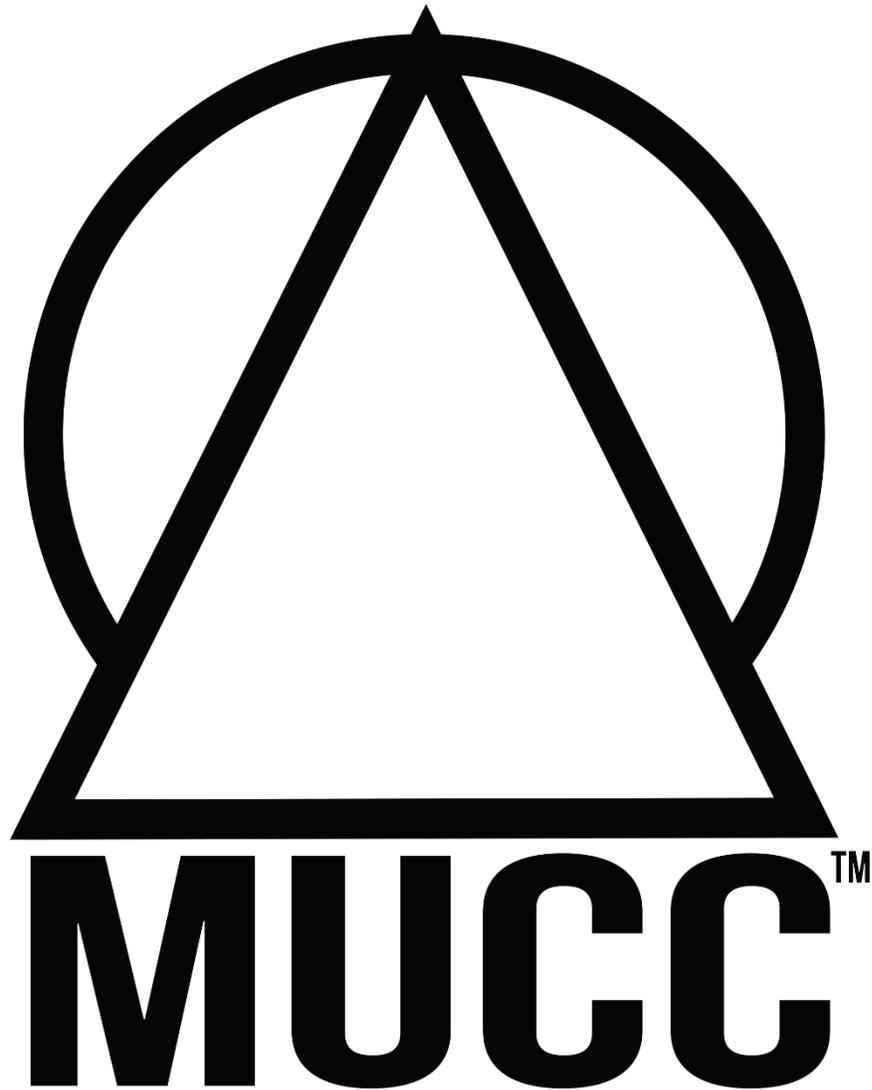


MUCC Proposed Resolutions



**All Proposed Resolutions Passed as of
December 2019**

Interim Resolution #A
Requires 2/3rd Majority

Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Region 8 Executive Board
MUCC Region: 8
Passed: September 11, 2019 Executive Board Meeting, and September 28, 2019
Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Support FOIA when it doesn't interfere with Science or Fair Chase

1 **WHEREAS**, "Fair Chase," as defined by the Boone and Crockett Club, is the ethical, sportsmanlike, and
2 lawful pursuit and taking of any free-ranging wild, big game animal in a manner that does not give the
3 hunter an improper or unfair advantage over the game animals; and

4 **WHEREAS**, it may be possible to use on-going scientific research studies to unethically gain information
5 on wild game. This could hinder the scientific study, and general public support for fair chase hunting;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, MUCC was the driving force behind the successful voter passage of Proposal G: a
8 referendum on Public Act 377 of 1996, which amended the Natural Resources and Environmental
9 Protection Act (NREPA) to grant the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) exclusive authority to
10 regulate the taking of game in this state. The amendment also requires the NRC, to the greatest extent
11 practicable, to use principles of sound scientific management in making decisions regarding the taking of
12 game; and

13 **WHEREAS**, because all State of Michigan Commissions such as the NRC are mandated by law to
14 adhere to the Open Meetings Act, the information from these meetings must be available for review, and

15 **WHEREAS**, it is important and necessary for our state departments to be as transparent and open as
16 possible and must respond to citizen requests for information through use of the Freedom of Information
17 Act; and

18 **WHEREAS**, anyone, at any time should have the freedom to file FOIA request in an equitable and
19 speedy manner.

