#### Chapter NR 20

#### FISHING; INLAND WATERS; OUTLYING WATERS

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#### (Sections 29.085 and 29.174, Stats.)

NR 20.01 Purpose; general restriction. Seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other regulations for fishing in Wisconsin waters are established in this chapter. No person may take, catch, kill or fish for fish of any variety in excess of the daily bag limit, by means other than hook and line, during other than the open season or possess or control any fish in excess of the possession limit or below the minimum size limit, except as expressly provided in this chapter.

History: 1-2-56; am. Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; renum. from WCD 20.01 to be NR 20.01, Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; reprinted to correct error, Register, April, 1984, No. 340; r. and recr. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86.

NR 20.0125 License waiver. (1) On the first Sunday of June each year, no fishing license is required to fish the inland or outlying waters.

(2) The license waiver of sub. (1) does not apply to commercial fishing license requirements.

History: Cr. Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; am. (1), Register, April, 1989, No. 400, eff. 5-1-89.

NR 20.015 Definitions. For the purpose of this chapter, the following terms are defined as follows:

(1) "Artificial fly" means a single hook dressed with fur, feathers, hair, silk, tinsel, thread or similar material to imitate the natural food of trout.

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(2) "Artificial lure" means a bait designed to attract fish which does not include any natural bait.

(2g) "Backtrolling" means to fish from a motor-driven boat while operating the boat in such a way that the boat is progressing toward the rear.

(2m) "Business day" has the meaning given it in s. 421.301 (6), Stats. Register, December, 1991, No. 432

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(3) "Fisher" means any person engaged in fishing.

(4) "Fishing" includes taking, capturing or killing fish or fishing for fish of any variety at any time in the waters of the state.

(4a) "Muskellunge" means fish of the species *Esox masquinongy* and includes muskellunge - northern pike hybrids.

(4b) "Openly exposed" means open to view by a person in a passing vehicle.

(4d) "Safe harvest" means a level of harvest that incorporates an appropriate margin of safety, estimates of the population and acceptable exploitation rates which will reasonably prevent harvest of more than 35% of the population of adult walleyes or 27% of the population of adult muskellunge. The margin of safety assures that the true safe harvest is not exceeded in more than 1 of 40 cases. For waters where a population estimate has not been made, a regression model based upon population estimates from other waters will be used. The margin of safety used depends upon the age of the population estimate was made and whether a regression model was used.

(4e) "Secretary" means secretary of the department of natural resources.

(4g) "Setline" means a line with one or more hooks fastened to it and designed to be set or left unattended in the water for the purpose of taking fish.

(4t) "Set or bank pole" means a pole equipped with line with one or more hooks fastened to it, designed to be used for fishing from the banks of lakes or rivers and set or left unattended.

(5) "Telemetry device" means any device attached or implanted in fish that transmits a sonic or electronic signal to aid in fishing.

(6) "Unattended line" means a line where the person using the line is not actively directing attention to it. Failure to immediately respond to a line upon indication of a bite shall be prima facia evidence that the line is unattended.

History: Cr. Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; renum. (1) and (2) to be (3) and (4), cr. (1) and (2), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; reprinted to correct error in (2), Register, April, 1984, No. 340; cr. (5), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; cr. (4g) and (4t) Register, March, 1986, No. 363, eff. 4-1-86; cr. (2m), Register, June, 1987, No. 378, eff. 7-1-87; emerg. cr. (4d), eff 5-5-89, cr. (4d) and (4e), Register, November, 1989, No. 407, eff. 12-1-89; cr. (2g), Register, December, 1989, No. 406, eff. 1-i-30; cr. (4b), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; cr. (6), Register, J048, 10-330, eff. 1-i-30; cr. (4a), Register, J091, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-91; cr. (4a), Register, December, 1991, No. 430, eff. 1-i-92.

NR 20.02 Waters classified; hook and line fishing in outlying waters. (1) For the purpose of regulating hook and line fishing in the outlying waters, the closed seasons, size limits, bag and possession limits, number of hooks and lines and ice fishing regulations shall be the same as those prescribed for the inland waters of the county in which such outlying waters are located, except as otherwise specifically provided in the following table:

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| Species   | Area   | Open season  | Daily bag<br>limit  | Minimum<br>length (in.)  |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| (a) WALLEYE AND SAUGER<br>(Bag limit means total of<br>all) | 1. Lake Michi-<br>gan and Green<br>Bay except the<br>Fox river from<br>its mouth up-<br>stream to the<br>dam at DePere | At all times   | 3   | No size limit  |
|   | 2. Fox river from<br>its mouth up-<br>stream to the  | First Satur-<br>day in May<br>to March I   | 3   | No size limit  |
|   | dam at DePere  | March 2 to<br>the day<br>before the<br>first Satur-<br>day in May.   | 1   | 28   |
|   | 3. Lake Superior   |  | 5, of which<br>no more<br>than one<br>may be a<br>walleye<br>over 20<br>inches long | No size limit<br>for sauger; 15<br>for walleye                   |
| (b) Northern Pike   | Lake Michigan<br>and Green Bay   | At all times   | 5   | No size limit  |
| (c) Yellow Perch  | Lake Superior<br>Green Bay<br>Lake Michigan  | At all times<br>Continuous<br>Continuous<br>Continuous   | 5<br>25<br>50<br>50   | No size limit<br>No size limit<br>No size limit<br>No size limit |
| (d) Trout and salmon  | Lake Superior<br>1. Lake Michi-<br>gan and Green<br>Bay, except as<br>provided in<br>subd. 2.                          | All year ex-<br>cept the<br>open season<br>for lake<br>trout is from<br>May 1<br>through La-<br>bor Day, ex-<br>cept as pro-<br>vided in<br>subd, 2. | 5 in total<br>of which<br>only 2 may<br>be lake                                     | 10   |

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| Species | Area  | Open season  | Daily bag<br>limit   | Minimum<br>length (in.) |
|---------|---|--|--|-------------------------|
|         | 2. Lake<br>Michigan,<br>within the fol-<br>lowing area:<br>From the end of<br>the south pler at<br>the entrance of<br>the Sturgeon<br>Bay ship canal<br>on a course of<br>136° for 17.5<br>nautical miles,<br>then west for<br>16.8 nautical<br>miles to the end<br>of the Algoma<br>north pier, then<br>along the north<br>side of that pier<br>to the shore to the<br>base of the south<br>pier at the en-<br>trance of the<br>Sturgeon Bay<br>ship canal, then<br>along the south<br>side of that pier | All year except there is<br>no open sea-<br>son for lake<br>trout.   | 5 in total<br>of which<br>none may<br>be lake<br>trout.<br>No person<br>may pos-<br>sess lake<br>trout when<br>fishing in<br>this area of<br>Lake<br>Michigan. | 10                      |
|         | 3. Lake Superior  | All year ex-<br>cept the<br>open season<br>for lake<br>trout is from<br>December 1<br>through Sep-<br>tember 30. | of which<br>no more<br>than 5<br>may be<br>salmon and  |                         |

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|      | Species                             | Area  | Open season                                  | Daily bag<br>limit | Minimum<br>length (in.) |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|-------------------------|
| (e)  | LARGEMOUTH AND SMALL-<br>MOUTH BASS | 1. Lake Michi-<br>gan and Green<br>Bay (excluding<br>waters within<br>¼-mile of Wash-<br>ington, Detroit,<br>Plum, Pilot, Hog<br>and Rock Is-<br>lands) | First Satur-<br>day in May<br>to March 1     | 5 of each          | 12                      |
|      |                                     | 2. Waters within<br>1/4 mile, of<br>Washington, De-<br>troit, Plum, Pi-<br>lot, Hog and<br>Rock Islands.  | March 1                                      | 5 of each          | 12                      |
|      |                                     | 3. Lake Superior  | Second Sat-<br>urday in<br>May to<br>March 1 | 5 of each          | 12                      |
| (f)  | LAKE STURGEON                       | Lake Superior   | Continuous                                   | 1 per yr           | 50                      |
| (fg) | RUFFE                               | Green Bay<br>Lake Michigan<br>Lake Superior   | No open sea-<br>son                          |                    |                         |
| (fh) | WHITE PERCH                         | Lake Superior   | No open sea-<br>son                          |                    |                         |
|      |                                     | Lake Michigan   | Continuous                                   | None               | None                    |

(g) Herring of any size with no bag limit may be taken by hook and line at all times in the outlying waters.

