

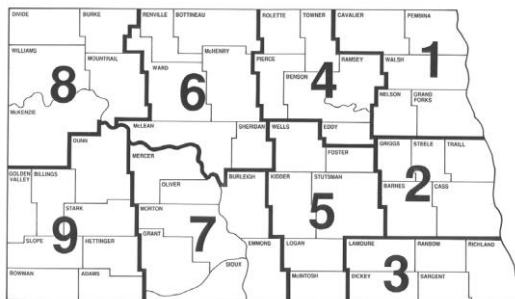
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**North Dakota Farm Bureau**  
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# Farm Bureau Beliefs

- America's unparalleled progress is based on freedom and dignity of the individual, sustained by basic moral and religious concepts.
- Economic progress, cultural advancement, ethical and religious principles flourish best where people are free, responsible individuals.
- Individual freedom and opportunity must not be sacrificed in a quest for guaranteed "security."
- We believe in government by legislative and constitutional law, impartially administered, without special privilege.
- We believe in the representative form of government—a republic—as provided in our Constitution, in limitations on government power, in maintenance of equal opportunity, in the right of each individual to freedom of worship and in freedom of speech, press and peaceful assembly.
- We believe that the basic principles of Americanism—with emphasis upon freedom, dignity and the responsibility of the individual, and our private competitive enterprise system—should be taught in the schools.
- Individuals have a moral responsibility to help preserve freedom for future generations by participating in public affairs and by helping to elect candidates who share their fundamental beliefs and principles.
- People have the right and the responsibility to speak for themselves individually or through organizations of their choice without coercion or government intervention.
- Property rights are among the human rights essential to the preservation of individual freedom.
- We believe in the right of every person to choose an occupation; to be rewarded according to his/her contribution to society; to save, invest or spend; and to convey his/ her property to heirs. Each person has the responsibility to meet financial obligations incurred.
- We believe that legislation and regulations favorable to all sectors of agriculture should be aggressively developed in cooperation with allied groups possessing common goals.
- We support the right of private organizations to require membership as a prerequisite for member services.

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## Notes

Throughout this policy book, you will notice a small number at the end of each policy statement. The number following the ID number (after the slash) denotes the year the Farm Bureau policy was adopted by the voting delegates. The policies adopted in 2015 will be automatically deleted from NDFB policy at the next annual meeting unless voting delegate action commands otherwise. The number 17 denotes policy adopted at the past NDFB Annual Meeting in Bismarck.

If any policy conflicts with another policy, the most recently adopted policy takes precedence.

## **Purpose**

NDFB is an independent, statewide, non-governmental, voluntary organization dedicated to improving opportunities and prosperity for all North Dakotans by advocating for our state's largest, renewable, economic sector: agriculture.

## **Vision**

Our vision is to create lasting economic opportunity and the framework for an unsurpassed quality of life for all North Dakotans. We will do this by being the most influential champions for practices, ideas, policies, issues and initiatives that benefit our state's economic backbone: agriculture. Our intent is to help ensure unencumbered support for farmers, ranchers, entrepreneurs and the self-reliant people who have built our state, and those who continue to build upon that legacy.

## **Preamble**

The precepts set out by our constitutional government recognize that the greatest potential for self-expression is realized when we follow the free enterprise system. Through the use of the democratic process to legislate our concerns on local, state and national levels, we strive to preserve our American heritage, thereby strengthening our home, our schools and our churches.

## **Section 100 - General Agriculture**

### **Agricultural Credit and Finance Policy 101.00**

We support the Beginning Farm Loan Program.---  
ID#: 1894/17 101.01

We encourage the development of more beginner  
and young farmer/rancher loan programs at low  
interest rates. We urge the USDA in raising the  
credit limit on operating and real estate direct loan  
programs from \$300,000 to \$500,000. We urge the  
USDA in raising the credit limit on guarantee loan  
programs from \$1,399,000 to \$2,000,000.---ID#:  
2079/16 101.02

### **Agricultural Marketing 102.00**

We shall work with other agricultural organizations  
and commodity groups to promote the American  
consumers' right to an informed purchasing choice,  
i.e. where and how their food is grown compared to  
other countries, and to promote the benefit of  
American grown produce.---ID#: 6/17 102.01

We support engaging with the public to share what  
sustainability means on our own farms, ranches and  
agribusinesses.---ID#: 1963/15 102.02

We support the continued education of the public  
on the safety of GMO and non GMO products.---  
ID#: 2000/15 102.03

We should advocate the promotion of North Dakota  
agricultural related products.---ID#: 1568/15 102.04

