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Waterfowl Opening Date Resolution

The Problem:

Migrant waterfowl begin to redistribute and build-up within the State of Wisconsin during the period of mid to late September. Opening the regular waterfowl season earlier than the traditional Saturday nearest October 1st is counter productive to and reduces waterfowl build-up on major waterfowl use areas within the state. Continual pressure from early season hunting reduces stop over activity and pre-regular season buildup. Traditionally, migrating waterfowl found refuge, set up feeding and roosting patterns and attracted new birds coming into major and even minor waterfowl use and stopover areas. With continual hunting pressure during this early period, this tradition has been broken thus adversely affecting the ability of the State to hold waterfowl and sustain hunting opportunity throughout the regular season.

Whereas, Early opening of the regular waterfowl season, from the traditional Saturday nearest October 1st, has reduced the ability of waterfowl to build-up and develop feeding and roosting patterns during the mid to late September period,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in [redacted] Portage on April, 10, 2006, recommends that the Department of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes that set the opening of the regular waterfowl season, on an annual basis, to the Saturday nearest October 1st.

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Signature:
For Office Use Only:
County Portage
Passed or Failed
County Resolution Number: 3
County Vote: (by show of hands or written ballot where appropriate) YES 108 NO 29