

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
01/12/2015

Revised
 Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1177

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2013-2015 Biennium		2015-2017 Biennium		2017-2019 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues				\$(30)		\$(60)
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2013-2015 Biennium	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

A bill for an Act to amend and reenact section 20.1-08-04.8 of the NDCC, relating to a North Dakota chapter of society for range management mule deer license.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

This bill amendment has a minimal negative fiscal impact on our revenue because it is increasing the number of special mule deer licenses available to raffle and auction.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

The proposed bill allows one mule deer license per year to be available to the North Dakota chapter of society to range management for raffle and auction. The effect is a decrease of revenue for \$30 per year. The proposed bill would not have an effect until the 2016 deer lottery due to when the bill would go into effect and timing of the hunting season. Therefore, only 1 year in the 2015-17 biennium will be affected.

- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

None anticipated

C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

None anticipated

Name: Angie Krueger

Agency: ND Game and Fish Dept

Telephone: 328-6306

Date Prepared: 01/14/2015

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01/12/2015

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Date Prepared: 01/14/2015

2015 HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

HB 1177

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1177
1/22/2015
22392

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to a North Dakota chapter of society for range management mule deer license.

Minutes:

Attachments #2

Chairman Porter opens hearing.

In Support:

Representative Keith Kempenich, District 39

This bill is brought to you by North Dakota Chapter Society for Range Management. It's looking to garner one mule deer permit for fund raising activities for the society. I think it's relevant to the issue of management of our wildlife population. I think it's relative to what we are trying to accomplish in our deer population.

Rep. Mike Nathe: Isn't this something that Game and Fish can do or do they need legislation in order to do something like this?

Chairman Porter: We need legislation to give them the authorization to give a tag to this group.

Rep. Bill Devlin: Representative Kempenich can you give me a brief explanation of North Dakota Chapter Society of Range Management, who are they and what do they do, exactly?

Representative Kempenich: They are members of NRCS, they are members colleges, etc. Their purpose is to go out and look at species of grasses on the range. Their goal is to have a sustainable range. They are aimed at livestock grazing and wildlife management.

Miranda Meehan, Natural Resource Specialist at Carlson McCain, past president of the ND Society for Range Management and current member of ND Society for Range Management executive committee (Testimony #1)

You previously asked what the Society for Range Management does. The Society for Range Management is a Society that is dedicated to support people that work with

rangelands and manage those rangelands. The society is committed to promoting sustainable use of those ecosystems. We are dedicated to conservation and sustainable management of rangelands to benefit our current and future societies and generations. There is a common misconception that we target only grasslands and grazing management, but we look at the whole ecosystem. We look at livestock production, grasslands, shrub communities, wetlands, and habitat management for livestock and wildlife. Our mission is to provide for the Stewardship of rangelands based on sound ecological principles.

Rep. George Keiser: Reading the actual Bill, on page 7, it says, "to be used for range management through education and related projects." It's really through education, the related projects are all education in nature, is that correct?

Meehan: The Bill still addresses the mule deer foundation and that's their projects, their end of the funds goes for projects. The societies funds would be targeted more at education than projects.

Rep. Naomi Muscha: Could you expand on the youth camps, please?

Meehan: The North Dakota Range Youth Camp is sponsored primarily by extension, but it's through the Society for Range Management also. It's held every year in Amidon. I attended and that's how I chose my career in Natural Resources. It's targeted at youth from ages 13 to 18. It teaches them grazing management practices; how to set up a grazing management plan, different grass species, how to promote the growth of native grass species, and use keystone wildlife species to look at the quality of that ecosystem. Bringing together those components and how the ecology of different sites across the landscape interacts and how to manage those.

Sarah Flath, President of North Dakota Chapter of the Society for Range Management

I also attended the youth range camp and that led to my decision to follow a path in environmental sciences. I would emphasize that any influence that we can have on the health and management of the rangeland will have direct influence on the mule populations in this state. As we know wildlife health, wildlife populations are greatly influenced by the availability and quality of the habitat in our state. Throughout North Dakota, United States, the world there has been a pattern of a loss of acres of rangeland and degradation of those acres. So if we can focus and emphasize educate the public, educate managers in order to slow or stop that degradation, that trend that would have a huge influence on the wildlife populations in the state as well. A further event, in addition to the three that Miranda listed, we also co-sponsored the North Dakota Reclamation Conference. In addition to outreach towards producers and youth, we also reach those in the energy industry, consultants, and other agencies. The goal is to educate on the reclamation and the restoration of rangeland, when it is impacted negatively by development in our state. Although, this bill only makes available to us one license, we feel that one license can have a huge impact. Because, through those four events that we described, we reach and educate hundreds of people in our state every year.

