

Citizen Resolution # 130920

### Shorten Hound Bear Training Season

Wisconsin's training season for hounds needs to be reduced to the last two weeks of August.

The hound bear training season from July 1--August 31 is during the hottest summer months. Dogs can run daily, and a fresh dog can legally be chained to keep pressure on a bear in order to tree it or stop and fight.

After two months of a hunter retrieving his dogs from a treed bear, the bear's been trained to tree and has learned it is a safe place. During the hound kill season, this training is used to harvest the bear.

To turn hound bear hunting back to what it was intended—a fair chase kill—the hound is to aid in harvesting one's bear. The sitter uses a gun or bow to aid his harvest. Not until kill season starts is it legal to sit with a gun or bow. The hound, like the gun and bow, can't be considered less or more important to aid one's harvest of a bear.

By reducing the training season to the last two weeks of August, cubs have a smaller chance of being killed by hounds because they are older and larger.

Be it resolved on April 13, 2020, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Taylor County will work with the DNR to correct this situation through the introduction of a rule change on hound training season.

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