

RESOLUTION #1

REQUESTING ELIMINATION OF THE POTENTIAL FOR ASIAN CARP TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE GREAT LAKES AND SURROUNDING WATERSHEDS

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association recognizes water-based tourism, recreational boating and sport and commercial fishing as important industries in the region and on the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a thriving tourism economy based on fishing, boating, recreation and the aesthetic beauty of lakes and rivers which brings in millions of dollars in revenue per year to the regional economy; and

WHEREAS, residents and tourists have a strong connection to the region and cherish the natural resources the lakes and rivers have to offer to its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois constructed the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal over 100 years ago, connecting the Great Lakes Basin to the Mississippi River Basin in order to move Chicago's sewage away from Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, in addition to diverting billions of gallons of water from Lake Michigan each day, also opens up a channel between Lake Michigan and the Lower Mississippi River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the well documented threat of invading Asian carp has been known to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and state officials in Illinois for years; and

WHEREAS, the state of Illinois has constructed an inadequate and ineffective electric barrier to prevent Asian carp from migrating through the Chicago Sanitary and Ship canal; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago area navigational locks on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal are the final barrier from which Asian carp can gain access to the Great Lakes Basin; and

WHEREAS, Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species in the Great Lakes threaten the ecological integrity, biological diversity, and economic health of the Great Lakes region and neighboring watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes act as a point-source of aquatic invasive species, such as Asian carp, to inland lakes, water bodies, and neighboring watersheds; and

WHEREAS, if the species of Asian carp present in the Mississippi River basin enters and establishes a breeding population within the Great Lakes, their presence will severely and negatively affect the entire Great Lakes ecosystem including inland lakes and tributary river systems with an estimated negative effect of a \$7 billion loss to the commercial and sport fishing industry of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, Asian carp are long-lived, fast growing fish that can reach up to 20 years of age and nearly 100 pounds in weight consuming up to 40 percent of their body weight per day in organisms occupying the lowest trophic levels undermining the entire food web causing devastating crashes to the native fish populations; and

WHEREAS, environmental DNA and other evidence now exists demonstrating that Asian carp have breached the electrical barriers in the Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal and have entered Lake Michigan threatening to invade all of the Great Lakes by developing breeding populations; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that aggressive action be taken to safeguard the ecological and economic integrity of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court denied the States of Michigan and Wisconsin's request for emergency relief aimed at preventing the invasion of Asian carp species into Lake Michigan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association does support the Wisconsin Attorney General as he continues to pursue legal remedies to stop Asian carp species from entering Lake Michigan and to protect Wisconsin's interests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association urges the Governor of Wisconsin to convince the President of the United States and the United States Congress to provide emergency relief by ordering closure of the navigational locks in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, and to support a study of ways of biologically separating the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal from Lake Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, the Attorney General of the State of Wisconsin, Wisconsin's Legislative Representatives, and to the Wisconsin Counties Association urging support of this issue and the adoption of similar resolutions.

Adopted by the Northwestern Land and Water Conservation Area Association on July 23, 2010.

Endorsed unanimously by the North Central Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Area Association and the Southern Land and Water Conservation Area Association on October 28, 2010.

WLWCA Board of Directors unanimously recommended approval of this resolution as amended on November 5, 2010.

WLWCA approved this resolution on December 10, 2010.

