

Chapter NR 20

FISHING: INLAND WATERS; OUTLYING WATERS

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(Sections 29.085 and 29.174, Stats.)

NR 20.01 Purpose; general restriction. Seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other regulations for fishing in Wisconsin waters are established in this chapter. No person may take, catch, kill or fish for fish of any variety in excess of the daily bag limit, by means other than hook and line, during other than the open season or possess or control any fish in excess of the possession limit or below the minimum size limit, except as expressly provided in this chapter.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; renum. from WCD 20.01 to be NR 20.01, Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; reprinted to correct error, Register, April, 1984, No. 340; r. and recr. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86.

NR 20.0125 License waiver. (1) On the first Sunday of June each year, no fishing license is required to fish the inland or outlying waters.

(2) The license waiver of sub. (1) does not apply to commercial fishing license requirements.

History: Cr. Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; am. (1), Register, April, 1989, No. 400, eff. 5-1-89.

NR 20.015 Definitions. For the purpose of this chapter, the following terms are defined as follows:

(1) "Artificial fly" means a single hook dressed with fur, feathers, hair, silk, tinsel, thread or similar material to imitate the natural food of trout.

(2) "Artificial lure" means a bait designed to attract fish which does not include any natural bait.

(2g) "Backtrolling" means to fish from a motor-driven boat while operating the boat in such a way that the boat is progressing toward the rear.

(2m) "Business day" has the meaning given it in s. 421.301 (6), Stats.

(3) "Fisher" means any person engaged in fishing.

(4) "Fishing" includes taking, capturing or killing fish or fishing for fish of any variety at any time in the waters of the state.

(4a) "Muskellunge" means fish of the species *Esox masquinongy* and includes muskellunge - northern pike hybrids.

(5) "Green Bay" means those waters of Lake Michigan located to the west of the Green Bay-Lake Michigan line.

(6) "Green Bay-Lake Michigan line" means a line commencing at the northwest side of the Northport dock where it joins the shoreline in section 33, T33N, R29E; then running northeasterly to the range light (signal light) on Plum island; then running along the north and west shore of Plum island to the U.S. coast guard station; then running northerly to the southwesterly point on Shellswick dock, which is located on Lobdell's point on Washington island; then running along Shellswick dock to the shoreline of Lobdell's point; then running along the west shore of Washington island to Boyer's Bluff light; then running north to its terminus at the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary line.

(7) "Lake Michigan" means those waters of Lake Michigan located east of the Green Bay-Lake Michigan line

(8) "Openly exposed" means open to view by a person in a passing vehicle.

(9) "Safe harvest" means a level of harvest that incorporates an appropriate margin of safety, estimates of the population and acceptable exploitation rates which will reasonably prevent harvest of more than 35% of the population of adult walleyes or 27% of the population of adult muskellunge. The margin of safety assures that the true safe harvest is not exceeded in more than 1 of 40 cases. For waters where a population estimate has not been made, a regression model based upon population estimates from other waters will be used. The margin of safety used depends upon the age of the population estimate was made and whether a regression model was used.

(10) "Secretary" means secretary of the department of natural resources.

(11) "Setline" means a line with one or more hooks fastened to it and designed to be set or left unattended in the water for the purpose of taking fish.

(12) "Set or bank pole" means a pole equipped with line with one or more hooks fastened to it, designed to be used for fishing from the banks of lakes or rivers and set or left unattended.

(13) "Telemetry device" means any device attached or implanted in fish that transmits a sonic or electronic signal to aid in fishing.

(14) "Unattended line" means a line where the person using the line is not actively directing attention to it. Failure to immediately respond to

a line upon indication of a bite shall be prima facie evidence that the line is unattended.

History: Cr. Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; renum. (1) and (2) to be (3) and (4), cr. (1) and (2), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; reprinted to correct error in (2), Register, April, 1984, No. 340; cr. (5), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; cr. (4g) and (4t) Register, March, 1986, No. 363, eff. 4-1-86; cr. (2m), Register, June, 1987, No. 378, eff. 7-1-87; emerg. cr. (4d), eff. 5-5-89, cr. (4d) and (4e), Register, November, 1989, No. 407, eff. 12-1-89; cr. (2g), Register, December, 1989, No. 408, eff. 1-1-90; cr. (4b), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; cr. (6), Register, October, 1991, No. 430, eff. 11-1-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 432, eff. 1-1-92; renum. (6) under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1, Stats., Register, March, 1992, No. 435; renum. (4b) to (6) to be (8) to (14), cr. (5) to (7), Register, March, 1992, No. 435, eff. 4-1-92.

