

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
50TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The meeting of the Fish and Game Committee was called to order by Chairman Orval Ellison on January 8, 1987, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 312 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All committee members were present, with the exception of Rep. Pavlovich who was excused by the Chairman.

HOUSE BILL NO. 16: Rep. John Cobb, District #42, sponsor of the bill stated the purpose of HB 16 is to allow an additional 4,000 non-resident big game combination licenses, restricting such licenses to bow and arrow hunting. Current law states you may have 17,000 big game licenses in Montana, which moves it to 21,000, restricting 4,000 of that 21,000 for bow and arrow only. Statistics show that 2,000 non-resident big game licenses are sold to non-resident bowhunters each year. HB 16 would bring an additional 2,000 bowhunters into the state. Rep. Cobb distributed handouts to the committee (Exhibit 1).

PROPOSERS: Jim Flynn, Director, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks submitted testimony (Exhibit 2). He stated HB 16 addresses the subject of the number of non-resident licenses that should be issued. The department is aware of at least two other pieces of legislation yet to be introduced which will address the same subject. These bills deal with different aspects of the subject, yet all acknowledge the reality that more non-resident licenses could be included in the law without adversely affecting our big game populations or hunter opportunity. There could also be direct benefits to our resident hunter as well as our wildlife resources from such action. Mr. Flynn suggested to hold HB 16 until all similar bill have been heard by committee.

Lorents Grosfield, a cattle rancher from Big Timber, supports HB 16 and feels any measure to improve the state's economy and bring in more dollars was necessary.

OPPONENTS: Robert Van Der Vere, a concerned citizen lobbyist, stated he felt bringing in 4,000 more licensed people would do nothing but add more trouble for landowners and wildlife. He also stated the people he's contacted in the field are tired of these non-resident hunters asking for permission to hunt on private lands. This would increase the job responsibilities of the game warden and this would put an unnecessary burden on the department regarding the enforcement of all the additional non-residents out in the field.

James Hensel, a resident of Missoula, stated he has no vested interest in making money off our wildlife. He feels the bill is self-serving and was introduced to bring money into the state.

Mr. Hensel doesn't feel our wildlife need additional competition with 4,000 more hunters in the field. In the past, he has seen wildlife become extinct and does not want this to happen.

Scott Ross representing the Montana Bowhunters Association submitted testimony (Exhibit 3). Mr. Ross stated MBA recognizes non-resident hunters make an important contribution to Montana's economy, but was concerned that the bill did not provide for distribution of the hunters. MBA feels the interest of Montana sportsmen and concerns for wildlife resources should be given priority upon considering higher quotas for non-resident hunters. MBA feels HB 16 holds the potential to increase the number of bowhunters in the field as much as 20%, and provides us with no specific assurances that the increase in hunters will be accompanied by measures which will appropriately distribute those hunters.

Jeanne Klobnak, representing the Montana Wildlife Federation, submitted testimony (Exhibit 4). She stated MWF does not feel increased hunter opportunity should be restricted to a special class of hunters. MWF does not support an increase in the number of B-10 licenses. The addition of a Class A-2 license, to the combination license, would increase the number of non-resident combination licenses by 4,000 additional bowhunters, would mean additional harvest which they feel is not biologically justified. MWF does not feel Montana should risk a decrease in resident hunter opportunity for a special class of non-resident hunters.

Henry Barron, Executive Director for Montana Outfitters and Guides, stated he agrees with Jim Flynn to hold the bill until all similar bills are heard. Mr. Barron stated that as Director, of the Montana Outfitters, which some people call a special interest group, bowhunters are their least number of non-resident clients. The affect on the outfitters would be very minimal as far as bowhunters coming into the state. If there is an increase in the number of combination licenses, it might be best to make them available to everyone, so all would have the same opportunity. The economy could use any increase we could manage, but he feels that we can't always look at money when people's lives are affected or our resource is affected.

Judy Hensel, a resident from Missoula, stated she feels the biggest issue this session is money, and we have a moral right not to consider our wildlife as an exploitable source of revenue. She stated if concern lies with ways of raising the amount of money non-residents bring into the state, surely alternative methods could be found, and suggested a sales tax.

There being no further opponents, the Chairman asked for questions from the committee.

Rep. Giacometto asked Mr. Flynn how many of the 17,000 licenses now are used by bowhunters.

Mr. Flynn stated he does not have accurate figures on this, but estimates approximately 2,000 of those are now being used by bowhunters.

Rep. Grady asked Mr. Flynn if he had seen figures on the success rate of bowhunters as compared to the success rate of rifle hunters.

Mr. Flynn stated he did not have exact figures, but felt the bow is considerably lower, particularly when hunting elk. The average hunter success for elk is lower than 13% and he assured the committee that deer and antelope are most likely higher.

