Form 1100-001
(R 2/11)

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 8.B.3

SUBJECT: Changing landscapes in hunting and conservation in Wisconsin

FOR: MAY 2011 **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Keith Warnke - Hunting and Shooting Sports Coordinator

SUMMARY:

The North American Conseravtion Model is a resounding success story. The foundation of this model is the public trust doctrine - fish and wildlife belong to all citizens, and are to be scientifically managed for sustainable use. The North American conservation movement and methods were developed in the first half of the 20th century in response to declining wildlife populations and public demand for wildlife habitat and "natural areas". Public hunting and fishing are cornerstones of the our model because hunters and anglers are a major funding source for conservation management through license fees, excise taxes, and voluntary contributions to organizations. Wisconsin's non-hunting and non-angling residents also strongly support conservation (including hunting and angling) both in opinion and through tax revenues.

Participation in hunting is declining in Wisconsin. If predicted declines in hunter numbers are realized, a cornerstone or conservation in Wisconsin, including the hunting culture and the revenue it provides, will be significantly challenged. This presentation will include a short history of the North American Model of Conservation, a review of attitudes toward hunting, an evaluation of conservation impacts, and call for opening a dialog to proactively integrate changing cultures in Wisconsin to ensure sustainable conservation success.

RECOMMENDATION: Information Item

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No	☑	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☑	Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☑	Background Memo	Yes	☐	Attached

APPROVED:

Bureau Director, — Date: May 16, 2011

Administrator, — Date: 3/16/2011

Secretary, Cathy Stepp — Date: 5/19/11

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator