



P.O. Box 1442, Bismarck, N.D. 58502



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Current topics and issues affecting outdoor recreation in our State. Prepared by the North Dakota Chapter, The Wildlife Society, and the North Dakota Wildlife Federation.

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No Hunting Trespass Legislation

Another “No Hunting Trespass” bill is expected to be introduced during the 2019 legislative session. The main argument to support a change in the law is problems that landowners have with people hunting posted land without permission. Each year over 100,000 people take to the field. North Dakota Game and Fish Department reports only about one hundred “hunting without permission” convictions annually in North Dakota, which is a very small number. It is unlikely that the number of hunting “trespass without permission” complaints will go down if there is a new law prohibiting hunting on private land. But, a “No Hunting Trespass” law will have major negative impacts. It will hinder and discourage law abiding hunters without changing the behavior of people who already break the law. It will damage our States hunter friendly reputation and likely reduce the positive economic benefit that our small towns rely on each year. This proposed change in trespass legislation law will not deter law- breakers and punishes the law-abiding hunter.

For more information on this message or other conservation topics, contact: 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 (www.ndctws.wordpress.com)-articles.