Rep. Bob Hunskor: We live in a world of technology, math, and science. I'm on the education committee and we hear about doing things to move them in that direction, and here we are talking about youth and grass. I'm wondering what is the number of people that attend your summer camp? How many kids?

Plath: It really varies year to year. There were years, when I attended it was in the 20s or 30s. There have been numbers other years that have been less than ten or in the teens. Interest has fluctuated, as in any other topic, I'm sure it's also impacted by our ability to reach out to organizations, to try to peak their interest in it. That would be one thing that our organization can do with these funds, is to further out reach.

Rep. Mike Nathe: This is a fund raising bill, it's just one license. How are you funded and how do you go about fund raising?

Plath: The primary source of our income has been registration from some of the youth events. We do ask for sponsorship to help defray some costs to host these events. A lot of what we are able to do, the level of material we are able to provide; printed copies, things like that, are impacted by what funds we have available. We've discussed at the Range Management School, it would be wonderful if we could provide each producer with a binder that they can take home with them, of reference material that they've learned about during the week. In the past we haven't done that, We mostly rely on volunteerism and sponsorship. That's why I feel that this fundraising opportunity could have a very large impact.

Rep. Mike Nathe: Do the producers contribute quite a bit?

Plath: Regarding financing?

Rep. Glen Froseth: Yes, funding and that kind of stuff.

Plath: Very little. We try to make their participation so that it's not financially prohibitive. Because many producers, in order to attend these events, are already having to leave their ranch for at least a day and travel time, we make our registration fees as low as possible. That's why we try to pursue sponsorship.

Rep. Glen Froseth: Is the Society for Range Management a charitable organization, being you're going to have a raffle and auction?

Plath: We are a non-profit.

Rep. Glen Froseth: Do you have a fund raising event?

Plath: We don't have any fund raising events other than a silent auction at our annual meeting. To give an idea of scale, the types of things that are contributed are: zucchini, a jar of pickles, pressed native grass species. Our attendance is not huge, the items don't go for an exorbitant amount. We're mainly scientists, agency representatives, educators; we don't spend much time on fund raising. This is something we are trying to expand on.

Opposition:

David J Munsch:

I live in Morton County, I'm a small land owner. I'm one of few people that have some mule, deer habitat. These studies have been done by other states, we don't need to be giving a deer license away so that these guys can raffle it off. With the technology that we have, these programs are all in there. The grass is diminishing out there. Same thing with the Bakken it's getting harder to keep that land out of crop production. MY taxes keep going up. I own half of what the family used to own, when I'm gone it's most likely going to get all broken up. There many mule deer killed between here and about 20 clicks west of here. My wife and I saw 10 mule deer on the drive up here a few weeks ago. A week and half later we drove up again and one was laying in median, someone ran over it. Another mule deer was killed on HWY 147. Usually, there's about five killed there. The main thing that's taking these mule deer out right now is the automobile. The Bakken traffic on the interstate has about decimated the deer herd between here and Sweet Briar Lake. In Montana they have built fences, by Miles City to keep the antelope and deer from crossing, they force them down to an underpass. I haven't gotten a tag in five years, and I like to hunt mule deer. We don't need to give these tags away for this and that.

Kurt Decker: Sportsman from Dickenson area

I'm in opposition to this bill for a number of reasons. I've got four points. Like Rep. Mike Nathe said it's only one tag, but you have thousands of sportsmen fighting for that one tag, waiting and waiting. I think there's a better opportunity for the group to tie it back to agriculture. If we look at this Society for Range Management, it's tied more to agriculture. There are other opportunities out there; you have state research centers raising cattle, sheep, and pork. Why not create a raffle, go to those entities to get a beef raised in North Dakota. Get a couple beef, a couple pork, a couple sheep and you get a broader base of the public, you get more money back to this raffle. But to go and just take one license and it's not one license. It's a lot of people, year after year, if you allow this group to come in get a tag, where does it stop? You get baseball groups, hockey boosters, You've got to quit dipping into the well, you've got a very limited resource here in this state. It's a limited resource, we have to watch it closely. We can't just keep handing these tags out. If they go into it as a general raffle I don't have any problem, one way or the other. But if they auction it off than your knocking the average guy right off the podium. We can't afford to go after an auction tag that goes for thousands of dollars. If all the proceeds, such as the big horn sheep tag, that's auctioned off every year, that's 40,000 to 60,000 dollars that goes right back to research for big horn sheep, here in the state. Looking at this bill, it says it's going to stay in the state, but this group is tied into 21 chapters in the nation. Is that money staying in the state? It says it does, but indirectly where is it going to be going? There's a better opportunity out there to promote agriculture. Tie it together with rangeland; tie it with stockman's association, grain growers. You could all work as a group for the raffle, other than using a deer tag. Promote beef, pork, lamb.

