



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 10/31/2011

LRB Number	11-0695/2	Introduction Number	AB-0325	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> A catch-and-release only season for bass fishing					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill establishes a catch and release only season for bass fishing in the areas of the state where there is not a continuous open season for bass fishing. As written, the bill would offer approximately one month of additional catch-and-release fishing opportunity for two species of fish.

#### General Assumptions:

No substantial state fiscal impact is expected from this change in fishing regulations. However, additional workload may result for conservation wardens and customer service representatives. For example, because it will only be legal to catch and release bass and no other game fish, the Department can expect to field additional complaints from anglers that people are targeting walleye, northern pike, and muskellunge while fishing in closed seasons for those species in March and April.

#### Revenue Assumptions:

It is not expected that this rule change would increase the number of fishing licenses sold and add funds to the Fish and Wildlife Account. The regulation change may encourage new immediate release bass fishing tournaments on inland waters in the month of April. For example, if ten new tournaments were to apply for permits, it would increase state permitting revenue by \$250.

#### Cost Assumptions:

Additional conservation warden workload costs are likely to be incurred in order for wardens to investigate additional complaints. Costs are indeterminate at this time.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications