

# **MUCC Proposed Resolutions**



**Proposed Resolutions (not passed at 2020  
Annual Convention) heading to 2021 Annual  
Convention**

**Proposed Resolution #2**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Zach Snyder, Individual Member  
**MUCC Region:** 8  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **Allow Hunters One Leftover Spring Turkey Tag**

1 **WHEREAS**, the current regulations allow for hunters to only purchase one spring turkey tag; and,  
2 **WHEREAS**, during the 2019 spring season, there were 19,618 unpurchased turkey tags; and,  
3 **WHEREAS**, the amount of leftover tags from the 2019 spring turkey season potentially left \$294,270 on  
4 the table that could have been otherwise utilized for conservation; and,  
5 **WHEREAS**, currently the regulations already allow for unsuccessful applicants, and the general public to  
6 purchase one leftover spring turkey tag; and,  
7 **WHEREAS**, allowing the purchase of one additional tag would further increase opportunity afield and  
8 generate more conservation dollars; and,  
9 **WHEREAS**, allowing hunters to purchase leftover spring turkey tags for areas outside of their original  
10 hunt zone for a separate hunt period would encourage travel to other hunting zones, generating tourist  
11 revenue in areas one would not typically frequent; and,  
12 **WHEREAS**, license quotas are set by biologists based upon population survey results for a maximum  
13 potential harvest number; NOW,  
14 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs work with the Michigan  
15 Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to allow spring turkey  
16 hunters the opportunity to purchase one leftover turkey tag in addition to their already purchased tag when  
17 leftover tags become made available to the general public, for a hunt period and hunt unit different from  
18 their originally purchased tag.

**Proposed Resolution #4**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Charles Felcyn  
**MUCC region:** 7  
**Passed:** December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board, as amended by MUCC Wildlife Committee  
**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 #5**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Dawn Levey, Region 5 Executive Board member  
**MUCC Region:** 5  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **Recess in K-5 Schools**

1 **WHEREAS**, outdoor play is an important part of childhood and is the first step to developing  
2 the next generation of conservationists; and

3 **WHEREAS**, many schools are limiting or eliminating recess time for children k-5 deeming  
4 it is not instructional time and substituting it for standardized test preparation; and

5 **WHEREAS**, studies indicate that outdoor play is vital to a child's overall development  
6 and learning; and

7 **WHEREAS**, learning includes improved spatial recognition, understanding environmental tendencies like  
8 the changing of leaves and watching the changes in flora; improves physical and social development;  
9 encourages the use of the imagination; reduces screen time; contributes to cognitive and social/emotional  
10 development; increases attention spans; and happiness/stronger immune system; NOW,

11 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs work with the Michigan  
12 State Legislature and the Michigan Department of Education to educate and encourage the development of  
13 standards and curriculum to maintain designated time during the school day for outside play/recess for the  
14 wellbeing of Michigan's greatest natural resource, its children.

**Proposed Resolution #6**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Erik Schnelle  
**MUCC region:** 5  
**Passed:** December 7, 2019 Conservation Policy Board  
**Title:** **Restoring Antler Point Restrictions on 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Proposed Resolution #7**  
**Requires 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Majority**

**Submitted by:** Dean Hall, Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger  
**MUCC Region:** 8  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **A Resolution to Propose a State Tax Credit for the Donation and Processing of Legally Harvested Deer to Feed the Hungry of Our State**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, Sportsmen and Sportswomen as well as non-hunters in the state of Michigan have supported  
2 the Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger (MSAH) organization and its program since its inception in 1991;  
3 and,  
4 **WHEREAS**, the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) is one of the founding groups who fostered  
5 the Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger organization and continues to be involved and represented on the  
6 board of directors for the MSAH; and,  
7 **WHEREAS**, the mission of the MSAH is providing ground venison to state recognized non-profit food  
8 banks, shelters and pantries providing food assistance to the hungry of the state of Michigan through

9 donated deer from hunter and deer management programs and the processing of those deer by MSAH  
10 participating processors in the MSAH network; and,

11 **WHEREAS**, the hunters donating their harvested deer to the MSAH program receive no compensation for  
12 their generosity; and,

