

OPINION
54-15

December 6, 1954 (OPINION)

BOUNTIES

RE: Generally

We have received your letter of December 2, 1954, with reference to the above matter. You state that a certain party has presented two ears from a bobcat to the auditor of the county wherein he resides, claiming he shot the bobcat in a county other than the county of his residence and is claiming state bounty.

You ask whether in our opinion this person is entitled to the state bounty under the facts as above stated.

Section 20-1301 of the 1953 Supplement provides for payment of a county of five dollars by the state for destruction of mature bobcats, as well as other predatory animals which are enumerated in this section of the law. Section 20-1302 of the North Dakota Revised Code of 1943 provides that any person having killed a predatory animal named in section 20-1301 may obtain the bounty by exhibiting to the county auditor of the county wherein the animal was killed the skin of such animal, including the tail, the skin from the forehead and both ears, and the skull thereof and filing with such county auditor an affidavit stating that he killed such animal or caused it to be killed and the name of the county in which and the date upon which the animal was killed. A statement signed by two resident taxpayers must also be filed with such auditor stating that they are acquainted with the person exhibiting the skin and that to their best knowledge and belief the animal from which the skin exhibited was taken was killed within the limits of the county. The skin must be exhibited and the affidavit and statement filed within ninety days after the date upon which the animal was killed.

It is obvious from reading the above section of the law that the skin of the animal, including the tail, the skin from the forehead, and both ears, and the skull must be exhibited to the county auditor of the county wherein the animal was killed, and the proper affidavit and statements filed before such auditor can issue his certificate to the person exhibiting the skins.

LESLIE R. BURGUM

Attorney General