

# Natural Resource Committee

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Director

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Defender of Our Wildlife Heritage since 1946



**MBHA and MHDF are true conservationists! We routinely ask for reductions in harvest in order to have robust game populations**



## About Us



### Michigan Bear Hunters Association

- Established in 1946 by Carl T. Johnson, who later served as NRC commissioner for many years
- Since 1996, MBHA has donated over \$400,000 to defend hunting rights in AK, CA, FL, NJ, MI, MD, ME, OH.
- Since 2002, our scholarship program has awarded over \$100,000 to over 80 students pursuing higher education.
- Have successfully worked closely with conservation leaders in the legislature from both sides of the aisle to protect and promote Michigan's natural resources and outdoor heritage.

### Michigan Hunting Dog Federation

- Established in 1990
- Works to protect all Dog Hunting.
- Works to Protect and Promote Michigan's natural Resources and outdoor Heritage.



## Current Focus



- Strive for conservation of our great natural resources here in MI. We have a long track record of advocating first for the resource.
- Educating people (legislators, DNR, NRC) about bear hunting and why it is important.
- Better enforcement of trespass laws on the books, not new trespass laws. This would include support of hiring more CO's.
- Being able to free cast our hunting dogs is paramount.
- Continue work on commercial guiding legislation.
- Continue to build and maintain relationships with legislators, NRC, and DNR staff.



## Working with the DNR



- Starting in 2008 MBHA started working with DNR to make each years bear patch. Each year we have a Bear Patch Cooperator Patch Contest for students in K-12 public, private or home schooled to design the patch.
- Starting in 2017 MBHA with the help of College welder students we started building and donating bear traps for the Michigan DNR.
  - Kirland Community College in Gaylord built the first trap
  - Ferris State is currently working on building the next trap.



# Questions and Answers