(h) All species of fish of lawful size may be taken from the outlying waters including Chequamegon Bay by trolling from a motor driven boat or sailboat during the open season therefor. It shall be unlawful to spear any species or variety of fish in the outlying and reserve waters at any time, except that rough fish may be speared from sunrise to sunset in all outlying waters and may be taken with the use of spear guns by the method commonly known as skin diving by divers under the water in Lake Michigan. Northern pike may be speared through the ice in Lake Superior.

(2) As used in sub. (1), Green Bay shall mean Green bay, Sturgeon bay, Sawyer's harbor, the Sturgeon bay ship canal from Sturgeon bay to a line located in the NE % of the NW %, section 22, T27N, R26E, Door county, commencing at a point on the southwest shore of the Sturgeon bay ship canal directly beneath the center of the Wisconsin public service company power line and extending in a northeasterly direction directly beneath and parallel to the center of the power line to a point on the northeast shore of the ship canal, and the Fox river from its mouth up to the dam at DePere.

History: 1-2-56; am. (1) (a) Register, December, 1956, No. 12, eff. 1-1-57; am. (1) and (1) (a), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. (1) (a) and (d); renum. (1), (e), (f) and (g) to be (1) (f) (g) and (h); cr. (1) (e), Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 1-1-59; r. and recr. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1-1-60; am. (1), (g) and (j), Register, June, 1984, No. 342 eff. 1-1-61; r. and recr., Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1-1-62; am. (1) (d) and (1) (j), Register, June, 1962, No. 78, eff. 7-1-62; am. (1) (d), Register, July, 1962, No. 79, eff. 8-1-62; am. (1) (g), Register, December, 96, eff. 1-1-64; am. (1) (intro. par.), (b) and (g), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. intro. par., Register, November, 1965, No. 119, eff. 1-1-65; r. and recr. (1) (d), (f), and (g), Register, December, 1966, No. 132, eff. 1-1-67; am. (1) (d) and (g), Register, December, 1967, No. 144, eff. 10-1-68; r. and recr. (1) (e); r. (f); renum. (g) and (h) to be (f) and (g); renum. (i) to be (h) and am., Register, December, 1968, No. 156,

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eff. 1-1-69; r. and recr. (1) (d) and r. (1) (f), Register, March, 1969, No. 159, eff. 4-1-69; renum. from WCD 20.02 to be NR 20.02, and am. (1) (e), Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; cr. (1) (f), Register, August, 1971, No. 188, eff. 1-1-72; emerg. r. and recr. (1) (d) eff. 9-22-72; am. (1) (e), Register, November, 1972, No. 209, eff. 6-1-73, emerg. r. and recr. (1) (d) eff. 11-16-72; am. (1) (d), Register, May 1973, No. 209, eff. 6-1-73, emerg. r. and recr. (1) (d) eff. 11-16-72; am. (1) (c), Register, May 1973, No. 209, eff. 6-1-73, am. (1) (d) 1 and (e), Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (1) (e), Register, December, 1978, No. 376, eff. 1-1-79; am. (1) (c), Register, August, 1979, No. 234, eff. 9-1-79; am. (1) (d), Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; r. and recr. (1) (c), Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; am. (1) (a), Register, Otober, 1982, No. 322, eff. 11-1-82; r. and recr. (1) (c), Register, April, 1983, No. 328, eff. 5-1-83; cr. (2), Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; am. (1) (c), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-35; emerg, am. (1) (d) 3, eff. 4-22-86; r. and recr. (1) (d) 1, and 2, Register, May, 1986, No. 365, eff. 6-1-66; renum. (1) (d) 3, to be (1) (d) 2, e. and am. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; r. and recr. (1) (d), Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; am. (1) (a) and (e), Register, November, 1988, No. 395, eff. 12-1-88; am. (1) (d) 3, .cr. (1) (fg) and (fh), Register, December, 1988, No. 488, eff. 1-2am. (1) (f), Register, December, 1990, No. 420, eff. 1-1-91; emerg, am. (1) (a) 3, and (fh), r. and recr. (1) (d) 3, . Register, June, 1991, No. 420, eff. 7-1-91; am. (1) (a) 3, and (fh), r. and recr. (1) (d) 3, . Register, December, 1991, No. 422, eff. 1-1-92.

NR 20.03 Season tables; open and closed seasons, size and bag limits and measurements. (1) The open seasons specified in the following table apply to fishing in open waters and fishing through the ice, except that the department shall close the season for fishing through the ice in any inland waters when it finds after scientific investigation and study that continued fishing through the ice in specified waters would result in a depletion of the supply of game fish and that a closed season is necessary to conserve the fish supply and insure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing. The closed seasons shall be put into effect by posting a notice on or in the vicinity of the shore of the waters affected. Posting is deemed by the department to be the most feasible way of noti-fying the public that a closed season is in effect. The closed seasons shall remain in full force and effect so long as the waters are covered with ice and so long as posting is continued. The department may also, following scientific investigation and study, establish bag limits and size limits on the individual inland waters when it finds that the taking of fish will aid in management of the fishery and insure the citizens of this state addi-tional opportunities for good fishing. Such special regulations shall be-come effective only after public informational meetings are held. The department may also establish an urban fishing program by posting the open and closed seasons on specified waters. For open seasons in specified waters see s. NR 20.04. The possession limit for each species of fish, except trout as specified in sub. (5), shall be double the daily bag limit spec-ified in this chapter except that no person may have in possession or under control more than the daily bag limit while on the ice or waters or while fishing in the state of Wisconsin. The measurement of all fish taken shall be in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the utmost end of the tail fin fully extended.

| Kind of fish and locality  | Open season (both dates inclusive)  | Daily bag<br>limit | Minimum<br>length (inches)  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| (a) LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS   |                                     |                    |   |
| 1. b. Browns lake, Racine county and<br>Pretty lake, Waukesha county (largemouth<br>bass)  | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1 | 5                  | 16  |
| c. Wilson lake, Iron county; Kimball lake,<br>Mueller lake and Sawyer lake, Langlade<br>county; Rockland lake, Racine county; and<br>Beulah Lake, Walworth county<br>(largemouth bass) | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1 | 5                  | No minimum<br>length except<br>the possession<br>of fish between<br>12 and 16<br>inches is pro-<br>hibited. |

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| Kind of fish and locality   | Open season (both dates inclusive)                               | Daily bag<br>limit  | Minimum<br>length (inches)  |
|---|--|---|---|
| d. Day lake, Ashland county (largemouth bass)   | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1                              | 5   | 18  |
| e. Lake Three, Ashland county; Crooked<br>and Lund lakes, Bayfield county; Evelyn<br>and One Man lakes, Iron county; and<br>Cochran Lake, Price county  | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1                              | ĩ   | 18  |
| f. Gile flowage, Iron county  | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1                              | 2   | 15  |
| 3. Nebish lake (sec. 11, T41N, R7E) Vilas<br>county (smallmouth bass)   | Continuous   | 5   | No minimum<br>length except<br>the possession<br>of fish between<br>9 and 12<br>inches is pro-<br>hibited.  |
| 4. Loveless lake, Polk county and Wabasso<br>lake, Vilas county (largemouth bass)   | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1                              | δ   | No minimum<br>length except<br>the possession<br>of fish between<br>12 and 15<br>inches is pro-<br>hibited. |
| 5. Spruce lake, Vilas county (largemouth bass) (see also s. NR 20.04 (4) (a) 2, and 5.  | Continuous   | 2   | 12  |
| 5m. Columbia lake, Columbia county<br>(largemouth and smallmouth bass)  | Continuous   | 1   | 18  |
| 6. Little Bass lake, Oneida county (small-<br>mouth bass) and Wildwood lake, Vilas<br>county (largemouth bass). See also s. NR<br>20.04 (8) (d)   | First Saturday in<br>May to November<br>15                       | 5   | 12  |
| 7.c. Round lake (sec. 25, T20N, R11E),<br>Waushara county (largemouth bass)   | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1                              | None may<br>be kept un<br>til May 1,<br>1992; 5<br>thereafter |   |
| 8. Pallette lake (sec. 3, T41N, R7E), Vilas county (smallmouth bass)  | Continuous   | 2   | 16  |
| 9. All other inland waters north of a line be-<br>ginning with state hwy. 70 bridge over the<br>St. Croix river, following state hwy. 70 east<br>to its intersection with state hwy. 27, then<br>south following state hwy. 27 to its intersec-   | First Saturday in<br>May to the Satur-<br>day nearest June<br>20 | None may<br>be kept   |   |
| tion with state hwy. 64, then east following<br>state hwy. 64 to its terminus in the city of<br>Marinette, then due east to the waters of<br>Green Bay; and all inland waters in Brown,<br>Kewaunee and Door counties north of a line<br>beginning with the state hwy. 29 bridge<br>over the Fox river, following state hwy. 29<br>east to its terminus in the city of Kewaunee,<br>then continuing due east to the waters of<br>Lake Michigan. Also, the Peshtigo flowage<br>upstream to state hwy. 64 in Marinette<br>county. | The day after the<br>Saturday nearest<br>June 20 to March<br>1   | δ of each   | 12  |
| a. All Green Bay tributary streams from<br>their mouth upstream to the first dam or<br>lake.  |  | 5 of each   | 12  |
| 10. In all other inland waters<br>(am) Hybrid striped BASS  | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1                              | 5 of each   | 14  |
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| Minimum<br>length (inches)<br>18<br>20<br>15<br>15<br>15 |
|--|
| 20<br>15<br>15   |
| 15<br>15   |
| 15<br>15   |
| 15   |
|  |
| 16   |
| 10   |
| No size limit<br>for sauger; 15<br>for walleye           |
| 15 until March<br>1, 1991 18<br>thereafter               |
| 18   |
| No size limit  |
| 15   |
| No slze limit  |
|  |
| No size limit  |
| 22   |
| 26   |
| 32   |
| 32   |
|  |

