunting from Sept. 1 - April 1 on respective CRP and other ownership within the quarter section for the term of their CRP contract (does not pertain to motorized vehicle use, trapping, or any other non-hunting activities).
- ◆ Be willing to limit CRP haying and grazing to only maintenance manipulations specified by NRCS in CRP contract
- ◆ Allow the NDGFD to sign and publicize the tract open to public use

Application deadline to be announced by February 1, 1999.

The Department will select from proposed applications using a ranking system which gives priority to:

1. Size of Tract - greater weight per size
2. Accessibility - greater weight for ease of access by roads/trails

3. Cost Rate - greater weight for cheaper cost per acre ratio
4. Habitat Diversity - greater weight for greater variety of habitat features such as adjacent food supply and winter cover (brush, shrubs, tree plantings, creek bottoms, and cattails)
5. Close Proximity to Other Public Land

Tree and Scatter Shrub Planting Cost-share:

NDGFD will provide 50% cost-sharing for tree and scattered shrub plantings on a maximum of 5% of CRP contract acres in the eighteen county priority area of Adams, Burleigh, Dickey, Divide, Dunn, Emmons, Grant, Hettinger, McIntosh, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sargent, Sioux, Stark, and Williams. Cost-sharing will be restricted to acres enrolled in the 18th sign-up. Assistance includes only the cost of trees not site preparation, chemical application, tree maintenance or weed barrier. To qualify, a landowner must:

- ◆ Be willing to sign an agreement with the Department allowing access for walking hunting from Sept. 1 - April 1 on respective CRP and other ownership within the quarter section for the term of their CRP contract (does not pertain to motorized vehicle use, trapping, or any other non-hunting activities). Minimum 80 acre access area required.
- ◆ Be willing to limit CRP haying and grazing to only maintenance manipulations specified by NRCS in CRP contract.
- ◆ Allow the NDGFD to sign and publicize the tract open to public use

Food Plots Cost-share:

The NDGFD Food Plot Program will provide an annual establishment payment for the planting of agricultural crops left unharvested for a wildlife food source on CRP acres statewide.

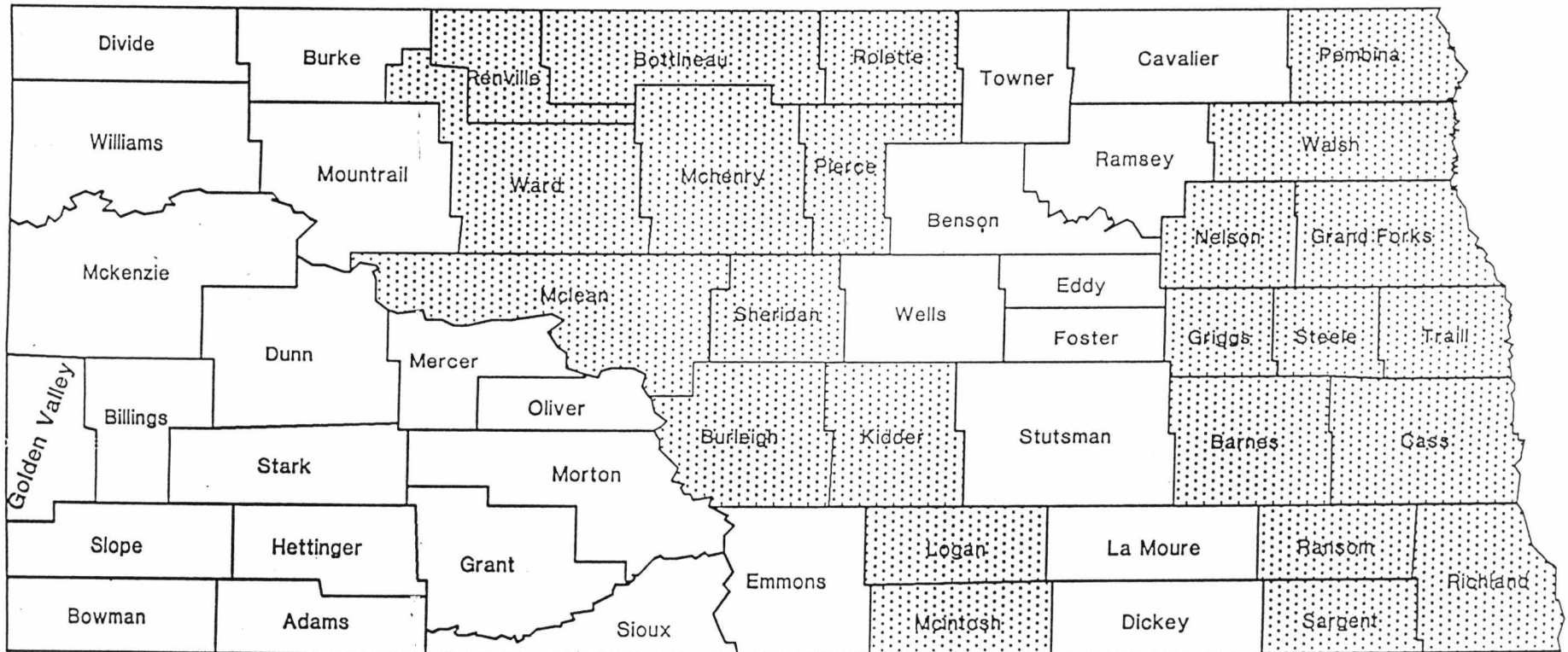
- ◆ Establishment cost-share payment only, **NO rental**
- ◆ \$23/acre for small grains
- ◆ \$38/acre for row crops

