

Citizen Resolution # 040121

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Allowing Purple Heart recipients to hunt bear over bait at the same time as dog hunters in odd numbered years

At present, Wisconsin has specific seasons and dates for bear hunting with dogs/bait. The concern is combat-wounded veterans not having the same ability to harvest a bear as regular hunters due to physical or mental limitations and experiencing a competitive disadvantage due to hunters with dogs going first. The harvest rate doubles when able to hunt the first week versus the second week. The later in the season the hunt, the more likely weather will impact the disabled veteran's ability to hunt. Bears are also less likely to hit baits due to hibernation habits. Wisconsin 2019-2029 Bear Management Plan. (Section 1 Page 5) <https://p.widencdn.net/wzas71/bearplan>. Impact: Over the last five years, the WWIA has sponsored four Purple Heart recipients to hunt with transferred tags in Wisconsin. We expect that volume of hunters to remain consistent in future years. Request that Purple Heart recipients with a legally awarded or transferred bear tag be allowed to hunt week one during the odd years with the same laws and statutes that are present and in place for week two. Would you support the Conservation Congress working with the state legislature to allow Purple Heart recipients the right and privilege to hunt bear first, on private land, in odd numbered years?

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Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

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.