<b>Agricultural Research and Extension</b>	<b>103.00</b>
North Dakota should take a proactive stance in the research, development, commercialization and marketing of modern farming practices and technologies.---ID#: 2119/17	103.01
We encourage groups requesting state funding for agricultural research to apply through the State Board of Agricultural and Research Extension (SBARE) or the North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission (APUC).---ID#: 2173/17	103.02
We support the USDA-ARS Northern Crops Science Lab, USDA-ARS Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory, NDSU Extension Service, NDSU Research Centers, Northern Crops Institute and USDA-ARS Human Nutrition Laboratory.---ID#: 1098/16	103.03
We support the research and eventual production of industrial hemp in the United States.---ID#: 2044/16	103.04
We support continued research on the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) in production agriculture and support legislation to allow licensing of farmers to fly UAVs for agricultural uses on their own farms. In research or application, the UAVs should not compromise the business security, intellectual or private property rights of farmers and ranchers or other business owners.---ID#: 2071/16	103.05
We favor solutions to prevent cross contamination of crops through the transportation of agricultural products.---ID#: 2031/15	103.06
We support funding for agricultural research in the university system.---ID#: 1321/15	103.07

We support research and development of feeding livestock and animal feeding facilities that may lead to more feeding and marketing of livestock and livestock products in North Dakota and promote the use of our feed grains and by-products.---ID#: 1699/15 103.08

**Commodity Groups 104.00**

We believe that North Dakota Farm Bureau should be recognized by the North Dakota Legislature and the governor of North Dakota to be allowed a minimum of two voting seats on the North Dakota State Beef Commission.---ID#: 1866/17 104.01

Whenever any commodity group asks for a voluntary increase of its check-off, it must be on an opt-in, not an opt-out, basis.---ID#: 1861/17 104.02

All commodity checkoffs should be voluntary and refundable. ---ID#: 2093/16 104.03

We support the North Dakota Wheat Commission in its efforts to promote wheat through research and market development.---ID#: 674/16 104.04

**Crop Insurance 105.00**

We support a private crop insurance option, independent of the federal government.---ID#: 2136/17 105.01

**Government Programs 106.00**

We encourage farmers to explore their options in order to farm without government programs.---ID#: 2123/17 106.01

**Grain Bonding and Bankruptcy** **107.00**

We support legislation that protects unsecured debtors in prepay agreements and contracts against financial loss.---ID#: 1710/16 107.01

We support law that directs bankruptcy courts to recognize legal scale tickets, warehouse receipts, and receipts for fertilizer, chemicals and other inputs held by farmers as legal documents indicating that they are the legal owners of such property held in a bankrupt elevator or warehouse.--ID#: 1790/16 107.02

**Miscellaneous** **108.00**

We shall support the definition of sustainable agriculture as currently defined by the state of North Dakota.---ID#: 1823/17 108.01

We oppose frivolous complaints against modern farming and ranching practices.---ID#: 2175/17 108.02

**Section 200 - Animal Agriculture**

**Animal Welfare** **201.00**

Certified veterinarians, specialized in large animal health, should be utilized to determine animal neglect, abuse or cruelty prior to charges or seizure of production livestock.---ID#: 2139/17 201.01

We oppose the anti-agriculture activist or environmental groups, such as the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), which are detrimental to agriculture and private ownership of land and animals in North Dakota. We oppose the promotion of their agendas in schools and the use of state-funded media for this purpose.---ID#: 1938/17 201.02



We believe that when animals are sick or at risk of becoming sick they should be cared for in adherence with evidence-based standards of veterinary medicine to decrease suffering and production loss.---ID#: 1810/17 201.03

We oppose the Humane Society of the United States involvement in the training of law enforcement personnel in regard to animal cruelty regulations.---ID#: 2149/17 201.04

We support licensed North Dakota veterinarians prescribing medicines for livestock to ranchers or farmers who have a veterinary client patient relationship.---ID#: 2108/16 201.05

We support the humane treatment of animals, but will oppose and work to change any law elevating animals to the level of humans.---ID#: 2058/16 201.06

We support the responsible use of antibiotics and the science-based use of them as preventive medicine.---ID#: 2059/16 201.07

**Brands and Brand Inspection 202.00**

We believe any animal identification program should be voluntary and market-driven. We oppose any and all attempts to make it a mandatory, government-run program. In the National Animal Identification program, we support the state brand system as a means of identification, operated by the North Dakota Stockmen's Association. Any new method of livestock identification should only be considered if it is proven equally practical and cost effective as current methods and is a legally recognized form of proof of ownership in all states having livestock brand laws.---ID#: 1878/17 202.01

<b>General Animal Ag</b>	<b>203.00</b>
We support labeling of U.S. beef through the channels of free enterprise and entrepreneurship rather than a government mandated Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) program.---ID#: 1838/17	203.01
We believe agriculture zoning should not be held to a higher standard than zoning for industrial or municipal uses.---ID#: 786/17	203.02
We support the right to harvest or slaughter, with out limitation, any commodity and/or livestock for personal consumption or private sale.---ID#: 1895/17	203.03
We support the North Dakota Board of Animal Health and the Johnes Advisory Committee in its continuation of the volunteer Johnes testing program.---ID#: 623/16	203.04
We support efforts to expand all of the livestock industry in North Dakota.---ID#: 1388/16	203.05
We believe that livestock should take precedence over wildlife for the purpose of haying and/or grazing on CRP acres.---ID#: 2083/16	203.06
We support the expansion and diversification of animal agriculture in North Dakota.---ID#: 2023/15	203.07
We support the odor setbacks that established statewide guidelines, which were set forth by the 2005 Legislative Session.---ID#: 922/15	203.08
We urge the governor and the Emergency Commission to provide funding to the Board of Animal Health for testing and depopulating tuberculosis or brucellosis-infected herds of both domestic and non-traditional livestock.---ID#: 944/15	203.09

