

## PLASTIC BAGS – EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Most ocean pollution starts out on land and is carried by wind and rain to the sea. Once in the water, there is a near-continuous accumulation of waste. Plastic is so durable that the EPA reports “every bit of plastic ever made still exists.”

Plastic does not biodegrade. Instead, it photo-degrades, breaking into ever smaller pieces of plastic under exposure to light.

Fish in the North Pacific ingest 12,000 to 24,000 tons of plastic each year, which can cause intestinal injury and death and transfers plastic up the food chain to bigger fish and marine mammals.

Sea turtles also mistake floating plastic garbage for food. Plastic bags are the most commonly ingested item. Ingestion of plastic can lead to blockage in the gut, ulceration, internal perforation and death.

Whales, seals, seabirds and all other marine life ingests plastic.

As plastic debris float in the seawater, it absorbs dangerous pollutants like PCBs, DDT and PAH.

These chemicals are highly toxic and have caused endocrine disruption and cancer-causing mutations. When animals eat plastic pieces, toxins are absorbed and passed up the food chain.

## PLASTIC BAGS – EFFECTS ON FUEL CONSUMPTION AND THE ECONOMY

About 8-10% of our total oil supply goes to making plastic. It is estimate that about 12 million barrels of oil a year are used in making the plastic bags used in the U.S.

An average American throws away about 10 bags a week. That's 520 bags a year. Some sources say Americans actually take home 1500 bags per year.

The amount of energy required to make 14 plastic shopping bags could drive a car for a mile. The U.S. has about 300 million people.

520 bags per year times 300 million people is 156 billion (156,000,000,000) bags per year.

Divided by 14 bags per mile, plastic bags use 11 billion miles worth of petroleum.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the average American drives 13,476 miles per year.

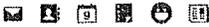
If we diverted the petroleum we use for plastic bags to use as fuel, we could fuel 826,866 cars each year.

\*\* statistics were compiled from the Earth Policy Institute, [www.earth-policy.org](http://www.earth-policy.org), One Bag At A Time, [www.lbagatatime.com](http://www.lbagatatime.com) and the Center for Biological Diversity, [www.biologicaldiversity.org](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org).

#13

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Resolution 600116 (3)

People

**Steve Klock** <sklock15@gmail.com> Sep 6 at 10:39 AM  
 To gundersonforassembly@yahoo.com, mschl916@hotmail.com

"Restore DNR Science Professionals to Pre-2015 levels".  
 Thank you for the invitation to attend your Committee meeting but i will be working a Snapshot Day at the same time.  
 Basically this resolution is to correct a great atrocity created by several vindictive legislators. There was absolutely no 'science' or rational thinking that would preclude this decision. No tax dollars go to their salaries. It was a purely vindictive decision at the cost of research. These positions need replaced and filled as quickly as possible. Thank you.  
 Steve Klock

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**Scott Gunderson** Steve, Sorry that you cannot attend the mee Sep 6 at 3:10 PM

**Steve Klock** Thank you and have a good meeting. steve k Sep 6 at 5:15 PM

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**How to prevent mosquito bites.**

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# 11

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**Subject:** Resolution 700116 Reduce archery/gun deer license for Wisconsin military veterans over 70

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**From:** Barb Perez (barbjomom@uniontel.net)

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**To:** gundersonforassembly@yahoo.com;

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**Date:** Friday, August 26, 2016 11:20 AM

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Good morning Scott:

I appreciate this opportunity to present my resolution to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Legislative Committee. I would have liked to present my resolution in person but attendance at a wedding here in Almond, WI on Sat. Sept. 10 has presented a conflict.

This alternative of emailing you with my resolution and my reasons for submitting it is much appreciated. Thank you.

