EXHIBIT 10
DATE 2/14/2013
HB 440

Montana Sportsmen ALLIANCE

Voice of Reason on Montana Fish and Wildlife Issues

To The House FWP Committee:

RE: HB 440-AN ACT REVISING THE DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN HUNTING LICENSE MONEY FROM FUNDING WILDLIFE HABITAT TO FUNDING HUNTING ACCESS EASEMENTS.

POSITION: Montana Sportsmen's Alliance hereby goes on record **OPPOSING** this bill based on the following reasons:

- While easements are a valuable part of providing access in Montana, purchases offer the ability to secure select qualified lands for future generations.
- Easements by their nature are not necessarily in perpetuity but may in fact expire.
- The people of Montana stand to lose the opportunity to acquire valuable wildlife habitat, winter range migration corridors, etc. These lands could end up being developed and the wildlife habitat lost.
- Landowners who want to sell their property to the State to preclude future development would not be allowed to do so under this bill.
- Habitat Montana is funded by sportsmen's dollars and should be used to acquire both fee title and easements as appropriate.

Once again we would like to state our **OPPOSITION** for HB 440

Montana Sportsmen Alliance Leadership Group

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