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The Problem: Limited Fisher trapping opportunity

Whereas The fisher population and range in Wisconsin is stable, or expanding, and the harvest is controlled by a permit quota system. The season used to run concurrent with the bobcat hunting/trapping season which was mid October to December 31st. The Bobcat season has expanded to end Jan 31st. Fisher season closure has remained at Dec 31st. Fisher are only allowed to be trapped, not hunted, which is more like the Otter, that may only be trapped, and is also controlled by a quota system. Otter season runs from the beginning of November ending March 31st. in the south and central zones and April 30th in the northern zone. Since the Fisher would still be protected by the quota system, there is no biological reason not to have a longer season, this would allow for fisher trapping after the deer seasons are done and access to private property is easier to obtain, thus increasing trapper opportunity.

Therefore let it be resolved , The conservation congress at it's annual meeting in Waupaca County, on April 14th 2014, recommends that the Department of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes to the fisher trapping season to end concurrent with the southern-(earliest) otter season.

SUBMITTED BY Scott Bestul



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County Vote---YES-----NO-----