To: Wisconsin Conservation Congress Legislative Committee

From: Joseph A. Perez, Sr.  
W9361 Alp Avenue  
Almond, WI 54909  
Waushara County Town of Rose  
Tel. # 715-366-2467

Gentlemen and Ladies, if present:

I have been a regular attendee of the Spring meetings, for many years in Waukesha County, and since my retirement in 2014, here in Waushara County.

I was a Hospital Corpsman in the U.S. Navy from 1966-1970 during the Vietnam War, a war that was hugely unpopular and resulted in the disgraceful treatment of many returning veterans of that conflict.

Contrast that era to today's outpouring of appreciation for our returning veterans which are so richly deserving of America's appreciation for their service.

I feel that the State of Wisconsin and the DNR could show some display of appreciation for these past veterans' service to their country by providing a reduced fee archery/gun deer license for those 70 years of age and older.

In a time where the DNR is trying its best to encourage more young people to get into the hunting sports, I feel it's important NOT to forget those who have been participating in deer hunting for many years, especially those who have served honorably in the military.

I chose the age of 70 for several reasons. First of all it would include veterans of WWII through Vietnam and eventually all Wisconsin veterans who attain the age of 70, who are still fortunate enough and physically able to hunt deer. And, there are already laws on the books that accommodate active duty military personnel and those with physical handicaps.

Secondly, we are discussing a rather small group of individuals. A number that should not cause a financial burden on the DNR.

I purposely did not mention how much of a fee reduction I had in mind in my proposal. I consider that to be "out of my pay grade" so to speak. Besides if this proposal moves forward, I trust that the Congress, the DNR, and the State Legislature will do what they feel is right for those who have served.

I also purposely did not choose a reduced fee Conservation Patron license because I personally consider this particular license to be a convenience to the purchaser.

Presentation of a veterans DD-214 to any license outlet, along with the individuals DNR Customer ID number and/or drivers license would provide all the proof of eligibility necessary to qualify for a reduced fee archery/gun deer license.

Once again, I appreciate this opportunity to present this proposal to the Congress Legislative Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. Perez, Sr.

# 9/10

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**Subject:** 2016 Spring Hearing Proposed Rule Changes**From:** Tom Schartner (tschartner@monroetruck.com)**To:** gundersonforassembly@yahoo.com;**Date:** Friday, September 9, 2016 1:48 PM

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Scott,

Please see the attached letter regarding our explanations of the two proposed rule changes that we submitted at the 2016 Bayfield County Conservation Congress Spring Hearing.

Feel free to contact Ralph or I if you have any further questions.

Thank you,

Tom Schartner – Mobile #608-558-8908

Ralph Thyssen – Mobile #920-609-8847

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### **Attachments**

- 2016 Proposed Rule Changes Letter.pdf (587.01KB)

Bear Committee,

We are writing you concerning the two resolutions we submitted this Spring in Bayfield County concerning Bear Hunting, they were numbers #9 and #10 concerning Reciprocity dog training privileges and Reciprocity hunting privileges. We are unable to attend the 2016 Legislative Advisory Meeting again this year due to you holding this meeting during the bear season as we are bear hunters and bear hunt guides.

We made a contact with Committee Chair and Secretary of the Legislative Committee Scott Gunderson and he informed us that our e-mail would be as good as attending the meeting.

We will start with # 9, which is the Reciprocity Dog Training Privileges resolution, which we submitted for several reasons as you will see when reading it. There are many states which do not allow training of bear dogs in their state, such as IL, IN, IA MN, OH, there are many others but these are our neighboring states. Also the majority of the southern states don't allow bear dog training at all. Other states such as WV, ID and KY do allow limited bear dog training but by permit only or these states do not allow non-residents to partake in this type of dog training. The state of NH has a dog training Reciprocity Law in effect, which is what we are asking for. That law reads (RSA 207"12-B) "Hunting with the use of bear dogs and or training with bear dogs is allowed in NH for non residents only if their state of residence allows the same activities for NH residents.