To qualify, a landowner must:

- ◆ Be willing to sign an agreement with the Department allowing access for walking hunting from Sept. 1 - April 1 on respective CRP and other ownership within the quarter section for term of the CRP contract (does not pertain to motorized vehicle use, trapping, or any other non-hunting activities).
- ◆ Allow the NDGFD to sign and publicize the tract open to public use

PLI Rental Rates

Regional Distribution



Region 1

II-III	\$20.00
IV	\$13.00
VI-VII	\$7.00

Region 2

II-III	\$22.00
IV	\$14.00
VI-VIII	\$8.00

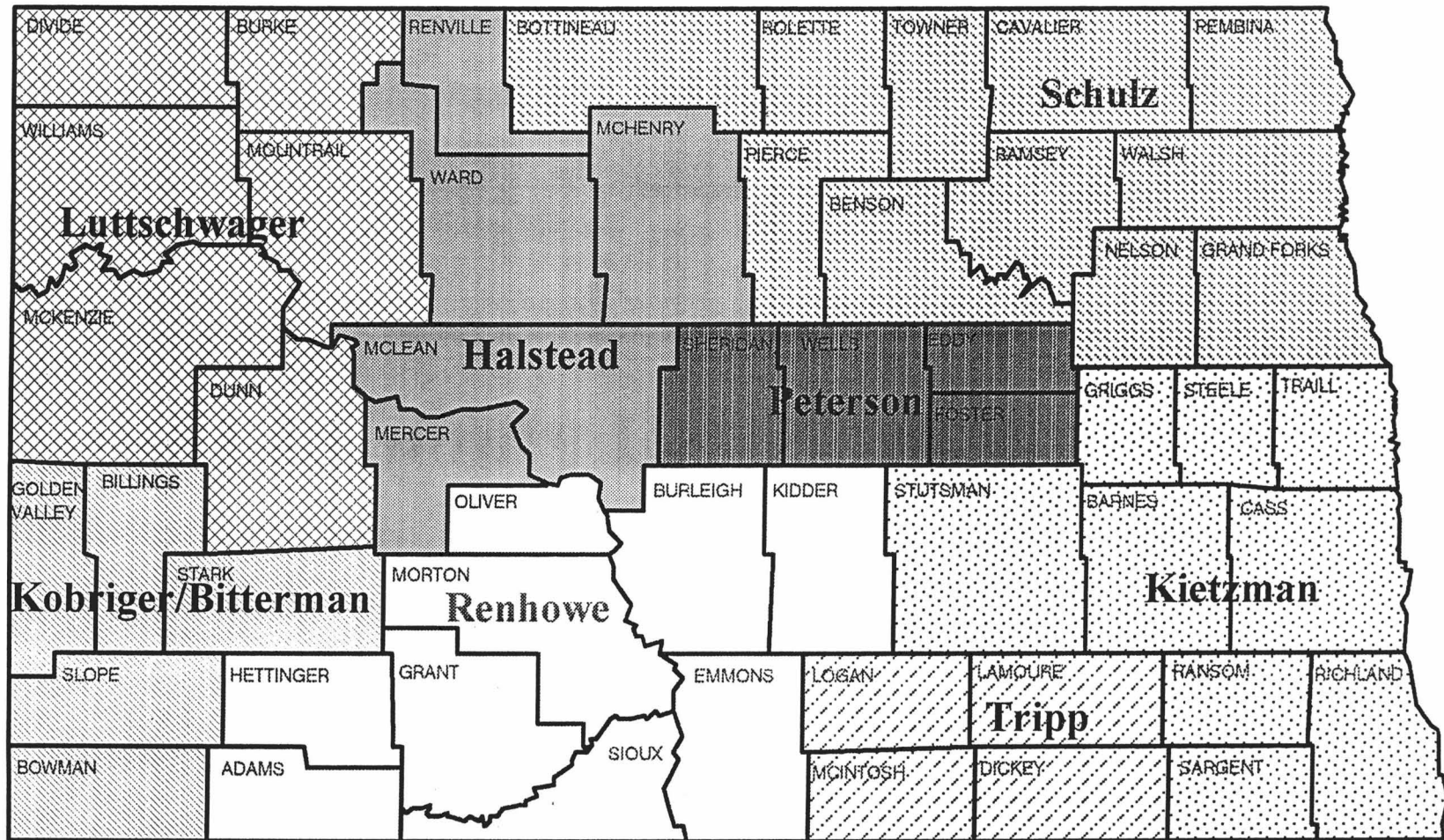
Region 3

I-III	\$25.00
IV	\$16.00
VI-VIII	\$9.00

Region 4

I-II	\$30.00
IV	\$20.00
VI-VII	\$10.00

PLI County Responsibilities



Kent Luttschwager
Williston, ND
774-4320

John Schulz
Devils Lake, ND
662-3617

Scott Peterson
Lonetree
324-2211

Brian Kietzman
Spiritwood
252-4634

Dan Halstead
Riverdale, ND
654-7475

Jerry Kobriger/Bruce Bitterman
Dickinson, ND
227-7431

Bruce Renhowe
Bismarck, ND
328-3344

Lowell Tripp
Oakes, ND
742-2271

STATE WATERBANK AGREEMENTS

1997 Legislative Appropriation - NDGFD Funds

Date Signed	Name	County	Upland/Wetland Ratio	Total Ac.	Annual Pymt	Total Pymt
2/13/98	Clayton Krueger	Towner	47.8/17.5	65.30	\$1,402.65	\$14,026.50
2/13/98	Theodore Matejcek	Walsch	21/7	28.00	\$714.00	\$7,140.00
2/18/98	Grace Peterson	Nelson	15.6/4.4	20.00	\$444.00	\$4,440.00
2/18/98	Melvin Skjerseth	Ramsey	48.8/15.2	64.00	\$1,404.00	\$14,040.00
2/25/98	Ellen Connor	Ramsey	132/28	160.00	\$3,753.00	\$37,530.00
3/10/98	David McDonnell George Murdock	Towner	165.8/52.6	218.40	\$4,780.20	\$47,802.00
3/10/98	Donald Stein	Nelson	76/26.3	102.30	\$2,594.15	\$25,941.50
5/10/98	Royal Raddohl	Towner	219.3/59.7	279.00	\$5,107.00	\$51,070.00
5/15/98	Omar Hager	Nelson	59/15	74.00	\$1,957.00	\$19,570.00
5/15/98	George Eidsness	Ramsey	135/25	160.00	\$3,705.00	\$37,050.00
4/25/98	Wheeler Brothers	Walsch	66/17	83.00	\$2,191.50	\$21,915.00
5/6/98	Solberg Estate	Towner	115.9/30.1	146.00	\$3,020.30	\$30,203.00
5/4/98	Claudette Hogenson	Towner	93.7/31.3	125.00	\$2,718.00	\$27,180.00
6/1/98	Erma Griffin	Benson	121.6/38.4	160.00	\$3,504.00	\$35,040.00
5/15/98	Joseph C. Pesek	Walsh	30.4/9.6	40.00	\$1,028.00	\$10,280.00
5/15/98	Joseph C. Pesek	Walsh	50.4/13.5	63.90	\$1,474.95	\$14,749.50
5/18/98	Terrence Halverson	Ramsey	36/11.7	47.70	\$1,100.85	\$11,008.50
6/8/98	Ellen Connor (20% c/s Water Bank grass seeding)	Ramsey	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$635.30
6/17/98	Florence Honkola	Ramsey	122.5/40	162.50	\$3,543.75	\$35,437.50
5/1/98	Perry Bunde	Nelson	29/15.2	44.20	\$1,248.10	\$12,481.00

10/23/98	Milton Odegard	Ramsey	125/35	160.00	\$3,555.00	\$35,550.00
4/98	Waterbank sign purchase	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$64