NR 20.02 Waters classified; hook and line fishing in outlying waters. (1) For the purpose of regulating hook and line fishing in the outlying waters, the closed seasons, size limits, bag and possession limits, number of hooks and lines and ice fishing regulations shall be the same as those prescribed for the inland waters of the county in which such outlying waters are located, except as otherwise specifically provided in the following table:

Species	Area	Open season	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (in.)
(a) WALLEYE AND SAUGER (Bag limit means total of all)	1. Lake Michigan and Green Bay except the Fox river from its mouth upstream to the dam at DePere	At all times	3	No size limit
	2. Fox river from its mouth upstream to the dam at DePere	First Saturday in May to March 1 March 2 to the day before the first Saturday in May.	3 1	No size limit 28
	3. Lake Superior	At all times	5, of which no more than one may be a walleye over 20 inches long	No size limit for sauger; 15 for walleye
(b) NORTHERN PIKE	Lake Michigan and Green Bay	At all times	5	No size limit
(c) YELLOW PERCH	Lake Superior	At all times	5	No size limit
	Green Bay	Continuous	25	No size limit
	Lake Michigan	Continuous	50	No size limit
(d) TROUT AND SALMON	Lake Superior	Continuous	50	No size limit
	1. Lake Michigan and Green Bay, except as provided in subd. 2.	All year except the open season for lake trout is from May 1 through Labor Day, except as provided in subd. 2.	5 in total of which only 2 may be lake trout, except as provided in subd. 2.	10

Species	Area	Open season	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (in.)
	2. Lake Michigan, within the following area: From the end of the south pier at the entrance of the Sturgeon Bay ship canal on a course of 136° from true north for 17.5 statute miles, then west for 16.8 statute miles to the end of the Algoma north pier, then along the north side of that pier to the shore of Lake Michigan, then north along the shore to the base of the south pier at the entrance of the Sturgeon Bay ship canal, then along the south side of that pier to its end.	All year except there is no open season for lake trout.	5 in total of which none may be lake trout. No person may possess lake trout when fishing in this area of Lake Michigan.	10
	3. Lake Superior	All year except the open season for lake trout is from December 1 through September 30.	10 in total, of which no more than 5 may be salmon and no more than 5 may be trout. Of the 5 trout, no more than 2 may be brown trout longer than 20 inches; no more than 1 may be a rainbow trout; no more than 3 may be lake trout; and no more than 1 may be a lake trout longer than 25 inches.	28 for rainbow trout; 15 for other trout and salmon

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
a. In all waters except Lakes Poygan, Winneconne, Butte des Morts, Winnebago and connecting waters; in the Embarrass river from the Pella dam, Shawano county downstream to its confluence with the Wolf river in Outagamie county; and the Nemadji river, Allouez Bay, Little Pokegama Bay, Pokegama Bay and Kimballs Bay, Douglas county; the Wolf river from the dam at Shawano downstream to Lake Poygan; and the Fox river downstream from milepost No. 63, commonly known as Johnson creek in Green Lake county to Lake Butte des Morts	First Saturday in September to October 15	1 per season	50
2. Spearing season			
a. Lakes Butte des Morts, Poygan and Winneconne and connecting waters	Third Saturday in February through the following Sunday (1991 and 1996 only)	See b.	45
b. Lake Winnebago	Second Saturday in February to March 1	The bag limit on speared sturgeon is one per season regardless of the water in which speared	45

c. No person may have in possession or under control any spear or similar device in any building, tent, shanty or similar enclosure on the waters of Lakes Butte des Morts and Winneconne in Winnebago county, Lake Poygan in Waushara and Winnebago counties; Lake Winnebago in Calumet, Fond du Lac and Winnebago counties and all connecting waters including the Embarrass river from the Pella dam downstream to the Wolf river and the Wolf river from the dam at Shawano downstream to Lake Poygan and the Fox river from milepost

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Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
no. 63, commonly known as Johnson creek, in Green Lake county downstream to Lake Butte des Morts, except during the open season for spearing sturgeon when such open season is in effect on a specified water named above.			
(r) PADDLEFISH OR SPOONBILL CATFISH	No open season	—	—
(s) ROUGH FISH (except for threatened and endangered species. See s. NR 27.03)	Continuous	None	No size limit
(t) RUFFE	No open season	—	—
(u) WHITE PERCH	No open season	—	—

(2) (a) Each person who has speared a sturgeon during the open season for spearing sturgeon shall exhibit the sturgeon, with the person's sturgeon tag attached as required by s. 29.148, Stats., to a warden or other authorized department personnel at an official sturgeon registration station established for that purpose. Sturgeon shall be exhibited at a sturgeon registration station in a county adjacent to the waters where speared not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day speared. Upon approval by the officer, the officer shall attach a special tag to each sturgeon indicating that it has been inspected and recorded and the tag shall remain attached and locked to the sturgeon until the carcass is finally consumed.

(b) 1. Any person who has taken a lake sturgeon by legal methods other than spearing must immediately attach a lake sturgeon tag, furnished by the department. The tagged lake sturgeon shall be registered at a department lake sturgeon registration station no later than 6:00 p.m. the day after the fish was caught. Registration tags attached to the fish by the department shall remain attached until the carcass is finally consumed.

2. Sturgeon tags shall be available in each year prior to the open season. Persons may obtain no more than one tag unless fishing Michigan boundary waters in which case 2 tags may be obtained.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any sturgeon in or on any motor-driven vehicle from the time such sturgeon is taken to the time it is lawfully registered pursuant to par. (a) unless the sturgeon is carried openly exposed and in such manner so that the sturgeon tag attached to the sturgeon cannot be handled or manipulated by any occupant of the vehicle.

(3) A closed season is established for the taking, catching, or killing of fish of any variety or fishing for fish from December 1 to, but not including, the first Saturday in May of the next year, on all waters commonly known as the Chippewa flowage and that part of the Chippewa river in the following described area, Sawyer county:

Township 39 north, range 6 west

Sections 1, 2 and 3

Township 39 north, range 7 west

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10

Township 39 north, range 8 west

Sections 1 and 12

Township 40 north, range 6 west

Sections 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35 and 36

Township 40 north, range 7 west

Sections 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35 and 36

Township 40 north, range 8 west

Sections 13, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36

(4) In those waters for which a permit for treatment with toxicant has been issued, the department of natural resources may direct that all species of fish of any size may be taken by dip nets, minnow seines and spears with no bag or possession limit from the date of issuance of said permit until the commencement of treatment and such open season shall be put into effect by posting a notice thereof on or in the vicinity of the waters affected and by publication in one or more newspapers having wide circulation in the area affected.

(5) INLAND TROUT FISHING. (a) *Applicability*. 1. This subsection applies to all waters that contain trout except:

a. Lake Michigan.

b. Streams that flow into Lake Michigan, except the Kewaunee river, from their mouths upstream to the first dam or lake,

c. The Kewaunee river from its mouth upstream to the third county hwy. C bridge,

d. Lake Superior, and

e. Those portions of Lake Superior tributary streams regulated under sub. (1) (f) 4.

2. This subsection applies to all species of trout unless specifically stated otherwise, including lake trout and splake.

(b) *Possession limits and size limits*. 1. No person may possess more than 10 trout, of which no more than 5 may be a combined total of brown and rainbow trout, except that while on the water, bank or shore, no person may possess more fish than the daily bag limit established by par. (f) for category 1 to 4 waters or Table 1 for category 5 waters for that water or portion of water.

2. While on the water, bank or shore, no person may take or possess fish of a size not authorized by the size limit of par. (f) for category 1 to 4 waters or Table 1 for category 5 waters for that water or portion of water.

(c) *Daily bag and size limits*. While on the water, bank or shore, no person may take or possess fish not authorized by the daily bag and size limit of Table 1 for category 5 waters for that water or portion of water.

(d) *Open seasons.* No person may fish for trout in any water or portion of any water except during the open season for that water or portion of water established by Table 1 or this paragraph. Where an open season for trout is not specified in Table 1 for a water or portion of water the open season is the first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30, both dates inclusive.

(e) *Gear restrictions.* While fishing on a category 5 water, no person may use gear not authorized by a gear restriction listed in Table 1 for that water or portion of water.

(f) *Regulation categories.* Waters that contain trout are divided into 5 categories of regulation. The categories and corresponding regulations are:

1. Category 1 - no minimum size limit and a daily bag limit of 10 fish, of which no more than 5 may be a combined total of brown and rainbow trout.

2. Category 2 - the minimum size limit is 7 inches and the daily bag limit is 5 fish.

3. Category 3 - the minimum size limit is 9 inches and the daily bag limit is 3 fish.

4. Category 4 - the minimum size limit is 12 inches for brown and rainbow trout and 8 inches for brook trout and the daily bag limit is 3 fish.