Rep. Cobb offered statistics he felt might help clear up certain questions on the numbers and percentages received by the Fish and Game. The success rate of the bowhunter is approximately 5%; the success for rifle hunters is between 12% and 16%.

Rep. Driscoll asked Rep. Cobb if any research had been done on what effect additional bowhunters would have in the state.

Rep. Cobb stated with 2,000 or 4,000 additional bowhunters, these hunters are the least destructive and have the best chance of getting on private land. 96% of all landowners have had trouble with rifle hunters, and there has been no substantial reportings of landowners having trouble with bowhunters.

Rep. Grady asked Mr. Barron if the additional bow and arrow licenses were in effect, would he have an increase in demand for guided bowhunting trips.

Mr. Barron stated he would certainly think so, and anytime you specialize a permit, an increase in the number of people who apply for this permit would be likely. Mr. Barron stated bow hunts are quite hard for outfitters to book and they just don't have the demand that they do for rifle hunts, even though bow hunts are considerably cheaper.

Rep. Ream asked Mr. Flynn on the B-10 licenses for non-resident big game licenses, how they derive success rate information, what kind of harvests on elk have they had, and of that percentage, how many of those elk are taken by archers.

Mr. Flynn stated they do survey B-10 licenses and get some estimates, to arrive at the 2,000 figure for bowhunters. It is also estimated that about 3,000 hunt only deer with that license.

Rep. Daily asked Mr. Flynn that it was his understanding that the 17,000, the number itself, has been tested in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Flynn stated that the cost of the license, not the number authorized for sale, had been tested and upheld in the U.S. Supreme Court. Last year we had a court action challenging the 17,000, which was heard at the Federal District Court level in Helena. The Federal District Court ruled that the same arguments applied, and ruled against the plaintiffs in that instance. The case has since been thrown out of court.

Rep. Daily asked Mr. Flynn if it would be possible if the bill was passed, to jeopardize the chance of someone filing another lawsuit if the numbers were changed.

Mr. Flynn stated he was not able to answer legal questions, but could offer an opinion. In both court actions, the court basically gets down to saying this is the states' prerogative, and that pricing the license and the restricting number of licenses relates to how many animals are going to be harvested. They say it's up to the State to take that responsibility.

Rep. Brandewie asked Mr. Flynn how accurate their surveys are.

Mr. Flynn stated the statistical analysis his department does for hunting and fishing surveys are fairly realistic. They have been doing it this way for years developing some pretty fair methodology. These survey results are a direct part of their qualifications under Federal requirements.

Chairman Ellison suggested Mr. Flynn provide a list of facts and figures to the committee, to help expedite these questions. (Exhibit 5).

Rep. Cobb closed stating three priorities need to be addressed when considering HB 16. They include how many non-residents do we want in the state; how to divide these non-residents; and what to do with the money. He feels this is one of the first steps the Legislature must decide, in considering bringing out-of-state dollars into the state.

Hearing closed on HB 16.

Chairman Ellison stated it was his intention to send all major B-10 license bills into sub-committee for further consideration.

HOUSE BILL NO. 33: Rep. John Cobb, District #42, sponsor of the bill distributed a handout (Exhibit 6). The purpose of HB 33 is to ensure the survival of the black bear and mountain lion species within the state, with the Fish, Wildlife and Parks establishing a quota for any area in which it permits the pursuit, hunting and killing of the black bear or mountain lion.

NO PROPONENTS

OPPONENTS: Jim Flynn, Director, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks distributed testimony (Exhibit 7). He stated they are opposed to HB 33 because the Fish and Game Commission now has the authority to establish quotas as deemed necessary for the protection, preservation and propagation of black bear and mountain lion, as well as other species. Not only does the commission have the authority to set quotas, but have done so for these particular species. He stated the survival of the black bear and mountain lion is not in question at the present time, and won't be in the foreseeable future based on current knowledge. The department and commission have taken responsible actions in the past for regulation and management of these species and will continue to do so. Therefore, he feels HB 33 is unnecessary at this time.

Dick Willis, member of the Montana Houndsmen Association, stated he opposes HB 33 and feels there is no reason for the bill. In the last five years, the lion population has increased by five fold due to the quotas established. Mr. Willis stated no one is killing the female lions and they are actually becoming a problem in some areas.

Jeanne Klobnak representing the Montana Wildlife Federation submitted testimony (Exhibit 8). Under 87-1-304, MCA, Section 1, the commission does have authority by law to establish bag limits, possession limits, and season limits on any species of fur-bearing animal. It further specifies the commission's authority to restrict the taking of animals when it's necessary to do so. It appears Section 7 in HB 33 is redundant, except that it would require the commission do establish quotas in any area where it permits hunting or taking of a black bear or mountain lion. MWF feels it would be an unnecessary expenditure of time and money which could be better allocated to more worthy projects.

