

Upland Game Study Committee - August 20, 2011 - Stevens Point WI

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organizational Matters

A. Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Ken Risley, Dave Miller, James Kriska, Michael Gullickson, Dale Ebert, Otto Bowe, Mike Gould, Dave Breunig, Dave Andraschko, Roger Reas, Ken Vertein, Dan Tyrolt, Larry Peterson.

Department staff present: Scott Walter and Randy Falstad

Chair Bohmann was present for a portion of the meeting.

Excused members: Joe Helwig, Robert Wilberscheid, Mark Weber, Paul Shaurette, Larry Ziltner, Michael Sovich, Kevin Smaby, Ron Waller, Martin Sands

Unexcused members: Scott Sedivy, Drew Adelman, Harold Grandaw

C. Review Study Committee Mission Statement

No change to current Mission Statement

D. Public Comments

No public comments

2. DNR Updates

Upland Game Specialist Scott Walters gave the committee an update of current upland game status

A. Pheasant Stamp Account

Close to a million dollars received - 16 projects funded - mostly grassland habitation

B. Wisconsin Small Game Surveys & Harvest Summary

Upland game numbers: Pheasant #'s down, Grouse #'s up, Quail 0 count, Woodcock #'s declining, Squirrel & Rabbits #'s stable

C. Farm Bill

High price of corn resulting in less CRP land. Wisc. could lose another 2,000 acres.

Voluntary public access program, WI received 2 million dollars, 45,000 acres leased for public hunting.

Pheasant Farm, 50,000 birds raised for release.

3. Discussion & Action Items

A. Citizen Resolution 150211 - Woodchuck as unprotected species.

Motion to not move resolution forward was made and seconded. Discussion was that under current statute woodchucks doing damage can be legally shot by the owner or his agent (S.29.337) Motion was passed.

B. Governor's Charge to Congress for Regulation Simplification

Ken Risley read Gov. Walker's letter regarding simplification of hunting & fishing regulations. Discussion followed & everyone agreed that parts of the regulation should be simplified.

C. Wolf Status update

Upland Game Comm. unanimously voted to support efforts to delist the Great Lakes wolf.

4. Motion made to adjourn and seconded at 12:30 p.m.

5. On Aug. 24th Dave Withers was notified of the result of his resolution 150211 and all logic behind it and the statute covering the harvest of woodchucks was provided to him.