5. Category 5 - see Table 1, which sets out size limits, daily bag limits, daily bag and size limits, open seasons and gear restrictions for each specific water or portion of water.

(g) *Key to Table 1.* Table 1 lists waters and portions of waters by county, water name and portion of water and the regulation category that applies. It sets out the exceptions to the general open season prescribed in par. (d), and it prescribes specific regulations for category 5 waters.

TABLE 1

County	Water Name	Portion	Regulation Category	Gear Restrictions, Size Limits, Daily Bag Limits, and Daily Bag and Size Limits for Category 5 Waters, and Open Season Exceptions for Other Categories (Open Seasons Include Both Dates)
1. Adams	All waters not listed		2	
	Big Roche a Cri creek	Big Roche a Cri lake upstream to CTH W	3	
	Deep lake	All	2	Open season: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to March 1
	East Castle Rock ditch	All	3	
	Fairbanks creek	All	5	Daily bag and size limit: 5 trout under 8", or 4 trout under 8" and 1 over 12"
	Fordham creek	All	5	Daily bag and size limit: 5 trout under 8", or 4 trout under 8" and 1 over 12"
	Jordan lake	All	2	Open season: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to March 1
	Neenah creek (Upper)	All	5	Daily bag and size limit: 5 trout under 10", or 4 trout under 10" and 1 over 15"
	Parker lake	All	2	Open season: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to March 1
	White creek (Campbell)	CTH Z upstream to Easton dam	4	
Wolf lake	All	2	Open season: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to March 1	
2. Ashland	All waters except those portions of Lake Superior tributary streams regulated under sub. (1)(f)4.		2	
	Beaver lake	All	2	Open season: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to March 1

(6) MUSKELLUNGE FISHING. (a) *Applicability.* This subsection applies to all inland and outlying waters that contain muskellunge.

(b) *Daily bag limit.* The daily bag limit is one muskellunge.

(c) *Open seasons.* 1. There is no open season for muskellunge in Nancy lake, Washburn county and Long lake (S12, T20N, R11E), Waushara county.

2. The open season for muskellunge in all other waters north of U.S. highway 10 is the Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30, both dates inclusive.

3. The open season for muskellunge in all other waters south of U.S. highway 10 is the first Saturday in May to November 30, both dates inclusive.

(d) *Minimum size limits.* 1. The minimum size limit for muskellunge is 40 inches for all waters listed in Table 1.

2. The minimum size limit for muskellunge is 45 inches for all waters listed in Table 2.

3. The minimum size limit for muskellunge is 32 inches for all waters not listed in Table 1 or 2.

TABLE 1
Waters With a 40-inch Minimum Size Limit on Muskellunge

<u>County</u>	<u>Waters</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Waters</u>
Bayfield	Namekagon Lake	Jackson	Arbutus Canal
Brown	Green Bay and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake		Black River Flowage
			Potter Flowage
			Black River
Chippewa	Holcombe Flowage (Chippewa River to CTH D) (Main Creek to STH 194) (Jump River to CTH G)		East Fork Black River
			Morrison Creek
			Lake Arbutus
Clark	Mead Lake	Kewaunee	Lake Michigan and Green Bay and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake
	Rock Dam Lake		
	Black River		
	East Fork Black River	Lafayette	Yellowstone Lake
Dane	Wingra Lake	Lincoln	Deer Lake
Door	Lake Michigan and Green Bay and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake		Nokomis Lake
			Rice River Flowage
Forest	Julia Lake (T38N R11E S1)	Manitowoc	Lake Michigan and tributa- ries upstream to the first dam or lake
	Riley Lake		
	Roberts Lake	Marathon	Merrill hydro-dam to Wausau hydro-dam)
	Wabikon Lake		Wisconsin River
Iowa	Twin Valley Lake	Marinette	Green Bay and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake
Iron	Turtle-Flambeau Flowage		
	Moose Lake	Oconto	Archibald Lake
	Trude Lake		Anderson Lake
	Gile Flowage		Green Bay and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake
	Pine Lake		
	Springstead (Upper and Lower) Lakes		
	Wilson Lake		
	Mercer Lake		