13 **WHEREAS**, the wild game processors working with the MSAH receive only \$1.35 per processed pound  
14 of venison they produce for the MSAH program due to budgeted funds available to pay for their processing  
15 work through the Sportsmen Against Hunger Fund controlled by the state of Michigan in which voluntary  
16 donations are collected at the point of Hunting/Fishing/permit sales to pay for the processing of the deer;  
17 and,

18 **WHEREAS**, from 1991 to 2019 an estimated 706,005 pounds of ground venison has been provided to  
19 Michigan based non-profit food banks, shelters and pantries to create up to 2,984,020 hot and high in protein  
20 meals through the combined effort of the MSAH and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
21 (MDNR); and,

22 **WHEREAS**, to offer an incentive to a hunter as well as a Michigan wild game processing facility working  
23 with a state charitable organization like the MSAH engaged in the donation and processing of, legally  
24 harvested deer during a hunting season for their generosity would be fair AND increase deer donations to  
25 feed the hungry of our state; NOW,

26 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that MUCC support legislation to create a state tax credit per each  
27 deer legally harvested during a hunting season by a hunter and donated to a charitable organization like  
28 the MSAH that is engaged in the distributing wild game processed at a Michigan Department of  
29 Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) or United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)  
30 inspected and approved participating wild game processors in our state; and,

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that MUCC support legislation to also create a tax credit per each donated  
32 and legally harvested deer that is processed into ground venison burger by a processor to feed the state's  
33 hungry through working with a charitable organization like the MSAH that is engaged in the distributing  
34 wild game processed at an MDARD or USDA inspected wild game processor to feed the hungry of our  
35 state through state of Michigan recognized non-profit food banks, shelters and

**Proposed Resolution #10**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Greg Peter, MUCC Vice President  
**MUCC Region:** 8  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **Feral Cats as an Invasive Species**

1 **WHEREAS**, millions of free-roaming and feral cats (*Felis catus*) exist on the landscape as non-native,  
2 obligate predators and as such, cause considerable damage to wildlife populations killing several  
3 hundreds of millions (birds, small mammals, amphibian, reptiles and fish); and  
4 **WHEREAS**, this represents a significant threat to the biodiversity/stability of ecosystems; and  
5 **WHEREAS**, even a house cat allowed outside to roam and not in need of food will still hunt and kill  
6 several animals each and every day; and  
7 **WHEREAS**, most of free-roaming and feral cats suffer the vicissitudes of lives lived outdoors (disease,  
8 weather extremes, starvation, trauma) and cannot be considered as being treated humanely and live  
9 shorter brutal lives as a result; and  
10 **WHEREAS**, these feral cats represent a human public health hazard as they carry several zoonotic  
11 diseases such as toxoplasmosis, rabies, Francisella tularensis (trichinpsis), Yersinia pestis (plague),  
12 Microsporium canis (ringworm), and fleas carrying typhus, not to mention diseases they can transmit to  
13 other cats (FeLV, FIV, FRDC); and  
14 **WHEREAS**, current statutory status does not discriminate between feral and responsibly owned cats (but  
15 merely as “domestic” which does not accurately describe the feral situation), and the eradication of feral  
16 cats by the general public is considered a felony; NOW,  
17 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) will promote  
18 the designation of feral cats as an invasive species and thereby subject to regulation as such; and  
19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that MUCC educate the public of the threat to public health and our  
20 wildlife resources of this invasive species and the inhumane practice of releasing neutered cats back into  
21 feral colonies.

**Proposed Resolution #14**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Greg Peter, MUCC Vice President  
**MUCC Region:** 8  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **Further Measures to Facilitate the Elimination of Feral Swine**

