

Citizen Resolution # 451322

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Wolves benefit the entire forest ecosystem; killing them does not

The benefit of apex predators to an ecosystem has been well established. Wolves were reintroduced to the Greater Yellowstone Park ecosystem in 1995 and subsequent studies have shown that the smaller elk population is healthier and sustainable, the forest has recovered from over browsing, and the healthier forest benefits the other species that share it. Wolves primarily remove the old, young, sick and injured prey, not the strong and vigorous ones. In Wisconsin, CWD that is spreading through the deer population. As deer become weakened by this disease, they are more likely to be taken by wolves, helping to minimize the spread of CWD. The disease spreads year-round, three months of hunting each year will not eradicate it. Other than simply to kill them, there is no reason to hunt wolves. Maintaining a viable wolf population, should, similar to Yellowstone, benefit the deer population, enhance the forest, and improve the ecosystem. Killing wolves removes the apex predator; science shows this is detrimental because prey dramatically increases, damaging the forest. Currently, wolves are protected federally, but Wisconsin law mandates a wolf hunt if they are not. The poorly managed debacle that resulted in a dramatic overkill of wolves last year can not reoccur, and limits, if hunts must happen, should be determined by wildlife biologists and based on science.

Would you support working with the legislature to remove the requirement for a wolf hunt?

Additional Information provided by author:

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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.