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13-08-13

Banning The Use of Dogs on Wildlife

The Problem:

In order to train dogs to pursue bears, coyotes, raccoons, or the proposed wolves on dog-fighting, dogs have to be trained to want to kill wildlife. They have to be trained to be vicious. Trappers live trap as many baby raccoons as they can in spring, and hounders loose them in open fields where they cannot reach a tree. Dogs are loosed on them to kill them as "training". A former bear hounder told me that during the four and a half months of running dogs on bears (when bears need to eat all day every day to prepare for hibernation), easily 30% of the bears do not make it to a tree and are killed by the dogs because they are babies and cannot defend themselves.

Packs of dogs with armed men in mobs roaming across Wisconsin's landscape to displace and kill our wildlife has been compared to "star-gazing" and "bird-watching" by the DNR. Dogs are much more dangerous to livestock, pets, other dogs, and people than shy coyotes or wolves.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in every county on April 8, 2013, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this by banning the use of dogs on wildlife.

This would return some pretense of fair chase to 9,000 bear hunters in the woods with bait piles set from April through the five week killing season, or year-round coyote killing night and day with dogs.. Right now wildlife does not have a chance. Two – thirds of the 5,000 bears killed annually are cubs a year old. Coyotes are being tortured.

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County vote: Yes_____ No: _____