

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
01/16/2017

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2259

- 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.*

	2015-2017 Biennium		2017-2019 Biennium		2019-2021 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues				\$525,000		\$525,000
Expenditures				\$30,000		\$0
Appropriations				\$30,000		\$0

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

	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium	2019-2021 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).*

The bill amends 2 sections of the NDCC relating to nonresident(NR) waterfowl hunting license fees.

- 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.*

The proposed bill is adding 3 periods of four consecutive days for NR waterfowl hunting for \$200 and providing \$50 of the fee to Private Land Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) program.

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.*

There are approx. 6,000 NR waterfowl hunters that made multiple trips last season. If we assume 50% (3,000 hunters) of them will choose to purchase the proposed 3 periods of four consecutive days and if 25% (750 hunters) choose to hunt statewide and 75% (2,250 hunters) choose to hunt zoned, the net result would be an increase revenue of \$262,500/year. [(750 x \$50) + (2,250 x \$100)] Total for biennium \$525,000. This proposed amendment would give the PLOTS program an additional \$10 per hunter (\$50 - \$40). Based on the above, PLOTS would receive an additional \$30,000/year (3,000 x \$10). Total for biennium \$60,000.

- 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.*

IT programming costs are estimated at \$30,000. We have to change programming to allow for another date range (3 four day periods). There would be some significant programming to make this happen.

- 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.*

Increase operating expenditures for \$30,000.

Name: Kim Kary

Agency: ND Game and Fish Dept

Telephone: 328-6605

Date Prepared: 01/24/2017

2017 SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SB 2259

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2259
1/26/2017
Job # 27433

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution: Relating to nonresident waterfowl hunting licenses.

Minutes:

Attch#1=MichaelMcEnroe,Arrch#2=JebWilliams,
Attch#3= Mark Mazaheri (email to committee)

Chairwoman Unruh: Call the committee to order and open hearing on SB2259. Attendance was taken. All committee members present. Any testimony for SB 2259?

Sen Klein: This was an issue that came before the groups that meet around the state when they have their hunting concerns. Someone brought up the fact that we have dogs, and we train dogs, and we come to ND. But we do not have the dogs all week. We do not do the seven days. If we had an opportunity to break the time up a little and have an opportunity to spend more time that would be great. I do not know how excited they are about the \$200 fee, but we have an opportunity here have three 4-day periods and that license would be \$200. \$50 of the fee would go to the PLOTS program.

Sen. Armstrong :(2.20) You get more flexibility in the 12 days, but less days and charge them more money? Why?

Sen Klein: I have other bills in the past and have bills that provide for 15 days which implies an extra day. My thought was to cut them back. If they really want to come to ND, they will pay the \$200. My thought is tourism and bringing people to the state. They will buy groceries, hang out in the bars, and pay for motel rooms and cafes.

Chairwoman Unruh: Thank you. Any more in favor? Any testimony against?

Foster R. Hager, Cass County Wildlife, Washburn, ND: I am here against SB2259. I heard this last session almost verbatim. The bill last session was killed. Now it is three 4-day. I will bet that next session, if this fails, it will be four 3-day period in the bill. SB 2259 gives three weekends to hunt. The high school boys and guys that work during the week have to compete with the non-resident. The Wildlife Club asks for do not pass. (9.06)

Chairwoman Unruh: Any more opposed to SB2259?

Gary Masching, Bismarck, ND: (9.36) I support what Foster just said. I am against SB 2259. I encourage you all to think of the resource, think of the resident hunters and again we are continuing to lose habitat at an alarming rate. Wetlands are being drained and now you want to put more pressure on the resource. Think of that and conversation before you make your decision.

Chairwoman Unruh: Any more opposed?

Michael McEnroe, ND Wildlife Federation: (see attch#1) We oppose this bill.

Chairwoman Unruh: Further opposing testimony? Any agency testimony?

Jeb Williams, ND Game and Fish Dept.: (12.50) (see Attch#2) I have included some of the stats. Around 6,000 non-resident hunters are making multiple trips to ND. We do not want competition with ND resident hunters. You do not see busloads of people here for this bill to discuss non-resident issues. In the past, this has been the case.

Sen. Armstrong: (13.30) There is really no way to tell how many days this would add, is there until it would go in to effect? We are selling 14-day licenses now and they average 5 days.

Jeb: (14.0) You are correct. It would be a guess. With some assumptions, is that Sen Kein was talking about Canadian geese and some problems. We address that with early goose season. There are no non-resident restrictions for that 5-week period. This cost \$50. Hard to tell unless this is passed and visit two years from now.

