

(more in 1991-06 KWRT meeting minutes)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

May 28, 1991

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we honor the memory of Retired Army Colonel George Armstrong Custer III. To his entire family, especially his wife, Margaret, and children, Barbara, Janet, Kim, James, and George IV, and their families, we extend our deepest condolences; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Custer family as evidence of our sympathies.

The question being on the adoption of the concurrent resolution,

The concurrent resolution was adopted by a unanimous standing vote.

TOTAL FOR ALL PLAN

Reps. Hickner, Allen, Anthony, Baade, Barns, Bartnik, Perry Bullard, Willis Bullard, Byrum, Clack, DeMars, Dobb, Gire, Gnodtke, Gubow, Harder, Hoffman, Hunter, Kosteva, Martin, McBryde, Muxlow, Niederstadt, Profit, Randall, Scott, Stallworth, Varga, Weeks and Joe Young, Jr. offered the following concurrent resolution:

House Concurrent Resolution No. 241

Federal

A concurrent resolution calling for the redevelopment of a management plan for the Kirtland's Warbler.

Whereas, Currently, 150,000 acres of state land are dedicated to the Kirtland's Warbler Management Plan. Forty percent or 60,000 acres of this state land is within the Crawford County borders. Under this plan, the annual harvest is approximately 3,600 acres of existing, diverse forest over a period of approximately sixteen years. This harvesting would be carried out as large-tract clearcuts which would be replanted with jack pine under a 100 percent federal subsidy; and

Whereas, This management plan, if allowed to continue along its present course, will completely change the character of Crawford County from an area of diverse, esthetically pleasing forestation, capable of supporting many forms of wildlife, to one resembling a huge tree farm of low-quality stock. In addition to the poor quality of the tree, which is only considered suitable for wood chips, this plan would create a forest which is basically unsuited to the needs of most wildlife presently indigenous to the area; and

Whereas, Jack pine forests are also known to have a tendency to draw from the soil quality while giving little back. This, over a period of time, might create a soil in which perhaps only the jack pine could exist. To address these problems, it is recommended that the management plan be reconsidered and that the clearcut areas be limited to a maximum of eighty acres in predominantly mature jack pine areas. Any prime hardwood, aspen, red pine, white pine, or other quality trees should be left; and

Whereas, At this present time, large tract clearcuts continue even though insufficient stocks of jack pine seedlings delay replanting for up to four years. Because of this, and especially because of the blight caused by the existing management plan, it cannot be rectified for many years to come, and it is therefore recommended that the following recommendations be considered:

1. An immediate cessation of all proposed cutting under the Kirtland's Warbler Management Plan
2. A scientific reevaluation of said plan to determine the impact of newly created habitat on Kirtland's Warbler nesting patterns.
3. A survey to determine the impact of this management plan on other wildlife population.
4. A study relative to the impact of large jack pine plantations on the ability to contain forest fires such as the disastrous fire of 1990.
5. A census of Kirtland's Warbler populations recently discovered in Ontario, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. If viable populations do exist in areas other than one small area of Michigan, a complete revision to the management plan would be in order.
6. Visits to Crawford County, by those engaged in these studies, to see first hand the adverse visual impact of the existing management practices.
7. And finally, the establishment of a citizens' advisory committee. This committee would represent the citizens of Crawford County and other affected areas by providing input to those who will eventually establish management policy.

; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we join in calling for the redevelopment of a management plan for Kirtland's Warbler.

The concurrent resolution was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Minerals.

Reps. Mackinn, Baade, Bandstra, DeLange, Hoekman, Sikkema, Knight, Allen, Anthony, Banks, Barns, Bartnik, Bender, Bryant, Willis Bullard, Byrum, Clack, Clarke, Dalman, DeMars, Dobb, Dobronski, Dodak, Gire, Gnodtke, Gubow, Harder, Hoffman, Horton, Hunter, Martin, McBryde, Middaugh, Muxlow, Niederstadt, Pitoniak, Profit, Rocca, Scott, Stallworth, Van Singel, Varga, Weeks and Joe Young, Jr. offered the following concurrent resolution:

House Concurrent Resolution No. 242.

A concurrent resolution honoring the members of the 180th Transportation Company.