20 **WHEREAS**, allowing anyone to hinder a scientific study involving the state's flora or fauna conducted
21 by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), directly impacts the NRC's ability to use
22 sound science when making natural resource decisions; and

23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that MUCC will work with the legislature to ensure
24 continued access to state and federal information, and
25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC will work with the legislature to ensure the end user will
26 not use any information to jeopardize the definition of fair chase, or hinder any scientific study involving
27 flora or fauna.

Proposed Resolution #D

Submitted by: George Lindquist, MUCC President
MUCC Region: 1
Passed: September 28, 2019 Conservation Policy Board
Title: Encourage the use of non-lead alternatives

1 **WHEREAS**, Increasingly, there are more and more alternatives to lead in hunting ammunition,
2 and in fishing sinkers, jig heads, etc. In some cases, these alternatives perform better than lead,
3 such as the newer copper bullets and tungsten jigs;

4 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That MUCC educate the sporting public of the potential
5 impacts of using lead, and the alternatives, for hunting ammunition, as well as fishing gear; and

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC encourage the use of non-lead whenever these
7 options are available, and practical; and

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution does not apply to projectiles used at sport
9 shooting ranges.

Proposed Resolution #E
Requires 2/3rd Majority

Submitted by: Gary Gorniak, Straits Area Sportsmen’s Club
MUCC Region: 2
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Add to MDNR Wolf Management Plan: Expand Hunting & Trapping Area for the Gray Wolf and Long Term Population Goal for the Gray Wolf

1 **WHEREAS**, the gray wolf is a candidate for removal from the Federal Endangered Species List by the
2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) endorses the removal of gray wolves from
4 the Federal Endangered Species List in the Great Lakes Region; and

5 **WHEREAS**, research conducted by the Campfire Program in Wildlife Conservation in the Upper
6 Peninsula suggests that gray wolves are a primary predator of white-tailed deer year-round and especially
7 during the winter months; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Michigan Wolf Management Plan states that the Michigan Department of Natural
9 Resources should attempt to decrease human-wolf conflict by maintaining a healthy deer herd in the
10 Upper Peninsula to serve as a primary winter food source for wolves; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the MDNR Wolf Management Plan states that studies have examined wolf predation
12 success rates and recent estimates range from 30 to 50 deer eaten by each wolf each year; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the MDNR Wolf Management Plan states that wolf populations appear to remain stable or
14 increase in both Canada and Alaska even when hunters and trappers annually harvested 28% of the
15 population; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the 1997 Michigan Wolf Recovery and Management Plan defined a viable population as the
17 maintenance of 200 individuals for five (5) consecutive years; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Gray Wolf in Michigan has surpassed State and Federal population recovery goals for
19 more than 19 years and no longer warrant a threatened or endangered listing status in Michigan; NOW,

20 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, MUCC will work with the Michigan Department of Natural
21 Resources to revisit the Wolf Management Plan to expand the gray wolf harvest area to the entire Upper
22 Peninsula of Michigan; and

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC will advocate for both hunting and trapping to be legal
24 methods of take for wolf harvest in Michigan; and

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC will advocate for the Michigan Wolf Management Plan to
26 include a goal of maintaining a population of 300-400 Gray Wolves (up to twice the population required to
27 meet the delisting requirements in Michigan) in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Proposed Resolution #F
Requires 2/3rd Majority

Submitted by: Greg Peter, MUCC Vice President
MUCC Region: 8
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Boat Wash Law and the Prevention of Spreading Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

1 **WHEREAS**, Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are usually spread by the actions of people, and in aquatic
2 environments, this is the use of watercraft; and

3 **WHEREAS**, new Michigan law (Part 41325 of NREPA (PA 451 Of 1994)) prohibits the launching of any
4 craft or equipment (trailer, etc) that is contaminated with AIS, a violation punishable by a fine, and
5 furthermore, DNR Fisheries order #245 prohibits the transport of water overland in ballast tanks, bilges
6 and live wells to prevent fish disease dissemination; and

7 **WHEREAS**, no adherence to this statute is not only a violation, it is a behavior that threatens the
8 biodiversity of the aquatic habitats within which we all recreate; NOW,

9 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that MUCC pursue an active educational campaign to help increase
10 awareness of this law and adherence to its intent, impressing the boating public with the importance of this
11 responsibility; and,

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC encourage the establishment of boat wash
13 facilities/capabilities at state public launches particularly where the presence of AIS is established and the
14 risk of spread is most likely.

