

Proposed Resolution #A
Requires 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Todd Johnson Region 4 CPB, Luke Sitton Life Member
Proposed: August 26, 2023 Conservation Policy Board Meeting
Title: Supporting Mandatory Antler Point Restrictions

1. **WHEREAS:** The majority of hunters across all of Michigan's deer management units have
2. supported antler point restrictions (APRs) in every survey over the past 15 years (surveys
3. conducted by the MDNR), and;
4. **WHEREAS:** 77% of hunters in the NW 12 APR counties STILL approve APR's 4 years after
5. implementation, and;
6. **WHEREAS:** The minimum antlerless to antlered harvest ratio in most of the whitetail deer's
7. range to maintain deer densities is one antlerless per antlered deer (1 to 1), and;
8. **WHEREAS:** MDNR harvest data shows that under current regulations in 2022 Michigan hunters
9. only harvested .76 antlerless per antlered deer leading to out-of-control deer densities and
10. increased disease risk, and;
11. **WHEREAS:** MDNR data presented at the May 2023 Natural Resources Commission showed
12. that the NW 12 APR counties are leading the state in antlerless to antlered harvest ratio with the
13. #1 county (Lake 1.38 to 1), 5 of the top 8 counties, and an average for the entire NW 12 APR
14. area of .98 antlerless to antlered ratio versus the statewide average of .76, and;
15. **WHEREAS:** MDNR Data from the CWD experiment shows that the APR counties increased
16. antlerless harvest more than the non-APR counties, and;
17. **WHEREAS:** two and three-year-old bucks are able to express 25% to 75% of their antler growth
18. potential, while one-year-olds only average 15% to 25%, NOW;
19. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that MUCC will support the adoption of antler point
20. regulations that are designed to protect the majority of yearling bucks, while also making a
21. majority of 2.5-year-old bucks eligible for harvest.