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Comments related to SB 620:

hunting of sandhill cranes, wildlife damage abatement assistance and claim payments for damage caused by sandhill cranes, and making an appropriation.

Sierra Club opposes SB 620.

The legislature is not in a position to conduct the necessary stakeholder deliberation, tribal engagement, and public input processes before creating rule around a hunt. Wisconsin can not afford to have politics remove the critical science-based analyses and stakeholder deliberation, including tribal engagement. The legislature should not be mandating hunts.

Moreover, Sandhill cranes are an important migratory species and the eastern Sandhill crane has a low reproductive rate and are in a population recovery status across most of their range. Juvenile sandhill cranes could easily be confused with other, endangered cranes, like the whooping crane, causing even worse impacts.