

Citizen Resolution # 132922

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Preventing Illegal Shooting of Protected Bird Species

Bald eagles, common loons and trumpeter swans are cherished wildlife species in Wisconsin. We rescued eagles from a major pesticide threat that decimated their population, successfully restored trumpeters, and worked to protect critical loon habitats. The illegal killing or purposeful injuring of these protected, nongame species is offensive to Wisconsinites and contrary to years of conservation efforts. Sadly, Wisconsin has seen a surge in eagle shootings in the last couple of years. Often these shootings kill the eagle immediately, but some struggle in a wounded condition unable to fly or feed. Wildlife rehabilitators become the emergency center for any of these wounded birds that are found and brought to them. The REGI rehab center of Antigo had 27 such eagle patients in 2021. In addition to the eagles, 4 trumpeter swans were illegally shot and killed at Mead Wildlife Area last fall. Across northern Wisconsin, loons are also being targeted, as well as, harassed at nesting sites. Although many of these incidents are reported to WDNR and USFWS enforcement, rarely are the perpetrators caught and punished. It's time for hunters, anglers, birders and other conservationists to work with WDNR and USFWS to and bring a halt to these illegal acts. The first step is creating an awareness campaign to make the public aware of this problem and how they can help prevent further illegal killing or injuring of wildlife.

Should the Conservation Congress work with WDNR, USFWS and other conservation groups to create an awareness campaign on illegal killing and injuring of wildlife?

Additional Information provided by author:

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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.