

The statement of scope for this rule, SS 020-21 was approved by the Governor on February 19, 2021, published in Register No. 783A1 on March 1, 2021, and approved by the Natural Resources Board on April 14, 2021. This rule was approved by the Governor on November 18, 2021.

ORDER OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD  
REPEALING, RENUMBERING, RENUMBERING AND AMENDING, AMENDING, REPEALING  
AND RECREATING AND CREATING RULES

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board proposes an order to **repeal** NR 20.03 (31) (a) to (h), 20.20 (11) (h) and (i), (21) (b) 4., (51) (d), (53) (e) 6., and 21.04 (3) (b) 2. and (5) (b) 1. b.; to **renumber** NR 20.03 (19m); to **renumber and amend** NR 20.03 (31) (intro.); to **amend** NR 19.025 (title), (1), (3) (a), (c), (dm), (e), (f), and (i), and (5) (a), 19.11 (2) (e), 19.27 (table) and (4) (a) 3. c., 19.275 (3) (g), 20.03 (3), (18), (37m), and (38), 20.05 (12) and (14), 20.06 (1) and (10), 20.09 (1) and (2), 20.15 (1m), 20.20 (1) (b) 2., (2) (a) 2., (7) (bm), (13) (c) 2. and (d), (14) (a) 2. and (b) 2., (16) (c), (21) (b) 3., (22) (e) 3. and 4., (38) (d) 3., (48) (b) 1r., (49) (a) 2., (b), and (c) 2., (56) (d), (57) (i) 4., (58) (e) 3., (64) (i) 2., (64) (i) 7., (68) (a) 1., (70) (a) 4., (73) (f) 2., 20.40 (2) (j), (3) (f), (9), and (10) (c) 1., (d), (g) 10., and (k), 21.04 (2) (c) 2., 21.04 (4) and (4g), 22.06 (1) (f), 23.05 (4), 23.08, and 26.01 (55) (a); to **repeal and recreate** NR 20.20 (28) (d), (45) (b), (c), (d), and (g), (54) (e), (64) (i) 3., (71) (a), (b), (c), and (f), 20.40 (3m) (c), and 23.05 (5); and to **create** NR 19.07, 20.03 (20m), 20.09 (1) (note) and (4), 20.19, 20.20 (9) (b) 5., (17) (h) 2., 20.40 (2) (s) (note), and 21.04 (4m) relating to minor changes to fishing regulations on inland, outlying and boundary waters.

**FH-14-20**

**Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources**

**1. Statutes Interpreted:** Sections 23.09 (2), 29.014, 29.041, and 29.053 (2), Stats., have been interpreted as authorizing the department to conserve and regulate the fish supply on waters of the state while continuing to provide opportunities for good fishing.

**2. Statutory Authority:**

Sections 23.09 (2), 29.014, 29.041, and 29.053 (2), Stats., authorize this rule.

**3. Explanation of Agency Authority:**

Section 29.014, Stats., “rule-making for this chapter,” grants the department the authority to establish and maintain open and closed seasons, bag limits, size limits and other conditions that will conserve fish populations and provide good fishing opportunities for the citizens of the state.

Section 29.041, Stats., provides that the department may regulate fishing on and in all interstate boundary waters and outlying waters.

Section 23.09 (2), Stats., authorizes the department to conduct studies and investigations, including entering into cooperative agreements with other persons or agencies and receiving funds from public or private sources for research projects.

Section 29.053 (2), Stats., provides that the department may establish conditions governing the taking of

fish for the state as a whole, for counties or parts of counties, or for waterbodies or parts of waterbodies. It also allows the department to establish a fishing season on specified bodies of water in certain urban areas to allow fishing only by persons who are under 16 years old or who are disabled, as specified in s. 29.193 (3) (a), (b), or (c), Stats.

#### **4. Related Statutes or Rules:**

No related statutes or rules apply.

#### **5. Plain Language Analysis:**

This rule is minor in nature and mainly clarifies regulations, codifies existing department policies to ensure consistency in implementation, corrects outdated language and drafting errors, removes obsolete provisions, updates cross-references and points of reference, and addresses inconsistencies in administrative code language. Some of these changes also make administrative code consistent with regulation changes that were implemented using the process outlined in s. NR 20.35, Wis. Admin. Code, which allows the department to remove a special regulation or implement a predefined alternate regulation through a public notice period and public meeting, if requested. Specifically, these rules will amend fishing regulations found in Chs. NR 19-23 and 26, Wis. Admin. Code.

SECTION 1 implements consistent terminology relating to educational outdoor skills activities, and includes language and a cross-reference relating to the statutory exemptions to the requirement to hold a fishing license.

SECTION 2 clarifies that the department may authorize commercial fishing studies in line with s. 23.09 (2) (h) and (k), Stats., in order to increase useful scientific knowledge, and that the department may authorize activities outside of the times, locations, and gear types established by department rule to be conducted as part of the study design. This makes administrative code consistent with existing department policies and authority.

SECTION 3 states that written authorization from the department may be used in lieu of a scientific collector permit to tag fish for a fishing contest, consistent with current practices.

SECTION 4, 5 and 6 allow a DNR customer identification number to be used instead of a person's name and address for tagging crayfish traps and turtle traps.

SECTION 7 specifies that liquid scents are considered to be a type of artificial lure and lists certain Lake Michigan tributaries (Manitowish River and Sauk Creek and their tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake) that were not plainly listed in the original definition.

SECTION 8 places definitions in correct alphabetical order.

SECTION 9 defines lure and excludes aggregators of hooks, baits and lures as being considered a single lure themselves. Aggregators such as Alabama (umbrella) rigs do not inherently catch fish, but serve to group more than one hook, bait or lure to attract or catch fish. This definition will help clarify what is considered to be a lure for the public.

SECTIONS 10 and 11 specify that fish in a person's possession are included in the possession limit

regardless of the person's proximity to the storage location, and pulls specific possession limits out of the definitions section and into a new section (in SECTION 20).

SECTION 12 amends the definition of Sheboygan Marsh to clarify that it encompasses the area of habitat created by water manipulation by the dam, which will also better protect fish populations in that area. This section also makes the definition of spearing consistent with current practices and statutory language, and including a more accurate list of the devices used for spearing fish.

SECTION 13 allows a DNR customer identification number to be used instead of a person's name and address for marking live boxes. This section also clarifies language on department authorization for tagging fish for a fishing contest. This authorization can be a permit condition for fishing tournaments that require a permit, but for tournaments that are exempt from a permit, written authorization would be required for fishing contest organizers to tag fish.

SECTION 14 clarifies the purpose of the cross-reference to s. 29.193 (1m), Stats., with regard to trolling rules to clarify that trolling permit holders and their assistants are exempt from fishing line restrictions when trolling with an electric motor. This section also adds unmanned aircraft systems to the prohibition on remote-controlled devices for fishing.

SECTION 15 and 17 add crossbow to the list of spearing devices, which is consistent with statutory language but is not explicit under current administrative code language.

SECTION 16 adds a note pointing to additional property-specific rules in different chapters of administrative code that prohibit the possession and use of bows, crossbows and spears. On these properties, the weapons restrictions also serve to prohibit bowfishing and spearfishing.

