

71-05-16

Citizen Resolution # _____

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Trapping Season Simplification

Each year the Conservation Congress accepts written resolutions from the public, in each county throughout the state regarding natural resource issues of statewide concern. These resolutions are introduced by the public in attendance during the Conservation Congress county meeting that is held annually in conjunction with the DNR Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings in April.

In order for a resolution to be accepted for further consideration by the Conservation Congress and for public vote at the annual Conservation Congress county meeting, all resolutions introduced must meet the following requirements:

1. The concern must be of statewide impact.
2. The concern must be practical, achievable and reasonable.
3. The resolution must have a clear title.
4. The resolution must clearly define the concern.
5. Current state statutes and laws must be considered, with reasonable cause for change being presented.
6. The resolution must clearly suggest a solution to the concern and a description of further action desired.
7. Resolutions must be 250 words or less exclusive of the title and author contact information. (This guidance is not included in the word count.)

Currently there is an effort (question 24) that moves all dry land trapping back to Nov 1 to reduce incidents with other user groups and allow trappers to harvest animals when the pelts have more value. While the CC Fur Harvest Committee approved of this change, the WTA has opposed it.

The problem is this date is currently one week later than the current muskrat/mink season and the majority of the time Nov 1 will not fall on a weekend. This allows trappers to take advantage of two openers, creates crowding in the water and on land in public places during those openings, and prevents school age kids from participating in the dry land season opener. Additionally, coyotes, fox, and raccoons prime up earlier than muskrat and mink.

BE IT RESOLVED, The Conservation Congress will work with department to create a standard opening for all species that starts on the last Saturday in October. This is a compromise between existing water season opening and newly proposed land season opening. To further simplify season structure, endings will be consolidated into two closes-one for water and one for land. Seasons will be as follows:

All Water Species-Last Saturday in Oct until March 31, or end of beaver season, whichever is later.
All Dry Land Species-Same start date as above, but both zones end Feb 15.

Mississippi zone structure, wolf season, and emergency closes will not be impacted.

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Winnebago

Signature: _____

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Please print your resolution on 8 1/2 X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your local WCC delegates with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.