

Citizen Resolution # 240114
(For Hearing Officer completion)



Restore Open Fishing Season - Big Green Lake

Due to its depth and size (approximately 734,600 acre-feet volume) Big Green Lake normally is the last lake (in Central Wis.) to develop good ice. Many years it may be fortunate to safely venture out on ice by early February. Best years allow for ice travel in early January.

About seven years ago, via a local resolution the game fishing season was changed from open all year long to closing on the first Sat. in March thru the first Sat. in May. This often allows for a very short ice fishing season.

Although there is considerable fishing pressure and harvest rates on Big Green, the game fish populations and habitat has proven to be sustainable as high quality with all year fishing season (with exception of low-population of walleye).

Regularly, a local Walleye club harvests some walleye eggs during late April or early May up to or into the current fishing opener. This indicates that the walleye spawn typically occurs after ice is off the lake. It is often explained that the Northern Pike spawning occurs during the current ice fishing season (during Feb.).

This proposal is to change the special regulations - listed by county which currently read "*Big Green Lake - Motor trolling is permitted." To now read "*Big Green Lake - ~ (open all-year) Motor trolling is permitted."

~ Hook and line fishing is open all year for all fish species except muskellunge, lake sturgeon, trout, paddlefish and threatened or endangered fish.

* Identifies quality fishing opportunity.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the special regulations - listed by county reflect the following changes: "*Big Green Lake - ~ (open all-year) Motor trolling is permitted."

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Signature: *H. Meade Grim*