SECTION 18 establishes that speared fish must be removed from the water and disposed of in accordance with statutory requirements.

SECTION 19 improves the sentence structure of the provision on spearing with a handheld spear to provide additional clarity.

SECTION 20 creates a table for possession limits and provides exceptions, which were removed from the definition of "possession limit" in SECTION 10 of this rule.

SECTIONS 21, 24, and 40 correct omissions of the statewide catch-and-release bass season dates on certain waters and a bag limit error. The bass catch-and-release season went into effect in 2020.

SECTION 22 reverts the size limit for bass on Cornell Lake in Chippewa County to no minimum length limit, which was implemented through the s. NR 20.35 regulation change process as an alternate size limit due to slow bass growth rates and high densities. Removal of the size limit will help reduce overabundant bass and improve size structure.

SECTION 23 removes obsolete regulations relating to white and yellow bass in Columbia Lake, Columbia County. These species no longer occupy the lake, so special regulations are not needed.

SECTION 24 reverts the bass regulations on Lake Mendota to the statewide regulation (14-inch minimum length limit and daily bag limit of 5) since special regulations are no longer needed. This section also

updates a point of reference for the Wisconsin River boundary since the railroad bridge was removed. This section also extends the Fox Lake regulations in Dodge County to the lake's tributaries and connected waters to ensure consistent management and reduce complexity in regulations. This section also adds missing text to the bass size limit column for certain lakes in Douglas County.

SECTION 25 reverts regulations for Lake Menomin and connected waters in Dunn County to the Ceded Territory walleye regulation of a 15-inch minimum length limit, walleye from 20-24 inches may not be kept, and only one walleye over 24 inches may be kept. These regulations were implemented through the s. NR 20.35 process. This makes regulations consistent with connected Tainter Lake to reduce angler confusion, improve law enforcement efforts, and provide additional protection to walleyes.

SECTION 26 and 27 group Roberts Lake with other Forest County lakes that have the same regulation, which also corrects a season dates error.

SECTION 28 corrects a drafting error to restore overwritten regulations on a segment of Castle Rock Creek and Castle Rock Spring in Grant County, which have a catch-and-release season with only artificial lures allowed. This section also corrects the legal description for an adjacent segment of the creek.

SECTION 29 and 35 correct a drafting error in boundary descriptions to waters of the Rock and Bark rivers that have a continuous season, minimum length limit of 15 inches, and daily bag limit of 5. SECTION 29 also adds waters of Golden Lake in Jefferson County to the walleye regulation of a minimum length limit of 18 inches daily bag limit of 3 to make the regulation consistent with the majority of the lake, which lies in Waukesha County.

SECTION 30 Reverts K.C. Creek and the Pike River between County Highway K and the confluence of the north and south branches of the Pike River to the county base trout regulation of a daily bag limit of 3 and minimum length limit of 8 inches, which was implemented through the s. NR 20.35 regulation change process.

SECTIONS 31 and 41 clarify the boundary between the Fox River and Little Lake Butte des Morts in Outagamie and Winnebago counties. The boundary between the two sections is Appleton Lock 1. The Little Lake Butte des Morts side includes some connected waters of the Fox River as well as tributaries, sloughs and flowages of Little Lake Butte des Morts. The Fox River side encompasses just the Fox River downstream to the De Pere lock. For most species, the regulations are the same on both sides of Appleton Lock 1, but these descriptions help reduce uncertainty on the full scope of the waters to which the regulations apply. This section also applies the same northern pike regulations to Little Lake Butte des Morts waters in Outagamie County as currently apply to Little Lake Butte des Morts waters in Winnebago County.

SECTION 32 establishes the October 15 end date for certain trout streams in Pierce County rather than the lake season end date which was applied erroneously, corrects drafting errors in Polk County bass and musky season dates and applies a legal description to Long Lake in Polk County to distinguish it from other lakes with the same name.

SECTION 33 reverts the Wilson Flowage in Price County to the statewide northern zone pike regulation of a daily bag limit of 5 and no size limit, which was implemented through the s. NR 20.35 process and encourages angler harvest of overabundant smaller pike.

SECTION 34 reverts Smith Hollow Creek downstream of Robin Hollow Road in Richland County to the county base regulation of a daily bag limit of 3 and minimum length limit of 8 inches, which was implemented through the s. NR 20.35 process.

SECTION 36 updates the point of reference for the Wisconsin River muskellunge boundary to the U.S. Highway 12 bridge, since the railroad bridge was removed.

SECTION 37 reverts Black Dan and Island lakes in Sawyer County to the Ceded Territory walleye regulation of a 15-inch minimum length limit, walleye from 20-24 inches may not be kept, and only one over 24 inches may be kept, and a daily bag limit of 3. This section also reverts the Middle Branch Embarrass River in Shawano County to the county base trout regulation of a daily bag limit of 3 and minimum length limit of 8 inches. The department utilized the s. NR 20.35 process to revert to the Ceded Territory walleye and county base trout regulation. This section also makes the Vilas County waters of Sherman Lake consistent with the regulations in the rest of the lake in Iron County. Finally, in combination with SECTION 39, this section applies the Ceded Territory regulation to the Manitowish Chain of Lakes in Vilas County, which was implemented through the s. NR 20.35 process. The size limit consists of a 15-inch minimum length limit, walleye from 20-24 inches may not be kept, and only one over 24 inches may be kept. The daily bag limit of 3 would apply chainwide.

SECTION 38 makes regulations that have been applied to certain waters of the Bear River and Manitowish River in Iron County consistent in the same waters across the Vilas County border.

SECTION 40 removes Woodfield Park Pond South from the urban fishing pond program. The pond no longer exists because the dam was removed.

SECTION 42 restores the closed bass season from March to the end of June for the Washington Island complex. This long-standing closed season has been in place for decades to protect spawning bass, with the fishing season opening in July, and was inadvertently overwritten during implementation of the statewide catch-and-release bass season.

SECTIONS 43, 45, 46 and 47 align fishing tournament rules with contemporary practices in light of the implementation of the statewide catch-and-release bass season to maintain good fishing conditions during the first weekend in May. This section specifies that opening weekend is considered to be the first weekend in May rather than the first weekend of a calendar year that a person may fish for that species. The first weekend in May is opening weekend for most species and waters, and due to implementation of the statewide bass catch-and-release season, by the previous definition, any tournament could be held during the first weekend in May. This is inconsistent with previous policy and practices, in which most tournaments may not be held during the first weekend in May to reduce crowding at boat landings and on the water when non-tournament anglers are also trying to fish. There is an exception for traditional tournaments and a *de facto* exception for tournaments on waters with a continuous open harvest season (which has no opening weekend under the current definition). By updating the definition but establishing an exemption for tournaments on waters with continuous open harvest seasons, those tournaments may continue to be held on the first weekend in May as usual, while other tournaments that are not traditional fishing tournaments still may not hold a tournament that weekend. This section also clarifies language to make tournament provisions more understandable. This section also codifies the practice allowing tournament organizers to deliver trout and salmon taken by tournament participants to a non-profit food distribution service. Finally, this section adds an exemption and cross-reference to the prohibition on tournaments running for more than 10 consecutive hours or more than 4 consecutive days to correct an

inconsistency, since some very loosely organized non-Great Lakes tournaments that are exempt from a permit under a different provision may run for more than 4 days.