<u>County</u>	<u>Waters</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Waters</u>
Oneida	Bridge Lake	Sawyer	Winter Flowage
	Katherine Lake	Shawano	Upper Red Lake
	Nokomis Lake (upstream to Prairie Rapids Road)		Lower Red Lake
	Rainbow Flowage		Wolf River Pond
	Rice River Flowage	St. Croix	Cedar Lake
Two Sisters Lake	Vilas	Allequash Lake	
Polk	Bone Lake		Big Muskellunge Lake
	Rusk	Dairyland Reservoir	Big Lake (T42N R6E S4)
Potato Lake			Crab Lake
Sauk	Redstone Lake		Kentuck Lake
			Papoose Lake
		Walworth	Delavan Lake

TABLE 2

Waters With a 45-inch Minimum Size Limit on Muskellunge

<u>County</u>	<u>Waters</u>
Oneida	Clear Lake (T39N R7E S16)
Vilas	Trout Lake

(7) **REGULAR SEASON DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS FOR TROUT IN CERTAIN WATERS.** (a) *Zero bag limit during regular season.* Notwithstanding the bag limits for trout set out in sub. (5) (c) and Table 1, during the open season beginning May 4, 1991 through September 30, 1991, the daily bag limit for trout is zero fish in the waters of Columbia, Florence, Forest, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Richland, Sauk, Shawano and Vilas counties. All trout caught shall be immediately returned to the water. This paragraph does not apply to Wisconsin - Michigan boundary waters, to streams that flow into Lake Michigan from their mouths upstream to the first dam or lake, or to inland lakes and ponds which contain trout and which are not natural springs or spring ponds.

(b) *Gear restrictions during regular season.* Notwithstanding sub. (5) (e) and Table 1, beginning May 4, 1991 through September 30, 1991 no person may take or catch trout or fish for trout in the waters to which par. (a) applies by any means other than the use of an artificial fly by the method commonly known as "fly fishing" or with the use of artificial lures.

History: 1-2-56; cr. (7), Register, April, 1991, No. 424, eff. 5-1-91; emerg. cr. (1) (k) 1g, eff. 2-14-91; cr. (1) (k) 1g., Register, June, 1991, No. 426, eff. 7-1-91; cr. (1) (a) 5m., (am) and (6), am. (1) (a) 9. and (c) 6., Register, December, 1991, No. 432, eff. 1-1-92; am. (1) (intro.), (a) 1e. and f., 7c., (f) 2. and (g) 2., cr. (1) (a) 1a., (c) 2. and (d) 1a., r. (1) (a) 1d. and 4., Register, March, 1992, No. 435, eff. 4-1-92; renum. (1) (a) 10., (c) 10., (d) 8. and (k) 2. to be (1) (a) 11., (c) 11., (d) 9. and (k) 3., cr. (1) (a) 10., (c) 10., (d) 8. and (k) 2., am. (1) (f) 4., Register, December, 1992, No. 444, eff. 1-1-93.

Note: For a complete history of s. NR 20.03 from 1-2-56 through 10-31-73 see the history note following NR 20.03 as it was printed and released in the October, 1973 Register. For a complete history of s. NR 20.03 from 11-1-73 through 2-28-91 see the history note following NR 20.03 as it was printed and released in the February, 1991 Register.

NR 20.035 Alternate size and bag limits. (1) **PURPOSE.** Notwithstanding any provision of ch. NR 21, 22, 23 or this chapter, for all or part of any inland, boundary or outlying water, the department may apply the alternative size limits, bag limits or both under this section for fish species identified in this section in order to provide for better use and management of the fishery resource of the water to which the proposed alternate limit would apply.

a hook with a maximum gape size of one-half inch from point to shank. During this period, fishing with hook and line is prohibited between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise on all streams tributary to Lake Michigan and Green Bay except the Menominee river, Oconto river and its tributaries and the Fox river.

(4) EXPERIMENTAL WATERS; PERMITS; REPORTS. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch or kill fish or fish for fish in the waters of Nebish, Spruce, Mystery, Escanaba and Palette lakes situated in sections 34 and 35, township 42 north, range 7 east, and sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, township 41 north, range 7 east, Vilas county except under the following conditions:

1. Fishing in such waters is authorized only under permit, which may be secured at the checking stations indicated by posted signs in the immediate area.

2. Fishing in such waters is restricted to hook and line or rod and reel with fishing in Spruce lake further restricted to the use of artificial lures only and except that cisco may be taken in Palette lake by means of dip nets or seines described under s. NR 20.11 (2).

3. The provisions of this section shall apply to such waters throughout the year.

4. All permits are valid only for the date issued and shall be turned in at the checking stations at the termination of each day's fishing activities by the fisher.