Bill Sherman, President, Federation of Houndsmen, stated there have been many rumors around the state as to what should be done about the mountain lion. He stated the houndsmen are the only ones who hunt them in the state. The houndsmen have been working closely with the Fish and Game since 1983 to establish what has been done so far. They feel the Fish and Game have done a good job, and see no need for HB 33.

Wayne Beach, member of the Montana Houndsmen Association, stated in his own experience in chasing lions, he feels they are on the increase and sees no need for HB 33.

Scott Ross representing the Montana Bowhunters Association submitted testimony (Exhibit 9). He stated MBA feels the intentions of HB 33 are good, and agreed with the concept of insuring survival.

However, MBA feels the current statute is adequately accomplishing this and sees no reason for the bill at this time.

Henry Barron, Executive Director, Montana Outfitters and Guides stated it has been his pleasure to work with the State Game Commission for the last two years on issues pertaining to Montana wildlife. He stated if anything, the Fish and Game has been overly protective of the mountain lion issue in the state and they have been doing a fine job. The black bear situation comes under the same type of rule as the mountain lions do, and one area this year in Montana will go under a system for black bears that's already permissible. Mr. Barron feels the system is working well already, and HB 33 is unnecessary.

Being no further opponents, the Chairman asked for questions from the committee.

Rep. Ream asked Rep. Cobb in reference to the bill where it says "the commission will establish a quota for any "area", and Rep. Ream wished to know what was in mind for the word "area."

Rep. Cobb stated the word "area" was vague and explained if they wanted to call the State of Montana an area, that would be fine. It was left flexible for the commission to do what they want with it. The reason for the vagueness was primarily so they did not have to make it a set hunting district, in hopes of alleviating some of the problems in pinpointing an area.

Rep. Hanson asked Rep. Cobb if the Fish and Game does set these quotas, and since they are doing such a good job, why has he introduced the bill.

Rep. Cobb stated he is not sure the best job is being done in the area. He feels there isn't really an accurate way to keep track of these lions, due to the fact there isn't someone in the Fish and Game doing lions specifically on a full time basis, and any analysis is after the fact.

Rep. Cobb closed stating HB 33 says survivability comes first. Rep. Cobb stated he was not trying to use the animals to get anything, merely, to point out that survivability is important and it would also serve the Fish and Game with some clear direction on what it is suppose to be doing.

Hearing closed on HB 33.

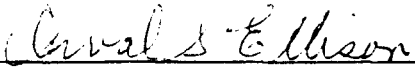
EXECUTIVE SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 33: Rep. Cobb moved that HB 33 DO PASS. Question being called, a roll call vote was taken. The motion failed 14-2.

FISH AND GAME COMMITTEE
JANUARY 8, 1987
PAGE SEVEN

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

At this time, Chairman Ellison asked Mr. Flynn if he would give a presentation on the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.


ORVAL ELLISON, CHAIRMAN

DAILY ROLL CALL

WASH. STATE

COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date Jan. 8, 1987

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
ORVAL ELLISON, CHAIRMAN	X		
MARIAN HANSON, VICE CHAIRMAN	X		
RAY BRANDEWIE	X		
TOM BULGER	X		
JOHN COBB	X		
FRITZ DAILY	X		
GENE DEMARS	X		
JERRY DRISCOLL	X		
LEO GIACOMETTO	X		
ED GRADY	X		
LOREN JENKINS	X		
VERNON KELLER	X		
JANET MOORE	X		
BOB PAVLOVICH			X
MARY LOU PETERSON	X		
JOHN PHILLIPS	X		
PAUL RAPP-SVRCEK	X		
BOB REAM	X		
STAFF: DAVE COGLEY			

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

JANUARY 8

19 87

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on FISH & GAME

report HOUSE BILL NO. 33

do pass

do not pass

be concurred in

be not concurred in

as amended

statement of intent attached

Orval S. Ellison

REP. ELLISON

Chairman

AN ACT TO REQUIRE ESTABLISHMENT OF QUOTAS FOR HUNTING BLACK BEAR AND MOUNTAIN LION

ROLL CALL VOTE

HOUSE COMMITTEE FISH & GAME

DATE JAN. 8, 1987 BILL NO. HB 33 TIME 2:30 p.m.

