



**Department of Natural Resources
Annual Spring Fish & Wildlife
Rule Hearings**

&

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Annual County Meetings**



Monday, April 12, 2010

7:00 PM

Agenda

1. Registration
2. WCC – Delegate Elections
3. DNR – Wildlife Rules Hearing
4. DNR – Fisheries Rules Hearing
5. WCC – Advisory Questions
6. Citizen Resolutions

- WCC Delegate(s)
- DNR Hearing Officer
- DNR Hearing Officer
- WCC Delegate(s)
- WCC Delegate(s)

Everyone will be given an opportunity to comment on the questions, but you will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes for each question that you wish to discuss. If comments become repetitive the hearing officer may limit comments to issues not previously presented. No argument or rebuttal will be allowed on DNR rule proposals. Written comments on all DNR rule proposals will be accepted until April 13, 2010.

To ensure that you are able to provide your input on the proposals presented, make sure you:

- Are registered
- Received this questionnaire
- Have a pencil
- Received a white ballot
- Received a blue ballot

If you are a resident of the county in which you are attending the meeting, and are at least 18 years of age you may vote for the Wisconsin Conservation Congress delegates. A photo id is required in order to receive ballots to vote for candidates. If you meet these criteria, you will receive:

- 2-Year Term ballot
- 2-Year Term run off ballot
- 3-Year Term ballot
- 3-Year Term run off ballot

If you are a resident of the county in which you are attending the meeting, and are at least 18 years of age you may run to be elected to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

**Please visit our website at
dnr.wi.gov/org/nrboard/congress/spring_hearings/**

Important Notice: Statewide Electronic Balloting

Please read the instructions below before voting.

Again this year, votes in every county will be recorded on electronic ballots. Statewide, no hand count will be taken.

After you have registered, staff will provide you with a **white ballot** – the white ballot is for all the Department of Natural Resources Proposed Wildlife & Fisheries rule changes and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress advisory questions that are printed in this questionnaire.

You will also be given a **blue ballot** – the blue ballot is for all citizen introduced resolutions which are presented at the end of the Conservation Congress county meeting.

In order for ballots to be read correctly by the voting machine:

- Use a PENCIL on ballots - **not pen**
- DO NOT erase (If you make a mistake, please turn in your original ballot and request a new ballot)
- DO NOT circle answers
- DO NOT make notes or stray marks anywhere on the ballot
- If you DO NOT follow these directions your ballot may not be readable and therefore may not be counted.

Please see the following examples of the use of the white ballot and blue ballots.

Sample white ballot: The white ballot is for proposed questions contained within the questionnaire.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES SPRING HEARING QUESTIONS

To vote on a question, complete the arrow to the RIGHT of "YES" if in favor of the question or complete the arrow to the RIGHT of "NO" if opposed to the question.

IMPORTANT: USE A #2 PENCIL OR THE MARKING PEN PROVIDED. DO NOT USE BALL POINT PEN.

<p>Question 1:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Question 18:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Question 35:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>
<p>Question 2:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Question 19:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Question 36:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>
<p>Question 3:</p> <p>YES </p>	<p>Question 20:</p> <p>YES </p>	<p>Question 37:</p> <p>YES </p>

Question 1: Do you support changing the date of the ruffed grouse season?

1. Yes _____ No _____

If you are **in favor** of the question, please mark **Yes** as indicated above. If you are **Not** in favor of the proposed question please mark **No**.

Sample blue ballot: The blue ballot is for citizen introduced resolutions that are introduced on the floor this evening and are posted for your consideration.

**CONSERVATION CONGRESS
SPRING HEARING RESOLUTIONS**

To vote on a question, complete the arrow  to the RIGHT of "YES" if in favor of the question or complete the arrow  to the RIGHT of "NO" if opposed to the question.

IMPORTANT: USE A #2 PENCIL OR THE MARKING PEN PROVIDED. DO NOT USE BALL POINT PEN.

<p>Resolution 1:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Resolution 18:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Resolution 35:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>
<p>Resolution 2:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Resolution 19:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Resolution 36:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>
<p>Resolution 3:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Resolution 20:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>	<p>Resolution 37:</p> <p>YES </p> <p>NO </p>

Resolution 1: BE IT RESOLVED, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Your County on Month, Date, Year, recommends that the Department of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes allowing a spring dinosaur hunting season?
1. Yes _____ No _____

If you are **in favor** of the question, please mark **Yes** as indicated above. If you are **Not** in favor of the proposed question please mark **No**.

And remember, in order for ballots to be read correctly by the voting machine:

- Use a PENCIL on ballots - not pen
- DO NOT erase (If you make a mistake, please turn in your original ballot and request a new ballot)
- DO NOT circle answers
- DO NOT make notes or stray marks anywhere on the ballot
- If you DO NOT follow these directions your ballot may not be readable and therefore may not be counted.

The results of the 2010 Spring Hearings will be available online beginning Wednesday, April 14, 2010.

The results can be found at dnr.wi.gov/org/nrboard/congress/spring_hearings/

Results of Citizen Resolutions introduced at the 2010 Spring Hearings will be posted on the WCC Website (dnr.wi.gov/org/nrboard/congress/) on June 1, 2010.
OR, you can find out the results of the resolutions by contacting your Conservation Congress County Chairman after May 10, 2010.

**Thank you for your participation and cooperation.
Please enjoy the Hearing and Meeting.**

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The 5th Annual Wisconsin Outdoor Education Expo May 13 & 14 Beaver Dam, WI

Help get our kids involved in hunting, fishing and conservation heritage.
Volunteers and Sponsors needed. Help make Expo 2010 a success!



Fishing • Sporting Dogs • Wildlife Trail • Heritage • Archery •
Firearm Safety • Camping and Trail Recreation
For more information or to get involved visit www.wisexpo.com
or call Heidi Hubble 1.877.WIS.EXPO



BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
WM-01-10
FH-03-10

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to ss. 23.09(2)(b), 29.014, 29.053(3), 29.059, 29.089, 29.192 and 29.193 Stats., the Department of Natural Resources will hold public hearings on revisions to chs. NR 10, 11, 12 and 19, Wis. Adm. Code, relating to hunting, trapping, closed areas and game refuges. The proposed rules will:

1. Establish a definition and allow the use of atlatis for small game hunting.
2. Allow the use of colony traps for muskrats and establish size standards and regulations.
3. Eliminate the Burnett County and Rock Prairie Canada Goose Management Subzones.
4. Establish and clarify definitions of a normal "agricultural or gardening practice" and "manipulation" for the purposes of enforcing existing prohibitions of baiting and feeding wild animals.
5. Allow participation in the youth turkey hunting season by 16 and 17 year olds.
6. Establish turkey hunting seasons and zones at Hartman Creek, Straight Lake, and the Glacial Heritage Area State Parks.
7. Establish a single, consistent raccoon season opener for residents and non-residents.
8. Allow firearm deer hunting at Nelson Dewey state park during the traditional season in November.
9. Allow deer hunting on newly acquired lands at Buckhorn state park during all normal firearm deer hunting seasons.
10. Allow muzzleloader deer hunting at Big Bay state park during the normal statewide muzzleloader season that follows the traditional November firearm season.
11. Establish firearm and archery deer hunting seasons at proposed Glacial Heritage Area state parks that are consistent with other CWD Management Zone state park hunting seasons.
12. Allow participation in the youth deer hunting season by 16 and 17 year olds.
13. Establish a single, consistent statewide opening date for fox hunting and trapping and coyote trapping.
14. Eliminate the 2:00 p.m. pheasant hunting closure at Scuppernong River Habitat Management Area in Waukesha County and allow pheasant hunting all day.
15. Allow the use of scopes on muzzleloading firearms during the muzzleloader-only deer hunting season.
16. Provide that all deer hunting licenses which are issued to 10 year-olds to 17 year-olds will include a carcass tag that is valid for an antlerless deer in any unit statewide.
17. Allow the transportation of whole deer carcasses from the CWD zone to other areas if the whole carcass is taken directly to a licensed meat processor or taxidermist.
18. Allow dividing a deer into five parts prior to registration in order to facilitate removal from the field. These sections also repeal, recreate and amend provisions which allow quartering bear and elk so that they may be divided into five parts in order to more easily facilitate removal from the field.
19. Increase the penalty for violating animal damage abatement program requirements by clarifying that program participation can be denied for the following program year in addition to the current year.
20. Clarify the definition of "novice participant" for learn to hunt programs.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to ss. 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053, 29.531and, 29.533, Stats., the Department of Natural Resources will hold public hearings on revisions to chs. NR 20, 21 and 26, Wis. Adm. Code, relating to fishing on the inland, outlying, and boundary waters of Wisconsin. The proposed rules will:

1. Permit motor trolling in Ashland, Iron, Price and Sawyer Counties.
2. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Bear, Horsehead, and Upper and Lower Turtle lakes (Barron county).
3. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Bear, Horseshoe (T36N, R14E, S3, 115 ac.), and Upper and Lower Turtle lakes (Barron county) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
4. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Lake Owen (Bayfield county).
5. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Lake Owen (Bayfield County) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
6. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Big McKenzie lake (Burnett/ Washburn Counties).
7. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Big McKenzie lake (Burnett/ Washburn Counties) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
8. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Metonga lake (Forest county) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

9. Standardize trout regulations for all of the Wolf river (Langlade county), allowing hook and line fishing only with artificial lures from the First Saturday in May at 5:00am until September 30 with a bag limit of 3 and a maximum size of 12 inches. There is also a catch and release season from October 1 to November 15 for hook and line fishing with artificial lures.
10. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes (Polk county).
11. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes (Polk county) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
12. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes, Rusk county).
13. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes, Rusk county) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
14. Extend the season on Chippewa flowage (Sawyer county) from the first Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March for all species except muskellunge, walleye, and lake sturgeon.
15. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Whitefish and Sissabagama lakes, and the Chippewa flowage (Sawyer county).
16. Increase the minimum size restriction in Nelson, Sissabagama and Whitefish lakes from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
17. Change the panfish daily bag limit to 10 fish daily bag limit for all panfish all season on the Chippewa flowage, and creates a continuous open season for panfish. The previous panfish bag limits were 25 with no more than 15 crappie from the first Saturday in May until November 30 but no crappie from December 1 to the first Sunday in March, with fishing for panfish prohibited between the first Sunday in March and the first Saturday in May.
18. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in the Chippewa flowage from no minimum to 18 inches. The daily bag limit is unchanged at 3 walleye per day.
19. Make permanent the 45 inch minimum size restriction for muskellunge in Little St. Germain lake (Vilas county). The current 45-inch minimum regulation is scheduled to expire November 30, 2011.
20. Eliminate the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Middle McKenzie, Nancy and Long lakes (Washburn county).
21. Increase the minimum size restriction for walleye in Middle McKenzie (Washburn/ Burnett Counties), Nancy and Long lakes (Washburn county) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.
22. Increase the minimum size restriction for northern pike on Big Muskego lake including Bass bay (Waukesha county) from 26 inches to 40 inches and reduces the daily bag limit from 2 to 1 fish.
23. Increase the minimum size restriction for bass in Marion Pond (Waupaca county) from 14 inches to 18 inches and reduces the daily angler bag limit from 5 to 1. This rule will expire on April 1, 2016.
24. Increase the minimum size restriction for northern pike in Marion pond (Waupaca county) from no minimum to 26 inches and reduces the daily angler bag limit from 5 to 2. This rule will expire April 1, 2016.
25. Decrease the minimum length restriction to 7 inches for all trout in the Waupaca river downstream of River road. Current regulations are 12 inches for brown trout and rainbow trout, and 8 inches for brook trout. It also increases the daily angler bag from 3 trout to 5 trout.
26. Prohibit night fishing from September 15 to the first Saturday in May in the section of the Oconto river from the upstream side of the US 141 Bridge to the Stiles dam (Oconto county).
27. Add a catch-and-release season for Lake Sturgeon on the St. Croix river from October 1 to 15. This section of the St. Croix river is a Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary water, and this section will make Wisconsin rules consistent with Minnesota rules.
28. Extend the largemouth and smallmouth bass fishing season on Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters from November 30 to December 31. This will make Wisconsin and Michigan rules consistent.
29. Eliminate the following fish refuges: on the Chippewa flowage for 500 feet below Moose lake (Sawyer county), on Spider creek between Spider lake and State highway 77 (Sawyer county), on Island creek between Island and Black Dan lakes (Sawyer county), on Malviney creek (Sawyer county), on the unnamed tributary of Lake Chetac from Lake Chetac to 1000 feet upstream (Sawyer county), on the Brunet River from Lake Winter to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer county), on the Couderay river from the Grimh (Radisson) dam to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer county) and on the Little Turtle river and Turtle-Flambeau flowage 200 feet upstream of Popko's Circle road until 200 feet downstream of Popko's Circle road (Iron county).
30. Replace the current no minimum length limit and 14 to 18 inch protected slot with no minimum length limit but only 1 fish over 14" and increase the daily bag limit from 3 to 5 for walleye on the Three Lakes chain, Oneida County.
31. Replace the no minimum length limit but only 1 fish over 14" with a 15" minimum length limit for walleye on Sevenmile lake, Oneida County.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to s. 227.114, Stats., it is not anticipated that the proposed rules will have a significant economic impact on small businesses. The Department's Small Business Regulatory Coordinator may be contacted at SmallBusiness@dnr.state.wi.us or by calling (608) 266-1959.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Department has made a preliminary determination that this action does not involve significant adverse environmental effects and does not need an environmental analysis under ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code. However, based on the comments received, the Department may prepare an environmental analysis before proceeding with the proposal. This environmental review document would summarize the Department's consideration of the impacts of the proposal and reasonable alternatives.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 2010, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress will hold its election of county delegates in each county. Upon completion of the delegate elections, the joint Spring Hearing/Conservation Congress meeting will convene to take comments on the foregoing rule modifications and Conservation Congress advisory questions.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the hearings will be held on Monday, April 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Adams	Adams County Courthouse, County Board Room, 402 Main Street, Friendship, WI 53934
Ashland	Ashland Senior High School, 1900 Beaser, Ashland, WI 54806
Barron	Old County Courthouse, Auditorium, 330 E. LaSalle Ave., Barron, WI 54812
Bayfield	Bayfield County Courthouse, County Board Room, 117 E. 5th St, Washburn, WI 54891
Brown	Southwest High School, School Auditorium, 1331 Packerland Dr., Green Bay, WI 54304
Buffalo	Alma High School, Gymnasium, S1618 STH 35, Alma, WI 54610
Burnett	Burnett County Government Center, 7410 County Road K, Siren, WI 54872
Calumet	Calumet County Courthouse, 206 Court Street, Rm. B025, Chilton, WI 53014
Chippewa	Chippewa Falls Middle School Auditorium, 750 Tropicana Blvd., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
Clark	Greenwood High School, Cafetorium, 306 W. Central Ave., Greenwood, WI 54437
Columbia	Portage Junior High School, 2505 New Pinery Rd., Portage, WI 53901
Crawford	Crawford Co. Courthouse, 2nd Floor Courtroom, 220 N. Beaumont Rd., Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
Dane	Schwan Performing Arts Center, Monona Grove High School, 4400 Monona Dr., Monona, WI 53716
Dodge	Horicon City Hall, 404 E. Lake St., Horicon, WI 53032
Door	Sturgeon Bay High School, Auditorium, 1230 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
Douglas	Superior Senior High School, Cafeteria, 2600 Catlin Ave., Superior, WI 54880
Dunn	Dunn County Fish and Game Club, 1900 Pioneer Ave., Menomonie, WI 54751
Eau Claire	South Middle School, Auditorium, 2115 Mitscher Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54729
Florence	Florence Natural Resource Center, 5631 Forestry Dr., Florence, WI 54121
Fond du Lac	Theisen Middle School, 525 E Pioneer Rd., Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935
Forest	Crandon Area School District, 9750 US HWY 8 West, Crandon, WI 54520
Grant	Lancaster High School, Hillary Auditorium, 806 East Elm St., Lancaster, WI 53813
Green	Monroe Middle School, 1220 16th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566
Green Lake	Green Lake High School, Small Gym, 612 Mill St., Green Lake, WI 54941
Iowa	Dodgeville High School, Gymnasium, 912 Chapel Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533
Iron	Mercer Community Center, 2648 W Margaret Street, Mercer, WI 54547
Jackson	Black River Falls Middle School, LGI Room, 1202 Pierce Street, Black River Falls, WI 54615
Jefferson	Jefferson County Fair Park Activity Center, 503 N. Jackson, Jefferson, WI 52549
Juneau	Olson Middle School, Auditorium, 508 Grayside Avenue, Mauston, WI 53948
Kenosha	Bristol Elementary School, 20121 83rd Street, Bristol, WI 53104
Kewaunee	Kewaunee High School, Auditorium, 911 Third Street, Kewaunee, WI 54216
La Crosse	Onalaska High School, 700 Hilltopper Pl., Onalaska, WI 54650
Lafayette	Darlington High School, Auditorium, 11838 Center Hill Road, Darlington, WI 53530
Langlade	Antigo High School, 1900 10th Ave., Antigo, WI 54409
Lincoln	Tomahawk Elementary School, 1048 East King Road, Tomahawk, WI 54487
Manitowoc	UW-Manitowoc, Theatre/Auditorium, 705 Viebahn Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220
Marathon	D.C. Everest Middle School, Auditorium, 9302 Schofield Avenue, Schofield, WI 54476
Marinette	Crivitz High School, Auditorium, 400 South Avenue, Crivitz, WI 54114
Marquette	Montello High School, Community Room, 222 Forest Lane, Montello, WI 53949
Menominee	Menominee County Courthouse, Courthouse Lane, Keshena, WI 54135
Milwaukee	Nathan Hale High School, 11601 W. Lincoln Ave., West Allis, WI 53227
Monroe	Sparta Meadowview School, A103 Cafetorium, 1225 North Water St., Sparta, WI 54656
Oconto	Suring High School, Cafeteria, 411 E Algoma St., Suring, WI 54174
Oneida	James Williams Middle School, Auditorium, 915 Acacia Lane, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Outagamie	Riverview Middle School, Auditorium, 101 Oak St., Kaukauna, WI 54130
Ozaukee	Webster Middle School, Commons, W75 N624 Wauwatosa Road, Cedarburg, WI 53012

Pepin	Pepin County Government Center, County Board Room, 740 7th Ave. West, Durand, WI 54736
Pierce	Ellsworth Senior High School, Auditorium, 323 Hillcrest, Ellsworth, WI 54011
Polk	Unity High School, 1908 150th St., Balsam Lake, WI 54810
Portage	Ben Franklin Junior High School, Auditorium - Room 1208, 2000 Polk St., Stevens Point, WI 54481
Price	Price County Courthouse, 126 Cherry St., Phillips, WI 54555
Racine	Union Grove High School, 3433 S. Colony Ave., Union Grove, WI 53182
Richland	Richland County Courthouse, Courtroom, 181 West Seminary, Richland Center, WI 53581
Rock	Pontiac Convention Center, 2809 N Pontiac Dr., Janesville, WI 53545
Rusk	Ladysmith High School, 1700 Edgewood, Ladysmith, WI 54848
Saint Croix	St Croix Central High School, Commons, 1751 Broadway St., Hammond, WI 54015
Sauk	UW Baraboo Campus, A4 Lecture Hall, 1006 Connie Road, Baraboo, WI 53913
Sawyer	Winter High School Cafeteria, 6585W Grove Street, Winter, WI 54552
Shawano	Shawano Middle School, LGI Room, 1050 S. Union St., Shawano, WI 54166
Sheboygan	Sheboygan Falls High School, Auditorium, 220 Amherst Avenue, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
Taylor	Fair Grounds, Multi purpose building, Hwy 64/ Hwy 13, Medford, WI 54451
Trempealeau	City Center Gym, 36245 Park St., Whitehall, WI 54773
Vernon	Viroqua High School, Commons, 100 Blackhawk Drive, Viroqua, WI 54665
Vilas	Saint Germain Elementary School, 8234 Hwy 70, Saint Germain, WI 54558
Walworth	Delavan-Darien High School, 150 Cummings St., Delavan, WI 53115
Washburn	Spooner Ag Research Station, W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801
Washington	Washington County Fairgrounds, 3000 Cty Hwy PV, West Bend, WI 53090
Waukesha	Waukesha Expo Center, North Hall, 1000 Northview Rd., Waukesha, WI 53188
Waupaca	Waupaca High School, Auditorium, E 2325 King Rd., Waupaca, WI 54981
Waushara	Waushara County Court House, 2nd Floor Old Court Rm., 209 S. St. Marie St., Wautoma, WI 54982
Winnebago	Webster Stanley Middle School, Auditorium, 915 Hazel Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
Wood	Pittsville High School, Auditorium, 5459 Elementary Avenue, Pittsville, WI 54466

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations, including the provision of information material in an alternative format, will be provided for qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. Please call Kari Lee-Zimmermann at (608) 266-2952 with specific information on your request by April 5, 2010.

