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Improved Hunting Opportunities 05-02-11

The Problem:
The DNR is required by law to manage the deer herd to a population level that is unacceptably low to a majority of Wisconsin hunters. As a result, the DNR is not able to facilitate the management of the herd to provide hunters with the quantity of deer most would like to see. Furthermore, current regulations allow hunters to harvest multiple bucks in one season. The result is a herd with a poor age structure and skewed buck to doe ratios. Consequently, many hunters see fewer bucks and never have the opportunity to harvest a big buck.

Many states, including Minnesota allow hunters to harvest only one buck per season. By reducing the amount of bucks an individual hunter is allowed to harvest, the DNR will be able to provide more quality hunting opportunities for more deer hunters and improve the quality of the herd.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in **Brown County** on **April 11, 2011**, recommends the DNR take action to correct this situation by introducing regulations that restructure group hunting and buck tags from the current gun and bow season specific tags. The new system would allow a buck tag that is good for any weapon with the opportunity to purchase a second buck tag good for an eight point or better deer and good for any weapon at a cost of three times the current tag price. Group hunting for bucks would be eliminated.

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