Clearinghouse Rule 06-011

Report to Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse NR 20, 21, 23 and 24, Wis. Adm. Code Natural Resources Board Order No. FH-12-06

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

ss. 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041 and 227.11(2)(a), Stats., interpreting ss. 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.161, 29.204, 29.207, 29.219, 29.228, 29.231, 29.235, 29.531, 29.533 and 29.624, Stats.

Federal Authority

N/A

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None

Analysis of the Rule - Rule Effect - Reason for the Rule

Annually the Department submits rule change proposals relating to fishing regulations. The statewide Spring Fish and Wildlife hearings held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Conservation Congress will be the vehicle identified for citizen input. The proposed changes relate to fishing and clamming. Specifically, these proposals:

- Increase the minimum length limit to 50" for muskellunge in the Lake Winnebago and Fox River system, as part of the Great Lakes spotted musky rehabilitation plan.
- Simplify walleye regulations in Green Bay and Menominee River boundary waters, in conjunction with the Michigan DNR.
- Establish a catch-and-release only fishery for lake sturgeon in the lower Menominee River boundary waters, in conjunction with the Michigan DNR.
- Close harvest of live mussels from inland waters.
- Extend a sunset of experimental walleye and sauger regulations in the Wisconsin River
- Ban "sinker release devices".
- Broaden night bowfishing opportunities.

Agency Procedures for Promulgation

Public hearings, Natural Resources Board final adoption, followed by legislative review.

Description of any Forms (attach copies if available)

None

Name and Telephone Number of Agency Contacts

Joe Hennessy, Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection – 267-9427 Tim Andryk, Bureau of Legal Services – 264-9228 Carol Turner, Bureau of Legal Services - 266-1959

Submitted on February 16, 2006