

37-02-12

**Resolution
Marathon County**

In order to find a long-term and equitable solution to the debate over crossbow use for deer hunting in Wisconsin I suggest the following:

Instead of trying to fit crossbows into other seasons that were never developed for crossbows – **establish a crossbow deer hunting license and season.**

This solution would offer both sides the things that they want and for everyone else, a season that can be tailored and adjusted to provide the best opportunity for this rapidly evolving hunting weapon.

The crossbow people would finally have the hunting opportunities they have been requesting, and not just for the handicapped and elderly, or even just those over 55, but everybody that wants to hunt with a crossbow and buy a crossbow license.

Although the crossbow season would likely overlap part of the archery deer season as other seasons like the muzzleloader season already do, at least the bowhunters concerns that crossbows would take over the archery season wouldn't happen with a separate license.

It would also address the concerns of the gun hunters over an increased buck harvest before the gun season, because crossbow hunting would be measured and regulated separately from the archery season, so equitable harvest issues could be address without affecting the archery season.

Also, to maintain this delicate balance, crossbow permits should not include an additional buck tag. However, crossbow hunters should have the opportunity to harvest a buck, but, as we do with other licenses, if they do they would use an unfilled gun-buck or archery-buck tag.

Finally, the new license would provide additional revenue and another harvest tool to the DNR, and another hunting opportunity for all hunters.

Therefore; Be it resolved that the citizens of Marathon County on April 9, 2012 support the establishment of a separate crossbow license and season that all hunters, regardless of age or ability, would have an opportunity to participate in.

Yes _____

No _____