



Wisconsin Wildlife
Federation

RESOLUTIONS

*To be presented at the
2016 WWF Annual Meeting
Hotel Mead; Wisconsin Rapids, WI
April 9, 2016*

Resolution List

1. Resolution to Reduce Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution
2. Resolution on Increased Youth Involvement in the Outdoors
3. Resolution to Support the Wisconsin Turtle Management Program
4. Resolution to Improve Watershed Health Through Wetland Mitigation
5. Adaptive Resource Management for Climate Change in Wisconsin
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8. Resolution to Support Retention of Federal Public Lands
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10. Support the Propagation and Protection of Milkweed in Wisconsin
11. Resolution to Contain the Round Gobies in the Fox River
12. Resolution on Night Hunting of Raccoon for Nine-Day Gun Deer Season
13. Resolution On Additional Protection For Scholarship Fund
14. Resolution Ending Sporting Subsidy of the Great Lakes Commercial Fishery

Resolution to Reduce Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution

Whereas, agriculture is a leading contributor of phosphorus and nitrogen Wisconsin's surface water and groundwater; and

Whereas, one in five wells in agriculture areas of Wisconsin, roughly 90,000 households, are unsafe to drink due to nitrate levels; and

Whereas, an estimated 200 million pounds of nitrate nitrogen enters Wisconsin's groundwater each year, up to 90 percent of which is from agricultural applications; and

Whereas, nitrogen has been associated with many forms of human illness, acidification of aquatic ecosystems, and adverse health effects of wildlife; and

Whereas, phosphorus causes accelerated and excessive algal growth in Wisconsin waterways which decreases oxygen levels, blocks out sunlight, and causes harmful cascading effects in aquatic ecosystems.

Whereas, agriculture is a major source of phosphorus runoff into Wisconsin lakes and streams; and is the leading cause of Wisconsin waterways violating state and federal water quality standards; and

Whereas, agricultural concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus, are continuing to increase across the state: and

Whereas, Wisconsin landscapes have greatly differing carrying capacities for the assimilation of phosphorus and nitrogen from agricultural production, but state nutrient management standards are uniformly applied to all landscapes and are not protective of surface waters and groundwater in many parts of the state; and

Whereas, in addition, state nutrient management standards have been designed to optimize agricultural crop production and allow the application of phosphorus and nitrogen levels in excess of what will protect surface and ground water quality.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids calls on the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to revise Wisconsin's nutrient management standards for phosphorus and nitrogen so as to be protective of surface and groundwater quality and that such standards be tailored to differing agricultural landscapes.

Now Therefore Be It Further Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation calls on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the County Land and Water Conservation Departments enhance agricultural practices and standards to include precision fertilizer application, native grass buffers and groundwater monitoring.

Submitted by the Wisconsin Conservation Leadership Corp
Kathryn Sloan
Joseph Paoletti
Brewster Johnson

Resolution on Increased Youth Involvement in the Outdoors

Whereas, American youth are not spending as much time in nature as they spend on indoor activities, and are losing their connection to the natural world (The Nature Conservancy Connecting America's Youth to Nature);

Whereas, the Outdoor Foundation recognizes the three main obstacles for getting youth in the natural world are time management issues, insufficient parental influence, and the lack of transportation (Outdoor Nations Special Report: Barriers to the Outdoors);

Whereas, the lack of youth involvement in outdoor experience is one of the reasons that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has reported that the overall hunting rate in Wisconsin has significantly declined, and is projected to continue through the future (WDNR 2008).

