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13-07-13

Fair and Reasonable Restrictions on Trappers/Fair & Comparable Fees & Take of Living Wildlife for Non-Consumptive Citizens

The Problem:

Trapping, as a constitutional right, is subject to "fair and reasonable restrictions."

There are 10,000 trappers in the state. The citizen population of the state who do not trap number 5.8 million. 99.9 % of the public do not trap, so a reasonable restriction would be to set aside proportionate land or .0015% of our publicly purchased lands as designated trapping land, only.

The problem is that trapping is a commercial business that profits the trapper as a privileged citizen who can remove wildlife permanently from our public lands for private profit. **Non-consumptive citizens are not allowed private take for personal use or profit.**

Whereas all citizens should be treated equally on our public lands,

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 situation by introducing rule changes or legislation that limit trappers to trapping on private lands.

Be IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if trappers continue to take from our public lands, that all citizens be allowed an equal take of living wildlife from our public lands for private use, permanently. This will be legislated as fair pay, fair take from our commons, and the fee for living wildlife private take for any citizen who applies will be the same as the fee for a trapper, and the limits the same.

Fair and equal funding, fair and equal take for all citizens.

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County vote: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_