



November 11, 2015

ATTN: Public Input Coordinator
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Policy Division
Species Conservation Policy Branch – Wildlife Section
300 Water Street
Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8M5

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: EBR #012-5485 Amendment to two regulations under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 to extend and expand the Black Bear Pilot Project in parts of northern and central Ontario for an additional five years and to regulate the baiting of black bears.

The Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed "amendment to two regulations under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 to extend and expand the Black Bear Pilot Project in parts of northern and central Ontario for an additional five years and to regulate the baiting of black bears."

BFO supports the Ministry's proposal to extend the spring black bear hunting season pilot to all 88 Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) that currently have a fall black bear hunting season for an additional five years. Expanding the pilot to WMUs outside of Northern Ontario is a positive step forward and recognizes that human and agriculture-wildlife conflicts with bears occurs throughout the province.

While BFO would have preferred the pilot to be expanded to all WMUs in Ontario within black bear range we would like to thank Minister Mauro and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for their positive response to concerns raised by BFO and other members of the agricultural community.

On behalf of the Beef Farmers of Ontario, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*.

Sincerely,

Bob Gordanier
President

Cc: BFO Board of Directors
Glenn Dorland
Doug Gray
Dave Denure
Nathan Grundy

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