

# Private Land/Public Wildlife Advisory Council

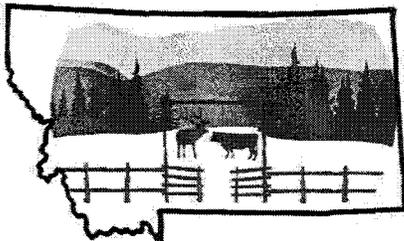


EXHIBIT 1  
DATE 2-17-09  
HB 585

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## HB 585 "Coming Home to Hunt" Testimony – Proponent PL/PW Council Chairman

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, for the record my name is Land Tawney, Chairman of the of the Private Land/Public Wildlife Council, and I am here to speak on behalf of HB 585, "Coming Home to Hunt." As you may know, the Private Land/Public Wildlife Council is a group of landowners, hunters, anglers, and outfitters appointed by the Governor, and by statute, to review FWP hunting and fishing access enhancement programs and make recommendations regarding those programs and related issues.

I have family members and many friends who grew up in Montana who now live out of state. Hunting is more than just being out by one self in the pursuit of wiley wapiti or jumpy white-tails. Sure I remember the big bull elk my cousin shot in the Bob Marshall, or the mature white-tail buck I shot in the stomping grounds of my youth but the memories that are meaningful are the early morning breakfast filled with anticipation, afternoon lunches on sunny ridges, and story telling around the campfire after a hard day of hunting. As family members have moved out of state these opportunities become less and less with the difficulty of drawing an out of state tag. I have family members and have heard from many folks who haven't drawn tags in the last five years, even with bonus points.

"Coming Home to Hunt" is just that, it aims to bring former Montana's home to

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hunt with their families. Those eligible are those who have a previous valid Montana Resident License or Hunter Safety Card, as one fellow Council member put it, these would be boots that were already on the ground.

In order to insure that these licenses are indeed used to bring families together, they must be sponsored by a Montana Resident family member. This assures the intent of the bill of bringing families together to hunt afield.

Money generated from the additional 500 elk combo and 500 deer combo licenses, at the tune of half a million dollars, will be used to garner access through willing private land owner properties to previously un-accessible public land, a net gain for Montana resident sportsmen.

In addition successful applicants will be required to fill out a survey on where they hunted, public or private land, what district, if they used an outfitter or leased property, etc. The survey will be developed by the PLPW Council and reviewed in four years as the bill sunsets.

As a Council, we adopted this recommendation through consensus. We appreciate your consideration, and hope you will support the longevity of our Montana Heritage with passage of House Bill 585, "Coming Home to Hunt."

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04/15/2008 11:22:44		Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks		ALSR4311	
		Nonresident Combo Bonus Point Stats Report			
		Usage Period From: 03/01/2008 Usage Period To: 02/28/2009			
Item Type Code - Description	Residency	# Points	# Applied	# Successful	% Successful
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	0	4656	2228	47.85
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	1	10049	4946	49.22
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	2	3819	2754	72.11
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	3	791	657	83.06
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	4	101	95	94.06
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	5	22	22	100
2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	NONRESIDENT	6	6	5	83.33
TOTAL 2009100 - GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO			19444	10707	55.07
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	0	3103	634	20.43
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	1	4751	964	20.29
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	2	2336	768	32.88
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	3	1286	585	45.49
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	4	560	338	60.36
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	5	224	146	65.18
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	6	82	59	71.95
2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO	NONRESIDENT	7	17	13	76.47
TOTAL 2009140 - GENERAL - DEER COMBO			12364	3512	28.41
2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO	NONRESIDENT	0	447	209	46.76
2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO	NONRESIDENT	1	803	398	49.56
2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO	NONRESIDENT	2	225	152	67.56
2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO	NONRESIDENT	3	37	31	83.78
2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO	NONRESIDENT	4	2	2	100
2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO	NONRESIDENT	5	1	1	100
TOTAL 2009150 - GENERAL - ELK COMBO			1515	793	52.34