

Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation

2011 Resolutions to be presented to 2012 SWF Convention

11-1. RAVENS – Region 3 (Esterhazy)

WHEREAS raven populations have exploded in southern Saskatchewan since the 1970's, and

WHEREAS ravens are doing tremendous damage to grain bags, bird nests, as well as trap lines and game temporarily left in the field, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that ravens be removed from the protected list in southern farmlands of Saskatchewan.

11-2. WATERFOWL HERITAGE DAYS – Region 6 (Moose Jaw)

WHEREAS the Federal Government initiated the program, Waterfowl Heritage Days, and invited the provinces to implement the program in the year 2000, and

WHEREAS a main tenet of the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation is to encourage young people to become involved in hunting, conservation, and the shooting sports, and

WHEREAS the Waterfowl Heritage Days program is a reality and operating in most provinces in Canada, supported by provincial and national wildlife organizations and federal and provincial governments, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation encourage the provincial government to initiate Waterfowl Heritage Days in Saskatchewan; and that the SWF work with the government to establish and carry on the program, using the guidelines already established by other provinces in Canada.

11-3. WILDLIFE COMPENSATION – Region 4

WHEREAS during the winter of 2010-11 there was excessive amounts of snow and cold weather, and

WHEREAS there are a number of reports about farmers not receiving adequate financial compensations for losses incurred by deer feeding on stored hay, and

WHEREAS with a highly altered natural landscape in southern Saskatchewan, the winter survival of wildlife is often dependent upon wildlife feeding on stored hay bales, swaths and stored grain, and

WHEREAS wildlife is a public resource, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF meet and work with the Ministry of Environment and Saskatchewan Crop Insurance to design policies that would ensure that landowners are fully and fairly compensated without any caps in payment for all losses incurred by wildlife feeding on stored hay, swaths and stored grain.

11-4. FIRST NATIONS VOLUNTARY HARVEST INFORMATION – Region 2 (Battlefords)

WHEREAS First Nations people are allowed to hunt and run outfitting on all of their lands, and

WHEREAS hunters who hunt on these lands only have to apply for a permit if they wish to transport their trophies out of the province, and

WHEREAS there are no records of the amount of animals that are harvested in a year on these lands, and

WHEREAS if the First Nations had a system to track and record the amount of a season's harvest, it would help the government and First Nations people with big game management, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF negotiate with governments and First Nations people to start a voluntary harvest survey/permit system.

BRIEF: By having such a harvest survey/permit system in place, it would help the government and First Nations people make the big game management decisions for future generations.

11-5. FIELD RESEARCH – Region 2 (Battlefords)

WHEREAS work such as aerial surveys for big game management, population and habitat assessment, and fisheries are important tools for biologists, and

WHEREAS funding cuts to such surveys and assessments have effectively stopped such work from being done, and

WHEREAS sound science-based resource management is clearly something that the people of Saskatchewan want, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that government funding for aerial surveys for big game management, population and habitat assessment, and fisheries research be reestablished and expanded.

11-6. ATV / SNOWMOBILE REGULATIONS – Region 4

WHEREAS there are currently few if any regulations governing the use of ATV's and snowmobiles in the province, and

WHEREAS there is a growing use of these off road motorized vehicles, and

WHEREAS there is a corresponding rise in complaints and concerns from the public regarding the uncontrolled use of these machines on public and private land, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF urge the Province of Saskatchewan, through widespread consultation, to develop comprehensive policies and regulations governing the use of ATV's and snowmobiles on private and public land.

11-7. HANDICAPPED/DISABLED HUNTER'S PERMIT – Region 2 (Battlefords)

WHEREAS permits are issued to handicapped/disabled hunters and sportsmen whose mobility is restricted, which allows them to hunt from their vehicles, and

WHEREAS these permits are issued on a yearly basis, and on case by case, and

WHEREAS the hunter/sportsman must get a doctor's release form signed on a yearly basis, causing stress and discomfort, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation strongly urge the government to issue a transferable sticker for the vehicle of the handicapped/disabled hunter/sportsman.

11-8. PARTY CONSERVATION LICENSE – Region 3 (Hudson Bay)

WHEREAS game populations are declining,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation encourage the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment to develop and allow a Party Conservation License during regular moose and elk seasons only.

