57-02-16

2016 ANNUAL WDNR SPRING HEARINGS

AND WISCONSIN CONSERVATION CONGRESS MEETINGS

TITLE: RESTORING JANUARY THROUGH APRIL TROUT FISHING FOR ALL ANGLERS IN SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN

THE PROBLEM: Southwest Wisconsin has hundreds of trout streams with very high wild trout populations. Gill lice are killing tens of thousands of brook trout in these streams due to the high populations and brown trout are often thin and stunted due to the lack of food. Not allowing bait fishing and harvest in the January through April period discouraged anglers from fishing for trout (this was legal from 1975 to 1995 in southwest Wisconsin). Also, there was no biological basis to end early fishing in 1995.

Whereas, anglers from all over Wisconsin would once again travel to southwest Wisconsin to fish trout early if bait fishing and harvest (a 5 bag limit) were restored to Grant, Crawford, Vernon, La Crosse, Iowa, Sauk, Lafayette and Richland counties.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Wisconsin Conservation Congress at its annual meetings held in the above mentioned 8 southwest Wisconsin counties on April 11, 2016 recommends that the WDNR take action to correct this situation by introducing rule changes that would allow bait fishing and harvest in these 8 counties in the January through April period and establish the 5 bag limit.

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Signature: John Slaney

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

County SAUK Passed Failed

County Resolution Number_____

County Vote YES_____ NO_____