17-02

Change Wisconsin State Statute 29.089, to allow trapping and hunting on State Park Land.

Whereas, current Wisconsin State Statute 29.089 does not allow any trapping or hunting on Wisconsin State Park Land, except the WDNR may authorize certain type of hunting for deer, elk, wild turkeys or small game in a state park or portion of a state Park.

Currently there are 46 State Parks in Wisconsin, total of 75,000 acres, 33 of the 46 parks are 600 acres or more. The WDNR continues to buy private land and put it into the State Park System, recently 2,780 acres was purchased in Polk County along the Straight Lake and made into a State Park. The WDNR is presently purchasing private lands, approximately 2,900 acres of wetlands and wildlife area in Jefferson County and making them into seven State Parks. As a private sector most of these areas were hunted and trapped.

Once these lands are in the State Park System there is no trapping of any kind, no waterfowl hunting, no bear hunting, no raccoon hunting and no coyote hunting of any kind. Any other kind of hunting requires a specific written administrative rule from the WDNR to allow a specific hunt, and presently deer hunting, turkey hunting are very restricted and no small game hunting has been allowed.

Trapping techniques have changed over the recent years, trapping with cylinder (Griz Gettr's, Duffers, Egg traps) dog proof coon traps, late muskrat and beaver seasons to allow trapping these furbearers under the ice, and the use of Cable Restraints. Hunting Techniques and hunting safety have changed allowing hunters to hunt near and around other persons using the outdoors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we are requesting that our Wisconsin Legislators change Wisconsin State Statute 29.089 to allow Trapping and Hunting on State Parks Lands, and give the authority to the WDNR to regulate the hunting and trapping on these State Park Lands according to wise use of the natural resource.

Submitted by: Larry P Meyer, 11921 E Pioneer Rd, Whitewater WI 53190
Email: larrypmeyer@msn.com