Chairwoman Unruh: Further questions? We will close the hearing on SB2259.

(see Attch#3 – an email sent to committee.)

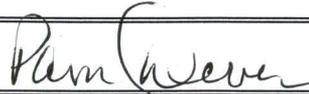
2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB2259
1/26/2017
Job #27491

- Subcommittee
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



**Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:
Relating to nonresident waterfowl hunting licenses.**

Minutes:

Chairwoman Unruh : Let's move on to SB2259 which is from this morning. Committee members, I have seen this bill every session I have been here. I voted yes one time, and no another. I may support it, now.

Sen. Schaible: I agree. I am a bit concerned about the three weekends. But it is minor enough. They are paying more to get less days. It gives them more flexibility. If it is competition for land, that will be there no matter when they do it.

Sen. Armstrong : (1.22) I absolutely agree with Sen. Schaible. I called one of my buddies who is hard core duck hunter, and got yelled at for 5 minutes. When you use to have a hunting/fishing bill in this body, you had to get the Bryn Haugland room because so many people showed up. If we pass it along, it may need that room after crossover. This stuff has been pretty quiet. We have struck some kind of balance between instate and out-of-state hunters and how we deal with these things. Not sure what we are solving with this bill.

Sen. Cook : (3.07) I agree with him. I do not think it matter what we do with this bill. Some version of this bill will be back next session.

Sen. Roers : The economic impact is a real thing. It brings some revenue to a community. (he gave an e.g. from Gackle, ND). I support Sen. Schaible position.

Vice Chair Kreun : I move a DO PASS on SB 2259. **Sen. Roers** : I second.

Chairwoman Unruh: Any discussion. None. Roll was taken: YES 4 NO 3 -0- Ab

DO PASS on SB 2259 **Sen. Roers** will carry the will.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2259: Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Unruh, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (4 YEAS, 3 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
SB 2259 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2017 HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SB 2259

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Coteau –A Room, State Capitol

SB 2259

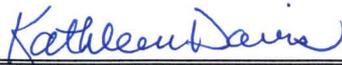
3/2/2017

28605

Subcommittee

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to nonresident waterfowl hunting licenses

Minutes:

Attachment #1

Chairman Porter: called the hearing to order on SB 2259.

Sen. Jerry Klein: This was an idea that came about during discussions as advisory committees went around. Game and Fish had some folks suggested by hunters heavily involved hunting with dogs. They found the 14 day or two 7's was hard on the dogs. They would like to rest their dogs. Reducing the amount of days they can hunt but increasing the fee. The fee was chosen at Random. Mackintosh County where I still have land we appreciate the PLOTS program. This is a combination opportunity to spend a little more time here with their dogs, training their dogs. There are a lots of folks working with their pets. It does have some fiscal revenue. Some 3000 people might buy this. It might take 2 days off their hunting abilities. Where I live we are in the fly way and develop relationships with the hunters and hope to maintain or improve on.

Chairman Porter further support? Opposition?

4:14

Foster Ray Hager, Cass County Wildlife Club. Opposed for several reasons. 24,000 waterfowl nonresident hunters that come now for 7 or 14 days. They can pick two 7 days, or straight 14 days. We have 1900 crane hunters and 900 swan hunters from out of state. We oppose this because it's a boil for weekend hunters. This is a bill for the weekend hunters. If we pass this bill it gives the nonresidents 3 weekends to come and hunt. The ND resident or school kids are battling the nonresidents for the pothole. The nonresidents are starting to lease land where you used to go and hunt, you can't hunt anymore. Think of the youth, they play football Friday night, and then Saturday and Sunday they're battling the nonresidents. We would appreciate a no vote.

Rep. Keiser: I understand your argument about youth and people who work 5 days a week. The small rural communities can utilize this to increase their hotel use, restaurant and other

sales in their community. That's important. If we were to leave this 3 period option in would your group support if it had a later delay into the season before it started? So our local folks would have the priority to hunt in the early weeks?

Hager: I go back to hunting north of Medina in 1946. My dad always said the number of ducks shot in November in ND on the average, the pothole area freezes up, so these three weekends, really it affects the working man. I understand the small town. Where does it stop? We have the best waterfowl state of all the states. 24,000 people come here to hunt. What about the youth and working guy?

Rep. Anderson: I've lived in the country my whole life. Now the Canadian Geese have gotten to be a pest. It's getting to be a problem. They're eating soybeans in the spring and corn. I very seldom see a goose hunter in the fall anymore. I think nonresident hunters are here for pheasants only.