NAME	EXCUSED	AYE	NAY
ORVAL ELLISON, CHAIRMAN			X
MARION HANSON, V. CHAIRMAN		X	
RAY BRANDEWIE			X
TOM BULGER			X
JOHN COBB		X	
FRITZ DAILY			X
GENE DEMARS			X
JERRY DRISCOLL			X
LEO GIACOMETTO			X
ED GRADY	X		
LOREN JENKINS			X
VERNON KELLER			X
JANET MOORE			X
BOB PAVLOVICH	X		
MARY LOU PETERSON			X
JOHN PHILLIPS			X
PAUL RAPP-SVRCEK			X
BOB REAM			X

TALLY

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Wm. Rapp
Secretary

Orval Ellison
Chairman

MOTION: Rep. Cobb moved HB 33 DO PASS. Question being called,
a roll call vote was taken. The motion failed 14-2, with Rep.
Grady and Pavlovich excused.

HB 16

Purpose

1. To allow an additional 4,000 non-resident Big Game Combination licenses, restricting such licenses to bow and arrow hunting.
2. Amendment says that not more than 21,000 Class B-10 licenses may be sold in any one license year, 4,000 of which must be restricted to bow and arrow hunting only.
3. Changes the number of Class B-10 licenses from 17,000 to 21,000.

Current Statistics

1. About 2,000 non-resident big game licenses have been sold to bow hunters/year.
2. On the fiscal note, estimate is that this law brings in roughly \$860,000 in FY 1988 and roughly \$1,400,000 in FY 1989.

Local Economic Impact

1. Depends on if a guided or non-guided hunt. I assume that for argument sake that all hunts are non-guided. Average stay in state is 16 days. Average hunt then is \$1,391. 2,000 more bow hunters will then bring in each year 2.8 million dollars to the local economy.
2. Also now there will be an actual increase of 2,000 big game non-resident hunters who can hunt either with bows or rifles etc. That is because there were 2,000 bow hunters already in the 17,000. Those 2,000 move over to the bow hunters part of Class B-10 licenses. That allows 2,000 more big game hunters in the state who can big game hunt in a variety of ways.

Overall 4,000 more hunters spend roughly \$1,391 while here is a total of 5.6 million/year in the economy.

Reasons For Bill

1. Issue for Legislature to decide
2. If can't bring in bow hunters, can't bring anyone else in

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3. Tourism
4. Landowner/bow hunter relationships
5. Success rate of bow hunters

Other Notes

1. Success rate of bow hunters

mule deer	10%
whitetail	12%
elk	5%
antelope	16%
bear	11%

2. How many more hunters for 2,000 more bow hunters

mule deer	62
whitetail	65
elk	39
antelope	7
bear	3
	<hr/>
	176 animals

- a. note --will need 176 animals to replace those taken plus increase in additional residential bow hunters.
 - b. also those numbers include hunters taking only 1 animal in each category.
3. Hold bill

DATE: 1/22/87
HB 16 CCFB

HB 16
January 8, 1987

Testimony prepared by Jim Flynn, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

HB 16 addresses the subject of the number of nonresident licenses to be available in any license year. The department is aware of at least two other pieces of legislation yet to be introduced which will address the same subject.

While these bills deal with different aspects of the subject, they all acknowledge the reality that more nonresident licenses could be included in the law without adversely affecting our big game populations or hunter opportunity. In addition, there could be direct benefits to our resident sportsmen as well as our wildlife resources from such actions.

At this time we would suggest that HB 16 not receive final action until all bills dealing with this subject have been heard by this committee, and then a decision on the merit of each or all of them could be forthcoming.



HB16 (COBB)

POSITION STATEMENT OF THE MONTANA BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION

The Montana Bowhunters Association cannot support HB16 at this time.

While the MBA recognizes that there may be some areas in which higher bowhunter pressure and harvest might be acceptable and appropriate, we also feel that there are areas where the converse is true. The MBA believes that the issuance of an additional 4,000 B10 nonresident licenses for bowhunting only must be accompanied by positive controls to insure that acceptable hunter harvest and hunter density is maintained in all areas. The quality of an archer's hunting experience will be profoundly affected by an increase in hunters which may make big game animals extremely difficult to hunt due to increased movements in response to pressure. HB16, which holds the potential to increase the number of bowhunters in the field by as much as 20%, provides us with no specific assurances that the increase in hunters will be accompanied by measures which will appropriately distribute those hunters.

While the MBA recognizes that nonresident hunters make an important contribution to Montana's economy, we believe that a substantial increase in the numbers of B10 licenses limited to bowhunting must be approached with caution. We believe that the interests of Montana sportsmen and concern for the wildlife resource should be given priority when considering higher quotas for nonresident hunters.

Points of discussion which may lead to acceptance of higher quotas by the MBA include:

1. The number of B10 tags limited to bowhunting that are issued
2. The distribution of hunting pressure resulting from the sales of those licenses.
3. The use of proceeds from the sales of those licenses to enhance the resource.

Without further consideration on these points, the Montana Bowhunters Association cannot support HB16.

