

Clearinghouse Rule 08-022

Report to
Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse
NR 10 and 45, Wis. Adm. Code
Natural Resources Board Order No. WM-04-08

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

ss. 27.01 and 29.089, Stats., interpreting ss. 27.01 and 29.089, Stats.

Federal Authority

N/A

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None

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

The Department proposes to authorize hunting on portions of the State Ice Age trail. In recent months, it has been determined that the State Ice Age Trail is a part of the state park system where hunting is statutorily prohibited unless specifically authorized by rule. Prior to the determination that it is a state park, hunting has occurred at some State Ice Age trail areas and this rule change is needed for that to continue and for hunting to be authorized at properties that will be acquired in the future.

Specifically, the proposed rule would authorize hunting on State Ice Age trail areas unless the area is posted as closed to hunting. The Department would be able to post certain portions of an Ice Age Trail property as closed to hunting in order to protect public safety, protect a unique animal or plant community, or to accommodate usership patterns. Hunting and firearms discharge would not be allowed on the actual traveled portions of the trail or in an area extending 50 feet from the center of the trail.

Also in state parks, possession of loaded or uncased firearms is illegal where hunting is not allowed. This rule would authorize crossing the traveled portion of a trail in a State Ice Age trail area with a firearm that is not enclosed in a carrying case but which is unloaded. This provision would also apply on other types of state trails.

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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