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| Kind of fish and locality  | Open season (both dates inclusive)   | Daily bag<br>limit   | Minimum<br>length (inches) |
|--|--|--|----------------------------|
| 6. The Nemadji river, Allouez bay, Little<br>Pokegama bay, Pokegama bay, and<br>Kimballs bay, Douglas county   | Saturday nearest<br>May 15 to March<br>1   | 2  | No size limit              |
| 7. Delavan lake and its tributaries all in<br>Walworth county  | Closed until May<br>2, 1992, then first<br>Saturday in May<br>to March 1                   | 1  | 32                         |
| 8. In all other waters<br>(1) TROUT AND SALMON (any variety except<br>lake trout and splake in inland lakes.)  | First Saturday in<br>May to March 1  | 5  | No size limit              |
| 2. All Lake Michigan and Green Bay tribu-<br>tary streams upstream to the first dam or<br>lake or to the third county highway "C"<br>bridge on the Kewaunee river. (See also s.<br>NR 20.04 (3) (c).)  | All year except the<br>open season for<br>lake trout is from<br>May 1 through<br>Labor Day | 5 in total<br>of which<br>only 3 may<br>be of one<br>species,<br>only 2 may<br>be rainbow<br>trout and<br>only 2 may<br>be lake<br>trout | ,                          |
| <ol> <li>Lake Superior tributary streams except<br/>Montreal river and waters upstream from<br/>the following:</li> <li>Ashland county<br/>Bad river-Copper falls<br/>Brunsweiller river-state hwy. 13<br/>Potato river-Guerney falls<br/>White river-White river dam</li> <li>Bayfield county<br/>Iron river-Orienta dam<br/>Little Sloux river-falls in NE ½ of the<br/>NE ½, sec. 13, T49N, R5W</li> <li>Siskowit river-falls in SW ½ of the<br/>N ½, sec. 35, T51N, R5W</li> </ol> | First Saturday in<br>May at 5:00 a.m.<br>to September 30                                   | gate of  |                            |

Amnicon river-Amnicon falls Black river-Big Manitou falls Middle river-U.S, hwy. 2 Poplar river-U.S. hwy 2

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(6) MUSKELLUNGE FISHING. (a) Applicability. This subsection applies to all inland and outlying waters that contain muskellunge.

(b) Daily bag limit. The daily bag limit is one muskellunge.

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(c) Open seasons. 1. There is no open season for muskellunge in Nancy lake, Washburn county and Long lake (S12, T20N, R11E), Waushara county.

2. The open season for muskellunge in all other waters north of U.S. highway 10 is the Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30, both dates inclusive.

3. The open season for muskellunge in all other waters south of U.S. highway 10 is the first Saturday in May to November 30, both dates inclusive.

(d) Minimum size limits. 1. The minimum size limit for muskellunge is 40 inches for all waters listed in Table 1.

2. The minimum size limit for muskellunge is 45 inches for all waters listed in Table 2.

3. The minimum size limit for muskellunge is 32 inches for all waters not listed in Table 1 or 2.

| <b>County</b>     | Waters  | County    | Waters   |
|-------------------|---|-----------|--|
| Bayfield<br>Brown | Namekagon Lake<br>Green Bay and tributaries<br>upstream to the first dam<br>or lake   | Jackson   | Arbutus Canal<br>Black River Flowage<br>Potter Flowage<br>Black River<br>East Fork Black River       |
| Chippewa          | Holcombe Flowage<br>(Chippewa River to CTH D)<br>(Main Creek to STH 194)<br>(Jump River to CTH G)                             | Kewaunee  | Morrison Creek<br>Lake Arbutus<br>Lake Michigan and Green  |
| Clark             | Mead Lake<br>Rock Dam Lake  |           | Bay and tributaries<br>upstream to the first dam<br>or lake  |
|                   | Black River<br>East Fork Black River  | Lafayette | Yellowstone Lake   |
| Dane              | Wingra Lake   | Lincoln   | Deer Lake<br>Nokomis Lake  |
| Door              | Lake Michigan and Green   |           | Rice River Flowage   |
|                   | Bay and tributaries<br>upstream to the first dam<br>or lake   | Manitowoc | Lake Michigan and tributa-<br>ries upstream to the<br>first dam or lake                              |
| Forest            | Julia Lake (T38N R11E S1)<br>Riley Lake<br>Roberts Lake<br>Wabikon Lake   | Marathon  | Merrill hydro-dam to<br>Wausau hydro-dam)<br>Wisconsin River   |
| Iowa<br>Iron      | Twin Valley Lake<br>Turtle-Flambeau Flowage   | Marinette | Green Bay and tributaries<br>upstream to the first<br>dam or lake                                    |
|                   | Moose Lake<br>Trude Lake<br>Gile Flowage<br>Pine Lake<br>Springstead (Upper and<br>Lower) Lakes<br>Wilson Lake<br>Mercer Lake | Oconto    | Archibald Lake<br>Anderson Lake<br>Green Bay and tributaries<br>upstream to the first dam<br>or lake |

#### TABLE 1

Waters With a 40-inch Minimum Size Limit on Muskellunge

#### WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

| 320-52<br>NR 2 | WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE  |           |   |
|----------------|--|-----------|---|
| County         | Waters   | County    | Waters  |
| Oneida         | Bridge Lake  | Sawyer    | Winter Flowage                                      |
|                | Katherine Lake<br>Nokomis Lake (upstream to<br>Prairie Rapids Road)<br>Rainbow Flowage | Shawano   | Upper Red Lake<br>Lower Red Lake<br>Wolf River Pond |
|                | Rice River Flowage   | St. Croix | Cedar Lake  |
|                | Two Sisters Lake   | Vilas     | Allequash Lake                                      |
| Polk           | Bone Lake  |           | Big Muskellunge Lake                                |
| Rusk           | Dairyland Reservoir<br>Potato Lake   |           | Big Lake (T42N R6E S4)<br>Crab Lake<br>Kentuck Lake |
| Sauk           | Redstone Lake  |           | Papoose Lake  |
|                |  | Walworth  | Delavan Lake  |

#### TABLE 2

Waters With a 45-inch Minimum Size Limit on Muskellunge

County Waters Clear Lake (T39N R7E S16) Trout Lake Oneida Vilas

(7) REGULAR SEASON DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS FOR TROUT IN CERTAIN WATERS. (a) Zero bag limit during regular season. Notwithstanding the bag limits for trout set out in sub. (5) (c) and Table 1, during the open season beginning May 4, 1991 through September 30, 1991, the daily bag limit for trout is zero fish in the waters of Columbia, Florence, Forest, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Me-nominee, Oconto, Oneida, Richland, Sauk, Shawano and Vilas counties. All trout caught shall be immediately returned to the water. This paragraph does not apply to Wisconsin - Michigan boundary waters, to streams that flow into Lake Michigan from their mouths upstream to the first dam or lake, or to inland lakes and ponds which contain trout and which are not natural springs or spring ponds.

(b) Gear restrictions during regular season. Notwithstanding sub. (5) (e) and Table 1, beginning May 4, 1991 through September 30, 1991 no person may take or catch trout or fish for trout in the waters to which par. (a) applies by any means other than the use of an artificial fly by the method commonly known as "fly fishing" or with the use of artificial lures.

