

Proposed Resolution #C
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Steve Kilmon, Individual Member
MUCC region: 7
Proposed: December 4, 2021 Conservation Policy Board meeting
Title: **Resolution to change regulation 3.205 (11) (N) in the Wildlife Conservation Order (one-inch hole diameter maximum in a bear bait container) to holes no greater than three inches and/or a container without a lid**

1 **WHEREAS**, dispensing hole size restrictions were introduced as part of a public land bait
2 container proposal for bear hunting. This regulation also affected private land container use,
3 limiting the diameter of the hole in a container, such as a barrel, to one inch; and,
4 **WHEREAS**, one-inch holes in a container, are so small that it limits bait options for hunters.
5 One-inch holes promote the use of dry baits only, like corn and grains. Corn and grains are the
6 only baits that will really flow from a one-inch hole; and,
7 **WHEREAS**, you cannot use corn and grains to bait bears anywhere the baiting of deer and elk
8 is banned as it clearly states in the MDNR Wildlife Conservation Order. You can only use two
9 gallons of corn or grains in the Michigan’s Upper Peninsula; and,
10 **WHEREAS**, baiting of deer and elk is banned in the whole Lower Peninsula; therefore, the
11 current regulation makes baiting options difficult for private land bear hunters; and,
12 **WHEREAS**, while a barrel with small holes may be a great option for some hunters, many
13 hunters prefer to use different types of baits that are not corn or grains; and,
14 **WHEREAS**, making a regulation change to allow bait containers with three-inch holes and/or a
15 container without a lid poses no risk to bears or any other game; and,
16 **WHEREAS**, a majority of the popular and more common baiting options collected or purchased
17 by hunters are impossible to use in a container with a one-inch hole. There are many bear bait
18 retailers that rely on the sales of these items; and,

19 **WHEREAS**, a three-inch hole would allow a flow of other bait products to dispense in small
20 quantities out of a bait barrel. More importantly, a three-inch hole is not large enough to pose a
21 threat to bears feeding from barrels. Holes that size would allow the use of more types of baits
22 that would be least attractive to deer and elk, and, at the same time, continue to protect bears;
23 and,

24 **WHEREAS**, 85% of bear hunters hunt over bait. Michigan sportsman should have more choices
25 in baiting methods and container options; **NOW**.

26 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC)
27 support and advocate through the Natural Resources Commission and Michigan DNR to allow
28 for bait containers, such as barrels, to be used with hole diameter's up to three inches, and/or a
29 container without a lid.