

RESOLUTION #1

SUPPORT FOR GROUNDWATER PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, groundwater is a basic resource that citizens and businesses in the state rely upon and expect government to monitor and protect in such a way that we may all prosper, and

WHEREAS, negative implications to the citizens and businesses of the state from not having comprehensive groundwater programming available could be catastrophic, and

WHEREAS, there exists very little groundwater and drinking water information available on a state-wide basis, and

WHEREAS, currently some counties are coordinating their own groundwater programs to test, monitor, and track groundwater quality while also educating well owners about the importance of clean drinking water and protecting their water sources from contamination, and

WHEREAS, there exists very few and limited funding sources for counties to plan and implement groundwater programming educate and protect their citizens and groundwater sources, and

WHEREAS, potential for groundwater contamination continues to grow state-wide, becoming an ever increasing threat with few additional resources available to mitigate this threat, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, WI Land+Water respectfully encourages, on behalf of all counties, that the state legislature make available additional resources for counties to plan and implement groundwater programming that will lead to better understanding, protection, and utilization of our groundwater and drinking water supplies.

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, DATCP, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Adopted by the Northwest Land & Water Conservation Association on December 9, 2016.

RESOLUTION #2

SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE FARM MANAGED GRAZING OPERATIONS

WHEREAS, managed grazing is an important operation system used by many producers in the state, and

WHEREAS, managed grazing is a way to increase individual and collective farm sustainability in the state, and

WHEREAS, managed grazing is an economically favorable practice for producers that can optimize the costs of equipment, fuel, chemicals and labor while greatly increasing the amount of forage harvested, and

WHEREAS, compared to cropland, well-managed pastures decrease soil erosion, require only minimal fertilizer and pesticides, and greatly reduce the threat of barnyard runoff during the grazing months, and

WHEREAS, managed grazing can help reduce high soil phosphorus levels from excessive manure and fertilizer applications, and

WHEREAS, cropland converted to well-managed pasture can also help reverse the declining populations of grassland birds and help provide good nesting habitat for game birds, and

WHEREAS, meat and dairy products produced through managed grazing systems have higher economic benefits for the producer and higher health benefits for the consumer, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, WI Land+Water respectfully encourages, on behalf of all counties, that the state legislature make available additional resources to encourage and support managed grazing operations.

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, DATCP, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be directed to the attention of the federal agencies and partners in positions to support managed grazing initiatives.

Adopted by the Northwest Land & Water Conservation Association on December 9, 2016.