RESOLUTION #2

**SUPPORTING DEER MANAGEMENT AND RETENTION OF NINE DAY
DEER HUNTING SEASON**

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association recognizes that deer population numbers are down to very low levels in many of the deer management units in the North Central portion of the State, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association further recognizes that current deer numbers in such deer management units should be brought back up to huntable standards; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association requests that DNR re-evaluate the deer population goals and deer herd quotas by management units, and reduce or eliminate the quotas for antlerless deer in deer management units that are at or below population goals, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association agrees that DNR needs to control antlerless deer tags based on the estimated population in a given deer management unit, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association believes there is an over abundance of predators, including bears, wolves, coyotes, and bobcats, further decimating the deer population, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association requests the DNR review the population goals of the species preying on the deer, especially the fawns, and make the necessary adjustments to control these species so they don't negatively impact the deer population, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, supports the review of the management of the deer herd and population goals statewide, and requests that DNR make the necessary adjustments to quotas to ensure an adequate deer population statewide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association is concerned about the future of the whitetail deer and deer hunting in North Central Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association supports retention of the traditional 9-day deer hunting season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary, to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, members of the Wisconsin Legislature, and members of the WI – DNR Board.

Adopted by the North Central Land and Water Conservation Association on October 29, 2009.

WLWCA Board of Directors unanimously recommended approval of this resolution as amended on November 6, 2009.

Readopted by the North Central Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Area Association on October 28, 2010.

WLWCA Board of Directors unanimously recommended approval of this resolution as amended on November 5, 2010.

WLWCA failed to pass this resolution as amended on December 10, 2010.

RESOLUTION #3

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE WELL WATER TESTING PRIOR TO REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, according to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources, 70% of Wisconsin residents depend on groundwater as their source of drinking water from public or private wells, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources reports that there are over 850,000 private wells in the State of Wisconsin that supply drinking water to residents not connected to a public water system, and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has health standards to protect public health and safety for over 100 contaminants that threaten groundwater and ultimately the health of residents who receive their drinking water from wells, and

WHEREAS, to ensure public health, public water systems are regulated under Wisconsin State Statutes 281.12 and Chapter 280 to conduct comprehensive testing and to provide safe drinking water, and

WHEREAS, there is no such requirement for private wells; it is to the discretion of the private well owner to regularly test the well water and ensure the water is safe to drink, and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, contaminated drinking water has been linked to severe and sometimes fatal illnesses and diseases, and

WHEREAS, to ensure public health and safety of future private well owners, other states have enacted legislation to require testing of private wells for bacteria, nitrates, metals and other contaminants deemed necessary in specific areas and to report results prior to the sale or transfer of the property, and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin currently does not require private well owners to conduct testing for the purpose of reporting the quality of the groundwater supplying the property prior to the sale or transfer of property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association herein assembled requests the Wisconsin Legislature to support and enact legislation requiring comprehensive testing of private wells prior to the sale or transfer of property where the well is located.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the comprehensive testing shall include coliform bacteria, nitrates, metals that are hazardous to human health (such as arsenic, lead, and mercury), and other contaminants (such as volatile organic compounds and radium) deemed necessary in specific locations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the test results shall be sent to the appropriate county health department in which the property is located.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all State Senators and Representatives, the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, the State Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

Adopted by the Lake Winnebago Land and Water Conservation Association on October 16, 2009.

WLWCA Board of Directors unanimously recommended approval of this resolution as amended on November 6, 2009.

Readopted by the Lake Winnebago Land and Water Conservation Association on October 22, 2010.

WLWCA Board of Directors unanimously recommended approval of this resolution as amended on November 5, 2010.

WLWCA approved this resolution on December 10, 2010.

RESOLUTION #4

REDUCING/LIMITING THE NUMBER OF WLWCA ATTENDEES TO THE NACD NATIONAL CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) and member Counties have experienced limiting budgets in recent years; and

WHEREAS, WLWCA Board and staff attendance at the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) national conference incurs significant expense; and

WHEREAS, at times of limiting budgets expenses must be prioritized; and

WHEREAS, by reducing/limiting the number of WLWCA attendees at the NACD national conference would make budget funds available for higher priority WLWCA program activities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the WLWCA attendance at the NACD national conference be limited to no more than one staff person and one Board member.

Approved by the Lake Michigan Land & Water Conservation Association on October 8, 2010.
WLWCA Board of Directors did not recommend approval of this resolution on November 5, 2010.
WLWCA rejected this resolution on December 10, 2010.