

Citizen Resolution # 641022

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Opposition to Establishing a Sandhill Crane Hunt in Wisconsin

The Eastern Sandhill Crane population has recently recovered from the brink of extirpation. Last October, Wisconsin State Senators proposed SB 620, a bill that would require the state Department of Natural Resources to establish a hunting season for Sandhill Cranes. It is estimated that 2/3 of the Eastern population of Sandhill Cranes breed right here in Wisconsin. Sandhill Cranes are different than other game birds. They mate for life and will only have one or two eggs, and only one chick will generally survive to adulthood from five nesting pairs (International Crane Foundation). Simply stated, it takes 10 cranes to raise one. That is because cranes are not usually successful parents until several failed nesting attempts. Nesting attempts usually start at 3-4 years of age and typically become successful around 6-8 years of age when they learn how to avoid predators. Sandhill Cranes also face threats from habitat loss and climate change. Whooping Cranes are on the Endangered Species List and also nest in Wisconsin. A Sandhill Crane hunting season in Wisconsin would create the potential for the illegal/accidental shooting of the endangered Whooping Cranes. In low light and backlit hunting situations, it would be difficult for hunters to tell the difference between the Whooping and Sandhill Cranes. Cases of hunters shooting Whooping Cranes by mistake have already been documented in other states that have a Sandhill Crane Season.

Would you be opposed to establishing a Sandhill Crane Hunting Season in Wisconsin?

Additional Information provided by author:

<https://savingcranes.org/species-field-guide/sandhill-crane/>

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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.