Whereas, studies have found programs that engage youth in wilderness programs can help combat risk factors such as exposure to gangs, drugs, poverty, and family violence (Norton 2014);

Whereas, research from the Nature Conservancy suggests that if American youth are given more opportunities for a meaningful experience outdoors, they will be more likely to value nature, engage with it, and feel empowered to do something about it (The Nature Conservancy Connecting America's Youth to Nature);

Whereas, the National Wildlife Federation has compiled research stating that outdoor exposure has many influential benefits for a child's development of mind, body and spirit, and increased standardized test scores (National Wildlife Federation);

Whereas, the Wisconsin legislature recently passed the Wisconsin Children's Outdoor Heritage Resolution acknowledging a child's right to experience the state's natural resources (EEinWisconsin.org);

Whereas, there are currently a multitude of organizations in Wisconsin committed to youth environmental education such as the Wisconsin Green School Network, Wisconsin Green and Healthy Schools, Kids and Mentors in the Outdoors (KAMO), and the Wisconsin Association of Environmental Education (WAEE);

Whereas, WAEE hosts annual conferences to collaborate with environmental educators across the state, and the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation does not currently attend such conferences;

Now therefore be it further resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting assembled April 8-9, 2016 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin calls upon the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation to become networked with other statewide environmental educational programs, in the same way they are connected with hunting, fishing, and trapping organizations;

Now therefore be it further resolved that, the WWF send a liaison to the annual WAEE conference in an effort to collaborate with other environmental educators to help consolidate efforts to engage youth in the outdoors;

Submitted by the Conservation Leadership Corps.

Yoon bin Bae

Michaela Fisher

Alex Mertig

Sources:

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Health Benefits - National Wildlife Federation. (2016, February). Retrieved February 20, 2016, from <http://www.nwf.org/What-We-Do/Kids-and-Nature/Why-Get-Kids-Outside/Health-Benefits.aspx>

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Resolution to Support the Wisconsin Turtle Management Program

Whereas turtles are an integral part of the wetland ecosystem by occupying specialized niches such as predators, prey, and by functioning as herbivores and carnivores that collectively balance the ecosystem; and

Whereas turtles have a low level of recruitment, and have a high sensitivity to adult mortality, many turtle populations in Wisconsin are threatened. As an example, a 2-3% increase in adult mortality is sufficient to cause a turtle population to decline; and

Whereas these populations are threatened by habitat loss, vegetation change, habitat fragmentation, human disturbance, and collection of turtles for use in the pet trade; and

Whereas scientific studies suggest road mortality is a significant cause of turtle decline with some studies suggest a 5-20% road mortality annually; and

Whereas the direct impact of roads on turtles is crossing mortality, specifically in high frequency crossing areas known as hotspots; and

Whereas roads provide easy access for animal predation on turtles nesting in close proximity to roads; and

Whereas Wisconsin has created a Turtle Conservation Program, which calls for the construction and design of turtle friendly roads, the enhancement of current wildlife roadside structures, turtle friendly roadside management, and installation of turtle crossing signs in hotspot areas.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its annual meeting on April 8th and 9th, 2016, in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin requests that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources collaborate with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and organizations such as the Wisconsin Herpetological Society, to develop a statewide strategy that addresses turtle road mortality in the state of Wisconsin, consistent with the Wisconsin Turtle Conservation Program.

Submitted by the Conservation Leadership Corps:

Marco Mascitti

Savanna Harmon

Janel Scharhag

Resolution to Improve Watershed Health Through Wetland Mitigation

Whereas, wetlands are vital to the health of Wisconsin waterways, the numerous species of wildlife that depend on them, and are valuable to people for the suite of services they provide; and

Whereas, Wisconsin has lost one half of its original ten million acres of wetlands due to agricultural, commercial and residential development; and

Whereas, wetland loss has contributed to the decline of watershed health due to the loss of filtration and storage of sediments, and an increased amount of nutrients and toxic substances; and

Whereas, Wisconsin law encourages the avoidance and minimization of adverse impacts to wetland functions; and

Whereas, pursuant to Wisconsin Administrative Rule, NR 1.95 (4) (a), it is state policy to reverse the loss of wetland functions in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Wisconsin law requires compensatory mitigation to offset permitted wetland loss of wetlands due to filling; and

Whereas, effective mitigation should restore wetland hydrology in reclaimed wetlands in order to promote and restore watershed health; and

Whereas, the state of Wisconsin has a new in-lieu-fee mitigation program and federal guidance states that in-lieu-fee mitigation projects should be planned and developed to address the specific resource needs of a particular watershed; and

Whereas, currently, over 1,500 water bodies in Wisconsin have been designated as water quality impaired and wetland restoration should be used to reduce these impairments.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th, 2016 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, urges the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the US Army Corp of Engineers to site in-lieu-fee wetland mitigation projects in order to promote and restore the health of impaired watersheds; and

Now Therefore Be It Further Resolved, that due to the urgency of the problem, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation asks the agencies to implement this approach as soon as possible.