We support the State Board of Animal Health Administrative Rule regarding the interstate movement of livestock.---ID#: 1579/15 203.10

We support the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic lab and its work and goal of expanding staffing and technological advancements to better serve the producers of North Dakota.---ID#: 1602/15 203.11

We support the reinstatement of federal funding for meat inspectors in horse processing facilities. If this is not attained, we urge the North Dakota Department of Agriculture to work closely with other states to find a way to fund our inspectors.---ID#: 1645/15 203.12

## **Section 300 - Transportation**

### **Highways, Funding and Maintenance 301.00**

We support state funding for repairs and maintenance of county and township roads.---ID#: 2166/17 301.01

We believe that when hard surfaced roads are resurfaced or top-lifted, the shoulder should also be raised.---ID#: 1545/17 301.02

North Dakota counties shall not mow ditches before July 15 with exceptions for road construction.---ID#: 2148/17 301.03

As a result of state highway construction, if heavily-used township or county roads are damaged, the townships or counties should be fully compensated for the damages to the roads.---ID#: 1414/16 301.04

We understand the importance of safety in our road system. We do not support decreasing the life of a highway by intentionally destroying new highways through solid safety (rumble) strips in the center and along edges of North Dakota highways.---ID#: 2036/16 301.05

We support a FEMA cost share to allow for improvements when township/county roads, ditches or bridges are damaged, rather than simply restoring to original condition.---ID#: 1573/15 301.06

**Railroads 302.00**

We support the expansion and addition of railways throughout the state to aid in the transportation of all goods.---ID#: 1974/15 302.01

We support efforts by the North Dakota Public Service Commission to work for equity in grain freight rates.---ID#: 1656/15 302.02

**Miscellaneous 303.00**

We encourage safe and courteous practices by farmers transporting machinery and promote public awareness of farm machinery being transported on North Dakota roads. We support lawful movement of all types of farm machinery at night on all roads in North Dakota.---ID#: 2120/17 303.01

We stand in opposition to any political subdivisions creating an airport authority board to bypass county commission and township authority in creating a new airport that is not in current city limits.---ID#: 2151/17 303.02

We support the creation and implementation of tools and technologies that allow our products to be transported efficiently to market.---ID#: 2117/17 303.03

We support the use of a unified rural road labeling system.---ID#: 2135/17 303.04

Road signs should be staggered to allow passage of wide equipment.---ID#: 2176/17 303.05

## **Section 400 - Government**

### **Courts and the Legal System 401.00**

The judicial branch should be prohibited from considering international law or religious law when deciding cases.---ID#: 1550/17 401.01

### **Government Operations 402.00**

We oppose federal or state mandates to cities, counties, townships or school districts or any local jurisdiction without funding such mandates.---ID#: 62/17 402.01

We support a 60 day time frame for governmental responses to any application, permit or filing.---ID#: 2137/17 402.02

Federal and state government spending tax payer dollars in numerous farm programs and manipulation of the interest rates has over the years created bubbles in ag land values that reduce the competitiveness of American farmers and limit the abilities of young farmers and ranchers to get into the industry. The manipulation should cease. ---ID#: 2094/16 402.03

We support North Dakota regulating its own oil industry with regard to fracking and regulations.---ID#: 1732/16 402.04

<b>Insurance</b>	<b>403.00</b>
We believe that commercial applicators doing over 10,000 acres should be required to have at least one million dollars in liability insurance.---ID#: 2053/16	403.01
<i>Health Insurance</i>	
We encourage increased private competition in the North Dakota health insurance market.---ID#: 1351/16	403.02
We oppose mandates on health insurance.---ID#: 1689/15	403.03
<b>North Dakota Laws</b>	<b>404.00</b>
We support the creation of a law that would protect land used primarily for production agriculture to retain its agricultural designation even when annexed by a city or municipality. Special assessments should be deferred until the land is developed.---ID#: 1913/17	404.01
We support a farm-friendly driver's license program with a minimum age at 14.5.---ID#: 1467/17	404.02
We oppose Agenda 21 and any sustainable development programs with an agenda to change social justice to equal, to replace free enterprise with public/private partnerships, and puts nature above man, which would include agriculture, to control all activity in our communities, state and nation.---ID#: 1836/17	404.03
We support state laws that require legal identification to vote.---ID#: 2125/17	404.04