Proposed Resolution #G

Submitted by: Greg Peter, MUCC Vice President
MUCC Region: 8
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Treatment permits for the treatment of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

1 **WHEREAS**, the presence of aquatic invasive species (AIS) is increasing in intensity and
2 distribution; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the treatment of these species often requires a permit from the Department of
4 Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE); and

5 **WHEREAS**, EGLE is often restrained in the issuance of these permits by Convention of
6 International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) considerations; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the implementation of treatment plans are often hindered by delay and/or prohibition
8 based on the uncertain presence of endangered or threatened species of flora and fauna; and

9 **WHEREAS**, many of these programs are funded by taxpayer dollars through the establishment of Special
10 Assessment Districts and the public expects treatment s to expeditiously occur; and

11 **WHEREAS**, recent regulatory provisions have been made for the expedited permit issuance of volunteer
12 wetland improvement projects through a joint review by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources
13 (MDNR) and EGLE representatives in order to prevent unnecessary delay and thereby providing biologists
14 input to the process; NOW,

15 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that MUCC promote more DNR biologist input into the permit
16 approval process to assess the risk/benefit of treatment regimens and the impact on other native populations
17 of flora and fauna while considering the potential benefit of reducing the threat of AIS.

Proposed Resolution #I
Requires 2/3rd Majority

Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Tomahawk Archers
MUCC Region: 8
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Diversify funding for Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

1 **WHEREAS**, The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) has been in place since 1976. It
2 provides grants to local governments and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to purchase land or
3 rights in land for public recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or its
4 scenic beauty. It also assists in the appropriate development of land for public outdoor recreation; and

5 **WHEREAS**, The sources of funds for the MNRTF are annual revenues from the development of State-
6 owned mineral resources, largely oil and gas. The program is administered by the MNRTF Board of
7 Trustees and the Grants Management office of the DNR; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Leasing of the state-owned oil and gas rights for exploration and development offered in a
9 public auction generates revenue in three ways:

- 10 • Lessees pay a “bonus” to acquire the lease rights;
- 11 • Lessees pay rent on acreage leased; and
- 12 • Lessees pay royalties.

13 Royalty payments are a percentage of the gross value of the oil or gas produced and are determined at the
14 time the product is sold; and

15 **WHEREAS**, In accordance with section 35 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, the MNRTF is
16 established in the state treasury. The trust fund shall consist of all bonuses, rentals, delayed rentals, and
17 royalties collected or reserved by the state under provisions of leases for the extraction of nonrenewable
18 resources from most state owned lands; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Michigan's natural gas production has declined over the past two decades, and in 2017
20 Michigan's gross withdrawals of natural gas were less than one-third of the state's 1997 peak₁; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the MNRTF has reached its \$500 million cap, with new revenue being directed to the State
22 Park Endowment Fund; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the SPEF has a cap of \$800 million and is currently at roughly \$255 million in 2018; and

24 **WHEREAS**, The Michigan State Parks System is in need of substantial reinvestment to continue to
25 respond to customers' needs and also reflect current recreational trends appropriate to a state system.

26 Maintenance and improvement were identified as priority needs by the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on
27 State Parks and Outdoor Recreation, which undertook a comprehensive review of the state park system in
28 Michigan. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) agrees with this assessment; and

29 **WHEREAS**, The amount of annual funding available to support basic infrastructure needs continues to
30 be insufficient to adequately address the backlog of maintenance, repair, and improvement projects;

31 NOW,

32 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservations Clubs use the strength of its
33 40,000 plus hunters, anglers, trappers and conservationists and over 200 affiliated local clubs around the
34 state to support an addition to the MNRTF to include the extraction of renewable resources, or creation of
35 renewable energy; and

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC work with our state legislature to see that Bonuses for
37 lease rights, rent on acreage, and percentage of gross values of solar and wind energy creation is
38 deposited into the MNRTF, and ultimately the SPEF; and

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC work with the legislature to see that these Bonuses for
40 lease rights, rent on acreage, and percentage of gross values will not negatively impact the establishment
41 of renewable energy sources.

42 https://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng_sum_lsum_dcu_SMI_a.htm

Proposed Resolution #J

Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Tomahawk Archers
MUCC Region: 8
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Ban Balloon Release

1 **WHEREAS**, Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) mission is “Uniting citizens to conserve,
2 protect, and enhance Michigan's natural resources and outdoor heritage;” and

3 **WHEREAS**, MUCC Organizational Values are:

- 4 ○ Foster a conservation stewardship ethic in the public
- 5 ○ Protect the rights of the public to hunt, fish, trap and recreate outdoors
- 6 ○ Encourage the public to connect to our resources through active recreation
- 7 ○ Advocate for sustainable conservation practices and resource stewardship through sound
8 scientific management; and

9 **WHEREAS**, The Alliance for the Great Lakes' annual "Adopt-a-Beach" shoreline cleanup program has
10 found between 4,400 and 7,200 balloons or pieces of balloon debris on Great Lakes beaches each of the
11 last three years; and

12 **WHEREAS**, a scientific study published in March out of the University of Tasmania that found balloons
13 are the highest-risk plastic debris item for seabirds — 32 times more likely to kill them than ingesting
14 hard plastics; and

