EXHIBIT 13
DATE 1/15/2013
HB 26

House Bill 26
January 15, 2013
Presented by Ken McDonald
House Fish, Wildlife and Parks Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I am Ken McDonald, Wildlife Division Administrator of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP). I am here as an informational witness on House Bill 26.

House Bill 26 prohibits the FWP Commission from disallowing the use of a lighted nock on an arrow while big game hunting. To allow the use of a lighted nock on arrows isn't a biological or resource issue – it is really a social issue. This social issue will have widely varying opinions among archers.

The FWP Commission, through their rule-making processes, considers social issues like this along with biological issues when setting season types and season structure. Through the FWP Commission process, ideas about potential season structure and season regulations, including methods of take, are solicited from the public as part of the biennial season-setting process (scoping), and if proposed, public comment on proposed rules is solicited and considered before a final rule is made. We have not specifically taken public comment on this issue, so we cannot address the amount of support or opposition among bow hunters.