The Wisconsin Conservation Commission (the predecessor of the Natural Resources Board) created the Wisconsin Conservation Congress in 1934. The purpose was to provide Wisconsin citizens with a local avenue for input and exchange concerning conservation issues. Prior to 1937, all fees, seasons, bag limits and regulations were established by the State Legislature.

In 1972, Governor Patrick Lucey signed legislation that legally formed the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (Statute 15.348), to ensure that citizens would have a liaison between the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources.

(s. 15.348, Wis. Stats.) Conservation congress. The conservation congress shall be an independent organization of citizens of the state and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the natural resources board on all matters under the jurisdiction of the board. Its records, budgets, studies and surveys shall be kept and established in conjunction with the department of natural resources. Its reports shall be an independent advisory opinion of such congress.

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress is the only "advisory body" in the state where citizens elect delegates to represent their interests on natural resources issues on a local and statewide level to the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources.

Our delegates believe that it is important that the citizens of this state work together towards effectively managing our abundant natural resources for future generations to enjoy.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEES

All advisory committees shall have set responsibilities and goals that consist of addressing citizen concerns; reviewing, studying and recommending to the Executive Council on assigned resolutions and review of Department opinions and positions regarding specific areas directly pertaining to the Advisory Committee. In order to make the most efficient use of time by delegates, the following advisory committees with specific responsibilities are established. Some committees may be combined into one committee in an effort of efficiency and knowledge. Below is a listing of advisory committees:

- Bear
- Deer & Elk
- Environmental
- Fur Harvest
- Great Lakes
- Land Use
- Legislative
- Migratory
- Mississippi River
- Outreach & Public Relations
- Rules & Resolutions
- Trout
- Turkey & Upland Game
- Warm Water
- Wolf

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The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board (NR Board) sets policy for the Department of Natural Resources and exercises authority and responsibility in accordance with governing statutory provisions.

Chapter 15 of the Wisconsin Statutes delineates the formal duties of the seven-member board. Board Members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the State Senate.