Hager: Where do you live?

Rep. Anderson: Between Bottineau and Rugby.

Hager: There is an early fall goose season. Which the nonresidents hunt and don't county against your 14 or 7 days. You can get a permit to take care of the Canadian Geese or the nests if they're causing a problem, talk to the Game and Fish.

Rep. Roers Jones: Would it make a difference to you if there was an amendment to limiting some of the 3-day time periods to weekdays rather than weekends? Would you be in favor of that?

Hager: My club would not be. Many members of our club that hunt north of Steele area, Cherry Lake area for Sandhill crane and geese. There's a problem with non-resident hunters. They're buying up, leasing, they have deep pockets. There's no place to hunt in some of those areas. They have 7 or 14 days. No matter which 7 or 14 days you pick, you can only get 2 weekends. So we come up with this bill which failed last session, now we're going to go 3 weekends. We have to compete with them because it's the weekends.

Chairman Porter: opposition? Mr. Peterson, if you could go through that letter.

Scott Peterson, ND Deputy Direction at the ND Game and Fish: Attachment #1 There's a lot of numbers. Currently nonresidents can choose 14 consecutive days or split it out in two 7 day periods. ND residents currently average 5.1 days of waterfowl hunting days in ND. Most are not taking advantage of the 7 days. 6000 or 20%-25% of nonresident waterfowl hunters currently make multiple trips to ND. We currently sell 23,500 nonresident waterfowl licenses. Resident hunters do harvest more waterfowl in ND than nonresident.

Rep. Keiser: You've seen the rates of the license fees. How do we compare to other states for nonresident waterfowl?

Peterson: I don't have them in front of me. I think it would be fair to say we're not out of line with the cost of the license compared to surrounding states. There's a reason why we get a

fair number of nonresident waterfowl hunters in ND. We're still one of the best games in town when it comes to waterfowl hunting. I think it's fair to say we're not out of line.

Chairman Porter: Since we have a large number of people who haven't been on this committee and dealt with this issue in the past and a number of us have. We get compared at times to other states we touch. SD being right in the heart of our central flyway is one. How do they handle our residents in regards to waterfowl and the MN residents in regards to waterfowl hunting in their state?

Peterson: There are limitations on nonresidents in SD. I don't know the exact restrictions off hand. There was a bill introduced last session that would have allowed three 5 day periods and was defeated. The one thing I remember from that that still rings true, some will remember the days when nonresident waterfowl hunting and license numbers can get very contentious in ND. Our water fowl hunters are very very provincial when it comes to waterfowl hunting. At one time we put a cap on the number of waterfowl hunting licenses we could sell at 30,000 licenses. That was the year we also sold the most nonresident waterfowl hunting licenses. Some of you will remember the busloads of people that came in. The department is not on record of supporting or opposing this. It probably bears stating we feel like we've found a good balance in the last several years.

Chairman Porter: Can you get us the SD restrictions? They're highly restrictive how many nonresident hunters for waterfowl like to the tune of 4500 per year. It's for the very reason Mr. Hager got up and testified the MN resident was overflowing. The other thing the committee needs to get back to, Rep. Hansen may be able to get us the answer to the issue of how this all came in to play when all of the land was leased up for hunting and there was no access. The legislature started looking at this and said, you can't have all these nonresidents buy up and lease all this land and basically locking down this whole prairie pothole area for hunting and then the farmers and ranchers tell us they have depredation problems.

20:30 Peterson: 3 zones set up in ND. You're right, that's why the zones were set up.

Rep. Anderson: would it be difficult to put those three 4 day periods in the middle of the week, give them the option of either taking 2 weeks or putting it in the middle of the week.

Peterson: I don't believe that would be difficult to put that in place.

Past Rep. Lyle Hanson, Jamestown: SD kept everyone out that were nonresidents because they were leasing too much land, etc. We had the same problem. I put the original bill in limiting nonresidents to different areas or zones. We still have 5-6 zones.

Chairman Porter: Any questions for Mr. Hanson? Welcome back to your old committee. You were the driving force on all the Game and Fish issues for many many years.

Hanson: I was here for 34 consecutive sessions so I know a little bit of history of wildlife.

Chairman Porter: Closed the hearing since there was no further testimony.