We are getting crowding in Wisconsin because our state no longer has a Class B (participation) permit, so at this time anyone including non residence can come to our state to train dogs on free roaming animals including bear. This has caused many out of state bear dog hunters to come to Wisconsin free of charge and the crowded condition force hunters closer to private lands, towns and populated areas.

The second resolution we submitted was also passed in both Bayfield with (24-3) and St Croix (33-8) Counties during the 2016 Spring Hearing.

The second resolution we submitted was #10, which addresses Reciprocity Hunting Privileges.

Most every western state restricts the number of nonresident tags available. They use multiple methods for restricting their tags. Additionally their license fees are significantly more expensive for nonresidents. Some examples are: In South Dakota they do not issue big game tags (Elk, Mountain Lion, Big Horn Sheep and Mountain Goat) to nonresidents.

In North Dakota nonresidents can only receive an elk or moose tag through the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation/Game Warden Museum elk license raffle and they are limited to one tag a life time.

In Michigan nonresident bear hunting license are restricted to no more than 2 percent of the total licenses issued. Nonresidents must have in their possession a special permit to use dogs while bear hunting.

In New Mexico only 16 percent of the tags are available to nonresidents (6 percent without a guide and 10 percent with a guide). However many of their limited draw units have one to 4 total permits for a season making it almost statistically impossible for a nonresident to draw a tag.

Arkansas issued 29 public land elk permits that were available to residents only.

Iowa allows residents to harvest 2 whitetail bucks each year and farmers to harvest a third buck. Nonresidents must apply and receive a tag every 3 to 4 years for one whitetail buck.

We feel the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources needs to establish a reciprocity law for hunting, placing priority on residents and if we do allow nonresidents to hunt in our state, this privilege should be extended to the states which allow Wisconsin Residence to hunt. They should also be charged what they charge nonresidents.

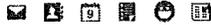
We would like to thank the committee for their time and hope to see these resolutions passed at the 2017 Spring Rules Hearing where they can be voted on state wide.

Respectfully,

Ralph Thyssen

Tom Schartner

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Resolution 130916: Disabled Hunters needing assistance to... (5) People

Ray Anderson <randersw@gmail.com> Sep 2 at 3:18 PM To gundersonforassembly@yahoo.com CC Monica K, Dustin Palenshus

Scott,

as you know, I will not be able to attend the Wisconsin Conservation Congress meeting on Saturday, September 10, 2016.

Your willingness to hand out the attached material at the hearing is appreciated. I've included the resolution as well as a copy of Wisconsin Act 225.

Based on my experience it is equally important that an individual with a physical disability deserves the same accommodation when hunting that a mentee/youth has been accorded via Wisconsin Act 225. It is not uncommon when a person with a disability hunts and shoots a game animal or bird that they need assistance to track and/or retrieve the quarry because they may not be able to fully pursue the game once it is down or runs/flyes off.

You and I who "walk" don't normally think about this in our daily lives. Over the past few years I have witnessed the need for "reasonable accommodation" by those with a physical disability. It is my hope that the members of the Congress Legislative committee will be able to understand this need and promote this resolution as well.

With this email I am asking Monica Kamal and Dustin Palenshus, both hunters with a physical disability to provide some first hand knowledge as to why this bill should be put forth and enacted by the Wisconsin Legislature and Governor.

Also, attached is the link to Access Ability WI which continues to be updated which we thought you might be interested to review: http://www.accessabilitywi.org/. We will soon have a total of four outdoor wheelchairs. This was possible because we obtained a grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeves Foundation, a donation from Whitetails Unlimited of Wisconsin and another \$10,000 grant from the WI-DNR.