SECTION 44 adds a note with a cross-reference to ch. NR 45 to the definition of “weigh-in” to signify that special event authorization from the department may be needed for weigh-ins on certain department-managed lands.

SECTIONS 48 and 49 eliminate references to Mississippi Pools 10 to 12, which are covered under the Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters.

SECTIONS 50 and 51 reduce ambiguity in language for Wisconsin-Minnesota panfish regulations to correctly group panfish species with an aggregate bag limit and to separate panfish species with an individual bag limit. This section also lists out all of the boundary waters other than the Mississippi River for which the panfish regulations apply to improve clarity.

SECTION 52 eliminates an unnecessary line of code. Pools 3 to 9 encompass all of the Mississippi River in the Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters, so this line is not needed.

SECTION 53 adds a cross-reference to the bullhead and catfish hand and bowfishing regulations in ch. NR 20.

SECTION 54 adds the exemption allowing rough fish to be taken by hand during the closed season for trout to be consistent with statutory language.

SECTION 55 lists all the boundary waters for which regulations apply in place of the "all other waters" designation to improve clarity, and makes some water descriptions consistent with how they are listed in ch. NR 20. This section also corrects a typo in bass season dates on the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters, which allow catch-and-release at all times outside the harvest season.

SECTION 56 allows trolling in Vilas County boundary waters under the same regulation as Vilas County inland waters, since trolling is now allowed in the Michigan side of the waters as well as in Wisconsin. The previous description of trolling in Vilas County was unclear as to how many fishing lines were allowed.

SECTION 57 updates the fish refuge boundaries for the lower Flambeau River. While the practical extent of the refuge will not change, the current description of the refuge upstream of the dams is not needed in the refuge description because that area is already inaccessible to anglers.

## **6. Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal Statutes and Regulations:**

No federal regulations apply. States possess inherent authority to manage the fishery and wildlife resources within their boundaries, except insofar as preempted by federal treaties and laws, including regulations established in the Federal Register.

## **7. If Held, Summary of Comments Received During Preliminary Comment Period and at Public Hearing on the Statement of Scope:**

No preliminary public hearing was held.

## **8. Comparison with Similar Rules in Adjacent States:**

Fisheries management rules are generally similar in the states surrounding Wisconsin. Each bordering state regulates fishing by the use of seasons, bag limits and size limits. Specific seasons and bag and size limits may differ for species among the surrounding states, but the general principles are the same. Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois all have statewide seasons and bag and size limits for fish species, along with special or experimental regulations on individual waters.

## **9. Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies Used and How Any Related Findings Support the Regulatory Approach Chosen:**

Fishing regulations, such as length and bag limits or season dates, are used as a tool to ensure that good fishing exists into the future. The department has used different types of fishing regulations in order to: control angler impacts on fish populations; maintain numbers and sizes of fish in a lake or stream; provide different types of fishing experiences, such as fishing for dinner or for a trophy fish; and make access to fishing as fair as possible.

This rule includes minor changes to administrative code that support existing policies and fisheries management goals. The items in this rule have been compiled by fisheries staff across the state as well as department law enforcement professionals.

## **10. Analysis and Supporting Documents Used to Determine the Effect on Small Business or in Preparation of an Economic Impact Report:**

The proposed rule will have minimal impact on sport anglers and is not expected to have an economic impact. As with any change in regulations, there will be a requirement for anglers to learn the new rules. However, a majority of this rule change clarifies code to reflect existing policies for which anglers must already comply. The department works to notify the public of new regulations via press releases, the internet, and fishing regulations pamphlets.

The department will conduct an economic impact analysis and comment period to determine if any individuals, businesses, local governments, or other entities will be affected economically.

## **11. Effect on Small Business (initial regulatory flexibility analysis):**

The department expects no economic impact directly related to these rule changes. The proposed rule does not impose any compliance or reporting requirements on small businesses nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule.

**12. Agency Contact Person:** Meredith Penthorn, 608-316-0080, Meredith.Penthorn@wisconsin.gov

## **13. Place where comments are to be submitted and deadline for submission:**

Written comments may be submitted at the public hearings, by regular mail, or email to:

Meredith Penthorn

Department of Natural Resources, FH/4

P.O. Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707

Comments may be submitted to the department contact person listed above or to DNRAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov until the deadline given in the upcoming notice of public hearing. The notice of public hearing and deadline for submitting comments will be published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register and on the department's website, at <https://dnr.wi.gov/calendar/hearings/>. Comments may also be submitted through the Wisconsin Administrative Rules Website at <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/active>.

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## RULE TEXT

**SECTION 1. NR 19.025 (title), (1), (3) (a), (c), (dm), (e), (f), and (i), and (5) (a) are amended to read:**

**NR 19.025 Waivers for an educational ~~recreational~~ outdoor skills activity.** (1) PURPOSE. This section contains rules for the procedures required to apply to the department for a waiver of approvals, applicable fees and other requirements pursuant to s. 29.197 (2) and (5), Stats., for an educational, ~~recreational and outdoor skills development~~ outdoor skills activity that is sponsored or approved by the department. It further explains the reasonable conditions, limitations and restrictions that will be necessary to allow for approval of the waiver.

**(3) GENERAL; CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.**

(a) An applicant shall submit a request for a waiver at least 30 days prior to a hunting or trapping ~~event~~ educational outdoor skills activity and 15 days before a fishing ~~event~~ educational outdoor skills activity. The department may waive the 15 day period for fishing ~~events~~ educational outdoor skills activities when the department determines it is not required to conduct criminal history, character or background checks. All applications shall be submitted on forms provided by the department.

(c) There shall be a minimum of 4 hours of classroom and field instruction prior to the hunting or fishing educational outdoor skills activity.

(dm) If there are more novice participant applicants for a specific educational outdoor–skills activity event or location than the department or applicant sponsoring the ~~event~~ educational outdoor skills activity is able to accommodate, the department may select which of the novice participant applicants will be allowed to participate. When making this selection, the department shall give preference to those novice participant applicants who have had the least previous exposure, as determined by the department, to that recreational activity or the least opportunity to

accompany others and learn about that recreational activity.

(e) Where applicable, written authorization from the host landowner shall be obtained and submitted with the application. It shall include the legal description of the lands on which the educational outdoor skills activity will be conducted. If department lands are to be used, the written approval of the property manager shall be obtained.

(f) Unless otherwise approved, the novice participants and mentors participating in the educational outdoor skills activity shall comply with all natural resource rules and regulations.

(i) Upon receipt of information indicating prior illegal activity relevant to a mentor's ability to properly assist or instruct novice participants, the department may make appropriate inquiry into criminal history, character and background of mentoring applicants and determine their suitability for the proposed educational outdoor skills activity.

**(5) SPECIAL FISHING CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.** (a) Except as provided in par. (b) or if exempt from the requirement to possess a fishing approval under s. 29.197 (3) or 29.219 (1), Stats., the applicant, instructors and mentors shall possess a valid fishing approval.

**SECTION 2. NR 19.07 is created to read:**

**NR 19.07 Commercial fishing studies on inland, outlying, and boundary waters.** The department may authorize commercial fishing studies, pursuant to ss. 23.09 (2) (h) and (k), Stats., that contribute to increased, useful scientific knowledge of fisheries management and that may include one or more participating commercial fishing licensees. The department may authorize a commercial fishing study to be conducted at a time, in a location, or using a gear type for which commercial fishing is otherwise restricted by department rules.

