

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**MOTION ON ASSEMBLY BILL 345**

Moved by **Senator Kedzie** that the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources recommends concurrence of Assembly Bill 345

Relating to: designating the first weekend in March Aldo Leopold Weekend.

VOTE ON MOTION:

YES

NO

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Neal J. Kedzie*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*2/16/04*

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VOTE ON MOTION:

YES

NO

Signed: *A. Steyer*

Date: 2-18-04

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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VOTE ON MOTION:

YES

NO

Signed:

Robert W. Wirth

Date:

Feb 18, 2004

***SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES***

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*VOTE ON MOTION:*

YES

NO

Signed: *Wendell A. Rosen*

Date: *2/17/04*

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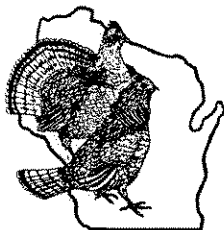
VOTE ON MOTION:

YES

NO

Signed: 

Date: 2/18/04



# Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

720 ST. CROIX ST., SUITE 101, PRESCOTT, WI 54021 • (715) 262-9279 • 1-800-897-4161

AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

January 10, 2004

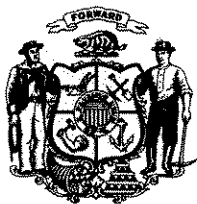
To: Senator Neal Kedzie, Chair Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee; Senator Cathy Stepp, Senator Dave Zien, Senator Bob Wirsch and Senator Fred Risser

From: George Meyer, Executive Director, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Subject: Support for Bills Coming Before the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee on March 12, 2004

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation would like to indicate its position on the following bills that are scheduled to come before the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee on Thursday, February 12, 2004 and would like to be registered accordingly. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is the state's largest conservation organization and is comprised of eighty-two hunting, fishing and trapping organization located throughout the State of Wisconsin.

1. AB 292---Authored by Representative Seratti and Senator Stepp---Possession, transportation, etc of a carcass from a CWD area. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly supports this measure as a critical necessary step to prevent and/or slow the spread of CWD prions throughout the state's deer herd.
2. AB 345---Authored by Representative Miller and Senator Kedzie---Designation of the first weekend in March as Aldo Leopold weekend. Aldo Leopold is recognized nationally and internationally as a leading conservationist and natural resource philosopher. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation was one of the initial supporters of this concept to spread the writings of Leopold throughout the state.
3. AB 530---Authored by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules---Suspending a DNR rule protecting Wisconsin's wild and scenic rivers. Initially the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation opposed this bill. It was amended to address the concerns raised by conservation and environmental representatives and the WWF does not oppose the bill in its current version.
4. SB 407---Authored by senator Kedzie and Representative Johnsrud---Authorizing DNR to waive licensing and other deer hunting requirements in a CWD zone. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Board of Directors has not had an opportunity to meet and discuss this bill but will be doing so this weekend. However, this type of bill giving reasonable additional regulatory tools to DNR to combat CWD has traditionally been well supported by the Federation.



# EUGENE HAHN

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State Representative • 47<sup>th</sup> District

February 5, 2004

Chairman Kedzie Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

A Celebration of "Aldo Leopold Weekend" is held annually at Lodi, which is located in my Assembly District

This event is growing in popularity each year and now has financial support from several entities.

This year it would be awesome if this Legislation could be signed by the Governor prior to this event which will take place March 6 – 7, 2004.

I hope to garner your support on AB345 so that we can fast track through the State Senate and on to the Governor.

Thank you,

Rep. Eugene Hahn



# REPRESENTATIVE MARK MILLER

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**Testimony  
Assembly Bill 345  
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
February 12, 2004**

Thank you Senator Kedzie for scheduling AB 345 for a public hearing today and cosponsoring it. Thank you committee members for the opportunity to testify before you. As you know Assembly Bill 345 is intended to establish the first full weekend in March as Aldo Leopold Weekend.

“There are some who can live without wild things and some who cannot. These essays are the delights and dilemmas of one who cannot.”

Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*; Foreword, March 4, 1948

Aldo Leopold (1887-1948) is considered the father of wildlife ecology. He is a Wisconsin icon. Aldo Leopold was a renowned scientist and scholar, philosopher, and gifted writer. Often credited as the founder of wildlife ecology, Leopold's groundbreaking book on game management defined the fundamental skills and techniques for managing and restoring wildlife populations. This landmark work created a new science that melded forestry, agriculture, biology, zoology, ecology, education and communication. Leopold is known worldwide through his book, *A Sand County Almanac*, acclaimed as the 20th century's literary landmark in conservation.

