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CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 28, 2015
TO: Chair Cole and members of the Natural Resources Board
FROM: Rob Bohmann, WCC Chair
SUBJECT: 2015 Wisconsin bear harvest quotas

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress' Bear Study Committee meeting was held at the Mead Wildlife Area Visitor Center in Milladore on Saturday, December 6, 2014.

Dave MacFarland DNR Carnivore Biologist, and the committee discussed harvest rates, tetracycline study, application fees for resident and nonresident bear hunting application, the current preference system, upcoming Bear Management Plan, spring bear hunt possibilities, permit levels, Aphis complaints and shooting permits issued along with trapping of nuisance bears.

They also discussed 2015 bear season harvest summary and the proposed 2015 harvest quotas/permits. The quota levels that Dave presented to the committee were 1100/Zone A, 750/Zone B, 1300/Zone C and 1600/Zone D. The permit levels that were presented to the committee were 1875/Zone A, 1090/Zone B, 5490/Zone C and 2235/Zone D.

Following this discussion a motion was made and seconded to go over proposed Harvest Quotas and Permit levels for each BMU separately. All zone harvest quotas and permit levels were supported by the committee with no opposition.

The Congress' Bear Committee supports both the proposed quotas and permit levels for the 2015 season.