



Protecting Montana's wildlife, land, waters, and hunting & fishing heritage for future generations.

Board Resolution on Hound Hunting of Black Bears in Montana

Whereas hunting black bears with hounds was recently legalized by the Montana Legislature after a century of being illegal in Montana;

Whereas the use of hounds to hunt black bears will likely result in conflicts and death for grizzly bears in the areas where hounds are used, and grizzly bears occur;

Whereas the positive public comments on this law were dominated by hound hunter groups; and

Whereas large numbers of comments from Montana black bear hunters and conservation groups against this law had no apparent impact on the law's passage; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF):

1. MWF is opposed to hound hunting of black bears in Montana as unnecessary and harmful to black bears and the image of sport hunting.
2. Urges Montana FWP to reduce potential conflicts between hounds and hound hunters and grizzly bears in Montana that will result in the death of grizzly bears and risk to hound hunters and other wildlands users.
3. Urges Montana FWP to document and track conflicts between black bear hound hunters and grizzly bears.

Moved: Logan Brower

Second: Glenn Elison

Passed 14 for and 0 against

April 15, 2023, at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Montana Wildlife Federation