His legacy is perpetuated in Wisconsin by the Aldo Leopold Foundation, which maintains the Baraboo area Leopold Shack made famous in Leopold's writings. This site hosts education and training in wildlife ecology. Aldo Leopold's work influences wildlife and land management policy worldwide.

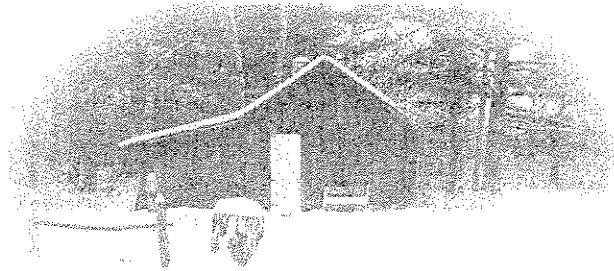
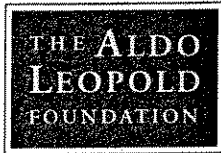
For the past four years residents of Columbia County has celebrated Aldo Leopold's legacy on the first weekend in March. This bill establishes the first full weekend in March as Aldo Leopold Weekend, an appropriate recognition for one of Wisconsin's best-known sons.

This bill is supported by many of our colleagues; and

The University of Wisconsin Department of Wildlife Ecology  
Aldo Leopold Foundation  
US Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory  
Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Monona, WI  
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation  
Wisconsin Environmental Education Board

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. I look forward to celebrating Aldo Leopold Weekend with you this year.





*Fostering the  
Land Ethic  
through the legacy  
of Aldo Leopold*

Testimony to the Wisconsin State Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Senator Neal Kedzie, Chair

Sarah Lloyd  
Aldo Leopold Foundation

February 12, 2004

RE: AB 345, The Aldo Leopold Weekend

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak to you today. My name is Sarah Lloyd and I am the Membership Coordinator at the Aldo Leopold Foundation in Baraboo. Founded by the children of Aldo Leopold, the Foundation strives to foster the Land Ethic through the legacy of Aldo Leopold. On behalf of the Foundation I would like to speak in favor of the passage of AB345, which would establish the first weekend of March as the Aldo Leopold Weekend across the state.

We face a range of environmental problems around the state of Wisconsin. Many citizens of the state are unaware of these problems and/or do not take the time and energy to familiarize themselves with nature around them and the threats to our shared ecosystem. An underlying cause of this disconnect from nature is the lack of an ethical relationship between people and the land. Only by addressing this very basic underlying issue can we truly hope to see positive movement towards a healthy relationship between people and the land in the state and beyond.

In his essay "Conservation," that appears in *Round River*, Leopold identifies this underlying problem when he writes:

"...What conservation education must build is an ethical underpinning for land economics and a universal curiosity to understand the land mechanism. Conservation may then follow."

This ethical idea is illustrated in Leopold's famous essay "The Land Ethic" in *A Sand County Almanac* when he writes:

"A land ethic, then, reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land."

The designation of the Aldo Leopold Weekend will provide a strong signal for individuals, organizations and communities across the state to come together to promote and foster a healthy relationship between people and the land.

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[www.aldoleopold.org](http://www.aldoleopold.org)

As you know, the idea of the Aldo Leopold Weekend originated from a very successful event that is now in its fifth year in the city of Lodi. The Lodi Reads Leopold event, which I invite you to attend Friday March 5<sup>th</sup> through Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup>, has created a unique opportunity to bring together a diverse group of people from the community to celebrate their shared interest in appreciating and conserving the rich natural resources of our state. Passage of the Aldo Leopold Weekend bill will catalyze similar efforts across the State.

Aldo Leopold and the vision of a Land Ethic represent a cornerstone of conservation thinking today. Leopold himself was an avid hunter, outdoorsman, bird watcher, and admirer of nature and all things wild. The ideas and ideals that Leopold advocated resonate with a wide range of people, including hunters, hikers, fishers, bird watchers, and environmentalists. The Aldo Leopold Weekend will provide a dynamic focal point uniting citizens and communities around Wisconsin's tradition of conservation thinking as embodied in the legacy of Aldo Leopold.

I ask that you vote in favor of AB345. I also ask that you work with your colleagues in the Senate for a swift passage of the bill so that we may already this year begin to celebrate the state's commitment to a healthy relationship between people and the land.