



AGENDA

**Michigan United Conservation Clubs
Conservation Policy Board Meeting**
Big Bear Sportsman's Club, Kaleva
Saturday September 17, 2022

Contact Justin Tomei at jtomei@mucc.org for questions

Conservation Pledge: I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country – its air, soil, and minerals, its forests, waters, and wildlife.

MUCC Mission Statement: Uniting citizens to conserve, protect, and enhance Michigan's natural resources and outdoor heritage.

10:30 a.m.	<p>Committee Meetings-</p> <p>Education (Kayla Levey), Fisheries (Eric Braden), Wildlife (Leonard Shaner), Parks, Recreation and Trails (Allen Kasdorf), Shooting/Ranges (Jack Ammerman)</p>
11:15 a.m.	<p>Conservation Policy Board</p> <p>Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p>Role of Conservation Policy Board</p> <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p>
11:25 a.m.	<p>The Pledges (Allegiance & Conservation)</p> <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p>
11:27 a.m.	<p>Introduction of Executive Board, Past Presidents, Staff and Special Guests</p> <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p>
11:30 a.m.	<p>Introduction of Voting Conservation Policy Board Members, MUCC Members, and Visitors in Attendance</p> <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p>
11:32 a.m.	<p>Vacancies Filled on the Conservation Policy Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Region 1 – George Lindquist · Region 4 – Paul Rose <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p>
11:35 a.m.	<p>Approval of Agenda</p> <p>Approval of Minutes: March 12, 2022 Meeting</p> <p><i>All</i></p>
11:40 a.m.	<p>Speaker</p> <p><i>Chad Steward, Michigan DNR</i></p>
11:50 a.m.	<p>Questions and Answers</p>

12:05 p.m.	DNR Mobile App <i>MUCC Staff</i>
12:35 p.m.	Questions and Answers
12:45 – 1:05 p.m.	BREAK-Lunch Available, Cash Only \$8
1:05 p.m.	Policy Committee Reports
1:15 p.m.	<p><u>Emergency and Proposed Resolution Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Resolution Read by maker or their designee · Resolution explained by maker or their designee · Without objection, this resolution is consistent with the mission and purpose of MUCC. · Committee input · Discussion on the resolution · Motion for disposition of the resolution · Discussion of the motion <p><u>Proposed Policy Resolutions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Resolution #A Reaffirming MUCC's Opposition to Camp Grayling · Resolution #B Wolf-Dog Conflict Reporting · Resolution #C Mandatory Turkey Reporting · Resolution #D Wake Boat Regulations · Resolution #E Apprentice License for Special Needs Individuals · Resolution #F Lifetime Apprentice License <p><u>Emergency Board Resolution Informational/Discussion Item - Mandatory Deer Harvest Reporting</u></p> <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p> <p><u>Motions that are in order:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pass resolution as is on to 2023 Convention 2. Amend and Pass to Convention 3. Postpone action and refer back to writer (or MUCC Committee) with Comments
1:45 p.m. (Or when proposed resolutions are finished)	Policy updates from MUCC <i>MUCC Staff</i>
2:05 p.m.	Executive Board Report <i>Amy Trotter</i>
2:25 p.m.	Moment for the Mission <i>Amy Trotter</i>
2:30 p.m.	Announcement of Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · CPB meeting December 3 2022, John Anthony Halter Shooting Sports Education Center, 4390 Bankers Rd Hillsdale, MI 49242 <p>Adjourn</p> <p><i>Vice President Rob Miller</i></p>

Proposed Resolution #A
Requires Simple Majority

Return to writer for additions and bring back in December

Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Life Member
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Title: Reaffirm MUCC's opposition to Camp Grayling expansion