Note: Nothing in this section precludes a commercial fishing licensee operating under s. 29.519 (1m) or (4), 29.523 (1), 29.526 (1), 29.529, 29.531, or 29.533, Stats., and operating under the rules and regulations of chs. NR 20, 21, 22, or 25 from conducting independent research on their own commercial fishing practices and commercial harvest.

**SECTION 3. NR 19.11 (2) (e) is amended to read:**

NR 19.11 (2) (e) *Tagging of fish.* Scientific collectors permits are required to capture a wild fish, attach a tag to any part of it, and then to release it back into waters of the state, unless the department grants specific written authorization to tag fish for the purposes of a fishing contest.

**SECTION 4. NR 19.27 (table) is amended to read:**

Animal and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Bag limit	Size limit	Methods of taking
(1) Crayfish All areas except Wis.-Minn. boundary waters. See s. NR 21.04 (12)	Continuous	None	None	Crayfish may be taken by hand, minnow seine, minnow dipnets or minnow traps, as defined in s. NR 20.10, and by crayfish traps with any entrance not to exceed 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> inches at its greatest diagonal measurement.  All traps used to take crayfish shall be raised and crayfish removed at least once each day following the day set unless otherwise authorized by the district director.  All traps shall be tagged with a tag clearly bearing in the English language the name and address <u>or department customer identification number</u> of the owner and trapper.

**SECTION 5. NR 19.27 (4) (a) 3. c. is amended to read:**

NR 19.27 (4) (a) 3. c. Shall plainly and clearly display in the English language the name and address or department customer identification number of the owner or operator; and

**SECTION 6. NR 19.275 (3) (g) is amended to read:**

NR 19.275 (3) (g) Use a hoop net turtle trap unless a stamped or engraved metal tag, bearing the name and address or department customer identification number of the operator of the trap in the English language, is attached in a manner that is visible above water and legible at all times.

**SECTION 7. NR 20.03 (3) and (18) are amended to read:**

NR 20.03 (3) "Artificial lure" means a spoon, spinner, jig, plug or other fish bait made of hair, feathers, cork, wood, rubber, metal, plastic or other synthetic materials, or combinations of these materials. An "artificial lure" may not include natural or organic ~~food stuffs~~ foodstuffs such as corn, marshmallows, dough, cheese, meat, living or dead organisms or parts of those items, except hair, feathers, cork, liquid scents, wood or rubber.

(18) "Lake Michigan tributaries" means the Pike river and its tributaries, Kenosha and Racine counties; Kewaunee river and its tributaries excluding Little Scarboro, Scarboro, Roger and Casco creeks, Kewaunee county; Manitowoc river and its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake, Manitowoc county; Milwaukee river upstream to the Grafton dam in the village of Grafton and tributaries to the Milwaukee river upstream to the first dam or lake; Menomonee river upstream to the Lepper dam in the village of Menomonee Falls and tributaries to the Menomonee river upstream to the first dam or lake; Sauk creek and its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake, Ozaukee county; Sheboygan river downstream to the coast guard station and its tributaries excluding Unnamed tributary (locally known as Willow creek), Sheboygan county; and all other tributaries to Lake Michigan upstream to the first dam or lake.

**SECTION 8. NR 20.03 (19m) is renumbered (19d).**

**SECTION 9. NR 20.03 (20m) is created to read:**

NR 20.03 (20m) "Lure" means any object used for fishing that is capable of attracting fish, regardless of whether that object includes one or more hooks or is hookless, but "lure" does not include aggregators of hooks, baits, or lures, including devices commonly known as "Alabama" or "umbrella" rigs.

**SECTION 10. NR 20.03 (31) (intro.) is renumbered NR 20.03 (31) and is amended to read:**

NR 20.03 (31) "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish that a person may possess at any location, and includes all fish stored or controlled by a person, regardless of the person's proximity to the location of storage. The possession limit which is twice the total daily bag limit specified in s. NR 20.18 except for the following: as provided in s. NR 20.19.

**SECTION 11. NR 20.03 (31) (a) to (h) are repealed.**

**SECTION 12. NR 20.03 (37m) and (38) are amended to read:**

(37m) "Sheboygan marsh" means waters above the dam within the area commonly known as Sheboygan Marsh county park, including Sheboygan lake and its tributaries upstream to the first road crossing.

(38) "Spearing" or "spear", when used as a verb, means fishing with a device consisting of a shaft with an attached sharp point or points, ~~and includes devices such as~~ including spears, bow and arrow, crossbow and bolt, and underwater spear guns or similar devices.

**SECTION 13. NR 20.05 (12) and (14) are amended to read:**

NR 20.05 (12) Use, possess, control, set or place in any water any live box, or similar device that might be used for the keeping of fish unless a tag of permanent material bearing the name and address or department customer identification number of the owner or user is securely attached and is readable and legible.

(14) Capture, tag, mark or attach any object and release wild fish unless issued a permit by the department pursuant to s. NR 19.11, or by specific written authorization ~~by permit~~ from the department to capture, tag and immediately release fish from the wild using lawful methods for the purposes of a fishing contest ~~under~~, including contests authorized under a fishing tournament permit in s. NR 20.40 (10) (h) 2. c.

**SECTION 14. NR 20.06 (1) and (10) are amended to read:**

NR 20.06 (1) Fish in inland waters by the method of trolling with more than 1 line per person, with more than 1 hook, bait, or lure per line, and with more than a total of 3 lines used for trolling per boat, except where specifically authorized in ss. NR 20.15 (4) or 20.20 ~~or as provided in s. 29.193 (1m), Stats.,~~ and except that a person with a disability who holds a trolling permit under s. 29.193 (1m), Stats., and any person who assists the disabled person in the same boat, is not subject to the line restrictions of this subsection while trolling with an electric motor.

(10) Fish with an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or, in open water, with a free-floating, remote controlled or anchored buoyant device, with attached hook and line that is not held or otherwise controlled by the angler with the use of a line connected to the device.

**SECTION 15. NR 20.09 (1) is amended to read:**

NR 20.09 (1) Possess or control any bow, crossbow, spear, or similar device while on any water or on the banks or shores of any water that might be used for the purpose of fishing except as specifically authorized in s. NR 20.15 (1m) or 20.20 or ch. NR 21, 22, or 23.

**SECTION 16. NR 20.09 (1) (note) is created to read:**

NR 20.09 (1) Note: Bows, crossbows, spears, and similar devices may not be possessed or used on some department-managed lands and associated waters regulated under chs. NR 11 and 45.

**SECTION 17. NR 20.09 (2) is amended to read:**

NR 20.09 (2) Use, possess, or control any bow, crossbow, spear, or similar device from sunset to sunrise while on the waters or on the banks or shores of any waters except as authorized in s. NR 20.20, and that a bow and arrow or crossbow may be possessed and used for spearing rough fish, bullheads and catfish from sunset to sunrise during the open season for spearing rough fish.

**SECTION 18. NR 20.09 (4) is created to read:**

NR 20.09 (4) Fail to remove any speared fish from the water and dispose of the fish in compliance with s. 287.81 (2), Stats.

