

58-02-2007

**CONSERVATION CONGRESS RESOLUTION PROPOSAL:
BASS SIZE LIMIT ON BIG SISSABAGAMA LAKE, SAWYER COUNTY**

Largemouth BH
Title: Remove size limit for bass on Big Sissabagama Lake

The Problem:

An explosive population of large mouth bass on Big Sissabagama Lake is in direct proportion to a sharp decline in walleye populations.

The DNR has documented a lower walleye population, and a drastic increase of large mouth bass on Big Sissabagama Lake.

Largemouth bass populations have steadily grown on the lake. Numbers have reached a disproportionate level to other fish. Current populations of bass are bottle necked as sizes below the 14" minimum. Removing the minimum size limit on bass would provide for a quality bass fishery by reducing the number of undersize fish.

The large mouth bass feed on walleye fingerlings, thus undercutting that population. The lake owner's association solicited donations and paid for private walleye restocking of the lake. The Lac du Flambeau tribal fisheries donated additional extended growth walleyes to help in the attempt to encourage rebuilding of the dwindling walleye population. The DNR is also scheduled to stock fingerling walleye in Big Sissabagama Lake. Reducing the number of undersized bass will assist in the walleye stocking effort.

Therefore Be It Resolved, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Sawyer County on April 16, 2007, recommends that the Department of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by introducing a rule change eliminating the bass size limit on Big Sissabagama Lake.

Largemouth BH

Robert Hanson
4391N. Big Sissabagama Road
Stone Lake, WI 54876
Sawyer County
715-865-6016

Signature:

*Local
Consulted w/ Local DNR
Local DNR Agrees*

For Office Use Only:

Sawyer County
Passed or Failed

County Resolution Number: 58-02-2007

County Vote: (by show of hands or written ballot where appropriate) Yes 28 No 0