

Citizen Resolution # 50-03-15

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Single Dry Land Trapping Opener for all Furbearers

THE PROBLEM:

Regulated, dry land trapping in Wisconsin currently has two primary opening dates. The general opener for coyote, fox, fisher, bobcat and raccoon opens on the Saturday nearest October 17th. The wolf season opened on October 15th. Two early openers have resulted in confusion, require the release of furbearers that would be legal in just days or hours, and have caused conflicts with other outdoor users. Conflicts between trappers and bird dog hunters have risen in recent years.

With noticeable changes in weather patterns the fall season has generally extended later into the calendar year. This allows good dry land trapping opportunities later in the fall when pelts are in better condition and after the prime mid-October hunting time for upland bird hunters. A slightly later concurrent opener would result in fewer conflicts, with better fur condition and pelt value.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Portage County on April 13, 2015 recommends the Conservation Congress work with the Department to introduce a rule change to a single dry land trapping opener for coyote, fox, fisher, bobcat, raccoon and wolf, beginning on November 1st. This would end the confusion and conflicts that currently exist and allow the utilization of resources in prime condition.

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Signature: Richard A Horn

Please print your resolution on 8 ½ 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.