EXHIBIT # 4
DATE 1-8-87
HB 16 11

MONTANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Testimony on HB 16

House Fish & Game Committee

January 8, 1987

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, my name is Jeanne Klobnak. I stand before you today to represent the Montana Wildlife Federation in their opposition to HB 16.

The Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF) , comprised of 4600 members is a statewide conservation organization dedicated to promoting wildlife, wildlife habitat and sportsmen's interests. My organization is proud to recognize that Montana boasts the finest huntable wildlife populations to be found anywhere in the country.

MWF does not believe, however, that increased hunter opportunity should be restricted to a special class of hunters.

Furthermore, MWF does not support an increase in the number of Class B-10 licenses. In creating a Class A-2 license, which would increase the number of non-resident combination licenses by 4,000 , biologically, additional bowhunters would mean additional harvest. We believe that non-resident hunting opportunities should be managed within the 17,000 B-10 limit currently in law.

Although the number of 17,000 was originally an arbitrary number, not based on biological data, over time, it has come to be a manageable number as the hunter to wildlife ratio has tended to balance out.

In conclusion, MWF does not believe that Montana should risk a decrease in resident hunter opportunity for a special class of non-resident hunters.

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MONTANA BIG GAME HARVEST

	ANTELOPE	BLACK		ELK	GOAT		MOOSE	SHEEP		
		BEAR	DEER		LIMITED	UNLIMITED		LIMITED	UNLIMITED	
1968	No. Hunters	16,150	8,290	125,711	77,962	598	200	643	75	172
	Harvest	11,500	1,700	99,250	16,700	263	29	457	55	13
	Percent Success	71	24	79	21	44	14	71	74	7
1969	No. Hunters	19,871	8,787	128,177	73,848	537	213	645	77	279
	Harvest	14,543	1,700	102,800	12,100	267	66	457	50	17
	Percent Success	73	20	80	16	49	31	71	65	7
1970	No. Hunters	23,697	7,204	136,903	77,819	573	223	670	59	447
	Harvest	18,023	1,079	110,988	13,988	303	51	518	43	31
	Percent Success	76	15	80	18	52	23	86	73	7
1971	No. Hunters	24,802	5,105	141,243	72,337	546	Discontinued	651	72	574
	Harvest	18,403	1,185	116,716	11,785	234		427	50	54
	Percent Success	74	23	83	16	43		66	70	9
1972	No. Hunters	27,762	3,382	152,545	75,951	556		766	76	754
	Harvest	19,710	928	112,996	10,867	280		597	57	35
	Percent Success	71	27	74	15	50		78	75	5
1973	No. Hunters	28,062	5,019	167,359	87,746	571		780	98	776
	Harvest	19,303	1,347	137,441	17,498	306		532	80	54
	Percent Success	69	27	82	20	54		68	82	7
1974	No. Hunters	27,163	5,705	154,110	89,369	508		763	121	631
	Harvest	18,810	1,527	103,656	10,930	237		498	89	10
	Percent Success	69	27	67	12	47		65	74	2
1975	No. Hunters	25,022	6,201	148,109	91,956	500		698	124	534
	Harvest	17,298	1,252	77,496	15,750	302		376	100	20
	Percent Success	69	20	52	17	60		54	81	4
1976	No. Hunters	23,273	10,187	112,783	74,190	410		587	90	438
	Harvest	16,292	1,637	43,291	7,860	230		401	81	24
	Percent Success	70	16	38	11	56		68	90	5
1977	No. Hunters	24,214	10,187	120,798	79,628					
	Harvest	18,528	1,637	54,143	13,342					
	Percent Success	77	16	45	17					
1978	No. Hunters	18,393	5,262	125,054	86,636	409		569	133	510
	Harvest	13,471	909	53,933	12,017	238		406	113	23
	Percent Success	73	17	43	14	58		71	85	4
1979	No. Hunters	14,170	10,666	139,895	89,367	392		568	121	651
	Harvest	10,039	795	64,134	11,692	234		421	109	34
	Percent Success	71	7	46	13	60		74	91	5