History: 1-2-56; cr. (7), Register, April, 1991, No. 424, eff. 5-1-91; emerg. cr. (1) (k) 1g. eff. 2-14-91; cr. (1) (k) 1g., Register, June, 1991, No. 426, eff. 7-1-91; cr. (1) (a) 5m., (am) and (6), am. (1) (a) 9. and (c) 6., Register, December, 1991, No. 432, eff. 1-1-92.

Note: For a complete history of s. NR 20.03 from 1-2-56 through 10-31-73 see the history note following NR 20.03 as it was printed and released in the October, 1973 Register. For a complete history of s. NR 20.03 from 11-1-73 through 2-28-91 see the history note following NR 20.03 as it was printed and released in the February, 1991 Register.

NR 20.035 Alternate size and bag limits. (1) PURPOSE. Notwithstanding any provision of ch. NR 21, 22, 23 or this chapter, for all or part of any inland, boundary or outlying water, the department may apply the alternative size limits, bag limits or both under this section for fish species identified in this section in order to provide for better use and management of the fishery resource of the water to which the proposed alternate limit would apply.

(2) PROCEDURE. The department shall follow the procedures in this subsection in applying an alternate size limit or bag limit under this section.

(a) Notice. The department shall prepare and distribute a notice of its intent to apply an alternate limit under this section. The notice shall be published as a class 1 notice under ch. 985, Stats., in a general circulation newspaper in the vicinity of the water and, if the proposal has statewide significance, in the official state newspaper. A copy of the notice shall be sent to individuals and organizations which the department believes may be interested in the matter. The notice shall include a description of the water affected, the fish species affected, the alternate limit which will apply, and the date the alternate limit will take effect. The notice shall invite the public to submit written comments and indicate that a public information meeting will be held on the alternate limit if requested in writing within 10 days after the notice is published.

(b) Public information meeting. If a public information meeting is requested under par. (a), the department shall conduct the public information meeting in the vicinity of the affected water. At the meeting the department shall describe the factual basis for its intended decision and shall receive comments from the public on the matter.

(c) Determination. If, based on facts and information available to it, including comments received in response to the notice and at any public information meeting which may be held, the department concludes that a condition described in sub. (3) affects fish in a specific water, it shall apply the corresponding alternate limit. The alternate limit shall take effect upon the posting of the notice under par. (d).

(d) Posting. The department shall post notice at public access sites on the affected water that an alternate limit applies to a species of fish found in that water. The notice shall set out the name or description of the water or that part of the water to which the proposed alternate limit would apply, the species of fish affected, the corresponding alternate limit and the effective date of the alternate limit.

(e) *List.* The department shall maintain a current list of all waters to which an alternate limit under this section applies. The list shall be available for public inspection at the department's central office during regular office hours.

(3) ALTERNATE LIMIT. (a) Size limits. No size limit shall apply to walleye, largemouth bass or smallmouth bass if, for the particular species in a particular water, the department finds:

1. Angler exploitation of the species is less than 15% of the population of fish larger than the original size limit.

2. Total adult mortality for that species is less than 30% of the population.

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3. More than 10% of the fish tested of that species in the size range from the originally applicable size limit to 3 inches larger than the originally applicable size limit, in fillets with the skin on, contain .75 parts per million or more mercury, 2 parts per million or more PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl), 5 parts per million or more DDT (dichloro diphenyl trichloroethane), 5 parts per million or more Toxaphene, 0.3 parts per million or more Chlordane, or 0.3 parts per million or more Dieldrin.

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4. Walleye males do not grow to a length of at least 13 inches in 4 years or largemouth bass or smallmouth bass do not grow to a length of at least 12 inches in 5 years in all inland waters lying north of a line beginning at the state highway 70 bridge over the St. Croix river, then east on state highway 70 to its intersection with state highway 27, then south on highway 27 to its intersection with state highway 64, then east along highway 64 to its end, then continuing east to the waters of Green Bay or in inland waters of Brown, Kewaunee or Door counties north of a line beginning with the state highway 29 bridge over the Fox river, then east along state highway 29 to its end, then continuing east to Lake Michigan.

5. Largemouth bass or smallmouth bass do not grow to a length of at least 14 inches in 6 years in inland waters other than those identified in subd. 4.

(b) Bag limits. If the department finds under sub. (2) that one or more of the following conditions exists in a particular water, the corresponding alternate bag limit shall apply to the named species of fish in that water.

(4) TERMINATION OF ALTERNATE LIMITS. Any time the department has reason to believe that the condition which led to the application of an alternate limit under this section no longer affects a species of fish in a particular water, it may remove the alternate limit by following the procedures under sub. (2) (a) to (c). Following its determination to remove an alternate limit the department shall remove or modify the posted notices of alternate limits and the original bag limit or size limit shall then apply.

#### History: Cr. Register, December, 1989, No. 408, eff. 1-1-90.

NR 20.037 Modifications in daily bag limit and minimum size limit in response to tribal harvest. (1) ADJUSTMENT. In order to prevent a total harvest of more than 35% of the adult walleye population or 27% of the adult muskellunge population, the secretary may lower the daily bag limit on walleye and increase the minimum size limit for muskellunge in specific waters in response to the harvest goals of the Chippewa bands for their spear, net or trap fisheries. The adjusted daily bag and size limits shall be in effect until March 1 of the year following the tribal harvest. The safe harvest levels on individual waters shall be determined by the department.

(a) Walleyes. The daily bag limit will be reduced when the department is notified by the Chippewa bands of their harvest goals on individual waters. The extent of the reduction depends upon the percent of the safe harvest they intend to take and the age of the population estimate used to determine the safe harvest or if a regression model was used to determine the safe harvest. The daily bag limits to be used with the different percentages and for various basis of determining the safe harvest are as follows:

| Daily        | % o                  | f safe harvest to be sp        | eared, trapped or netted                                  |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| bag<br>limit | current<br>pop. est. | pop. est. made<br>1-2 yrs. ago | pop. est. made 3 yrs. ago or more<br>or regression model. |
| 4            | 1-7                  | 1-14                           | 1-20  |
| 3            | 8-18                 | 15-39                          | 21-54   |
| 2            | 19-36                | 40-76                          | 55-84   |
| 1            | 37-68                | 77-94                          | 85-94   |
| 0            | 69 or more           | 95 or more                     | 95 or more  |

(b) Muskellunge. The minimum size limit will be increased when the department is notified by the Chippewa bands that their harvest goal on an individual water is 60% or more of the safe harvest. The minimum size limits to be used with different percentages of the safe harvest are as follows:

Increased minimum size limits for muskellunge angling

| % of safe harvest to be speared,<br>trapped or netted by tribes | Minimum size limit |
|---|--------------------|
| 60-94   | 45 inches          |
| 95 or more  | 55 inches          |

(2) READJUSTMENT. If the Chippewa bands inform the department that they have completed harvesting and their goal has not been reached, the secretary may raise the daily bag limit or reduce the minimum size limit to the limit specified as appropriate using the percent of the safe harvest level expected to be harvested as indicated in sub. (1). If a new population estimate is made, the safe harvest level shall be changed accordingly and the daily bag limit or minimum size limit shall be adjusted according to the percentage of the new safe harvest level that is expected to be harvested as indicated in sub. (1). The readjusted daily bag and size limits shall be in effect until March 1 of the year following the tribal harvest.

(3) BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS. (a) Reduced daily bag limits calculated pursuant to this section are individual lake limits and may be combined, but no person may exceed a total daily bag limit of 5 walleyes.

(b) While fishing no person may possess fish on any water in excess of the bag limit or under the size limit for that water.

(4) NOTICE. Adjustments and readjustments of bag limits and minimum size limits under subs. (1) and (2) shall become effective upon publication of the adjustment or readjustment in the official newspaper in the area affected.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1989, No. 407, eff. 12-1-89

NR 20.038 Special size and bag limits for Lac du Flambeau reservation. (1) Notwithstanding bag and size limits established by ss. NR 20.02 and 20.037, there is a bag limit of 3 walleye and a minimum size limit for muskellunge of 40", effective until March 1, 1992, on lakes wholly or partially within the following area, commonly known as the Lac du Flambeau reservation:

(a) Iron county - T41N-R4E - sections 1-4, 10-16, 21-28 and 33-36.

(b) Vilas county - T40N-R4E - sections 1-3, 10-15, 22-27 and 34-36; T40N-R5E - All except NE section 1, NW/NW section 5, NE section 6; T40N-R6E - sections 5-8, 17-20 and and 29-32.