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Coteau –A Room, State Capitol

SB 2259

3/2/2017

28634

Subcommittee

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Kathleen Davis

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to nonresident waterfowl hunting licenses

Minutes:

Chairman Porter: Called the committee to order on SB 2259. Over the years there was a whole entire bill that set the numbers based on the previous numbers and percentages. It was complicated and an emotional issue. We dealt with a lot of those issues in the early mid 2000's and got to the point where I knew we had struck the perfect compromise because both sides we're still unhappy. We also started tracking that the vast majority of the hunters aren't even using the full 14 days they have now. You're talking about a small group that want full access to three full weekends of hunting which in a lot of years, is our entire season because all the potholes are basically cover up. SD does in fact restrict down to 4500. The MN duck hunter doesn't go into SD, they really only have ND to go to. We had a lot of hearings and neither side likes it. The other issue is if you take this scab off and do this, you can bet next session, we'll be sitting here with rooms full of people that are going to want their little piece now too. That's where we've drawn the line in the sand and said no. Both sides are unhappy and we're going to let it go.

Rep. Lefor: I'm inclined to agree with you because some of the statements made during testimony that the nonresident hunters an average of 5 days, that we have 24,000 nonresident waterfowl licenses. Compare that to SD and I think that we do want to have a balance between residents and nonresidents. I agree I think we do have that right now.

Vice Chairman Damschen: I look at it differently. I don't think we have a lot of local duck or goose hunters. It seems like there isn't much competition or control of the waterfowl there because it's only out of state people that come. This would actually allow 2 less days and the possibility of three weekends. I signed on that it's either this or the one that makes the tourism slogan stay out. So I opted for this one instead. I'll still support this.

Rep. Seibel: I move for a Do Not Pass on SB 2259. I don't want to take the weekends away from our young hunters, the only time they can hunt. I think the balance is working and stay the way it is.

Rep. Heinert: Second

Chairman Porter: I have a motion for a Do Not Pass on SB 2259 from Rep. Seibel and a second from Rep. Heinert. Is there discussion? Seeing none the clerk will call the roll on a Do Not Pass

Yes 10 No 2 Absent 2 Motion carries. Rep. Mitskog is the carrier.

Date: 3-2-17

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2259

House Energy & Natural Resources Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: _____

Recommendation

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

Other Actions

Motion Made By Rep. Seibel Seconded By Rep. Heinert

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Porter	✓		Rep. Lefor	✓	
Vice Chairman Damschen		✓	Rep. Marschall	✓	
Rep. Anderson		✓	Rep. Roers Jones	✓	
Rep. Bosch	✓		Rep. Ruby	✓	
Rep. Devlin	✓		Rep. Seibel	✓	
Rep. Heinert	✓				
Rep. Keiser	AB		Rep. Mitskog	✓	
			Rep. Mock	AB	

Total (Yes) 10 No 2

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Rep. Mitskog

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2259: Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Porter, Chairman)
recommends **DO NOT PASS** (10 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
SB 2259 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2017 TESTIMONY

SB 2259

North Dakota Wildlife Federation

Ensuring abundant wildlife, wildlife habitat, and access to wildlife recreational opportunities



TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL McENROE
NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
SENATE BILL 2259
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
JANUARY 26, 2017

Chairman Unruh and Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

For the record, I am Mike McEnroe and I am representing the North Dakota Wildlife Federation. The Federation has 1,400 members in eighteen affiliated clubs and organizations across the State.

The Wildlife Federation has had a long history of opposing additional hunting licenses or less restricted licenses for non-resident hunters. SB 2259 proposes to change the current non-resident waterfowl license to allow either two-seven day periods (14 days) or three-four day periods (12 days). This essentially allows a third weekend period for non-residents.

Data provided from the Game and Fish Department indicate that of the approximately 24,000 non-resident waterfowl hunters approximately 6,000, or 25 percent return for the second seven-day period. We expect that even fewer would return for a third period. The average non-resident waterfowl hunter spends 5 days hunting in North Dakota. There does not seem to be a demand or need for SB 2259.



We request a Do Not Pass vote on SB 2259. Thank you.

I would stand for any questions the Committee may have.

SB 2259
1-26-17
Atch # 1
pg 2

Jeb Williams

SR 2259
1-26-17

Att #
pg 1

65th LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee
Senator Jessica Unruh, Chair

Senate Bill 2227/2259 - Relating to non-resident waterfowl hunting

9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 26, 2017

Testimony Submitted by: Jeb Williams, Wildlife Division Chief
North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Good morning Chair Unruh and Committee Members,

Below are the current regulations and license fee structure which currently exist – and below that, is some information relating to the bills.

