



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION POLICY

2503 – Game Bird Hunting Preserves (Revised: 09/12/2013)

Supersedes:

No. 2503 – Shooting Preserves, dated January 1, 1977.

Issue/Purpose:

All wild animals found in this state, whether resident or migratory and whether native or introduced, are the property of the people of the state. The purpose of this policy is to recognize the use of game bird hunting preserves as a recreational alternative to hunting on unstocked state or private lands.

Definitions:

“Domestic” shall have the meaning defined in Section 5 of the Animal Industry Act, Act 466 of 1988.

“Livestock” shall have the meaning defined in Section 5 of the Animal Industry Act, Act 466 of 1988.

“License” shall have the meaning defined in Part 417 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994 (1994 PA 451).

Policy:

Hunting preserves may be licensed in accordance with 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.41710, unless the Department determines that the impact on natural resources will be such that issuing a license is not in the public interest. The Department has established rules regarding release of birds, species that may be hunted, feeding of birds, training and use of dogs, sources of stock, inspection of premises and record keeping as provided for in the Shooting Preserve Commission Order of September 1, 2000.

The Natural Resources Commission supports the use of game bird hunting preserves under these statutory and departmental conditions and recognizes their value for hunter recruitment and retention. In addition, hunting preserves may add value to local economies using natural resources and may positively impact wildlife by maintaining open spaces and providing habitat.

Related Reference:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994 –
<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?mcl-Act-451-of-1994>

The Shooting Preserve Order –
<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws/orders/shooting-preserve-order>

The Animal Industry Act, Act 466 of 1988 –
<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-466-of-1988.pdf>

2503 – Game Bird Hunting Preserves is hereby approved.

J.R. Richardson, Chair

Effective Date