North Dakota government entities should not have eminent domain authority outside their geographical boundaries.---ID#: 2133/17	404.05
NDFB should not support changes to the North Dakota corporate farming laws that give advantage to or discriminate against any specific commodity or species. ---ID#: 2090/16	404.06
We support the current class D driver's license law for transporting farm to market. ---ID#: 2091/16	404.07
We oppose special restrictions for land owners, such as restricting pesticides and requiring changes in land use, for the production of more bees.---ID#: 2106/16	404.08
We believe zoning authority should be controlled at the township level when the townships choose to do so.---ID#: 1090/16	404.09
We believe that immediate fines and penalties should be given to beekeepers who do not follow current state laws and regulations; especially in regard to registering apiaries.---ID#: 1753/16	404.10
We support increased penalties from malicious criminal behavior relating to the destruction of personal and public property including crops and livestock.---ID#: 1769/16	404.11
NDFB is in favor of common sense training for local assessors. However, we are opposed to training requirements beyond the scope of responsibility of class two assessors. ---ID#: 2048/16	404.12
We support the law known as the Territorial Integrity Act.---ID#: 1965/15	404.13

We believe that the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Commissioner need to have and enforce a system to audit the registration of apiaries to prevent fraud and incorrectly registered apiaries.---ID#: 1987/15	404.14
We believe that we should have the ability to refer extraterritorial zoning.---ID#: 1997/15	404.15
We support that ten percent of the earning from the North Dakota Legacy Fund should be used to fund North Dakota's county and township transportation infrastructure.---ID#: 2009/15	404.16
We support a "Lemon Law" for agricultural equipment sold in the state of North Dakota.---ID#: 1970/15	404.17
We support the elimination of the corporate farming laws in North Dakota and urge NDFB to pursue this.---ID#: 2020/15	404.18
We shall work with townships and counties to develop farmer-friendly, responsible zoning ordinances for animal agriculture.---ID#: 977/15	404.19
We oppose extra-territorial zoning.---ID#: 1690/15	404.20
<b>State Government</b>	<b>405.00</b>
Any rule enacted through the administrative rules and/or means process must remain within the intent of the underlying law.---ID#: 2118/17	405.01
We support the inclusion of milk in state run meal programs.---ID#: 2045/16	405.02



We support legislative action prohibiting the filing of any initiated measure mandating the automatic distribution of any state revenue funds, such as Oil Extraction Tax, without direct action by the North Dakota Legislature.---ID#: 2072/16 405.03

We oppose using non-governmental organizations or groups to provide technical support for implementation of farm bill programs.---ID#: 2082/16 405.04

The legislative session in North Dakota should be strictly biennial.---ID#: 2057/16 405.05

Any claim that is submitted to the state agriculture department that is frivolous and is withdrawn, any and all expenses incurred with the claim will be paid by the person submitting the claim.---ID#: 1966/15 405.06

We believe no enforcement action can be pursued by the enforcement officers of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and Department of Health based on anonymous complaints.---ID#: 1677/15 405.07

## **Section 500 - Tax and Fiscal Policy**

### **Economic Development 501.00**

We favor long-term tax law changes, like reduction in corporate income tax, to encourage new businesses to move to North Dakota, rather than offering short-term incentives.---ID#: 1307/15 501.01

APUC (Agricultural Products Utilization Commission) funds shall not be given to any company or individual that has majority ownership out of the state of North Dakota.---ID#: 1557/15 501.02

<b>Farmstead Exemptions</b>	<b>502.00</b>
We support raising the limit of non-farm income for the purposes of property tax exemption.---ID#: 1815/17	502.01
We believe farm residences and buildings should remain tax-exempt.---ID#: 18/17	502.02
<b>Fiscal Policy</b>	<b>503.00</b>
We support responsible state budgeting, beginning with a zero base budget for state agencies.---ID#: 2124/17	503.01
We encourage state legislators to limit the growth of spending.---ID#: 1976/15	503.02
We oppose any and all forms of coercive wealth redistribution.---ID#: 1978/15	503.03
<b>Fuel Tax</b>	<b>504.00</b>
We believe that fuel taxes should be dedicated to roads and not recreational trails.---ID#: 97/16	504.01
<b>Oil and Natural Resource Revenue</b>	<b>505.00</b>
We support a change in the oil extraction tax to increase funding for oil impacted areas.---ID#: 2019/15	505.01
<b>Property Taxation</b>	<b>506.00</b>
We favor valuation of agricultural land, for tax purposes, be based on the productivity formula.---ID#: 1907/17	506.01

NDFB shall pursue property tax reform, including the following elements: 506.02

1. Change all reference of mills to dollars per thousand dollars of taxable valuation.
2. Baseline budgeting with approval for budget increases approved by the voters on a biennial basis.
3. Establishment of a fund through which a property tax credit shall be paid to the political subdivisions of the state against a reduction in the taxable valuation of property.
4. Consolidation of tax levies.---ID#: 2178/17