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 DATE 1887
 HB 16

	ANTELOPE	BLACK			GOAT		MOOSE	SHEEP		
		BEAR	DEER	ELK	LIMITED	UNLIMITED		LIMITED	UNLIMITED	
1980	No. Hunters	16,104	18,135	151,918	89,822	339	Discontinued	525	181	303
	Harvest	11,016	1,870	85,164	14,841	230		389	166	15
	Percent Success	75	10	56	17	68		74	91	5
1981	No. Hunters	18,973	13,262	153,710	88,153	336		508	180	384
	Harvest	14,954	1,450	88,797	12,368	208		408	164	14
	Percent Success	79	11	58	15	61.9		80	91	4
1982	No. Hunters	22,767	10,642	160,077	90,103	308		567	220	449
	Harvest	20,830	1,277	100,340	14,009	170		497	202	18
	Percent Success	92	13	62	16	55		88	92	4
1983	No. Hunters	27,485	13,062+	200,484	95,811	290		567	351	324
	Harvest	26,438	1,820	137,534	15,013	189		481	317	19
	Percent Success	96	14	69	16	65		85	90	6
1984	No. Hunters	32,047	11,354	237,036	86,443	315		619	297	295
	Harvest	28,588	1,373	169,649	18,478	215		554	261	21
	Percent Success	89	12	72	21	68		89	87	7
1985	No. Hunters	32,651	8,005	190,935	89,182	300		593	225	258
	Harvest	27,195	1,617	122,405	17,635	202		512	182	18
	Percent Success	83	20	92	20	67		86	80	6

43,222 persons licensed to hunt black bear 5,112 of them hunted in the spring and 7,950 of them hunted in the fall.

ARCHERY HUNTING, 1969 - 1984

Year	Deer		Elk		Antelope	
	Hunters	Harvest	Hunters	Harvest	Hunters	Harvest
1969	1,738	259	934	58	97	0
1970	3,438	440	1,780	29	215	34
1971	4,066	593	2,208	57	235	7
1972	4,794	511	2,966	77	426	23
1973	7,162	712	4,927	112	489	22
1974	7,965	663	5,636	81	489	25
1975	7,972	805	5,344	175	508	85
1976	6,000	485	4,927	198	474	60
1977	7,143	825	6,338	269	498	90
1978	7,849	865	7,238	354	347	50
1979	12,096	850	7,265	363	240	7
1980	15,081	1,398	9,060	444	366	34
1981	14,725	1,512	9,263	408	470	106
1982	16,082	1,821	9,655	504	466	57
1983	15,154*	2,237	9,970	578	631	127
1984	17,780	2,553	11,053	783	839	164
1985	18,136	2,009	12,119	605	696	108

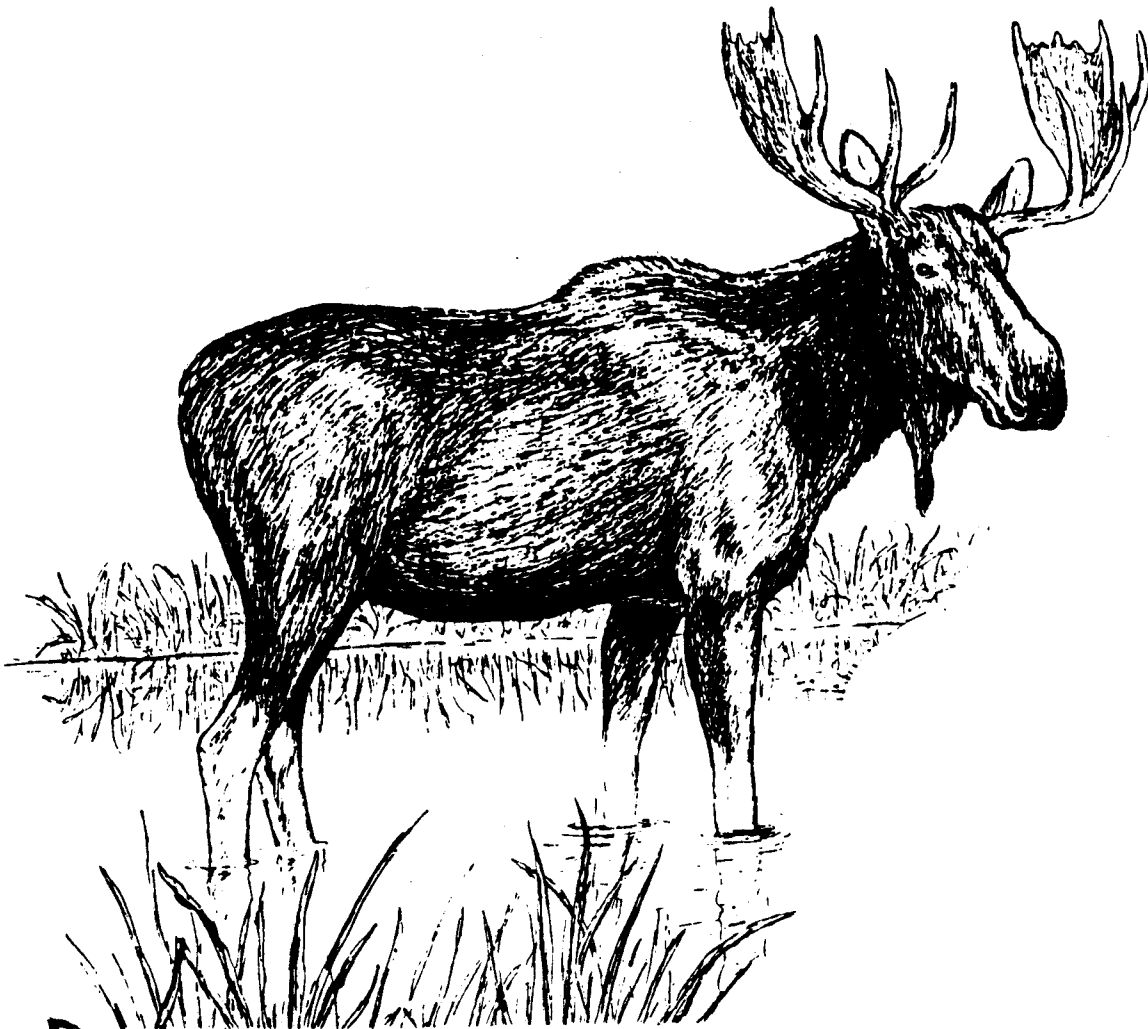
*of 18,481 archery licenses sold 82 percent or 15,154 of the holders actually went hunting. It is assumed that all these people at least hunted deer.