1) A statewide license, allows hunting statewide for two 7-day periods or one 14-day period.	\$150
2) A zone-restricted license that requires selection of hunting zones (zone map https://gf.nd.gov/gnf/maps/management/nrwtrf.pdf) according to the following restrictions:	\$100
<p>A nonresident must select Zone 1 or Zone 2 for one seven-day period and Zone 3 for the other seven-day period or</p> <p>Zone 3 for the full 14 days or two seven-day periods or</p> <p>Zones 1 and 3 concurrently for the same 7-day period or zones 2 and 3 concurrently for the same 7-day period. This option effectively reduces the license to seven days only, as the two 7-day periods are run at the same time.</p>	

SB 2259
1-26-17
attach #2
pg. 2

SB 2227

Non-resident license sales and the number of 65 and older who have purchased non-resident licenses over the last five years:

Year	Licenses Sold	65-older
2016	23,024	2,663
2015	24,236	2,689
2014	24,251	2,679
2013	24,295	2,561
2012	23,766	2,420

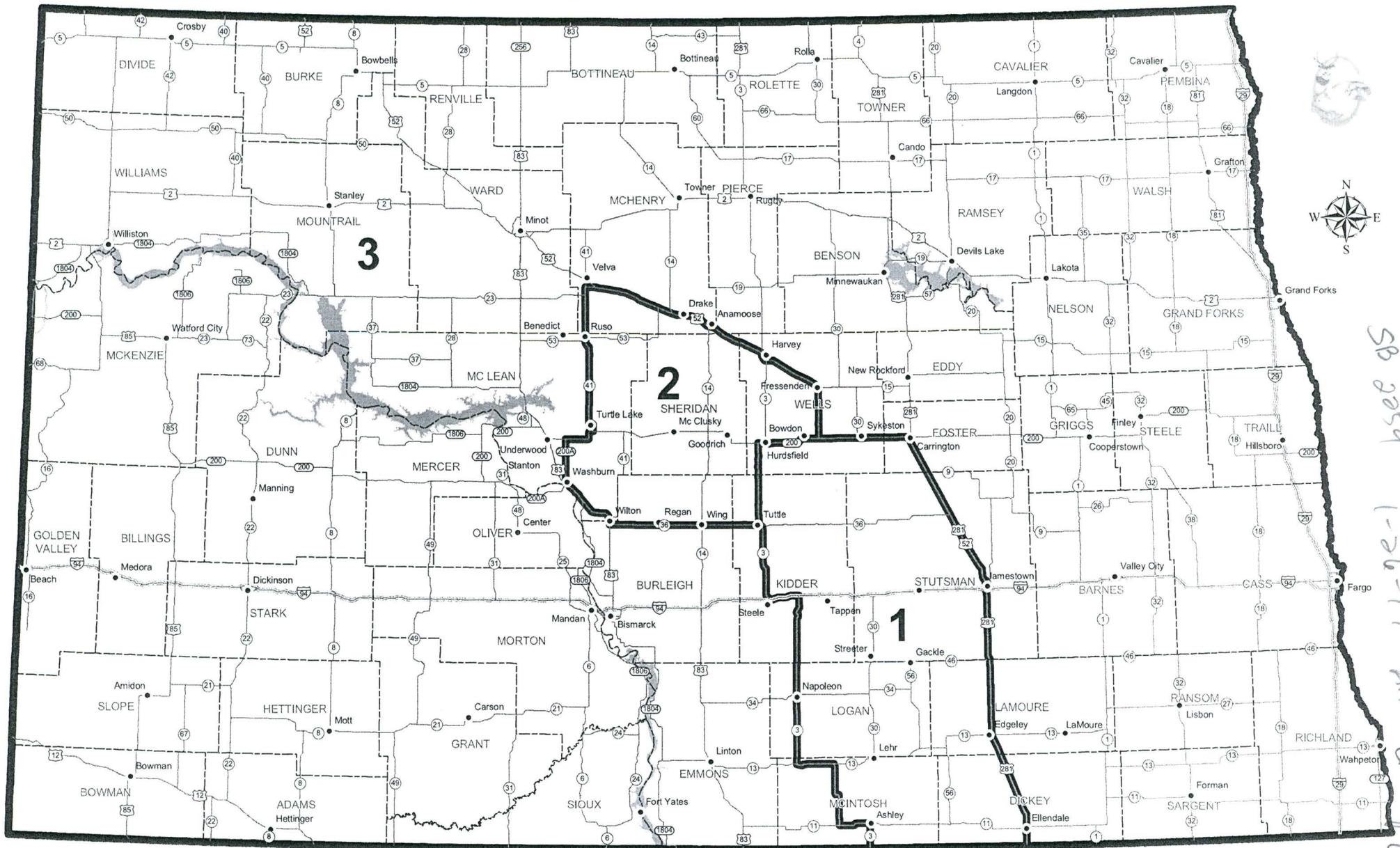
SB 2259

--Current regulations allow a non-resident to spend 14 days hunting waterfowl in North Dakota. Those fourteen days can be split in two, seven-day periods