Please let Monica or me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Ray Anderson Access Ability Wisconsin Board Member Hunter Education Safety Instructor Wisconsin Hunter Education Instructors Association Board Member Dane County Pheasants Forever Board Member randersw@gmail.com 608.698.9086



Resolution .pdf

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Dustin Palenshus <dustin2398@gmail.com> Sep 7 at 10:49 AM To Ray Anderson CC gundersonforassembly@yahoo.com, Monica K

Hello My name is Dustin Palenshus and I believe this would be a great addition to the current bill, as a disabled hunter there are times that I may not be able to get to a wounded animal and would need the assistant's of an abled bodied person to track and finish of a wounded animal.

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Highly Recommended You may have to repair Windows errors which are affecting the performance of your PC. Run a scan now using the Windows PC Clean-up and Repair Tool. Do you want to scan and repair now? Download and Repair

Title: Disabled Hunters Needing Assistance to Kill Legally Hunted Wounded Animal

The Problem: At present, should a person with a physical disability having a Class A hunting permit and legal license, hunting with a mentor/assistant wound an animal and not be able to get to the wounded animal to kill it, they have to allow the animal to suffer.

Their mentor may not legally kill the wounded animal even if the disabled hunter is not able to nor if the disabled hunter asks their mentor to do so for them.

A rule change such as Wisconsin Act 225 is needed which allows a mentor of a youth/mentee to kill a wounded animal when asked to do so.

In a small percent of disabled mentored hunts, the disabled hunter is not able to pursue and kill the injured animal. A change to the current law would prevent the suffering and loss of game.

This authorization only applies if the animal was wounded while the person with a disability and mentor were hunting together and the disabled person, after learning the animal is wounded, requests the mentor to kill the animal and the mentor uses the same type of firearm to kill the animal that was used by the disabled hunter during the hunt.

Under this rule, any animal killed under this authorization is treated as being killed by the disabled hunter, not the mentor/assistant for the purposes of applying bag, possession and size limits.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Dane County on April 11, 2016, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing a rule change to authorize a mentor of a disabled hunter to kill an animal shot and wounded by the disabled hunter.

Name of Author: Monica Kamal, Private Citizen  
Name of Organization: Access Ability Wisconsin  
Address: 5805 E. Open Meadow  
City, State, Zip Code: McFarland, WI  
Name of the County Introducing In: Dane

Telephone Number: (608) 444-2225

Date of enactment: **March 1, 2016**

**2015 Assembly Bill 527** Date of publication\*: **March 2, 2016**

\* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."

## 2015 WISCONSIN ACT 225

**AN ACT** to create 29.322 of the statutes; relating to: authorizing a person to shoot to kill an animal wounded by certain hunters.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** 29.322 of the statutes is created to read:

**29.322 Taking certain wounded animals.** (1) In this section:

(a) "Accompanying hunter" means a person who is an adult, who holds any valid hunting approval, and who is hunting with a youth or mentee.

(b) "Mentee" means a person hunting with a qualified mentor as provided under s. 29.592.

(c) "Youth" means a person under the age of 18.

(2) An accompanying hunter may kill an animal shot and wounded by a youth or mentee with whom the accompanying hunter is hunting if all of the following apply:

(a) The youth or mentee shot and wounded the animal while lawfully hunting with the accompanying hunter.

(b) The youth or mentee requests, after learning that the animal was wounded, that the accompanying hunter kill the animal.

(c) The accompanying hunter kills the animal with a type of weapon authorized for use by the youth or mentee during the hunting season in which the youth or mentee is lawfully hunting.

(3) For the purposes of this chapter, including for purposes of applying bag, possession, and size limits, an animal killed by an accompanying hunter under sub. (2) shall be treated by the department as if killed by the youth or mentee for whom the animal was killed and not by the accompanying hunter.

# Resolution 130916

Title: Disabled Hunters Needing Assistance to Kill Legally Hunted Wounded Animal

The Problem: At present, should a person with a physical disability having a Class A hunting permit and legal license be hunting with a mentor/assistant wound a legally hunted animal not be able to get to the wounded animal to finish off the kill they have to allow the animal to suffer.