EXHIBIT (5)
DATE 1-8-87
HB 16

1986 DRAWING STATISTICS

AND

1985 GAME HARVEST STATISTICS



***Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks***

1420 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, MT 59620

HB 33

1. Purpose

to ensure the survival of the black bear and mountain lion species within the state, the FWP Commission shall establish a quota for any area in which it permits the pursuit, hunting, shooting and killing of black bear or mountain lion.

2. Refined Management Tool

this amendment is a legal concept. This bill basically says that the FWP must insure the survival of the black bear and mountain lion in this state.

3. Lions

- a. existing authority, how it runs
- b. studies
- c. teeth
- d. areas of concern
- e. law does not conflict with protection of property or person

4. Black bears

- a. existing authority, how it runs
- b. studies --grizzly bear
- c. teeth
- d. law does not conflict with protection of property and person

Table 1. Mountain lion hunting and trophy licenses issued and known mortalities in Montana 1971-1986.

	Hunting Licenses Issued		Trophy Licenses Issued				All known mortality		
	Resident	Non resident	Total	Non-Hunting		Other known mortality			
				Resident	Total			Success	%
1971-72 ^a	418	16	434	46 (90%)	5 (10%)	51	12	9	60
1972-73 ^a	517	68	584	41 (76%)	13 (24%)	54	9	10	64
1973-74 ^b	243	71	314	56 (78%)	16 (22%)	72	23	13	85
1974-75 ^b	259	93	352	70 (55%)	21 (23%)	91	26	4	95
1975-76 ^c	288	118	406	49 (64%)	27 (36%)	76	19	11	87
1976-77 ^c	517	70	587	62 (89%)	8 (11%)	70	12	14	84
1977-78 ^c	574	102	676	58 (66%)	30 (34%)	88	13	4	92
1978-79 ^d	642	123	765	53 (71%)	22 (29%)	75	10	12	87
1979-80 ^d	614	111	725	61 (74%)	21 (26%)	82	11	6	88
1980-81 ^e	787	61	848	60 (94%)	4 (06%)	64	8	6	70
1981-82 ^e	894	69	963	93 (82%)	20 (18%)	113	12	9	122
1982-83 ^f	1,027	91	1,118	88 (81%)	21 (19%)	109	10	12	121
1983-84 ^f	1,021	132	1,153	95 (68%)	45 (32%)	140	12	8	148
1984-85 ^g	1,045	92	1,137			168	15	6<	174<
1985-86 ^g	914	92	1,006	112 (77%)	33 (36%)	145	14	7<	152<
12 year average									

a - No fee for resident and nonresident mountain lion hunting license.
b - License fees: resident \$5.00, nonresident \$25.00, available any time; trophy license with no fee.
c - Same fees, hunting licenses not available after July 11.
d - Same fees, hunting licenses not available after June 15.
e - License fees: resident \$5.00, nonresident \$100.00, not available after June 15.
f - Same fees, hunting license not available after August 31.
g - License fees: resident \$10.00, nonresident \$90.00, not available after August 31. Trophy license \$50.

EXHIBIT (7)

DATE 1-8-87

HB 33 CLB

HB 33
January 8, 1987

Testimony prepared by Jim Flynn, Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

We are testifying in opposition to HB 33 primarily because the Fish and Game Commission now has the authority to establish quotas as deemed necessary for the protection, preservation and propagation of black bear and mountain lion, as well as other species. This authority is given under Montana Statutes 87-1-301 (Powers of the Commission) and 87-1-304 (Fixing of seasons and bag and possession limits).