1. **WHEREAS:** Camp Grayling was founded in 1913 on an initial grant of land from Grayling
2. lumber baron Rasmus Hanson to the state for military training. It includes 147,000 acres in
3. Crawford, Kalkaska and Otsego counties. Troops first started training at Camp Grayling in 1914;
4. and,
5. **WHEREAS:** the Grayling area provides quality outdoor recreational experiences; and,
6. **WHEREAS:** expanded use of Camp Grayling in recent years has adversely affected and
7. impacted the natural environment of the Grayling area; and,
8. **WHEREAS:** past experiences demonstrates that a need exists to more closely monitor and
9. regulate the environmental impact Camp Grayling activities create; and,
10. **WHEREAS:** during 2016 and 2017 the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
11. (MDMVA) conducted a site investigation on the Grayling Army Airfield (GAAF) for the presence
12. of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the groundwater. It then determined that there
13. was an off-base human health concern; and,
14. **WHEREAS:** The Traverse City Record Eagle reports "State records show more than 1,100
15. drinking water samples have been tested through spring this year. Of those, nearly 300 tested
16. positive for some level of PFAS contamination. Officials found 19 homes with PFAS levels at or
17. beyond the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's health advisory standard for lifetime
18. exposure — 70 parts per trillion — 17 near the airfield and two near Lake Margrethe. Hundreds
19. more residential well samples returned levels between that concentration and non-detection." in
20. an article from 2019; and,
21. **WHEREAS:** Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, MI has caused a "Do Not Eat Deer
22. Advisory" and a "Do Not eat Fish Advisory" due to toxic PFAS contamination; and,
23. **WHEREAS:** MUCC relies on a grassroots policy process to set the organization's directives.
24. Our members dictate the positions of the organization. In 1989, MUCC members passed a
25. resolution opposing the expansion of Camp Grayling except during a national emergency, as
26. declared by the President or Congress; and,
27. **WHEREAS:** The National Guard is asking for an expansion to lease an additional 162,000

28. acres of DNR lands that is currently open to various forms of public recreation including hunting,
29. angling, and trapping. This would be in addition to the 147,000 acres they are currently leasing;
30. and,

31. **WHEREAS:** Public Act 47 of 2009 requires the DNR: “2(a) Keep land under its control open to
32. hunting unless the department determines that the land should be closed to hunting because of
33. public safety, fish or wildlife management, or homeland security concerns or as otherwise
34. required by law. 2(b) Manage land under its control to support and promote hunting and fishing
35. opportunities to the extent authorized by law.”; and,

36. **WHEREAS:** The biggest state revenue source for the DNR is the Game and Fish Protection
37. Fund. The primary source of revenue for the fund is hunting and fishing license fees; and,

38. **WHEREAS:** No money would be exchanged with the proposed lease, as it would be an
39. agreement between two State of Michigan departments. An estimated years long review
40. process incorporating MI DNR staff and resources is expected to just be incorporated

41. into the plan of work for staff in each office and division that has proposed expansion lands
42. within their respective boundaries. This on top of already short staff and underfunded; and,

43. **WHEREAS:** Camp Grayling has a track record of degrading our natural resources; and,

44. **WHEREAS:** it’s important to update and/or reaffirm MUCC’s position on historical issues as new
45. information, threats, and members change; NOW,

46. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Michigan United Conservation Clubs seeks Camp
47. Graylings full and total compliance with all federal, state and local environmental laws by the
48. Department of Military Affairs; and,

49. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MUCC reaffirms its commitment to opposition to Camp
Grayling expansion per resolution BR011089 and opposes any further expansion.**

~~50. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that additional expansion of Camp boundaries, training areas, ¶
51. training days, increased personnel or other activities such as, but not limited to, the ¶
52. Multi-Purpose Range Complex and assault landing strip that tend to increase the size of the ¶
53. Camp only be initiated in the event of a national emergency as defined by the Congress or the ¶
54. President; and, ¶~~

~~55. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that lease of public land granted to the Department of Military ¶
56. Affairs be reopened and renegotiated for the purpose of ensuring better cooperation in the ¶
57. regulation and enforcement of environmental laws and the multiple use of said lands when not ¶
58. required for military purposes; and,~~

59. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that in those instances where public lands can no longer be
60. managed as an environment resource for public recreation be compensated for by some

61. mitigation acceptable to the Natural Resources Commission.

