

Citizen Resolution # 18-01-16

(For Hearing Officer completion)



ARTIFICIAL ONLY CATCH-AND-RELEASE EARLY BASS
FISHING SEASON

The Problem:

Catch-and-release fishing is allowed for other species such as Trout from the first Saturday in January to the first weekend in May.

At present, state law does not allow for early catch-and-release fishing, with artificial lures, for large and smallmouth bass. I feel that Wisconsin law should allow for an early catch-and-release bass fishing with artificial lures.

We have a year-round season on many of the larger rivers in Wisconsin. There is a catch-and-release season for bass in the northern zone. There does not appear to be an increase in mortality in that area.

Additionally, an early catch-and-release season would expanded fishing opportunities.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Eau Claire county on April 11, 2016, recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to take action to correct this situation by introducing rule change allowing a spring catch-and-release bass fishing season.

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Signature: Jack Thomson

Please print your resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. 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.