

# Resolution 670120

## Study to Determine Effects of Dog Training and Trialing on Nesting Birds

Dogs are an important component of hunting various species of wildlife in Wisconsin. The training and trialing of various dog breeds is important to assure that hunting with dogs is conducted in a highly skilled manner.

NR 1.11 (12), Wisconsin Administrative Code, provides that the DNR strongly encourages the use of well-trained hunting dogs in the pursuit and retrieval of game and to achieve that goal supports extensive training and field trial competition for hunting dogs.

Current state regulations limit the training and trialing of dogs between April 15 and July 31 each year because of concern on the impact on nesting birds. There is concern in the hunting dog community that this restriction is not well founded by appropriate scientific studies.

Various hunting dog owners and associations such as the Wisconsin Association of Field Trial Clubs, the Wisconsin Sporting Dogs Association, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and the Wisconsin Bearhunters Association support that a well-designed study be funded and conducted to determine the actual impact of dog training and trialing on nesting birds and have been working with Professor Jason Riddle from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in designing such a study.

Would you support that the aforementioned organizations, the Wisconsin DNR and interested individuals fund and conduct a two year scientific study on three or four DNR and county properties to determine the impact of dog training and trialing on nesting birds between April 15 and July 31?

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