Their mentor/assistant may not legally kill the wounded animal even if the disabled hunter is not able to do so themselves nor if the disabled hunter asks their mentor/assistant to do so for them.

There needs to be a rule change such as 2015 Wisconsin Act 225 which allows a mentor of a youth/mentee to dispatch a wounded animal when asked to do so.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Dane County on April 11, 2016, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing a rule change to authorize a mentor/assistant of a hunter with a physical disability having a Class A hunting permit and legal license to kill an animal shot and wounded by the hunter with a disability that they are accompanying.

This authorization only applies if the animal was wounded while the person with a disability and mentor/assistant were legally hunting together and the disabled person, after learning the animal is wounded, requests the mentor/assistant to kill the animal and the mentor/assistant used the same type of firearm to fill the animal that was used by the disabled hunter during the hunt.

Under this situation, any animal killed under this authorization is treated as being killed by the disabled hunter, not the mentor/assistant for the purposes of applying bag, possession and size limits.

Name of Author: Ray Anderson, Private Citizen  
Name of Organization: Access Ability Wisconsin  
Address: 2987 Osmundsen Road  
City, State, Zip Code: Fitchburg, Wisconsin 53711  
Name of the County Introducing In: Dane

Telephone Number: (608) 698-9086

August 24, 1026

#5

Scott Gunderson  
23401 Hanson Rd.  
Union Grove, WI 53182

RE: Create a Wisconsin State Game Bird – wild turkey

Dear Scott and committee members,

I will be unable to address your committee in support of Citizens resolution #5 (710316) naming the wild turkey as the Wisconsin state game bird. After 7 years I have received a bear harvest permit and will be attempting to fill that tag. The season starts on September 7<sup>th</sup>. I intend to be hunting unless I should be blessed with a bear in time for me to attend your meeting.

The following are some of the reasons that the wild turkey deserves to be named as the Wisconsin state game bird.

1. Wisconsin does not have a state game bird.
2. Turkey wing bones excavated in 1940, in Tennessee were worked, cut, scraped and fashioned into wingbone turkey callers. These bones have been accurately dated to 6,500 BC. That is 4,000 years before the Egyptian pyramids were built and meaning that wild turkeys have been hunted in North America for over 8,500 years.
3. Wild turkeys are native to Wisconsin and were noted to live near Lake Winnebago by the Jesuit Claud Jean Alluez in 1670. By 1860 turkeys were very rare and by the late 1800's they were extirpated from Wisconsin. After the re-introduction of wild turkeys from Missouri, wild turkeys exist in hunt-able populations in Wisconsin wherever suitable habitat exists.
4. The wild turkey was favored by Benjamin Franklin to be our country's national emblem.
5. The wild turkey was the favorite bird of John James Audubon.
6. Wild turkeys have the largest vocabulary of any game bird, with at least 28 distinct calls.
7. Wisconsin ranks near the top of all states in turkey hunting and harvest.
8. Wild turkeys are readily visible to hunters and non-hunters alike.
9. Wild turkeys can be hunted by calling, patterning or with a dog.
10. Wisconsin's wild turkeys can be hunted in spring and fall (actually all four seasons; summer, Winter, spring and fall).
11. The wild turkey, as the state game bird, is supported by the State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation as well as many local chapters.

I urge you to support this resolution.

Thank you,

Clarence Koch, delegate (Winnebago Co.)  
Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
[Clarence.koch@att.net](mailto:Clarence.koch@att.net) 920-235-0282

## Wisconsin State Game Bird – The Wild Turkey

The tradition of turkey hunting in North America and Wisconsin has a history unmatched by any other game bird.

In 1940, the Eva archaic site located in Benton County, Tennessee, was excavated prior to the construction of the dam which formed Kentucky Lake. Among the many artifacts uncovered at the Eva site are turkey wingbone yelpers (turkey calls). Expert examination of these bones makes it clear that they are wild turkey bones. Microscopic examination reveals that they were extensively worked, cut and scraped. To the trained eye, they are classic calls of the wingbone suction type, and have been accurately dated to 6500 BC. In North America hunters have been hunting and fashioning calls from the wing bones of wild turkeys for 4,000 years before the Egyptians built the pyramids.