**SECTION 19. NR 20.15 (1m) is amended to read:**

**NR 20.15 (1m)** Except as prohibited under ss. NR 21.065, 22.065, and 23.10, or where posted closed to spearing by department sign, take rough fish by means of spearing with a hand held spear within 200 feet of a fishway, lock or dam from June 1 through August 31 where there is an open season for spearing of rough fish ~~unless posted closed to spearing by department sign~~.

**SECTION 20. NR 20.19 is created to read:**

**NR 20.19 Possession limits.**

(1) POSSESSION LIMIT TABLE. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following possession limits are established.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Possession Limit</b>
Catfish	50 in total
Cisco (lake herring), whitefish, and their hybrids	20 in total
Lake sturgeon	2 in total
Largemouth and smallmouth bass	10 in total
Minnows	As specified in s. NR 20.14
Muskellunge	2 in total
Northern pike	10 in total

Panfish	50 in total
Rock bass, white bass, yellow bass, white perch, bullheads, and rough fish	None
Ruffe and gobies	1 of each which has been killed and possessed only for immediate delivery to a department service center or regional office
Shovelnose sturgeon	6 in total
Trout and salmon	10 in total
Walleye, sauger, and their hybrids	10 in total

(2) POSSESSION LIMIT EXCEPTIONS. The following fish do not contribute to a person's possession limit:

(a) Catfish caught on setlines, set or bank poles on the Fox river upstream from the DePere dam in Brown county.

(b) Panfish caught on Twin Valley lake in Iowa county.

(c) Any species of fish caught on Nebish, Palette, Mystery, Spruce, or Escanaba lakes in Vilas county unless specified in s. NR 20.20 (64).

(d) Any species of fish lawfully received by and stored at a fish distribution service, as defined in s. 29.001(28), Stats., for redistribution.

**SECTION 21. NR 20.20 (1) (b) 2., (2) (a) 2., and (7) (bm), as affected by CR 21-021, are amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHOD	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(1) ADAMS	(for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))				
(b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Mason lake, Amey pond, Parker lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total but <del>only 1 may be longer than 18</del>	None except the possession of fish from 14 to 18 is prohibited and <u>only 1 may be longer than 18</u>



<b>(9) CHIPPEWA</b> (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(b)	5. Cornell lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
Largemouth and smallmouth bass			Monday following the first Sunday in March to Friday preceding the first Saturday in May	0	None

**SECTION 23. NR 20.20 (11) (h) and (i) are repealed.**

**SECTION 24. NR 20.20 (13) (c) 2. and (d) 1., (14) (a) 2., (b) 2., and (d) 2., and (16) (c) are amended to read:**

<b>COUNTY AND SPECIES</b>	<b>WATERS</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED METHOD S</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>DAILY BAG LIMIT</b>	<b>MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)</b>
<b>(13) DANE</b> (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(c)	2. <del>Mendota lake</del> , Fish lake, Mud lake (sec 3&4, T9N, R7E), Lake Wingra	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	18
Largemouth and smallmouth bass			Monday following the first Sunday in March to Friday preceding the first Saturday in May	0	None
(d)	1. Wingra lake, Monona lake, Waubesa lake, Upper Mud lake, Yahara river from Tenney locks	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to December 31	1	50
Muskellunge					

downstream to Babcock dam, Nine Springs creek, Swan creek, Wingra creek, Starkweather creek, Wisconsin river downstream to the WI & Southern railroad bridge-U.S. highway 12 bridge

**(14) DODGE** (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(a) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Fox lake <u>and its tributaries and connected open waters</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	18
			Monday following the first Sunday in March to Friday before the first Saturday in May	0	None
(b) Northern pike	2. Fox lake <u>and its tributaries and connected open waters</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	32
(d) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. Fox lake <u>and its tributaries and connected open waters</u> , Beaver Dam lake and its tributaries, Beaver creek, Mill creek	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18

**(16) DOUGLAS** (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73)). **Note:** Allouez bay, Little Pokegama bay, Kimballs bay and Pokegama bay are considered part of the St. Louis river, a Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary water. See ch. NR 21. The Nemadji river is an inland water that is contiguous with these Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters but is regulated under this subsection.

(c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Nemadji river	a. Hook and line	Saturday preceding Memorial day to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	12
			<u>Monday following the first Sunday in March to the Friday preceding Memorial day</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>None</u>
	2. All lakes and flowages partially within Burnett and Washburn counties, Lower Eau Claire lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding the third Saturday in June	0 for smallmouth bass, 5 for largemouth bass	None for largemouth bass only
		Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None	
		<u>Monday following the first Sunday in March to the Friday preceding the first Saturday in May</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>None</u>	
	3. Bond lake, Lower Eau Claire lake, Upper St. Croix lake, Whitefish lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to Friday the preceding third	0 for smallmouth bass, 5 for large-mouth bass	None for largemouth bass and 18 inches for smallmouth bass

Saturday in June

Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March

5 of which only 1 may be a smallmouth bass

None for largemouth bass and 18 inches for smallmouth bass

Monday following the first Sunday in March to the Friday preceding the first Saturday in May

0

None

**SECTION 25. NR 20.20 (17) (h) 2. is created to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)	
(17)	DUNN	(for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))				
(h)	Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. Menomin lake including the Red Cedar river upstream from Lake Menomin dam to the Cedar Falls dam	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 24 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 24

**SECTION 26. NR 20.20 (21) (b) 3. is amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(21)	FOREST	(for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))			

(b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	3. Jungle lake, Lake Lucerne, <u>Roberts lake</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding the third Saturday in June	0 for smallmouth bass, 5 for largemouth bass	None
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
			Monday following the first Sunday in March to Friday preceding the first Saturday in May	0	None

**SECTION 27. NR 20.20 (21) (b) 4. is repealed.**

**SECTION 28. NR 20.20 (22) (e) 3. and 4. are amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZE D METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIO NS (INCHES)
<b>(22) GRANT</b> (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(e) Trout and salmon	3. Blue river from Biba road upstream to Snow Bottom road, Castle Rock creek from Witek road upstream to the third county highway Q bridge (T7N R1W S30 <del>SESESESW</del> ), Millville creek	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	2 in total	12
	4. Blue river upstream from Snow Bottom road, Bronson creek downstream from	a. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	First Saturday in May at 5:00	All trout caught shall be immediat	--

Vavricka road, Doc Smith branch from Castle Rock creek upstream to 0.5 miles upstream from Everson road, Castle Rock creek and spring from the third county highway Q bridge (T7N R1W S30 SESW) upstream to Church road, Little Platte river from Waterfall road upstream to state highway 80

a.m. to  
October 15

ely  
released

**SECTION 29. NR 20.20 (28) (d) is repealed and recreated to read:**

<b>COUNTY AND SPECIES</b>	<b>WATERS</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED METHOD S</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>DAILY BAG LIMIT</b>	<b>MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)</b>
<b>(28) JEFFERSON</b> (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(d) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Bean lake, Goose lake, Hahns lake, Mud lake, Red Cedar lake, Scuppernong river downstream from the dam at Palmyra, Waterloo creek downstream from the Malthouse dam, Bark river downstream of state highway 106, Rock river upstream of the lower Watertown dam	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	15
	2. Koshkonong lake and its tributaries, Bark river from its mouth upstream to the former Hebron dam at state highway 106, Busseyville (Koshkonong) creek from the mouth upstream to county highway B, Crawfish	a. Hook and line	Continuous	3 in total	18

river and its tributaries  
 from the mouth  
 upstream to and  
 including the state  
 highway 19 bridge,  
 Rock river and its  
 tributaries from the  
 Indianford dam  
 upstream to the lower  
 Watertown dam

