

Annual Furbearer Workgroup Meeting

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Our annual meeting was held on May 2, 2024, at the North Dakota Game & Fish Office in Bismarck. Attendees included individuals from NDGFD, USFWS, USDA-Wildlife Services, Delta Waterfowl, North Dakota Hound Hunters Association, Chapter 3 Furtakers of America, and us. Most of the day's discussions showed that furbearer populations are strong and steady with no real changes or modifications being considered for the upcoming seasons.

We asked for consideration to change the Turtle Mountain boundaries for restricted fisher and marten harvest. Currently, the entireties of Bottineau and Rolette counties are off limits to fisher harvest. We asked the boundaries use the state highway system of 14, 5, and 30 to more accurately define the marten protected zone. We are hoping for favorable consideration of that change. This coming year will also mark the end of the three-year marten study, which has already shown some great marten numbers in the Turtle Mountains.

Contact me if you would like a complete copy of the entire meeting notes.