The proposed rules and fiscal estimates may be reviewed and comments electronically submitted at the following Internet site: <http://adminrules.wisconsin.gov>. Written comments on the proposed hunting and trapping regulations may be submitted via U.S. mail to Mr. Scott Loomans, Bureau of Wildlife Management, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707. Written comments on the proposed fishing regulations may be submitted via U.S. mail to Mr. Joe Hennessy, Bureau of Fisheries Management, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707. Written comments shall be postmarked not later than April 13, 2010. Written comments whether submitted electronically or by U.S. mail will be summarized for the Natural Resources Board, however, they will not be tallied along with the responses received at the county hearings.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin _____

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By _____
Matthew J. Frank, Secretary

Conservation Congress Delegate Election

Each April, there is one 2-year term and one 3-year term available on the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC), unless other vacancies occur. County residents in attendance at the annual county meeting have the opportunity to nominate a peer.

The nominee has the opportunity to say a few words (up to 3 minutes) on how he or she could best represent their county, and serve as a conduit for local citizen input concerning all natural resource issues at a local and statewide level.

3-YEAR
ELECTION BALLOT
3-YEAR
WISCONSIN CONSERVATION CONGRESS
I vote for the above named individual to serve a
three-year term on the WCC.

2-YEAR
ELECTION BALLOT
2-YEAR
WISCONSIN CONSERVATION CONGRESS
I vote for the above named individual to serve a
two-year term on the WCC.

As a county delegate you agree to represent the citizens of Wisconsin by working with the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources to effectively manage Wisconsin's greatest asset, our abundant natural resources, for present and future generations to enjoy.

Citizens in attendance at the county congress meetings have the opportunity to vote on nominees. In order for the nominee to be elected they must receive a majority of the votes (at least 50% + 1) of eligible voters in attendance.

Delegate Eligibility

- Any citizen of the county who is able to represent the citizens of Wisconsin, and be a local avenue for citizen input and exchange concerning all natural resource issues through the WCC on a local and statewide level is eligible to be nominated and to run for election that evening.
- A delegate must be a Wisconsin resident.
- An elected delegate must be an adult (at least 18 years of age), and a resident of the county they wish to represent.

Note: To give the widest geographic representation, it is recommended that not more than three members of the county delegation be from the same civil town, city or village.

- Must be willing to volunteer their time and efforts by:
 - Attending 2 district meetings per year (*one in March and one in August*); assisting with the annual Spring Hearings in April; attending the annual convention in May and one or more advisory committee meetings in the fall of the year.
 - Working with local citizens and organizations on natural resource issues on a local basis, and participating in outreach and outdoor initiatives of local and statewide significance.
- To guard against possible conflict of interest or bias, no full or part-time employee(s) of the Department of Natural Resources or member of the Natural Resources Board shall be members of the WCC.

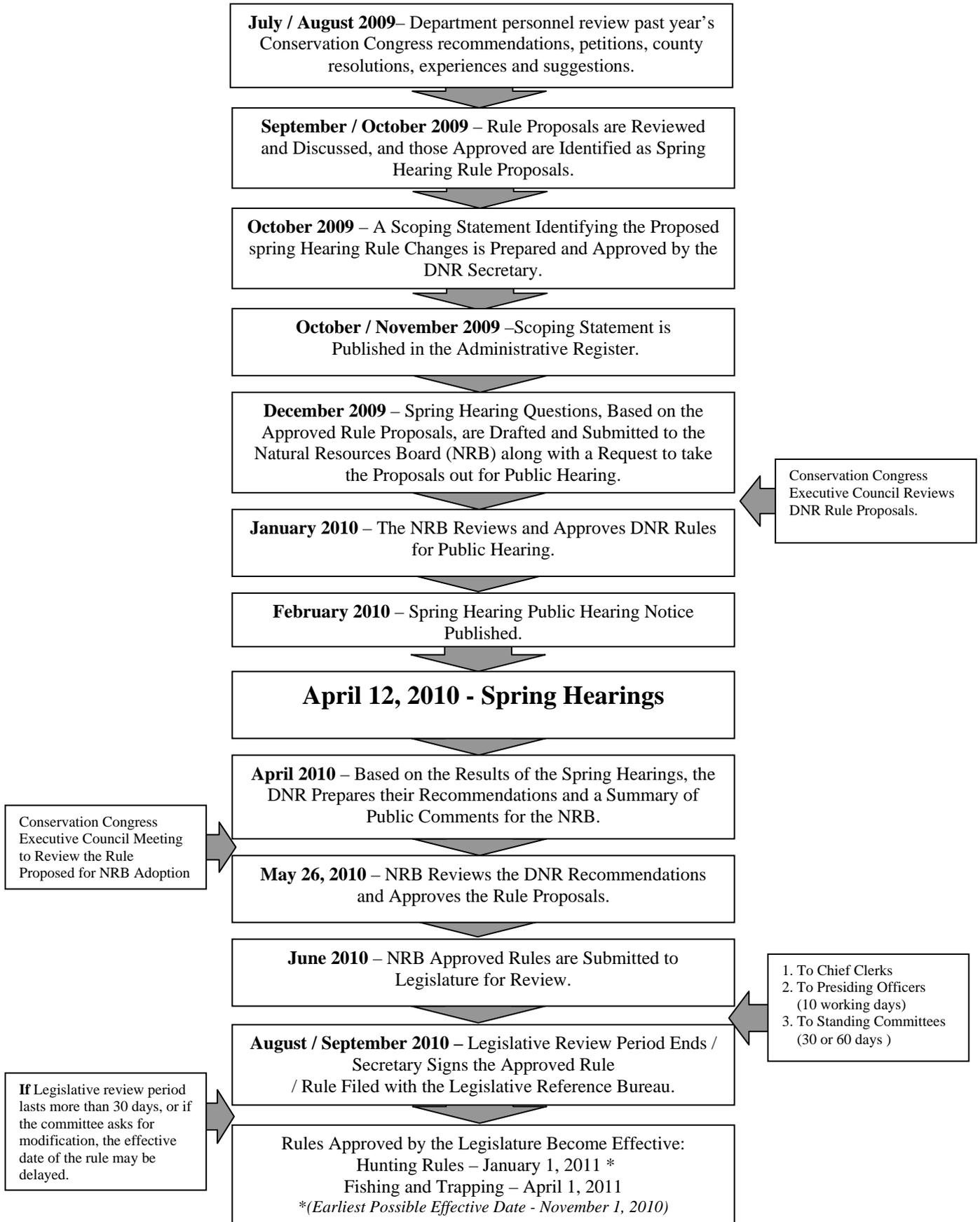
Note: The Conservation Congress is an equal opportunity organization, and welcomes participation from all individuals regardless of race, age, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, arrest, conviction, veteran status or political affiliation.

County Voter Eligibility

Individuals voting for county delegates shall be:

- Residents of the county in which they are voting
- At least 18 years of age
- In attendance at the annual WCC county meeting

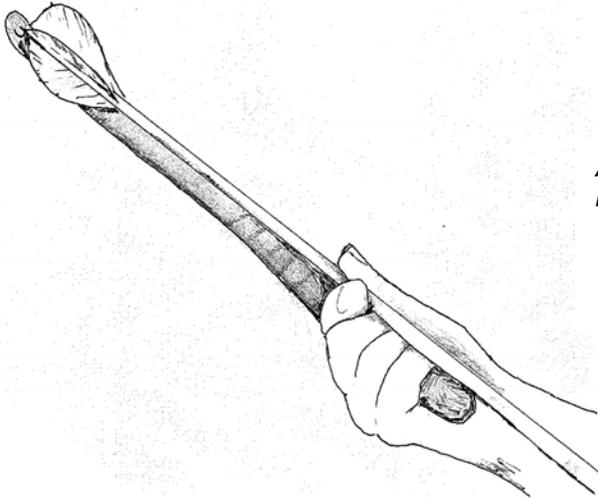
Wildlife and Fisheries Administrative Rule Promulgation Timeline



PROPOSED STATEWIDE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT RULE CHANGES

QUESTION 1 – Allow the use of atlatls for small game hunting (2011)

This rule proposal would allow small game hunting with an implement called an atlatl. An atlatl is a primitive device that achieves the velocity needed to strike a target with a dart by the use of a throwing motion of the person's arm and a lever. A dart is similar to an arrow but is longer and heavier. It is currently legal to hunt small game animals with firearms, air guns, bows and arrows, crossbows by senior citizens or special permit, or falconry. In this proposal, small game does not include wild turkeys but does include unprotected species. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal that won popular support in 2009.



Atlatl dart and thrower held by hand, ready to throw.

Do you favor allowing the use of atlatls for small game hunting?

1. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 2 – Increase the penalty for violating animal damage abatement program requirements by prohibiting program eligibility for the following crop year in addition to the current year (2010)

In order for an enrollee to be eligible for crop damage compensation through the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program, enrollees must allow public hunting access during the state hunting season for the species causing damage. If a program enrollee wrongfully denies access when a member of the public should be allowed to hunt, the current penalty is removal from the damage abatement program for the remainder of the calendar year in which the violation occurred. Many times the department is not aware of program violations until late in the season. If a violation is reported late in the season, a participant who is kicked out can re-enroll beginning the next year. Enrollees proven to be uncooperative or wrongfully denying hunter access may only miss a month of eligibility and this penalty is not a significant deterrent.

Under this proposal the penalty would be increased by establishing that an enrollee found to be in violation is not eligible for program assistance or claims for an additional calendar year.

Do you favor increasing the penalty for Wildlife Damage Abatement Claims Program enrollees who are uncooperative or wrongfully denying hunter access by denying program participation for the following program year, in addition to the year that the violation occurred?

2. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 3 – Allow the use of colony traps for muskrats and establish size standards and regulations (2011)

This proposal would allow the use of traps capable of capturing multiple muskrats in one setting, commonly called colony traps. This trap type completely encloses the trapped animal in a cage minimizing fur damage by predators. Colony traps do not have moving parts other than a one-way gravity drop entrance. Colony traps are legal in Iowa, Minnesota and Michigan. We are not aware of conflicts with other wetland dependant activities such as duck hunting. Maximum trap dimensions and placement restrictions are established and the use of bait is prohibited in order to limit the number of animals captured in one setting to three or four and minimize the chance of catching non-target species. This rule specifies that colony traps may only be used for muskrat but mink that are incidentally captured could be retained and utilized by the trapper.

Overall trap dimensions could not exceed 6 inches in width, 6 inches in height and 36 inches in length. The trap must be set entirely under water and could not be placed within 3 feet of a culvert. The trap and set may not utilize bait or be used in conjunction with fencing, netting or similar material that creates an underwater obstruction designed to force or channel an animal into the trap. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal that won popular support in 2008.

Do you favor the use of colony traps for muskrat trapping and allowing the retention of mink which are incidentally captured during the mink season?

3. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 4 – Establish a single, consistent raccoon season opener for residents and non-residents (2011)

The resident raccoon hunting and trapping season opens on the Saturday nearest October 17 which is two to three weeks earlier than the non-resident season opener of the Saturday nearest November 1. The maximum number of trapping licenses sold to non-residents in a license year was six and sales of non-resident furbearer hunting licenses have averaged 35 to 40 annually. Because there is very little competition with non-residents for this resource, the department proposes simplifying regulations by establishing one raccoon hunting and trapping season opener for residents and non-residents. This is the only Wisconsin season that has different opening days for residents and non-residents.

Do you support opening the hunting and trapping season on the Saturday nearest October 17 for everyone to simplify regulations and so that residents and non-residents can begin hunting and trapping on the same day?

4. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 5 – Allow participation in the youth deer hunting season by 16 and 17 year olds (2011)

Wisconsin holds a two day youth deer hunting season beginning on the Saturday nearest October 8. This popular season is designed to allow 10-15 year olds, who are accompanied by an adult, an opportunity to hunt before the regular deer season opens. This allows youth to have the full attention of a mentor and opening day conditions with limited competition from other hunters. This proposal would allow two additional years of participation in this special hunt. During the 2008 license year 19,788 licenses that authorize firearm deer hunting were sold to 16 and 17 year old hunters. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal that won popular support in 2009.

Do you support allowing 16 and 17 year olds, who are accompanied by an adult, to participate in the youth deer hunting season?

5. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 6 – Allow participation in the youth turkey hunting season by 16 and 17 year olds (2011)

Wisconsin holds a two day youth turkey hunting season that begins on the Saturday before the normal statewide opener. This popular season is designed to allow 10-15 year olds, who are accompanied by an adult, an opportunity to hunt before the regular turkey season opens. This allows youth to have the full attention of a mentor and opening day conditions with limited competition from other hunters. This proposal would allow two additional years of participation in this special hunt. During the 2008 license year 2,649 turkey hunting stamps were sold to 16 and 17 year old hunters. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal that won popular support in 2009.

Do you support allowing 16 and 17 year olds who are accompanied by an adult to participate in the youth turkey hunting season?

6. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 7 – Clarify the definition of “novice participant” for learn to hunt programs (2011)

The Learn to Hunt Program is established by state law and provides novice hunters a chance to have classroom instruction and then to participate in a supervised hunt with volunteer mentors. The department may waive licensing requirements and hunts may occur outside of the normal season framework.

A concern with the current program is that some “novice” participants have had significant other opportunities to hunt with family, friends, and others but are simply using learn to hunt events as a chance to do more hunting or obtain a permit. When this happens, people who do not otherwise have good access to mentored hunting situations may be denied access to this unique and limited opportunity.

This proposal focuses learn to hunt events on truly novice hunters by re-defining what is considered to be a “novice participant.” Currently participants are allowed to have up to two years of hunting experience but this proposal would limit participation to those who have not previously purchased a license for the species featured in the event. If there are more applicants than a program can accommodate, participants may be further evaluated for selection of students based on who may be the least likely to have other opportunities available.

Do you favor limiting who may participate in Learn to Hunt events to people who have not previously purchased a license to hunt the species featured in the program? If there are more students than available resources, participation could also be limited to students who are least likely to have other access to the type of experience offered.

7. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 8 – Allow the use of scopes on muzzleloading firearms during the muzzleloader-only deer hunting season (2010)

This proposal would allow the use of scopes with magnifying power during the ten-day muzzleloader-only deer season that follows the traditional nine day firearm season. When the muzzleloader season was established in 1991, supporters sought a more traditional type of hunt. Today, many new design types and styles of muzzleloaders are available and people are interested in more than the traditional nature of these firearms. Scopes can readily be mounted on most new muzzleloader designs and many hunters have expressed an interest in their use. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal that won popular support in 2009.

Do you support allowing the use of telescopic sights during the muzzleloader-only deer season that follows the traditional firearm deer season?

8. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 9 – Establish a definition of “normal agricultural or gardening practice” and “manipulation” for the purposes of enforcing current prohibitions of baiting wild animals (2010)

This proposal would clarify what is a “normal agricultural or gardening practice” for the purposes of Wisconsin’s baiting and wildlife feeding rules. For instance, clarification is needed because some hunters have claimed that disposing of waste pumpkins in the woods near tree stands or placing hay bales and corn out on agricultural fields is a “normal agricultural or normal gardening practice” when the intended use of the pumpkins, hay or corn was to bait or feed deer. Some courts and district attorneys have expressed to the department that there is a need to more clearly define what is and is not considered to be a normal agricultural or gardening practice for the purposes of these rules.

The proposal clarifies that, fruit, nuts, grain, hay, corn or vegetable materials that have been harvested or collected and then later re-deposited where the materials are accessible to deer, bear, elk or turkeys may not be hunted over except where it is legal to place bait or feed for such animals. Placement or storage of these materials where they are being used as feed for livestock which are present within enclosed lands would not be considered baiting or feeding wildlife.

This definition would not change any rules related to baiting migratory birds as Wisconsin has adopted the federal definition and cannot be less restrictive.

To reduce confusion over what constitutes a “normal agricultural or gardening practice” do you favor establishing that feed material which has been collected or harvested is considered to be bait when it is re-deposited on the land in a manner that it is accessible to deer, bear, elk or turkeys? Under this proposal, placing feed for livestock which are present on enclosed lands would not be considered bait.

9. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 10 – Allow the transportation of deer carcasses from the CWD zone and deer and elk from other states where CWD has been identified to areas in Wisconsin where the disease has not been found if the animal is taken to a licensed meat processor or taxidermist (2010)

In 2009 Wisconsin began restricting the movement of both whole deer carcasses and certain parts of carcasses from the Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone to other areas in the state. This regulation is designed to prevent a possible means of transportation of CWD infected material to areas where the disease is not present. Importing carcasses and certain parts of deer, elk, and moose from areas in other states or provinces where CWD has been identified is also prohibited.

As a convenience to hunters, this proposal would allow the transport of whole carcasses and parts harvested in the CWD Management Zone to licensed meat processors and licensed taxidermists that are not in the zone. The animal would need to be transported within three days (72 hours) of entering an area where carcass transportation is restricted. The risk of improper disposal of potentially infected carcasses is minimal because meat processors and taxidermist are subject to carcass and waste disposal regulations.

This proposal would also make deer and elk harvested in an entire state or province where CWD has been identified, instead of just the portion of the state or province where CWD has been identified, subject to carcass importation restrictions. This expands the area in other states where restrictions on importation to Wisconsin would apply. This simplifies enforcement but also helps many hunters because you could transport animals from these states/provinces directly to a licensed meat processor or taxidermist within 72 hours instead of having to have the meat processed or taxidermy work done out of state.

Do you favor allowing the transport of deer carcasses out of the CWD Management Zone, or from other states or provinces where CWD has been found, if they are taken to licensed taxidermists or licensed meat processors within 72 hours?

10. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 11 – Provide that all junior firearm deer hunting licenses which are issued to 10 year-olds to 17 year-olds will include a carcass tag that is valid for an antlerless deer in any unit statewide (2011)

The junior gun deer license is issued to 10 – 17 year olds and includes one gun buck deer carcass tag which is valid in any unit statewide and one antlerless deer carcass tag which is valid only in earn-a-buck and herd control units. In an effort to provide youth hunters with added opportunities to harvest a deer, this proposal would make the antlerless tag issued to 10 – 17 year olds valid in any unit statewide including units where antlerless tags are not otherwise available. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal that won popular support in 2009. As a point of reference for the number of hunters in these age groups, in 2008 the department issued 161,280 licenses that authorized firearm deer hunting to 12 – 17 year olds and they registered 28,007 antlerless deer statewide. People who were 10 and 11 could not hunt in 2008.

Do you support making the antlerless deer carcass tag that comes with a youth firearm deer license valid in all DMUs statewide instead of just herd control and earn-a-buck units?

11. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 12 – Allow dividing deer, bear, and elk into five parts prior to registration in order to facilitate removal from the field (2010)

The practice of quartering deer prior to registration, in order to facilitate removal from the field, is currently prohibited unless you possess a disabled hunting permit. This proposal would allow a hunter to divide a deer into as many as five parts for the purpose of removing the animal from the field. Currently bear and elk may be quartered but this proposal would allow dividing bear and elk up to five times which will be more practical to facilitate removal from the field. In order to make identification easier for registration station staff and to assure that parts of different animals are not confused, this proposal requires that the head remain attached to one part of a deer or bear and that no more than one deer or bear which is not intact may be stored or transported together prior to registration. This department rule proposal originates from a Conservation Congress advisory proposal related to deer that won popular support in 2008.

Do you favor allowing hunters to divide deer, bear and elk into as many as five parts for the purpose of removing the animal from the field? The head must remain attached to one of the other parts of a deer or bear and only one divided deer or bear could be stored or transported. The head would not need to be attached to another section of an elk.

12. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 13 – Establish a single, consistent statewide opening date for fox hunting and trapping and coyote trapping (2011)

Currently the fox hunting and trapping seasons and the coyote trapping season open on the Saturday nearest October 17 north of HWY 64. South of HWY 64, those seasons open two weeks later. There is no biological reason to delay the southern seasons by fourteen days and split the state into two zones. This proposal would simplify regulations by making the south zone fox hunting and trapping seasons and the coyote trapping season concurrent with the north zone seasons.

Do you favor establishing one statewide opening day for fox hunting and trapping and coyote trapping, beginning on the Saturday nearest October 17 statewide?

13. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT RULE CHANGES

QUESTION 14 – Allow firearm deer hunting at Nelson Dewey state park during the traditional November firearm season, Grant County (2011)

Hunting is prohibited by state statute at state parks unless the department has written administrative rules that specifically allow it. This proposal would allow hunting during the nine-day firearm season that begins on the Saturday before the Thanksgiving holiday at Nelson Dewey State Park. The firearm type and bag limits would be consistent with the surrounding management unit.

State park seasons provide hunting opportunities in ways that are designed to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users and, for deer, to control herd impacts on natural vegetation and neighboring farmland.

Do you favor establishing a nine-day firearm deer season at Nelson Dewey State Park?

14. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 15 – Establish turkey hunting seasons and zones at Hartman Creek State Park, Waupaca County (2011)

Hunting is prohibited by state statute at state parks unless the department has written administrative rules that specifically allow it. This proposal would allow spring turkey hunting at Hartman Creek State Park. Hunting would be limited to the first three time periods, which is consistent with the season framework at all state parks that allow turkey hunting. Hunter numbers would be limited through the normal turkey permit drawing system to provide a quality hunt and to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users.