9/29/98	Waterbank Sportsman's Handouts (printed 2,500)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$101.25
TOTALS				2,203.30		\$493,840.05

"North Dakota Outdoors"

A weekly television news report on wildlife and the outdoors, produced by the North Dakota Game & Fish Department.

AWARDS

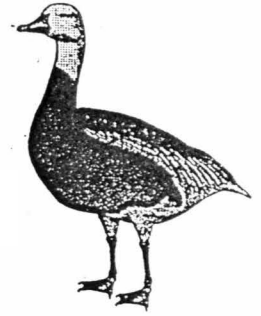
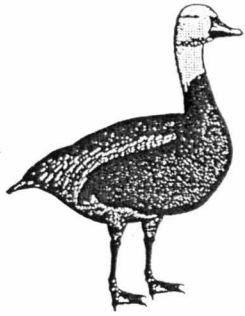
1997

- . **First Place**, ACI (Association for Conservation Information) National Media Competition-- Television News Programs. Program: "The Young Duck Hunter."
- . **Special Merit Award for Photography**, The International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana. Program: "Return of the Wild."
- . **Finalist**, The International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana--Television News Programs. Program: "Pelicans."
- . **Lex Hames, selected as "North Dakota Conservation Communicator of the Year"** by the North Dakota Wildlife Federation.

1998

- . **First Place**, Isaac Walton League of America, Outdoor Ethics Communications Award-- Video News Story. Program: "A Day in the Life Of."
- . **Merit Award**, The North American Outdoor Film/Video Awards. Sponsored by the Outdoor Writers Association of America. Program: "Song of the Loon."
- . **Finalist**, The International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana--Television News Programs. Program: "Song of the Loon."
- . **Finalist**, The International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana--Television News Programs. Program: "Cranes."
- . **Special Merit Award for Sound**, The International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana--Television News Programs. Program: "Song of the Loon."
- . **Lex Hames, Featured Speaker**, the Carnegie Wild Life Film Festival, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Jointly sponsored by the Outdoor Writers of American (OWA) and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History,

SNOW GEESE; TOO MANY!



* The breeding population of snow geese exceeds 5 million birds, an increase of 300% since the 1970s.



* The snow geese are so numerous that they are literally eating themselves out of house and home.



* Snow geese "grub" the tundra vegetation, using their bills to probe below the ground surface and pull up plants by the roots and tubers. The large numbers of geese remove more plants than can regrow or recover and eventually destroy the entire plant community. Without plants, salts in the subsoil move to the surface and create an environment where plants cannot grow.



* Snow goose destruction of the arctic breeding areas also affects habitat for Canada geese, pintails, shovelers, shorebirds, and other birds.



* Approximately 35% of the habitat along the Hudson Bay coastal lowlands has been destroyed. Another 30% has been severely damaged.