The turkey was favored above the bald eagle for our national emblem by Benjamin Franklin in 1784, since it was respectable and a native of America.

Historically turkeys occupied much of Southern Wisconsin south of a line from Prairie du Chein to Green Bay. The Jesuit Claud Jean Alluez wrote of wild turkeys near Lake Winnebago in Wisconsin as early as 1670. By 1860 wild turkeys were very rare, and they were completely gone in the late 1800's. Unregulated market hunting, widespread clearing of woodlands, and infectious diseases from domestic poultry contributed to this extirpation.

The successful re-introduction of true wild turkeys from Missouri into Vernon County's Bad Axe watershed in 1976 led to a turkey population of 200,000 by the spring of 2000. We now have 130,000 turkey hunters in Wisconsin pursuing hunt-able populations of wild turkeys throughout the State. This re-introduction has produced unprecedented recreation and revenue in Wisconsin.

**Sources:**

**“Turkey Calls An Enduring American Folk Art”**. (Pages 92, 93). 1994 by Howard Harlan / Anderson Press. Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 94-07320 The Wingbone yelpers are in The University of Tennessee, McClug Museum.

**“Wild Turkey Ecology and Management in Wisconsin”**. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2001(Page 1). John F. Kubisiak, Robert E. Rolley, R. Neal Paisley, and Robert G. Wright

**“Ecology of Wild Turkeys in Wisconsin and a Plan for Their Management, 2015-2025”** The Wisconsin DNR Turkey Advisory Committee,

## The Wild Turkey

"The early Spanish explorers came to the New World to plunder its legendary cities of gold, and not without success. But when they returned to Spain, they took with them the turkey, and North America thus made its most important avian contribution to the economy of the world. The succulent meat of the turkey thus came to grace the banquet tables of emperors and kings in the decades after its introduction into Europe in the sixteenth century."

From *THE WILD TURKEY its History and Domestication* by A.W. Schorger

Note: A.W. Schorger was a professor in the Department of Wildlife Management, College of Agriculture, in the University in Wisconsin

## The National Emblem

The turkey was favored above the bald eagle for our national emblem by Franklin since it was respectable and a native of America. His plea ran in part: "Others object to the bald eagle as looking too much like a dindon, or turkey. For my own part, I wish the bald eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country: he is a bird of bad moral character: he does not get his living honestly: you may have seen him perched on some dead tree, where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the labor of the fishing-hawk: and when that diligent bird has at length taken a fish, and is bearing it to his nest for the support of his mate and young ones, the bald eagle pursues him and takes it from him" (Sparks 1882 10:63) He failed to draw the moral that if the Osprey would keep his mouth shut, instead of screaming, after capturing a fish, the eagle would not be made so aware of possible booty. It would have been highly incongruous to have selected a bird with so foreign a name as turkey.

The Wild Turkey  
Its history and Domestication

A. W. Schorger

September 3, 2015

Clarence Koch  
315 Lampert Street  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Dear Mr. Koch,

The Wisconsin State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF-WI) supports your efforts to designate the wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) as Wisconsin's State Game Bird.

As you have so eloquently pointed out in your supporting documents, the wild turkey is a beautiful and majestic bird that is enjoyed by hunters and non-hunters alike. It is unique in its appearance, vocabulary, and behavior, being both highly visible and incredibly wary. As such, the state's 130,000 turkey hunters consider gobblers wily quarry and a trophy worthy of respect. Each year hunters take over 40,000 turkeys, consistently ranking Wisconsin 4th in the nation in harvest.

