

Clearinghouse Rule 13-067

Report to
Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse
Ch. NR Wis. Adm. Code
Natural Resources Board Order WM-05-13

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

29.014, Stats.

Federal Authority

Not applicable

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None

Analysis of the Rule – Rule Effect – Reason for the Rule

This proposal could result in new hunting and trapping opportunities for bobcat in portions of the state where harvest is not allowed under current rules.

This proposal would create a new elk management zone and population goal in an area of the state where elk are not currently found but where a management plan approved by the Natural Resources Board recommends establishing a herd.

Specifically, these rules would:

SECTION 1 establishes that bobcat hunting and trapping may be allowed statewide instead of only north of State Highway 64.

SECTION 2 establishes that the elk hunting season begins on the Saturday nearest October 15, instead of September 15, in any open elk management zone.

SECTION 3 establishes one elk population goal, instead of two, for the Clam Lake elk management zone and establishes a population goal for the newly created Black River elk management zone.

SECTION 4 establishes that elk tags issued for the Black River elk management zone, in addition to ones issued for Clam Lake, may be designated as valid outside an elk management zone.

SECTION 5 establishes that the formula for determining the number of bull elk tags to issue applies to new Black River Falls elk management zone as well as the Clam Lake zone.

SECTION 6 clarifies that the department may establish a bobcat harvest quota in areas where it has not established a population goal.

SECTION 7 creates new zones where bobcat hunting and trapping may be allowed in the Central, Southwest, and Southeast portions of the state. An alternative approach, to create just one new zone for the remainder of state, will also be a topic of hearings and is described in this rule order.

SECTION 8 consolidates two existing elk management zones in the Clam Lake area, expands the size of that overall zone, and creates a new Black River elk management zone.

Agency Procedures for Promulgation

Public hearing, Natural Resources Board adoption, Governor's Office of Regulatory Compliance final approval, followed by legislative review

Description of any Forms

None

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Submitted on _____