



Robert Bohmann, Chair
1105 Melvin Avenue
Racine, WI 53402
608-235-5825

Larry Bonde, Vice-Chair
22514 Rockville Road
Kiel, WI 53042
920-286-3327

Joe Weiss, Secretary
Lee Fahrney, Public Relations
Alan Suchla, Historian

Thank you, Chairman Cole, Secretary Stepp and Board Members. My name is Al Shook, and I'm the chair of the Congress' Migratory Committee. The Congress' Migratory Committee met on Saturday, August 3rd to review and discuss the Department's 2013 Migratory season proposal.

After much discussion, the Migratory Committee approved and would like the Board to consider the following recommendations:

Early Goose Season, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)

Youth Waterfowl Hunt, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)

Ducks

- Northern Zone, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)
- Southern Zone, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)
- Mississippi Zone, September 21st – 29th and October 19th – December 8th
(Please note this is different from the Department's proposal)

Canada Geese

- Exterior Zone (North and South), (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)
- Mississippi River Sub-Zone, September 21st – 29th and October 19th – January 9th
(Please note that this is different from the Department's proposal)

The committee's request for the change in the proposed Mississippi Zones are the result of local feedback requesting a longer season split for ducks and geese.

Horicon Zone, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)

Light Geese, Brant and White Fronted Geese, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)

Horicon Zone Changes Proposed, (The WCC adopted the changes that proposed by the DNR)

Additional Open Water Hunting Lakes, (The WCC adopted the same season dates and bag limits as proposed by the DNR)



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The Open Water Lake questions (52-63) that were on this year's questionnaire were the result of recommendations made by Congress' Open Water Ad-Hoc study committee that was formed in 2008. The full delegation supported the statewide vote in favor of advancing all twelve lakes at our convention in May, and the Migratory Committee is aware of that. However, we acknowledge and support the agreement of the Open Water Ad-Hoc committee to not pursue lakes that did not get local support. The Congress' Executive Committee held a conference call on August 6th, and supported the Migratory Study Committee recommendation to support the DNR's proposal which was not to include those lakes that didn't have local support. So the WCC's official position is in support of the DNR's recommendations as presented to the Migratory Study Committee of the WCC.

I would like to thank Kent Van Horn, James Christopoulos and Todd Schaller for their professionalism and all the long hours and travel time spent working on the waterfowl resource. They are a credit to their profession and to the Department.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

Sincerely,

Al Shook, Chair
WCC Migratory Committee