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13-05-13

BANNING THE PRACTICE OF HOUNDING

The issue:

Hunters often profess a strict adherence to rules of fair chase. But there is nothing fair about a pack of trained hounds wearing radio collars running down a wild animal, or shooting exhausted wild animals off tree limbs. Bears, for instance, are very poor distance runners and often may tire and be attack by dogs before the pack trees the bear. Hounds also may chase, harass, injure, and kill "non-target" animals like other wildlife, pets, and farm animals. It is not uncommon for the hunt to take an unpredictable course and resulting in the hounds becoming a nuisance on public and private lands. Sometimes states allow "chase only" seasons when wildlife may be pursued with dogs, but not killed. During "chase-only" hunts, the target wildlife may still be killed by packs of dogs or suffer severe injuries while trying to escape. These seasons often take place in the spring and summer when mothers may become permanently separated from their young, who can perish as a result.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in every county on April 8, 2013, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this by banning the use of dogs on some wildlife.

Submitted by (Name):

Melissa Smith
117 Ardmore Dr.
Madison, WI 53713
County of Submission: Dane
Telephone #: 608-234-8860
Signature:

County vote: Yes _____ No: _____