5. There is a continuous open season with no daily bag limit or size limit for all species of fish contained in these waters except for the following: In Nebish lake, no person may take smallmouth bass from 9 to 12 inches long and there is a daily bag limit of 5 for smallmouth bass; in Palette lake, no person may take smallmouth bass less than 16 inches long, there is a daily bag limit of 2 for smallmouth bass and there is no open season through 1991 for lake trout; and in Spruce lake, no person may take largemouth bass less than 12 inches long and there is a daily bag limit of 2 for largemouth bass.

6. All fish taken pursuant to this section shall be exhibited to the department or its agents at the checking station for examination, identification and marking.

History: 1-2 56; am. (3) (a) 28.56 and 71, (3) (am) 7, cr. (3) (am) 3 a. 7 a and 24 a and r. (4) (c) 1 and 2, Register, January, 1975, No. 229, eff. 2-1-75; am. (3) (c) 2., 3., and 4., Register, October, 1975, No. 238, eff. 11-1-75; am. (3) (am) (intro.), (c) 2., 3. and 4., r. (4) (c) Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (4), r. (5) (a) 3 and cr. (7) and (8), Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (7) (a) and (b), Register, March, 1977, No. 255, eff. 4-1-77; am. (3) (c) 2 to 4, Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 2-1-78; am. (3) (a) 69., (am) 3. and 24., (b), (4) (a) 5., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; r. (3) (c) 4.1, cr. (8) (c) and am. (3) (c) 4.b., Register, December, 1979, No. 288, eff. 1-1-80; emerg. cr. (7) (e), eff. 4-1-80; cr. (7) (e), Register, October, 1980, No. 298, eff. 11-1-80; am. (7) (e) and r. (8) (a) 1.a., Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; reprinted to correct error, Register, April, 1981, No. 304; am (2) (c) 4. e., Register, August, 1981, No. 308, eff. 9-1-81; am. (3) (a) 14., (3) (c) 4. d., (4) (a) 2. and 5., Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; am. (3) (c) 3. and 4. intro., b., d. and f., r. and recr. (7) (e), renum. (8) to be (9), cr. (8), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; renum. (3) (c) 1. and 2. to be (3) (c) and (d) and am., renum. (3) (c) 3. and 4. to be (3) (d) 1. and 2., renum. (3) (c) 4. j. to be 2.i, Register, April, 1983, No. 328, eff. 5-1-83; am. (3) (d) 1. and 2. intro. and h., (4) (a) 5., r. (3) (d) 2.a., r. and recr. (7) and (8), renum. (9) to be (8) and am. (8) (b), cr. (8) (d), Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; am. (3) (d) 2. e., Register, September, 1984, No. 345, eff. 10-1-84; am. (3) (d) 2. intro. (4) (a) 2. and 5., (7) (d) and (8) (b), cr. (7) (e), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; r. (3) (d) 2. i., Register, September, 1985, No. 357, eff. 10-1-85; cr. (7) (f) and (g), am. (8) (a), (b) and (c), Register, December, 1985, No. 360, eff. 1-1-86; renum. (3) (am) 26. to be 27., cr. (3) (a) 11, and (3) (am) 26., r. and recr. (3) (am) 3. and 24., Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. (4) (a) 5., Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; r. and recr. (3) (d), Register,

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June, 1987, No. 378, eff. 7-1-87; r. (3) (a) 56., am. (3) (am) 13., cr. (7) (h), Register, December, 1987, No. 384, eff. 1-1-88; am. (3) (c), Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; r. and recr. (4) (a) 5., Register, June, 1989, No. 402, eff. 7-1-89; emerg. cr. (4m), eff. 8-4-89; r. (5) to (8), Register, December, 1989, No. 408, eff. 1-1-90; am. (3) (a) 14., Register, September, 1990, No. 417, eff. 10-1-90; am. (3) (c), Register, December, 1990, No. 420, eff. 1-1-91; am. (3) (a) 69. and (3) (am) 9., r. (3) (am) 2., Register, February, 1991, No. 422, eff. 3-1-91; r. (3) (am) 17. f., Register, March, 1992, No. 435, eff. 4-1-92.

Note: For a complete history of NR 20.04 see the history note for NR 20.04 as it appeared in the December, 1974 Administrative Register.

NR 20.06 Prohibited fishing under particular conditions. (1) (a) *Waters and methods.* No person shall take, capture, or kill fish of any variety or fish for fish during the closed season for trout in streams and creeks containing trout except that rough fish may be taken by hand.

(b) *Trolling.* No person may fish in the inland waters of the state from a motor-driven boat when the motor is running or from any boat in tow of a motor-driven boat when the motor is running or from any sailboat when in motion; or by means of shutting or drawing off water for that purpose unless the person is backtrolling. Casting and immediate retrieval of a bait or lure while positioning a boat by means of an electric motor, where motors are permitted, is not trolling. The restrictions in this paragraph do not apply to the waters of Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Racine, Rusk, Taylor, Washburn and Waukesha counties, the Wisconsin river including sloughs, bayous and flowages from county trunk A east of Tomahawk, Lincoln county, downstream, except Lake Mohawksin, the Chippewa river including sloughs, bayous and flowages up to the flowing portion of all tributary streams from the Holcombe flowage, Chippewa county, downstream, the Fox river from Buffalo lake downstream to the DePere dam and the following named lakes and rivers including their flowages and sloughs:

1. Adams county—Mason
2. Ashland county—Kakagon
9. Chippewa county—Chain; Long 32-8
10. Clark county—Arbutus
13. Dane county—Crystal; Kegonsa; Koshkonong; Mendota; Monona; Waubesa
14. Dodge county—Beaver Dam; Fox; Sinnissippi
15. Door county—Clarks; Kangaroo
17. Dunn county—Menomin; Tainter
18. Eau Claire county—Altoona; Eau Claire
19. Florence county—Halsey; Twin Falls flowage
21. Forest county—Butternut; Franklin; Lucerne; Metonga; Pickerel; Pine; Wabicon
24. Green Lake county—Big Green; Maria; Puckaway
27. Jackson county—Arbutus
28. Jefferson county—Koshkonong; Rock
29. Juneau county—Kilburn flowage
30. Kenosha county—Elizabeth

32. La Crosse county—Neshonoc
34. Langlade county—Post (Lower); Post (Upper); Rolling Stone
35. Lincoln county—Spirit R. flowage
37. Marathon county—Big Eau Pleine reservoir upstream to the first state hwy. 153 bridge
38. Marinette county—Chalk Hills flowage; High Falls reservoir; Noquebay
39. Marquette county—Buffalo
43. Oconto county—Christy; Machickanee (Stiles pond); White Potato
44. Oneida county—Columbus; Rainbow flowage; Sugar Camp; Thunder; Willow flowage
50. Portage county—Little Eau Pleine flowage upstream to the first county hwy. 'O' bridge
51. Price county—Pike; Round
54. Rock county—Koshkonong
56. St. Croix county—Cedar
57. Sauk county—Redstone
58. Sawyer county—Chetac; Grindstone; Lac Court Oreilles; Nelson; Round; Whitefish; Windigo
59. Shawano county—Shawano
60. Sheboygan county—Sheboygan marsh
65. Walworth county—Beulah; Como; Delavan; Geneva; Whitewater
67. Washington county—Big Cedar; Pike
69. Waupaca county—Partridge; White
70. Waushara county—Poygan
71. Winnebago county—Butte des Morts; Little Butte des Morts; Poygan; Rush; Winnebago; Winneconne

(c) *Fishing near dams.* It shall be unlawful for any person to take, capture, or kill fish of any variety or fish for fish by means other than hook or line within 200 feet of any fishway, lock or dam in the inland waters at any time.

History: 1-2-56; am. (2), Register, December, 1956, No. 12, eff. 1-1-57; am. (1) (c) and (2), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. (1) (b), Register, April, 1958, No. 28, eff. 5-1-58; am. (2), Register, August, 1958, No. 32, eff. 9-1-58; am. (1) (b), Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 1-1-59; am. (2), Register, August, 1959, No. 44, eff. 9-1-59; am. (1) (b), r. and recr. (2), Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1-1-60; am. (1) (b) and (2), Register, December, 1960, No. 60, eff. 1-1-61; am. (2), Register, August, 1961, No. 68, eff. 9-1-61; am. (1) (b), Register, August, 1961, No. 68, eff. 9-1-61; am. (1) (b); cr. (1) (d) and (e), Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1-1-62; am. (1) (e), Register, July, 1962, No. 79, eff. 8-1-62; am. (1) (b), Register, April, 1963, No. 88, eff. 5-1-63; am. (1) (b); r. (2), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. (1) (a) and (c); r. (1) (d) and (e), Register, December, 1966, No. 132, eff. 1-1-67; r. and recr. (1) (b), Register, October, 1969, No. 166, eff. 1-1-70; am. (1) (b), Register, June, 1970, No. 174, eff. 7-1-70; renum. WCD 20.06 to be NR 20.06, Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; am. (1) (b), Register, October, 1973, No. 214, eff. 1-1-74; am. (1) (b), Register, January, 1975, No. 229, eff. 2-1-75; am. (1) (b) (intro.), r. (1) (b) 61 and 68, Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (1) (b) (intro.), Register, December,

