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Whitetail Deer Harvest Data

The Whitetail deer herd of Wisconsin is managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and requires the agency to control the populations to the best of its ability, using as much scientific and harvest data as possible; and

Whereas: the mature antlered whitetail deer is highly pursued across the state, and the population of matured antlered deer is critical to retaining and recruiting hunters as well as to the tourism of the state of Wisconsin; and

Whereas: the current whitetail deer registration form no longer records the harvest of buck fawns separately from other antlerless deer; rendering the registration form inadequate to accurately record the buck fawn harvest data which is needed to manage the future population of adult antlered whitetail deer; and

Whereas: the increased additional pressure to harvest antlerless deer, by the Department of Natural Resources, could lead to a over harvest of premature buck fawns, resulting in the reduction of the potential for a sustainable population of mature antlered whitetail deer.

Therefore be it resolved: the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, at its annual meeting held this 12th day of April 2008 in Steven's Point, Wisconsin, requests that the Department of Natural Resources once again collect buck fawn harvest data on the whitetail deer registration form.

Be it further resolved: that the Department of Natural Resources also include, in the Deer Hunting Regulations, a "How to Identify a Buck Fawn" section, further assisting hunters wishing to provide protection of the future mature antlered whitetail deer.

Submitted by:

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yes

no