Chapter WCD 22

WISCONSIN–IOWA BOUNDARY WATERS

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(Sections 29.085 and 29.174, Wis. Stats.)

WCD 22.01 Mississippi river boundary water defined. For the purpose of hook and line fishing in the Mississippi river interstate boundary waters to apply to residents of Wisconsin and nonresident hook and line fishermen properly licensed under sections 29.09 and 29.14, Wis. Stats., all waters from the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad tracks on the east side of the Mississippi river and extending west from said railroad tracks to that part of the river following the boundaries between the state of Wisconsin and Iowa shall be defined as interstate boundary waters.

History: 1–2–56; am. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1–1–58; am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60.

WCD 22.02 Seasons; limits. (1) There shall be established and maintained on the interstate boundary waters between the states of Wisconsin and Iowa, which boundary waters are more particularly described under Wis. Adm. Code section WCD 22.01, the open and closed seasons for the taking of the various varieties and species of fish, bag limits, size limits, possession limits, and other rules and regulations as set forth herein.

(2) A closed season is established for each variety and species of fish named herein extending for the entire period of each year except the open season period embraced within the specified dates, both inclusive; and except as otherwise expressly provided, no person or persons shall take, catch, kill, or fish for fish of any variety at any time other than the open season therefor, nor have in his possession nor under his control any fish in excess of the daily bag limit or possession limit, nor below the minimum size limit therefor at any time during the open season as provided in this chapter.

(3) The measurement of length of fish shall be taken in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the utmost end of the tail fin fully extended.

History: 1–2–56; am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60.

WCD 22.03 Hook and line fishing. The following seasons, bag limits and other rules and regulations for hook and line fishing are established. The possession limit for each species shall be double the daily bag limit.

Kind of Fish	Open season	Daily bag limit	
		Quantity	Minimum length
(1) LARGEMOUTH BASS	Continuous	5	No size limit
(2) SMALLMOUTH BASS	Continuous	5	No size limit
(3) WALLEYE AND SAUGER	Continuous	10 in aggregate	No size limit
(4) NORTHERN PIKE	Continuous	5	No size limit
(5) WHITE BASS	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(6) CRAPPIE	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(7) ROCK BASS	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(8) PUMPKINSEED (SUNFISH) AND BLUEGILL	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(9) PERCH	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(10) CATFISH	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(11) BULLHEAD	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(12) HACKLEBACK (SAND OR SHOVELNOSE) STURGEON	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit
(13) ROCK STURGEON	No open season	----------	----------
(14) PADDLEFISH (SPOONBILL CATFISH)	No open season	----------	----------
(15) ROUGH FISH	Continuous	No bag limit	No size limit

(16) SALE PROHIBITED; EXCEPTIONS. No such fish shall be sold, purchased, bartered, offered for sale, or had under control or in possession for the purpose of sale or barter at any time except legally taken and possessed rough fish at all times, catfish 13 inches or over in length in the round or 10 inches dressed with head off and tail on, hackleback sturgeon 25 inches or over, and bullheads. The minimum length for bullheads offered for sale shall be 7 inches dressed with head off and tail on or 9 inches in the round.

(17) CRAYFISH. There shall be an open season for the taking of crayfish from the Saturday nearest May 1 to March 1, both dates inclusive, with no bag limit or no size limit.

History: 1–2–56; r. and recr. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1–1–58; am., renum. (16) from WCD 22.04, Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60; am. (16), Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1–1–62; r. and recr. (11), Register, November, 1965, No. 119, eff. 1–1–66; renum. (15) and (16) to be (16) and (17); renum. (1) through (14) to be (1) through (15) and am., Register, December, 1966, No. 132, eff. 1–1–67.

WCD 22.04 Rough fish. Rough fish, for the purpose of this chapter, shall be defined as follows: carp, dogfish, redhorse, sheepshead, sucker, eel, eelpout, garfish, buffalo fish, quillback, mooneye, goldeye, shad and turtle.

History: 1–2–56; am. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1–1–58; renum. from WCD 22.05 and am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60.

WCD 22.05 Use of hook and line. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to use or operate more than 2 lines or 2 poles with one line attached to each pole and with one bait to each line, except that fly

fishermen may use 2 flies on one line, or with any fish line or lines unattended or by snagging or fouling with any hook, or by means other than angling or trolling except as otherwise provided by the Wisconsin statutes or by commission order. It shall be unlawful for any person to take game fish of any variety at any time by any means other than with hook and line, except as provided in this chapter.

(2) It shall be lawful for any person to take, catch, kill or fish for fish by means of trolling from a motor driven boat, sailboat or other boat while such boat is in motion.

