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Required Double Fencing for all Captive Cervid Operations

The Problem:

Fenced deer enclosures: (Captive Cervid Operations) are a major threat to Wisconsin's wild deer because deer escape these enclosures exposing Wisconsin's wild deer herd to chronic wasting disease (CWD). These deer fences fail because of storms that cause trees to fall on fences, gates left open, openings in and under fences and also permit nose to nose contact from captive fenced deer to wild deer. It should be noted some captive cervid operations do have double fences.

At present the DNR and legislature have not taken adequate action to prevent the reoccurring escapes that are known to expose Wisconsin wild deer to contaminated CWD captive deer.

Be it Resolved that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Grant County on 4-11-16 recommends that the Department take action to correct this critical situation by working with the Legislature to require all (Captive deer, Elk and, other Captive Cervid Operations) to have these operations install adequate double fencing to prevent deer escapes and to also establish a substantial penalty fine for each deer (Cervid) fence escape occurrence.

Larrie Hazen 608-988-4549
7656 Big Green Road
Mt Hope WI 53816

Grant County