Board Resolution on Non-toxic Ammunition in Montana

Whereas lead ammunition is a well-documented environmental pollutant that causes health impacts including nervous system damage, paralysis, and death to humans and a variety of wildlife, often in large numbers;

Whereas non-toxic ammunition is available, effective and provides an environmentally friendly alternative to lead for sport hunting and shooting;

Whereas people can ingest lead when eating animals killed with lead ammunition;

Whereas lead ammunition is a pollution source that negatively and significantly impacts wildlife and water quality;

Whereas large numbers of migratory birds, especially waterfowl, have died from lead poisoning;

Whereas the California condor, an endangered species, bald and golden eagles, and other raptors have experienced lead poisoning by eating animals, which were killed with lead ammunition;

Whereas federal wildlife agencies have authority to regulate hunting ammunition;

Whereas non-toxic shotgun ammunition is required for migratory bird hunting and on many federal and state wildlife areas; and

Whereas hunters generally accept non-toxic ammunition; now, therefore, be it resolved that the Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF):

1. Will continue to advocate for expanded and widespread use of nontoxic ammunition for hunting.
2. Will increase its outreach and education on the negative impacts of lead on wildlife and promote the use of nontoxic ammunition in all its programs.
3. Urges the State of Montana to expand non-toxic ammunition education based on science and facts through a fair and open public process.

Moved: Skip Kowalski
Second: Tom Puchlerz
Passed 14 for and 0 against
April 15, 2023, at the 87th Annual Meeting of the Montana Wildlife Federation