

## **Resolution to Increase Regulation of Field Application of Manure from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)**

WHEREAS, CAFOs refer to industrial-sized livestock feeding operations of which there are currently more than 300 in Wisconsin that are responsible for spilling over 5 million gallons of manure, and

WHEREAS, the overapplication and improper application of manure on fields often leads to pollution runoff that contaminates surface waters, leading to eutrophication and resulting in the death of fish and other aquatic life, and

WHEREAS, surface and groundwater contamination create public health concerns due to the presence of illness-causing bacteria and nitrate toxicity in rural wells, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is dedicated to the protection of fish and wildlife habitat, and supporting nature-based outdoor recreational pursuits, and

WHEREAS, there is a lack of water quality testing in the regions impacted by CAFOs, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation board passed the *Resolution Calling on the DNR To Reduce Backlog on Pollution Control Permits* which emphasizes the need for increased capacity in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in order to fulfill its legal duty to protect the natural resources of Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation also adopted the *Resolution to Reduce Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution* which describes the harms of agricultural pollution and the need for modified and updated standards, and

WHEREAS, a recent Wisconsin hydrogeologic study determined that agriculture-based runoff and pollution was the dominant factor in contributing to groundwater and drinking-water pollution in rural areas of the state, and

WHEREAS, to protect water quality, it is important to transition from a soil nutrient management based plan to one based on drinking water data that better addresses comprehensive water quality, and

WHEREAS, whereas it is also critically important to promote increased funding to further develop oversight and enforcement availability by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to update rainfall data for the 24 hour/25 year exemption during which CAFOs are temporarily allowed to disregard facility overflow, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation calls on the Wisconsin Legislature to provide increased funding for the Department of Natural Resources so that proper regulatory oversight and enforcement of CAFOs can be carried out; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation calls on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to transition from a soil nutrient management-based plan to one based on drinking water data that better addresses comprehensive water quality.

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