

one-to-one relationship to what kind of a winter we have. But they have been chasing these animals off of these "stackyards" with snowmobiles, and so forth, and it just doesn't work to do that. The only way is to reduce some of these herds eventually, if need be, and to disperse them with some hunting pressure possibly. The first possible season that could be held would be in the fall of 1986. It would not be possible any more this fall in 1985 just simply because the machinery to set up a system of hunting and applications, and so forth, wouldn't be workable, it wouldn't move that fast. Again, this does not set a season. Game and Parks Commission, if some of you ask me afterwards how many licenses are we talking about, will it be for bulls only or for any...either sex, elk or whatever, I do not know. Game and Parks will set...have a public hearing as required by law and will set those seasons, the length of the season, and so forth, at a later date. Again, this just gives them the statutory authorization to do that. We also do have to set fees in our statutes on these seasons and this would be a \$100 fee for an elk license with a \$5 application fee. The \$100 would be refundable. Of course, if you were not successful in drawing a permit, the \$5 application fee would not. That would be for processing. It would be a very highly sought permit because we have probably in the neighborhood of 40,000 to 50,000 deer hunters in this state. Whether we would have 1,000 or 5,000 of those apply for an elk permit is no way to know, but we know that a lot of them would. There would be only one permit in a lifetime. Once a person gets an elk permit, they would not be eligible for another and it would be restricted to resident Nebraskans only. There would also be a certain amount, not exceeding 30 percent of the total permits, set aside for limited landowners to hunt elk on their land only, on their property. These would be \$50 permits. They would be eligible for one every five years and they, as I said, would be limited to 30 percent of the total number of existing permits. You should remember, those of you that are interested in this elk herd, the object of this legislation is not to eliminate the herd. The object is not to let the herd number grow beyond caring capacity of that area. It is just to give the state agency with the authority and the responsibility of managing these animals the tools to do so, to set a season as they see fit at such a time as they think one is required. Those of you that looked at the committee hearings note that there was one objector to this bill and I will just briefly pass along