Submitted by the :
Wisconsin Conservation Leadership Corps:
Jordan Jensen
Kirsten Schmidt
Brenna Witek
Jake Wotnoske

Adaptive Resource Management for Climate Change in Wisconsin

Whereas, the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) predicts that Wisconsin's annual average temperature is projected to increase by 6-7° F by the middle of this century;

Whereas, WICCI also predicts that extreme heat events will be more frequent, lasting longer, and be geographically widespread throughout Wisconsin. General increase in extreme weather conditions and events in the state will affect agriculture, water resources, habitats and fish and wildlife;

Whereas, increasing heat and extreme weather events will result in increased vulnerability of our communities to death and illnesses such as wildlife-linked diseases and heat and respiratory sickness;

Whereas, as temperatures increase every 2° F during the summer season, there will be a decrease in crop yields for corn (-13%) and soybeans (-16%) as well as increased soil erosion and nutrient loss;

Whereas, Wisconsin state government has cut funding for researching changing climate systems within the DNR, Wisconsin State Climatology Office, and organizations that collaborate with the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts;

Whereas, there has been a reduction in support from Wisconsin state government for climate change research to develop appropriate management plans and practices to protect and strengthen our ecosystems;

Whereas, current Wisconsin policies regarding fish and wildlife management assume habitat conditions will maintain consistency, a position not supported by climate research;

Whereas, in the 2015 fiscal year, roughly 133 million dollars from excise taxes, stamp sales and fees from state hunting, fishing and trapping licenses spent on various management and research programs--primarily wildlife, air, water and fisheries--by the Wisconsin DNR may not be useful due to not considering the impact of climate change;

Whereas, further scientific research and forecast modeling are needed to predict the effects of climate change on Wisconsin's natural resources;

Whereas, flexibility needs to be built into future resource management plans allowing resource managers to adapt to new climate change challenges.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting assembled April 8-9, 2016 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, calls upon the Governor and the Wisconsin Legislature to provide funding, staffing and policy changes necessary for the implementation of proper natural resource research and adaptive management practices for the changing climate throughout Wisconsin.

Submitted by the Conservation Leadership Corps:

Danielle Browne, Colin Dassow and Elsa Litecky

Resolution on the Importance of Biomass Energy in Wisconsin's Energy Portfolio

Whereas, biomass is defined as an organic and plant matter that can be converted to fuel and is therefore regarded as a potential energy source.

Whereas, biomass energy is an underutilized energy source in the State of Wisconsin that can fill a vital role in cutting the state's carbon dioxide and heavy metal output, diversify Wisconsin's energy portfolio, increase our states energy security as well as promote local development and use of readily available natural resources;

Whereas, climate change, fossil fuel extraction and combustion serves as a threat to the environment including fish and wildlife.

Whereas, through the use of biomass energy, the state can reduce carbon dioxide and heavy metals such as mercury.

Whereas, by implementing biomass energy into the state energy portfolio, Wisconsin can also be on track to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

Whereas, Wisconsin's energy portfolio is currently heavily comprised of coal imported from Wyoming and being dependent on outside energy sources leaves the state susceptible to energy price spikes and energy shortages during vital times of the year such as winter;

Whereas, the average Wisconsin household uses 15% more energy than the national average, which is mainly due to Wisconsin's cold climate and biomass can aide the state by providing heating capacity for the energy intensive winters;

Whereas, using state resources such as biomass for energy will allow for greater development of locally sourced jobs and infrastructure benefitting Wisconsin's economy and citizens;

Whereas there is a great amount of biomass material that is simply disposed in landfills and other waste sites that can be converted to a local, clean and reliable energy source;

Whereas, extracting biomass energy from our forests will need to be complimented with sustainable forestry practices to ensure there are proper levels of residuals left on the forest floor for wildlife habitat and soil replenishment;