(2) The bag limit of 3 walleye and minimum size limit of 40" may be extended by the secretary beyond March 1, 1992, if future agreements are reached with the Lac du Flambeau band which limit their off-reservation harvest goals to a level allowing a state walleye bag limit of 3 when calculated pursuant to s. NR 20.037. Adjustments to the on-reservation bag and size limits shall become effective upon publication of the adjustment in the official newspapers of Vilas and Oneida counties.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1991, No. 340, eff. 11-1-91.

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### WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

NR 20.04 Open seasons in specified waters. (3) SPECIAL WATERS-LAKES. (a) There shall be no closed season for hook and line fishing for any species of fish except muskellunge, sturgeon and trout in the following described waters; all bag limits, minimum size limits and other regulations governing fish and fishing as set forth in this chapter shall remain in full force and effect:

8. Calumet county-Winnebago

11. Columbia county-Columbia

13. Dane county-Koshkonong

14. Dodge county-Lost and Sinnissippi

17. Dunn county-Dunville bottoms

20. Fond du Lac county-Mullet and Winnebago

24. Green Lake county-Big Green, Maria and Puckaway

28. Jefferson county-Bean, Goose, Hahns, Koshkonong, Red Cedar and Mud (at Koshkonong)

39. Marquette county-Buffalo

50. Portage county-Bass and Pleasant

54. Rock county-Koshkonong

60. Sheboygan county-Sheboygan marsh

69. Waupaca county-Campbell, Crystal, Cynco (Rice), Kinney, Partridge and Partridge Crop

70. Waushara county-Fish (at Wautoma), Beans, Pine (at Hancock), Poygan and Big Twin

71. Winnebago county-Butte des Morts, Little Butte des Morts, Poygan, and Winneconne, and Winnebago

(am) SPECIAL WATERS-RIVERS AND STREAMS. There shall be no closed season for hook and line fishing for any species of fish except muskellunge, sturgeon and trout in the following described rivers, streams, and inpoundments thereon; all bag limits, minimum size limits and other regulations governing fish and fishing as set forth in this chapter shall remain in full force and effect:

1. Baraboo river in Sauk and Columbia counties.

3. Chippewa river including sloughs, bayous and flowages from the Holcombe dam in Chippewa county downstream to the Burlington Northern railroad bridge in Buffalo and Pepin counties, and streams flowing into this part of the Chippewa river from their mouths up to the first highway or railroad bridge.

a. Yellow river from Lake Wissota upstream to the Suetlik dam at Cadott in Chippewa county.

4. Eau Claire river including sloughs and bayous in Eau Claire county from the Altoona dam downstream to its confluence with the Chippewa river.

a. Eau Galle river beginning at the Lake Eau Galle dam in Dunn county downstream to its confluence with the Chippewa river, Pepin county.

5. Embarrass river beginning at the dam at Pella in Shawano county downstream to the Wolf river in Outagamie county.

6. Fond du Lac river within the city limits of Fond du Lac in Fond du Lac county.

7. Fox river downstream from the westerly crossing of highway #33 at Portage in Columbia county and in Marquette, Green Lake, Waushara, Winnebago and Outagamie counties downstream to the dam at De Pere in Brown county.

a. Puckyan river in Green Lake county.

8. Fox river in Kenosha county and upstream in Racine county to the Waterford dam.

9. Grand river from the Grand River wildlife area dam downstream to the Fox river, all in Marquette county.

10. La Crosse river including Lake Neshonoc sloughs and bayous from the Perch lake dam at Sparta downstream to the Mississippi river.

11. Lemonweir river including all connecting flowages, bays, sloughs and bayous in Juneau and Monroe counties and the East Fork Lemonweir upstream to the highway #173 bridge and the South Fork Lemonweir upstream to the Tomah dam.

12. Little Wolf river in Waupaca county beginning at the dam at Manawa downstream to the Wolf river.

13. Pecatonica river in Iowa, Lafayette and Green counties.

14. Pine river in Waushara county beginning at the dam at Poysippi downstream to Lake Poygan.

15. Pumpkinseed creek in Winnebago county from county trunk "D" bridge downstream to Lake Poygan.

16. Red Cedar river including all connecting sloughs and bayous in Dunn county from its confluence with the Chippewa river to the Lake Menomin Northern States Power Dam.

17. Rock river waters.

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a. Rock river in Fond du Lac, Dodge, Jefferson and Rock counties and all waters in the Horicon marsh.

b. Crawfish river in Columbia, Dodge and Jefferson counties.

c. Beaver Dam river beginning at the dam in the city of Beaver Dam in Dodge county downstream to the Crawfish river.

d. Scuppernong river beginning at the dam at Palmyra in Jefferson county downstream to the Bark river.

e. Bark river beginning at the dam at Hebron in Jefferson county downstream to the Rock river.

f. Yahara river beginning at the dam at Fulton in Rock county downstream to the Rock river.

g. Busseyville creek in Dane and Jefferson counties beginning at the Rockdale dam downstream to Lake Koshkonong.

h. Waterloo (Maunesha) creek beginning at the dam (Malthouse) at Waterloo in Jefferson county downstream to its confluence with the Crawfish river, Dodge county.

18. Rubicon river in Dodge county.

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19. Shioc river in Outagamie county.

20. Waupaca river in Waupaca county beginning at the dam at Weyauwega downstream to the Wolf river.

21. White river below dam at Burlington to Fox river in Racine county.

22. Wildcat river in Dodge county.

23. Willow river in Waushara county beginning at the dam at Auroraville downstream to Lake Poygan.

24. Wisconsin river including all sloughs, bayous and flowages from the St. Regis dam in Rhinelander, Oneida county, downstream to the Burlington Northern railroad bridge in Crawford and Grant counties and streams in Columbia county flowing into the Wisconsin river from their mouths upstream to the first highway bridge, except the Baraboo river which has the year round season for its entire length.

25. Wolf river in Winnebago, Waupaca and Outagamie counties and in Shawano county upstream to the dam in the city of Shawano.

26. Yellow river including all sloughs, bayous and flowages from the highway 54 dam at Dexterville, Wood county, downstream to its confluence with the Castle Rock flowage in Juneau county.

27. Yellowstone river from the dam downstream in Lafayette county.

(b) The department shall open the season for fishing with dip nets in any waters when it finds after scientific investigation and study that the fish populations in such waters are threatened with imminent mortality because of depletion of dissolved oxygen or other adverse habitat conditions under which fish will not survive. During such open season all species of fish may be taken by means of dip nets not more than 3 feet in diameter or 3 feet square, but no person shall have more than 25 pounds and one fish of any species of game fish of any size so taken in his possession. No person shall fish with more than one such dip net. Such open season shall be put into effect by posting a notice thereof on or in the vicinity of the shore of the waters affected, such posting being deemed by the department to be the most feasible way of notifying the public that such open season for fishing with dip nets is in effect. Such open season shall remain in full force and effect only so long as such waters are covered with ice and so long as such posting is continued.

(c) Except for streams posted pursuant to ch. NR 26, there is no closed season for hook and line fishing for any species of fish except lake trout, muskellunge, sturgeon, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass on any stream tributary to Lake Michigan or Green Bay, upstream to the first dam or lake except the Kewaunee river where this rule applies upstream to the third county highway "C" bridge.

(d) During the period of October 1 to but not including the first Saturday in May of the following May, annually, upstream to the first dam or

lake on any stream tributary to Lake Michigan or Green Bay, except the Kewaunee river where this paragraph applies upstream to the third county hwy. "C" bridge, hook and line fishing is restricted to baits using a hook with a maximum gape size of one-half inch from point to shank. During this period, fishing with hook and line is prohibited between onehalf hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise on all streams tributary to Lake Michigan and Green Bay except the Menominee river, Oconto river and its tributaries and the Fox river.

(4) EXPERIMENTAL WATERS; PERMITS; REPORTS. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch or kill fish or fish for fish in the waters of Nebish, Spruce, Mystery, Escanaba and Pallette lakes situated in sec-tions 34 and 35, township 42 north, range 7 east, and sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, township 41 north, range 7 east, Vilas county except under the following conditions:

1. Fishing in such waters is authorized only under permit, which may be secured at the checking stations indicated by posted signs in the immediate area.

2. Fishing in such waters is restricted to hook and line or rod and reel with fishing in Spruce lake further restricted to the use of artificial lures only and except that cisco may be taken in Pallette lake by means of dip nets or seines described under s. NR 20.11 (2).

3. The provisions of this section shall apply to such waters throughout the year.

4. All permits are valid only for the date issued and shall be turned in at the checking stations at the termination of each day's fishing activities by the fisher.