NDFB is in favor of property tax relief, and supports property tax reform.---ID#: 1327/16 506.03

We believe that references to mills should be expressed in dollars.---ID#: 2054/16 506.04

We propose that counties who have soil committees use the NRCS productivity index in property tax valuations as determined by sound science.---ID#: 1951/15 506.05

We support legislation that would prohibit any property taxing entity from overruling or modifying another property taxing entity's levy on any property without the authorization of the political subdivision that is authorized to impose such tax.---ID#: 1572/15 506.06

**Sales Tax 507.00**

We support the retention of agricultural sales tax exemptions.---ID#: 1027/16 507.01

<b>Tax Policy</b>	<b>508.00</b>
We believe all mill levy increases must be approved by a vote of the affected taxpayers.---ID#: 2154/17	508.01
<b>Section 600 - Education</b>	
<b>Agricultural Education</b>	<b>601.00</b>
We support further promotion of agriculture careers through our school guidance programs, such as interest interviews with students.---ID#: 1809/17	601.01
Although the North Dakota Century Code 15.1-21-01.3(e) requires instruction in North Dakota studies, including agriculture, NDFB supports legislation that would require agriculture education in the fourth and eighth grades.---ID#: 2035/16	601.02
We support requiring all teachers licensed by the Education Standards and Practice Board (ESPB) in North Dakota to take one course prior to or within two years of licensure that introduces the study of agriculture.---ID#: 2037/16	601.03
We support the increased availability of proper training of rural fire departments in agriculture emergencies.---ID#: 1994/15	601.04
We support continued state funding, and Farm Bureau's participation, for Ag in the Classroom programs and other educational programs that promote agriculture within schools at all levels.---ID#: 2002/15	601.05

<b>Education Administration</b>	<b>602.00</b>
We believe school transportation policies should be established by local school districts, not state mandated.---ID#: 102/17	602.01
We oppose requiring teachers to have a major in every core class they teach.---ID#: 629/16	602.02
We support local and state jurisdiction over our educational curriculum to best meet the developmental and vocational needs of our students. We oppose nationalized education, which would include common core.---ID#: 1943/15	602.03
We support parental consent for all medical procedures, advice or prescriptions related to any medical program for children in our schools.---ID#: 969/15	602.04
<b>Education Funding</b>	<b>603.00</b>
We propose smaller schools receive higher funding per pupil than the bigger schools.---ID#: 1950/15	603.01
We support finding additional ways to fund schools to stop the rising costs of property taxes.---ID#: 555/15	603.02
<b>Higher Education</b>	<b>604.00</b>
We support expanding the farm business management education program.---ID#: 1862/17	604.01
We support programs which expand opportunities for more licensed veterinarians in North Dakota.---ID#: 2159/17	604.02

We resolve that there should be reciprocity for higher education tuition among our surrounding states, Minnesota, Montana and South Dakota. ---ID#: 2088/16 604.03

We encourage the installation of more agriculture education teacher programs at North Dakota's four year universities.---ID#: 2061/16 604.05

We believe NDSU, North Dakota's land grant university, should provide a comprehensive, multi-disciplined agricultural education. We believe the students' support, opinions and involvement is vital in decisions made concerning the College of Ag, Food Systems and Natural Resources. We recognize the university's need to adapt and expand. We encourage NDSU's ability to continue a multi-disciplined agricultural education on a contiguous campus.---ID#: 1399/16 604.04

We support the advancement of agriculture studies in all participating institutions to protect the integrity of North Dakota's agricultural heritage.---ID#: 2080/16 604.06

We encourage the creation of a course for college credit that addresses present day problems in agriculture and the environment, with focus on developing critical thinking, communication, self confidence, knowledge base and leadership skills.--ID#: 1961/15 604.07

**School Lunches 605.00**

We support local determination of school lunch menus and portion sizes.---ID#: 1852/17 605.01

We oppose the promotion of any "meat free" day.--ID#: 2134/17 605.02

We support the free and reduced lunch programs in North Dakota schools.---ID#: 2046/16 605.03

We support the increase in the quality of the food and calories and not just limiting the calories as a part of fighting obesity through the national school lunch program.---ID#: 2038/16 605.04

## **Section 700 - Natural and Environmental Resources**

### **Ag Chemicals 701.00**

We support the informative education of the public as to the benefits and safety of the application and use of pesticides and fertilizers.---ID#: 1879/17 701.01

### **Air Quality 702.00**

We object to the Environmental Protection Agency's involvement in agriculture and support defunding it.---ID#: 2122/17 702.01

We oppose the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from our power plants and other sources.---ID#: 1727/16 702.02

### **Easements 703.00**

We support an annual easement payment instead of a one-time payment. Payments should reflect current land values.---ID#: 1489/17 703.01

Wildlife and conservation easements should not be perpetual, but should be returned to the landowner when the land is sold and title is transferred.---ID#: 1747/16 703.02