3. Golden lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
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**SECTION 30. NR 20.20 (38) (d) 3. is amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHOD	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
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**(38) MARINETTE** (for species or waters not listed, including Green Bay and its tributaries, see sub. (73))

(d) Trout and salmon	3. Beaver creek, Beaver creek (north branch), <del>K. C. creek, Pike river</del> between county highway <del>K</del> and the confluence of the north and south branches, Pike river (north branch), Walker creek	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	12 for brown trout and rainbow trout, 8 for brook trout
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**SECTION 31. NR 20.20 (45) (b), (c), (d), and (g) are repealed and recreated to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
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**(45) OUTAGAMIE** (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Fox river from Appleton lock 1 downstream to the De Pere lock, Fox river from Appleton lock 1 upstream to the Neenah- Menasha dam (Winnebago county), including Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, sloughs, and backwaters, including Mud creek and Neenah slough	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	14
(c) Muskellunge	1. Fox river from Appleton lock 1 downstream to the De Pere lock, Fox river from Appleton lock 1 upstream to the Neenah- Menasha dam (Winnebago county), including Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, sloughs, and backwaters, including Mud creek and Neenah slough	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to December 31 on open water	1	50
(d) Northern pike	1. Fox river from Appleton lock 1 downstream to the De Pere lock  2. Fox river from Appleton lock 1 upstream to the Neenah- Menasha dam (Winnebago county), including Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, sloughs, and backwaters, including Mud creek and Neenah slough	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5	None
(g) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Fox river from Appleton lock 1 downstream to the De Pere lock, Fox river from Appleton lock 1	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	None, pursuant to s. NR 20.35

upstream to the Neenah-Menasha dam (Winnebago county), including Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, sloughs, and backwaters, including Mud creek and Neenah slough

**SECTION 32. NR 20.20 (48) (b) 1r. and (49) (a) 2., (b) 1., and (c) 2. are amended to read:**

<b>COUNTY AND SPECIES</b>	<b>WATERS</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED METHODS</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>DAILY BAG LIMIT</b>	<b>MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)</b>
<b>(48) PIERCE</b> (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(b) Trout and salmon	1r. Pine creek, North Pine creek, Cady creek	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to the first Sunday in <del>March</del> <u>October 15</u>	3 in total	8
<b>(49) POLK</b> (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(a) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Deer lake, Wapogasset lake, Bear Trap lake	a. Hook and line	<del>First Saturday in May to Friday preceding the third Saturday in June</del> <del>Third Saturday in June</del> <u>First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March</u>  Monday following the first Sunday in March to Friday	<del>None</del>  5 in total  0	<del>—</del>  None except the possession of fish from 14 to 18 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 18  None

			preceding the first Saturday in May		
(b) Muskellunge	1. Bone lake	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to <del>November 30</del> <u>December 31</u> on open water	1	50
(c) Northern pike	2. Balsam lake, Long lake ( <u>T34N R17W S6, S7</u> ), Loveless lake, Horseshoe lake (T34N R15W S1, S12, S13, S14)	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	2	26

**SECTION 33. NR 20.20 (51) (d) is repealed.**

**SECTION 34. NR 20.20 (53) (e) 6. is repealed.**

**SECTION 35. NR 20.20 (54) (e) is repealed and recreated to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHOD	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
<b>(54) ROCK</b>	(for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))				
(e) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Koshkonong lake and connected tributaries up to the first dam, Rock river upstream from the Indianford dam and connected tributaries upstream to the first dam	a. Hook and line	Continuous	3 in total	18
	2. Lake Leota	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18

3. Rock River downstream from the Indianford dam a. Hook and line Continuous 5 in total 15

**SECTION 36. NR 20.20 (56) (d) is amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHOD	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
<b>(56) SAUK</b> (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(d) Muskellunge	1. Redstone lake, Wisconsin river downstream to the WI & Southern railroad U.S. highway 12 bridge including sloughs, bayous and flowages upstream to the first dam or highway bridge	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to December 31	1	50

**SECTION 37. NR 20.20 (57) (i) 4., (58) (e) 3., and (64) (i) 2., as affected by CR 21-021, are amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHOD	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
<b>(57) SAWYER</b> (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	4. Big Chetac lake, Birch lake (on Washburn county border), <del>Black Dan lake,</del> Durphee lake and Schoolhouse lake combined, <del>Island lake (T39N R5W S2),</del> Osprey lake, Nelson lake, Sissabagama lake, and Whitefish lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
<b>(58) SHAWANO</b> (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(e) Trout and salmon	3. <del>Embarrass river (Middle branch) from</del>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in	3 in total	12 for brown trout and

~~county highway Z downstream to Homme Pond dam, Embarrass river (South branch) upstream from Tigerton dam, Mill creek~~

May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15

rainbow trout, 8 for brook trout

**(64) VILAS** (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids  
 2. ~~Alder lake~~, Big lake (T42N R6E S4), Big Arbor Vitae lake, Big Muskellunge lake, Birch lake, Boulder lake, ~~Clear lake (T42N R5E S12)~~, Crab lake, ~~Fawn lake (T42N R5E S11)~~, Harris lake, Ike Walton lake, Island lake, Laura lake, Little Arbor Vitae lake, ~~Little Star lake~~, ~~Manitowish lake~~, North Crab lake, North Turtle lake, Oxbow lake, Pike Lake chain (Amik lake, Pike lake, Round lake, and Turner lake combined on the Price county border), Presque Isle chain (Averill lake, Presque Isle lake, and Van Vliet lake combined), ~~Rest lake~~, Rock lake, South Turtle lake, ~~Spider lake~~, Squaw lake (on Oneida county border), Star lake, ~~Stone lake~~, ~~Wild Rice lake~~, Sherman lake

a. Hook and line

First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March

3 in total

None except only one may be longer than 14

**SECTION 38. NR 20.20 (64) (i) 3. is repealed and recreated to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHOD	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
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**(64) VILAS** (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	3. Bear river, Manitowish river (including Benson lake, Sturgeon lake, and Vance lake)	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	12 but only 1 fish may be longer than 15
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**SECTION 39. NR 20.20 (64) (i) 7. is amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORI ZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRIC TIONS (INCHES)
<b>(64) VILAS</b> (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	7. North and South Twin lakes combined, <u>Manitowish chain of lakes (Alder, Clear (T42N R5E S12), Fawn (T42N R5E S11), Island, Manitowish, Little Star, Rest, Spider, Stone, and Wild Rice lakes) combined</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 24 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 24

**SECTION 40. NR 20.20 (68) (a) 1. and (70) (a) 4. are amended to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZE D METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRIC TIONS (INCHES)
<b>(68) WAUKESHA</b> (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))					