5. There is a continuous open season with no daily bag limit or size b. There is a continuous open season with no daily bag innit or size limit for all species of fish contained in these waters except for the follow-ing: In Nebish lake, no person may take smallmouth bass from 9 to 12 inches long and there is a daily bag limit of 5 for smallmouth bass; in Pallette lake, no person may take smallmouth bass less than 16 inches long, there is a daily bag limit of 2 for smallmouth bass and there is no open season through 1991 for lake trout; and in Spruce lake, no person may take largemouth bass less than 12 inches long and there is a daily bag limit of 2 for largemouth bass.

6. All fish taken pursuant to this section shall be exhibited to the department or its agents at the checking station for examination, identification and marking.

cation and marking. History: 1-256; am. (3) (a) 28.56 and 71, (3) (am) 7, cr. (3) (am) 8 a. 7 a and 24 a and r. (4) (c) 1 and 2, Register, January, 1975, No. 229, eff. 2-1-75; am. (3) (c) 2, 3, and 4, Register, November, 1975, No. 238, eff. 11-1-75; am. (3) (am) (intro.), (c) 2, 3, and 4, r, (4) (c) Register, November, 1976, No. 238, eff. 11-1-75; am. (3) (am) (intro.), (c) 2, 3, and 4, r, (4) (c) Register, November, 1976, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (4), r. (5) (a) 3 and cr. (7) and (8), Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (7) (a) and (b), Register, March, 1977, No. 255, eff. 4-1-77; am. (3) (c) 2 to 4, Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 2-1-78; am. (3) (a) 65, (am) 3, and 24., (b), (4) (a) 5., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; r. (3) (c) 4.1, er. (8) (c) and am. (3) (c) 4.5., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; r. (3) (c) 4.1, er. (8) (c) and am. (3) (c) 4.5., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-80; emerg, cr. (7) (e), eff. 4-1-30; cr. (7) (e), Register, October, 1980, No. 298, eff. 11-1-80; am. (7) (e) and r. (8) (a) 1. a., Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; reprinted to correct error, Register, April, 1981, No. 304; am (2) (c) 4. e., Register, December, 1981, No. 308, eff. 9-1-81; am. (3) (a) 14., (3) (c) 4. d., (4) (a) 2, and 5., Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; am. (3) (c) 3. and 4. intro, b, d. and f. r. and recr. (7) (e), renum. (8) to be (9), cr. (8), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; renum. (3) (c) 4. j. to be 2.j. Register, April, 1983, No. 328, eff. 5-1-83; am. (3) (d) 1. and 2. intro. and h., (4) (a) 5., r. (3) (d) 2.a., r. and recr. (7) and (8), renum. (9) to be (8) and am. (8) (b), cr. (7) (e), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; r. (3) (d) 2. and 5., (7) (d) and (8) (b), cr. (7) (e), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; r. (3) (d) 2. and 5., (7) (d) and (8) (b), cr. (7) (e), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; r. (3) (d) 2. i., Register, Septemb

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Register, December, 1985, No. 360, eff. 1-1-86; renum. (3) (am) 26. to be 27., cr. (3) (a) 11, and (3) (am) 26., r. and recr. (3) (am) 3, and 24., Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. (4) (a) 5., Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; r. and recr. (3) (d), Register, June, 1987, No. 378, eff. 7-1-87; r. (a) (a) 13., cr. (7) (h), Register, December, 1987, No. 384, eff. 1-1-88; am. (3) (c), Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; r. and recr. (4) (a) 5., Register, June, 1989, No. 402, eff. 7-1-89; emerg. cr. (4m), eff. 8-1-88; r. (5) to (8), Register, December, 1989, No. 402, eff. 1-1-91; am. (3) (a) 14., Register, September, 1990, No. 417, eff. 10-1-90; am. (3) (c), Register, February, 1991, No. 422, eff. 3-1-91; am. (3) (a)

Note: For a complete history of NR 20.04 see the history note for NR 20.04 as it appeared in the December, 1974 Administrative Register.

NR 20.06 Prohibited fishing under particular conditions. (1) (a) IWaters and methods. No person shall take, capture, or kill fish of any variety or fish for fish during the closed season for trout in streams and creeks containing trout except that rough fish may be taken by hand.

(b) Trolling. No person may fish in the inland waters of the state from a motor-driven boat when the motor is running or from any boat in tow of a motor-driven boat when the motor is running or from any sailboat when in motion; or by means of shutting or drawing off water for that purpose unless the person is backtrolling. Casting and immediate retrieval of a bait or lure while positioning a boat by means of an electric motor, where motors are permitted, is not trolling. The restrictions in this paragraph do not apply to the waters of Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Racine, Rusk, Taylor, Washburn and Waukesha counties, the Wisconsin river including sloughs, bayous and flowages from county trunk A east of Tomahawk, Lincoln county, downstream, except Lake Mohawksin, the Chippewa river including sloughs, bayous and flowages up to the flowing portion of all tributary streams from the Holcombe flowage, Chippewa county, downstream, the Fox river from Buffalo lake downstream to the DePere dam and the following named lakes and rivers including their flowages and sloughs:

1. Adams county—Mason

2. Ashland county-Kakagon

9. Chippewa county-Chain; Holcombe flowage; Long 32-8

10. Clark county—Arbutus

13. Dane county—Crystal; Kegonsa; Koshkonong; Mendota; Monona; Waubesa

14. Dodge county-Beaver Dam; Fox; Sinnissippi

15. Door county-Clarks; Kangaroo

17. Dunn county-Menomin; Tainter

18. Eau Claire county-Altoona; Big Dells pond; Eau Claire

19. Florence county-Halsey; Twin Falls flowage

21. Forest county—Butternut; Franklin; Lucerne; Metonga; Pickerel; Pine; Wabicon

24. Green Lake county—Big Green; Maria: Puckaway

27. Jackson county—Arbutus

28. Jefferson county—Koshkonong; Rock

29. Juneau county—Kilburn flowage Register, December, 1991, No. 432 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

30. Kenosha county-Elizabeth

32. La Crosse county—Neshonoc

34. Langlade county-Post (Lower); Post (Upper); Rolling Stone

35. Lincoln county-Spirit R. flowage

37. Marathon county-Big Eau Pleine reservoir upstream to the first state hwy. 153 bridge

38. Marinette county-Chalk Hills flowage; High Falls reservoir; Noquebay

39. Marguette county-Buffalo

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43. Oconto county-Christy; Machickanee (Stiles pond); White Potato

44. Oneida county-Columbus; Rainbow flowage; Sugar Camp; Thunder; Willow flowage

50. Portage county—Little Eau Pleine flowage upstream to the first county hwy. 'O' bridge

51. Price county-Pike; Round

54. Rock county-Koshkonong

56. St. Croix county-Cedar

57. Sauk county—Redstone

58. Sawyer county—Chetac; Grindstone; Lac Court Oreilles; Nelson; Round; Whitefish; Windigo

59. Shawano county-Shawano

60. Sheboygan county-Sheboygan marsh

65. Walworth county—Beulah; Como; Delavan; Geneva; Whitewater

67. Washington county-Big Cedar; Pike

69. Waupaca county-Partridge; White

Waushara county—Poygan

71. Winnebago county—Butte des Morts; Little Butte des Morts; Poygan; Rush; Winnebago; Winneconne

(c) Fishing near dams. It shall be unlawful for any person to take, capture, or kill fish of any variety or fish for fish by means other than hook or line within 200 feet of any fishway, lock or dam in the inland waters at any time.

