

## **Study to Determine the Effects of Dog Training and Trialing on Nesting Birds**

WHEREAS, dogs are an important component of hunting various species of wildlife in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the training and trialing of various dog breeds is important to assure that hunting with dogs is conducted in a highly skilled manner; and

WHEREAS, in subsection, NR 1.11 (12), Wisconsin Administrative Code, DNR strongly encourages the use of well-trained hunting dogs in the pursuit and retrieval of game and supports extensive training and field trial competition for hunting dogs; and

WHEREAS, current state regulations limit the training and trialing of dogs between April 15 and July 31 each year because of concern of their impact on nesting birds; and

WHEREAS, there is concern in the hunting dog community that this restriction is not well founded by appropriate scientific studies; and

WHEREAS, various hunting dog owners and hunting associations support the funding and conducting of a well-designed study to determine the actual impact of training and trialing on nesting birds between April 15 and July 31; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation supports a two-year scientific study be undertaken on three or four designated public properties to determine the impact of dog training and trialing on nesting birds between April 15 and July 31, with the study being funded by sporting organizations, the Wisconsin DNR and interested individuals.

Submitted by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Dog Committee chaired by Andy Lewandowski  
and  
the Wildlife Federation Wildlife Committee co-chaired by Ralph Fritsch and Kevyn Quamme