Proposed Resolution #B
Requires Simple Majority

PASSED TO CONVENTION

Submitted by: Steve Dey, Straits Area Sportsmen’s Club
MUCC Region: 2
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Wolf – Dog Conflict Reporting

1. **WHEREAS:** it is vitally important for all dog owners to promptly report a Wolf-Dog conflict to
2. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) biologists; and,
3. **WHEREAS:** prompt reporting is important to the all dog owners it is also important to the
4. DNR biologist to respond quickly to gather important data for their reporting and records;
5. and,
6. **WHEREAS:** MUCC supports recommendations of the 2022 Wolf Management Advisory
7. Council which included recommendations about prompt reporting of wolf –dog
8. conflicts; and,
9. **WHEREAS:** the DNR now has a smartphone app where the public can now easily report their
10. deer harvest and wildlife viewing; and,
11. **WHEREAS:** According to the DNR deer harvest reporting took only a few minutes on average;
12. and,
13. **WHEREAS:** A system to report wolf-dog conflicts need not be anymore cumbersome on the
14. user; NOW,
15. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** because of the importance of reporting wolf-dog
16. conflicts MUCC will work with the DNR to add a ‘Wolf-Dog Conflict’ tab to the wildlife
17. viewing section, and,
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** MUCC will work with the DNR to include a “wolf-dog conflict”
19. reporting tool in the DNR smartphone app, which would enable all dog owners who had a
20. wolf-dog conflict to voluntarily report it immediately.
21. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that MUCC will work with the DNR to also include an option to report “wolf-livestock conflict” on the smartphone app.

Proposed Resolution #C
Requires 2/3 Majority
PASSED TO CONVENTION

Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Life Member & Zach Snyder, Individual Member
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Title: Establish Mandatory Turkey Harvest Reporting

1. **WHEREAS:** Current methods utilized to determine our turkey flock size and harvest quotas, are
2. largely based on estimates, historical quotas, and voluntary contributions from hunters; and,
3. **WHEREAS:** To do our best in managing the turkey flock we need to gather accurate
4. information; and,
5. **WHEREAS:** Michigan ranks seventh in the nation for the number of wild turkeys killed by
6. hunters, according to the National Wild Turkey Federation. The top turkey hunting states, in
7. order, are Missouri, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, New York and Mississippi,
8. (<http://www.minwtf.org/wild-turkeys-carve-out-place-in-michigan>) ;and,
9. **WHEREAS:** in Missouri all turkey must be Telechecked online, using the MO Hunting app, or by
10. telephone; and,
11. **WHEREAS:** in Alabama Game Check became mandatory in fall 2016 (it was voluntary the prior
12. year). This portion of the regulation requires all hunters to report their harvested deer or turkey
13. within 48 hours and record the confirmation number on the Harvest Record (either in paper
14. form, on the Outdoor AL app, or via telephone at 1-800-888-7690; and,
15. **WHEREAS:** Pennsylvania requires that within 10 days of harvest (five days for mentored
16. hunters), turkey hunters must report harvests to the Game Commission, either by going online
17. to the Game Commission's website, www.pgc.pa.gov, calling toll-free, or by sending in a
18. postage-paid report card received with this digest; and,
19. **WHEREAS:** in Wisconsin registration is mandatory for all deer, bear, turkey, sharp-tailed
20. grouse, bobcat, fisher and otter and is accomplished using gamereg.wi.gov; and,
21. **WHEREAS:** in New York for both fall and spring turkey, you must report via the new DECALS
22. reporting system within 7 days; and,
23. **WHEREAS:** all hunters in Mississippi have to report their harvest before 10 p.m. on the day of

24. harvest; and,
25. **WHEREAS:** Michigan's Turkey quotas were mentioned by the current DNR Wildlife Chief ~~Jared Duquette~~ as being "arbitrary" at the August 11, 2022 Natural resources meeting; and,
26. ~~Duquette~~ as being "arbitrary" at the August 11, 2022 Natural resources meeting; and,
27. **WHEREAS:** MUCC was the driving force behind the successful voter passage of Proposal G: a
28. referendum on Public Act 377 of 1996, which amended the Natural Resources and
29. Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to grant the Natural Resources Commission (NRC)
30. exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game in this state. The amendment also requires
31. the NRC, to the greatest extent practicable, to use principles of sound scientific management in
32. making decisions regarding the taking of game; and,
33. **WHEREAS:** more accurate data would aid in furthering sound scientific management to allow
34. for improved wild turkey population health, and increased hunting opportunities; and,
35. **WHEREAS:** infrastructure for reporting the harvest of whitetail deer in Michigan currently exists
36. allowing for a low cost transition for other species; NOW,
37. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That Michigan United Conservation Clubs work with the DNR
38. and the Natural Resource Commission to enact a ~~mandatory~~ turkey harvest reporting system in conjunction with the new DNR app-based reporting system,
39. ~~and utilize the system to help with population abundance estimates.~~

