

38-01-11

Spring Closure of Green Bay and its tributaries Northern Pike Fishing Season

The Problem:

There is no closure to the Northern Pike season in Green Bay and its tributaries. The Pike are especially vulnerable to anglers tip up fishing when approaching their spawning run and gathering in shallow water. They are also vulnerable in shallow water spawning waters to foul hooking and other illegal methods of harvesting them.

The population of Northern Pike has just started to rebound in these waters and excessive harvesting will further hinder the rebound in the present and future.

We feel a closure of the season to coincide with the inland waters Northern Pike fishing season, First Saturday in May to first week of March of the next year, will protect the spawning population from overharvest, increase numbers of Northern Pike for open season opportunities and cause minimal regulation confusion.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Marinette County on April 11th, 2011 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule change Spring Closure of Green Bay and its tributaries Northern Pike Fishing Season to coincide with inland waters season.

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