

Report to
Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse
NR 58, Wis. Adm. Code
Natural Resources Board Order No. ER-39-07

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

ss. 23.09(2) and 227.11(2)(a), Stats., interpreting s. 23.09(2), Stats.

Federal Authority

Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2002, Public Law 107-63, Title I: Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965; 16 U.S.C. Sections 4601-4 through 11.

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None

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

The Department is revising ch. NR 58, the Endangered Resources Small Grants administrative rule, to add provisions establishing a grant program to provide financial assistance to the public, nongovernmental organizations, and public agencies to protect species of greatest conservation need and their habitat.

The State Wildlife Grants Program, funded through a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will provide funding for projects that protect species of greatest conservation need and their habitat, and that implement the Wildlife Action Plan. The ultimate goal of the program is to prevent the decline of wildlife species to a point where they are endangered. Projects funded by this grant program will also help protect and restore important land and water resources, allow for the collection and evaluation of information necessary to be able to determine which wildlife species are in trouble, and support efforts to establish and maintain partnerships. By emphasizing a proactive approach, the State Wildlife Grants Program supports efforts to take action to protect declining wildlife species before they become too rare and costly to protect.

The new program will provide a 50% to 100% cost share to agencies, landowners and organizations who meet the criteria of the program.

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

Randle Jurewicz, Bureau of Endangered Resources – 267-7507
Tim Andryk, Bureau of Legal Services – 264-9228
Carol Turner, Bureau of Legal Services - 266-1959

Submitted on February 12, 2008