Mike Donahue, North Dakota Wildlife Federation

I say "Ditto" to what Mr. Decker said.

Rep. George Keiser: Would Game and Fish come up and give us an overview of how many different tags currently are available and to what groups?

Scott Peterson, Deputy Director of North Dakota Game and Fish (Written testimony #2)
We prepared this list in response to HB1081, this is the list as it currently stands.

Chairman Porter closes hearing.

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Pioneer Room, State Capitol

1177
1/22/2015
22399

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to a North Dakota chapter of society for range management mule deer license.

Minutes:

Attachments #0

Chairman Porter opens hearing.

Rep. George Keiser: I move to do not pass.

Rep. Curt Hofstad: Second.

Chairman Porter: Discussion?

Rep. George Keiser: **We get a lot of requests.** Personally, I have a problem because of the limited scope of the group. I applaud everything they do. I think it's going too far for these deer licenses and I think that there should be a more direct link to the benefit of the species involved. In the case of mule deer, it should be habitat directly affecting that population. For those reasons I move to do not pass.

Chairman Porter: I think that from a legislative standpoint we've already done this by partnering with the mule deer foundation. That is their mission, that species is there mission. I think we've already done that.

Chairman Porter: Further discussion on a motion to do not pass HB1177?

Rep. Naomi Muscha: Carrier

Chairman Porter: Clerk will call a roll for do not pass on HB1177.

Vote: Yes 12, No 0, Absent 1.

Chairman Porter: Motion carries on a do not pass.

Date: 1/22/2015
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
 ROLL CALL VOTES
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1177**

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: N/A

- Recommendation: Adopt Amendment
 Do Pass Do Not Pass Without Committee Recommendation
 As Amended Rerefer to Appropriations
 Place on Consent Calendar
 Other Actions: Reconsider _____

Motion Made By Rep. Keiser Seconded By Rep Hofstad

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Porter	✓		Rep Hunskor	✓	
Vice Chairman Damschen	✓		Rep Mock		A
Rep D Anderson	✓		Rep Muscha	✓	
Rep Brabandt	✓				
Rep Devlin	✓				
Rep Froseth	✓				
Rep Hofstad	✓				
Rep Keiser	✓				
Rep Lefor	✓				
Rep Nathe	✓				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep Muscha

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1177: Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Porter, Chairman)
recommends **DO NOT PASS** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
HB 1177 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2015 TESTIMONY

HB 1177

- Hearing of House Energy & Natural Resources Committee
- Chairman - Todd Porter
- Pioneer Room

SRM

Vision: well-trained & highly motivated group of professionals & rangelands users working w/ productive, sustainable rangelands ecosystems.

Mission: Providing leadership for the stewardship of Rangelands based on sound ecological principles.

SRM: Prof. Society dedicated to supporting persons who work w/ rangelands & have a commitment to sustainable use.

~~Dedicated to the sustainable use of rangelands~~

Dedicated to the conservation & sustainable management of rangelands for the benefit of current societies & future generations

Focus → Ag, Wildlife, Conservation & Stewardship

Education

- ↳ ND Range Management School - geared to producers & ~~land managers~~ ^{land managers}
- ↳ ND Youth Range Camp -
- ↳ ND Reclamation Workshop -
- ↳ Fall Symposium

A vote for this bill is a vote to promote ecologically sound management of rangelands & wildlife management

Signature

1

Date

1/22/2015
HB 1177

Scott Peterson Testimony # 2

North Dakota Game and Fish Department Special Allocation Licenses 2014

Available:

- *1 spring Turkey to National Wild Turkey Federation for auction or raffle (NDCC 20.1-04-07)
- *1 Bighorn Sheep to Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (MN-WI Ch.) auction (NDCC 20.1-08-04.1)
- *1 Moose to Wildlife Enforcement Museum raffle (NDCC 20.1-08-04.2)
- *1 Elk to Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation raffle (NDCC 20.1-08-04.6)
- *1 Mule Deer license to Mule Deer Foundation raffle (NDCC 20.1-08-4.7)
- *1 Pronghorn to ND Hunter Educators Assoc. raffle (NDCC 20.1-08-04.12)
- *Up to 4 "any deer" and 6 "any whitetail" licenses to Injured Military Wildlife Project (NDCC 20.1-02-04 (15))
- *Up to 8 deer and 4 pronghorn to terminally ill children (NDCC 20.1-08-04.13) ^{HB} ~~2/081~~ would change these #'s.
- *Limited number of "any deer" permits within boundaries of Camp Grafton to disabled Veterans

Issued 2014:

- *4 any deer and 2 any whitetail to Injured Military Wildlife Project
- *3 to terminally ill children