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1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (1) (b), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; printing error corrected, Register, July, 1979; am. (1) (b) 21., 24. and 64., Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; am. (1) (b) 35., 44. and 58., Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; am. (1) (b) 37., 50. and 64., Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; am. (1) (b) (intro.), r. (1) (b) 42. and 64., Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. (1) (b) (intro.), Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; am. (1) (b) (intro.), Register, December, 1989, No. 408, eff. 1-1-90; am. (1) (b) 9. and 18., Register, March, 1992, No. 435, eff. 4-1-92.

NR 20.07 Prohibited methods of fishing. (1) Except as otherwise expressly provided by the Wisconsin Statutes or by department order:

(a) No person may take, catch, or kill fish or fish for fish of any kind with more than 3 hooks, baits or lures.

(b) No person may:

1. Fish with an unattended line in any waters.
2. Fish by snagging, fouling or attempting to hook fish other than in the mouth.
3. Keep any fish hooked other than in the mouth.
4. Fish with the aid or use of any firearm or pellet gun in any manner or by any means other than angling or trolling.
5. Use a telemetry device attached to or implanted in fish to aid in fishing.

(c) No person shall use as bait or possess or release any minnows or other fish except trout on any waters or shores of such waters which have been chemically treated for trout management and which are so identified and designated by signs posted on the shores thereof by the department of natural resources.

(d) No person shall place minnow traps in waters which have been chemically treated to reestablish a trout fishery.

(e) No person shall use minnows as bait while fishing through the ice in Green Lake, Green Lake county except where the lake is 50 feet or less in depth.

(f) Any fish taken into actual possession, unless released immediately, shall be included as part of the daily bag limit.

(g) Landing nets 3 feet or less in diameter or a gaff may be used for the purpose of landing fish legally hooked.

(h) No person may take, catch or kill fish or fish for fish in open water using a free-floating or anchored, buoyant device with attached hook and line, which is not held or otherwise controlled by the fisher, commonly known as jug fishing, except under a setline or bank pole license issued pursuant to s. 29.36, Stats.

(2) (a) No person may, except as expressly authorized, possess or control on any of the inland or outlying waters or shores of inland or outlying waters at any time any gun, bow and arrow, spear, net or similar device that might be used for the purpose of taking, catching or killing fish.

(b) No person other than the licensee or licensee's designee or department agent may raise, remove, or otherwise tamper with commercial gear set in Wisconsin inland and boundary waters.

(3) It shall be lawful to take rough fish by hand at any time in all waters.

NR 20.16 Monthly sport trolling fishing reports. (1) A monthly sport trolling fishing report form required by s. 29.166 (2), Stats., shall be completed by the sport trolling licensee guiding persons in sport trolling. Copies of the report form shall be provided by the department. The licensee's name, license number, date, locations fished, number of anglers, number of lines fished, hours fished, total number of fish caught and other information required by the report form shall be accurately and legibly recorded on the form in the English language within ½ hour after completing each trip's fishing activities after returning to the dock or shore. The number of fish of each species caught and the tag numbers, if any, may be recorded on the form after returning to the dock or shore but shall be recorded on the form prior to midnight of the day of each trip. The report form shall be exhibited to a conservation warden upon request.

(2) The entire monthly sport trolling fishing report form provided by the department, including any voided and unused pages, shall be signed and dated by the sport trolling licensee and submitted to the department on or before the 10th day of each month for the preceding calendar month.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1992, No. 439, eff. 8-1-92.

NR 20.17 Report of licensed guides. All Wisconsin guides licensed under the provisions of s. 29.165, Stats., and operating in the Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior, Lake Michigan and Green Bay shall report to the department on blanks to be furnished by the department detailed information regarding their fishing activities which shall include the quantity, the varieties of fish taken, and any other information pertaining to their fishing activities required by the department.

History: Cr. Register, May, 1973, No. 209, eff. 6-1-73; am., Register, June, 1974, No. 222, eff. 7-1-74.