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Problem: Increased prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease in the Southern Farmland Zone

According to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources estimates, the prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease has increased in the Southern Farmland Zone. In one 144 square mile area in Iowa County, 40 percent of antlered deer that are two-and-one-half years old and older have tested positive for CWD. Just less than 20 percent of mature antlerless deer tested positive in the same area.

Resolution:

Whereas, the prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease in the Southern Farmland Zone has been documented at 40 percent of antlered deer two-and-one-half years old and older in one 144 square-mile area of north central Iowa County; and,

Whereas, antlered deer have been determined to be the most likely carriers of CWD; and,

Whereas, opposition to the Earn-a-Buck program led to the decision to eliminate it from the tool box to reduce the prevalence of CWD; and,

Whereas, the more socially acceptable Bonus Buck program which allowed for a third buck to be harvested after first harvesting an antlerless deer was also recently removed from the tool box; and,

Whereas, the ability of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to control the spread of CWD is severely constrained by these actions,

Therefore, be it resolved, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress at its annual spring hearing meeting held in Iowa County urges Conservation Congress officials, the WDNR and the Natural Resources Board work with the Wisconsin Legislature to reestablish the Bonus Buck program in the Southern Farmland Zone.

Submitted by

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