

**Allowing Unused Spring Turkey Permits to Be Used in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Periods**

**Whereas**, Wisconsin Spring Turkey Season consists of seven turkey management zones and six time periods. Spring turkey permits are zone and time period specific. The bag limit for the spring turkey season is one bearded or male turkey per tag issued.

**Whereas**, for you to receive a spring turkey permit you must apply by application. The application deadline for the spring hunt is December 10. After the lottery drawing occurs, all remaining permits available are sold over-the-counter on a first-come, first-served basis in March.

**Whereas**, there's been discussion in the past to eliminate the six time periods and implement a six week long spring turkey season, but there's concern of losing access to private lands and overcrowding on public lands.

**Whereas**, there's also been discussion to eliminate the spring turkey permit application process, and sell all permits over-the-counter on a first-come, first-serve basis, but there's concern with the licensing system being able to handle the large volume of transactions that may occur simultaneously.

**Whereas**, there are many unforeseen circumstances (access, health, permit availability, schedule conflict, weather, etc.) that may limit or hinder one's ability to hunt in the zone or time period that they may have applied and purchased their permit for.

**Whereas**, to address these concerns and expand opportunity without having to purchase an additional permit, any unused spring turkey permit for a specific zone and previous period should also be valid during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> time period.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Racine County on April 13, 2015, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources in allowing an unused turkey permit for a specific zone and previous period to also be valid during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> period of the specific zone.

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Signature: