

Report to
Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse
NR 10, Wis. Adm. Code
Natural Resources Board Order No. WM-26-06

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

ss. 29.014 and 227.11(2)(a), Stats., interpreting ss. 29.014 and 29.041, Stats.

Federal Authority

N/A

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None

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

The proposed rule establishes the season length and bag limits for the 2006 Wisconsin migratory game bird seasons. For ducks, the state is divided into two zones each with 60-day seasons. The season is proposed to begin at 9:00 a.m. on September 23 and continue for 60 consecutive days in the north, closing on November 21. In the south, the season would begin at 9:00 a.m. on September 30 and continue through October 8, followed by a 5-day split, and then reopening on October 14 and continuing through December 3. The daily bag limit is 6 ducks including no more than 4 mallards, of which only one may be a hen, one black duck, one pintail, one canvasback (from October 14 to November 12 statewide), 2 wood ducks, 2 redheads and 2 scaup.

For Canada geese, the state is apportioned in 3 goose hunting zones with other special goose management subzones within the Exterior Zone. Season lengths are: Collins Zone – 64 days; Horicon Zone – 92 days; Exterior Zone – 92 days; and the Mississippi River subzone – 70 days. The Burnett County subzone is closed to Canada goose hunting. The statewide daily bag limit for Canada geese is the Horicon and Collins Zones is 2 birds per day during the open seasons within each zone. In the Exterior Zone and its subzones, the daily bag limit will be one bird per day from September 16 to October 1 and 2 birds per day for the remainder of the season.

In addition to comments on the proposed season lengths and bag limits, the Department is seeking public input regarding proposals (1) for the opening time for the first day of the 2006 duck seasons; (2) to eliminate the Canada goose Horicon Intensive Management subzone adjacent to the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge; and (3) establishing a new North/South zone boundary for Wisconsin's duck zones for the 2006-2010 period.

Agency Procedures for Promulgation

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

Description of any Forms (attach copies if available)

None

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