(a) All species	1. The following posted urban waters: Calhoun Park pond, Foxbrook pond, Heyer park pond north, Heyer park pond south, Lapham Peak pond, Lepper Dam millpond from the dam upstream to Roosevelt drive, Lions Park-Overland pond, Menomonee Park pond, Minooka Park pond, Muskego Park pond, Nixon Park pond, Regal Park pond, Woodfield Park pond north, <del>Woodfield Park pond south</del>	a. Hook and line	Continuous but only persons under 16 years of age or disabled pursuant to s. 29.193 (3) (a), (b) or (c), Stats., may fish from the second Saturday in March to but not including the last Saturday in April	1 largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, sauger or hybrid in total; 10 panfish and bullheads in total; 3 trout and salmon in total; none for rough fish	None
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**(70) WAUSHARA** (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(a) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	4. Huron lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None for largemouth bass, 14 for smallmouth bass
			<u>Monday following the first Sunday in March to the Friday preceding the first Saturday in May</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>None</u>

**SECTION 41. NR 20.20 (71) (a), (b), (c), and (f) are repealed and recreated to read:**

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
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**(71) WINNEBAGO** (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(a) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, backwaters and sloughs, including Mud creek and Neenah slough, and the Fox River from Neenah-Menasha dam downstream to Appleton lock 1 (Outagamie county)	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	14
(b) Muskellunge	1. Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, backwaters and sloughs, including Mud creek and Neenah slough, and the Fox River from Neenah-Menasha dam downstream to Appleton lock 1 (Outagamie county)	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to December 31 on open water	1	50
(c) Northern pike	1. Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, backwaters and sloughs, including Mud creek and Neenah slough, and the Fox River from Neenah-Menasha dam downstream to Appleton lock 1 (Outagamie county)	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	2	None except the possession of fish from 25 to 35 is prohibited
(f) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Little Lake Butte des Morts and its tributaries, backwaters and sloughs, including Mud creek and Neenah slough, and the Fox River from Neenah-Menasha dam downstream to Appleton lock 1 (Outagamie county)	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	None, pursuant to s. NR 20.35

**SECTION 42. NR 20.20 (73) (f) 2. is amended to read:**

<b>COUNTY AND SPECIES</b>	<b>AUTHORIZED METHODS</b>	<b>OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>DAILY BAG LIMIT</b>	<b>MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE</b>
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WATERS		RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)			
<b>(73) SPECIES OR WATERS NOT LISTED IN SUBS. (1) TO (72)</b>					
(f) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. Outlying waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan within 1/4 mile of Washington, Detroit, Plum, Pilot, Hog or Rock islands	a. Hook and line	July 1 to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	12
			<del>Monday following the first Sunday in March to June 30</del>	0	None

**SECTION 43. NR 20.40 (2) (j) is amended to read:**

NR 20.40 (2) (j) "Opening weekend" means the first weekend of a calendar year that an angler is permitted to fish for that particular species of fish Saturday and consecutive Sunday in May.

**SECTION 44. NR 20.40 (2) (s) (note) is created to read:**

NR 20.40 (2) (s) Note: Weigh-ins on certain department-managed properties may require special event authorization from the department, pursuant to ch. NR 45.

**SECTION 45. NR 20.40 (3) (f) is amended to read:**

NR 20.40 (3) (f) Notwithstanding the size and bag limits established in s. NR 20.20, catch-and-release tournament participants are allowed to take a daily bag limit of up to five bass of a minimum of 14 inches in length.

**SECTION 46. NR 20.40 (3m) (c) is repealed and recreated to read:**

NR 20.40 (3m) (c) Fishing tournaments that fulfill all of the following:

1. Continue for more than 4 days.
2. Do not require participants to fish at the same time.
3. Allow participants to register at any time during the tournament.
4. Do not specify a weigh-in time.

**SECTION 47. NR 20.40 (9) and (10) (c) 1., (d), (g) 10., and (k) are amended to read:**

**NR 20.40 (9) DISPOSITION OF DEAD FISH.** The department shall require each applicant to provide a written plan for the disposition of any dead fish encountered within a 48-hour period from the end of the tournament and are a result of the fishing tournament which complies with s. 23.095 (1g), Stats. No plan may include retention of any fish contrary to the requirements of department rule, except that the department may, via permit condition, authorize a tournament organizer or their designee to receive and transport trout or salmon from tournament participants, in excess of established possession limits, for immediate delivery to a food distribution service as defined in s. 29.001 (28), Stats.

**(10) (c) 1.** Opening weekend of a fishing season of a particular species if the fishing tournament targets that species, except that a person may conduct a fishing tournament that is not a traditional fishing tournament on opening weekend on waters with a continuous open harvest season for that species.

**(10) (d)** The department may require the tournament organizer to make parking arrangements in addition to those normally present at location where the event is taking place ~~the for~~ for the fishing tournament participants in order to ensure reasonable public access to the water where the permitted fishing tournament is being conducted. A plan outlining the alternative parking arrangements shall be submitted to the department upon request. The department may withhold approval of a fishing tournament permit application until an adequate alternative parking plan or parking arrangements have been provided by the organizer.

**(10) (g) 10.** Subject to the requirements in this section, the department may issue a permit for a catch-hold-release bass tournament when the season is open for harvesting bass that allows each participant in the tournament to take a daily bag limit of up to five bass of a minimum of 14 inches in length. All live bass shall be returned to the water from which they were taken as specified in the permit and no later than the day of the conclusion of the tournament.

**(10) (k)** Except for tournaments on the Great Lakes and tournaments exempt from a permit under s. NR 20.40 (3m) (c), the fishing portion of any tournament may not run for more than 10 consecutive hours each day or more than 4 consecutive days.

**SECTION 48. NR 21.04 (2) (c) 2. is amended to read:**

<b>Kind of fish and locality</b>	<b>Open season (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>Daily bag limit</b>	<b>Minimum length (inches)</b>
(2) WALLEYE AND SAUGER (c) Mississippi river 2. <del>Pools 9 to 12</del> <u>Pool 9</u>	Continuous	6 in aggregate	No size limit for sauger, 15 for walleye except that possession of walleye from 20 to 27 is prohibited and only one walleye may be longer than 27

**SECTION 49. NR 21.04 (3) (b) 2. is repealed.**

**SECTION 50. NR 21.04 (4) and (4g) are amended to read:**

<b>Kind of fish and locality</b>	<b>Open season (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>Daily bag limit</b>	<b>Minimum length (inches)</b>
(4) <del>SUNFISH OR AND BLUEGILLS COMBINED, CRAPPIES AND YELLOW PERCH</del>			
(a) Mississippi river, Pools 3 to 9	Continuous	15 <del>of each</del> <u>in total</u>	No size limit
(b) <del>All other boundary waters</del> <u>Lake St. Croix, St. Croix river, St. Louis river</u>	Continuous	25 <del>of each</del> <u>in total</u>	No size limit
(4g) <del>WHITE AND YELLOW BASS COMBINED</del>			
(a) Mississippi river, Pools 3 to 9	Continuous	10 <u>in total</u>	No size limit
(b) <del>All other boundary waters</del> <u>Lake St. Croix, St. Croix river, St. Louis river</u>	Continuous	25 <u>in total</u>	No size limit

**SECTION 51. NR 21.04 (4m) is created to read:**

<b>Kind of fish and locality</b>	<b>Open season (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>Daily bag limit</b>	<b>Minimum length (inches)</b>
(4m) CRAPPIES, YELLOW PERCH			
(a) Mississippi river, Pools 3 to 9	Continuous	15 of each	No size limit

(b) Lake St. Croix, St. Croix river, St. Louis river Continuous 25 of each No size limit

**SECTION 52. NR 21.04 (5) (b) 1. b. is repealed.**

**SECTION 53. NR 22.06 (1) (f) is amended to read:**

22.06 (1) (f) Take, catch, kill or fish for flathead or channel catfish or bullheads with a bow and arrow or crossbow during the open season for spearing rough fish, or by hand, in accordance with the seasons, size limits and bag limits in s. NR 20.20 (73), in boundary waters within Wisconsin.