Do you favor allowing spring turkey hunting during the first three hunting periods at Hartman Creek State Park?

15. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 16 – Allow muzzleloader deer hunting at Big Bay state park during the normal statewide muzzleloader season that follows the traditional November firearm season, Bayfield County (2011)

Hunting in state parks is prohibited by state law unless the department has written administrative rules that specifically allow it. Big Bay State Park does not have a muzzleloader season but is open for archery hunting beginning on October 15 and for firearm deer hunting during the traditional nine day season.

This proposal would expand hunting opportunities in the park by allowing hunting during the ten day muzzleloader only season that follows the traditional nine day firearm season. State park seasons provide hunting opportunities in ways that are designed to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users and, for deer, to control herd impacts on natural vegetation.

Do you favor establishing a ten day muzzleloader only hunt beginning on the day after the nine day firearm deer season at Big Bay State Park?

16. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 17 – Allow deer hunting on newly acquired lands at Buckhorn state park during all normal deer hunting seasons, Juneau County (2010)

Hunting is prohibited by state statute at state parks unless the department has written administrative rules that specifically allow it. In 2008 Buckhorn State Park was expanded with the acquisition of approximately 1,200 acres of additional land located east of 19th avenue, north of county HWY G, and north of 31st Street. This proposal would allow hunting during all normal, state established deer hunting seasons on the newly acquired lands only. The firearm type and bag limits would be consistent with the surrounding management unit.

Portions of this state park acquired prior to 2008 are currently open only for archery hunting during the early and late seasons and a portion of the park is also open for a special youth learn to hunt workshop. These special opportunities are popular with hunters and hunting regulations on older portions of the property would not be changed.

State park seasons provide hunting opportunities in ways that are designed to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users and, for deer, to control herd impacts on natural vegetation.

Do you favor allowing deer hunting on newly acquired lands at Buckhorn State Park during all normal, state established seasons including archery, firearm and muzzleloader?

17. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 18 – Eliminate the 2:00 p.m. pheasant hunting closure at Scuppernong River Habitat Management Area in Waukesha County and allow pheasant hunting all day (2011)

Pheasant hunting hours at Scuppernong River Habitat Area in the Kettle Moraine State Forest currently close at 2:00 p.m. for the first two weeks of the season. Pheasant stocking occurs after 2:00 p.m., allowing department staff to better distribute birds and preventing hunting immediately after stocking. Pheasant hunting on nearby stocked properties in the area is allowed during normal hunting hours and results in some confusion for hunters in the Kettle Moraine State Forest. Scuppernong also has some of the best and the largest pheasant habitat in the area and the early closure results in some lost hunting opportunity.

Eliminating the early closure at Scuppernong would increase the hours available to hunters during the first two weeks of the season. In order to allow adequate carry over of birds until the next day, the area would be stocked in the late afternoon. This would establish consistent pheasant hunting hours throughout the Kettle Moraine State Forest.

Do you favor removing the 2:00 p.m. closure time at Scuppernong River Habitat Area?

18. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 19 – Establish turkey hunting seasons and a zone at Straight Lake State Park, Polk County (2011)

Hunting is prohibited by state statute at state parks unless the department has written administrative rules that specifically allow it. This proposal would allow spring turkey hunting at Straight Lake State Park. Hunting would be limited to the first three time periods, which is consistent with the season framework at all state parks that allow turkey hunting.

This proposal is consistent with a master plan for management of the park that was adopted in 2009. Hunter numbers would be limited through the normal turkey permit drawing system to provide a quality hunt and to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users. Adjacent publicly owned land is managed as a state wildlife area. The adjacent land would continue to be open to turkey hunting as part of Turkey Management Zone 4 and is not affected by this rule proposal.

Do you favor allowing spring turkey hunting during the first three hunting periods at Straight Lake State Park?

19. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 20 – Eliminate the Rock Prairie Canada Goose Management Subzone, Rock County (2011)

The Rock Prairie Canada goose management subzone is a closed area consisting of privately owned farmland in Rock County. The refuge is approximately 1,400 acres in size and was established in 1945 to protect an apparent subpopulation of Canada geese. Researchers later determined that these were giant Canada geese, a subspecies once thought extinct.

Giant Canada geese now make up about half of the goose harvest in Wisconsin and are considered to be abundant, existing at nuisance levels in some areas. There is no longer a biological justification for maintaining this goose management subzone. It has been more than ten years since a food plot was maintained and the refuge is not providing a significant hunting opportunity in the area. Eliminating this closed area would simplify and make hunting regulations more consistent.

Do you favor eliminating the Rock Prairie goose management subzone so that it would become part of the Exterior Canada Goose Management Zone?

20. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 21 – Eliminate the Burnett County Canada Goose Management Subzone, Burnett County (2011)

The original Burnett County Canada Goose Subzone was created in 1957 to enhance the effort of restoring a nesting population of giant Canada geese to northwest Wisconsin. The refuge consists mainly of the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area. Giant Canada geese now make up about half of the goose harvest in Wisconsin and are considered to be abundant, existing at nuisance levels in some areas. There is no longer a management purpose for maintaining this goose management subzone.

This proposal would expand public hunting opportunities by eliminating this subzone and opening the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area for goose hunting. Significant waterfowl refuge areas still exist on the property and would continue to be closed to waterfowl hunting and could be used by geese for safe resting areas. Eliminating this closed area would simplify and make hunting regulations more consistent.

Do you favor eliminating the Burnett County goose management subzone?

21. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTIONS 22 and 23 – Establish deer hunting seasons and spring turkey hunting at proposed new Glacial Heritage Area state parks. Seasons would be consistent with other state park turkey hunts and deer seasons in the CWD Management Zone and hunter numbers could be limited by permit, Jefferson County (2011 or as property is acquired)

Hunting is prohibited by state statute on state park lands unless the department has written administrative rules that specifically allow it. This proposal would establish firearm, muzzleloader and archery deer hunting seasons and turkey hunting seasons at seven proposed Jefferson County Glacial Heritage Area Conservation Parks. The deer seasons would be consistent with those at other state parks in the CWD Management Zone. Turkey hunting would be provided during the first three time periods, which is also consistent with all state parks that allow turkey hunting. Similar to all other state park turkey hunts and many state park deer hunts, hunter numbers would be managed using a permit system to maintain a high quality hunt. State park seasons provide hunting opportunities in ways that are designed to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users and, for deer, to reduce herd size and control impacts on natural vegetation and minimize agricultural crop damage on adjacent properties.

The deer seasons would be consistent with other state parks in the CWD Management Zone including; four days of antlerless only firearm and archery hunting beginning on the Thursday nearest October 15, archery hunting re-opening on the Saturday before Thanksgiving and continuing through the Sunday nearest January 6, nine days of firearm hunting beginning on the Saturday preceding Thanksgiving, followed by ten days of muzzleloader hunting only, and four days of antlerless only firearm hunting beginning on the second Thursday following Thanksgiving.

The Glacial Heritage Area is a network of recreation and conservation lands centered primarily in western Jefferson County between the Milwaukee and Madison urban regions. This project seeks to meet the growing demand for outdoor, nature-based land and water recreation activities and protect critical prairie, savanna, and wetland habitats. The project will establish 7 new parks, which are the subject of this proposal, that could range in size from 100 to 800 acres and could total 2,900 acres. The plan also will expand 11 State Wildlife Areas by up to 20,800 acres, establish 100 miles of trails linking the parks and cities and villages, protect pockets of land along rivers and streams for boat access, and to protect important habitat areas.

Conservation parks and other new lands identified in the plan would be purchased from willing sellers over a period of decades and could be opened to hunting upon purchase under this proposal. The Glacial Habitat Area plan is a joint effort with many conservation groups and its success depends on close cooperation with local government. Under the plan, a legal agreement between Jefferson County and the department will be drafted that guides county management of the parks and issuance of park access permits.

Do you favor allowing turkey hunting during the first three spring hunting periods at state park lands that will be acquired in the future and will be managed jointly with Jefferson County as Glacial Habitat Area Conservation Parks?

22. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor establishing deer hunting seasons at new state park lands that will be acquired in the future and will be managed jointly with Jefferson County as Glacial Habitat Area Conservation Parks?

23. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT RULE CHANGES

(If approved, these proposed rule changes would take effect on April 1, 2011, unless otherwise indicated.)

QUESTIONS 24, 25, 26 & 27 – Motor trolling in Ashland, Iron, Price and Sawyer Counties

Currently motor trolling is only allowed on the Kakagon River and sloughs in Ashland County, Pike Lake and Round Lake in Price County, and Chetac, Grindstone, Lac Courte Oreilles, Nelson, Round, Whitefish and Windigo Lakes in Sawyer County. Opening all waters in Ashland, Iron, Price and Sawyer Counties would allow motor trolling in approximately 700 additional waters. Prohibitions on motor trolling are socially-driven and have been handled by the Department of Natural Resources on a county-by-county basis in line with local preference. Currently motor trolling is allowed county-wide in 18 of the state's 72 counties. Motor trolling poses no other biological threat to muskellunge, walleye, or any other species than conventional angling, and the Department of Natural Resources endorses removal of motor trolling prohibitions wherever that removal is locally supported.

Do you favor allowing motor trolling in all waters in Ashland County?

24. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor allowing motor trolling in all waters in Iron County, excluding Etna, Grey, Lost, Minette, Oriole, Pardee and Sherman lakes, which straddle the Iron-Vilas County line?

25. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor allowing motor trolling in all waters in Price County?

26. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor allowing motor trolling in all waters in Sawyer County?

27. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 28 – St. Croix River catch and release sturgeon season

Recent modifications to the Wisconsin statewide lake sturgeon fishing season (including the lower St. Croix River boundary waters) implemented a season which starts on the first Saturday in September and continues to September 30 with a minimum length limit of 60". The State of Minnesota agreed to adopt this new regulation on Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters but first had to seek public input on the rule change. Minnesota anglers supported the increased size limit and reduced harvest season, but insisted on a catch and release season from October 1 through October 15. The State of Minnesota subsequently approved the regulations including the catch and release season. Wisconsin does not have an October 1 through October 15 catch and release season therefore boundary water regulations are different. Wisconsin does not object to the catch and release season and wishes to maintain uniform regulations between Minnesota and Wisconsin on the boundary waters of the St. Croix River.

If adopted, this proposal will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

Do you favor creating a catch and release season for lake sturgeon from October 1st to October 15th on the St. Croix River where it forms the boundary between Wisconsin and Minnesota?

28. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTIONS 29 & 30 – Chippewa Flowage ice fishing and panfish regulations

The Chippewa Flowage is the only inland water in Wisconsin specifically closed to ice fishing. Ice fishing for all species was initially closed in the 1950's. The primary issues at that time were associated with significant winter drawdowns of the flowage and included health and safety concerns due to open water areas in submerged river channels as well as angler competition and overharvest of fish concentrated by the lower water levels. These concerns were primarily social in nature. Overwinter drawdowns only accounted for an approximate 20% reduction in the size of the flowage at the time and currently are less significant. Snowmobiling is popular on the flowage but has not presented a safety concern with ice anglers. Growing angler interest in allowing ice fishing prompted a regulation change in 1997 which allows a daily bag limit of 15 panfish, excluding crappie which is still closed, from December 1 to the first Sunday in March and a daily bag limit of 25 panfish, of which only 15 may be crappie, from the first Saturday in May through November 30. This combined harvest has not damaged panfish populations. In addition, a Conservation Congress Advisory Question to allow some winter harvest of crappie was approved at the 2009 spring hearings. Changing the panfish daily bag limit to 10 in aggregate will provide a standard harvest limit year-round than the current regulations and extend the seasonal angling opportunity by several months.

Changing the open season for anglers targeting game fish on the Chippewa Flowage to one consistent with statewide regulations will provide additional angling opportunity. It would direct more harvest onto northern pike and largemouth bass which is a current management objective for the Chippewa Flowage fishery. However, because of current concern about declining walleye recruitment in the Chippewa Flowage, the Department recommends retaining the current December-May prohibition on walleye harvest.

Do you favor moving the last day of the open season for northern pike and largemouth and smallmouth bass from November 30 to the first Sunday in March on the Chippewa Flowage and all connected waters upstream of the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam?

29. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor creating a continuous (year-round) open season for all panfish with a daily bag limit of 10 per day (aggregate) on the Chippewa Flowage and all connected waters upstream of the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam?

30. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 31 – Bass harvest regulations in Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters

The current season for largemouth and smallmouth bass on Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters is the First Saturday in May through November 30 under Wisconsin law. Michigan recently extended its open season for bass to December 31 in all waters, including boundary waters. The current bass season closure date on Wisconsin-Michigan border waters, November 30, is not concurrent with either state's general inland bass season closure date. Wisconsin inland waters bass season closure date is the first Sunday in March. Michigan DNR has requested that Wisconsin change the bass season closure date in Wisconsin portions of WI/MI border waters to December 31 to address enforcement concerns from the Michigan side. It would also make the closure date concurrent with at least one of the states' general inland regulations.

If adopted, this proposal will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

Do you favor extending the largemouth and smallmouth bass season on Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters from November 30 to December 31?

31. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTIONS 32 to 49 – Walleye recruitment restoration in select northwest Wisconsin lakes

Restoration of waters primarily managed for walleyes: Twenty-one lakes in Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer, and Washburn counties are waters in which restoration of natural walleye reproduction is the primary management objective. Each had a walleye population sustained by natural reproduction within the past twenty years, but for unknown reasons reproduction significantly declined in recent years and stocking is now needed to maintain those walleye fisheries. Naturally reproducing walleye populations generally have an adult population 3-5 times greater than stocked walleye populations. To address this walleye population decline, the Department is proposing a three-component experimental restoration program.

The first component is a significant reduction in angler harvest of spawning-age and sub-adult walleyes in order to rebuild the spawning population. The department proposes to increase the minimum size restriction for angler harvest of walleyes to 18", and reduce the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

During the same period, abundance of largemouth and smallmouth bass (black bass) has increased significantly in many northern Wisconsin waters, particularly in the northwest and including these twenty-one lakes. The cause of the increase is unknown, but we have seen habitat changes favoring black bass such as lower water levels due to protracted drought conditions, increased water clarity, and increased abundance of aquatic plants. Increased angler catch-and-release and more restrictive angling regulations also likely contributed to increased bass abundance. There is disagreement among fisheries scientists whether bass population increases caused the observed walleye declines, but there is evidence that high bass populations could inhibit recovery of consistent natural walleye reproduction through resource competition or predation on juvenile walleye.

Past survey information and current modeling suggest that bass were significantly less abundant under the no minimum size limit regulation in place before 1989. Growth rates of bass were somewhat faster then, but high angler harvest resulted in very few large fish. Implementation of other bass regulations such as reduced bag limits or the early catch and release season did not affect bass harvest as much as the implementation of a 14-inch minimum size restriction.

The second component is a significant reduction in bass populations in order to minimize predation or competition with walleyes. The department proposes a no minimum length limit for bass in each of these lakes.

Research shows that stocking in walleye lakes with good natural reproduction generally does not improve population numbers. However when natural recruitment becomes weak for an extended period, stocking of walleye fingerlings may be necessary to rebuild spawning stock numbers.

The third component is to monitor the walleye populations and stock walleyes as necessary to ensure there is an adequate spawning stock (subject to budget and hatchery capacity).

Restoration of strong walleye populations in waters formerly dominated by walleye is generally favored by the majority of anglers who fish these waters and is the goal of this proposed experimental restoration program. The Department strongly recommends that all three components: *walleye harvest restrictions, black bass population reductions, and necessary stockings* be used on each lake. Although this is an experimental program, The Department is not proposing a sunset provision and instead will monitor any changes and modify the approach as necessary

The lakes included in the proposal are: Bear, Horseshoe (T36N, R14E, S3, 115 ac.), Lower Turtle, and Upper Turtle (Barron County), Lake Owen (Bayfield County), Big McKenzie and Middle McKenzie (Burnett/ Washburn Counties), Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward (Polk County), Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann (Island Chain of Lakes, Rusk County), Chippewa Flowage, Nelson, Sissabagama, and Whitefish (Sawyer County), and Long and Nancy (Washburn County).

Barron County: Bear, Horseshoe (T36N, R14E, S3, 115 acres), Lower Turtle and Upper Turtle Lakes

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Bear Lake (Barron County)?

32. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Horseshoe Lake (T36N, R14E, S3, 115 acres, Barron County)?

33. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Lower Turtle Lake (Barron County)?

34. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Upper Turtle Lake (Barron County)?

35. YES _____ NO _____

Bayfield County: Lake Owen

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Lake Owen, Bayfield County?

36. YES _____ NO _____

Burnett County: Big McKenzie Lake

Note: Largemouth and smallmouth bass in Big McKenzie Lake are currently managed with no minimum length restriction and a 5-fish daily bag limit (aggregate) under a temporary rule. This proposal will codify and make permanent those bass regulations.

Also see question 25 regarding Middle McKenzie Lake (Burnett/ Washburn Counties)

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Big McKenzie Lake in Burnett County?

37. YES _____ NO _____

Polk County: Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward Lakes

Note: Largemouth and smallmouth bass in Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward Lakes are currently managed with no minimum length restriction and a 5-fish daily bag limit (aggregate) under a temporary rule. This proposal will codify and make permanent those bass regulations.

Largemouth and smallmouth bass in Big Butternut Lake are currently managed with no minimum length restriction and a 5-fish daily bag limit under permanent rule.

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18" in Big Butternut Lake (Polk County)?

38. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Half Moon Lake (Polk County)?

39. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Pipe Lake (Polk County)?

40. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Ward Lake (Polk County)?

41. YES _____ NO _____

Rusk County: Island Chain of Lakes (Clear, Chain, Island, McCann)

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Chain, Clear, Island and McCann Lakes (and connecting waters) in Rusk County?

42. YES _____ NO _____

Sawyer County: Chippewa Flowage, Nelson, Sissabagama, and Whitefish Lakes

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in the Chippewa Flowage upstream from the Chippewa Flowage (Winter) Dam in Sawyer County?

43. YES _____ NO _____

Note: Largemouth and smallmouth bass in Nelson Lake are currently managed with no minimum length restriction and a 5-fish daily bag limit under permanent rule.

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restrictions from 15 to 18" in Nelson Lake in Sawyer County?

44. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Sissabagama Lake in Sawyer County?

45. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and eliminating the current 14-inch minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Whitefish Lake in Sawyer County?

46. YES _____ NO _____

Washburn County: Middle McKenzie, Long and Nancy Lakes

Note: Largemouth and smallmouth bass in Middle McKenzie, Long, and Nancy Lakes are currently managed with no minimum length restriction and a 5-fish daily bag limit (aggregate) under a temporary rule. This proposal will codify and make permanent those bass regulations.

Also see question 14 regarding Big McKenzie lake (Burnett and Washburn Counties)

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Middle McKenzie Lake (Washburn County)?

47. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Long Lake (Washburn County)?

48. YES _____ NO _____

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 15 to 18", and making permanent the current no-minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Nancy Lake (Washburn County)?

49. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGE: FOREST COUNTY

QUESTION 50 – Lake Metonga walleye regulations

Current adult walleye densities and natural recruitment are low in Lake Metonga. The current 15” minimum size limit and 5 fish bag limit is not adequate to protect walleye on Lake Metonga. Management goals include an adult walleye population of >3 adult fish per acre and natural recruitment of >20 young of year walleye per mile, in one out of three years. Angling regulation changes will help achieve these goals. The proposed 18” minimum regulation and 3 fish daily bag limit will increase population numbers and protect male and female from angling harvest for an additional two to three years. These additional years of protection will help build up a spawning base, thus increasing natural reproduction, and eventually reducing or eliminating supplemental stocking.

Lake Metonga is a WDNR-trend lake, with comprehensive fish surveys and creel surveys planned every 3 years, which will allow the department to track the effectiveness of the regulation change.

If adopted, this proposal will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

Do you favor reducing the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 to 3 fish and increasing the minimum size restrictions from 15 to 18” in Lake Metonga in Forest County?

50. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 51 – Sevenmile Lake Walleye Regulations

Walleye in Sevenmile Lake (Forest and Oneida Counties) recruited strongly in the early 1990s, but have shown poor natural recruitment for the last decade. The population declined from an estimated 2.7 adults per acre in 1997 to 1.3 adult walleye per acre in 2008 and is now supported by stocking. The current no minimum length limit with only one fish over 14” allowed is inappropriate for lakes with poor recruitment. Protection of the few fish which are naturally produced or stocked with a minimum length limit is needed to bolster the sagging walleye population, so a change to the statewide 15” minimum length limit is proposed. The bag limit is 5 fish per day under either regulation.

Do you favor replacing the current rule of no minimum length limit but only one fish over 14” allowed with the statewide 15” minimum length limit for walleye on Sevenmile Lake, Oneida and Forest Counties?

51. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGE: LANGLADE COUNTY

QUESTION 52 – Wolf River trout regulations

The department desires to manage the trout fishery in the Langlade County portion of the Wolf River with two objectives: 1) as put-and-take for recently stocked trout which our studies have shown to have a low annual survival rate, and 2) for catch-and-release fishing for carry-over, quality sized trout (larger than 12"). This approach will allow anglers, if they so chose, to harvest small, recently stocked trout while at the same time protecting the relatively few but highly regarded larger, quality-sized trout that have survived and carried over from previous years' stocking. This rule change would allow harvest of some stocked trout in a situation where the majority don't survive from one year to the next but still protect the larger, carry-over trout that provide for the quality fishing opportunity and experience that many anglers desire. The Antigo and Wolf River Chapters of Trout Unlimited support this regulation change.

Current regulations on the Wolf River are a 12-inch minimum size restriction for brown and rainbow trout and an 8-inch minimum size restriction on brook trout with a 3-fish per day aggregate bag limit, except for a catch-and-release, artificial lures only zone between the Soo Line Railroad Bridge and Dierks Irrigation Hole. This proposal will eliminate these 3 sections of varying regulations allow for a single regulation for trout on the Wolf River in Langlade County.

Do you favor making the trout regulations during the regular season (first Saturday in May through September 30) on the Wolf River in Langlade County the following: daily bag limit of 3 trout under 12", artificial lures only? The October 1-November 15 catch-and-release season will be retained for the entire length of the Wolf River in Langlade County.

52. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGE: IRON COUNTY

QUESTION 53 – Eliminating fish refuge in Iron County

Anglers enjoy fishing in early spring from the convenient shore-fishing location on the Little Turtle River in Iron County from 200 feet upstream of Popko's Circle Road (West) Crossing to 200 feet downstream of Popko's Circle Road. They pursue mostly suckers and panfish. This is not a significant walleye spawning area, and there are not enough walleyes or other gamefish in this location in early spring to cause concern about incidental catch or illegal harvest. Rescinding this refuge reflects biological understanding and restores shore-fishing opportunity.

If adopted, this proposal will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

Do you support removing the prohibition on fishing between April 1st and the opening of the general fishing season on the Little Turtle River in Iron County from 200 feet upstream of Popko's Circle Road (West) Crossing to 200 feet downstream of Popko's Circle Road? Regular inland fishing rules would apply.

53. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGE: OCONTO COUNTY

QUESTION 54 – Oconto River night fishing prohibition

Due to increased use by lake sturgeon and walleye during fall and spring in a stretch of the Oconto River upstream of the Highway 141 Bridge to the Stiles Dam where they are vulnerable to illegal harvest the department recommends prohibiting fishing between sunset and sunrise between September 15 and the first Saturday in May, similar to other Lake Michigan tributary streams in the area. During the past five years there has been an increase in the number of poaching complaints and confirmed illegal harvest of two sturgeon from this stretch of river. A small number of anglers who are legally pursuing walleye or other gamefish after sunset would be impacted by the closure, but the hook-and-line ban on fishing between sunset and sunrise would not affect those who dip net for suckers for consumption from the recreational bridge area.

Do you support prohibiting fishing from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour after sunrise on the Oconto River upstream of the Highway 141 bridge to the Oconto Dam in Oconto County, between September 15 and the first Saturday in May?

54. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGES: ONEIDA COUNTY

QUESTION 55 – Three Lakes Chain Walleye Regulations

The current 14 to 18” protected slot length limit has produced minimal improvements in the size-structure of the walleye population relative to no minimum length limit, despite having been in place for 12 years. It is more restrictive than no minimum length limit because it requires anglers to release walleyes from 14 to 18” in length. However, a more appropriate regulation for waters like the Three Lakes Chain, with abundant, slow growing walleye is “no minimum length limit on walleye but only one fish over 14” is allowed”. The “one-over 14” regulation will increase opportunities for walleye harvest and should maintain a moderate number of 14” and larger walleyes in the population. Public comments favored this rule change at two meetings in Three Lakes.

- Do you favor replacing the current “no minimum length limit and 14 to 18” protected slot” with “no minimum length limit but only one walleye over 14” allowed” and increasing the daily bag limit from 3 to 5 walleye in total on the Three Lakes Chain, Oneida County?

55. YES _____ NO _____

See also question 51 regarding Sevenmile Lake (Oneida and Forest Counties).

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGES: SAWYER COUNTY

QUESTION 56 – Eliminating fish refuges in Sawyer County

Existing refuges in Sawyer County need to be simplified and revised in order to eliminate needless complexity and increase angling opportunity. The biological rationale for a number of traditional refuges no longer exists. Size and bag limits are a more reliable regulatory tool to protect vulnerable fish from over-harvest.

If adopted, this proposal will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

- Do you support removing seasonal fishing prohibitions on:
- the Chippewa Flowage for 500 feet below Moose Lake (Sawyer County),
 - Spider Creek between Spider Lake and State highway 77 (Sawyer County),
 - Island Creek between Island and Black Dan Lakes (Sawyer County),
 - Malviney Creek (Sawyer County),
 - the unnamed tributary of Lake Chetac from Lake Chetac to 1000 feet upstream (Sawyer County),
 - the Brunet River from Lake Winter to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer County),
 - and on the Couderay River from the Grimh (Radisson) Dam to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer County)

56. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGE: VILAS COUNTY

QUESTION 57 – Little St Germain Lake musky regulation

The current 45” minimum size limit has increased the numbers of muskellunge 40” or greater in length present in Little Saint Germain Lake, but that rule is scheduled to expire November 30, 2011. This lake has the size, growth rate, and forage base to produce significant numbers of trophy muskellunge. There is also a significant segment of the angling public that would like to see greater opportunities to catch larger muskellunge. In 1999 a survey was conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources of 1,400 anglers who fish muskellunge in Wisconsin (Margenau 2004). The survey found that 62% of anglers felt that a trophy muskellunge was a fish 50” or longer in length. Maintaining the muskellunge regulation at the 45” minimum will continue to provide an additional quality angling opportunity in Vilas County.

Future plans call for monitoring muskellunge recruitment each fall. A Muskellunge population estimate and creel survey should be conducted on little Saint Germain Lake every 10 to 15 years to evaluate any changes.

Do you favor making permanent the current 45-inch minimum size restriction on muskellunge in Little St Germain Lake in Vilas County?

57. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGE: WAUKESHA COUNTY

QUESTION 58 – Big Muskego Lake pike regulations

Big Muskego is a large shallow water body covering 2300 acres and is located 12 miles from downtown Milwaukee. Big Muskego Lake has an average depth of only 3 feet and the adjoining 100 acre Bass Bay has an average depth of 12 feet and a maximum depth of 22 feet. Big Muskego was rehabilitated in 1996 and has a sport fishery comprised of largemouth bass, bluegill, northern pike and yellow perch. Recent June floods in 2008 allowed immigration of common carp into Big Muskego from downstream Wind Lake. Partial winterkills were documented in 2008 and 2009 causing further damage to the fishery. Rough fish abundance has increased in recent years including all three species of bullheads, bowfin and common carp. Angler harvest of gamefish and panfish species is extremely high as indicated by annual mortality rates as well as size structure data. In order to further protect this fragile ecosystem protection of large northern pike is necessary to facilitate bio-manipulation and maximize predation on small planktivorous fish and rough fish.

A comprehensive survey completed in 2008 indicates the northern pike size structure is inadequate in providing predation on rough fish and small planktivorous fish. The current 26" size limit and 2 daily bag limit does not adequately protect large northern pike. Due to the accelerated growth rates of common carp, large northern pike are the only native predator species able to effectively feed on young of the year carp. By increasing the abundance of large northern pike, we will expect to slow the recruitment of common carp and small planktivores providing better water clarity, diverse and abundant native aquatic macrophytes, and better fishing.

Do you support decreasing the daily bag limit for northern pike from 2 to 1 fish and increasing the minimum size restriction from 26-inches to 40-inches in Big Muskego Lake including Bass Bay in Waukesha County?

58. YES _____ NO _____

PROPOSED LOCAL FISHERIES RULE CHANGES: WAUPACA COUNTY

QUESTION 59 – Waupaca River trout regulations

In the Waupaca River downstream of Waupaca Dam, recent temperature monitoring and trout population surveys indicate this section of river supports a limited trout fishery due to the warm summer water temperatures caused by the upstream impoundment. Larger sized trout are present and indicate a small number do over summer from year to year, however, the primary fishery is still comprised of catchable size (7-11") stocked trout. The department would like to manage this fishery as a put-and-take fishery; however the current size limit (12" minimum length limit) would prohibit anglers from keeping stocked trout. This regulation will provide anglers with increased opportunity to harvest stocked trout by reducing the minimum size limit. In addition, the proposed regulation change would extend up to the special regulations water at River Road in order to minimize complexity of regulations throughout the Waupaca River.

Do you favor decreasing the minimum size restrictions on all trout to 7", and increasing the daily bag limit to 5 fish from 3 fish on the Waupaca River below River Road (Waupaca County)?

59. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 60 – Marion Pond bass and pike regulations

During the winter of 2006-07 the Marion Pond Lake Association and City of Marion lowered water levels in the Marion Pond in order to manage nuisance level aquatic plants. This management action resulted in significant reductions in nuisance exotic plants. However, due to the extensive nature of the drawdown many fish emigrated downstream and intensive fish restoration efforts were needed to restore fish populations. After 3 years of fish stocking and voluntary catch and release efforts the Marion Pond fishery was close to recovery. However, an emergency drawdown due to eminent dam failure during the summer of 2009 setback recovery efforts and the pond will have to be restocked all over again. These regulations are intended to provide maximum protection of the predator gamefish species in order to maximize recovery efforts. The proposed rules will sunset 5 years after implementation, after which time pike and bass harvest regulations will revert back to the standard general inland fishing regulations.

If adopted, this proposal will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

Do you favor a temporary decrease in Northern Pike bag limits from 5 fish per day to 2, and the creation of a 26-inch minimum size restriction for pike, along with decreasing the daily bag limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass from 5 fish per day to 1, and increasing the minimum size restriction for bass from 14-inches to 18-inches until April 1, 2016 in Marion Pond in Waupaca County?

60. YES _____ NO _____



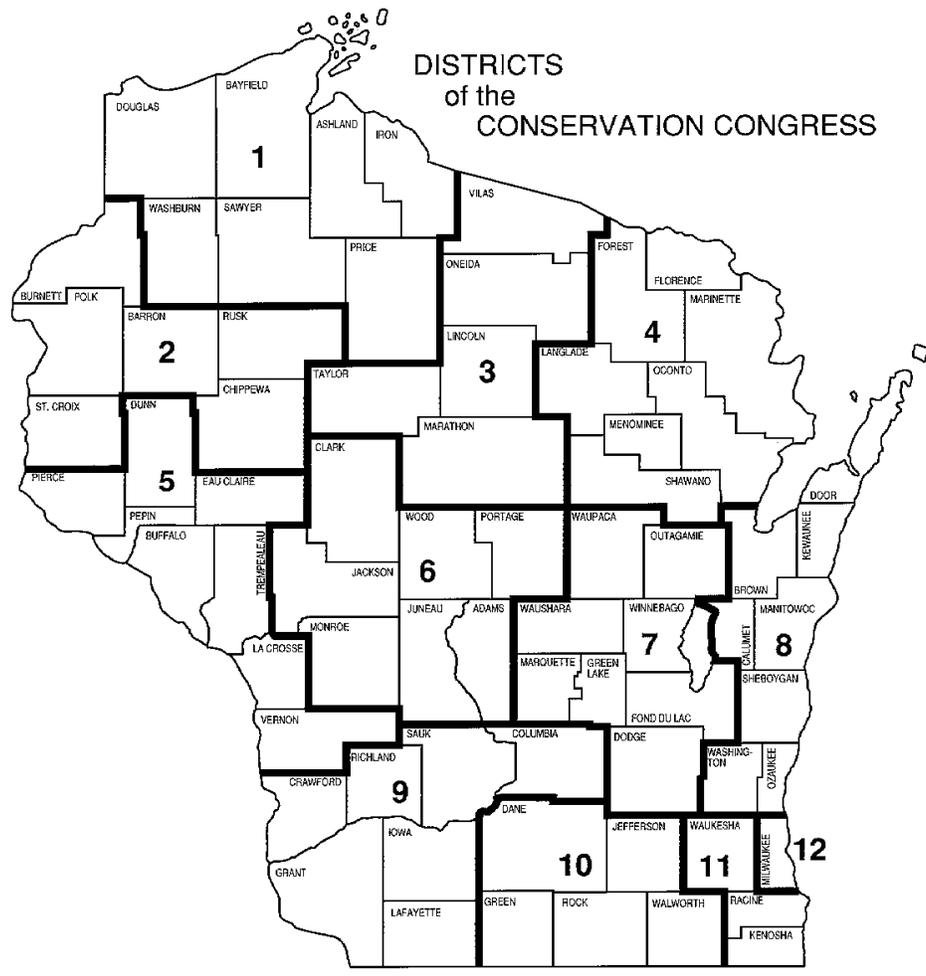
You are now entering the Wisconsin Conservation Congress County Meeting

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress does NOT accept written comments on its advisory questions. Only the tallies of the public votes received the night of the county meetings are taken into consideration when developing final recommendations.

Any comments on the Spring Hearing process only, may be made directly to:
Kari Lee-Zimmermann, LS/8, DNR, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921

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AIR, WASTE, AND WATER ADVISORY QUESTION

QUESTION 61 – Lead reduction in fishing tackle

Lead in the environment is poisonous to wildlife. This proposal is designed to reduce the incidence of lead poisoning (lead toxicosis) in waterbirds, shorebirds and secondary poisoning of raptors, such as eagles and ospreys by reducing the amount of lead added to Wisconsin waters due to lost fishing tackle. Studies have shown wildlife is most likely to ingest fishing tackle measuring less than 2.5 cm (1 inch) length and 25g (1 ounce) in weight. Removing lead in fishing tackle of this size would be the most effective way of protecting wildlife.

The Federal lead shot ban for waterfowl hunting, and state restrictions on lead use in fishing tackle in MA, VT, NH, NY and ME have reduced toxicosis in waterfowl. A follow up study on the effectiveness of lead free fishing tackle in New England has shown a reduction in bird mortality. A similar ban in Wisconsin will protect our wildlife resources and migrating populations moving through our state.

Since inexpensive non-lead alternatives to lead sinkers and jigs are currently being manufactured and are available to retailers at a reasonable cost, transition to non-lead alternatives will not put an undue hardship on Wisconsin anglers.

Would you support efforts by the state to phase out the use of lead fishing tackle less than one inch in length and less than one ounce in weight for use in Wisconsin waters?

61. YES _____ NO _____

BEAR STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

Legislation was introduced in 2009 that included a number of proposals that are meant to make some regulations that pertain to bear hound training and bear hunting less restrictive, or are intended to create more opportunity to be able to get involved in bear hunting or training of hounds on bear. Each of the following questions is a stand alone question and each represents one of the five major components of this legislation.

QUESTION 62 – Create a free weekend to be able to train hounds on bear without a Class B bear license

This first component of the bill would set aside one weekend during the month of August when a person would be allowed to train hounds on bear without having purchased a Class B bear training license. This would be similar to other license-free weekend events already established, such as the free fishing weekend in June. State law requires that anyone participating in bear hound dog training, placement of bait for bear dog training or bear hunting purposes and or assisting a Class A bear license holder in locating a bear to possess a Class B bear license. A Class B bear license provides all the same privileges of a Class A bear license except that it does not allow the holder to shoot, shoot at or kill a bear. This free weekend could create an opportunity for non-bear hunting persons to participate in and experience (but would not be able to harvest a bear without a Class A bear harvest license) the sport of bear hunting without having to purchase a Class B license.

Would you support establishing one weekend in August when a Class B license would not be required to participate in bear hunting or hound training?

62. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 63 – Training of hounds during the harvest season

During the bear harvest season a group of hound hunters must have at least one person with a valid Class A bear harvest license to run their hounds. Some hound hunters simply wish to run their hounds and are not interested in harvesting a bear. Houndsmen have many hours invested in training and many dollars invested in care for their hounds through out the year. This would not allow hounds to be run during the period of time when only bait hunting is allowed. This proposal would likely result in more hounds in the woods during the open bear hunting season simply for the purpose of pursuing bears and not harvesting a bear. The department and some non-dog bear hunters are concerned that this might have the unintended consequence of increasing conflicts between the individual who uses dogs for training purposes, and those bear hunters who are out trying to hunt a bear without the use of dogs.

Would you be in favor of allowing the training of hounds on bear during the portion of the bear season that allows the use of hounds to harvest bear with out being in possession of a Class A harvest permit?

63. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 64 – Raising the age requirement for Class B permits

Currently, anyone age 12 or older must possess a Class B bear license to place bait for bear, handle bear dogs during bear dog training or bear hunting activities, or otherwise assist a holder of a Class A bear license in locating a bear. In this day and age as we are trying to recruit and retain youth into the outdoor sports we need every opportunity and ability to be able to accomplish this. This proposal would increase the age at which a Class B bear license is required from age 12 to age 16. Allowing youth under age 16 to participate without a license, just as youth under 12 are currently allowed to do would be consistent with other initiatives the department has supported to facilitate getting more youth into the sport of hunting. Proponents of this proposal feel that any loss in license revenue would pale in comparison the benefits of introducing young hunters to bear hunting. They see this as a good investment in the future of hunting.

Would you be in favor of allowing youth under the age of 16 to have the ability to participate in the training and the hunting of bear without having to purchase a Class B permit?

64. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 65 – Backup shooter

Currently, only the holder of a Class A bear harvest license can legally shoot at a bear. The proposed legislation would expand the current privileges provided to those who hold a Class B bear license to allow them to shoot and kill a bear that was first shot, but not killed, by the holder of a Class A bear license. Proponents of the proposed legislation cite two primary reasons for allowing the concept of a backup shooter. Having a backup shooter would assure that the bear is harvested in the quickest and most humane manner possible. The second reason is safety. A wounded bear could have the ability to injure hounds and hunters. The safety of all involved in the hunt and the humane dispatch of the animal are the biggest and are the most important reasons for wanting a backup shooter.

The DNR has several concerns about the effect such a change in the law would have. From a law enforcement perspective, wardens have concerns about the ability to determine if the bear was legally harvested. The department feels that current common law already allows a person to protect themselves or others from a potentially dangerous wounded wild animal.

Would you be in favor of allowing the use of a backup shooter while bear hunting?

65. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 66 – Elimination of the Class B bear license back tag

State law currently requires that all persons involved in the pursuit of bear (i.e. assisting a Class A permit holder locate a bear, including the handling of hounds) must wear either a Class A or a Class B back tag displayed in the middle of their back on their outermost garment. The wearing of a back tag DOES NOT apply to hunters who are simply placing out bait for bears, or to persons under the age of 12 who may assist a Class A bear license holder without the need for a Class B bear license. Some bear hunters feel that the requirement that a Class B permit holder must wear a back tag is unnecessary. Temperatures during the training season, which starts on July 1st and runs through the last day of August, can change drastically from early morning to later in the day, let alone from the beginning of July to the end of August. This also is true during the harvest season. It makes it very inconvenient to continually change the back tag from one garment to another during the day or from day to day to stay legal.

According to law enforcement officials, the purpose of the back tags was and remains to help satisfy the concerns of landowners about hunters who trespass on their lands by providing the landowners with a means of identifying who is trespassing and allowing sheriff's deputies to track down such trespassers.

Note: Class A back tags would still be required for those bear hunters who hold a valid class A bear harvest license.

Would you support a legislative change to remove the requirement that all Class B permit holders wear a back tag during the bear training and or harvest seasons?

66. YES _____ NO _____

BIG GAME STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

QUESTION 67 – Captive cervid farm owners to reimburse DNR for expenses

Currently, cervid (deer and elk) farms in Wisconsin are under control of the USDA. However, the DNR is responsible for inspection of cervid farm fences and dealing with animal escapes outside of those fences. Expenses incurred by the department are funded by the public.

Would you support statutory changes to require captive cervid farm owners to reimburse the Wisconsin DNR for the cost of fence inspections and animal escapes?

67. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 68 – Allow group bow hunting for antlerless deer in the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) zone

Group hunting for deer is currently limited to gun hunting seasons. The CWD zone is under Earn-a-Buck regulations which require an antlerless deer to be harvested before a buck authorization sticker is earned by the hunter. Allowing group bow hunting for antlerless deer may provide an incentive to have archers harvest more antlerless deer knowing that a youth or hunting partner could register the deer to obtain a buck sticker.

Would you favor allowing group bow hunting for antlerless deer in the CWD zone?

68. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 69 – Increase statewide overwinter goal by 25%

The current overwinter goal for deer is 737,000 statewide. Hunters have stated that the DNR efforts to manage deer populations to the current goal have greatly reduced deer sightings as well as deer harvested. An increase of 25% would add approximately 175,000 deer to the statewide overwinter goal.

Would you support a change in the statewide overwinter goal to 25% over the current goal?

69. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 70 – No change to deer management units (DMUs)

The DNR has considered some changes to the deer management units (DMUs) such as consolidating units to create fewer but larger DMUs. Some hunters have stated that the current DMUs were established by negotiating with the DNR based upon deer populations and habitat.

Would you support leaving DMUs at the current (2009) configuration?

70. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 71 – Concept to support antler restrictions

With the increase in hunter's desire to see & harvest larger antler bucks, the idea of developing a trial antler restrictive deer season in a specific county has been suggested.

Would you support the concept of implementing an antler restriction during all deer seasons, in your County, on a trial basis?

71. YES _____ NO _____

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ADVISORY QUESTION
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QUESTION 72 – Legalize rifles for deer hunting in Waupaca County

State law prohibits the use of rifles for deer hunting in Waupaca County; therefore deer hunters in this DMU are restricted to the use of shotguns, handguns, and muzzleloaders to harvest deer during the gun deer seasons. The adjacent counties of Marathon, Portage, Waushara and portions of Shawano County allow the use of rifles for deer hunting. There are no biological or safety reasons for the current restriction.

Would you support allowing the use of rifles in Waupaca County during the gun deer season?

72. YES _____ NO _____

CWD AD-HOC STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTION

QUESTION 73 – Requiring secondary gates on cervid farms

In Wisconsin, the Department of Natural Resources and the state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) are jointly responsible for regulating various aspects of the captive cervid farm industry. The DATCP is primarily responsible for the regulation of activities within the fence (animal health, testing, commerce, etc.). The DNR is responsible for inspecting and issuing white-tailed deer fence inspection certificates, as well as removing escaped captive cervids (elk, red deer, white-tailed deer, etc.) from the wild.

Escapes are a concern due to the potential risks with spreading diseases such as CWD and they are costly to both farm owner and the DNR. The farmers have invested sometimes thousands of dollars in health testing, feed and genetics into their animals, and the DNR invests significant resources in staff time and equipment into dispatching the escaped animals.

While escapes can happen inadvertently due to acts of nature such as a down tree or damage caused by storms, year after year, open or malfunctioning gates continue to be one of the more preventable, yet very significant means of captive cervid escapes into the wild. According to the DNR, since August 2008, there have been 45 incidents (escapes or captive cervid reported sightings). Of those 45 incidents, 27% of the time an escape occurred as a result of a gate being left open. A little over a 1/4 of the escapes during that period could have possibly been prevented by having a secondary gate system, making an unsecured gate a significant cause worthy of attention and easily remedied by mandating a secondary gate system. The system could be constructed in such a way as to allow vehicles, trailers and equipment to enter the outer gate without needing to open the inner gate and to allow for the closure of the outer gate before needing to open the inner gate. All gates would then remain closed and secured to prevent unauthorized access and opening of the gates, except when authorized persons or equipment are traveling through the gates.

Would you support a change to state statute that would require a double gate mechanism on all captive cervid farms in Wisconsin?

73. YES _____ NO _____

**ENDANGERED RESOURCES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT STUDY COMMITTEE
ADVISORY QUESTIONS**

QUESTION 74 – Allow identification of ownership of ice fishing shelters using DNR Customer Numbers

Current rules require an ice shelter’s owner’s name and address be legibly painted or otherwise affixed on the outside of the fishing shelter. For many reasons, individuals may not want the owner’s name on the shelter. A DNR Customer number is another way to identify ownership and the corresponding name could be easily found by law enforcement officials if needed. Currently, DNR Customer numbers may be used to identify traps, and to identify tree stands on state lands.

Would you support allowing the owner of an ice fishing shelter the choice of name and address or DNR Customer Number to comply with the identification requirement?

74. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 75 – Legalize .41 caliber, .44 caliber and .357 caliber pistol rounds in long guns in deer hunting shotgun zones

Handguns are allowed for deer hunting in shotgun hunting zones. This includes .41 caliber, .44 caliber and .357 caliber pistol rounds. These three rounds can also be fired in the appropriate caliber rifle (long gun). The ballistic difference between the three calibers in handguns and long guns is negligible. Allowing the three pistol calibers in long guns would increase hunting opportunities in shotgun zones.

Would you support allowing the use of .41 caliber, .44 caliber and .357 caliber pistol rounds in long guns in deer hunting shotgun zones?

75. YES _____ NO _____

FUR HARVEST STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

QUESTION 76 – Allow the hunting of fox and coyote over bait

Hunting fox and coyote with a firearm takes considerable skill, time and travel to be effective. Hunting under current state regulations does not limit fox or coyote populations. Currently, fox and coyote hunters are prohibited from using bait to attract these predators. Some feel that allowing the use of bait would increase success rates of fox and coyote hunters, and would increase hunter's ability to manage these growing populations.

Would you support a rule change to allow the hunting of fox and coyote over bait from December 1 until the close of fox harvest season (February 15)?

76. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 77 – Closing the spring beaver season

Fewer beaver ponds are being observed on public land. The loss of beaver ponds directly and negatively impacts habitat and waterfowl and wildlife populations. Therefore, trappers have suggested that until beaver populations rebound, spring beaver trapping should be prohibited.

Would you support closing the spring beaver season by ending the trapping season for beaver on March 31 in the north (zones A & B) and on March 15 in the south (zones C & D)?

77. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 78 – Preseason marking of trap sites

Currently, preseason marking of trap sites is allowed on some public lands, but not all public lands. This action leads to a sense of and implies ownership of public lands. This often leads to conflict between trappers and leads to placing traps on another trapper's stakes. Additional conflicts occur when a trapper removes another trapper's preseason stakes. To avoid these conflicts and promote better sportsmanlike behavior it has been suggested that the preseason staking of trap sites be prohibited.

Would you support a statute change to prohibit the placing of preseason trap site markings on all public land controlled by the county or state?

78. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 79 – Applications for fisher or otter harvest permits

Currently a person can apply for and receive a fisher and/or otter harvest permit if they have a DNR customer identification number. A person is not required to have a hunting or trapping license for that license year to apply. Any individual applying for or purchasing a DNR permit or license is assigned a customer identification number. Some trappers are concerned that individuals that have no intention of using the permit are applying for, and are being issued permits, effectively taking those permits out of the hands of trappers that would utilize those permits.

Would you support a change to state statute that would require anyone who applies for a fisher and/or otter harvest permit to also have a valid hunting or trapping license for the same license year for which they are applying for the permit?

79. YES _____ NO _____

GREAT LAKES STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

QUESTION 80 – Funds for Great Lakes fisheries

Annually, the Strawberry Creek, Kewaunee River, and Root River Anadromous Fisheries Facilities collectively generate between \$10,000 and \$30,000 from the sale of salmon eggs to bait companies. Currently, all of those funds are placed into the Fish and Wildlife Account where little or none of those funds are returned to support Great Lakes fisheries management programs. In other states, their DNR is allowed to use the sale of fish eggs to help support their fisheries programs. Since our Great Lakes salmon fisheries program supports the generation of this significant revenue, it makes sense that the funds generated by the sale of salmon eggs should be returned to the Great Lakes fisheries program.

Would you support correcting this situation by allowing all the funds generated by the sale of salmon eggs to be returned to the Great Lakes fisheries program?

80. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 81 – General Purpose Revenue (GPR) to fund our commercial fishing industry

Currently, funding for management and enforcement to oversee compliance by the commercial fishing industry comes primarily from the DNR Fish and Wildlife Account within the Conservation Fund. The funding sources for the Fish and Wildlife Account are primarily hunter and angler license dollars, but also include commercial fishing license fees. The commercial license fees do not cover all management costs for the commercial fishing industry. General Purpose Revenue, or GPR, on the other hand consist of general taxes, miscellaneous receipts and revenues collected by state agencies which are paid into a specific fund, lose their identity, and are then available for appropriation by the legislature.

The Great Lakes Commercial Fishing Task Force has come to the following conclusion: “Commercial Fishing benefits all residents of the state of Wisconsin, and we recognize that it will never be self supporting. Therefore, we should pursue with the Legislature, allocations of General Revenues to support Law Enforcement and Fisheries Management efforts related to the protection of the commercial fishery. As with other small businesses, GPR should be used to support the viability of this industry.”

Would you support a legislative change to provide GPR as the funding source for the management and law enforcement efforts required to maintain a commercial fishery on the Great Lakes?

81. YES _____ NO _____

LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

QUESTION 82 – Appointment of the DNR Secretary

The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and its predecessor the Conservation Department were appointed by the Natural Resources Board from 1928 until 1995, when the position became a political appointee of the Governor.

The Conservation Congress has long supported the restoration of the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board. Historically there has been less political interference in natural resource management decisions under a Board appointed Secretary. Since the position has become a political appointee there has been far faster turnover in agency leadership and the position has been filled with people without a significant background in natural resource management.

Assembly Bill 138 and Senate Bill 113 have been introduced in the Wisconsin Legislature this session restoring the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board.

Would you support legislation during this legislative session restoring the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board and that the Governor sign the legislation into law?

82. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 83 – Allow sports license to be issued for gun or bow deer hunting

If a person bow hunts for deer, small game hunts and fishes, but does not gun deer hunt, that hunter is penalized. The bow-only deer hunter must purchase three separate licenses, whereas the gun deer hunter need only purchase one reduced cost sports license which allows gun deer hunting, small game hunting and fishing.

Considering the hunting community is experiencing a decline in hunters every year making it more difficult to maintain funding for programs, a simple change in the sports license would make this license more appealing to sportsmen, sportswomen and children. The change would allow a person, at the time of purchase, to select whether they wanted the sports license to include gun or bow deer license privileges.

Would you support legislation that would allow a person the choice of whether they wanted to receive a gun deer or bow deer approval when purchasing a sports license?

83. YES _____ NO _____

MIGRATORY STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTION

QUESTION 84 – Legalize 8 gauge shotguns with 10 gauge chamber inserts for waterfowl hunting

Currently, Wisconsin law prohibits the use of shotguns with a bore larger than a 10 gauge. Collectors of vintage waterfowl guns would like the opportunity to use their 8 gauge shotguns for duck and goose hunting. To abide by Federal restrictions on using shotguns chambered with shells larger than 10 gauge, chamber inserts have been developed to slide into 8 gauge shotguns that allow a 10 gauge shell to be chambered in these vintage firearms. Under Wisconsin law an 8 gauge shotgun with a 10 gauge chamber insert with non-toxic shot can not be used to hunt migratory game birds. To make enforcement easier for law enforcement another regulation change that would prohibit a hunter from possessing shells larger than 10 gauge while hunting may be beneficial to deter someone from trying to use 8 gauge shells in a non-modified 8 gauge shotgun.

Would you support a rule change to allow 12 or 10 gauge chamber inserts to be used with non-toxic shot in 8 gauge shotguns for harvesting migratory game birds in Wisconsin, and to make illegal possession of shells larger than 10 gauge while waterfowl hunting?

84. YES _____ NO _____

MISSISSIPPI RIVER STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTION

QUESTION 85 – Allowed harvest and use of bait on Mississippi River and tributaries

Under current precautionary Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) regulations, it is now illegal for anglers to trap legal bait species (minnows, willow cats, etc.) from the Mississippi River or its tributaries. This is applicable even if anglers trap, use, and dispose of baits before leaving the river system. However, and to the contrary of minimizing opportunity to spread VHS, it is legal to bring minnows to the Mississippi River (if purchased from certified bait dealers), and then retain and take them to other water bodies later provided no lake or river water was added to the bait container. The harvest and use of bait from/on VHS suspect waters, such as the Mississippi River will not increase the likelihood of spreading VHS provided anglers dispose of such bait before leaving those waters.

Would you support the allowed harvest and use of legal bait species from/on the Mississippi River or its tributaries up to first barrier, for personal angling use only, provided no bait is transported away from the river or those tributaries?

85. YES _____ NO _____

**OUTDOOR HERITAGE & EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
ADVISORY QUESTION**

QUESTION 86 – Lower crossbow eligibility age to 55

Currently, the law allows senior hunters age 65 and older to use a crossbow for hunting without the need of special crossbow permit or disabled permit. However, hunters age 55 and older, due to issues such as arthritis, bursitis, injuries and other ailments may choose to give up bow hunting rather than go through the effort of going through the medical exam necessary to obtain a special permit. It is felt that by allowing crossbows to be used by those 55 years of age and older it would increase the number of hunters in this age group that would choose to continue to archery hunt. Those opposed to this proposal see lowering the age as detrimental to the sport of archery by increasing the number of these advanced weapons into the archery season.

Would you support a statutory change that would allow hunters 55 years of age or older to use a crossbow for hunting without the need to obtain medical proof of a disability?

86. YES _____ NO _____

TROUT STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

QUESTION 87 – Extension of the inland trout season

The inland trout season in Wisconsin presently closes on September 30th. Some trout anglers feel that an extension of the season through the end of October would provide added fishing opportunity and allow sportspersons an added opportunity during the fall fishing and hunting seasons. Several other states have later closure dates or are open year around. It is anticipated that fishing pressure would be light at that time of the year and pose no threat to the trout population in inland streams.

Would you support the inland trout season to open the first Saturday closest to May 1st and continue through October 31st?

87. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 88 – Open the Wisconsin inland trout season one week prior to the regular fishing season opener

The inland trout season has opened for many years on the Saturday closest to May 1st, concurrent with the regular fishing season opener. Participation in the total opening day fishing experience by the general public has decreased in recent years. Opening the regular trout fishing season one week prior to the regular fishing opener would increase participation by anglers for both trout and other species.

Would you support the inland trout season to opening one week earlier than the general fishing opener?

88. YES _____ NO _____

WARM WATER STUDY COMMITTEE ADVISORY QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS 89 & 90 – Sawyer County bass regulations

Some local anglers believe that Sawyer County’s waters are not well served by existing bass regulations. They feel the current bass regulations need to be changed to accommodate management plans and public desires.

Would you support moving Sawyer County into the southern bass management zone?

89. YES _____ NO _____

Would you support managing smallmouth and largemouth as separate species in Sawyer County?

90. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 91 – Overharvest of walleye on Silver Lake

Silver Lake, located in Lakeland Township, Barron County, has been a producer of trophy-class walleyes with limited fishing pressure since flooding in 2002. Now that the water levels have lowered and water quality has improved, large fish have proven to be very susceptible to harvest. There is an estimated 15 times more fishing pressure on the 337 acre lake, than in the past. This level of harvest is not sustainable at the current level. Silver Lake has proven its ability to produce trophy class walleyes.

Would you support a 28” size limit with the daily bag limit being reduced from 5 fish to 1?

91. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 92 – Managing panfish as separate species

Currently, panfish (blue gills, sunfish, warmouth, pumpkinseed, crappies, and perch) for the purposes of inland waterbody bag limits are managed as one grouping or category of fish. In other states, such as Minnesota, perch and crappies are listed as separate species to achieve management results.

Would you support separating panfish into species specific categories statewide for the purpose of species management?

92. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 93 – Removal of trophy muskie designation for Pelican Lake, Oneida County

Local anglers and property owners around Pelican Lake, in Oneida County, consider the lake more of an “action” muskie fishery than a “trophy” muskie fishery. However, currently, there is a 50” size limit on the lake. The local lake association and town boards would like to see the lake returned to a 34” size limit for muskies. They believe that a trophy muskie is in the eyes of the beholder, and feel that anglers should be allowed to keep muskies over 34”. Therefore, local residents wish to restore the 34” size limit on Pelican Lake.

Would you support changing the 50” size limit for muskies on Pelican Lake in Oneida County to a 34” muskie size limit?

93. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 94 – 50” minimum length size limit for muskies on Whitefish Lake, Sawyer County

The current size limit for muskie on Whitefish Lake in Sawyer County is 34”. Local anglers feel that at this size they have not come close to their potential growth in this body of water. It is a costly venture to stock extended growth muskies to only have them harvested at their now legal size of 34”. In addition, Whitefish Lake is connected to Lac Courte Oreilles and Grindstone Lakes each of which has a 50” size limit on muskies.

Would you support changing the regulation on the minimum musky size limit on Whitefish Lake in Sawyer County from 34” to a 50” size limit?

94. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 95 – Lower bag limit on crappies north of Hwy. 8

According to northern anglers, the overall size of crappies being caught on many northern lakes appears to be dropping. The problem may be the over harvest of large crappies. Anecdotally, it has been suggested that most crappie fisherman at the current time do not practice catch and release, as is done in muskie, bass or walleye fishing. Currently, crappies are included in the category of panfish and do not have separate bag limits on most waters in Wisconsin. According to popular data, more people fish for crappies in Wisconsin than any other fish except walleye.

Would you support the DNR managing crappies as separate species, so that lower bag limits could be set on lakes and rivers north of Hwy 8?

95. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 96 – Muskie size limit on Lake Redstone, Sauk County

On Lake Redstone the current size limit for muskies is 40”. Local anglers are concerned that muskies are being harvested before they are at good spawning size on Lake Redstone. It is felt that Lake Redstone has great potential to produce trophy class muskies due to the fertility of the lake and a good forage base and that extra protection is necessary to allow the muskies in the lake to reach their full growth potential.

Would you support increasing the size limit for muskies on Lake Redstone in Sauk County from 40” to a 50” size limit?

96. YES _____ NO _____

QUESTION 97 – Pattern Lake walleye regulations, Florence County

In 1997, special walleye size and bag limits were established on Pattern Lake in Florence County to reduce the number of undersize walleye being lost through hooking mortality. Currently, there is no minimum size limit on walleye but you can only keep one fish over 14” in your daily bag limit of 5 fish.

Based on results of a fish survey taken on Pattern Lake by the DNR in August, 2000 the young of the year walleye count was above average, and now the lake has a balanced age structure. Local anglers feel that special regulations are no longer needed. Based on the lake survey data, the Pattern Lake property owners association is requesting that Pattern Lake be returned to the more liberal and more common walleye regulations.

Would you support restoring Pattern Lake walleye regulations to a daily bag limit of 5 fish with a size limit of 15”?

97. YES _____ NO _____

How to Write a Resolution

Resolution Content

Each year the Conservation Congress accepts written resolutions from the public, in each county throughout the state regarding natural resource issues of statewide concern. These resolutions are introduced by the public in attendance during the Conservation Congress county meeting that is held annually in conjunction with the DNR Spring Fish and Wildlife Rules Hearings in April.

In order for a resolution to be accepted for further consideration by the Conservation Congress and for public vote at the annual Conservation Congress county meeting, all resolutions introduced must meet the following requirements:

1. The concern must be of statewide impact.
2. The concern must be practical, achievable and reasonable.
3. The resolution must have a clear title.
4. The resolution must clearly define the concern.
5. Current state statutes and laws must be considered, with reasonable cause for change being presented.
6. The resolution must clearly suggest a solution to the concern and a description of further action desired.

NOTE: If the resolution defines an unresolved concern at the local county level, or district level within your Congress district (see District Map, page 38). Please make sure to indicate whether or not you have already spoken with local department staff and your local county congress delegates.

Resolution Format

- ✓ The resolutions must be typed or legible hand written 8 ½ x 11 white paper.
- ✓ Resolutions must be 250 words or less, on one side of an 8 ½ x 11 white sheet of paper and there will be no attachments or additional sheets accepted for the same resolution.
- ✓ The author's name, mailing address, county, telephone number and signature is required to be at the bottom of the resolution.

Resolution Presentation

- Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution within the county. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced.
- No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the Spring Hearings.
- Written resolutions not meeting the above criteria and/or verbal resolutions will not be accepted.
- Provide the Congress County Chair with **TWO COPIES** of the resolution for submission at the beginning of the evening, one to be part of the official record and the other to be posted for public viewing.
- Individuals in attendance at the meeting can vote on the resolution being introduced within the county.

Sample Resolution

Title: Spring Dinosaur Hunting Season

The Problem:

Dinosaurs are a threat to agriculture across the state, especially in April and May, because they make deep footprints in newly planted farm fields, damaging the emerging crops. The problem is aggravated in southern Wisconsin, because dinosaurs are migrating across the state line to avoid hunting pressure in Illinois.

There is already an overpopulation of dinosaurs in Wisconsin.

At present, state law does not permit dinosaur hunting at any time during the year. We feel that Wisconsin law should be consistent with Illinois, which permits dinosaur hunting in the spring.

Wisconsin farmers are suffering significant crop damage because of dinosaur incursions.

