



Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
Testimony on SB 2216

North Dakota Game and Fish Department  
Casey Anderson, Wildlife Division Chief  
January 30, 2025

Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. My name is Casey Anderson, and I serve as the Wildlife Division Chief for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (Department). I am testifying today in support of SB 2216.

This bill, if the proposed amendment is adopted, would enable the Department to better identify and track resident waterfowl hunters. Currently, we estimate the number of active resident waterfowl hunters (16,459 in 2023) from a much larger pool of small game license holders (74,161 in 2023). A specific waterfowl license will allow the Department to accurately determine hunter activity and harvest, reducing the need for broad harvest surveys while increasing response rates and data accuracy. Furthermore, this legislation would add dollars to the Department to work on increasing habitat for waterfowl as well as increase support for youth hunting programs. For these reasons the Department would ask the committee to adopt the offered amendment and give the amended SB 2216 a do pass recommendation from this committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.