

64-05-14

4/14/2014

Resolution Regarding: Trolling While Positioning when Fishing with Live Bait.

The Problem:

The State of Wisconsin is trying to vote in one line trolling. Question #1 Do you favor this compromise trolling proposal, which would allow trolling with 1 "line" (i.e., hook, bait, or lure) per angler in the 17 counties listed above (except the 31 waters already open to trolling) and would allow trolling with 3 "line" per angler in the other 55 counties?

Should this proposal fail; we recommend a change to read: Allow Trolling While Positioning when fishing in all counties that have rejected one line trolling.

ALLOW TROLLING WHILE POSITIONING WHEN FISHING

Motor trolling is trailing a bait or lure from a boat while being propelled by a motor or sail and is currently illegal (except in certain counties or waters with special exceptions and certain disabled anglers). Positional fishing is fishing from a boat where the fishing line extends vertically into the water while the boat is maneuvered by a motor used to position or maintain a position over an underwater structure. Position fishing is allowed statewide in all waters. Some anglers would like to be able to fish for muskies by trailing a line off the back of a boat while simultaneously position fishing with electronic trolling motors. This would allow the angler to cast and retrieve artificial baits, while having a rigged sucker off the boat. Fishing would be done in accordance with the fishing regulations of Wisconsin.

Question: would you support a rule change to allow the trolling of a sucker or other fish as bait while position fishing with the aid of a motor statewide?

This question passed in northern Wisconsin in 2012 Question # 51 (# 440411) and was in the process of being passed into law, before the conservation congress changed this to trolling issue.

Be it resolved that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Vilas County on April 14th 2014 recommends to the Department of Natural Resources to take action to correct this situation by reintroducing introducing a rule change allowing this to occur.

Respectfully submitted by:



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