

Fur Harvest Study Committee of Conservation Congress

At Mead Wildlife Area

Saturday, August 13, 2011

- Call to order by Scott Zimmermann at 9:30 AM

Members Present

Scott Zimmerman, Chairman

David Hraychuck, Vice Chairman

Daniel Carroll, Secretary

David Louis, Karl Kastrosky, Marcus Bresee, Troy Klessinger, Jody Bigalke, Will

Minette, Daniel Cichantek, Myron Leis, Richard Clark, Mike Nicholson, Donald Bongle,

Aloze Prudlick Jr., Jim Binder, Larry Vanderhoef, Scott McAuley

John Olson, DNR Liaison

John Welke, DNR Liaison

Guest Speakers Present

Dave McFarland-Bobcat research

Robert C. Willging, USDA Wildlife Services-Beaver Management Plan

Noncommittee Conservation Congress Members Present

Richard Kirchmeyer

Larry Bonde

Excused Absent

Richard Ammon, Bruse Albrecht, James Winkler

Unexcused Absent

Patrick Van Kauwenberg, Thomas Avis, Elmer Miller

- We have a quorum

- Agenda repair

No public comment, so Governor's charge to Congress in G. is moved to D. Motion made by Dan Cichantek, seconded by Marcus Bresee. Motion passed.

- Motion to start process to change colony trap size, and dog proof push/pull trigger traps made by Dan Cichantek, seconded by Myron Leis. Motion passed.

- Resolution 21-04-11 to reduce or eliminate Government beaver and otter trapping. Motion to table made by Larry Vanderhoef, seconded by Dan Cichantek. Motion passed unanimously.

- Resolution 72-02-11 four day check for weasel enclosure traps
Scott McAuley, author, was present. He agreed to amend his resolution to read as follows:

Weasel Trapping

- o Whereas trappers in Wisconsin use enclosures to trap weasels in winter
- o The enclosure is usually a shoebox sized enclosure with an opening in one end, a trap in the front side of the opening, and the bait in the rear.
- o Weasels are normally dead soon after entering the enclosure.
- o As a dry land set it currently needs to be checked every day.
- o As the weasels are already dead, frozen, and out of sight:
- o We suggest that trappers be allowed a four day check on weasel enclosures, if the enclosures meet these requirements:
 - No opening larger than 1 3/8 inches (diameter)
 - The use of a bodygrip trap
 - The enclosure is secured to an immovable object

- The opening restriction would keep the American marten from entering the enclosure (Jim Woodford, WDNR Marten Committee)
- This rule would be considered for the marten restoration area (unless a body grip or foothold trap is used on dry land....additional code changes would be needed to make this happen)
- The body grip trap would allow non-target furbearers to self release without harm (the trap needs to be fastened down securely {screws, wire, etc..} to allow this)

Motion made by Richard Clark to support the amended resolution, seconded by David Louis. Unanimously passed.

- Resolution 67-03-11 Allow landowners to hunt/trap muskrat without a license. Motion by Richard Clark to reject, seconded by Scott McAuley. Voted unanimously to reject the resolution.
 - o Discussion stated this is already legal.

- Resolution 50-01-11 Combine muskrat and mink zones into one. Mike Nicholson, author, present. Motion to approve by Karl Kastrosky, seconded by Myron Leis. All members voted to support, except Larry Vanderhoef with a vote of “No”. Motion passed.

D. Youth trapping license – Megan Loka, author, present. Motion to support by Jody Bigalke, seconded by Mike Nicholson. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Use of cable restraints for black bear (11-01-11 assigned to different committee) Mike Schmelling, author, present. Motion by Myron Leis to support, seconded by Richard Clark. Motion passed. All members voted in support, except Larry Vanderhoef. Recommendation of support was forwarded to the Bear Committee.

F. \$2.00 fee increase for trapping license. Author Scott McAuley, present. Motion to support by Richard Clark, seconded by Will Minette. Motion passed. All members voted to support, except David Louis, who voted “No”.

Motion to adjourn by Jody Bigalke, seconded Richard Clark. Motion carried. Unanimously approved.

Daniel D. Carroll, Secretary

Fur Harvest Committee

August 13, 2011