Whereas, there are educational resources such as the Environmental Protection Agency Stove Certification Program and the US Forest Service Directed Wisconsin State Wood Energy Team that can assist with implementing biomass energy use in the state;

Whereas, these organizations will consult and inform Wisconsin companies and citizens on proper use and procedures for using biomass energy;

Whereas, at citizens' disposal are funding and grant opportunities to implement biomass energy projects such as the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) and the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP);

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting assembled April 8-9, 2016 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, urges the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, the US Forest Service and the Wisconsin State Energy Office to recognize the important role of biomass energy in the state and implement mechanisms for incorporating biomass energy into Wisconsin's energy portfolio.

Submitted by the Wisconsin Conservation Leadership Corps

Cody Kamrowski

Andre Virden

Resolution on a Central Sands High Capacity Well Permit Moratorium

Whereas, in Wisconsin, High Capacity wells are wells that have the capacity to pump over 100,000 gallons of groundwater daily; and

Whereas, the Department of Natural Resources has the responsibility to issue permits for high capacity wells; and

Whereas, the Central Sands area of Wisconsin, formerly glacial Lake Wisconsin, is defined as the area in parts of Adams, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood counties where groundwater is stored in highly permeable sand and gravel deposits more than fifty feet deep; and

Whereas, the Central Sands region is characterized by over 800 miles of trout streams and over 300 lakes with most of the streams and lakes highly dependent on groundwater as their primary source of water.

Whereas, permitted High Capacity wells in the Central Sands area have increased to over 2000 wells in recent years, mainly as a result of agricultural irrigation; and

Whereas, the pumping of groundwater from High Capacity wells in the Central Sands has lowered water levels in over fifty lakes by at least a half foot to over five feet in more than fifty lakes;

Whereas, the pumping of groundwater from High Capacity wells in the Central Sands has also reduced flow in over twenty-five streams to the point that fish populations have been reduced.

Whereas, this impact on Central Sands lakes, streams and wetlands has had a serious adverse impact on fish and wildlife habitat.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting held on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids, requests that the Wisconsin Legislature enact legislation placing a moratorium on further High Capacity well permits in the Central Sands aquifer until such time as legally enforceable regulations are adopted to restore and preserve lake levels and stream flows in the Central Sands region of Wisconsin.

Submitted by the WWF Environment Committee by:

Jim Swanson, Chair

Resolution to Support Retention of Federal Public Lands

Whereas, Federal public lands such as Federal Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks and Bureau of Land Management lands are located in every state in the country and are very important for many forms of outdoor recreation such as hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife watching; and

Whereas, Federal public lands play a major role in the \$614 billion outdoor recreation and tourism economy throughout the United States; and

Whereas, in recent years there has been a major effort to sell or transfer federal public lands to state and local governments and the private sector with this effort focused mainly on federal public lands in the West; and

Whereas, tens of thousands of Wisconsin citizens recreate on Western federal public lands annually including thousands of hunters, anglers and trappers; and

Whereas, sale or transfer of Western federal public lands would be a bad precedent for the potential sale or transfer of federal public lands in Wisconsin; and

Whereas, the National Wildlife Federation and many of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation sister affiliates of the NWF throughout the country have been working to persuade the President and the US Congress not to sell or transfer federal public lands.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin strenuously opposes the sale or transfer of Federal public lands to state or local governments or the private sector; and

Now Therefore Be It Further Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation further commits to continue efforts to educate the general public about the threat to federal public lands and to raise to elected officials and candidates for national office, the Federation's strong opposition to the sale or transfer of federal public land.

