

RESOLUTION #1

IN SUPPORT OF HAVING THE STATE LEGISLATURE ENACT MEANINGFUL GROUNDWATER PROTECTION LEGISLATION

INTENT: To have the Lake Winnebago and North Central Area Land & Water Conservation Associations and WI Land + Water go on record in support of having the state legislature enact meaningful groundwater protection legislation this session.

FISCAL NOTE: the potential negative fiscal implications to the citizens and businesses of the State of Wisconsin, in not having a comprehensive, well thought out and balanced groundwater protection law are catastrophic.

WHEREAS, water, and specifically groundwater, is a basic resource that citizens and businesses in the state all rely upon and look to the government to protect such that we may all prosper; and

WHEREAS, the state is the best level of government to comprehensively address groundwater protection so that the expertise of the state can be used to uniformly protect all of the citizens and businesses within the state; and

WHEREAS, the state currently has some laws and regulations pertaining to groundwater but a more thorough assessment of future threats to the groundwater needs to be conducted with statewide regulations established that address those threats and can be uniformly implemented to the benefit of all;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake Winnebago and North Central Area Land & Water Conservation Associations respectfully encourages the state legislature to introduce and pass meaningful legislation that will lead to the understanding of threats to groundwater and laws and regulations that will protect this common resource; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state and its agencies enhance their programs in educating the public on the importance of and threats to groundwater and the enforcement of rules and regulations that protect this vulnerable resource; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be directed to the attention of the state legislators, the governor, the directors of DNR and DATCP, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Adopted by the Lake Winnebago Land & Water Conservation Association on January 29, 2016.

Adopted by the North Central Land & Water Conservation Association on February 12, 2016.

Adopted at the WI Land+Water Business Meeting on March 4, 2016

RESOLUTION #2

WISCONSIN LAND+WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDS STATE LEGISLATORS REVIEW CHAPTER 90 OF THE WISCONSIN STATUTES REGARDING FENCING

WHEREAS, Chapter 90 of the Wisconsin Statutes sets out rules regarding fences ; and
WHEREAS, the law provides that if either adjoining property of two neighbors is used for farming or grazing, a fence is required and the adjoining land owners share equally in the responsibility of building and maintaining the fence; and

WHEREAS, landowners with forest land, wetland, or cropland that is not being utilized to raise animals are forced, in order to protect their property, to build and maintain a fence under the current law when an adjoining landowner chooses to graze livestock or engage in other farming; and

WHEREAS, with a more diverse ownership of land today the current law has become antiquated; and

WHEREAS, the installation and upkeep of a fence to protect property investments from neighboring animals may be an unnecessary or unfair expense.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED WI Land+Water urges State legislators to review Chapter 90 of the Wisconsin Statutes regarding fencing to see if it is still appropriate, or if it makes better sense to revise Chapter 90 property owners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of Wisconsin, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, Wisconsin Counties Association, Wisconsin Towns Association and all members of the State legislature.

Adopted by the Lake Michigan Area Land+Water Conservation Association on February 17, 2016.

Resolution defeated at the WI Land+Water Business meeting on March 4, 2016

RESOLUTION #3

REGARDING THE FUTURE DIRECTION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES THAT FOCUS ON UNDERSTANDING, PREVENTING, AND RECOVERING FROM POLLINATOR LOSSES

WHEREAS, Pollinators contribute substantially to the economy of the United States and are vital to providing fruits, nuts, and vegetables in our diets and,

WHEREAS, Honey bee pollination alone adds more than \$15 billion in value to agricultural crops each year in the United States. and,

WHEREAS, Approximately 80 percent of all flowering plant species require pollination by animals, mostly insects, and they affect 35 percent of the world's crop production. and,

WHEREAS, Pollinators bring us an estimated one out of every three bites of food we consume. and,

WHEREAS, In the past few decades there has been a significant loss of pollinators, including honey and native bees, birds, bats, and butterflies, from the environment. For example, in recent years the U. S. has lost over 50% of their managed honey bee colonies and seen as much as 90% decline in the Monarch Butterfly population. and,

WHEREAS, The problem is serious and requires immediate attention to ensure the sustainability of our food production systems, avoid additional economic impact of the agricultural sector, and protect the health and functionality of the natural environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Central Land and Water Conservation Association is strongly in favor of NACD support of national and international initiatives that focus on understanding, preventing, and recovering from pollinator losses including: 1) Increasing public awareness of the importance of pollinators and measures that can be taken to protect them; 2) Identification of best agricultural management practices for increasing and improving pollinator habitat and forage; 3) Development of pollinator-friendly seed mixes for restoration and reclamation projects; 4) Identification of best practices to reduce pollinator exposure to pesticides; and 5) Creating funding support for implementing pollinator best management practices and research. 6) Continue inclusion of pollinator habitat incentives that exist in CRP program rules and explore inclusion of same pollinator habitat incentives in CREP. 7.) Encourage local governments to explore the installation of beneficial pollinator habitat on applicable public lands under their control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to Governor Scott Walker, the DATCP Secretary, Wisconsin Legislators, NACD, along with regional, state, and federal conservation partner organizations.

Adopted by the North Central Land and Water Conservation Association on February 12, 2016.

Adopted at the WI Land+Water Business Meeting on March 4, 2016