

SUBJECT: 2009-2011 Legislative Proposals

FOR: JANUARY BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Paul Heinen

SUMMARY:

Attached are the Legislative Proposals submitted by the DNR divisions and approved by Secretary Frank for the 2009-2011 Legislative Session. The Department requests your approval.

Highlights of this package and of the upcoming session will be presented by Paul Heinen.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Legislative Proposals.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- No Fiscal Estimate Required
- No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No Background Memo

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:

Paul Heinen
 Bureau Director, Paul Heinen

1/13/2009
 Date

 Administrator,
Matt Frank
 Secretary, Matt Frank

 Date
1/13/09
 Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/8
Administrators

Legislative Proposals 2009-2011

Division of Enforcement

1. Ban Baiting and Feeding of Deer

Baiting and feeding of deer alters and reduces deer's natural movement patterns. It also concentrates the number of deer on certain lands. This proposal would ban the baiting and feeding of deer.

2. Car-killed Bear and Turkey

The number of instances where bear and turkeys are killed by motor vehicles continue to increase. Current law allows law enforcement to authorize the taking of a car-killed deer. This proposal would allow law enforcement to permit the owner of a vehicle to claim a bear or turkey killed accidentally.

3. Possession and Sale of Lawful Furs during the closed season

Current law does not allow a person to have or sell lawfully harvested animal pelts during the closed season. This proposal would allow trappers to sell legally caught animal pelts during any time of the year.

4. Require Blaze Orange on All Hunting Blinds

Currently, the Department has authority to require blaze orange on hunting blinds on DNR lands. At the request of the NRB we are proposing that this authority be broadened to require blaze orange on ground blinds on private, county, and federal lands.

Division of Lands

5. Allow DNR to recover costs of removal of escaped deer

DNR staff has had to assist in the removal of escaped deer in the past, yet we currently do not have an appropriate funding source for removal and recovery efforts. This proposal would allow the Department to recover costs of staff in the removal and recovery of deer from the owner.

6. Managed Hunts

Currently DNR has the authority to allow managed hunts for geese. This proposal would allow the Department to have managed hunts for all migratory birds.

7. Streamline the payment in lieu of tax process

Under current law payments are made to municipalities by the DNR for DNR lands. The municipality then pays out these funds to their taxing jurisdictions. For DNR lands, the state portion is sent back to us. This proposal streamlines the process so that municipalities are not sending that money that we just mailed them back to us.

8. Transfer of Earn-A-Buck to Youth Hunters

This bill will authorize the Department to allow an adult to transfer an earn-a-buck authorization to a youth 12-17 years old. It is felt this transfer will help young people get into or stay involved with the deer hunting transition.

9. Turkey Permit Preference

To qualify for landowner preference for wild turkey hunting a landowner must own 50 acres in the zone in which they are applying. These 50 acres must be contiguous. This proposal would allow you to apply with just 50 acres total in the zone.

10. Adding Turkey Licenses for Students

Currently, non-residents who are full-time students at a Wisconsin college may purchase a resident fishing, small game and deer hunting license. This proposal would allow them to purchase a turkey permit as well.

Division of Customer Assistance and External Services

11. Safe Drinking Water Loan Program Application Date

Current law establishes April 30th as the deadline for applying for a loan under the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program. However, municipalities don't receive their priority score until mid-March. This proposal would change the application date from April 30th to June 30th.