* Five factors have contributed to the dramatic increase in snow goose numbers:

- an increase in food supply in the form of waste grain in agricultural fields from the Canadian prairies to the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast,

- an extensive network of federal, state, provincial and private refuges and sanctuaries throughout the flyway,

- the harvest rate for snow geese is declining. They are difficult to hunt and hunters are pursuing other species of waterfowl instead,

- snow geese got a "little help" from the climate; a warming trend in the late 1960s and 1970s allowed above-normal reproduction,

- snow goose populations are increasing because individual birds are living longer than ever before. The average snow goose lives eight years and some may live to be 20. The average goose may produce 24 goslings over its life span.



* There are very few predators in the arctic nesting grounds; Arctic fox, wolves, polar bears, gulls and ravens. Other than hunters, few predators can capture or kill snow geese along their migration paths or on the wintering grounds.

1999 SPRING LIGHT GOOSE HUNTING SEASON SUMMARY

- Only Light geese may be taken. Light geese include snow geese (white and blue phase) and Ross' geese.
- Light geese may be taken statewide.
- All Waterfowl Rest Areas designated for 1998 are open for light goose hunting during this season.
- Season dates are from 13 March 1999-09 May 1999.
- Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- In consideration of the overabundance of the mid-continent snow goose population, and in accordance with the Federal Harvest Framework developed for this situation, there will be no bag or possession limit for light geese during this season.
- Resident hunters can hunt during this season using either a 1998-1999 hunting license or a 1999-2000 hunting license (hunting certificate, small game license, general game and habitat license).
- Non-residents must possess a valid 1999-2000 non-resident small game and waterfowl license, including hunting certificate and general game and habitat license.

14 day restriction and non-resident hunting zones apply to non-resident hunters.
- Federal Waterfowl Stamp is **NOT** required.
- All hunters must register with the Harvest Information Program (HIP). Hunters can register using a toll-free telephone number (888-634-4798).
- Electronic and recorded calls may be used.
- Hunters may have more than 3 shells in their shotgun while hunting during this season.
- Non-toxic shot is required.
- NDGFD will strongly discourage use of vehicles off-trail during the spring hunting season and advise discretion when traveling roads and trails during wet, muddy conditions. Restriction of off-trail motor vehicle use by proclamation was considered, but we received an interpretation from the Attorney General's office that stated Century Code does not permit the restriction of off-road vehicle use for waterfowl hunting.
- This is the first time since 1916 (the date of signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty with Great Britain {for Canada}) that it has been legal to hunt snow geese (any migratory game bird) outside of the 01 September to 10 March framework established by the Treaty. This is allowed now because a recent amendment to the Migratory Bird Treaty allows for the take of migratory birds for "management purposes".

YES, I'm interested in BECOMING AN OUTDOORS-WOMAN IN NORTH DAKOTA

Please send more information on the next workshop, when available, to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

MAIL TO: Nancy Boldt, North Dakota Game & Fish Dept.,
100 N Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Basic Courses Offered:

Intro to Firearms

Basic Fishing Skills

Backpacking

Hiking

Plant Identification

Intro to Bow

Handling & Cooking Game

Nature Photography

Basic Shotgunning

Waterfowl Identification

Canoeing

Survival

Mountain Biking

Fly Fishing

Boating Basics

NATIONAL SPONSORS: American Sportfishing Assoc., Archery Mfg Organization, Bear Archery, Browning, Ducks Unlimited, Federal Cartridge Co., NRA, National Shooting Sports Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, North American Fishing & Hunting Clubs, Orvis Company, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club Int., U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Foundation, Inc., Wildlife for Tomorrow Partners, Wildlife Forever, UWSP College of Nat. Res.

STATE SPONSORS: ND Game & Fish Dept., ND Parks & Rec., ND Tourism, USFW, Blue Stem, Inc., ND Sportfishing Congress, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, L.B. Lane Family Foundation.



becoming an

**outdoors-
Woman**
in **NORTH DAKOTA**



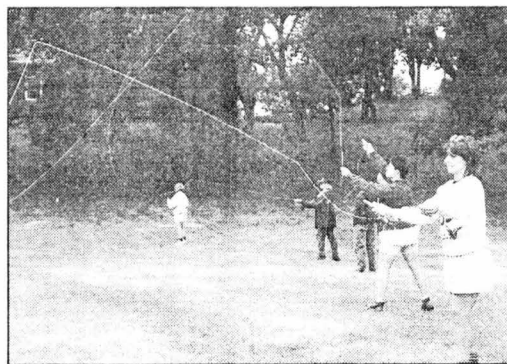
“Becoming An Outdoors-Woman” is a weekend workshop aimed at breaking down traditional barriers that prevent many women from enjoying hunting, fishing, boating and other outdoor activities.

This workshop is for you if...

- *you're a woman 18 years or older who wants hands-on instruction in firearms safety and shooting, fishing techniques, canoeing, archery, orienteering, waterfowl identification.*
- *you have tried these outdoor activities but hoped for an opportunity to learn.*
- *you are a beginner who hopes to improve your skills.*
- *you are proficient at some of these activities but would like to try your hand at new ones.*
- *you are just looking for the camaraderie of like-minded individuals.*

“BECOMING AN OUTDOORS-WOMAN” and the logo are copyrighted by the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point and cannot be used without permission.

The **Becoming an Outdoors-Woman** program was developed by Christine Thomas, a professor of natural resources at the University of Wisconsin's College of Natural Resources. The program is designed to offer hands-on instruction in outdoor skills to women in a relaxed non-intimidating atmosphere.



The workshops offer four sessions for each participant beginning Friday afternoon through Sunday noon including overnight accommodations and meals. The courses relate to natural resources recreation, like canoeing, fishing, shooting, backpacking, waterfowl and plant identification. The hands on experience and a friendly teaching environment are stressed in each class. The workshops, offered with female instructors whenever possible, are aimed at women participants 18 years and older.



If you are interested in registering for the **Becoming An Outdoors-Woman** workshop in North Dakota, detach the application in this brochure and send to **Becoming An Outdoors-Woman**, North Dakota Game & Fish Dept., 100 N Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501. You will receive a complete description of the courses offered and a course registration form. The first 100 registration forms received after the mailings (on a first come - first served basis) will be scheduled to attend the workshop. All others will be kept on alternate mailing list for the current and future workshops. For more information, call 701-328-6312.

The North Dakota Game & Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of service.

After the

Remember, if you have been a guest on another person's property. Make an effort to express your appreciation for the opportunity to hunt the land.

The appreciative, wise hunter might also:

- Let landowners know when you have completed your hunt. The landowner may want to let others hunt on their land.
- Offer to share any game (cleaned) with the landowner.
- Follow up with a token of appreciation such as a gift certificate to a restaurant or perhaps just a card with a handwritten note. (Alcohol does not make a good gift.)

At all times, remember that landowners who give you permission to hunt their property are doing you a favor. It is a privilege that must be earned.

Hunters Enter at Your Own Risk

A landowner who allows persons onto land free of charge for recreational purposes, including hunting, is generally not responsible for or liable to such persons for injuries or damages they might sustain while on the land. For complete details, refer to N.D. statute 53-08.

*Always Ask First
to Hunt on Private Land*



Information Numbers:

To contact a game warden call the **Report All Poachers hotline, 1-800-472-2121.**

To contact North Dakota Game and Fish Department officials weekdays, call:

Bismarck Headquarters: (701)-328-6300
E-Mail: ccmailndgf@ranch.state.nd.us
WWW Home Page: <http://www.state.nd.us/gnf/>

Devils Lake District Office: (701)-662-3617
Dickinson District Office: (701)-227-7431
Lonetree District Office: (701)-324-2211
Riverdale District Office: (701)-654-7475
Jamestown District Office: (701)-252-4681
Williston District Office: (701)-774-4320

24 Hour License Service: 1-800-406-6409

Hunters and anglers can now order North Dakota hunting and fishing licenses, as well as apply for lottery licenses, over the phone. This convenient service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to both residents and nonresidents. All you need is a major credit card, and state hunter education certification number (if born after December 31, 1961).

Service charge for ordering licenses is \$4 for transactions of \$80 or less, and \$10 for transactions of more than \$80. Lottery license applications also carry a \$4 service fee.

100 N. BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY • BISMARCK, ND 58501



NORTH DAKOTA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

HUNTING PRIVATE LAND: *It's a Privilege*



Harold Umber

NORTH DAKOTA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

Hunters and rural private property owners do not always understand each other. Hunters sometimes have difficulty understanding why so much land is posted. Landowners, meanwhile, are baffled that hunters can't understand why land is posted.

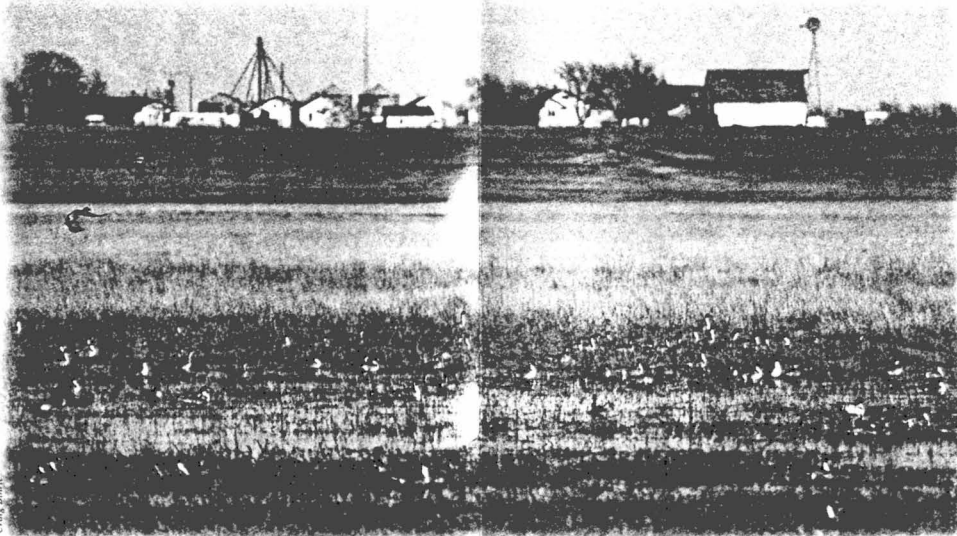
As hunters, however, the responsibility is on us. We need to understand the landowner's situation and point of view. If we fail to do so, we can only expect more private land closed to hunting.

Developing relationships with landowners is accomplished by:

- Understanding how times have changed.
- Trying to view the situation from the landowner's point of view.
- Following safety guidelines before, during and after the hunt.

