From: Mark Herwig <mefsherwig@yahoo.com> Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 5:58 PM

Subject: Written testimony for HF 3809, Ag, Finance and Policy hearing March 7, 1pm

Dear Committee:

I own 44 acres of rec/hunting land in Carlton County across the road from the Fon Du Lac State Forest (along Co. Rd. 4) close to where elk will be released. I support HF 3809 to increase the NW Minnesota elk herd so surplus animals can be transplanted to the NE area as approved by the MDNR, FDL tribe, RMEF, etc.

I hope someday to hear the mighty elk bugle while I'm grouse hunting some fall (if I live that long! I'm 68). Those elk can come and graze my land anytime! I can't imagine I'll live long enough to hunt these elk, so that's not my goal. This is an inspiring conservation effort to restore elk to their native land..........a herd that won't be such as problem as they are in the NW ag area, a herd that can expand and be enjoyed by all Minnesotans either as tourists, hunters or animal lovers. Thank you.

Yours in conservation, Mark Herwig White Bear Lake, 612.382.8782