

22-410109

Title: Elimination of the Great Lakes Commercial fishing subsidy

The Problem:

① 410109

The Wisconsin Great Lakes Commercial fishery has been subsidized by the Sport fish and wildlife license holders of this State for too long. This subsidy having climbed from \$61,000 in 1992 to \$350,000 in 2003, and ultimately to about \$2 million per year, when the planned 8-fold increase in enforcement effort takes effect. That will make a public outlay of around \$3 million in fish plus \$2 million in sport subsidy, in return for about \$300,000 in licenses and fees paid by 68 private, for profit, commercial fishers. This subsidy is being forced on the sporting public despite alternatives suggested in 1996 by the WDNR themselves and in the face of the standard State policy elsewhere of selling public goods, property and resources to the highest bidder.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Milwaukee County on April 13, 2009 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes demanding that the Great Lakes Commercial Fishery be financially self supporting and receive no public funds.

Steven Alt

Name of Author: Steven Alt
Address: 2342 W. Daphne Rd.
City, State, Zip Code: Glendale, WI 53209
Name of the County Introducing In: Milwaukee
Telephone Number (including area code): 414-247-2029