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HB1151

This is a easy choice for an outdoorsmen if he wants to bait deer or not but it is not a choice for the game and fish. The ND Game and Fish has put into place in certain units of our state that are completely unreal. They claim that bait piles are a way that the deer can spread CWD by congregating unnaturally during the year eating on the bait. We can feed deer with no threat of it but we cant hunt over it because then its baiting and it's a CWD spreader. The whitetail deer is a animal that naturally congregate no matter the conditions. There is no numbers that support a baiting ban because they are going to come together no matter what.

In a regular winter deer will move to find food and they will move a insanelly long distance to get it. Deer have been documented moving more then 10 miles to find food and then go back to their Summer/fall areas. The best way to keep these deer from not doing this is being able to give them the food that they are searching for without making them wander. A baiting ban will not do anything for these animals but hurt them.

In the other aspect if one was to ban baiting you would have to get rid of all food plots as well. Cutting out a corn pile is just cutting out the small guys in the hunting world. These deer will have just as much contact in food plots as they will on a bait pile. They want to ban it to be proactive against the threat of CWD because other states have done this and have no numbers to support it. There is nothing good that will come out of a baiting ban in North Dakota. We need to be able to keep our states deer as healthy as possible and that's what food does.