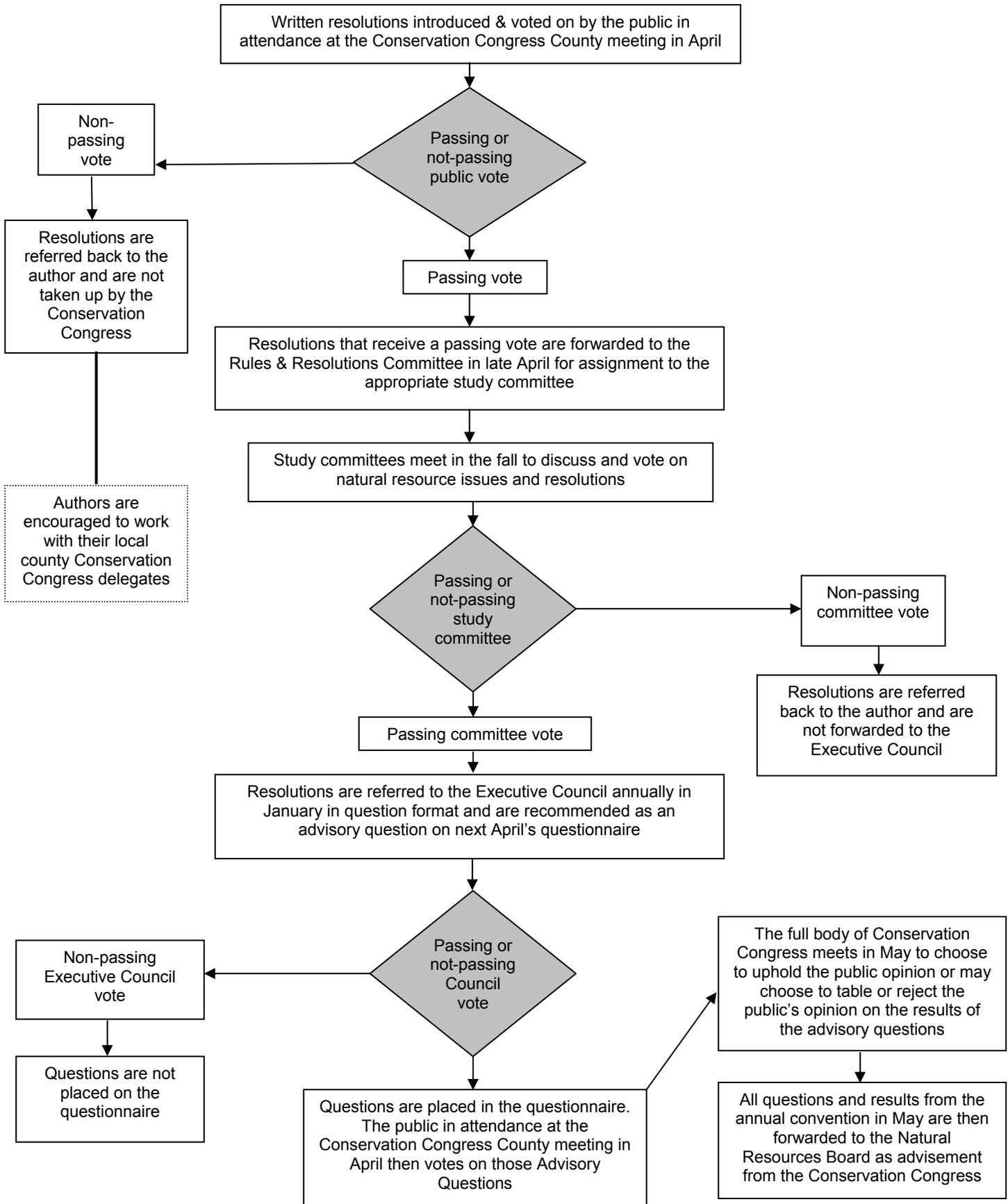
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Buffalo County on April 16, 2007 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule change allowing a spring dinosaur hunting season.

Name of Author: Fred Flintstone
Name of Organization (*optional*): Private Citizen
Address: W12345 State Road 3
City, State, Zip Code: Bedrock, Wisconsin 54231
Name of the County Introducing In: Buffalo

Telephone Number (*including area code*): 123-456-0789

See WCC Resolution Process (page 47)

The Conservation Congress Resolution Process



ORDER OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
REPEALING, RENUMBERING AND AMENDING, AMENDING, REPEALING AND RECREATING AND CREATING RULES

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board proposes an order to repeal ss. NR 10.01(1)(g)1.d. and i., 10.01(1)(g)2.c. and h., 10.01(1)(g)3.c. and h., 10.01(1)(g)4.c. and h., 10.01(3)(bm), 10.01(3)(f)2., 10.06(6)(r), 10.31(b) and (e), and 11.01(2); to amend ss. NR 10.001(9w), 10.01(2)(f)4.a., 10.01(2)(f)3., 10.01(3)(b), 10.01(3)(e)2., 10.01(3)(es), 10.01(3)(ev), 10.07(2)(b)6., 10.09(1)(c)1.a., 10.104(7)(b), 10.105(4), (5) and (6), 10.11 (4) and (5), 10.13(1)(b)5. and 6., 12.35(4), 12.36(3)(b)7., 19.025(2)(d) and 19.60(3)(a)4.; to repeal and recreate ss. NR 10.01(3)(f), 10.106(1), 10.13(1)(b)16 and 10.29; and to create ss. NR 10.001(2p), 10.001(5v), 10.001(19b) and (19c), 10.01(3)(e)2.i., 10.01(3)(et)1.cv., 10.09(1)(c)1.f., 10.105(7), 19.001(8t) and (8v), and 19.025(3)(title)(dm) relating to hunting and trapping regulations, wildlife damage and nuisance control, closed areas and game refuges.

WM-01-10

Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources

Statutes Interpreted and Explanation of Agency Authority: The department has interpreted the following statutes as providing the authority to promulgate rules regarding hunting, trapping, closed areas and game refuges: ss. 23.09(2)(b), 29.014, 29.053(3), 29.059, 29.089, 29.192 and 29.193 Stats.

Statutory Authority and Explanation of Agency Authority: Statutes that authorize the promulgation of these rules include: ss. 23.09(2)(b), 29.014, 29.053(3), 29.059, 29.089, 29.192 and 29.193 Stats. These statutes specifically provide the department with authority to establish game refuges, maintain open and closed seasons and other regulations to conserve fish and game and ensure opportunities for hunting and trapping, provide additional hunting opportunities for persons who are physically disabled, report the number and kind of animal taken by hunters and trappers and authorize and regulate hunting on land in state parks. All rules promulgated under this authority are subject to review under ch. 227, Stats.

Related Rule or Statute: There are no state rules or statutes that directly relate to the provisions that are proposed in this administrative order.

Plain Language Analysis: The department has recommended modifications to chapters NR 10, 11, 12 and 19, Wis. Adm. Code, relating to hunting, trapping, closed areas and game refuges. These rule changes are proposed for inclusion in the 2010 Spring Hearing Questionnaire. Specifically, these proposals do the following:

Sections 1 and 23 establish a definition and allow the use of atlats for small game hunting.

Sections 2, 29 and 30 allow the use of colony traps for muskrats and establish size standards and regulations.

Sections 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 32 and 33 eliminate the Burnett County and Rock Prairie Canada Goose Management Subzones.

Sections 4, 21, 36 and 39 establish and clarify definitions of a normal "agricultural or gardening practice" and "manipulation" for the purposes of enforcing existing prohibitions of baiting and feeding wild animals.

Section 9 allows participation in the youth turkey hunting season by 16 and 17 year olds.

Sections 10 and 31 establish turkey hunting seasons and zones at Hartman Creek, Straight Lake, and the Glacial Heritage Area State Parks.

Sections 11 and 12 establish a single, consistent raccoon season opener for residents and non-residents.

Section 13 allows firearm deer hunting at Nelson Dewey state park during the traditional season in November.

Section 14 allows deer hunting on newly acquired lands at Buckhorn state park during all normal firearm deer hunting seasons.

Section 15 allows muzzleloader deer hunting at Big Bay state park during the normal statewide muzzleloader season that follows the traditional November firearm season.

Section 16 Establishes firearm and archery deer hunting seasons at proposed Glacial Heritage Area state parks that are consistent with other CWD Management Zone state park hunting seasons.

Section 17 allows participation in the youth deer hunting season by 16 and 17 year olds.

Section 18 and 19 establish a single, consistent statewide opening date for fox hunting and trapping and coyote trapping.

Section 21 eliminates the 2:00 p.m. pheasant hunting closure at Scuppernong River Habitat Management Area in Waukesha County and allows pheasant hunting all day.

Section 22 allows the use of scopes on muzzleloading firearms during the muzzleloader-only deer hunting season.

Section 24 provides that all deer hunting licenses which are issued to 10 year-olds to 17 year-olds will include a carcass tag that is valid for an antlerless deer in any unit statewide.

Sections 25 and 26 allow the transportation of whole deer carcasses from the CWD zone to other areas if the whole carcass is taken directly to a licensed meat processor or taxidermist.

Section 27 and 28 allow dividing a deer into five parts prior to registration in order to facilitate removal from the field. These sections also repeal, recreate and amend provisions which allow quartering bear and elk so that they may be divided into five parts in order to more easily facilitate removal from the field.

Sections 34 and 35 increases the penalty for violation animal damage abatement program requirements by clarifying that program participation can be denied for the following program year in addition to the current year.

Sections 37 and 38 clarify the definition of “novice participant” for learn to hunt programs.

Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal Regulations: Federal regulations allow states to manage the wildlife resources located within their boundaries provided they do not conflict with regulations established in the Federal Register. None of these rule changes violate or conflict with the provisions established in the Federal Code of Regulations.

Comparison with rules in Adjacent States: These rule change proposals do not represent significant policy changes and do not differ significantly from surrounding states. All surrounding states have regulations and rules in place for the management and recreational use of wild game and furbearer species that are established based on needs that are unique to that state’s resources and public desires.

Iowa allows the use of atlatls for small game hunting and at least 12 other states allow their use, primarily for small or non-game species. In some of these state, non-game includes rabbits, squirrels, raccoon, fox, coyote and other species that would be considered small game or furbearers in Wisconsin.

All of Wisconsin’s surrounding states allow deer or turkey hunting in certain situations on properties which are comparable to state parks in Wisconsin and have a wide variety of season types and firearm or archery options.

The federal maximum age for participation in special youth waterfowl hunting seasons is 15. Minnesota allows participation by 12 to 17 year olds in its youth turkey hunts. Most of Iowa’s hunts are for 12 – 15 year olds. Michigan youth hunts are for 10 to 16 year olds. The minimum age for Illinois youth hunts is generally 10 but the maximum is either 15 or 16, varies from pheasant to deer.

Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois all have consistent raccoon season opening dates for residents and non-residents. Michigan does not allow non-resident raccoon trapping until a month after the resident season has opened, however, Michigan does not allow trapping or fur harvest by Wisconsin residents.

Minnesota does not allow scopes on muzzleloaders. Illinois, Michigan and Iowa do allow the use of scopes.

All of Wisconsin’s surrounding states have a consistent statewide opening day for fox. The coyote season also opens on the same day statewide in Wisconsin’s surrounding states. While those states do not have zones for the same species, the fox and coyote seasons are different in all surrounding states except Iowa.

Minnesota allows quartering deer in the field and requires that the head of the deer remain attached to one of the quarters. Iowa requires deer to remain intact until the animal is processed for consumption. Wisconsin’s other surrounding states do not prohibit quartering deer in the field to facilitate removal.

Colony traps are legal in Minnesota but not allowed in Illinois. In Iowa and Michigan colony traps are legal only for muskrats and must be entirely submerged.

Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies: The rule changes included in this order do not deviate from current department policy on the management of wildlife and the regulation of hunting and trapping.

This rule proposal would allow small game hunting with an implement called an atlatl. An atlatl is a primitive device that achieves the velocity needed to strike a target with a dart by the use of a lever. The efficiency of this device may be comparable to traditional archery gear. Currently small game animals may be hunted with firearms, air guns, archery gear, and crossbows (if authorized by permit). In this proposal, small game includes species which are unprotected under current rule.

This rule would allow the use of traps which are capable of capturing multiple muskrats in one setting, commonly called colony traps. Maximum trap dimensions and placement restrictions are established and the use of bait is prohibited in order to limit

the number of animals captured in one setting of a trap to three or four and minimize the chance of catching non-target species. This rule specifies that colony traps may only be used for muskrat but mink that are incidentally captured could be retained and utilized by the trapper. Because this trap type completely encloses the trapped animal in a cage, fur damage by predators is minimized. Colony traps do not have moving parts other than a one-way gravity drop entrance and will not create conflict with other wetland dependant activities such as duck hunting.

Elimination of the Burnett County and Rock Prairie Canada Goose Management Subzones is proposed because they are no longer needed with the recovery of year-round populations of resident geese.

Under current regulations on the practice of baiting and feeding wild animals, normal agricultural or gardening practices and crop manipulation are not considered baiting. These practices are not defined in administrative code. For the purposes of enforcing current prohibitions of baiting and feeding wild animals this proposal more specifically defines a normal agricultural or gardening practice by clarifying that, once a crop is harvested, it is considered to be bait if it is placed back on the landscape. If a crop is placed in an area, such as fenced pasture for the purpose of feeding livestock, it is not considered to be bait.

Currently, participation in the youth turkey and deer hunting seasons is allowed only by youth ages 10 to 15. This proposal would expand participation in those seasons by allowing 16 and 17 year olds. In 2008, the number of 16 and 17 year olds who purchased licenses to hunt during the regular firearm deer seasons was 18,749.

Hunting at state park properties is prohibited by state statute unless the department has promulgated rules that specifically allow hunting for deer, turkeys, or small game at an individual park property. Turkey hunting is currently allowed during the first three of the six spring turkey hunting periods at 14 state parks. These properties are managed primarily for outdoor recreational activities other than hunting but, by allowing hunting prior to times when property use increases, hunting can be accommodated while minimizing user conflict. This rule would expand turkey hunting opportunities at three properties, Straight Lake, Hartman Creek and the newly proposed Glacial Heritage Area state park. Fall turkey hunting is not allowed at any state parks and is not proposed for these three.

This rule would establish a single, consistent raccoon season opener for residents and non-residents. The current season restricts non-residents from the first two weeks of the fall season. There is, however, no measurable level of competition for this resource between residents and non-residents. Since 2006 the department sold 6, 6, and 5 non-resident trapping licenses, respectively. Non-resident furbearer hunting licenses average 35-40 annually with many purchased specifically for bobcat hunting. This would be consistent with all other current Wisconsin non-resident furbearer hunting and trapping seasons, which open with the resident season opener. This proposal is a simplification of current rule and there is no biological reason for the existing delay for non-residents.

Hunting at state park properties is prohibited by state statute unless the department has promulgated rules that specifically allow hunting for deer, turkeys, or small game at an individual park property. Current rule authorizes rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader deer hunting opportunities at 25 state parks. This proposal would expand deer hunting opportunities at Nelson Dewey state park by allowing hunting during the traditional firearm season in November. It would allow deer hunting on newly acquired lands at Buckhorn state park during all normal firearm deer hunting seasons. The proposal allows muzzleloader deer hunting at Big Bay state park during the normal statewide muzzleloader season that follows the traditional November firearm season. Finally, this rule would establish firearm and archery deer hunting seasons at proposed Glacial Heritage Area state parks which are consistent with other CWD Management Zone state park hunting seasons. Deer hunting at state parks provides hunting opportunities in ways that are designed to minimize conflicts with non-hunting state park users and to control deer herd impacts on natural vegetation.

Under this proposal, the north and south zones for fox hunting and trapping seasons would be eliminated so that the seasons for fox hunting and trapping would open concurrently statewide. The coyote trapping season, which is the same as the fox season, is revised in the same way under this proposal. This will provides hunters in the old south zone with an additional two weeks of harvest opportunity. There appears no biological reason to delay southern seasons by 8 days. This proposal simplifies an unneeded complication. A person in southern Wisconsin, if concerned that pelts will not be prime under the early season framework, can simply chose to delay harvest.

This proposal would eliminate the 2:00 p.m. pheasant hunting closure at Scuppernong River Habitat Management Area in Waukesha County and allow pheasant hunting all day. Scuppernong was once a Wildlife Area and was incorporated into the Kettle Moraine State Forest Southern Unit in 2001 and renamed the Scuppernong River Habitat Area. The early closure was designated to reduce pressure immediately following stocking, giving the birds time to disperse. This area does receive heavy hunting pressure but also has some of the best and most pheasant habitat in the County. The area is usually stocked with pheasants from the state game farm in the late afternoon and hunters only have a few hours to pursue birds. Adequate carry over of birds to the next day is expected with this rule change. The remainder of the forest is open after 2:00 p.m. for pheasant hunting and removing the early closure will make for consistent regulations in the area and avoid hunter confusion during the pheasant season.

This proposal would allow the use of scopes with magnifying power on muzzleloaders during the muzzleloader-only season that follows the traditional firearm season. Scopes are not currently allowed during the muzzleloader only season because, when the season was initially developed, public support was for a hunt that focused on the use of traditional, primitive

firearms. Public opinion has evolved and appears now to favor allowing the use of scopes. Department staff people do not anticipate that this proposal will have any effect on deer herd management.

Currently, the Junior Gun Deer License includes one Gun Buck Deer Carcass Tag valid in any unit statewide and one Antlerless Deer Carcass Tag valid in Earn-A-Buck and Herd Control Units. In an effort to provide youth hunters with added opportunities to harvest a deer, this proposal would make the antlerless tag valid in any unit statewide.

Currently, only boned out meat, quarters that do not contain any part of the spine or head, hides, antlers, and finished taxidermy mounts may be transported from a CWD area in Wisconsin or another state or province. Allowing the transportation of deer carcasses from a CWD management areas to other areas will provide hunters with greater flexibility while still preventing environmental contamination through discarded animal parts by requiring that carcasses that contain any part of the spinal column and heads be delivered only to a licensed meat processor (not an unlicensed individual who cuts up deer only) or to a registered taxidermist within 72 hours. Licensed meat processors are required to properly dispose of carcass waste materials under DATCP rules and provisions are established in this proposal to require that taxidermists properly dispose of the parts of the carcasses of highest risk for spreading CWD.

The practice of quartering deer prior to registration, in order to facilitate removal from the field, is currently prohibited for most hunters. This proposal would allow a hunter to divide a deer into as many as five parts only for the purpose of removing the animal from the field. Currently bear and elk may be quartered but this proposal will allow dividing them up to five times which will be consistent with deer and more practical to facilitate removal from the field. In order to make identification easier for registration station staff and to assure that parts of different animals are not confused, this proposal requires that the head remain attached to one part of deer and bear and that no more than one deer or bear which is not intact may be possessed or transported prior to registration.

This proposal would increase the penalty for Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program enrollees being uncooperative or wrongfully denying public hunting access. Under the proposal, enrollees found in violation would not be eligible for WDACP assistance or claims for an additional calendar year instead of the remainder of the current year. In many situations, the department is unaware of hunter access complaints until after the deer hunting season meaning enrollees proven to be uncooperative or wrongfully denying hunter access are not eligible for WDACP assistance for only a month or two. Under this proposal, program violations may be deterred by the increasing this penalty.

Finally, this proposal would clarify the definition of "novice participant" for learn to hunt programs in order to focus participation on hunters who are not likely to be exposed to hunting experiences unless they participate in the program. A concern with the current program is that participation is currently allowed by any novice, including those who do have access to mentors and who will be exposed to hunting regardless of participation in a learn to hunt program. A more precise definition will allow limited resources to be focused on novice hunters who will benefit the most from a mentored hunting experience.

Analysis and Supporting Documents Used to Determine Effect on Small Business or in Preparation of Economic Impact Report: These rules, and the legislation which grants the department rule making authority, do not have a significant fiscal effect on the private sector or small businesses.

Effects on Small Businesses: These rules are applicable to individual sportspersons and impose no compliance or reporting requirements for small business, nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule.

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Deadline for Written Comments: The deadline for written comments is April 12, 2010.

Section 1. NR 10.001(2p) is created to read:

NR 10.001(2p) "Atlatl" means a hand held device that uses leverage to achieve velocity in throwing a dart or spear and includes a bearing surface which allows the user to temporarily store energy during the throw. It consists of a shaft with a cup or a spur in which the butt of the projectile rests. It is held near the end farthest from the cup, and the dart is thrown by the action of the upper arm and wrist

Section 2. NR 10.001(5v) is created to read:

NR 10.001(5v) "Colony trap" means an enclosure type device designed to allow the capture of one or more fur-bearing animals in a single setting as a waterset. Entrance to the device is gained by one or more one-way entrances with overall dimensions of the trap not to exceed 6 inches in width, 6 inches in height and 36 inches in length.

Section 3. NR 10.001(9w) is amended to read:

NR 10.001(9w) For the purpose of administering the Canada goose hunting permit system, "Exterior goose management zone" or the "Exterior zone" means all that part of the state outside of the Collins and Horicon goose

management zones described in s. NR 10.31, and includes the Mississippi River, Brown County, ~~Burnett County,~~ and New Auburn and ~~Rock Prairie~~ subzones which shall be treated as separate management subzones for other purposes.

Section 4. NR 10.001(19b) and (19c) are created to read:

NR 10.001(19b) “Manipulation” means the alteration of natural vegetation, agricultural, or garden crops by activities that include but are not limited to mowing, shredding, disking, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning, or herbicide treatments. The term manipulation does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed, or other feed after removal from or storage on the field or garden where grown.

(19c) “Normal agricultural or gardening practice” means a planting or harvesting operation undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation of the remaining vegetation after a crop has been harvested and removal of the fruit, grain, hay or vegetable material from the lands where grown. For the purpose of enforcement of s. NR 10.07(2) and (2m), and s. NR 19.60, placement or storage of any salt, mineral supplements, fruits, nuts, grain, hay or vegetable crops in any area accessible to deer, bear, elk or wild turkeys is not considered a normal agricultural or gardening practices unless the material has been placed for and is being used as feed for confined livestock as defined under s. ATCP 10.01(62) which are present within the enclosed lands where the feed is placed.

Section 5. NR 10.01(1)(g)1. d. and i. are repealed.

