

Citizen Resolution # 040820

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Bear Baiting Rule Change

Wisconsin DNR allows 6 months of black bear baiting at an unlimited number of unregistered baiting stations beginning April 15. Minnesota and Michigan are limited to 3 tended bait stations per registered hunter, beginning 15 and 11-31 days prior to their hunts. Most states permitting baiting require registration (name and contact information of responsible party).

Wisconsin's bear baiting regulations continue to result in unmonitored and illegal baiting. Our national forest has become a dumping ground of sugar piles frequented by other wildlife species, allowing for the spread of diseases. Illegal bait placed too close to highways poses risks to drivers and wildlife. Wardens admit they cannot devote the manpower to address citizen complaints and tip line violations they receive throughout baiting season.

Wisconsin must implement changes that allow enforcement of legal baiting. The number of sites per hunter must be limited, site registration must be required, and season limited to 31 days vs 5 months prior to hunt. Disputes between sitters and hound hunters about what is "fair" need to be worked out between parties.

Be it resolved on April 6th 2020 that the Conservation Congress, at its annual meeting in Bayfield County, work with the Wisconsin DNR to amend our black bear baiting regulations through the introduction of rule changes limiting bear baiting to three registered bait stations per licensed hunter. Baiting would start no earlier than thirty days prior to bear hunting season.

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Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.