



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2011-12

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Natural Resources...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

Assembly

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Natural Resources

Clearinghouse Rule 11-006

Relating to fishing on the inland, outlying, and boundary waters of Wisconsin.
Submitted by Department of Natural Resources.

June 16, 2011 Referred to Committee on Natural Resources.

June 22, 2011 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (14) Representatives Mursau, Rivard, Williams,
 Nerison, Steineke, Tiffany, Stroebel, Litjens,
 Mason, Molepske Jr, Danou, Clark, Milroy and
 Hulsey.

Absent: (2) Representatives Kleefisch and Severson.

Excused: (0) None.

Appearances For

- None.

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- Mike Staggs, Madison — Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Registrations For

- None.


Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

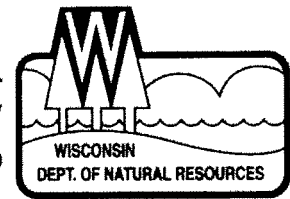
July 16, 2011 No action taken.



Tim Gary

Committee Clerk





Testimony of the Department of Natural Resources
Clearinghouse Rule 11-006

The matter before the Assembly Natural Resources Committee relates to the Department's annual package of fishing regulation changes. These are typically changes to fish size or bag limits, seasons, or allowable gear that are considered and voted on by the public at the annual statewide fish and game spring hearings. All proposals address known biological, management or enforcement problems and are expected to improve fishing in the affected waters. All of the 2011 fish regulation proposals approved by the Natural Resources Board received favorable votes at the statewide and local level, and were approved by the Conservation Congress at their annual meeting. The spring hearing questionnaire and hearing results are at: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/nrboard/congress/spring_hearings/index.html.

There were 3 approved *statewide* regulation changes including:

1. Use of "quick strike" rigs or circle hooks when using minnows over 8" for bait. This is intended to reduce hooking mortality for muskellunge.
2. Raise the statewide minimum size limit for muskellunge from 34" to 40" (20 "trophy" waters will continue to have 45" or 50" limits, and 20 waters with slow growing waters will have 28" limits).
3. Continuous open season and a 10 daily bag limit for cisco, whitefish and hybrid on Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters. This is intended to make these regulations consistent with Michigan on border waters.

There were also a variety of approved regulation changes affecting only *local areas* including:

1. Muskellunge 50" size limit - Rice and Stump Lakes, Barron Co.; Anderson and Archibald Lakes, Oconto Co.; Redstone Lake, Sauk Co.; and Big Elkhart Lake, Sheboygan Co.
2. Bass 14-18" protected slot limit, 3 daily bag limit with only 1 over 18" - Lilly Lake, Brown Co.; and Glen and Squaw Lakes, St. Croix Co.
3. Bass no minimum size limit – all waters of Burnett Co and Washburn Co except Namekagon, St. Croix and Totagatic Rivers, and Balsam, Birch, Red Cedar and Shell Lakes, and the Trego Flowage.
4. Walleye, sauger and hybrids no minimum size limit – Lower Fox River, Brown Co.
5. Walleye 18" minimum size and 3 daily bag limit, and bass no minimum size limit – Minoqua Chain, Oneida Co.
6. Walleye 18" minimum size limit and 3 daily bag limit – Black Dan and Island Lakes, Sawyer Co.
7. Panfish aggregate daily bag limit of 10 – Lilly Lake, Brown Co.

8. Channel catfish continuous open season, 25 daily bag limit, no minimum size limit and flathead catfish first Saturday in May through September 30 season, 1 daily bag limit, and 30" minimum size limit with a 36-42" protected slot limit - all waters of Green Lake and Marquette counties.
9. Allow set and bank poles for catfish on Fox R from near Princeton to Wicks Landing – Green Lake and Marquette counties.
10. Fish refuge 300 feet downstream from Badger Paper Mill Dam from March 1 – May 31 – Peshtigo River, Marinette Co.
11. Year round fish refuge at Thiensville-Mequon dam fishway – Milwaukee River, Ozaukee Co.
12. "Urban fishing water" with special regulations to encourage youth and disabled angler fishing – Appleton Memorial Park Pond, Outagamie County, Kohler-Andrae State Park Pond, Sheboygan, Co.; and Delafield Rearing Pond, Waukesha Co.

For more information about fishing in Wisconsin including a complete guide to all regulations please visit:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/>.

Presented by:
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