SENATE FISH AND GAME
EXHIBIT NO. 7
DATE 3-14-13
BILL NO. SB 380

To the Senate Fish & Game Committee:

RE: SB-380 **Providing for nonresident hunting licenses in wilderness**

POSITION: Ravalli County Fish & Wildlife Association hereby goes on record OPPOSING this bill based on the following reasons:

- Montana already gives out more NR tags than surrounding states.
- Non resident tag sales haven't sold out in years. There a surplus now, so we see no need to issue more.
- The Game populations in Ravalli County are at or are greatly below objective levels for Elk, and what we hope is the lowest level we've seen in decades on mule deer. (See attachment)
- These tags can be split, and the deer portion or elk portion used in other hunting districts. .
- If sold, adding 1500 elk, and deer tags to the mix will most likely promote leasing of private lands. Making landowner sportsman relationships worse.

Once again we would like to state our **OPPOSITION** for HB-380

Thank you for your time and consideration. Montana Sportsmen Alliance Leadership Group

Dave Harlacher Presidend

Robert Wood Legislative Chairman.

2011 MULE DEER STATUS			
	MULE DEER POPULATION ESTIMATES 10 YEAR AVERAGE 1999 - 2008	YEARS USED FOR 10 YEAR AVERAGE	2011 TOTAL
REGION 1	15,973	2001-2010	13,095
REGION 2	18,449	2001-2010	14,050
REGION 3	46,895	1999-2008	33,330
REGION 4	73,946	1999-2008	38,560
REGION 5	39,166	2001-2010	25,760
REGION 6	34,849	2001-2010	30,730
REGION 7	57,155	2001-2010	48,380
STATEWIDE TOTAL	**286,433**		**203,905**
LONG TERM AVERAGES REPRESENT FUNCTIONAL OBJECTIVES			
203,905 estimated mule deer based upon population modeling with survey and harvest inputs			
mule deer estimates are not comprehensively validated with site specific research or enhanced monitoring efforts			
mule deer estimates are not framed with confidence intervals and are subject to adjustment			

	NONRESIDENT	NR COLLEGE STUDENT BIG GAME COMBO	393	$70
B-10	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	34	$939
B-10	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	10,440	$939
	NONRESIDENT	FAMILY SPONSOR - BIG GAME COMBO	41	$939
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - BIG GAME COMBO	1,732	$939
	NONRESIDENT	FAMILY SPONSOR - BIG GAME COMBO	5	$939
	NONRESIDENT	YOUTH BIG GAME COMBO	388	$470
			13,033	
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - ELK COMBO	430	$789
	NONRESIDENT	NR NATIVE GENERAL ELK	1,001	$80
B-10	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - ELK COMBO	1	$789
B-10	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - ELK COMBO	2,052	$789
			3,484	
B-12	NONRESIDENT	ELK B LICENSE	120	$273
	NONRESIDENT	ELK B LICENSE	140	$273
B-12	NONRESIDENT	ELK B LICENSE	308	$273
B-12	NONRESIDENT	ELK B LICENSE	590	$273
			1,158	
B-11	NONRESIDENT	LANDOWNER SPONSOR - DEER COMBO	7	$556
	NONRESIDENT	LANDOWNER SPONSOR - DEER COMBO	1,463	$556
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - DEER COMBO	1,482	$556
B-11	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - DEER COMBO	2	$556

B-11	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - DEER COMBO	4,849	$556
	NONRESIDENT	FAMILY SPONSOR - DEER COMBO	41	$556
	NONRESIDENT	NR NATIVE GENERAL DEER	1,171	$64
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL - DEER COMBO	76	$556
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL DEER LICENSE	8	$125
			9,099	
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL DEER COMBO (RETAINED HB 607)	4	$556
	NONRESIDENT	GENERAL DEER COMBO (RETAINED HB 607)	2,079	$556
			2,083	

Elk and Deer Combo licenses sold	**13,033**
Elk only licesnes sold	**3,484**
Elk B licenses sold	**1,158**
Deer (buck) license Sold	**9,099**
Deer license retained under HB 607	**2,083**
Total NR Licensed to Hunt	**28,857**

Note many of the Elk b license holder
may also hold a NR combinaiton license