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Establishing Freezer Limits on Fish

The Problem:

Daily bag limits on some fish have gone down over the years. Possession limits on fish have always been based on a formula of twice the daily bag limit. There is now talk on reducing the daily bag limits on panfish to 10 or 15. If this would happen it would mean that it would be illegal to possess more than 20 or 30 panfish in a freezer. Using the current formula for possession limits may lower the possession limit for some fish to an unrealistic number. Unrealistic possession limit numbers may cause some anglers to keep more than their legal possession limit of fish in their freezers. Even with the current formula, many anglers exceed their possession limit of fish in their freezer at times. It is also illegal to fish if you have a possession limit of fish in a freezer.

To correct this, I would propose that the current formula for catching fish (bag limits) and transporting fish (possession limits) be maintained, and that a "freezer limit" be established at two or three times the possession limit.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Fond du Lac County on April 8, 2013, recommend that the Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources to establish a "Freezer Limit" at two or three times the possession limit for fish.

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