Section 6. NR 10.01(1)(g)2. c. and h. are repealed.

Section 7. NR 10.01(1)(g)3.c. and h. are repealed.

Section 8. NR 10.01(1)(g)4.c. and h. are repealed.

Section 9. NR 10.01(2)(f)4.a., as affected by CR 09-024, is amended to read:

NR 10.01(2)(f)4.a. Persons under the age of ~~46~~ 18 years of age who possess a valid carcass tag issued for the current license year, and all necessary ch. 29, Stats., approvals may hunt turkeys for 2 consecutive days starting on the Saturday immediately preceding the beginning of the spring turkey hunting season established in subd. 1. in the turkey management zone for which the carcass tag was issued. Only one male or bearded turkey may be killed and shall be tagged immediately with a valid carcass tag for that zone pursuant to s. NR 10.25 (2). Hunters shall be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older and be in compliance with s. 29.592, Stats. One adult may not accompany more than 2 hunters and pursuant to s. 29.592, Stats., not more than one of the 2 hunters may be age 10 or 11, or be a person who does not possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state, country or province. All other spring turkey hunting regulations apply.

Section 10. NR 10.01(2)(f)3. is amended to read:

Kind of animal and locality	Open season (all dates inclusive)	Limit
NR 10.01(2)(f) 3. Zones 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 2A, 2C, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4C and the Mill Bluff state park portions of zone 1 as described in s. NR 10.29.	Spring season beginning on the Wednesday nearest April 13 and continuing Wednesday through Sunday for 3 consecutive 5-day time periods.	Only male or bearded turkeys may be killed. The possession limit corresponds to the number of carcass tags issued.

Section 11. NR 10.01(3)(b) is amended to read:

Kind of animal and locality	Open season (all dates inclusive)	Limit
NR 10.01(3)(b) Raccoon (resident hunting and trapping) In all counties of the state	Beginning on the Saturday nearest October 17 and continuing through February 15.	None

Section 12. NR 10.01(3)(bm) is repealed.

Section 13. NR 10.01(3)(e)2. is amended to read:

Kind of animal and locality	Open season (all dates inclusive)	Limit
NR 10.01(3)(e)2.		
b. The following state parks and trails: the portion of Big Bay state park located on Madeline Island west of a north-south line beginning at the park entrance on Haines road, Governor Thompson, Elroy-Sparta, Hartman Creek, Interstate, the Plum Island portion of Grand Traverse Islands, Mill Bluff, <u>Nelson Dewey</u> , Newport, Rock Island, Straight Lake, Wyalusing (73A) and Tuscobia-Park Falls.	Firearm season beginning on the Saturday preceding the Thanksgiving holiday and continuing for 9 consecutive days.	One buck deer and additional antlerless deer as authorized by antlerless deer permits issued under s. NR 10.104.

Section 14. NR 10.01(3)(e)2.i. is created to read:

Kind of animal and locality	Open season (all dates inclusive)	Limit
NR 10.01(3)(e)2.		
i. <u>Buckhorn state park in the area east of 19th avenue, north of county HWY G, and north of 31st street.</u>	During firearm and muzzleloader seasons established in ss. NR 10.01(3)(e)1.a., c. and e, 10.01(3)(es)1., and 10.01(3)(ev).	The same as established for the surrounding deer management unit.

Section 15. NR 10.01(3)(es) is amended to read:

Kind of animal and locality	Open season (all dates inclusive)	Limit
NR 10.01(3)(es) Muzzleloader deer season.		
3. <u>Big Bay</u> , Mill Bluff, Newport, Rock Island, and Straight Lake state parks.	Beginning on the Monday immediately following the Thanksgiving holiday and continuing for 10 consecutive days.	One buck deer and additional antlerless deer as authorized by antlerless deer permits issued under s. NR 10.104.

Section 16. NR 10.01(3)(et)1.cv. is created to read:

NR 10.01(3)(et) Special disease control hunts.		
1. Disease management zone.		
cv.	Glacial Heritage Area state park. No person may hunt deer in the Glacial Heritage Area state park without first obtaining a permit which authorizes access to the park.	1. Early firearm season. A firearm deer hunt beginning on the Thursday nearest October 15 and continuing for 4 consecutive days. Legal hunting hours are those established in s. NR 10.06 (5) except that hunting hours shall close at 12:00 p.m. daily.
		2. Gun deer season. A firearm deer hunt beginning on the second Saturday immediately preceding the
		One antlerless deer per unused deer carcass tag or permit described under s. NR 10.104 (11).
		One deer of either sex per unused deer carcass tag or permit described

		Thanksgiving holiday and continuing for 9 consecutive days.	under s. NR 10.104 (11).
		3. Muzzleloader season. A muzzleloader hunt as established in s. NR 10.01 (3) (es) beginning on the Monday immediately following the Thanksgiving holiday and continuing for 10 consecutive days.	One deer of either sex per unused deer carcass tag or permit described under s. NR 10.104 (11).
		4. Late firearm season. A firearm deer hunt beginning on the second Thursday following the Thanksgiving holiday and continuing for 4 consecutive days.	One antlerless deer per unused deer carcass tag or permit described under s. NR 10.104 (11).
		5. Archery season. An archery hunt beginning on the Saturday immediately preceding the Thanksgiving holiday and continuing through the Wednesday immediately prior to the opening of the late firearm season in this section.	One deer of either sex per unused deer carcass tag or permit described under s. NR 10.104 (11).
		Beginning the second Thursday following the Thanksgiving holiday and continuing for 4 consecutive days.	One antlerless deer per unused deer carcass tag or permit described under s. NR 10.104 (11).
		Beginning on the day immediately following the 4-day antlerless hunt above and continuing through the Sunday nearest January 6.	One deer of either sex per unused deer carcass tag or permit described under s. NR 10.104 (11).
<p>Note: Glacial Heritage Area state park lands may be leased to another entity for management purposes and access permits to hunt deer on those lands would be obtained from that entity.</p>			

Section 17. NR 10.01(3)(ev), as affected by CR 09-024, is amended to read:

NR 10.01(3)(ev) *Special youth gun deer hunt event.* Persons under ~~46~~ 18 years of age who may hunt deer with a firearm for 2 consecutive days beginning on the Saturday nearest October 8 in all deer management units, except state park units and deer management unit 48. Allowable types of firearms are those authorized on the first day of the regular gun deer season under par. (e) or (et). The bag limit is one buck deer per valid gun deer carcass tag and additional antlerless deer per valid antlerless deer carcass tags issued under par. (ed) or s. NR 10.104 (8). Hunters shall be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older and be in compliance with s. 29.592, Stats. One adult may not accompany more than 2 hunters and pursuant to s. 29.592, Stats., not more than one of the 2 hunters may be age 10 or 11, or be a person who does not possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state, country or province. ~~and all~~ All other hunting regulations apply. Blaze orange requirements under s. 29.301 (2), Stats., apply to all hunters on these days except waterfowl hunters. Earn-a-buck requirements do not apply to youth hunters hunting in CWD zones identified in s. NR 10.28 (3) or non-CWD earn-a-buck units when using their regular gun buck deer carcass tag. Youth hunters may harvest and tag bucks or antlerless deer in CWD zones as authorized by CWD tags under s. NR 10.104 (11) or CWD landowner permit tags issued pursuant to s. NR 10.41 (3).

Section 18. NR 10.01(3)(f) is repealed and recreated to read:

Kind of animal and locality	Open season (all dates inclusive)	Limit
NR 10.01(3)(f) <i>Fox, all species</i>		
1. Statewide except below.	Beginning on the Saturday nearest October 17 and continuing through February 15.	None
2. Governor Dodge, Mill Bluff and Mirror Lake state parks.	Nov. 1 – Dec. 15.	None

Section 19. NR 10.01(3)(f)2. is repealed.

Section 20. NR 10.06(6)(r) is repealed.

Section 21. NR 10.07(2)(b)6. is amended to read:

NR 10.07(2)(b)6. With the aid of crops planted and left standing as agricultural crops, gardens, or wildlife food plots.

Section 22. NR 10.09(1)(c)1.a. is amended to read:

NR 10.09(1)(c)1.a. Muzzleloaders may be used for hunting, except that any muzzleloader used in the muzzleloading season described in s. NR 10.01 (3) (es) shall have a solid breech plug attached with threads, be capable of being loaded only from the muzzle; and use black powder or other black powder substitute, and may ~~not~~ include a mounted telescopic sight.

Section 23. NR 10.09(1)(c)1.f. is created to read:

NR 10.09(1)(c)1.f. Atlatls may be used for hunting small game.

Section 24. NR 10.104(7)(b) is amended to read:

NR 10.104(7) (b) *Gun deer carcass tag.* Each license which authorizes the hunting of deer with a firearm, shall include one carcass tag that is valid for taking one buck deer in any unit statewide, except in units that are included in an earn-a-buck season under s. NR 10.01 (3) (ed) 1. b. or (et) when an antlerless deer must be tagged prior to the harvest of a buck. Each license which authorizes the hunting of deer with a firearm by a person who is under 18 years of age shall also include one carcass tag that is valid for the taking of one antlerless deer in any unit statewide in place of a tag under 10.01(3)(ed)a.

Section 25. NR 10.105(4), (5) and (6) are amended to read:

NR 10.105 Transportation of bear, deer and other members of the cervid family.
 (4) Transportation of deer from a chronic wasting disease management zone. Unless otherwise authorized by the department, the ~~The~~ carcasses of deer harvested in a chronic wasting disease management zone identified in s. NR 10.28 (3) may not be transported outside of that zone except for the following, or as provided under sub. (7).

- (a) Carcasses transported into deer management units adjacent to the chronic wasting disease management zone.
- (b) Meat that is cut and wrapped, either commercially or privately.
- (c) Quarters or other portions of meat to which no part of the spinal column is attached.
- (d) Meat that has been deboned.
- (e) Hides with no head attached.
- (f) Finished taxidermy heads.
- (g) Antlers with no ~~meat or~~ tissue attached except for velvet on antlers when possession of the velvet antlers is authorized pursuant to s. 29.347(3)(b), Stats.
- (h) Skulls with or without antlers attached ~~and with which have no meat or brain or lymphoid~~ tissue attached.
- (i) Upper canine teeth.

(5) Transportation of members of the family cervidae from areas in other states and countries where CWD has not been identified. Hunters transporting carcasses into Wisconsin from other states or countries shall possess, and exhibit to agents of the department upon request, registration or other materials showing which state, province of Canada or other country ~~whether the carcass was harvested in a CWD area or a non-CWD area.~~

(6) Transportation of members of the family cervidae from other states and countries where CWD has been identified. Unless otherwise authorized by the department, the ~~The~~ carcasses of cervid species harvested in a ~~management unit or similarly identifiable area~~ state, province of Canada or other country where CWD has been verified by a government agency in ~~another~~ that state, province or country, may not be transported into this state except for the following, or as provided under sub. (7).

- (a) Meat that is cut and wrapped, either commercially or privately.
- (b) Quarters or other portions of meat to which no part of the spinal column is attached.
- (c) Meat that has been deboned.
- (d) Hides with no head attached.
- (e) Finished taxidermy heads.
- (f) Antlers with no ~~meat or~~ tissue attached except for velvet on antlers when possession of the velvet antlers is authorized pursuant to s. 29.347(3)(b), Stats.
- (g) Skulls with or without antlers attached ~~and with~~ which have no ~~meat or~~ brain or lymphoid tissue attached.
- (h) Upper canine teeth.

Section 26. NR 10.105(7) is created to read:

NR 10.105(7) CERVID CARCASSES WITH ANY PORTION OF THE SPINAL COLUMN OR HEAD ATTACHED. Notwithstanding sub. (4) or (6), carcasses which have any part of the spinal column or head attached may be transported from the chronic wasting disease management zone to other parts of this state, or into this state if such carcass is submitted to a meat processor licensed under s. 97.42(2)(a), Stats., or a taxidermist permitted under s. 29.506(2), Stats., for processing and the person who possesses the carcass complies with the following:

(a) That part of the carcass which includes the head and spinal column shall be submitted to a licensed meat processor or permitted taxidermist within 72 hours of entering this state if the carcass originated from out of state, or within 72 hours from the time of registration if the carcass originated from the chronic wasting disease management zone in this state.

(b) The person submitting a carcass to a licensed meat processor or permitted taxidermist as required under this subsection shall inform the meat processor or taxidermist that the carcass originated from the chronic wasting disease management zone or from another state, province or country where CWD has been verified to be present.

(c) Licensed meat processors and permitted taxidermists receiving a cervid carcass under this subsection shall dispose of all inedible parts not exempted under subs. (4) (a) to (i) and (6) (a) to (h), and all parts of the spinal column, brain and lymphoid tissues in a properly permitted landfill or with a renderer licensed under s. Ch. ATCP 57.10.

Section 27. NR 10.106(1) and note are repealed and recreated to read:

NR 10.106(1) Recording deer and bear. (1) CARCASS CONDITION AND TRANSPORTATION. Deer and bear shall be intact and may not be removed from the area specified in this section unless exhibited, registered and tagged except that:

- (a) The entrails may be removed by field dressing.
- (b) Deer and bear may be skinned, and the lower legs from the hooves up to the tarsus joint on the hind legs and from the hooves up to the carpus joint on the front legs may be removed from a deer. The hide and lower legs must be removed from the field along with the deer or bear and exhibited at the time of registration.
- (c) A deer or bear may be divided into not more than five parts, not including the hide and lower legs, only to facilitate removal from the field. The head and neck shall remain attached to one of the other parts of the animal, not including the hide. A person who divides a deer or bear prior to registration:
 1. May not allow the deer or bear to be stored or transported with any other deer or bear that has been divided prior to registration.
 2. Shall not divide any bear in a manner that does not keep one part of the bear intact to allow it to be measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, to determine it was an adult bear of 42 inches or greater.
 3. Must remove all parts from the field except the entrails and exhibit all parts at the time of registration.

Note: Common terms for the tarsus or second major joint on the rear legs up from the hoof include "hock" and "ankle" and common terms for the carpus or second major joint on the front legs up from the hoof include "knee" and "wrist".

Section 28. NR 10.11 (4) and (5) are amended to read:

NR 10.11 (4)(a) *Transportation.* No person may transport an elk from the time the elk is killed to the time it is registered under sub. (5) that is tagged with the carcass tag of another person unless accompanied by the person issued the carcass tag.

(b) *Carcass condition.* Elk may be skinned and ~~quartered~~ the carcass divided into as many a five parts prior to registration. These animals or animal parts may not be removed from zones A and B as established in s. NR 10.37, unless exhibited, registered and tagged.

(5) EXHIBITION AND REGISTRATION. (a) *Exhibition.* Each person who has killed an elk during the open seasons for hunting elk with a ~~guns~~ gun or bows ~~bow~~ shall exhibit and register the elk with the elk carcass tag attached as required by s. 29.347 (2), Stats., at an authorized registration station. If the elk is skinned and the carcass divided into 5 or fewer parts. ~~all quartered, all carcass parts, other than these~~ the entrails removed by field dressing, shall be exhibited when registering the elk.

Section 29. NR 10.13(1)(b) 5. and 6. are amended to read:

NR 10.13(1)(b)5. *Trap, snare, and cable restraint placement.* Set any traps, snares, colony traps or and cable restraints at any time within 15 feet of any beaver dam, except when trapping under the landowner authority established by s. 29.337, Stats., or with a commercially manufactured, enclosed trigger trap.

6. 'Trap, snare, and cable restraint use.' Set, place, operate or possess while trapping, any trap other than a steel jawed trap, enclosed trigger trap, cage or box trap, body gripping trap, colony trap, snare ~~other than that defined in s. NR 10.001 (25e)~~ or cable restraint as defined in s. NR 10.001 (5g) for the purpose of taking, capturing, or killing furbearing animals. Cage or box traps shall be constructed so that after an animal has been captured, no additional animals may enter the trap until the captured animal is removed and the trap is reset.

Section 30. NR 10.13(1)(b)16. is repealed and recreated to read:

NR 10.13(1)(b)16. 'Incidental take of raccoons and mink' (a) No person may retain any raccoon taken incidentally with a cable restraint during the period when the use of cable restraints is authorized under subd. 15. a. unless it is during the open season for raccoons listed in s. NR 10.01 (3) (b). No person may retain any mink taken incidentally with a colony trap unless it is during the open season for mink listed in s. NR 10.01(4)(e).

Section 31. NR 10.29 is repealed and recreated to read:

NR 10.29 Wild turkey hunting zones.

Section 32. NR 10.31(1)(b) and (e) are repealed.

Section 33. NR 11.01(2) is repealed.

Wild Turkey Management Zones



Section 34. NR 12.35(4) is amended to read:

NR 12.35(4) The county shall, as a condition of providing abatement assistance, require full cooperation and assistance of the enrollee in operating, maintaining and applying all abatement measures. An enrollee who engages in abusive or threatening language shall also be considered uncooperative. Uncooperative enrollees shall be ineligible for program abatement assistance for the remainder of the calendar year in which they were uncooperative and the following calendar year. Upon determining an enrollee is uncooperative and ineligible for further program assistance, the county or its agent shall notify the enrollee in writing that the enrollee's program participation is terminated.

Section 35. NR 12.36(3)(b)7 is amended to read:

NR 12.36(3)(b)7 *Complaints.* Upon receiving a written complaint from a hunter denied access, the county, its agent or the department shall review hunting access records required under this chapter to verify compliance. Verification that access requirements have been violated shall require the county or its agent to deny further abatement and claims assistance to the enrollee for calendar year in which the violation occurred and the following calendar year. In addition, an enrollee may be subject to the penalties in s. 29.889 (10), Stats.

Section 36. NR 19.001(8t) and (8v) are created to read:

NR 19.001(8t) "Manipulation" means the alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural or garden crops by activities that include but are not limited to mowing, shredding, disking, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning, or herbicide treatments. The term manipulation does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed, or other feed after removal from or storage on the field or garden where grown.

(8v) "Normal agricultural or gardening practice" means a planting or harvesting operation undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation of the remaining vegetation after a crop has been harvested and removal of the fruit, grain, hay or vegetable material from the lands where grown. For the purpose of enforcement of s. NR 10.07(2) and (2m), and s. NR 19.60, placement or storage of any salt, mineral supplements, fruits, nuts, grain, hay or vegetable crops in any area accessible to deer, bear, elk or wild turkeys is not considered a normal agricultural or gardening practices unless the material has been placed for and is being used as feed for confined livestock as defined under s. ATCP 10.01(62) which are present within the enclosed lands where the feed is placed.

Section 37. NR 19.025(2)(d) is amended to read:

NR 19.025(2)(d) "Novice participant" means for hunting any person who is 10 years old or older, who has ~~had less than 2 years of hunting experience~~ not purchased an approval authorizing hunting in any prior hunting license year, including a class B bear license, for the species that will be pursued in the specific educational outdoor skills activity they desire to attend. For fishing, it means any person who is 5 years of age or older who has less than 2 years of fishing experience.

Section 38. NR 19.025(3)(title)(dm) is created to read:

NR 19.025(3) GENERAL; CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS. (dm) If there are more novice participant applicants for a specific educational outdoor skills activity event or location than the department or applicant sponsoring the event is able to accommodate, the department may select which of the novice participant applicants will be allowed to participate. When making this selection, the department shall give preference to those novice participant applicants who have had the least previous exposure, as determined by the department, to that recreational activity or the least opportunity to accompany others and learn about that recreational activity.

Section 39. NR 19.60(3)(a)4. is amended to read:

NR 19.60(3)(a)4. Standing crops planted and left standing as agricultural crops, gardens, or wildlife food plots that may be used by wild animals.

Section 40. Effective dates. All rules shall take effect on February 1, 2011 except sections 4, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 34, 35, 36 and 39 which shall take effect on the first day of the first month after publication.

Section 41. Board adoption. This rule was approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on _____.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin _____.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By _____
Matthew J. Frank, Secretary

ORDER OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD REPEALING, AMENDING AND CREATING RULES

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board proposes an order to repeal and recreate NR 20.20(26), to repeal 20.20(34)(d)2., 20.20(57)(b), 26.01(57)(a) and (b), 26.05(26), 26.06(57)(b), (d) and (g), 26.09(57)(a) and (b); to amend NR 20.20(2)(a), 20.20(3)(f)1., 20.20(21)(h)1., 20.20(34)(d)1., 20.20(44)(g), 20.20(49)(am), 20.20(51)(a), 20.20(57)(a), (d), (f)1., and (i)4., 20.20(64)(d)1m., 20.20(66)(g)3., 20.20(69)(f)3., 20.20(73)(a)3., 21.04(7)(a) and 23.05(5)(d)1.; and to create NR 20.20(3)(am)2., 20.20(4)(c)3., 20.20(4)(i)4., 20.20(7)(c)2., 20.20(7)(h), 20.20(57)(i)5., 20.20(49)(f)2., 20.20(51)(b)2., 20.20(51)(e)3., 20.20(57)(i)5., 20.20(66)(bm), 20.20(68)(cm), 20.20(69)(c)3. and 20.20(69)(d)3., relating to fishing on the inland, outlying, and boundary waters of Wisconsin.

