

Citizen Resolution # 720521

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Ban All Wildlife Contest Killing

Wildlife killing contests are events promoting indiscriminate killing of native wildlife with the use of calling, hounding, spotlighting and high-tech tools. Forty-three contests have been identified in Wisconsin but more likely contests exist. Organizers and participants are aware the public does not condone contests and operate in secret with virtual check-ins and little oversight. Contests reward hunters and trappers for the highest body count of coyotes, crows, foxes, bobcats, squirrels and other species. Cash and prizes award the teams who kill the most, biggest, and smallest animals. Prohibiting killing contests would not impact lethal take of coyotes for livestock protection or any form of hunting or trapping, including fishing derbies and "Big Buck" competitions.

The DNR does not monitor or regulate these contests. In some contests, hounds trespass on private property with owners following via GPS collars. Evidence of wanton waste and dumping of carcasses, with pelts are unusable from bullet damage, on public lands have been consistently documented. The majority of Wisconsin citizens, hunters and trappers do not condone killing contests and are concerned killing contests undermine support for ethical, fair chase hunting. Killing for prizes and bragging rights threatens public tolerance of hunting as evidenced by public outcry in Wisconsin and bans on contests in other states. Contests are not conservation.

Be it resolved on April 12, 2021 that the Conservation Congress, at its annual meeting in Wood County, urges the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to develop and support a ban on all wildlife killing contests.

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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.