Understanding How Times Have Changed

It used to be a lot easier to find a place to hunt. But times have changed. Some farmers nowadays spend more time in front of a computer than on a tractor seat. But one thing hasn't changed. The private land you wish to hunt belongs to someone else, just as surely as your car or home belongs to you.



Viewing the Situation from the Landowner's Perspective

It should come as no surprise that when our attention turns to hunting seasons, hunters and landowners might have different reactions.

Hunters might look forward to age-old thrills and values associated with hunting – the splendor of sunrise on a slough, the exhilaration of an approaching buck or tom turkey, or the expression of awe on a youngster's face as a rooster pheasant busts skyward.

Landowners might contemplate gunshots near home and family, tire tracks in fields, suspicious-looking vehicles moving slowly on usually quiet country roads, or trespassers. Landowners, in fact, might dread hunting season because it restricts the use of their own land.

Before the Hunt

The search for permission to hunt private lands should begin months before the hunting season. While you do not legally need permission to hunt unposted land in North Dakota, obtaining permission is always a good idea.

First and foremost, you don't want to interfere with a landowner's plans to hunt. **Second**, someone else may already have permission. **Third**, even though land is not

posted, a landowner can ask you to leave if he doesn't want you there.

The bottom line is this: obtaining permission to hunt posted land is legally required. Obtaining permission to hunt unposted land greatly reduces the potential for conflict between you, the landowner, and/or other hunters. Here's some tips that may make gaining access to private land easier.

- Mark attractive hunting areas on a county or topographic map, and then find out who owns the property. Get permission early.
- Phone the landowner ahead of time to explain who you are and why you are calling. Inquire as to the best time to visit the landowner to discuss your request.
- Keep in mind that in most cases you will be visiting a landowner's place of business. Be polite and friendly, sincere and brief.
- Express your willingness to help with odd jobs, such as hauling hay or mending fences for the landowner in exchange for the privilege of hunting.
- If your request is denied, try to be understanding and remain polite, whether or not the landowner gives you a reason. Your reaction could have an important bearing on their decision should you or someone else ask again.



During the Hunt

Landowners who permit hunting on their land are not only doing you a favor, but are also placing their trust in you. To demonstrate appreciation for the favor, and to prove their trust is not misplaced:

- Respect the landowner's property as you would your own. Don't litter. Carry away litter left by others.
 - Understand clearly where you can and cannot drive or park your vehicle and abide by those restrictions.
 - Leave your name, address, phone number and also make, model and license number of your vehicle with the landowner. Some hunters have found it is well worth their while to have such cards printed up before the season.
 - If you have permission to return, find out if there are certain times or places that you should avoid. Always attempt to let the landowner know where you will be and when.
 - Know the boundaries of the land on which you have permission to hunt and stay within those boundaries.
 - Try to keep the size of your hunting party small and always let the landowner know exactly who else will be hunting with you.
 - Don't crowd other hunters.
- Think before you shoot. Know your target and what is beyond it.

- Don't walk through unharvested crops or hunt near livestock or buildings.
- Leave gates as you find them. Cross fences in a manner that will not break or loosen wires or posts.
- Keep your dog under control, especially when near domestic animals or livestock.
- Do not build or start fires at any time, unless you have specific permission from the owner.
- Do not cut, injure or permanently mark trees with an axe, nails or spike.
- Always OBEY THE LAW.
- Hunt Safe!

Student Comments:

"The course was fun and taught me about how to ask a landowner for a place to hunt."

"I learned as much from the class discussion as I did from the manual."

"The videos showed what the instructor was talking about in real life situations."

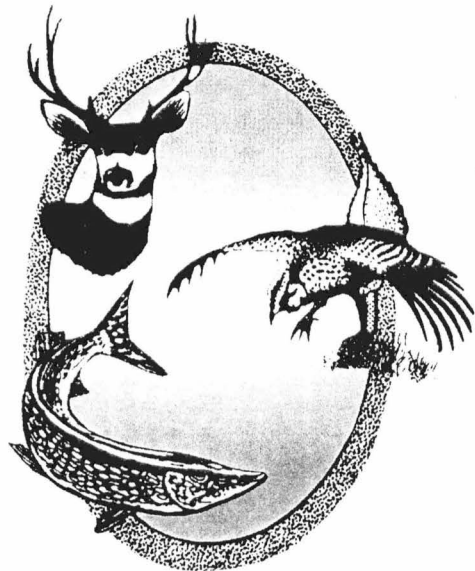
"I've hunted for years and thought I'd learn nothing. Was I ever wrong. It was a humbling experience."

Instructor Comments:

"Teaching the class has given me an opportunity to give something back to the sport I love."

"I enjoy teaching and seeing the glimmer of discovery in the students of all ages."

"The number of young girls and women in the class is increasing and adds another dimension to the course I hadn't thought about."



For further information fill out this form and mail to the North Dakota Game & Fish Department, Hunter Education, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095 or a call 701-328-6312.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Home Tel.: _____

Bus. Tel.: _____

I want to attend the course.

I want to become a volunteer instructor and am at least 18 years of age

Local Instructor

About

HUNTER EDUCATION

IN NORTH DAKOTA

*Responsibility to self, landowners,
ethics and natural resources.*



Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from hunter education programs is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Hunter Education Mission

To improve hunter ethics.

To teach personal safety skills beyond those of basic firearm and bow safety training.

To promote better relations between landowners and hunters.

To increase knowledge of laws and regulations.

