

#53 0316

53 #3 2016

Citizen Resolution # _____

(For Hearing Officer Completion)



Protect ecosystem services of Beaver

WHEREAS, currently, nitrogen and phosphorus pollution through farming activities are implicated in the over 300 impaired water bodies in Wisconsin and studies have shown damage to animals, plants and aquatic habitats from the toxic water and debris leaving GMO crop fields.

The Wisconsin "Right to Farm Law" allows farmers to poison ecosystems and water bodies on many levels. According to the EPA there are over 1300 cases of water impairment mostly due to sediment. Due in large part to the DNR's ineffective oversight and enforcement within the WPDES Program, many Wisconsin waterways suffer from quality degradation.

Beaver dams remove agricultural toxins. The dams slow water and allow settling of sediments. Bacteria in this sediment eliminate harmful toxins and reduce nutrient pollution.

Wisconsin statute 88.90 (3) states that beavers are nuisances as they interfere with human interaction with the landscape. Beavers are destroyed in favor of what humans deem to be good land and water management. Humans are failing as land stewards. Healthy ecosystems are not preserved by mono-culturing the wild, like managing for only one species-trout.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Richland County on April 11, 2016, recommends that the Conservation Congress call upon DNR to take immediate remedial action to include beavers in all management plans in order to clean water, slow flood water, allow water infiltration and provide rich habitats for many important Wisconsin species.

Respectfully submitted,

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Introduced in Richland County

Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juliee de la Terre", is written over a horizontal line.