Submitted by the WWF Forestry and Parks Committee by:
Jerry Knuth, Chair

Resolution Requiring Double Fencing of Captive Deer Farms

Whereas, Wisconsin's white tailed deer herd is a major recreational and multi-billion dollar economic asset to the State of Wisconsin and is by far the most important game animal for state and non-resident hunters; and

Whereas, there has been increased spreading of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) to 42 counties in Wisconsin, with major jumps in distance to Washburn, Vilas, Marathon, Eau Claire and Portage counties mainly from outbreaks on captive deer farms; and

Whereas, the great majority of the over three hundred registered captive deer farms in Wisconsin only have single fencing surrounding the farms and there have been between 20 and 60 incidents of escapes of captive deer from single fenced deer farms each year in the state; and

Whereas, the regulation of captive deer farms by the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has been ineffective in preventing the spread of CWD in captive deer farms and in the prevention of escapes from single fenced deer farms; and

Whereas, the great majority of the over three hundred registered captive deer farms in Wisconsin only have single fencing surrounding the farms and there have been between 20 and 60 incidents of escapes of captive deer from single fenced deer farms each year in the state; and

Whereas, mandatory double fencing of all captive deer farms would substantially reduce the number of deer escaping into the wild from captive deer farms; and

Whereas, the DNR only inspects the fencing around captive deer farms once in ten years and there is no regulatory requirement that captive deer farm owners periodically inspect the integrity of their deer farm fencing including after major weather events; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting held on April 8th 9th at Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, requests the Natural Resources Board to modify the state captive deer farm fencing regulations to 1. require double fencing of all captive deer farms, 2. require annual DNR inspection of captive deer farm fences, 3. require periodic inspection of deer farm fences by the owners including after major storms and 4. require warning devices to detect open deer farm gates; and

Therefor Be It Further Resolved that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation further requests the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to strengthen its regulation of captive deer farms in Wisconsin to eliminate future outbreaks of Chronic Wasting Disease in Wisconsin.

Submitted by the WWF Wildlife Committee
Ralph Fritsch,
Wildlife Committee Chair

Support the Propagation and Protection of Milkweed in Wisconsin

Whereas, the Monarch Butterfly population has declined 90% across North America in the past twenty years; and

Whereas, much of this decline is related to the disappearance of milkweed (*Asclepias Syridca*); and

Whereas, milkweed is the ONLY food that Monarch Butterfly caterpillars eat; and

Whereas, Wisconsin Statute 66.0407 in part reads “noxious weeds... means any other weed the governing body of any municipality or the county board of any county by ordinance or resolution declares to be noxious within the respective boundaries”; and

Whereas, several Wisconsin city, village, and township ordinances eliminate planting of Milkweed through listing the plant as a noxious weed or through height restrictions for foliage on properties owned, occupied or controlled in the municipality; and

Whereas, the Department of Natural Resources, United States government agencies and National Wildlife Federation consider the decline reversal of this important pollinator a high priority.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting on April 8 and 9 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin encourages its members and affiliates to seek removal of milkweed from county, city, village or township “Noxious Weed” ordinances; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests that its members and affiliate clubs encourage the planting and maintenance of milkweed as allowed by the governing municipalities; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation encourages Wisconsin County Administrators, Mayors, City Administrators and Town Chairs to participate in the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge program established by the National Wildlife Federation; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation continues to support legislative action to establish the Monarch Butterfly as the State of Wisconsin Official Butterfly.

Submitted by the WWF Endangered Resources and Non-Game Species Committee

Larry Laehn, Chairperson

Resolution to Contain the Round Gobies in the Fox River

Whereas, the Round Goby, (*Neogobius melanostomus*), is an aquatic invasive species first discovered in the Great Lakes system in 1990, likely arriving in ballast water from ocean-going ships traversing the St. Lawrence Seaway; and

Whereas, round gobies are aggressive, voracious feeders that eat the eggs of native fish such as sculpins, darters, lake trout, smallmouth bass and walleye; and

Whereas, round gobies take over prime spawning sites traditionally used by native species, competing with native fish for habitat and changing the balance of the ecosystem and are very prolific, reproducing up to six times a year; and

Whereas, it has been confirmed that round gobies have moved from Lake Michigan up the Fox River and have been found below the Neenah Dam; and

Whereas, upstream on the Fox River is Lake Winnebago and the Wolf River System, which contains a world class walleye fishery, the largest self-sustaining population of lake sturgeon in North America, good populations of bass, yellow perch and other important game and panfish species, a fishery found to have a total annual economic impact of \$234 million and 4,300 jobs