15 **WHEREAS**, balloons can be filled with gas lighter than air, or ride thermals and travel up to a thousand
16 miles when released; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes cover an area of 94,250 square miles, allowing more balloon debris to
18 come back to the surface due the lack of thermals over bodies of water; and

19 **WHEREAS**, balloons pose a threat to our waterfowl, our non-game birds, and ruin the aesthetics of our
20 natural resources that everyone enjoys; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Balloon releases are simply sanctioned littering events; and

22 **WHEREAS**, according to NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT
23 451 of 1994 section 324.8905a littering is a state civil infraction with appropriate fines

24 (1) A person who violates this part, if the amount of the litter is less than 1 cubic foot in volume,
25 is responsible for a state civil infraction and is subject to a civil fine of not more than \$800.00.

26 (2) A person who violates this part, if the amount of the litter is 1 cubic foot or more but less than
27 3 cubic feet in volume, is responsible for a state civil infraction and is subject to a civil fine of not
28 more than \$1,500.00; and

29 **WHEREAS**, many organizations (National Wildlife Federation, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
30 Balloons Blow, etc) are pushing the message that balloon releases can cause harm, but there is little to no
31 enforcement of littering laws or legal restrictions to back this message; and

32 **WHEREAS**, California, Connecticut, Florida, Tennessee and Virginia currently have legal restrictions.

33 While Arizona, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and
34 Maine have legislation introduced to restrict releases; NOW,

35 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservations Clubs use the strength of its
36 40,000 plus hunters, anglers, trappers and conservationists and over 200 affiliated local clubs around the
37 state to oppose commercial, or public balloon releases; and

38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC work with our national affiliate National Wildlife
39 Federation, or other like-minded organizations, to also encourage education and littering enforcement in
40 other states that have the potential to impact our natural resources here in Michigan.

Proposed Resolution #K
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Charles Felcyn, MUCC member
MUCC region: 7
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Change the Deer Management Philosophy in the Lower Peninsula.

1 **WHEREAS**, there is a need to change the deer management philosophy in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan,
2 which can be accomplished by educating hunters as to the importance of harvesting does while balancing the buck
3 to doe ratio; and
4 **WHEREAS**, the hunting public should have a better understanding of deer health and reducing disease
5 transmission in their hunting areas; and
6 **WHEREAS**, MUCC should work with biologists to use sound science in decision making; and
7 **WHEREAS**, under this proposal the combination license would include an antlerless license to be used for Deer
8 Management Units (DMUs) allowing antlerless harvest ; and
9 **WHEREAS**, hunters will still have the opportunity to harvest two bucks in Michigan; and
10 **WHEREAS**, every hunter will have the tools available to manage their own hunting area; and
11 **WHEREAS**, hunters will become a more significant part of the management of Michigan’s deer herd; and
12 **WHEREAS**, Michigan will have a better buck to doe ratio; and
13 **WHEREAS**, this philosophy help will reduce the disease pressure resulting in a healthier deer population; and
14 **WHEREAS**, out of state license fees can then be increased to the national average; and
15 **WHEREAS**, a well-balanced deer herd is more important now than ever in Michigan’s history to help stop the
16 spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and bovine tuberculosis and improve deer herd social structure; and
17 **WHEREAS**, the current license structure and philosophy in the Upper Peninsula for herd management will not be
18 affected or changed; NOW,
19 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) work with the
20 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Natural Resources Commission (NRC), and the Michigan

21 Legislature if necessary, to manage Michigan’s deer herd for health, buck to doe ratio, and quality not quantity;
22 and

23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC support changes that would implement a three-year trial of a
24 regulation that would:

- 25 • **include** a doe tag with the combination license (3 tags), which will include 2 bucks and 1 doe in DMUs
26 where antlerless harvest is valid; and

27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the DNR and NRC provide sufficient additional antlerless tags to meet the
28 needs of managing the deer herd in the Deer Management Units (DMU).

Proposed Resolution # P
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Erik Schnelle, Michigan Quality Deer Management Association
MUCC region: 9
Passed: December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Restoring Antler point restrictions on 2nd Tag in Disease Areas

1 **WHEREAS**, mature bucks are more likely to be infected with the deer diseases bovine tuberculosis (bTB) and
2 chronic wasting disease (CWD) than yearling bucks, and

3 **WHEREAS**, regionally appropriate antler point restrictions protect the majority of yearling bucks while allowing
4 the harvest of bucks 2.5 and older, and

5 **WHEREAS**, DNR biologists recommended restoring APR’s on the restricted tag in the disease areas;; and

6 **WHEREAS**, hunters will still have the opportunity to harvest two bucks in Michigan; and

7 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) work with the
8 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Natural Resources Commission (NRC), , to restore the antler point
9 restriction on the second tag in the combo license.