Example: 1 license – 2 hunters – either shoot, 1 license – 3 hunters – either shoot, 2 licenses – 4 hunters either shoot, 2 licenses – 5 hunters – either shoot, 3 licenses – 6 hunters – either shoot. This would be designed to conserve animals, promote hunting companionship, and help ensure youth activity in hunting (our heritage) for generations to come!

11-9. SEASON DATES– Region 2 (Battlefords)

WHEREAS the Ministry of Environment regulates big game management and controls the big game draw, as to dates and the number of licenses available, and

WHEREAS those hunters who are fortunate enough to be drawn have paid for their licenses, and

WHEREAS the rifle dates for most zones for either sex mule deer are from Nov 1st to Nov 14th and the antlerless mule deer are from Nov 10th to Dec 7th, therefore

- a) BE IT RESOLVED that the rifle dates for either sex and antlerless mule deer be the same dates: Nov 1st to Dec 7th.
- b) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the dates for white-tailed deer be the same as for mule deer: Nov 1st to Dec 7th.

11-10. ELK DRAW – Region 4 (Moose Mountain)

WHEREAS the elk population is expanding province wide, and

WHEREAS the draw system for antlerless elk affects the hunter pool status for either sex elk, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the antlerless elk be a separate draw and not affect the status for either sex elk.

11-11. SECOND BEAR LICENSE – Region 3 (Esterhazy)

WHEREAS the bear population is increasing province wide, and

WHEREAS encroachment into yards and towns is on the rise, and

WHEREAS less hunters are harvesting bears, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Environment allow the purchase of a second bear license.

11-12. CROSSBOWS – Region 4 (Moose Mountain)

WHEREAS more hunters are using crossbows to hunt big game animals, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the use of crossbows be allowed during archery and muzzle loading seasons.

11-13. LIVESTOCK RESTRICTIONS FROM LAKE DIEFENBAKER – Region 5 (Elbow)

WHEREAS Livestock allowed access to Lake Diefenbaker increase nutrient levels in the water causing extensive weed and algae growth, and

WHEREAS livestock allowed access to Lake Diefenbaker agitate shorelines allowing wind and water erosion to reduce water quality and fish habitat, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that in order to improve and maintain good water quality, that livestock located in community pastures, provincial and regional parks bordering Lake Diefenbaker be restricted access to Lake Diefenbaker.

11-14. SENIOR FISHING LICENSES – Region 6 (Moose Jaw)

WHEREAS a growing percentage of Saskatchewan's population are classed as Senior Residents, and

WHEREAS gathering and maintaining accurate resource user numbers are vital to the continued sustainability of our fisheries resources, and

WHEREAS a mandate of the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation is to promote the sustainable use and promote responsible stewardship of our province's fisheries resources, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that all Saskatchewan senior residents who wish to use our fisheries resources be licensed with a free Saskatchewan Senior Resident Fishing License to allow the Ministry of Environment to maintain accurate user numbers and make responsible decisions regarding the management of our fisheries resources.

SWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

BD11-1 ALLOCATION

WHEREAS the pressures on our resources by residents, Canadian residents, non residents and commercial interests continue to increase, and

WHEREAS the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement of 1930 transferred the administration and control of those natural resources within the Province of Saskatchewan to the Government of Saskatchewan and therefore to the people of Saskatchewan, and

WHEREAS hundreds of thousands of Saskatchewan residents annually embrace and enjoy the enhanced quality of life that hunting and angling opportunities within our Province provide, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Saskatchewan enact legislation that entrenches the priority of annual harvest allocations of Saskatchewan’s wildlife and fisheries resources to Saskatchewan residents.

BD11-2 NON-TOXIC SHOT

WHEREAS the environmental science supporting the mandatory use of non-toxic shot in and around bodies of water has been accepted as valid, and

WHEREAS the mandatory use of non-toxic shot has become accepted by waterfowl hunters, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF no longer opposes the mandatory requirement for the use of non-toxic shot for harvesting migratory birds in Saskatchewan.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE
To the 2012 Annual Convention

ARTICLE II – Objectives

Currently reads: 2. h) To keep provincial measuring records of big game heads, recognizing the Henry Kelsey record keeping association as an ancillary body of the organization

Proposed Change: 2. h) **To keep provincial angling records.** To keep provincial measuring records of big game heads, recognizing the Henry Kelsey record keeping association as an ancillary body of the organization.