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Conservation Notes

Current topics and issues affecting hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation in our North Dakota.

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Inflation is Impacting Public Land Management Costs

Our public wildlife lands, whether county, state or federally owned and managed, are critically important to North Dakota's highly valued outdoor recreation and economy. They need to be managed properly. Wildlife managers are often responsible for dozens of properties spread across multiple counties. Costs for everything; fuel, chemicals, fencing material and signs, grass seed and tree plantings, and staff time, are all increasing. While public "wildlife" lands are somewhat idle, compared to farmland, these important tracts often have food plots, grazing systems, tree and grass plantings that need to be managed. Often these management actions are done by nearby farmers and ranchers working cooperatively with the agency, but the land management agency still needs to monitor, prescribe, and fund the treatments. Therefore, it is vitally important that agencies request, and legislatures provide sufficient funds to keep pace with rising costs to manage our public lands. Properly developed and implemented management is good for hunters, outdoor recreationists, and main street's bottom line. Our states sportsmen and women and the private neighbors deserve nothing less.

For more information on this message or other conservation topics, contact: John Bradley, Executive Director, North Dakota Wildlife Federation, (jbradley.ndwf@gmail.com), Mike McEnroe, Past President, North Dakota Wildlife Federation(memcenroe@midco.net) or Rick Nelson, Past President, North Dakota Chapter, The Wildlife Society, (bluebill@bis.midco.net). For a complete list of Conservation Notes visit (ndctws.org)-library