To provide for a more enjoyable experience for hunters by helping them learn more about wildlife and habitat.

To encourage true sportsmanship.



Hunter Education Law

Persons born after 1961 must complete a certified course and present the certificate to the license vendor to purchase a hunting license. Certificates from other states or Canada are valid. Exemptions: Persons who hunt only on land they own or operate and persons under 12 years of age (those under 12 may hunt if they have appropriate license and are accompanied by parent or guardian).

Hunter Education History

The course began as an option in the early 1970's. With the passage of law into the Century Code the course became mandatory in 1979. Since that time over 100,000 hunters have been certified by volunteer instructors in most cities in ND. New instructors are always welcome and highly encouraged to participate on an active annual basis. The funding for all the materials and administration comes totally from the excise tax on firearms and ammunition (Pittman Robertson Act) paid by sportsmen.

Hunter Education Course Content

The course consists of at least 14 hours of classroom instruction which includes lectures, demonstrations, discussions, videos, guest speakers and a final exam. The topics include **hunter ethics**, firearm history, rifles, shotguns, handguns, ammunition, gun handling, wildlife management, survival and marksmanship.



Student Involvement

The classes are taught primarily in the first half of the year in most ND cities. A variety of facilities are used as available. There is no or low cost to the student. To find out about the class in your area call your local Game & Fish Office or 701-328-6312. You must be at least 11 years old to attend and be certified.

Instructor Involvement

Instructors for the course are all volunteers and provide their expertise and time free of charge. It is a very exciting and rewarding experience to pursue. Any interest in becoming a member of this special group of sportsmen and sportswomen is highly encouraged. If you are 18 years of age, have hunting experience, have not been convicted of a felony or serious law violation, and have completed an apprenticeship and exam successfully you can become a vital link in North Dakota's Hunter Education and Hunting Heritage. The answer could be you in your community.



NDGF LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Issue 7

February 26, 1999

Names in parentheses indicate sponsor and cosponsor. To leave messages for legislators dial toll-free 1-888-635-3447 or 328-3373 in the Bismarck-Mandan area.

House of Representatives

The House Natural Resources Committee (HNRC) meets Thursdays and Fridays in the Pioneer Room. Members: Mick Grosz, Chairman; Dale Henegar, Vice Chairman; Byron Clark, Duane DeKrey, David Drovdal, Pat Galvin, Lyle Hanson, Scot Kelsh, Deb Lundgren, Jon Martinson, Jon O. Nelson, Darrel D. Nottestad, Todd Porter, Sally M. Sandvig, Dorvan Solberg.

HCR 3055 - (Rep's. Drovdal, Kempenich, Meyer) - Directs legislative council to study extent of and remedies for damage caused private landowners by depreddating big game animals, waterfowl, and turkeys and damage caused to property by hunters. HNRC voted 14-1 do pass on 2/25.

HCR 3066 - (Rep's. Hoffner, Mahoney) - Directs legislative council to study laws governing trapping. HNRC gave it a 9-4 do-not pass recommendation on 2/25.

SB 2019 - (Introduced by appropriations committee at the request of the governor) Appropriates \$30,525,366 for G&F operations from July 1, 1999-June 30, 2001. Passed senate 48-0. House appropriations committee to hear 3/2, 0900.

SB 2091 - (Introduced at G&F dept. request) - Relates to compensation of county auditors for license sales. Auditors currently designate license agents and receive monies from license sales. They are compensated for each license sold and deduct those amounts from monies sent in by vendors. A recent North Dakota Supreme Court decision in a similar case required that monies be sent first to the state treasurer. The G&F dept. would then in turn make out a check for auditors' commissions. Passed senate 44-0. HNRC gave it a 15-0 do-pass recommendation on 2/25.

SB 2247 - (Rep. Henegar; Sen. Christmann) - Would drop requirement for fluorescent orange clothing for muzzleloader deer hunting. Passed senate 27-21. HNRC to hear 3/4, 0900.

SB 2261 - (Sen. Kroeplin; Rep. Carlson) - Would allow nonresidents to apply for deer after the second lottery. Passed senate 49-0. HNRC heard 2/26.

SB 2350 - (Sen. Grindberg; Rep. Meyer) - Adds to definition of guide those who provide pack animals, facilities, camping equipment, vehicle, vessel, or personal service for a person to take game or fish. Requires guide applicants to provide proof of liability insurance, CPR certification, and first-aid certification. Passed senate 44-5. HNRC to hear 3/4, 1030.

SB 2373 - (Sen. Bowman; Rep. Meyer) - Would open big game seasons at dawn instead of at noon. Amended to open season at one-half hour before sunrise. Passed senate 36-11 as amended. HNRC heard 2/26.

Senate

The Senate Natural Resources Committee (SNRC) meets Thursdays and Fridays in the Ft. Lincoln Room. Members: John T. Traynor, Chairman; Tom Fischer, Vice Chairman; Randel Christmann, Layton Freborg, Joel C. Heitkamp, Rolland W. Redlin.

SB 2089 - (Introduced at G&F dept. request) - Would drop requirement that gratis applicants submit a notarized application. Instead, they would only have to submit a signed application. Amended to include an emergency clause. Passed senate 44-0. HNRC amended this bill to include a \$50 nonresident spring light goose license. The license would be good statewide for the entire spring season. Received a 15-0 do-pass recommendation from the committee.