We support a change in state statute from a single payment system for public utility easements to a system where payments are made annually over the life of the easement.---ID#: 1981/15 703.03

We shall support the establishment of a U.S. Fish & Wildlife easement lease buyout program.---ID#: 2012/15 703.04

All new conservation and preservation easements should be in effect only as long as the signer of the easement owns the land. NDFB stands opposed to perpetual easements.---ID#: 1693/15 703.05

**Hunting and Trapping 704.00**

We support North Dakota property owners' rights to continue to control all types of hunting, including high-fence hunting, on their property. Property owners or lessees shall decide who hunts their land, and if they prefer, to charge a fee to the hunter for that privilege. We further believe that hunting and recreational rights are land uses, not property title, and therefore, cannot be severed from the surface title of the land.---ID#: 159/17 704.01

We support the creation of a spring Canada goose season concurrent with the existing spring snow goose season to help alleviate crop depredation.---ID#: 1847/17 704.02

We support a loss of hunting privileges and stiffer financial penalties for hunters who trespass on private land and fail to observe "No Hunting" signs.---ID#: 699/16 704.03

North Dakota Farm Bureau supports all lands as considered posted unless signed otherwise.---ID#: 1763/16 704.04



We oppose limiting the number of out-of-state hunters and/or trappers or any difference in season limitations between resident and non-resident hunters.---ID#: 2040/16 704.05

**Miscellaneous 705.00**

Pollution regulations, which mandate changes in farming practices, should be based on scientific research that proves a given farming practice, in a particular geography, is in fact causing the pollution and is not caused by other sources and that the proposed regulations will actually reduce pollution.---ID#: 2127/17 705.01

We oppose any tax revenue from oil or gas going to conservation groups.---ID#: 1723/16 705.02

We oppose any tax revenue from oil or gas going to conservation groups and using any money from the outdoor heritage fund to pay for a state funded conservation reserve program replacement or substitute.---ID#: 2055/16 705.03

The EPA shall serve only in an advisory capacity here in North Dakota.---ID#: 1593/15 705.04

**Predator Control 706.00**

We support creating legislation that would require the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to pay agricultural producers for wildlife depredation of livestock, crops and stored feed. The producer should be paid for losses at market price or contract price.---ID#: 1813/17 706.01

We support use of artificial light for enhanced predator control. ---ID#: 2100/16 706.02

We support the North Dakota Game and Fish to increase funding for the USDA's predator control.-- -ID#: 1701/16	706.03
We support efforts to control the black bird and Canada goose population to the point where it is no longer an economic problem for agriculture.---ID#: 2064/16	706.04
We believe farmers should be allowed to take the necessary steps, including elimination, to keep wildlife from destroying tangible property. Steps should include allowing transferable depredation tags for antlerless deer be made available to landowners in addition to regular hunting season licenses.---ID#: 1267/15	706.05
We ask that the state Game and Fish Department and USDA Wildlife Services Division continue funding the predator control division of the wildlife services department. The control of coyotes, beavers, wolves, mountain lions, and other problem animals and birds is a must for ranchers, farmers and others.---ID#: 1616/15	706.06
In the event that a producer is found to have destructive wildlife on their property, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department shall be required to make every effort to disperse the wildlife by any means necessary.---ID#: 1654/15	706.07
<b>Public and Government Owned Lands</b>	<b>707.00</b>
We oppose using state conservation funds to purchase land.---ID#: 2167/17	707.01
We support a no net gain of government or conservation group-owned land, county by county and state by state.---ID#: 1871/17	707.02

We oppose the allocation of any additional state funds being given to groups/organizations for the purpose of conservation projects, conservation easements and/or land acquisitions.---ID#: 1886/17	707.03
We believe that government-owned lands should be managed with input from the private sector.---ID#: 981/16	707.04
We oppose the gifting of public lands to any organization; however, we support the sale of federal and state land back to the private sector.---ID#: 1051/16	707.05
We believe that all agricultural land repossessed by government agencies should be put up for sale to private individuals and that no federal or state entity should be allowed to obtain it or be granted easements or acquire any existing mineral rights.---ID#: 1070/16	707.06
We believe the 12,000 acres of land around Theodore Roosevelt National Park's Elkhorn Ranch site should not be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.---ID#: 1359/16	707.07
We request that the county commission be notified six months in advance by the state Game & Fish Department of any potential upcoming land purchases in the area.---ID#: 1761/16	707.09

We are opposed to any policies in the Forest Service Management Plan and/or its administrative rule for National Grasslands/Forest Service lands located within North Dakota that alters the multiple-use of such lands, and that would adversely impact North Dakota residents. In addition, North Dakota Farm Bureau is opposed to any policy in the management plan for said lands that:

