040407

#4

RESOLUTION
COUNTYWIDE AND STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

040407

The Problem: Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) is spreading to Wisconsin's waterbodies, primarily by boat trailers. It degrades the fishery, and eliminates recreation. Once introduced, it is there to stay. Temporary treatment costs about $1,000/acre.

Although Wisconsin prohibits trailers carrying EWM from launching, a warden must witness the launch. It is not possible to have a warden watching every landing. This proposal would allow citation of any boat trailer owner carrying EWM on public roads and would help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

The Solution:
WHEREAS,

1. EWM is rapidly infesting Wisconsin waterbodies, impacting recreational use of our waters, the fishery and water quality.

2. Clean, healthy lakes and streams are important to Wisconsin's tourism, recreation and economy.

3. The primary means of infestation is by boat trailers.

4. Similar regulation of EWM in Minnesota counties has been very successful.

5. The State can better protect water quality and recreational use by prohibiting transportation of any Aquatic Invasive Species.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Bayfield County supports *statewide* prohibition of the transportation of AIS on any Wisconsin roadway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Bayfield County supports the timely *countywide* prohibition of the transportation of AIS on any Bayfield County roadway until such time as the State of Wisconsin enacts said prohibition of AIS transport.

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