

Kay

From: "Wulf" <guardian_blues@yahoo.com>
To: "family e-mail" <clev@cybernet1.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 6:22 AM
Subject: Senate Hearing

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Steve Clevidence, I am a member of a Ravalli County ranching family that has owned and worked the same lands since the late 1800's.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this committee on a bill that I personally feel will create wide scale Unintended Consequences throughout Montana if approved.

Gentlemen, I am here to voice my personal and families disapproval of the contents and language contained within this bill.

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks has already been given a wide variety of tools to utilize in the management of large predators that live upon our landscape and they have been using the tools at their disposal successfully.

There is no need or reason for more extreme measures to be continually put into place that will in the end undoubtedly create the opportunity for widespread Unintended Consequences to not only our general Wildlife but also to the many endangered species that also live in our State, the Canadian Lynx as an example.

I spent 13 years as a sheriff's department dive rescue specialist in Ravalli county. As the departments lead

diver, it was my job to train other divers in the field to ensure a high possibility of not trading one life for another. One of the most important lessons that I continually reminded my divers was the importance and consideration of the RISK / BENEFIT Factor. Does the benefit warrant the risk? In our case, the object was to save lives, most especially the lives of the divers who were going into the water to retrieve victims where there was little or no chance of the victim being alive.

That same question can also be applied to this bill. Does the use of snares that benefits but a few, warrant the financial repercussions, Collateral damage, personal injury to family pets, endangered species as well as our children warrant the killing of a few more predators through the use of snaring? I think Not!

We already know that traps do not distinguish between their victims, the chances of killing non targeted species is huge. Allowing the placement of the inexpensive snare only presents the opportunity of thousands more of these lethal landmines on our public lands to catch and kill the unwary. Because these snares are cheap and easily made, few trappers will bother to collect all of them at the end of a trapping season, many will ~~continue~~^{continue} to be present throughout the year waiting for their next victims.

Gentlemen, No matter how we look at this proposed bill, there is nothing within it that caters to sound management, it is nothing less than a disaster in its content as well as its language, with the sole intent of benefiting a few who make their living through the killing of Montana Wildlife. Senate Bill

397 is nothing more than a time bomb waiting to explode. I implore you to consider the repercussions that will come with the passage of this bill and dismiss it.

Thank you.