707.08

1. Inhibits or reduces economic uses of said lands, including, but not limited to, livestock grazing;
2. Reduces the ability to fully develop all energy resources on such land, including, but not limited to, oil, wind, coal or gas resources;
3. Inhibits or reduces recreational uses of said lands;
4. Undermines, or changes, the purpose for which said lands were initially acquired;
5. Reduces revenues from said lands that would reduce payments in lieu of taxes to the counties in which the land is located; and
6. Inhibits or restricts free and unlimited access to improvements (ex. water, pipelines, fences, roads, etc.) made upon the National Grasslands.---ID#: 1361/16

We believe that when land is flooded by navigable lakes, and when the water recedes, the ownership should be returned to the people based on the property lines at the time of flooding.---ID#: 2025/15

707.10

We believe all state school lands should be sold back in its entirety with no encumbrances to an active agricultural producer.---ID#: 1698/15

707.11

<b>Soil Conservation</b>	<b>708.00</b>
If CRP is released for emergency haying, the Farm Service Agency should be the lead agency and work primarily with agricultural organizations in determining starting dates and rules for haying CRP.---ID#: 190/16	708.01
We believe, in years of drought, excessive water, and/or hay shortages, livestock shall take precedence over wildlife for the purpose of early haying and/or grazing on CRP acres.---ID#: 1630/15	708.02
<b>Waste Materials Disposal</b>	<b>709.00</b>
We support a no net gain policy on nuclear waste storage.---ID#: 2121/17	709.01
We believe salt water pipelines should be monitored by flow monitor systems to prevent salt water spills.---ID#: 2052/16	709.02
<b>Water Control Boards</b>	<b>710.00</b>
We oppose the development of a Missouri River Commission based on the Red River Commission model.---ID#: 2017/15	710.01
We oppose the Red River Basin Commission having any taxing authority.---ID#: 184/15	710.02
<b>Water Policy</b>	<b>711.00</b>
Heritage Fund monies should be used to annually compensate, at fair market cash rent values, those who lose their land to waters of the state.---ID#: 1929/17	711.01

- We support the agricultural use of drain tile both as a conservation tool and as a flood mitigation tool. 711.02  
 We oppose regulatory policy of damming or blocking drain tile without just compensation.---ID#: 1549/17
- We call on the state of North Dakota to reclaim our waters where federal wildlife refuges have illegally restricted access to our waters, such as is occurring at Lake Alice and Lake Audubon wildlife refuges, among others. Though the federal government may own the land under the lake, the lake itself belongs to the people of North Dakota and the federal government has no right to restrict its use.---ID#: 1905/17 711.03
- We support landowners/operators ability to run drain tile through Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) unless specified in contract.---ID#: 2129/17 711.04
- We oppose any attempt to diminish agriculture and livestock's priority ranking for the waters of the state under the jurisdiction of the State Water Commission.---ID#: 993/16 711.05
- We oppose the Surplus Reallocation Study by the United States Army Corp of Engineers concerning the Missouri River Basin.---ID#: 1755/16 711.06
- We encourage state, counties, and townships to help and not hinder field tiling, since it helps reduce top soil erosion and reduces runoff water, thus improving the overall quality of water going down our streams.---ID#: 2041/16 711.07
- We support a requirement that all drains must be maintained by landowners and conservation groups so that landowners are not negatively affected.---ID#: 2003/15 711.08
- We support compensation to property owners flooded by state water.---ID#: 2005/15 711.09

The process for determining navigability at the time of statehood for waters of North Dakota should be an open process that both notifies the public and allows for protests. In addition, the list of navigable waters should be easily available to the public with an explanation of what it means.---ID#: 2026/15 711.10

**Water Projects 712.00**

We oppose funding for any diversion proposal that includes a dam and reservoir on the Red River south of Fargo.---ID#: 1784/16 712.01

We resolve action that would provide basin-wide flood protection.---ID#: 1948/15 712.02

The North Dakota Legislature must require a federal construction cost-share appropriation for the Fargo Diversion project, before matching state funds are distributed.---ID#: 1979/15 712.03

**Weed Control 713.00**

We support the compliance of noxious weed control by all entities that manage or own property and support giving weed boards the authority to control noxious weeds. Any fines collected should go to the weed board for further monitoring and control as provided by state statute.---ID#: 1548/17 713.01

We encourage the state, through the office of the Ag Commissioner, to raise awareness and education of noxious weeds on all lands including state, federal and tribal lands. ---ID#: 2103/16 713.02

We support the concept of local control of noxious weeds through county weed boards and township officials and recommend noxious weed laws to be enforced and support stiffer penalties for those who make no effort to control noxious weeds in a timely manner on land they own or control, including but not limited to parks, railroads, state and federal lands, all roadways and wildlife refuges. If local officials are unable or unwilling to enforce said laws, the North Dakota Ag Commissioner shall be charged to enforce said laws.---ID#: 1019/16

713.03

We believe that government agencies should control noxious weeds on land under their control.--ID#: 2084/16

713.04

Land controlled by government agencies must control noxious weeds to the same standards as under CRP contracts.---ID#: 1614/15