**SECTION 54. NR 23.05 (4) is amended to read:**

NR 23.05 (4) No person may fish for fish of any variety during the closed season for trout in the Brule river upstream from the railroad bridge in section 29, township 42 north, range 34 west, Iron county, Michigan and section 25, township 41 north, range 15 east, Florence county, Wisconsin and in the Montreal river above the Saxon Falls flowage, except that rough fish may be taken by hand.

**SECTION 55. NR 23.05 (5) is repealed and recreated to read:**

<b>Kind of fish and locality</b>	<b>Open season (both dates inclusive)</b>	<b>Possession and daily bag limit</b>	<b>Minimum length (in.)</b>
(a) BLUEGILLS, CRAPPIES, PERCH, WHITE AND YELLOW BASS AND SUNFISH in all boundary waters	No closed season	25 in total	No size limit
(b) All other species not listed in this subsection in all boundary waters	No closed season	No limit	No size limit
(c) LAKE STURGEON			
1. Menominee river, upstream from Grand Rapids dam	First Saturday in September to September 30	1 per season	60
1m. Menominee river, downstream from Grand Rapids dam	First Saturday in September to September 30	0 (catch-and-release only)	Harvest prohibited
2. Basin lake, Big lake, Big Bad Water	No open season	—	—

lake, Big Bateau  
 lake, Brule river,  
 Crampton lake,  
 Crystal lake, Cyrus  
 lake, Lac Vieux  
 Desert, Little  
 Presque Isle lake,  
 Mamie lake, Mill  
 lake, Montreal river,  
 Norwood lake, Plum  
 lake, Roach lake,  
 Smoky lake, State  
 Line lake,  
 Tenderfoot lake,  
 West Bay lake

(d) LARGEMOUTH BASS  
 AND SMALLMOUTH  
 BASS

1m. Smoky lake	Third Saturday in June to December 31	5 in total	None except that possession of fish from 14 to 18 is prohibited and only one may be longer than 18
	January 1 to Friday preceding the third Saturday in June	0	None
2. Basin lake, Big lake, Big Bad Water lake, Big Bateau lake, Brule river, Crampton lake, Crystal lake, Cyrus lake, Lac Vieux Desert, Little Presque Isle lake, Mamie lake, Menominee river, Mill lake, Montreal river, Norwood lake, Plum lake, Roach lake, State Line lake, Tenderfoot lake, West Bay lake	Third Saturday in June to December 31	5 in total	14
	January 1 to Friday preceding the third Saturday in June	0	None

(e) MUSKELLUNGE

1. Menominee river June 1 to December 31 1 54  
from the Hattie Street dam in the city of Marinette downstream to the eastern end of the breakwalls in Green Bay

2. Basin lake, Big lake, Big Bad Water lake, Big Bateau lake, Brule river, Crampton lake, Crystal lake, Cyrus lake, Lac Vieux Desert, Little Presque Isle lake, Mamie lake, Menominee river upstream of the Hattie Street dam in the city of Marinette, Mill lake, Montreal river, Norwood lake, Plum lake, Roach lake, Smoky lake, State Line lake, Tenderfoot lake, West Bay lake June 1 to December 31 1 50

(f) NORTHERN PIKE First Saturday in May to March 1 5 No size limit

(g) TROUT AND SALMON

- |  |   |                   |   |
|--|---|-------------------|---|
| <p>1. Basin lake, Big lake, Big Bad Water lake, Big Bateau lake, Brule river downstream from U.S. highway 2, Crampton lake, Crystal lake, Cyrus lake, Lac Vieux Desert, Little Presque Isle lake, Mamie lake, all waters of the Menominee river not otherwise listed in this paragraph, Mill lake, Montreal river upstream of Superior falls, Norwood lake, Plum lake, Roach lake, Smoky lake, State Line lake, Tenderfoot lake, West Bay lake</p> | <p>Last Saturday in April to September 30</p>                 | <p>5 in total</p> | <p>7</p>                                |
| <p>2. Montreal river downstream from Superior falls, Menominee river from its mouth upstream to the first dam, Smoky Lake</p>  | <p>No closed season</p>                                       | <p>5 in total</p> | <p>10</p>                               |
| <p>3. Brule river upstream from U.S. highway 2</p>   | <p>Last Saturday in April to September 30</p>                 | <p>5 in total</p> | <p>Brook trout 8<br/>Brown trout 12</p> |
| <p>(h) WALLEYE AND SAUGER</p>  |   |                   |   |
| <p>1. In lakes outside the Ceded Territory as defined in s. NR 13.02 (1)</p>   | <p>First Saturday in May to March 1</p>                       | <p>5 in total</p> | <p>15</p>                               |
| <p>2. In rivers &amp; impoundments outside the Ceded Territory as defined in s. NR 13.02 (1)</p>   | <p>March 2 to the Friday before the first Saturday in May</p> | <p>1 in total</p> | <p>15</p>                               |

	First Saturday in May to March 1	5 in total	15
3. In lakes within the Ceded Territory as defined in s. NR 13.02 (1)	First Saturday in May to March 1	3 in total	15
4. In rivers & impoundments within the Ceded Territory as defined in s. NR 13.02 (1)	March 2 to the Friday before the first Saturday in May	1 in total	15
	First Saturday in May to March 1	3 in total	15
(i) RUFFE	No open season	—	—
(j) CATFISH	No closed season	10	No size limit
(k) CISCO (lake herring), WHITEFISH, and their hybrids	No closed season	10 in total	No size limit

**SECTION 56. NR 23.08 is amended to read:**

NR 23.08 **MOTORTROLLING.** Trolling with up to 3 hooks, baits, or lures per person is authorized on all Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters, except that in Vilas county waters, trolling with one hook, bait, or lure per person and no more than three lines used per boat is authorized.

**SECTION 57. NR 26.01 (55) is amended to read:**

COUNTY	WATERS	REFUGE BOUNDARIES	START DATE	END DATE
(55) Rusk	(a) Flambeau river	<del>Any part of the river within</del> Within 200 feet downstream of all hydroelectric dams (closed to all fishing during the muskellunge closed season)	End muskellunge season (Northern zone)	Start muskellunge season (Northern zone)

**SECTION 58. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This rule shall take effect on April 1, 2022.

**SECTION 59. BOARD ADOPTION.** This rule was approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on October 27, 2021.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin \_\_\_\_\_.

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BY \_\_\_\_\_

For Preston D. Cole, Secretary