



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2003 Wisconsin Act 67 [2003 Assembly Bill 27]	Wild Turkey Hunting Licenses for Resident Landowners
2003 Acts: www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/acts/	Act Memos: www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/act_memo/act_memo.htm

2003 Wisconsin Act 67 eliminates the requirement in current law that a resident landowner who receives a higher preference for a turkey hunting license must allow other persons to hunt wild turkey on the land.

Background

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues wild turkey hunting licenses pursuant to a preference system. The DNR uses the preference system when the number of applications for wild turkey hunting licenses exceeds the number of available licenses. The preference system is established in s. 29.164 (3), Stats. The first preference is for “qualified resident landowners,” the second preference is for residents of Wisconsin who applied in a previous season but did not receive a wild turkey hunting license, the third preference is for all other Wisconsin residents, the fourth preference is for qualified nonresident landowners, and the fifth preference is for all other nonresidents.

Under the current statute, 30% of all licenses for wild turkey are allocated to the first preference category. The eligibility for the first preference requires that a resident landowner must own at least 50 acres in a single parcel within a wild turkey hunting zone and must agree to allow other persons to hunt wild turkeys on that land. The other hunters must first obtain permission to hunt from the resident landowner. The statute contains other provisions about multiple owners of land and assignment of eligibility by a qualified resident landowner to another person.

2003 Wisconsin Act 67

2003 Wisconsin Act 67 deletes the requirement in the current statute that a qualified resident landowner must agree to allow other persons to hunt wild turkeys on the land. Act 67 retains the other

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents.

requirements, so that a qualified resident landowner must own at least 50 acres in one parcel within a wild turkey hunting zone.

Initial Applicability

The Act applies to wild turkey hunting licenses issued commencing on the effective date.

Effective Date: November 20, 2003.

Prepared by: Mark Patronsky, Senior Staff Attorney

December 30, 2003

MCP:jal:rv