

The Path to an Ethical and Sustainable SHC Hunt

	Legislative Study Council	Legislature (2025-26 session)	Natural Resources Board (2025)	Governor (2025-26)
Goals...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line-item-veto-proof draft SHC legislation that inseparably ties agricultural depredation solution to a hunting season. Strong bi-partisan support for draft SHC legislation Supporting report that includes the needed talking points to be referenced in the future. 	Draft, take up and pass line-item -veto-proof legislation as appropriate without imbuing it with partisan overtones	Take up the topic and provide direction to DNR to develop a SHC management plan	Sign legislation authorizing a SHC hunt and direct DNR to develop management plan
Which Requires...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bi-partisan and overwhelming vote in support goals Clear, inseparable linkages between hunting and ag depredation Unwavering support from both the hunting and the agricultural communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senate / Assembly Champions to introduce/ support, and whip the bill Public “cover” for legislators to support a hunt Unwavering support from both the hunting and the agricultural communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>NRB leadership’s support</u> of considering the issue Clear and compelling study evidence that SHC populations need management Unwavering support from both the hunting and the agricultural communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line-item veto-proof legislation Governor to view committee / hearings as fair while providing a solution for farmers Unwavering support from both the hunting and the agricultural communities
Supporting Objectives...	<p>Committee must acknowledge, in writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>An unchecked population will continue to grow & accrue more ag and other damage</u> (it’s not just finding a funding solution for today’s SHC damage, need to link hunting to population control/damage mitigation) <u>A managed hunt can begin to check the population’s depredation impact in WI</u> <u>USFWS is nation’s expert</u> on SHC management w/ proven record, under which a WI season would be managed <u>The conservation value of hunters</u> in general, and specifically hunting as a SHC management tool A <u>strong legal justification</u> for a hunt (to rebut opinion poll results) and <u>confidence in the ability of DNR</u> to manage it <p>Committee should, in the course of deliberation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand ICF’s anti-hunt policy is a lens to view ICF’s <u>science as incomplete, misrepresented, or without critical context</u> Allow opponents to be viewed as <u>emotionally driven, anti-hunters</u> <p>Committee must draft a bill proposal that meets both agriculture and hunt goals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-board lobbying help (?) Presentation to legislature about study group findings Leg outreach by hunt supporters to encourage a more sympathetic view of hunters, their history of conservation, and study results Series of outreach events / communications to media and likely supporters, (and maybe, non-supporters) to ensure understanding of study results Paint a less sympathetic view of birding groups’ motivations and use of incomplete information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach to, and education of NRB Leadership Presentation to NRB about conclusions of study group etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-board lobbying help (?) Presentation to governor policy staff about conclusions of study group ??Involvement in legislation?