History: 1–2–56; am. (1) and (3), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1–1–58; renum. from WCD 22.06 and am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60; r. and recr. (1), Register, November, 1965, No. 119, eff. 1–1–66.

WCD 22.06 Use of spears. It shall be unlawful for any person to use a spear, similar device or bow and arrow in any manner at any time for the purpose of taking, catching, or killing any game fish of any variety, or to have in possession or under control any fish spear, spring gaff or similar device or bow and arrow in a fish house (shanty). Rough fish may be taken by means of spears or bow and arrow in the daytime only.

History: 1–2–56; am. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1–1–58; renum. from WCD 22.10 and am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60.

WCD 22.07 Minnow nets and traps. (1) No person shall set, use or operate any minnow seine, minnow dip net or minnow trap other than as specified herein.

(2) The following described gear only may be used for the taking of minnows for bait:

(a) *Minnow seines.* Minnow seines shall not exceed 50 feet in length and 6 feet in width flat measure and shall contain mesh not to exceed one-half inch stretch measure.

(b) *Minnow dip nets.* Minnow dip nets used for taking, catching, or killing minnows shall be defined as follows: A piece of netting suspended from a square or round frame not exceeding 6 feet in diameter or 6 feet square and making a bag when lifted not more than 4 feet deep. It shall be unlawful to use dip nets in any manner other than raising and lowering vertically when fishing.

(c) *Minnow traps.* Minnow traps shall be of a length not greater than 24 inches and a diameter of not more than 16 inches with an opening in the throat of the trap not larger than one and one-half inches in diameter. Such traps shall have securely attached to them a label or tag clearly bearing in the English language the name and address of the operator. All minnow traps shall be raised and the minnows removed from them at least once in every 24 hours.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person except bait dealers licensed pursuant to section 29.137, Wis. Stats., to have in possession or under control more than 600 minnows at any time.

History: 1–2–56; renum. from WCD 22.08 and am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60; r. and recr. (3), Register, December, 1960, No. 60, eff. 1–1–61; r. and recr. (2) (a), Register, November, 1965, No. 119, eff. 1–1–66.

WCD 22.08 Set lines (trot lines) and set hooks. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to set or operate more than 8 set lines (trot lines) with not to exceed a total of 50 hooks to each line and not to exceed a total of 400 hooks in the aggregate, for taking, catching, killing, or fishing for catfish 13 inches or over in length, hackleback sturgeon 25 inches or over in length, bullheads and rough fish only; size limits shall conform to the provisions of section WCD 22.09; in such fishing it shall be unlawful to use any frog or game fish, either dead or alive, as bait.

(2) Such set lines (trot lines) may be used all year and shall be equipped with a metal tag as prescribed in section 29.37, Wis. Stats. Licenses for such set lines (trot lines) shall be obtained pursuant to section 29.37, Wis. Stats.

(3) At one end of every licensed set line (trot line) there shall be placed and maintained a white flag, not less than 16 inches square, with the upper end of the staff extending at least 2 feet above the water and numbered with figures at least 3 inches in height corresponding with the number of the license authorizing the use of such set line. It shall be lawful to use buoys in lieu of flags providing that same are numbered with figures at least 3 inches in height corresponding with the number of the license authorizing the use of such set lines.

(4) Set or bank poles (set hooks) may be used for the taking, catching, killing or fishing for catfish 13 inches or over in length, hackleback sturgeon 25 inches or over in length, bullheads and rough fish only, during the period of time extending from the Saturday nearest May 1 to the next succeeding October 31; size limits shall conform to the provisions of section WCD 22.09. In such fishing it shall be unlawful to use any game fish or frog, either dead or alive as bait.

(5) Each such set or bank pole (set hook) shall be equipped with a metal tag as prescribed in section 29.36, Wis. Stats. Licenses for such set or bank poles (set hooks) shall be obtained pursuant to section 29.36, Wis. Stats.

History: 1–2–56; am. (1), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1–1–58; renum. from WCD 22.07 and am. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1–1–60; am. (4), Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1–1–62.

WCD 22.09 Use of nets. (1) All commercial fishermen conducting fishing operations shall comply with the provisions of sections 29.34, 29.37 or 29.343, Wis. Stats., whichever applies. It shall be lawful for any person properly licensed to use the following type nets for the taking of all species of fish as listed under paragraph (3). Whenever the size of mesh is mentioned, the measurement shall be made by stretch measure except in basket traps (slat nets). Such measurements shall apply to net meshes when in use and no allowance shall be made for the shrinkage due to any cause.