



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 Fur Harvest
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
 Form 8300-026 (R 11/17) Page 1 of 6

ORDER OF BUSINESS	08/27/2022	9AM	Meade/Zoom
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Scott Zimmerman	at	9AM
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Pat Quaintance, Brian Haydin, Duane Butler, Bill Ruder, Tom Hanks, Randy Symicek, Mike Nicholson, Scott McAuley, Scott Zimmerman, Matt McHugh, Tom Savage, Dan Cichantek, Ed Harvey, Miles Narveson, Wayne Stietz, Jarid Rankila, Shawn Rossler DNR, Nate Kroepelin DNR
EXCUSED	Richard Clark, Justin Loehrke, Larry Meyer, Tom Bartz, Mike Gould, Hugh Hatch
UNEXCUSED	Jessie Espeseth, Mike Verdegan,
GUESTS	

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	Ed noted all oral and written comments provided to committee. Noted Aaron Olson was author and would be there to speak. Two additional folks had requested to speak--Laurie Grosskoff and Corky Meyer.
ACTION	None

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Mission Statement Read
ACTION	Motion by Mike N, Second by Bill R to approve. MC

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	<p>Kathy Presnell-representing late father and Bayfield county group--taken into account of science. 4 resolutions before committee and passed 2 to 1. 25 resolutions introduced and only 1 failed. Thanks committee for opening up meeting to zoom. Amy Mueller - Lifelong resident thanks for opportunity to comment. Wants committee to support resolution ban trapping on public land-item 4. worried about conflicts with other users and incidental animals including birds of prey. John Calabrese- Public lands user would like to see no night time hunting on those lands. Jean Voss-Concerns with trail cam check resolution. Talked with wardens and didnt get feeling they supported. Worried about reliability of cell service. Linda Hendrix-Does like trapping on public lands. MN only allows trapping in three state parks. Worried about lack of rules on hound hunting coyotes and trespassing issues. Wants season for coyotes like fox. Francisco Santiago-Avila-Support for resolutions eliminate or ban practices. Doesn't want animals harmed. Valerie Gibbons-Author so will just speak at that time. Melanie Weberg- oppose extend beaver season, infared lights, cameras for trap checks,and bobcat shooting hrs. Supports the rest. Wants more beaver on landscape. would like to see nonlethal methods explored. Bob Boucher supports end trapping on public lands. Beaver benefit hydrology. Need higher level of management. Lower flood levels with more beaver. Maria-Christina Jackson- Likes option to participate via zoom. Ban use of live animals to train hound hunting. Jill Gienecke-Ban use of live animals to train hounds. Susan Reska- Wants to Ban hunting contests in WI. Kelly Villis -Oppose any resolutions that supports traps/snares especially on public land. Oppose extending beaver season. Oppose camera and infared lights. Wants trapping sign posting and wants season on coyotes. Doesn't want logo to have a person holding a gun. Mindy Miller-likes virtual option. Family likes to see animals so opposes consumptive use of wildlife. Josh Mueller- Appreciates remote option so can participate without major expenses. Worried about trapping on public. Wants notice. Lois Lehmann - Doesnt like hunting contests. Wardens attend events and check small game license. Robyn- Support resolutions against hunting contests. Worried about animals during trapping. Debbie Dudek Support banning contests. Moved from Chicago 5 years ago so never heard a coyote, owl, bobcat, turkey before so they need to be protected. Grateful for opportunity to do virtual. Patricia Pesko -Enjoy outdoors. support ban on contests.Other states are banning now. Kristi Taylor -favor of ban hunting contests. worried about getting a cat and feral cats. Elaine Swanson- Enjoys outdoors. Health is based on outdoor activities. Supports ban on trapping on publics. Worried about extending beaver season with long season already in place. Doesnt like hunting contests. Sam Laude- Speaking against beaver trapping extension. Concerned about beaver populations. Thinks beaver are keystone species. Help with drought/flooding. Beaver could be used to save on costs for flood water prevention. Amy Plamann Wants to ban nighttime hunting and hunting contest. Wants trapper warning. No extension for beaver. Appreciate letting us speak via Zoom. Corky Meyer- Common thread in comments--resolutions proposed from big</p>
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	cities-experience from living county. Crop damage never talked about. Hunting contests are legal within seasons and fund raisers for many local FD. Many things against constitution. We are working within harvest surplus. Laurie Grosskopf -Would like to see name changed to Fur Management. Would like earlier so they can provide information on harvest quotas. Contests found no evidence from LE that was asked it. Last week of hound hunting made it tough for them to participate. Matt Nesshengel- Had his dog caught in leghold trap. Was able to remove animal but wants to oppose to all trapping were public is allowed. Richard - Emphasis on science management. Wants to ban contests, nighttime hunting, wants trapping notice posted. Against extending beaver season and camera. Kristin Shrink was author 6 eliminate nighttime hunting of coyotes/wolves. Asking advance because of COP. Noted public opposition to contests.
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Citizen Resolutions

