**BRAW President Steve Sample’s Inquiry of WI DNR About Invasive Species**

Hello Tara,

I am President of the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin (BRAW).  The reason the WiDNR started our organization some 38 years ago, was to combat two invasive **birds**that just about wiped out the Eastern Bluebird (Sialia sialis) population in Wisconsin.  It should be pointed out that protecting all other native cavity nesters is part of our work too.  We have successfully deterred one of these species, the European Starling *(Sturnus vulgaris),*but it is a battle to keep the other species, House Sparrow*(Passer Domesticus).*Our trail monitors located throughout the state, work to keep the population of bluebirds reasonable, but on one occasion a DNR conservation officer cited a monitor because of the vague DNR statement about the permission to eliminate House Sparrows.

I feel this is just as important as the other invasive species and need to be addressed!  We need clear permission to deal with these invasive birds.

European Starling *(Sturnus vulgaris)*

House Sparrow*(Passer Domesticus*

Eurasian Tree Sparrow*(Passer montanus) -*newer breeding invader

Thanks for your time and attention,

Steve Sample

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Steve Sample

President - Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin    [www.BRAW.org](http://www.braw.org/)

A bluebird sitting on a log

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