In 2007, the Montana Legislative Sportsmen’s Caucus (MLSC) joined the National Assembly of Sportsmen’s Caucuses, a bipartisan and bicameral group of state legislators committed to protecting and advancing hunting, angling, trapping, and recreational shooting. Working closely with the Montana Legislative Sportsmen’s Caucus Advisory Council (Advisory Council), the MLSC looks to its sporting community constituents for guidance on key issues sportsmen and women are facing in the Treasure State. Included on the Advisory Council are organizations that represent Montana’s interests in big game, waterfowl, outfitters and guides, coldwater fisheries, trappers, landowners, warmwater fisheries, recreational shooting, and upland game birds, with Fish, Wildlife, and Parks holding an ex-officio position.

Policy Highlights

- In 1987, HB 526 was enacted to use additional hunting license fees to provide consistent funding for the purchase and management of priority habitats properties.
- In 2004, Montana voted to amend the state constitution to recognize and preserve the opportunity of Montana citizens to harvest wild fish and wild game animals.
- In 2015, former GSC Member Governor Steve Bullock enacted HB 250 which clarified the legality of using suppressors for hunting in the state.
- In 2017, SB 218 amended the law to increase the age limit to anyone 10 or older to hunt for up to two years without completing a hunter education course.

Economic Impact and Conservation Funding

- In 2020, Montana’s sportsmen and women generated $80.83 million through the American System of Conservation Funding to support the conservation efforts.
- Montana’s hunters and anglers support over 16,515 jobs and generate over $211 million in taxes.