The restoration of the wild turkey is surely one of the world's greatest wildlife management success stories. Records indicate that they were present in the southern 2/3 of Wisconsin before European settlement, but were quickly extirpated by habitat loss, shooting by settlers, and market hunting. The last turkey was shot near Darlington in 1881. After several failed attempts at restoration with farm raised birds, the DNR started relocating birds from Missouri in 1976. Over the ensuing years 334 birds from Missouri and over 1,400 birds from other states were released in Wisconsin. Birds from established flocks were also moved around the state, largely with financial assistance from NWTF-WI. By 2006 turkeys were established in every suitable habitat in the state. Imagine that – from virtually zero to a healthy statewide population in only 30 years!

Because of all this, the NWTF-WI agrees that the wild turkey deserves to be designated as the State Game Bird of Wisconsin. We thank you and applaud you for taking the initiative and spearheading this effort. Let us know how we can help!

Sincerely,

David Burke, President  
NWTF-WI  
520 Franklin  
Wausau, WI 54403  
(715) 574-3302  
burkeconstruction@gmail.com

John James Audubon and the Making of *The Birds of America*

Under a Wild Sky by author William Souder

Page 93

Audubon was drawn to every kind of bird – from the smallest, blandest warbler or warbler or wren to the great eagles. He seemed to care as much for a crow or grackle as he did for the rose-breasted grosbeak or the magnificent ivory-billed woodpecker. But he was especially fond of birds whose social behaviors became demonstrative with the turning of the seasons. **And probably no bird fascinated him more - - - or figured more prominently in his art - - - than the turkey.**

Audubon no doubt had seen a few turkeys in Pennsylvania. But they were already growing scarce in the East by the time he arrived in America. In Kentucky, though, turkeys were plentiful. It was a striking bird with a heavy body topped by a short neck and small head. Audubon thought its fine table quality, its tremendous size, and its ungainly yet beguiling appearance - - plus the fact that a domesticated version had become popular on both sides of the Atlantic - - made the turkey uncommonly appealing. And because turkeys do not winter in the tropics like most true migratory species, their seasonal movements across a region could be closely studied. To this end, Audubon devoted himself. When, twenty years later, he described the turkey, Audubon poured all that he knew of the animal and its nature into what he wrote.

Turkeys, Audubon discovered, are “irregularly migratory, as well as irregularly gregarious.” He commenced his observations in the fall, when the Kentucky evenings seemed bluer and the forest recolored itself in the transparent air. The movement and gathering of turkeys are governed, Audubon said, largely by variations in the density of food sources in the areas where they live. Turkeys subsist on various foods, but mainly on mast - - an inclusive term for the nuts and fruits that fall from trees and litter the forest floor. Audubon determined that as turkeys forage they are sensitive to changes in the density of acorns and other mast items, and that they proceed in the direction of increasing abundance, as “flock follows after flock” until some districts are empty of turkeys, while others great aggregations are formed.

The Wild Turkey has a history unmatched by any other game bird.

The Wild Turkey is a Noble and Majestic bird.

The Wild Turkey is native to Wisconsin.

A Wild Turkey gobbler in mating display is an amazing sight.

Wisconsin's Wild Turkeys can be hunted in spring and fall (actually all four seasons, *summer winter, spring and fall*)

Wild Turkeys can be hunted by calling, patterning or with a dog.

A Wild Turkey is strong, it can run 25 Miles per hour and Fly 55 miles per hour.

The Wild Turkey has the largest vocabulary of any game bird, with at least 28 distinct calls. \*

Wisconsin ranks as the top or in the top states in wild turkey harvest and population.

The Wild Turkey is a proven survivor.

The Wild turkey is a worthy opponent for any ethical hunter.

A Wild Turkey gobbler is a true hunting trophy.

A Wild Turkey is wary, and as a game bird has no equal.

Wild Turkeys are readily visible to hunters and non-hunters alike.

Wild Turkeys populate every suitable habitat in Wisconsin.