1.	Allow the use of Cellular Cameras 520222	None Present
DISCUSSION	Need to check traps within 24 hours. Would allow trappers to check traps and get notified instantly. Could be helpful with nuisance trapping in backyards. LE can see positive/negatives. may allow trap to be checked more often. Not any different than enforcement. Technology fails, and you would be on hook to make sure it gets checked. Really no different having someone look and call when they catch something. Allow on bear bait, salt lick. Another tool for trapper. More in favor if we had a distance from trap. Josh did have a nice write up on why he supported.	
ACTION	motion to reject, second by . Motion to Reject Passes	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

2.	Ban captive hounding of mammals (130422, 710322)	Susan
DISCUSSION	Author noted she had a change of heart. Only really objects to animals that cannot get away from hounds like coyotes. Committee asked about law regarding this and if covered under chapter 17. Yes they are required by law. All groups were involved when 169 state statue required rest area for game animals in pens. Many treat as a game as they play cat and mouse with hounds.	
ACTION	motion to reject, second by . Motion to reject pass unanimously.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

3.	Ban coyote killing contests (040322, 160322, 150322, 410522, 640222, 130522-added 08/24/22)	Valerie and Marya
DISCUSSION	Argument is not biological but moral. Has issue with the harvest of animals and display of animals. Likes to see animals. Was on Spring hearing and failed in 55 counties. Would take legislative issue. Was not passed in EC. Many of these places raise money for charity events. Money comes from P&R funds via equipment purchase. Many places are only hunted one or two nights to keep those places target rich. Also those that live closest need to have say in how manage. Also have opportunity to look at data that could come out of larger contests to provide data back to state.	
ACTION	Pat Q motion to reject, second by Brian. Motion to Reject passes unanimously	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

4.	Ban trapping on public lands (130922)	Paul
DISCUSSION	Author likes to see wildlife. Climate change also comes into play. Beaver provides lots of benefits and should be protected. Committe has issue as way too broad. State parks hiring to remove raccoons. Constitution allows individuals to hunt, fish, and trap. Why not have pay license fee payers instead of having state resources paid out remove.	

ACTION	Duane motion to reject, second by Pat Q.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

5.	Bobcat shooting hours restrictions (060222) & Removing The Shooting Hours Restriction on Bobcats (620422)	Aaron
DISCUSSION	No reason to not hunt by night. Can hunt other predators. Would increase opportunity. Not sure why bobcat was originally permitted. No science to prevent. There is exemption for dispatch of trapped animal.	
ACTION	motion to advance, second by Dan. Motion Passed unanimously	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

6.	Eliminate Nighttime Hunting of Wolf and Coyote on Public Land Designated for Recreational Multi Use (040922, 131522, 411522, 440722, 460422, 580522, 640522, 681022)	Catherine
DISCUSSION	Author is against harming animals and wants to advance based on COP. (2 years in three counties) Committee noted different uses for each property. Set in management plan. Committee should take position on it.	
ACTION	Dan motion to table, Second by Scott M. Motion passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

7.	End killing contests (020522, 041122, 131622, 411622, 440822)	Cynthia
DISCUSSION	Author noted she is not from big city. Doesn't like contest. Submitted this for five years. Outdoor heritage heard this last year. Killing for no reason is not supported by general public. 20K folks provided input and was close to 50-50. Committee has issues as worded and noted interest in money raised for species. Hard to understand difference between a rabbit harvest during contest and some guy out hunting. Contests are very discriminate in what they take. Inconsistent with wording make it nearly impossible to know what they need. This is a bad characterization of contests.	
ACTION	Pat Motion to Reject, Second Tom H. Motion to reject passes unanimously	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

8.	Extending beaver season (720422)	Scott McAuley
DISCUSSION	Trappers will do work for free instead of costing 100's. Beaver season is 12 months of the year. County, Cities, DNR continues to do damage season. Population will not go down until price increases significantly. Used to adjust season to allow opportunity. Lots of nuisance beaver trapping for towns and counties with national and state forest plugging culverts. Very abundant beaver. Meat from beaver utilized for dog food. State does have Beaver Management Plan. DNR furbearer advisory group makes recommendations on season to meet objectives. Beaver task force meetings coming up as it was originally planned for 2020. Likely coming up shortly.	
ACTION	Tom S motion to advance, second by Dan. Motion passed unanimously.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

9.	Give Coyotes Protections from Year- Round Open Season Hunting (132222, 412122)	Lois
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DISCUSSION	Time to give coyote a season. At one point, bobcat didn't have a season. Was treated as varmint. Resolution that address two issues can cause issue. State doesnt have management plan for coyotes. Coyotes are found in all 72 counties. Tough to have population estimate. Southwest part of state looked at coyotes as part of CWD study. Success rates similar to other parts. Mortality level is not problematic for population stability. 4 states have a season. Very long. Most states don't require license. One state has bounty. Pretty much year round. 45 states year round no restrictions. Idea of season closure is good, but we still need way to address. Nuisance tends not to be on public now.	
ACTION	Motion to reject, second by . Motion to reject passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