SB 2090 - (Introduced at G&F dept. request) - Would repeal law limiting shotgun shell-holding capacity for taking of game birds. This would allow snow goose hunters to use unplugged shotguns to increase harvest of snow geese whose overabundance threatens its own habitat and that of other species. Amended to include emergency clause. Passed senate 48-1. Passed house 88-4.

SB 2267 - (Sen's. Stenehjem, Christmann, Tomac; Rep's. Grande, Hanson, Henegar) - Creates a special road fund and committee to include a member each from the house and senate transportation and appropriations committees; directors of G&F, state parks and recreation, economic development and finance, and the dept. of transportation. Approximately 60 percent of interest income derived from state highway fund would be directed to the special road fund. Political subdivisions or state agencies could request funds to construct and maintain access roads to and roads within recreational, tourist, and historical areas. Includes an emergency clause. Passed senate 47-0. Sent to house transportation committee. Heard 2/24.

SB 2426 - (Sen. Christmann) - Provides that the operation of sport shooting ranges may not be deemed a nuisance. Contains an emergency clause. Passed senate 25-21. Emergency clause failed. HNRC to hear 3/4, 0900.

HB 1195 - (Rep's. Hoffner, Henegar, Hanson; Sen's Bowman, Mutzenberger, Traynor) - Would lengthen muzzleloader season from seven to nine and one-half days. Passed house 95-0. Passed senate 46-2.

HB 1223 - (Rep's. Nichols, Nelson, Solberg, Drovdal; Sen's Heitkamp, Kinnoin) - Would allow immediate family members holding gratis licenses to hunt each other's lands. HNRC amendments would limit to a 25-mile radius. Passed house as amended, 90-2. SNRC heard 2/26.

HB 1327 - (Rep's. Hanson, Kroeber, Stefanowicz; Sen's. Stenehjem, Thompson, Traynor) - Would repeal fish-house licensing law. Unoccupied ice houses must display owner's name and address or phone number. If left on the ice without these requirements they could be removed or destroyed by G&F dept. Bill introduced at G&F request. Passed house 95-2. SNRC to hear 3/4, 1030.

HB 1410 - (Rep. Carlson) - Would drop requirement that a nonresident buy a small game license to hunt waterfowl. Raises nonresident fees for small game license from \$75 to \$100; fishing from \$25 to \$32; waterfowl from \$10 to \$75; husband-wife fishing from \$35 to \$42; 7-day fishing from \$15 to \$20; 3-day fishing from \$10 to \$15. Would take effect April 1, 2,000. Passed house 72-19. SNRC to hear 3/4, 0930.

HB 1411 - (Rep. Carlson) - Would drop requirement that G&F produce a map book locating public lands in favor of a map locating lands open to hunting through dept. access programs. This would allow the private sector to produce the map book. Passed house 90-0. SNRC to hear 3/4, 0900.

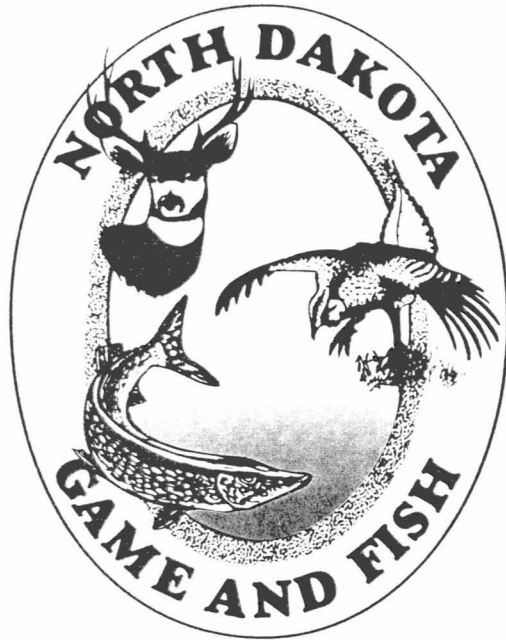
HB 1459 - (Rep's. Metcalf, Clark, Haas, Mueller, Pollert) - Would continue to restrict to specified zones nonresident waterfowlers who choose a 14-day hunting period. A new license authorizing one 7-day period would allow hunting statewide. Passed house 88-3. SNRC heard 2/26.

HCR 3018 - (Rep's. Belter, Carlson, Henegar; Sen's. G. Nelson, B. Stenehjem, Traynor) - Would amend the North Dakota Constitution to include the right to hunt, fish, and trap. Passed house 92-2 and sent to SNRC.

HCR 3021 - (Rep's. Froelich, D. Johnson, Meyer, Renner; Sen. Solberg) - Urges the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service not to list the black-tailed prairie dog as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. Passed house 90-1 and sent to SNRC.

HCR 3047 - (Rep's. Mueller, Metcalf, Hanson; Sen. Holmberg, Robinson, B. Stenehjem) - Expresses support for the privately funded North American wildlife enforcement memorial museum and educational center at the International Peace Garden. Adopted by house and sent to SNRC.

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1998 Conservation PLOTS



NORTH DAKOTA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

WOW

wild outdoor world

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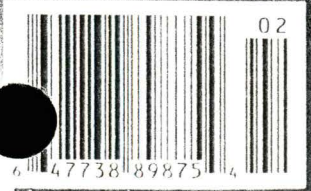
Nine
FREE
Wild Thing
Cards

horned
dinos

frozen
alive

weird ways
of wild rabbits

Howling Again



\$3.50 \$4.50 IN CANADA
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1999

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