History: 1-2-56; am. (2), Register, December, 1956, No. 12, eff. 1-1-57; am. (1) (c) and (2), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. (1) (b), Register, April, 1958, No. 28, eff. 5-1-58; am. (2), Register, August, 1958, No. 32, eff. 9-1-58; am. (1) (b), Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 1-1-59; am. (2), Register, August, 1959, No. 44, eff. 9-1-59; am. (1) (b), r. and recr. (2), Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1-1-60; am. (1) (b) and (2), Register, December, 1960, No. 60, eff. 1-1-61; am. (2), Register, August, 1961, No. 68, eff. 9-1-61; am. (1) (b), Register, August, 1961, No. 68, eff. 9-1-61; am. (1) (b); cr. (1) (d) and (e), Register, December, 1960, No. 70, eff. 1-1-62; am. (1), Register, July, 1962, No. 79, eff. 8-1-62; am. (1) (b), Register, April, 1963, No. 88, eff. 5-1-63; am. (1) (b); r. (2), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. (1) (a) and (c); r. (1) (d) and (e), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. (1) (a) and (c); r. (1) (d) and (e), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. (1) (b), Register, October, 1969, No. 166, eff. 1-1-70; am. (1) (b), Register, June, 1970, No. 174, eff. 7-1-70; renum. WCD 20.06 to be NR 20.06, Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; am. (1) (b), Register, October, 1973, No. 214, eff. 1-1-74; am. (1) Decision 2000, Starter, December, 10, No. 2000, No. 2000, No. 2000, No. 214, eff. 1-1-74; am. (1) Decision 2000, No. 2000, No. 2000, No. 2000, No. 214, eff. 1-1-74; am. (1) Decision 2000, No. 2000, N

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(b), Register, January, 1975, No. 229, eff. 2-1-75; am. (1) (b) (intro.), r. (1) (b) 61 and 68, Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (1) (b) (intro.), Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (1) (b), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; printing error corrected, Register, July, 1979; am. (1) (b) 21., 24. and 64., Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; am. (1) (b) 35., 44. and 58., Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-83; am. (1) (b) 37., 50. and 64., Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; am. (1) (b) (intro.), r. (1) (b) 42. and 64., Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. (1) (b) (intro.), Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; am. (1) (b) (intro.), Register, December, 1989, No. 408, eff. 1-1-90.

NR 20.07 Prohibited methods of fishing. (1) Except as otherwise expressly provided by the Wisconsin Statutes or by department order:

(a) No person may take, catch, or kill fish or fish for fish of any kind with more than 3 hooks, baits or lures.

(b) No person may:

1. Fish with an unattended line in any waters.

2. Fish by snagging, fouling or attempting to hook fish other than in the mouth.

3. Keep any fish hooked other than in the mouth.

4. Fish with the aid or use of any firearm or pellet gun in any manner or by any means other than angling or trolling.

5. Use a telemetry device attached to or implanted in fish to aid in fishing.

(c) No person shall use as bait or possess or release any minnows or other fish except trout on any waters or shores of such waters which have been chemically treated for trout management and which are so identified and designated by signs posted on the shores thereof by the department of natural resources.

(d) No person shall place minnow traps in waters which have been chemically treated to reestablish a trout fishery.

(e) No person shall use minnows as bait while fishing through the ice in Green Lake, Green Lake county except where the lake is 50 feet or less in depth.

(f) Any fish taken into actual possession, unless released immediately, shall be included as part of the daily bag limit.

(g) Landing nets 3 feet or less in diameter or a gaff may be used for the purpose of landing fish legally hooked.

(h) No person may take, catch or kill fish or fish for fish in open water using a free-floating or anchored, buoyant device with attached hook and line, which is not held or otherwise controlled by the fisher, commonly known as jug fishing, except under a setline or bank pole license issued pursuant to s. 29.36, Stats.

(2) (a) No person may, except as expressly authorized, possess or control on any of the inland or outlying waters or shores of inland or outlying waters at any time any gun, bow and arrow, spear, net or similar device that might be used for the purpose of taking, catching or killing fish.

(b) No person other than the licensee or licensee's designee or department agent may raise, remove, or otherwise tamper with commercial gear set in Wisconsin inland and boundary waters.

(3) It shall be lawful to take rough fish by hand at any time in all waters.

(4) (a) No person may as prescribed in sub. (2) take, catch or kill fish in the counties of Ashland (except in the Bad river as provided in par. (e)), Bayfield, Iron, Oconto (in that portion of the county west of highway #141 only), Oneida, Pierce, Price, Sawyer and Vilas counties, except that rough fish may be taken sunrise to sunset with bow and arrow from the Saturday nearest May 20 to July 1 each year in Iron and Sawyer counties.

(b) It shall be lawful to take rough fish by means of spear or spear fishing by the method commonly known as skin diving or bow and arrow from April 21 to March 1, inclusive, sunrise to sunset in the inland waters or from shores of inland waters of Brown, Buffalo, Calumet (except during a sturgeon spearing season in any specified water), Clark, Door, Dunn, Eau Claire, Florence, Fond du Lac (except during a sturgeon spearing season in any specified water), Forest, Green Lake, Jackson, Juneau, Kewaunee, La Crosse, Langlade, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Marathon (except that spearing is prohibited in the Big Eau Pleine flowage from the dam upstream to highway 97 from November 1 to April 20), Marinette, Monroe, Oconto (in that portion of the county east of highway 141 only), Outagamie (except during the sturgeon spearing season in any specified water), Pepin, Portage, St. Croix, Shawano, Trempealeau, Winnebago (except during a sturgeon spearing season in any specified water), and Wood.

(c) It shall be lawful for any person to take rough fish by means of spears or by spear fishing by the method commonly known as skin diving or bow and arrow at any time of the year, sunrise to sunset, in the inland waters or from shores of inland waters of the counties of Adams, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Kenosha, Lafayette, Marquette, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk (except it is illegal to spear fish while skin diving or with bow and arrow in Devil's lake), Sheboygan, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca and Waushara (except during a sturgeon spearing season in any specified water).

(d) It is lawful to take white bass, yellow bass (striped), rock bass, crappie, bluegill, perch, pumpkinseed (sunfish) and builheads with the use of spears and spearguns by skin diving and scuba diving in all waters where spearing for rough fish is permitted subject to the same seasons prescribed in sub. (4)(a), (b), (c) and (e) and subject to bag limits prescribed in s. NR 20.03.

(e) It shall be lawful for any person to take rough fish by means of spears or by spear fishing by the method commonly known as skin diving or bow and arrow, sunrise to sunset, from the Saturday nearest May 20 to November 1, inclusive, on the inland waters or from shores of inland waters in the counties of Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Rusk, Taylor, Washburn, Polk and Barron. Burbot (but no other species) may also be speared from sunset to sunrise in the Amnicon and Nemadji rivers and the Black river upstream to the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie railroad bridge from December 15 to January 31, inclusive, in Douglas county and the Bad river, Ashland county.

(5) (a) The possession or use of a gun, bow and arrow, spear or similar device for the taking, catching or killing of fish in or on any designated trout stream is prohibited at all times except as indicated in pars. (b) and (c).

(b) Suckers and carp may be speared, sunrise to sunset only, from Saturday nearest March 15 to, but not including the Saturday nearest May 1, in the following trout waters in Waushara county:

1. White river below the junction of the main and west branches in  $SE'_4$  NE'4, sec. 10, township 18 north, range 10 east, town of Dakota, downstream to the White river flowage in sec. 13 of Dakota township.

2. Willow creek between the point where the two branches of said stream unite in section 12, township 18 north, range 11 east, town of Marion and the dam in Auroraville.

3. The Pine river between the point where the said stream crosses the highway in section 3, township 19 north, range 12 east, town of Leon to the dam in Poysippi.

(7) It shall be unlawful to use goldfish or alewife in any form or manner for bait or to have goldfish or alewife in possession on the inland, boundary or Lake Superior waters of the state. Alewife but not goldfish may be possessed and used for bait in Lake Michigan waters.

(8) No person shall, except as otherwise expressly provided, set, place, use, operate or have in possession or under control any snag line or snag pole, snaghook or parts thereof or cluster of fish hooks that might be attached to same designed to be placed in or drawn through the water for the purpose of catching or drawing such hooks into the body of fish or used for that purpose; except that carp, but no other species or variety fish, may be taken by means of a gaff hook through the ice, sunrise to sunset, in the outlying and reserve water of Lake Michigan and Green Bay.

(9) No person shall use or have in his possession or under his control or maintenance in any of the inland waters of this state, any live box, crib or similar device except receptacles carried by or with the fisherman to contain his catch while fishing, that might be used for the keeping of fish unless he shall have securely attached thereto in such a manner as to be readable and legible at all times a tag of permanent material bearing the name and address of the owner or user.

(10) No person shall fish for trout in inland waters without a trout stamp of current issue with the signature of the licensee written in ink across its face and firmly affixed by its own adhesive to the back of a valid fishing or sportsman's license.

