



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

Board Resolution on Fair Chase Hunting

Whereas the social acceptance of hunting requires that the majority of citizens continue to see sport hunting as fair, ethical, safe and meaningful;

Whereas hunting will remain a privilege of citizenship, a part of our heritage and a benefit to wildlife conservation as long as the public accepts it;

Whereas the hunter engages in a one-to-one relationship with the quarry that should be guided by a steadfast set of ethics related to hunting, which includes the following principles:

- The hunter knows and obeys the pertinent laws and regulations, and insists others do as well.
- Hunters understand that hunting is not only about what is legal, but also what is honorable and ethical.
- Hunters define "unfair advantage" as when the game does not have a reasonable chance of escape.
- Hunters care about and respect all wildlife and the ecosystems that support them, which includes not wasting game animals.
- Hunter's measure success not in the quantity of game taken, but by the quality of the experience.
- Hunters understand and embrace the "no guarantees" nature of hunting.
- Hunters use technology in a way that does not give the hunter an unfair advantage over the animal and assures that technology does not diminish the importance of developing skills as a hunter or reduces hunting to just shooting animals.
- Hunters know their limitations and stretch the stalk not the shot.
- Hunters take pride in their decisions in the field and take full responsibility for their actions; and

Whereas hunting in today's world involves the regulated harvest of animals in a manner that conserves, protects, and perpetuates the hunted population; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF):

1. Will support legislation and policies that encourage ethical, fair chase hunting to protect our hunting heritage and to manage our wildlife.
2. Will oppose legislation and policies that do not abide by the principles of fair chase.

Moved: John Salazar

Second: Liz McFarland

Passed 14 for and 0 against

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