

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

Turkey & Upland Game Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	Aug 19, 2023 10:05 a.m.	Mead Wildlife Center
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Chair David Zielke at 10:05 A/M.

B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	David Zielke, Dan Tyrolt, Jason Leis, Mike Wade (Zoom), Oscar Mueller, Hunter Dennison (Zoom), Marcell Wieloch, Rick Koenig, Michael Kautz (Zoom), Ronald Krueger, Randy Kunsman, Roger Greenwood, Mark Kortbein, Clarence Koch, Arlyn Splitt, William Will, Bernard Newman, Don Anderson (Zoom), Brock Rosenkrat (Zoom) DNR Staff - Taylor Finger, Jake Donar,
EXCUSED	Scott Taylor, Mark Pope, Jeff Winn, Colten Greenhill, Scott Tubbs, Shannon Flynn, Robert Nicksic, Nick Gall, John Cler, Doug Williams
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	Motion by Ronald Krueger, second by Clarence Koch to approve the agenda
ACTION	All ayes - approved

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Statement read by Chair Zielke
ACTION	

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	No Public Comments
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. RESOLUTION #140123 CREATE AND IMPLEMENT PLANS FOR A SUSTAINABLE WILD PHEASANT POPULATION IN WISCONSIN

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	DNR Taylor Finger said DNR would need to change the statute because right now 60% of stamp revenue is going to raise birds and less than 10% survive and not many reproduce. High cost of putting ag land in CRP on private land. Could do some habitat work on state land. Would need to find a source of birds, costly.
ACTION	Motion to reject the resolution by Ron Krueger, second by Marcel Wieloch - Vote: 17 yes, 2 no - Resolution rejected
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

B. RESOLUTION #250123 ALTERNATIVE TO EVERY WEEKDAY NOON**[PRESENTER]****CLOSURE OF PHEASANT HUNTING HOURS ON STATE PROPERTIES**

DISCUSSION	There is support for closing at noon on 2 days and the rest of the days are full days of hunting. Finger - that would concentrate hunters on the days the pheasants are stocked, would create problems and not safe. Warden - there would be problems with rules and changes depending on the stocking schedule, weather, etc. It is a safety concern releasing birds while hunting is open.
ACTION	Motion to reject by Dan Tyrolt, Second by Roger Greenwood - Vote 18 yes, 1 no - Resolution was rejected.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

C. RESOLUTION #380123 ALLOWING THE USE OF FIXED SHOTSHELL FOR TURKEY HUNTING (LEGISLATION REQUIRED)**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	Author on the phone - Able to do it in Michigan, get close to birds and uses a .410 Judge pistol, Thompson Center makes them also. Finger - Didn't think they were very lethal at 25 yards, up to "T" shot allowed. There was discussion and many were not opposed to this. Roger - opposed - doesn't think it's very effective. Another comment - 10 yards not very effective, afraid people will shoot too far and wound more birds. Maybe a safety issue using a pistol. Warden - may have more incidental take because of the larger pattern. Dan Tiebalt - handgun turkey hunters will probably be more ethical and know their weapon's range better.
ACTION	Motion by Roger Greenwood to reject the resolution, second by William Will - Vote 15 yes, 4 no - Resolution is rejected
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

D. RESOLUTION #450223 MAKE THE YOUTH TURKEY HUNT STATEWIDE INSTEAD OF ZONE SPECIFIC**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	Author on Zoom - The DNR was indifferent on this topic, but they do loose some management control in zones if the youth will impact the population. Members didn't see this as a big issue. it may impact some that are on a zone line, or own property in 2 zones. Lost the Zoom connection at 10:55 a.m.- 4 members were on Zoom and the author. Not able to establish a connection. Time spent trying to reconnect.
ACTION	Motion to reject the resolution by Arlyn Splitt, second by Marcell Wieloch - Vote - All Yes - Resolution is rejected.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

E. RESOLUTION #670423 REQUIRE RUFFED GROUSE HUNTERS TO REGISTER FOR A FREE STATE CERTIFICATION SIMILAR TO THE FEDERAL HIP (HUNTER INFORMATION PROGRAM) CURRENTLY REQUIRED OF MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTERS.]**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	Steve - author - explained that the proposed program would gather much needed data specific to managing grouse. citizen science data collection, west nile virus, asked the author if they were familiar with the game brood survey - he is familiar with it. This would require legislation to require a survey to hunt grouse. Currently no funding for it. Taylor explained the HIP survey and brought up the young forest initiative for better habitat.
ACTION	Motion to advance and approve the resolution by Bernard Newman, second by Rick Koenig - Vote - Yes 7, No 8 Motion to advance does not pass. Motion by Arlyn Splitt to reject the resolution, second by Clarence Koch - Vote - Yes 8, No 7. The resolution is rejected.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

F. DEPARTMENT INFORMATION ITEMS AND UPDATES]**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	Taylor Finger - Turkey harvest data displayed 19% success rate in spring, 5.2% in fall. Pheasant surveys - numbers are down, but highest numbers in the NW counties. Stocking areas will get the same numbers as
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	last year. About 75,000 pheasants raised at game farm in Poynette. The Hunt Wild App has been discontinued with no replacement and no indication that it will be replaced. Ruffed Grouse should have good production this year, but we are at the low point of the curve. Sharp tailed grouse management plan. Brood Survey Observations App - handout with instructions on how to use. Lots of turkey observations, not much for pheasants - need more observations. Good turkey numbers from winter. Talked about Prairie chickens, Bobwhite quail, hungarian partridge and how predators such as bobcat and furbearers have an affect on the populations. Chris Pollentier - talked about sharptail research , turkey surveys and research and trail camera use such as Snapshot Wisconsin. Law Enforcement Update: Jake Donar - Conservation warden talked about compliance checks and harvests and had many positive contacts with hunter success. It is hard to get hunters to register turkeys. Been thinking about how to get more compliance. Would like to put a question on when purchasing a license for a turkey asking - Did you harvest a turkey last year?
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ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

G. FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Next Committee Meeting will be August 17, 2024 at 10am at the Mead Wildlife Center
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

H. MEMBER MATTERS

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	Seeing low numbers of young birds - Alfalfa harvest has an affect and has taken out a number of nests. Problems with predators, coon, bobcat taking eggs and young. Adams county - not seeing many poults, Arlyn talking about the Turkey Access Program. Many farmers enrolled that don't meet the requirements. Taylor said he reached out to the program coordinator but nothing to report. Arlyn askd that we get a report from the DNR about that program at our next meeting. Marcel - turkeys are eating many ticks and mosquitos. Lots of young turkeys running around northern Wisconsin. Hunter - back on Zoom asked why the Hunt Wild App was killed. No good answer other than cost. Chair Zielke thanked all for attending and after adjournment we will have lunch.
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

I.

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

J. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

K. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

L. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

M. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

N. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

O. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

P. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

Q. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

R. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

S. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

T. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

U. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

V. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

W. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

X. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Y. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Z. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

AA. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	Motion by Clarence Koch to adjourn, second by Jason Leis - adjourned at 12:39pm
SUBMITTED BY	Jason Leis - Committee Secretary was not in attendance of the meeting
DATE	09-26-2023