

190308

**Title: Maximum of 3 Years of Earn-A-Buck**

**The Problem:**

The Department of Natural Resources uses Earn-A-Buck (EAB) as a tool to get hunters to reduce the deer population in various deer management units throughout the state.

The DNR counts on hunters as the primary tool for controlling the deer herd, and needs hunters to participate. However, EAB is very unpopular with many hunters. Some hunters either go hunt public land, or different areas of the state to avoid EAB regulations.

Many units have been designated as EAB units for a number of consecutive years without relief from this relatively unpopular regulation.

To control deer in the state there needs to be a partnership between the hunters and the DNR. To build that partnership, there needs to be a balance between the use of strict harvest regulations and the desires of the deer hunters. The DNR needs to implement a rule that doesn't allow a deer management unit to be designated as EAB for more than three consecutive years without a minimum or one year of relief to the hunter.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conservation Congress at its' annual meeting held in FLORENCE County on April 14, 2008 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources to take action to correct this situation by introducing a rule change that would allow a deer management unit to be designated EAB for more than three consecutive seasons.

*NO MORE*

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