Rifles For Deer Hunting Statewide 130110

Problem: The restriction on the use of rifles for deer hunting in some counties has been based upon safety concerns. DNR safety statistics have shown that shotguns are not safer than rifles and in some instances are actually more dangerous. In the last several years the DNR has expanded the use of rifles in the CWD zone and several counties have voted to remove the rifle restrictions.

Currently the use of rifle cartridges in handguns and the use of muzzleloading rifles (including inline magnums) is legal in shotgun counties. Rifles can also be used for predator and small game hunting in every county of the State. These exceptions make it unreasonable to restrict the use of rifles for deer hunting in the few counties that remain shotgun only.

Be it Resolved, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in DANE Co. on April 12, 2010 recommends that the DNR introduce a rule change to allow the use of rifles for deer hunting statewide.

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