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## Oppose the Wholesale Sale of Federal Public Lands

**The Problem:** Due to the vision and leadership of President Teddy Roosevelt and other great conservation leaders, the Federal government has saved for public recreational use: National Parks, Fish and Wildlife Refuges, National Forests, National Monuments and Bureau of Land Management lands. These lands are heavily used by hunters, anglers, trappers, campers and other nature-based recreational purposes and contribute substantially to the \$864 billion tourism and recreation economy in the United States.

There is a very active movement to sell or transfer major parts of Federal lands to states or private interests who will have control over future public use of those lands. In fact, recently prominent individuals have seriously stated that all Federal land in multiple Western states be sold except National Parks and military bases thereby threatening the future recreational use of those lands by hunters, anglers, trappers and other recreational users.

The sale of Western Federal lands would be a precedent for the sale of Federal lands in Wisconsin.

**Be It Resolved:** That the Wisconsin Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Dane County on April 11, 2016 requests that the full body of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress at its 2016 Annual Meeting officially oppose the wholesale selling or transfer of Federal public lands and that the Conservation Congress notify our federal and state elected representatives of this opposition.

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