44-02

Title: A Top Predator

The Problem:

Coyotes are one of the top predators to the deer population.

It is legal to harvest coyotes during the deer firearm season in Central and Southern Wisconsin. This may be a factor that helps keep the deer population higher in these ***deer management unit*** areas.

Since the deer population in much of Northern Wisconsin ranges from low to (maybe) a low-ideal population level, I feel that sportsmen/women should be allowed to harvest coyotes in the northern area of Wisconsin during the deer firearm season. This in turn, will help to bring back our Northwood's deer population.

Facts: The Federal government has concluded that men and women are able to properly identify a coyote when compared to other wild animals. Many states in our Union have also concluded that sportsmen and women are able to properly identify a coyote and are allowed to harvest them in conjunction with their big game season. The State of Wisconsin specifically has concluded that sportsmen and women, who hunt deer during the firearm season south of the coyote closed zone, have the ability to properly identify a coyote from other wild animals and are allowed to harvest them.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Oneida County on April 11, 2011, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule change(s) to allow statewide coyote harvesting during the deer firearm season.

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