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Conservation Notes

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

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Baiting Revisited

North Dakotans love deer hunting. Be it with a bow, rifle, or muzzleloader the popularity of deer hunting in our is state *Legendary*. And we know that for as long as there has been a deer season in North Dakota hunters have always supported conservation efforts to ensure a healthy and sustainable deer herd. Even when that support has meant personal sacrifice, e.g. reduced number of tags to protect the population. Hunters have long done what is right for the resource when the wildlife professionals managing populations have asked them to do so.

But, baiting deer does not fit with the historical support and self-sacrifice for which a majority of North Dakota hunters have long been respected. Because it places the long-term viability of our deer herd and deer hunting in jeopardy for the benefit of a small minority of people.

Therefore, legislators need to ask the following question of those trying to prohibit the Game and Fish Department from taking steps to protect the long-term viability of the deer herd by banning deer baiting. *“If you hunt deer, why won’t you take even the smallest steps to do what is right for the deer herd?”*

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.