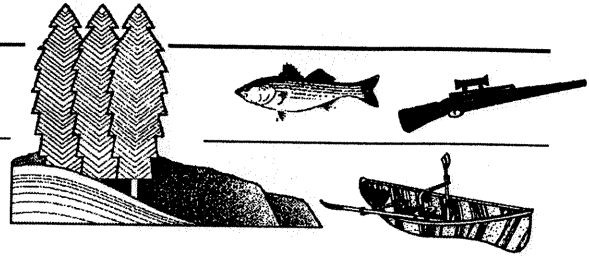


Assembly Committee on:

Natural Resources

State Representative

DuWayne Johnsrud, Chair



MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 14, 1995
TO: Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
FROM: DuWayne Johnsrud, Chair
RE: rule referral

The following Rules have been referred to our committee:

Clearinghouse Rule 95-033	Relating to sport fishing. Submitted by Department of Natural Resources.
Clearinghouse Rule 95-034	Relating to sport fishing and fish refuges. Submitted by Department of Natural Resources.

Our current review period extends through July 13, 1995. Copies of each rule summary are enclosed. Please contact my office if you would like a copy of any rule.

REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

NR 20, Wis. Adm. Code
Sport fishing

Natural Resources Board Order No. FM-10-95
Clearinghouse Rule No. 95-033

Statement of Need

The proposed rules will:

1. Reduce the daily bag limit for yellow perch in Lake Superior from 50 to 25.
2. Eliminate the Clay Banks lake trout refuge on Lake Michigan.
3. Establish a season (corresponding to the general inland season), a 26-inch minimum length limit, and a daily bag limit of 2 for northern pike in Calumet and Winnebago counties (including Lakes Winnebago, Butte des Morts, Winneconne and Poygan) and in Partridge Lake and the Wolf River (downstream from Partridge Lake), Waupaca County.
4. Establish new upstream boundaries for Lake Michigan tributary trout and salmon rules on select stream reaches. Tributary streams proposed include: Little River, Kewaunee River, Milwaukee River, Menomonee River and Pike River.
5. Establish a minimum length limit of 28 inches for muskellunge in 9 waters in Ashland and Sawyer counties.
6. Establish a minimum length limit of 50 inches for muskellunge in 3 waters in Bayfield and Sawyer counties.

Modifications as a Result of Public Hearing

Following comments as the public hearings, three proposed rules were withdrawn. The proposed rules were:

1. To establish a catch and release season for muskellunge from the first Saturday in May to the Friday before the Saturday nearest Memorial Day on all waters north of U.S. Highway 10.
2. To establish a 50 inch minimum length limit for muskellunge in Whitefish Lake, Sawyer county.
3. To establish a 28 inch minimum length limit for muskellunge in Chippewa Lake, Bayfield county.

Appearances at the Public Hearing and Their Position

Public hearings were held in all 72 counties on Monday, April 10, 1995. 7,242 persons attended the hearings and 192 written comments were received. A copy of the hearing results is included in the rule jacket.

Response to Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse Report

The recommendations were accepted.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The proposed rules regulate individual fishers; therefore, a final regulatory flexibility analysis is not required.