

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

**Submitted by:** Erik Schnelle, Michigan State Council and National Deer Association

**Proposed:** August 17th Conservation Policy Board Meeting

**Title:** Opposition to Market Hunting of Game Animals

1. **WHEREAS:** the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) has supported the North
2. American Model of Wildlife Conservation (NAMWC) 's pillars since its inception, and;
3. **WHEREAS:** As articulated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, seven features make the
4. North American model distinct, and;
5. **WHEREAS:** *Wildlife is a public resource and held in public trust.* In the United States,
6. wildlife is considered a public resource, independent of the land or water where wildlife
7. may live. Government at various levels have a role in managing that resource on behalf
8. of all citizens and to ensure the long-term sustainability of wildlife populations, and;
9. **WHEREAS:** *Markets for game have been eliminated.* Government actions making it
10. illegal to buy and sell meat and parts of game and non-game species have removed a
11. huge threat to the survival of those species. A market in furbearers continues as a highly
12. regulated activity, and;
13. **WHEREAS:** *Allocation of wildlife by law.* Wildlife is a public resource managed by the
14. government. As a result, access to wildlife for hunting is through legal mechanisms such
15. as hunting seasons, bag limits, license requirements, etc, and;
16. **WHEREAS:** *Wildlife can only be killed for a legitimate purpose.* Wildlife is a shared
17. resource that must not be wasted. The law prohibits killing wildlife for frivolous reasons,
18. and;
19. **WHEREAS:** *Wildlife species are considered an international resource.* Some species,
20. such as migratory birds, cross national boundaries. Treaties such as the Migratory Bird
21. Treaty and CITES recognize a shared responsibility to manage these species across
22. national boundaries, and;
23. **WHEREAS:** *Science is the proper tool for discharge of wildlife policy.* To manage wildlife
24. as a shared resource fairly, objectively, and knowledgeably, decisions must be based on
25. sound science such as annual waterfowl population surveys and the work of professional
26. wildlife biologists, and;
27. **WHEREAS:** *The democracy of hunting and fishing.* In keeping with democratic

28. principles, government allocates access to wildlife without regard for wealth, prestige, or
29. land ownership, and;
30. **WHEREAS:** The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation is credited with
31. restoring many of North America's wildlife species that had been at or near the brink of
32. extinction due to market hunting, including whitetail deer, black bears, elk, Canada
33. Geese, wild Turkeys and many more, NOW;
34. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** MUCC supports the seven pillars of the North
35. American Model of Conservation, and;
36. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** MUCC opposes any market hunting for management
37. purposes.