--Non-residents currently average 5.1 days afield waterfowl hunting in North Dakota

--Approximately 6,000 (20-25%) non-resident waterfowl hunters currently make multiple trips to ND

North Dakota Game & Fish Department Non-Resident Waterfowl Zones



SB 2059
1-26-17
AHD
PSS

SD 2259
1-26-17
AHR # 3

by email

ps!

Good morning Senators,

On Thursday you will be considering Senate bills 2227 and 2259, both of which relate to expansion of nonresident waterfowl hunting in our state. Unfortunately, family circumstances will prevent me from testifying before your committee. In lieu of a personal appearance, please accept this email as my formal request for a DO NOT PASS recommendation on both these bills.

SB2227 *A nonresident age 65 or older would be entitled to purchase up to two nonresident waterfowl hunting licenses per year, with \$100 of the fee for the nonresident's second license must be used for the private land open to sportsmen program. The second license would cost \$150.*

1. Discriminates against young hunters. Next session will the age be lowered to 60? Maybe 55? Why should age be a factor?
2. Essentially allows nonresident to hunt the entire season. This will increase leasing and purchase of ND land by nonresidents, thereby creating additional competition for land and driving up land prices. This is not something our farmers and ranchers need during a very difficult/delicate time for agriculture.
3. The additional money dedicated to PLOTS is almost irrelevant because ND currently lacks quality acres to enroll in the PLOTS program. Funding is not the main obstacle to increasing PLOTS acres.
4. Available habitat for hunting has decreased substantially in the last decade creating more competition for what's left and putting additional pressure on a delicate resource. This bill would further exacerbate those problems by putting more people in the field.

SB2259 *Would allow a nonresident to buy a waterfowl license that is valid for three periods of four consecutive days. The fee for this license would be \$200, and \$50 must be used for the private land open to sportsmen program.*

1. This is essentially the same proposal that was defeated in previous legislative sessions. It further expands nonresident hunting in a time of decreasing resources/habitat.
2. As with 2227, the additional money offered to PLOTS is almost irrelevant because ND lacks the quality habitat for the program, not the money to pay for it. The revenue from one additional license would barely cover one acre of PLOTS.
3. Nonresidents would have the ability to hunt most of the waterfowl season, leading to increased leasing and purchase of land by nonresidents and increased land prices for our farmers and ranchers.

I am quite concerned that the Legislature is taking a very "anti resident hunter" theme during the current session. It has been said that this may be retribution for some sportsmen supporting Measure 5 in 2015. When coupled with SB2225, bills 2227 and 2259 will help expedite the loss of resident hunters in ND. These bills, if passed into law, will forever change the face of hunting in ND for the worse. You would be forcing out the little guys, the working people, the average ND hunter. Is that what you want?

Please recommend a DO NOT PASS on bills SB2227 and SB2259. North Dakota's outdoor heritage is at stake.

Your time and consideration on these issues are appreciated, as is your service to the people of North Dakota. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Mark Mazaheri
2709 N. 10th St. Fargo-701-799-2525

1
3-2-17
SB 2259

**65th LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
House Energy and Natural Resource Committee
Representative Todd Porter, Chair**

Senate Bill 2259 - Relating to non-resident waterfowl hunting

10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 2nd, 2017

Submitted by: Scott Peterson, Deputy Director
North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Good morning Chairman Porter and Committee Members: I am providing this information in advance of tomorrow's hearing on SB2259. While the Department will not be delivering testimony, I will be at the hearing to answer any questions that might be asked of the Department.

--Current regulations allow a non-resident to spend 14 days hunting waterfowl in North Dakota. Those fourteen days can be split in two, seven-day periods

--Non-residents currently average 5.1 days afield waterfowl hunting in North Dakota

--Approximately 6,000 (20-25%) non-resident waterfowl hunters currently make multiple trips to ND

NON-RES WL 2016
23,500

SD waterfowl hunters