

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

Wolf committee

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	12/5/15	1:00 pm	Mead Wildlife area Visitors Center
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Mike Riggle at 1:03PM
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Steve Ninneman, Perry Elsworth, Mike Riggle, Matt Lallemon, Arden Loker, Richard Krawze, Dave West, Ronald Church, Scott McAuley, John Piechowski, Christopher Wegner, Steven Staver, Mike Rogers, Gary Schenck, Robert Kaminskis, DNR Dan Michels, DNR Dave MacFarland
EXCUSED	Kevin Schanning, Blake Doud, John Quall
UNEXCUSED	Scott DeRocker, Thomas Savage
GUESTS	Laurie Groskopf, Earl Stahl

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion by Krawze, 2 nd by loker to approve as published. Motion carried

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	M. Riggle read mission statement
ACTION	Motion by Piechowski, 2 nd by Staver to approve, Motion carried

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	Two public comments, Earl Stahl from Neenah spoke about the humane society of the U.S. Using the wolf as a cash cow for their agenda to end hunting and fishing. And livestock out west. Laurie Groskopf from Tomahawk, talked about wolves never being endangered, staying with the 350 goal, how some places in wi. Will not make good wolf habitat. She also stated that she has to deal with the wolf at home every day.
ACTION	N/A

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. CITIZEN RESOLUTION 410815

AUTHOR ABSENT

DISCUSSION	M Riggle read resolution and statement from author, G. Klien. Krawze made motion to reject and rogers 2 nd . Piechowski stated that we really can't change the legislators. S McAuley said we can't change Madison. M. Rogers, can we really tell the legislators what they can do. It would be nice to have this authority but the state lawmakers wouldn't allow it.	
ACTION	Motion to reject. Motion carried by voice	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

B. CITIZEN RESOLUTION 040115

AUTHOR ABSENT

DISCUSSION	M Riggle read resolution and statement from author. Motion to except by G Schenck, and 2 nd by R. Church. S Ninneman mentioned that this question was also sent to the fur committee and wondered why it was rejected. S McAuley, fur committee member stated that they did not feel it would solve the problem of over harvest of a zone or extend the season for that zone, but it would remove the ability to trap as a family. McAuley thinks that more tags and splitting the season is the answer. DNR Dan Michels doesn't feel this will solve the problem but does have an issue with the amount of tags on a trap and also has an issue with the shotgun start. D Krawze didn't feel it would solve the problem. M Lallemond suggested more tags and split the season like bobcat. D Michels stated that the DNR doesn't have authority to split season but can adjust zones.	
ACTION	Motion to advance, motion failed by voice. A motion to reject by J. Piechowski and 2 nd by D. Krawze. Motion to reject, motion carried by voice.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

C. DNR, UPDATE

**DAVE MICHELS , DAVE
MACFARLAND**

DISCUSSION	<p>Last year winter mapping, 16730 miles tracked. 81 DNR staff tracked 9171 miles, 138 volunteer tracked 7558 miles. DNR will continue to help in tracking. Over winter population is up this year 666 last year 746 this year. The count for reservation count is when the pack number is over 50% of the number. Ave pack size is under 4 wolves. Not every pack that is on the reservation is considered a reservation wolf.</p> <p>45 wolves are being monitored this year, 31 are this year. 17 are satellite collars, 14 were VHF. The DNR are testing new companies for the project and funding is thru Pittman Roberson and endangered resources funds. Collars are dispersed evenly the state except for the black river falls area which has 5 collared wolves. Wolf and elk are combining the research area.</p> <p>Wolf Research: Alternative methods of population monitoring numbers. Reduce the cost of monitoring by analyzing snow tracking data, probability of detection and occupancy modeling.</p> <p>Capture and recapture tactic, like tetracycline for bear. Genetics by scat and hair research. And camera tracking.</p> <p>A 5 year project for monitoring will cost 750.000. one collar will cost 700 dollars, plus 1 full time staff.</p> <p>Depredation: is up from 2012 but not as high as 2010. High year for pet animals and livestock and about the same for hunting dogs. 17 miles of fladry was put up this year and some turbo fladry was used, but it does cost more. 2 Rag boxes were used, when a collared wolf walks by an alarm sounds. No longer moving trapped wolves because of mortality rate..3 trapped wolves in enclosed areas were moved outside the areas.</p> <p>Ave cost for the wolf program is 160.000 for conflict, 280.000 to monitor, 250.000 for compensation, 150.000 for research project. 182.000 of the compensation will come from USFAW. Some funding from PR funds an ER funds. The wolf program is expensive. The new satellite system will be cheaper than using a plane to monitor and is based out of Rhinelander and will be able to monitor a wolf anywhere in the state.</p> <p>Human threat; Adams county had an incident of a wolf attack on a man while scouting. Same place a father and son during youth hunting had an encounter with wolves. The DNR set traps in the area after the 2nd incident and after 14 days no animals were captured. The traps were pulled and figured the wolves moved on, probably a rendezvous area.</p> <p>Dave Michels law enforcement; An appeal has been filed on the court decision to relist the wolf, by the USFAW to the dept. of justice. It was filed last spring and it is an 18 month process.</p>
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	There is a bill in appropriation's right now. And will impact the Midwest if passed. And give the control back to the USFAW service. ABC report; No report of wolf kills during the 9 day gun season. And reported for illegal wolf kills is under 10.	
ACTION	N/A	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>M Rogers- Hope to go back to management of the wolf. S Staver- Need to manage the wolf M Lallemond- need to manage the wolf again. A Loker- Need to manage the wolf and also other predators R Krawze- Wolve are a big issue in forest and Florence county the economy is hurting up there. We need to reduce the numbers of all predators. I believe the ruling will change to have management again and we need to be ready to manage wolves again. J. Piechowski-Once we get to manage we need to reduce the numbers with a high amount. We need to reduce the numbers to reduce the depredation costs. When we do get management ready to reduce the numbers. S McAuley-Contact your legislator to remove the wolf from the endangered species list. S Ninneman- we have a lot of predators and a lot less game animals. We spend a lot of money to have wolves in WI. M Riggle-thanks for coming, good meeting. Maybe we will run bear and wolf meetings the same day again next year.</p>	
ACTION	N/A	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	3:35PM
SUBMITTED BY	Steve Ninneman
DATE	12/14/15