Proposed Resolution #D
Requires 2/3 Majority
PASSED TO CONVENTION

Submitted by: Greg Peter, Immediate Past President
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Title: Wake Boat Regulations

1. **WHEREAS:** MUCC policy resolution entitled – Establish Regulations on the Operation of Wake
2. Boats passed at convention in 2013; and,
3. **WHEREAS:** this resolution stated specifications concerning the size of the lake (2,000 acres)
4. and recommended distance from shore (1000 feet) without substantiating scientific analysis;
5. and,
6. **WHEREAS:** one of the fastest growing segment of the boating industry is the sale of wake
7. boats (wakeboard boats outsell ski boats 4 to 1); and,
8. **WHEREAS:** the attendant wave formation has been shown to be a hazard to other water sport
9. participants as well as damaging to the shoreline and lake bottom habitats especially with
10. repeated passes along the same course; and,
11. **WHEREAS:** other Midwestern states with a large number of inland lakes (Minnesota.
12. Wisconsin, Michigan) have seen an increase in the use of and the conflicts caused by these
13. boats as well as waters in Oregon, Maine, and Vermont; and,
14. **WHEREAS:** Wisconsin has passed a hazardous wake law (Statue 30.68) stating under the
15. heading "Creating hazardous wake or wash -(a) No person shall operate a motorboat so as to
16. approach or pass another boat in such a manner as to create a hazardous wake or wash. (b) An
17. operator of a motorboat is liable for any damage caused to the person or property of another by
18. the wake or wash from such motorboat...and no person may operate a motorboat within 100
19. feet of any dock, raft, pier, or buoyed restricted area on any lake at a speed in excess of
20. slow-no-wake. Furthermore no person may operate a personal watercraft at a speed in excess

21. of slow-no-wake within 200 feet of the shoreline of any lake and(b) No person may operate a
22. personal watercraft at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 100 feet of any other boat; and,
23. **WHEREAS:** these boats cannot easily be cleaned of invasive aquatic plants (a requirement by
24. law in Michigan); and,
25. **WHEREAS:** the creation of these waves is not compatible to other boating activities (paddle
26. board kayak, sailboat) and the reverse is not true; and,
27. **WHEREAS:** modern wakeboard boats can quickly pump 1,000 pounds of water into ballast
28. tanks and make the boats wake three times normal size and these are not normal waves for
29. inland lakes and are devastating to spawning and nesting beds as well as shorelines; and,
30. **WHEREAS:** current studies at the St. Anthony Falls laboratory of the University of Minnesota
31. reveal the typical wake does not dissipate to form and energy of a normal ski boat until
32. greater than 500 feet and current studies show the disturbance of bottom sediments in less than
33. 20 feet of water and resuspension of bottom sediments promotes harmful algae blooms as well
34. as disturbing fish habitat (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2iEI-duivl>); and,
35. **WHEREAS:** This is not intended to be a ban but a regulation that minimizes the impact on the
36. environment and other uses of our waterways; and,
37. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that MUCC advocate for the elimination of these craft from
38. vulnerable waters and limit their use to depths of greater than 20 feet and further from
39. shorelines, docks, and other riparian uses to greater than 500 feet.

Proposed Resolution #E
Requires 2/3 Majority
PASSED TO CONVENTION

Submitted by: Mike Thorman, Michigan Hunting Dog Federation
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Title: Apprentice License for Special Needs Individuals

