

1321/5

**RESOLUTION: Stop Killing Wisconsin Natural Mid-Range and Top Predators To Protect Our Health**

The Problem:

Natural predators – wolves, coyotes, bears, bobcats, lynx, and mid-range predators are so essential to intact ecosystems that they create trophic cascade effect throughout the web of life, keeping it healthy and vibrant.

Yet, the DNR, in its deer management plans, and in its killing policies, continues to have seasons of killing on our natural predators. These natural predators change the nature of rivers and vegetation to the positive, affect the health of the deer herd positively, and keep lyme disease and other unnatural disruptions, threatening the health of people and wildlife, at bay. Along with the massive market trapping and destruction of natural predators, Wisconsin has CWD in 25% of the two-year old bucks. It has an explosion of field mice and is therefore a hot spot of Lyme Disease.

Be it Resolved, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting, held in every county in Wisconsin, April 13, 2015, recommend that the Dept. of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes to the legislature, ending the trapping, hounding and killing of our natural mid-range and top predators to restore balanced ecosystems throughout Wisconsin and protect wildlife and human health.

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County vote: Yes  No: