

Citizen Resolution # 240214  
(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).

With special consideration, sport game fishing can be allowed while protecting populations during spawning periods. 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. From 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of March to 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May the minimum length limit for Northern Pike is 37" and the bag limit is 1. From 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of March to 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May the minimum length limit for Walleye is 28" and the bag limit is 1. Regular size & bag limits apply for other time periods and species."**

~ 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. From 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of March to 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May the minimum length limit for Northern Pike is 36" and the bag limit is 1. From 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of March to 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of May the minimum length limit for Walleye is 28" and the bag limit is 1. Regular size & bag limits apply for other time periods and species."**

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