



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



P.O. Box 1091, Bismarck, N. D. 58502

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.

Conservation Notes #34, January 2019

North Dakota Game and Fish Budget

Hunting and Fishing are an essential part of North Dakota's economy. On January 3, the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee heard testimony from Game and Fish Department Director Terry Steinwand, that in 2017 hunting and fishing contributed \$ 2.1 Billion to North Dakota's economy. This included almost \$ 1.0 Billion in direct sales, \$ 1.1 Billion in secondary spending, generated over 3,200 jobs and \$ 48 million in tax revenue for the State. The Game and Fish Department is the lead agency that supports this activity. It has a proposed budget for 2019-21 of just over \$ 84 million, all in Special Funds, or non-general fund monies. But this proposed budget does not provide for needed increases in several important areas: the popular Private Lands Open to Sportsmen (PLOTS) program (access); additional game wardens to protect our fish and wildlife resources; and additional work to restrict the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS). Therefore, additional funds for this important State program and activities are justified and needed and should be added to the Department's budget,

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)