Whereas, the valuable Winnebago and Wolf River System fishery would be highly threatened by predation by round gobies; and

Whereas, the Department of Natural Resources immediately required that the next upstream Menasha lock and dam be closed and has recently indicated that the lock and dam be closed indefinitely.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin applauds the rapid action of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to contain the spread of round gobies by the closure of the Menasha lock and dam and calls on the Department to require such lock and dam to be kept closed permanently in order to prevent the spread of round gobies into the Lake Winnebago and Wolf River System

Submitted by the WWF Inland Fisheries Committee by:
Gordy Merz, Chair

Resolution on Night Hunting of Raccoon for Nine-Day Gun Deer Season

Whereas, prior to the 2015 deer season, there was a statewide prohibition for night hunting of raccoon during the traditional November 9 day gun deer season; and

Whereas, at its 2011 Annual Meeting, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation adopted a resolution reaffirming the position "...that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources to take needed action to eliminate any closure of night hunting of raccoons during any gun deer season, except for the first two nights and including the Friday before the opening day of the traditional November gun deer season"; and

Whereas, the Natural Resources Board approved night hunting of raccoon during the traditional November 9 day gun deer season for the Southern Farmland Deer Management Units; and

Whereas, the night hunting of raccoon has been allowed during other deer seasons statewide for the metro zones, the former CWD zone, youth deer hunts and muzzle loaders seasons; and

Whereas, there have been no reported hunting conflicts or law enforcement concerns raised about the night of hunting of raccoons during any of the above-mentioned seasons including the 2015 November 9 day gun deer season hunt in the Southern Farmland Deer Management Unit.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting held on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin requests that the Natural Resources Board authorize the night hunting of raccoon during the November 9 day gun deer season on a statewide basis.

Submitted by the WWF Dog Committee,
Andy Lewandowski, Chair

Resolution On Additional Protection For Scholarship Funds

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation has been a long-time provider of college scholarships for students engaged in conservation majors; and

Whereas, the Federation has grown its College Scholarship Program to ten \$1,000 scholarships a year; and

Whereas, the Federation has created annuities to protect the principal of its scholarship program and to provide growth to the program; and

Whereas, the Federation, after careful research, has selected the College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin--Stevens Point, as the receiver and administrator of the scholarships in partnership with the Federation: and

Whereas, the Federation has not established a beneficiary of the funds in the WWF Scholarship Program, in case of dissolution of the Federation as an organization.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th, 2016 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, shall modify the Federation's Bylaws to provide that, if the Federation is dissolved, the funds in the Federation's Scholarship Program will be transferred to the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin--Stevens Point for the purposes of providing scholarships to deserving students undertaking conservation majors.

Submitted by the WWF Scholarship Committee by:
Betty Borchert, Chair

Resolution Ending Sporting Subsidy of the Great Lakes Commercial Fishery

Whereas, the Wisconsin Legislature has statutorily established and mandated a Great Lakes fishery to include a Sport and Commercial component; and

Whereas, Great Lakes Commercial Fishing management is the responsibility of the WDNR and Commercial Fishing enforcement regulations is the responsibility of state Conservation Wardens; and

Whereas, Commercial Fishing licenses pay a small portion of the required funds needed for management and enforcement of Commercial Fishing; and

Whereas, the bulk of the Commercial fishery management is paid for by hunting, fishing and trapping license dollars and fee funds; and

Whereas, the public who consume the commercial fish are the primary beneficiaries of sound commercial fisheries management; and

Whereas, it is unreasonable for Wisconsin sports hunters, anglers, and trappers to subsidize the management and regulation of the legislatively mandated Great Lakes commercial fishing industry.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2016 Annual Meeting on April 8th and 9th in Wisconsin Rapids, calls on the Governor, the Legislature, the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources to eliminate the use of sport fishing, hunting and trapping dollars to subsidize the management and enforcement of the Great Lakes commercial fishing industry.

Submitted by the Wisconsin Federation of Great Lakes Sport Fishing Clubs
Thom Gulash, President