Not only does the commission currently have the authority to set quotas, but it has done so for these particular species.

In 1987, total quotas on mountain lion and female subquotas were established in Fish, Wildlife & Parks administrative regions 1 and 3. These quotas are based on desired harvest levels and percentage of females for lions using historical averages. Quotas on black bear are proposed for FWP administrative region 5 for 1987. Desired harvest levels and female percentages for black bears are based on population estimates, with the objective of maintaining or enhancing black bear populations in region 5.

The Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks also has a mandatory reporting of lions and black bears to further allow monitoring of population characteristics and conditions.

The survival of black bears and mountain lions is not in question today, and won't be in the foreseeable future, based on our current knowledge. The department and commission have taken responsible actions in the past for regulation and management of these species and will continue to take such action as needed in the future under the authority of existing statutes.

Therefore, HB 33 is not necessary and we request that it do not pass.

EXHIBIT (8)
DATE 1-8-87
HB 33 (1-b)

MONTANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Testimony on HB 33

House Fish & Game Committee

January 8, 1987

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, my name is Jeanne Klobnak. I stand before you today to represent the Montana Wildlife Federation in their opposition to HB 33.

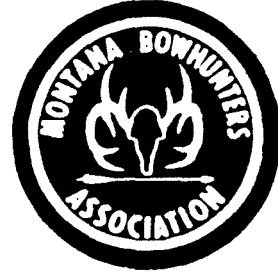
The Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF), comprised of 4600 members is a statewide conservation organization dedicated to promoting wildlife, wildlife habitat and sportsmen's interests. My organization is proud to recognize that Montana boasts the finest huntable wildlife populations to be found anywhere in the country.

Mr. Chairman, if you will note under 87-1-304, MCA, Section 1, the commission does have authority by law to establish bag limits, possession limits, and season limits on any species of fur-bearing animal. The entirety of 87-1-304, MCA, further specifies the commission's authority to restrict the taking of animals when they find it necessary to do so.

It would appear that the new Section 7 proposed in HB 33 is redundant, except that it would require that the commission do establish quotas in any area where it permits the hunting or taking of a black bear or mountain lion.

The commission has determined that quotas be established in Region 5, and have thus done so. MWF opposes requiring the commission to necessarily determine and establish quotas in all of the above areas.

It would be an unnecessary expenditure of both time and money which could be better allocated to more worthy projects elsewhere.



HB33 (COBB)

POSITION STATEMENT OF THE MONTANA BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION

The Montana Bowhunters Association does not support HB33 for the following reasons:

1. The present statute gives the DFWP authority to establish quotas for "the maintainance of an adequate supply of game animals".

The MBA certainly agrees with the concept of "ensuring the survival of black bear and mountain lion", as the survival of all game animals is of concern to Montana sportsmen. We assume, however, that "survival" of game animals is a requisite of "the maintainance of an adequate supply of game...animals".

2. Other than the fact that subsection (7) seems to be largely unnecessary, the MBA is also concerned that it may hold the potential for an unnecessary limitation of hunting opportunities for black bear and mountain lion due to the difficulties often encountered in gathering population data for those species.

Until such time as wildlife managers develop a more effective means to accurately assess population levels for black bear and mountain lions, the MBA and its' members must rely on their confidence in the Département's ability to manage hunting for those species based on harvest trends and public input through Commission hearings.

The Montana Bowhunters Association does not support HB33.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

FISH & GAME

COMMITTEE

BILL(S) HB 16, HB 33

DATE JAN. 8, 1987

SPONSOR(S) Rep. COBB

PLEASE PRINT

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL NO.	SUP-PORT	OP-POSE
KOBT VANDERVEERE	SELF			X
Jan Stevenson	Self			X
J A Hensel	SELF	16		X
Judy Hensel	self	16		X
R. Scott Poe	Montana Trout Assoc	16, 33		X
Esther Stenberg	Montana Wildlife Federation	16, 33		X
Joe Stanek	Victor Mt	33		X
King Ward	Darky ND	33		X
Carl Mowbr	SELF	33		X
Bill Sherman	Pres Federation of Handmen	33		X
Bob Suggs	Ag Leg			
Greg Hawks	SELF REPR	33		X
Doug Abels	SELF			X
Wayne L. Beach	Montana State Trout Ass	33		X
Harold N. Lamer ^{HAMER}	M. B. A.			X
Paul McDonough	Guides' Outfitters SELF	16	delay bill	
Loren Strobsfield		16	del	
Henry Barron	MOYA	33 & 16		X
H.L. Monteith	Self	16		X
Dana Field	self			

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR VISITOR'S STATEMENT
 IF YOU HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS, PLEASE GIVE A COPY TO THE SECRETARY.