

250209

April 13, 2009

Title: Turtle Hunting Season and Size/Bag Limits

Problem: Currently there is no winter/spring turtle harvest season. Size limits and daily bag limits are very restrictive for the existing season with a possession limit of 3 and size requirements of 10" to 16" front to back of shell. To date there is no scientific or logically credible data that suggests a need for a limited season. Turtle populations appear abundant in all lakes, rivers and streams, as is suggested by DNR Fisheries Divisions statewide. Current regulations restrict harvest to WI residents only and is the only regulation that would not require change.

Be it resolved that the Conservation Congress at it's annual meeting held in Iowa County on April 13, 2009 recommend that the Conservation Congress work with the Natural Resources Board and the WI Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Division to take action to correct this issue.

Solution: Extending the current WI turtle harvest season from July 15 to March 31 which is the expiration date for hunting and fishing licenses statewide and to extend size limits from 10" to 20" front to back of shell with a daily bag of 10 turtles and a possession limit of 20 turtles.

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