1. **WHEREAS:** The apprentice hunting license requires an apprentice hunter to be within arms
2. reach of a licensed parent or guardian, or a 21 year old licensed hunter approved by the parent
3. or guardian; and,
4. **WHEREAS:** The apprentice license is no cheaper than traditional hunting licenses; and,
5. **WHEREAS:** Currently an apprentice hunter can only hunt on an apprentice license for two
6. years before they are required to take hunters safety to continue hunting; and,
7. **WHEREAS:** The purpose of hunters safety is to prepare an individual to hunt safely alone; and,
8. **WHEREAS:** There are anecdotal reports of large numbers of hunters safety instructors leaving
9. the program statewide; and,
10. **WHEREAS:** This has led to prospective students having a hard time finding a class they are
11. able to take, particularly in rural areas; and,
12. **WHEREAS:** The number of hunters nationwide is decreasing rapidly; and,
13. **WHEREAS:** We have a responsibility as conservationists to ensure the next generation
14. continues to have hunting opportunities; and,
15. **WHEREAS:** Special needs individuals exist that can perform the physical requirements of
16. hunting with assistance but lack the capacity to pass a written hunters safety test; and,
17. **WHEREAS:** These hunters will always require assistance when in the field; and,
18. **WHEREAS:** Currently there exists no mechanism for such an individual to continue hunting past
19. the two years on an apprentice license; NOW,

20. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That MUCC advocates for the removal of the two year
21. apprentice license limit for special needs individuals who cannot pass a hunters safety test, as
22. signed off on by an appropriate medical professional, allowing these hunters to hunt legally
23. under an apprentice license indefinitely.

Proposed Resolution #F
Requires 2/3 Majority

RETURN TO WRITER WITH SUGGESTION FOR WITHDRAWAL

Submitted by: Mike Thorman, Michigan Hunting Dog Federation
Proposed: September 17, 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Title: Removal of two year cap on apprentice hunting license

1. **WHEREAS:** The apprentice hunting license requires an apprentice hunter to be within arms
2. reach of a licensed parent or guardian, or a 21 year old licensed hunter approved by the parent
3. or guardian; and,
4. **WHEREAS:** The apprentice license is no cheaper than traditional hunting licenses; and,
5. **WHEREAS:** Currently an apprentice hunter can only hunt on an apprentice license for two
6. years before they are required to take hunters safety to continue hunting; and,
7. **WHEREAS:** The purpose of hunters safety is to prepare an individual to hunt safely alone; and,
8. **WHEREAS:** There are anecdotal reports of large numbers of hunters safety instructors leaving
9. the program statewide; and,
10. **WHEREAS:** This has led to prospective students having a hard time finding a class they are
11. able to take, particularly in rural areas; and,
12. **WHEREAS:** The number of hunters nationwide is decreasing rapidly; and,
13. **WHEREAS:** We have a responsibility as conservationists to ensure the next generation
14. continues to have hunting opportunities; and,
15. **WHEREAS:** Some individuals may never choose to hunt alone, preferring instead to hunt with
16. significant others, friends, or other family members; NOW,
17. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That MUCC advocates for the removal of the two year
18. apprentice license limit, allowing Michigan's hunters to hunt legally under an apprentice license
19. as long as they wish.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY

Emergency Board Resolution

Requires $\frac{2}{3}$ Majority

Submitted by: Rob Miller, Vice President & Leonard Shaner, Executive Board
Proposed: October 5th, 2022 Executive Board Meeting
Title: Mandatory Deer Harvest Reporting Requirements

1. **WHEREAS:** Understanding that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) needs
2. correct and complete harvest data to effectively manage the deer herd of Michigan to ensure a
3. healthy deer herd in the state; and,
4. **WHEREAS:** The MDNR and the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) has implemented
5. mandatory deer reporting through an on-line system
6. or cell phone app in Wildlife Conservation Order #4 of 2022; and,
7. **WHEREAS:** It is advertised as the first year being focused on education with an effort of
8. issuing citations to be at a minimum; and,
9. **WHEREAS:** Public Act 451 of 1994 commonly referred to as NREPA calls for a criminal
10. misdemeanor penalty for those in non-compliance with an NRC order; and,
11. **WHEREAS:** This reporting process calls for the hunter to identify the location of the successful
12. hunt in a very specific manner; and,
13. **WHEREAS:** This order calls for harvest reporting to be complete within 72 hours of harvest;
14. NOW,
15. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** Following this year of education, a violation be dropped from
16. a misdemeanor crime to a civil infraction; and,
17. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The requirement of sharing your location be changed from exact
18. property to listing the county and township where the successful hunt took place; and,

19. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The time allowed for reporting be changed from 72 hours to 10
20. days after the harvest. Michigan United Conservation Clubs to work with the MDNR, the
21. NRC and/or the Michigan Legislature to support the above changes to this new harvest
22. reporting requirement.