22 **WHEREAS**, the elimination of feral swine in the state of Michigan has made great strides since their  
23 designation as an invasive species as witnessed by the lack of many reports in the Lower Peninsula; and  
24 **WHEREAS**, the prevention of stocking fenced facilities with European wild boar, an action supported by  
25 advocacy and policy from Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), has been primarily responsible  
26 for the discontinuance of escapees providing the continued presence of feral swine on the landscape; and  
27 **WHEREAS**, in the past two years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health  
28 Inspection Service’s Wildlife Services Program has reported the presence of feral swine with a domestic  
29 genetic background; and  
30 **WHEREAS**, the origins of these pigs is unknown, there is the possibility that they were escapees from  
31 game ranch facilities and/or backyard swineherds, but regardless they have the potential to provide a  
32 continuation of the feral swine population as this species easily adapts to the feral situation; NOW,  
33 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that MUCC advocate for all strains of swine to be banned from  
34 game preserves for the purposes of hunting and be it further resolved that MUCC encourage the  
35 permanent identification of any pig that is not raised in an enclosed, confined pork production facility

**Proposed Resolution #15**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Leonard Shaner, MUCC Member  
**MUCC Region:** 8  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **Logging Quiet Time**

1 **WHEREAS**, Michigan has had a long and wonderful history of deer hunting, and as this tradition  
2 continues each November this special time has been defined by friends and family getting together for  
3 some quiet time in the outdoors; and



4 **WHEREAS**, in some instances quiet time is being disturbed by logging operations that have been  
5 permitted on state forest land during the firearm deer season seriously compromising peace and  
6 tranquility the hunting public is seeking; and

7 **WHEREAS**, logging on State forest takes place in State Forest Lands because private lands are not  
8 available at this time of year due to the owners wanting to enjoy the peace and quiet and an undisturbed  
9 hunt; and

10 **WHEREAS**, logging operations cause noise and use restrictions due to heavy equipment operation and  
11 people working, thereby interfering with the hunting public attempting to use the state forest. In addition,  
12 these actions destroy roads making them impassable and unusable with anything other than heavy  
13 equipment; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Michigan has seen a decline in deer hunting license sales in the past several years, operating  
15 heavy logging equipment during the firearm deer season does not help attract new hunters to our state or  
16 the retention of current hunters. Most people do not come to the Northern Forest to hear heavy equipment  
17 ruin from dawn to dusk; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the State Forest constitutes public lands and are in fact owned by the citizenry of the state,  
19 and the conditions of logging contracts should be stipulated on their behalf; NOW,

20 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) remain an advocate  
21 for the Hunter and the use of State Forest lands for people to enjoy this time of year. To this end, MUCC  
22 should work with the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division and the Wildlife Division to  
23 modify logging permits so as to close all state forest to logging operations during the month of November  
24 to allow hunters to enjoy the peace and quiet of State Forest lands without interference of logging  
25 companies and their employees.

**Proposed Resolution #16**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Chelsea Rod & Gun Club  
**MUCC Region:** 8  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** **Reduced Youth Hunting Fees**

1 **WHEREAS**, the number of deer hunters in Michigan has been in steady decline since 1998. Down 21%  
2 through 2018 (Detroit Free Press); and

3 **WHEREAS**, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is reporting 2019 unique hunting  
4 license sales are down 3% from 2018 and unique sales have been in steady decline for many years; and

5 **WHEREAS**, MDNR depends on hunting and fishing license revenues to fund many different programs  
6 and operations; and

7 **WHEREAS**, recruitment of youth hunters is vital to preserving the hunting culture and traditions in 21<sup>st</sup>  
8 century Michigan; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the cost of hunting licenses to families with one or more youth hunters may be prohibitive in  
10 many instances; NOW,

11 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs use its influence to urge  
12 the Michigan DNR and the state legislature to reduce hunting license fees for youth hunters under the age  
13 of 16 to a level equal to or less than the fees paid by senior hunters.

**Proposed Resolution #22**  
**Requires 2/3 Majority**

**Submitted by:** Joe Sommers, U.P. Whitetails of Marquette County  
**MUCC Region:** 1  
**Passed:** March 7, 2020 Conservation Policy Board Meeting  
**Title:** Clarify ATV Helmet Laws

1 **WHEREAS**, new helmet laws in Michigan state that a person who rides a motorcycle, moped, utility  
2 terrain vehicle (UTV), does not have to wear a helmet; NOW,

3 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs shall work with the  
4 Michigan Legislature and Michigan Department of Natural Resources to change necessary state  
5 regulations such that the adult rider, driver or occupant of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV), quad or 4-wheeler  
6 not be required to wear a helmet.