

TESTIMONY OF JOHN BRADLEY
NORTH DAKOTA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
HOUSE BILL 1237
HOUSE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
JANUARY 24, 2025

Chairman Porter and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee:

For the record, I am John Bradley, Executive Director of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation (NDWF).

NDWF is opposed to HB1237. North Dakota already allows non-residents to buy as many one 14 day license or two 7 day license licenses for small game as the season holds, they just have to continue to purchase them. HB 1237 removes an estimated \$173,000 of funding from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDG&F), risking funding needed for access and habitat improvements. In December, NDG&F held a Habitat and Access Summit, identifying the need for better quality habitat on the ground and more access opportunities for North Dakota sportsmen and women. If the bill's intent is to increase non-residents hunters time spent in North Dakota, we would gladly work with the sponsor to develop a bill that would increase funding for the PLOTS program instead of creating more competition between non-resident and resident hunters.

We urge a Do Not Pass on HB 1237.