713.05

## **Wetlands**

**714.00**

We propose that all farmable land be exempt from wetlands designation and be eligible for drainage.--ID#: 1131/17

714.01

We support an acre for an acre wetland mitigation process.---ID#: 1952/15

714.02

We support a mediation program concerning nuisance wetlands in North Dakota.---ID#: 1957/15

714.03

We support property owners' rights to drain their own property into a natural wetland.---ID#: 1576/15

714.04

We support fewer restrictions on water draining when it affects roads and farmsteads.---ID#: 1629/15

714.05



**Wildlife Management** **715.00**

We oppose the federal "wild and scenic" designation for any rivers and their tributaries in North Dakota and oppose wilderness land designation in the state.---ID#: 2085/16 715.01

*Endangered Species*

We oppose legislation to restrict farming and ranching in favor of threatened and/or endangered species.---ID#: 1998/15 715.02

We strongly oppose any new additions to the threatened or endangered species list.---ID#: 2013/15 715.03

We support the elimination of the Dakota Skipper off the threatened species list.---ID#: 2018/15 715.04

We strongly oppose any efforts to add prairie dogs to the threatened or endangered species list.---ID#: 956/15 715.05

**Wildlife Property** **716.00**

We request that all funding for U.S. Fish and Wildlife easements be eliminated.---ID#: 1744/16 716.01

**Section 800 - Property Rights**

**Mineral Rights** **801.00**

Surface acres should be leased by energy and mineral companies through negotiations for activities in all forms of energy and mineral development. Options for easements should not be signed until PSC citing process is complete.---ID#: 2015/15 801.01

**Private Property** **802.00**

We oppose any county taking more than the constituted right of way without fair and just compensation. ---ID#: 2141/17 802.01

We believe all private property should be considered "Posted - No Trespassing" even if signs or other notices are not in existence, unless otherwise designated. Trespassing laws shall be enforced and all penalties stiffened. ---ID#: 160/17 802.02

We believe property owners should not be legally responsible for any natural or man-made obstacle or situation that may cause personal injury or property damage to persons using their property. ---ID#: 1151/17 802.03

No activity related to right of way purchases, such as surveying on purposed right of way easements, may be performed without landowner's prior written permission. A penalty of \$25,000 and 30 days in jail will be recommended per occurrence. --- ID#: 2156/17 802.04

We support the protection of private property rights against government takings by any agency, department or organization. ---ID#: 1383/16 802.05

We believe one of the duties of government is to protect private property, especially from unauthorized surveillance invasion and interference by government itself. To further this objective, NDFB supports limiting the regulation of private property and protecting private property and identifying the costs of regulation of private property. ---ID#: 2032/15 802.06

We should continue to work through all channels toward the end result of considering all lands as posted and closed to public access unless the landowner grants permission. ---ID#: 542/15 802.07

## **Section 900 - Energy**

### **Oil and Natural Resource Revenue 901.00**

We believe 60 percent of income from oil tax revenue should be distributed to counties most adversely affected by oil exploration and production, to be targeted for road maintenance, infrastructure and education.---ID#: 2146/17 901.01

Surface owners should see the productivity of their land restored after mineral development. Energy development sites should not be considered reclaimed and the bond should not be released until the productivity of the land is restored. Soil maps should be used to determine productivity before development. ---ID#: 2104/16 901.02

### **Oil, Gas and Coal Production 902.00**

We believe if North Dakota is forced to reduce its CO2 output by close to half, the state should submit a plan whereby the transmission lines out of the state are shut off in order to meet that goal. ---ID#: 2105/16 902.01

We support new construction of all pipelines in and out of state, such as, Keystone pipeline and other construction projects that would help transport liquids and or gas in or out of the state.---ID#: 1973/15 902.02

We support the use of some of the Energy Infrastructure and Impact Grants for the training of local fire and rescue crews in industrial emergency response.---ID#: 1599/15 902.03

<b>Renewable Energy</b>	<b>903.00</b>
We oppose severing wind or water rights from surface rights of the land.---ID#: 1750/16	903.01
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>904.00</b>
We believe anyone using removable markers, to mark underground lines, be required to remove the markers one week after the work is completed. Markers should be biodegradable.---ID#: 2163/17	904.01
The North Dakota One Call threshold depth before you dig should be 24 inches.---ID#: 2170/17	904.02
<b>Section 1000 - Miscellaneous</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1001.00</b>
We support access to high-speed broadband services for rural areas and to continue support for Rural Utilities Service (RUS) that provides funding for loans and grants of increased broadband capacity and telecommunication services.---ID#: 1734/16	1001.01
We support the state of North Dakota opting out of daylight savings time.---ID#: 1756/16	1001.02
We support H2A Labor Reform to include guest workers being eligible for a twelve month renewable visa that is easily transferable between farms. We support initiatives to reduce the bureaucratic complexity of the program as well as revisiting the base wage rates required in relation to market levels specific to agricultural occupations.--ID#: 1768/16	1001.03

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