FH-03-10

Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources

1. Statutes Interpreted: In promulgating this rule, ss. 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053, 29.531 and 29.533, Stats., which authorize fishing, have been interpreted as giving the department the authority to make changes to fishing and clamming regulations on inland and boundary waters of Wisconsin.

2. Statutory Authority: Sections 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053 and 227.11(2)(a), Stats.

3. Explanation of Agency Authority to Promulgate the Proposed Rules Under the Statutory Authority: Sections 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053 grant rule making authority to the department to establish and maintain open and closed seasons for fish and any bag limits, size limits, rest days and conditions governing the taking of fish that will conserve the fish supply and ensure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing; grant that the department may establish limitations relating to taking, possession, transportation, processing, and sale or offer for sale, of nongame species; and provide that the department may regulate fishing on and in all interstate boundary waters, and outlying waters. Section 227.11(2)(a), Stats., expressly confers rulemaking authority on the department to promulgate rules interpreting any statute enforced or administered by it, if the agency considers it necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute.

4. Related Rule or Statute: None.

5. Plain Language Rule Analysis:

Sections 1, 9, 15 and 18 permit motor trolling in Ashland, Iron, Price and Sawyer Counties.

Section 2 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Bear, Horsehead, and Upper and Lower Turtle lakes (Barron County).

Section 3 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Bear, Horseshoe (T36N, R14E, S3, 115 ac.), and Upper and Lower Turtle lakes (Barron County) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 4 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Lake Owen (Bayfield county).

Section 5 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Lake Owen (Bayfield County) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 6 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Big McKenzie lake (Burnett/ Washburn Counties).

Section 7 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Big McKenzie lake (Burnett/ Washburn Counties) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 8 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Metonga lake (Forest County) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Sections 10 and 11 standardize trout regulations for all of the Wolf river (Langlade County), allowing hook and line fishing only with artificial lures from the First Saturday in May at 5:00am until September 30 with a bag limit of 3 and a maximum size of 12 inches. There is also a catch and release season from October 1 to November 15 for hook and line fishing with artificial lures.

Section 12 replaces the current no minimum length limit and 14 to 18 inch protected slot with no minimum length limit but only on fish over 14 inches in length and increases the daily bag limit from 3 to 5 for walleye in the Three Lakes chain and replaces the no minimum length limit but only on fish over 14 inches in length with a 15" minimum length limit on Sevenmile lake, Oneida County.

Section 13 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes (Polk County).

Section 14 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes (Polk County) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 16 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes, Rusk County).

Section 17 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes, Rusk County) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Sections 19 and 21 extends the season on Chippewa flowage (Sawyer County) from the first Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March for all species except muskellunge, walleye, and lake sturgeon.

Section 20 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Whitefish and Sissabagama lakes, and the Chippewa flowage (Sawyer County).

Section 20 also increases the minimum size restriction in Nelson, Sissabagama and Whitefish lakes from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 20 also changes the panfish daily bag limit to 10 fish daily bag limit for all panfish all season on the Chippewa flowage, and creates a continuous open season for panfish. The previous panfish bag limits were 25 with no more than 15 crappie from the first Saturday in May until November 30 but no crappie from December 1 to the first Sunday in March, with fishing for panfish prohibited between the first Sunday in March and the first Saturday in May.

Section 21 also increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in the Chippewa flowage from no minimum to 18 inches. The daily bag limit is unchanged at 3 walleye per day.

Section 22 makes permanent the 45 inch minimum size restriction for muskellunge in Little St. Germain lake (Vilas County). The current 45-inch minimum regulation is scheduled to expire November 30, 2011.

Section 23 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Middle McKenzie, Nancy and Long lakes (Washburn County).

Section 24 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Middle McKenzie (Washburn/ Burnett Counties), Nancy and Long lakes (Washburn County) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 25 increases the minimum size restriction for northern pike on Big Muskego lake including Bass bay (Waukesha County) from 26 inches to 40 inches and reduces the daily bag limit from 2 to 1 fish.

Section 26 increases the minimum size restriction for bass in Marion Pond (Waupaca County) from 14 inches to 18 inches and reduces the daily angler bag limit from 5 to 1. This rule will expire on April 1, 2016.

Section 27 increases the minimum size restriction for northern pike in Marion pond (Waupaca County) from no minimum to 26 inches and reduces the daily angler bag limit from 5 to 2. This rule will expire April 1, 2016.

Section 28 decreases the minimum length restriction to 7 inches for all trout in the Waupaca river downstream of River road. Current regulations are 12 inches for brown trout and rainbow trout, and 8 inches for brook trout. It also increases the daily angler bag from 3 trout to 5 trout.

Section 29 prohibits night fishing from September 15 to the first Saturday in May in the section of the Oconto river from the upstream side of the US 141 Bridge to the Stiles dam (Oconto County).

Section 30 adds a catch-and-release season for Lake Sturgeon on the St. Croix river from October 1 to 15. This section of the St. Croix river is a Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary water, and this section will make Wisconsin rules consistent with Minnesota rules.

Section 31 extends the largemouth and smallmouth bass fishing season on Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters from November 30 to December 31. This will make Wisconsin and Michigan rules consistent.

Sections 32, 33, 34, and 35 eliminate the following fish refuges: on the Chippewa flowage for 500 feet below Moose lake (Sawyer County), on Spider creek between Spider lake and State highway 77 (Sawyer County), on Island creek between Island and Black Dan lakes (Sawyer County), on Malviney creek (Sawyer County), on the unnamed tributary of Lake Chetac from Lake Chetac to 1000 feet upstream (Sawyer County), on the Brunet River from Lake Winter to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer County), on the Couderay river from the Grimh (Radisson) dam to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer County) and on the Little Turtle river and Turtle-Flambeau flowage 200 feet upstream of Popko's Circle road until 200 feet downstream of Popko's Circle road (Iron County).

6. Summary of and Comparison with Existing or Proposed Federal Regulations: None known.

7. Comparison of Similar Rules in Adjacent States: Fisheries management rules are generally similar in the states surrounding Wisconsin. Each bordering state regulates fishing by the use of seasons, bag limits and size limits. Specific seasons, bag and size limits may differ for species across the surrounding states; however, the general principles are similar. Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois all have statewide seasons, bag and size limits for fish species, along with special or experimental regulations on individual waters.

8. Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies Used in Support of the Rule: Rule proposals were developed by fisheries and law enforcement staff to address management and enforcement concerns. Proposals were reviewed for need and adequacy, and approved by a fish team or law enforcement team supervisor and forwarded to regional director for approval. Proposals approved by the regions were forwarded to the Fisheries Management Bureau Director, who conducted a review with the Fisheries Management Board, law enforcement, legal services, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Only proposals approved by the Fisheries Management Bureau Director are included.

9. Analysis and Documentation Used in Support of the Agency’s Determination Under s. 227.114, Stats., (Small Business Impact): The proposed rules do not apply directly to businesses, but to sport anglers.

10. Effect on Small Business, Including How the Rule Will Be Enforced: The proposed rules do not impose any compliance or reporting requirements on small businesses nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule. The rules will be enforced by Conservation Wardens who have arrest powers and may use citations.

11. Agency contact person: Joseph Hennessy, FM/4 , 101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921; email: Joseph.Hennessy@wisconsin.gov; phone: 608.267.9427.

Section 1. NR 20.20(2)(a) is amended to read:

(2) ASHLAND (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(a) All species	1. Kakagon river and sloughs <u>All waters</u>	a. Motor trolling is permitted	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)
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Section 2. NR 20.20(3)(am)2. is created to read:

(3) BARRON (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(am) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Bear, Horseshoe ((T36N, R14E, S3, 115 ac.), Lower Turtle and Upper Turtle lakes	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5	None
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Section 3. NR 20.20(3)(f) is amended to read:

(3) BARRON (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(f) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Red Cedar lake, Hemlock Bear, Horesehead, Lower Turtle, and Upper Turtle lakes	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
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Section 4. NR 20.20(4)(c)3. is created to read:

(4) BAYFIELD (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	3. Lake Owen	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	--
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	5	None

Section 5. NR 20.20(4)(i)4. is created to read:

(4) BAYFIELD (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	4. Lake Owen	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
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Section 6. NR 20.20(7)(c)2. is created to read:

(4) BURNETT (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Big McKenzie lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
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Section 7. NR 20.20(7)(h) is created to read:

(4) BURNETT (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(h) Walleye, sauger, and hybrids	1. Big McKenzie lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
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Section 8. NR 20.20(21)(h)1. is amended to read:

(21) FOREST (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(h) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Crane, Lucerne, <u>Metonga</u> and Pickerel lakes	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
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Section 9. NR 20.20(26) is repealed and recreated to read:

(26) IRON (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(a) All species	1. All waters excluding Etna, Grey, Lost (Iron County-Vilas County line), Minette, Oriole, Pardee and Sherman lakes	a. Motor trolling is permitted	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)
(b) Lake sturgeon	1. North Fork Flambeau river downstream from the Turtle Flambeau flowage dam	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in September to September 30	1 per season	60
(c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Evelyn lake, O'Brien lake, One Man lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	-
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	18
	2. Wilson lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third	0	-

				Saturday in June	
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	No minimum length but the possession of fish from 12 through 16 inches is prohibited
	3. Turtle-Flambeau flowage	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	-
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	2 in total	15
	4. Gile flowage	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	-
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	3 in total but only 1 may be larger than 18 inches	None except the possession of fish from 14 through 18 inches is prohibited
(d) Muskellunge	1. Catherine lake, Cedar lake, Fisher lake, Gile flowage, Long lake, Lower Springstead lake, Mercer lake, Moose lake, Pine lake, Turtle-Flambeau flowage including Trude lake, Upper Springstead lake, Wilson lake	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to November 30	1	40
	2. Owl lake	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to November 30	1 in total	28
(e) Northern pike	1. Lake Six, all tributaries and connected sloughs to Lake Superior upstream to the first dam or lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	2	26
(f) Panfish	1. Turtle-Flambeau flowage including Trude lake	a. Hook and line.	Continuous	10 in total	Crappie 10, other species none
	2. Pine lake, Bearskull lake, Island lake, Spider lake	a. Hook and line	Continuous	10 in total	None
(e) Rough fish	1. Trout streams	a. Hook and line.	During the open season for trout	None	None

		b. By hand.	Continuous	None	None
		c. Dip netting at any time for smelt only on tributaries to Lake Superior from the mouth upstream for one-half mile.	April 1 to May 25	None	None
	2. All other tributaries to Lake Superior	a. Hook and line.	Continuous	None	None
		b. Dip netting at any time for smelt only from the mouth upstream for one-half mile.	April 1 to May 25	None	None
	3. All other waters	a. Hook and line.	Continuous	None	None
		b. Spearing with bow and arrow only.	Saturday nearest May 20 to July 1	None	None
(h) Trout and salmon	1. Montreal river downstream from Superior falls	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	10
	2. Montreal river upstream from Superior falls	a. Hook and line	April 26 to September 30	5 in total	7
	3. Graveyard creek downstream from U.S. hwy. 2	a. Hook and line	Last Saturday in March to November 15	5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 inches and only 1 may be a rainbow trout, and none may be brook trout until November 15, 2011	Brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26, brook trout 8 on or after November 15, 2011
	4. Oronto creek, Parker creek	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest April 1 to November 15	5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 inches and only 1 may be a	Brook trout 8, brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26

				rainbow trout	
	5. All other tributaries and portions of tributaries to Lake Superior not listed in subsds. 1. to 4.	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 inches and only 1 may be a rainbow trout	Brook trout 8, brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26
	6. Boomer creek, Fourche creek, Flood creek	b. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	3 in total	9
	7. Plunkett (Sugar) and Weber lakes	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	7
	8. All other waters not listed	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	5 in total	7
(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Grand Portage lake, Mercer lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
	2. Bearskull lake, Catherine lake, Cedar lake, Echo lake, Fisher lake, Gile flowage, Island lake, Little Oxbow lake, Lower Springstead lake, Owl lake, Oxbow lake, Pine lake, Randall lake, Sandy Beach lake, Sherman lake, Spider lake, Upper Springstead lake, North Fork Flambeau river and its tributaries, West Branch Montreal river, Turtle river upstream from Echo lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total but only 1 may be longer than 14 inches	None
	3. Tributaries to Lake Superior and their connected sloughs	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total but only 1 may be longer than 14 inches	15
	4. Wilson lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None

Section 10. NR 20.20(34)(d)1. is amended to read:

(34) LANGLADE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(d) Trout and salmon	1. Wolf river from the See Line railroad bridge downstream to Dierks irrigation hole	b. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to November 15 to <u>September 30</u>	0 <u>3</u>	- <u>under 12</u>
			<u>October 1 to November 15</u>	<u>0</u>	-
	2. All other portions of the Wolf river	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May at 5:00am to September 30	3 in total	Brow and rainbow trout 12, brook trout 8
		b. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used.	October 1 to November 15	0	-

Section 11. NR 20.20(34)(d)2. is repealed.

Section 12. NR 20.20(44)(g) is amended to read:

(44) ONEIDA (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

g) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Wisconsin river and sloughs, bayous and flowages downstream from the St. Regis dam in Rhinelander	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None, pursuant to s. NR 20.35
	2. Three lakes chain (includes Big, Big Fork, Big Stone, Crystal, Deer, Dog, Fourmile, Island, Laurel, Little Fork, Long, Medicine, Moccasin, Planting Ground, Rangeline, Round, Spirit, Townline, Virgin and Whitefish lakes, all connecting waters and Eagle river downstream to Vilas County line)	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total but only 1 may be longer than 18" <u>5 in total but only 1 may be longer than 14"</u>	None except the possession of fish from 14 ² through 18 ² is prohibited
	3. Alva, Bearskin, Buckskin, Buffalo, Crescent, Diamond, George, Hasbrook, Katherine, Lost (T38N R9E S24), Mercer, Moen chain including Moen, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth lakes and connecting waters, Muskellunge, Oneida, Pine (T37N R9E S4), Sevenmile, Soo, Squash and Squirrel lakes and	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total but only 1 may be longer than 14 ²	None

Sugar Camp chain including Dam, Sand, Echo, Chain and Stone (T39N R9E S32) lakes and connecting waters

4. Maple lake, Stella lake, Thunder lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
5. Shishebogama lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total posted at public boat landings pursuant to s. NR 20.37	18 unless otherwise posted at public boat landings pursuant to s. NR 20.37

Section 13. NR 20.20(49)(am) is amended to read:

(49) POLK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(am) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Big Round lake, Balsam lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total but only 1 may be less than 14 until March 1, 2012	None until March 1, 2012, when it becomes 14
	2. Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5	None
	3. Pipe lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total but only 1 may be larger than 18	None except the possession of fish from 14 through 18 is prohibited

Section 14. NR 20.20(49)(f)2. is created to read:

(49) POLK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(f) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3	18
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Section 15. NR 20.20(51)(a) is amended to read:

(51) PRICE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(a) All species	1. Pike Lake, Round Lake <u>All waters</u>	a. Motor trolling is permitted	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)
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Section 16. NR 20.20(51)(b)2. is created to read:

(55) RUSK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Chain, Clear, Island, McCann lakes (Island	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in	5	None
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chain of lakes), and connecting waters

March

Section 17. NR 20.20(51)(e)3. is created to read:

(55) RUSK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(e) walleye, sauger, and hybrids	3. Chain, Clear, Island, McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes), and connecting waters	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3	18
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Section 18. NR 20.20(57)(a) is amended to read:

(57) SAWYER (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(a) All species	1. Chetac lake, Grindstone lake, Lac Courte Oreilles lake, Nelson lake, Round lake, Whitefish lake, Windigo lake <u>All waters</u>	a. Motor trolling is permitted	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)
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Section 19. NR 20.20(57)(b) is repealed.

Section 20. NR 20.20(57)(d), (f)1., and (i)4. are amended to read:

(57) SAWYER (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(d) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Black lake, Christner lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	--
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	18
	2. <u>Nelson, Whitefish lakes, and Chippewa flowage and all connected waters within T39N R6, T39N R7, T39N R8, T40N R6, T40N R7 and T40N R8 except the Chippewa river downstream from the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	--
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
	3. <u>Big Chetac, Sissabagama, lakes</u>	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
(f) Panfish	1. <u>Chippewa flowage and all connected waters within T39N R6, T39N R7, T39N</u>	a. Hook and line.	Year round December 1 to	25 10 in total but no more than 15 may	None

	<u>R8, T40N R6, T40N R7 and T40N R8 except the Chippewa river downstream from the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam</u>		the first Sunday in March	be crappie 15 in total but none may be crappie	None
(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	4. Sand lake, including Sissabagama creek upstream to Sand lake road, <u>Nelson, Sissabagama, and Whitefish lakes</u>	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18

Section 21. 20.20(57)(i)5. is created to read:

(57) SAWYER (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(i) Walleye, sauger, and hybrids	5. Chippewa flowage and all connected waters within T39N R6, T39N R7, T39N R8, T40N R6, T40N R7 and T40N R8 except the Chippewa river downstream from the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to November 30	3 in total	18
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Section 22. NR 20.20(64)(d)1m. is amended to read:

(64) VILAS (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(d) Muskellunge	1m. Little St. Germain lake	a. Hook and line.	Saturday nearest Memorial day to November 30	1	45 until November 30, 2014 when it becomes 34
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Section 23. NR 20.20(66)(bm) is created to read:

(66) WASHBURN (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(bm) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Nancy lake	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0	--
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
	2. Long and Middle McKenzie lakes	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May first Sunday in March	5 in total	None

Section 24. NR 20.20(66)(g)3. is amended to read:

(66) WASHBURN (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(g) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	3. Balsam lake, Red Cedar, Long, Middle McKenzie and Nancy lakes	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3	18
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Section 25. NR 20.20(68)(cm) is created to read:

(68) WAUKESHA (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(cm) Northern Pike	1. Big Muskego lake including Bass bay	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to first Sunday in March	1	40
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Section 26. NR 20.20(69)(c)3. is created to read:

(69) WAUPACA (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	3. Marion pond	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to first Sunday in March	1 until April 1, 2016 when it becomes 5	18 until April 1, 2016 when it becomes 14
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Section 27. NR 20.20(69)(d)3. is created to read:

(69) WAUPACA (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(d) Northern pike	3. Marion pond	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May to first Sunday in March	2 until April 1, 2016 when it becomes 5	26 until April 1, 2016 when it becomes None
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Section 28. NR 20.20(69)(f)3. is amended to read:

(69) WAUPACA (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(f) Trout and salmon	3. Comet creek, Little Wolf river (north branch) except portion described above; Waupaca river except portion described above	a. Hook and line.	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	3 in total	Brown and rainbow trout 12, brook trout 8
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Section 29. NR 20.20(73)(a)3. is amended to read:

(73)

(a) All species	3. Lake Michigan tributaries; Peshtigo river upstream from the first railroad bridge to the first dam, Marinette County; Little river downstream from highway 141, Oconto County; <u>Oconto river upstream from the upstream side of the highway 141 bridge to the first dam, Oconto County;</u> and all other tributary streams, rivers and	a. In addition to the restrictions under pars. (b) to (o), all of the following restrictions apply: Motor trolling is permitted in Lake Michigan tributaries of Racine County. From September 15 to the first Saturday in May only hooks with a one-half inch gap or less may be used and hook and line fishing is prohibited from one-	As specified in this subsection	As specified in this subsection	As specified in this subsection
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ditches to Green Bay upstream to the first dam or lake half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. From September 15 to December 31, fishing by any method is prohibited from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.

Section 30. NR 21.04(7)(a) is amended to read:

NR 21.04 Sport fishing; seasons and limits. All regulations applicable to sport fishing are as follows unless expressly provided elsewhere in this chapter or the law. (23.11, 29.041)

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
7) LAKE STURGEON			
(a) St. Croix river	First Saturday in September to September 30	1 per season	60 inches
	<u>October 1 to October 15</u>	<u>0 (Catch-and-release only)</u>	-

Section 31. NR 23.05(5)(d)1. is amended to read:

NR 23.05(5)

(5) The seasons, size limits and bag and possession limits for hook and line fishing in the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters for the species listed in this subsection, except as provided in [s. NR 23.06](#), are as follows:

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Possession and daily bag limit	Minimum length (in.)
(d) Largemouth bass and Smallmouth bass			
1. All boundary waters	First Saturday in May to November	0, beginning the first Saturday in May to the Friday preceding the third Saturday in June	--
	<u>30 December 31</u>		5 in total for the third Saturday in June to November 30 <u>December 31</u>

Section 32. NR 26.01(57)(a) and (57)(b) are repealed.

Section 33. NR 26.05(26) is repealed.

Section 34. NR 26.06(57)(b),(57)(d) and (57)(g) are repealed.

Section 35. NR 26.09(57)(a) and (57)(b) are repealed.

SECTION 36. EFFECTIVE DATE. This rule shall take effect April 1, 2011 except Sections 19, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, which shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Administrative Register, as provided in s. 227.22(2)(intro.), Stats.

SECTION 37. BOARD ADOPTION. This rule was approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on _____.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By _____
Matthew J. Frank, Secretary

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