10.	Hound Training using Live Captive Animals (042422, 132422, 412222, 660622, 681422)	Linda
DISCUSSION	Why rules in place to protect animals, not sure about how it is being enforced. Questions about legality if we can sell live coyote. 169 state statue allow practice to keep coyotes and sell to pen. Design was to prevent animals from coming in from out of state. Admin code 170407 wild sources--no free range except live trapped coyotes raccoons on licensed fur farm or nuisance permits.	
ACTION	Dan motion to reject, second by . Motion passed unanimously	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

11.	Making cell cameras your daily check trapping (620322)	Author not Present
DISCUSSION	Similar to resolution before that was rejected.	
ACTION	Motion to reject, second by Steve. Motion to reject passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

12.	Trap Warnings to Ensure Public Safety (042222, 581322)	Cindy
DISCUSSION	Users of public lands is increasing and conflict can happen. Many of these lands already posted on signs. There is information when seasons are open so some of that falls on user groups. Issues with traps tampered, stolen. More information going out to public is a good thing. Wording of question is bad to meet that goal.	
ACTION	Dan motion to reject, second by Pat. Motion to reject passed unanimously.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

13.	Use of infrared light for scanning while hunting predators (350522)	Author not present
DISCUSSION	This needs legislative. LE believes it takes legislative change. Designed to help improve safety and humane kill. Ability to id animal way sooner. Would open up more folks as not as cost prohibitive. Thermal is already legal. More effective tool for hunter. Enforce likely not issue when we allow far superior tool.	
ACTION	Dan motion to advance, second by Scott. Motion Passed unanimously.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

14.	Youth trapping incentive program resolution (630722)	Author not present
DISCUSSION	Just passed a mentored trapping bill. Department doesn't want to do on Beaver. Like focus on engaging children. Not sure where funding is going to come from.	

ACTION	Duane motion to advance, second by Pat. Motion failed to advance.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

B. Furbearer Program updates

Shawn Rossler

DISCUSSION	2022 regulations online--delay with printer but coming soon. Harvest authorization for fisher and bobcat should be in account. Only sample need to submit jaw for fisher and those should be coming out soon. Womens Trap Camp going on and is big success. Instructors deserve round of applause Fur School 10-13th. Dept facility and Horicon marsh. Department continues to work with US FWS on BMPs for trapping. New regulations for this season -- muskrat season is now effective. Cable restraints now use at start. Two proposals for questions--increase in trapper ed fee. 12 to 20. Last increase 2008. Second question is to provide assistance to individuals with disabilities. Use existing framework. Trappers Education is mandatory in Wisconsin. Celebrates 30 years this year. Thanks for all the educators. Lydia will be new science services. Beaver trappers survey going out to gauge catch per unit effort. Effort goes down with more beaver. Look at trend for objectives on population. More economical than helicopters. Last year, response rate was 60%. Also started bridge survey for otter. Over sample period walk up 200M up and down river to document presence. Determine occupancy. Good things coming with information. Question about using volunteers. In future, we would likely include citizens into the mix to get more data. Can document from phone. Cost to fly is really expensive and continues to go up. Nonresident trapping license \$150	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

C. LE Update

Nate Kroeplin

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	LE fur school is Second week in December(W,TH, F) class 15-20 students. All new wardens that need to learn about trapping and enforcement. Not a lot to report on incidents. Update on last trapping season to now. 20 incidents. 8 during 2021 trapping season. 18 incidents- majority catch and release without harm, 1 in 2021 was a cat that was deceased. 1 dog at large was deceased by beaver trapper doing nuisance work.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	Thanks for all that showed up and submitted resolutions. Zoom was good addition. Animals should go down a rung on latter and humans go up. Not a big fan of zoom as should show up for one day if it is important. If you have ideas that might help recruit more youth delegates, let coordinator know. YCC in Waterfowl expo. Try not to conflict next time. Help skin gray fox and not a mark on animal. Coyote couldn't tell it was caught with CR. We missed Future Committee Meeting. Should meet so we can give recommendation on quota. Not big fan on zoom. Words matter and need to make sure they are cleaned up in resolutions. Need to consider rule change if things are inaccurate or factually inaccurate. Merit to change name to fur management instead of harvest. Thankful for being patient with Scott running meeting and thanks for Matt for taking meeting minutes. Noted for folks traveling the farthest, virtual is a good option --10 hours in travel costs, and 200 in gas. Very important work that the committee does. The price of meeting is we have to clean up. Zoom is here to stay. First time we tried with hybrid. It was good test and we were successful. Had 30 folk participate and all should be applauded. Covid accelerated transition to hybrid. We need to fix those issues that we overlooked in transition. COP on 3 counties in 2 years needs to go. Losing in 55 counties doesn't make sense. Can tell different ways folks are voting by breakdown, but we need to make sure resolutions are introduced inperson in county. Those two will help with workload. Would need to be changed by DLC or changed at floor of congress at Spring. Meeting date for next year. Should try to avoid bear running. August 19th will be meeting next year. Would like to have LE in meeting.	
ACTION		

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	Miles N motion to adjourn, second by Scott M. MC
SUBMITTED BY	Justin Loehrke

DATE	
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