History: 1-2-56; am, (1) (d), (4) (a), (b) (c) and (e) and (7), cr. (1) (ee) and (g), Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; emerg. am. (2), renum. (3) (a), to (e) to be (4) (a) to (e) and am. eff. 4-30-76; r. (1) (ff) and (5) (b) 1, r. and recr. (2) and (3), Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (1) (c), (4) (b) and (e), (5) (a), Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78; cr. (10), Register, June, 1978, No. 270, eff. 7-1-78; r. and recr. (1) (g), Register, December, 1977, No. 284, eff. 1-1-78; cr. (10), Register, June, 1978, No. 270, eff. 7-1-78; r. and recr. (1) (g), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; am. (1) (a) and (4) (b) and (c) and cr. (5) (b) 1, Register, December, 1979, No. 288, eff. 1-1-80; am. (1) (a), Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; renum. (2) to be (2) (a) and cr. (2) (b), Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; cr. (11), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; r. (5) (c) and (11), Register, June, 1984, No. 342, eff. 7-1-84; r. and recr. (1) (d), am. (4) (a), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-85; r. and recr. (1) (a), r. (1) (b) and (c), renum. (1) (d) to (g) to be (b) to (f), am. (2) (a), Register, December, 1985, No. 360, eff. 1-1-86; am. (1) (a), Register, March, 1986, No. 360, eff. 4-1-36; r. and recr. (1) (b), cr. (1) (g), Register, Oetober, 1991, No. 430, eff. 11-91; cr. (1) (h), Register, December, 1991, No. 432, eff. 1-1-92.

Note: For a complete history of NR 20.07, see the history as it appeared in January, 1975, Administrative Register.

NR 20.09 Dip nets and seines in inland and outlying waters. (1) GENERAL RESTRICTIONS. Except as provided in this section and in ss. NR 20.04, 20.10 and 20.11 no person shall set, use or operate any dip net in any of Register, December, 1991, No. 432

320-64 NR 20 the inland or outlying waters of the state for taking, catching or killing any variety of fish. No person, while operating a dip net for rough fish, shall fish for fish in any other manner at that time and no person shall fish with hook and line from any boat that has a dip net attached. Only one dip net per person is permitted for the taking of smelt and minnows. Such dip net must be attended at all times while in use and such nets shall only be raised and lowered vertically when fishing.

(a) It is unlawful to sell, barter or trade in any manner any suckers taken pursuant to this section.

(2) USE OF DIP NETS. (a) Definition. Dip nets used for taking, catching, or killing rough fish shall be defined as follows: a piece of netting suspended from a round or square frame not exceeding 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square.

(b) Marinette and Oconto counties. Not more than one dip net person may be used at any time for the taking, catching, or killing of rough fish in Marinette and Oconto counties in all the streams and rivers flowing into Green Bay from a point 200 feet upstream from the mouth, and extending a distance of 15 miles inland in a straight line.

(c) Brown, Door, Kenosha, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine and Sheboygan counties. One dip net per person may be used all year for the taking, catching and killing of rough fish in all the nontrout designated streams and rivers, excluding lakes, flowing into Lake Michigan and Green Bay and in the counties of Brown, Door, Kenosha, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine and Sheboygan in that part of each such stream or river beginning at the mouth and extending upstream to a point 500 feet below the first dam located on such stream or river.

(d) Fond du Lac county. One dip net per person may be used, sunrise to sunset, from May 1 to March 15, for taking, catching or killing rough fish, except suckers, in that part of the Fond du Lac river in Fond du Lac county beginning at its mouth and extending upstream three miles.

(e) Dodge and Jefferson counties. One dip net per person may be used sunrise to sunset for the taking, catching or killing of rough fish all year in the following waters:

1. In the Rock river in Dodge, Jefferson and Rock counties.

2. In the Crawfish river in Jefferson county.

3. In Beaver Dam lake in Dodge county.

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4. In the Beaver Dam, Crawfish and Wildcat rivers in Dodge county.

5. In the Bark river and tributaries to Hebron dam and in creeks and tributaries of the Rock and Crawfish rivers in Jefferson county.

(f) Calumet county. One dip net per person may be used from April 25 to May 31, both dates inclusive for the removal of rough fish from that part of Lake Winnebago within a distance of 500 feet from the shoreline of Calumet county.

(g) A dip net not exceeding 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square may be used in all other waters except designated trout streams at any time of the year, sunrise to sunset, for the taking of rough fish with no bag or possession limit.

(3) SMELT. (a) Dip nets not exceeding 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square may be used at any time for the taking, catching or killing of smelt in Lake Michigan and all the streams and rivers flowing into Lake Michigan and the northern and southern parts of Green Bay, in that part of each of such streams beginning at or in the bay or lake and extending upstream to a point 500 feet below the first dam located on any such stream or a distance of 5 miles inland on any of such streams where no dam is located within 5 miles of the mouth.

(b) Dip nets not exceeding 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square, may be used from April 1 to May 25 for the taking, catching, or killing of smelt and suckers in Lake Superior and all streams flowing into Lake Superior in Bayfield, Ashland and Iron counties and the Brule river in Douglas county from a point beginning at their mouths and extending inland for a distance of one-half mile in a straight line. Zoning does not apply on Bear creek, Bluff creek and Nemadji river, the St. Louis river and the other non-trout streams in Douglas county and in the waters of the Chippewa, Bad, and White rivers in Ashland county not inhabited by trout, or on streams where active sea lamprey control structures are located. The taking of rough fish by dip netting is permitted from April 1 to July 15 below the posted portion of a stream on which such an active lamprey control structure is located.

(c) Seines not more than 75 feet in length and not more than 6 feet in depth may be used from April 1 to May 25 for the taking, catching and killing of smelt and suckers in all the outlying waters except that portion of the Fox river in Brown county upstream from 1,500 feet below the dam in the city of DePere. Seines of this dimension may also be used in St. Louis bay, Superior bay, Allouez bay and from the mouth of the St. Louis river upstream to the north 28th st. landing in Douglas county.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any person to leave dip nets or seines unattended within 25 feet of the edge of waters named in pars. (a), (b) and (c) of this section.

(e) Dip nets not exceeding 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square may be used for the taking, catching or killing of smelt in Lake Lucerne, Forest county and the Flambeau lake chain, Vilas county, including thoroughfares and tributary streams 200 feet upstream and downstream from the lake basins and Beaver Dam lake west of hwy 63, Barron county. The open and closed seasons shall be at the directive of the district director.

History: 1-2-56; am. (2) (b). (d) and (e), and (3) (b). Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. (1) intro. par. and (2) (a), Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 1-1-59, am. (2) (f), Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1-1-60; am. (2) (c), Register, December 1960, No. 60, eff. 1-1-61; am. (1) intro. par.; (2) (c), (3) (a) and (c), Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1-1-62; cr. (2) (c), Register, December, 1962, No. 48, eff. 1-1-63; am. (2) (g), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; r. and recr. (1) (a) and (2) (g), Register, November, 1965, No. 119, eff. 1-1-66; am. (2) (b) and (c), Register, December, 1968, No. 156, eff. 1-1-69; cr. (3) (d), Register, October, 1969, No. 166, eff. 1-1-70; renum. WCD 20.09 to be NR 20.09, am. (1) (intro. par.), Register, November, 1970, No. 170, eff. 1-1-71; am. (1) (e) and (1) (e) 1., Registter, November, 1977, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (1), (2) (b), (c) and (g) and cr. (3) (e), Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78; am. (3) (a) and (b), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; am. (3) (e), Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; am. (3) (c), Regiter, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; am. (2) (g), Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86.

NR 20.10 Minnow nets, traps, and seines. (1) USE LIMITED. No person may set, use, or operate any minnow seine, minnow dip net or minnow traps in any of the inland waters of this state for taking, catching, or killing fish of any variety, other than as specified in this section.

(b) Except as provided in ss. NR 20.09 (2) (g) and (3) and 21.06 (1) (d), no person may take fish other than smelt and shiners with nets or Register, December, 1991, No. 432

traps from Lake Superior, its bays or tributaries. This paragraph does not apply to the following waters:

1. Ashland county

a. Bad River - upstream from Copper Falls

- b. Marengo river upstream from state hwy, 13
- c. Potato river upstream from Guerney Falls
- d. White river upstream from White river dam
- 2. Bayfield county
- a. Iron river upstream from Orienta dam

b. Little Sioux river - upstream from the falls in NE % of the NE %, section 13, township 49 north, range 5 west.

c. Siskiwit river - upstream from the falls in SW % of the NW % , section 35, township 51 north, range 6 west.

- 3. Douglas county
- a. Amnicon river upstream from Amnicon Falls
- b. Black river upstream from Big Manitou Falls
- c. Middle river upstream from U.S. hwy. 2
- d. Poplar river upstream from U.S. hwy. 2
- 4. Iron county

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a. Montreal river - upstream from Superior Falls dam

(2) BAG LIMIT. It shall be unlawful for any person except licensed bait dealers to take in any waters in any one day more minnows than are specified in sub. (4) (c). The possession and transportation of minnows legally taken is permitted throughout the state.

(3) INSECT LARVAE. Except as hereinafter provided, it shall be unlawful for any person to take, gather or collect (or attempt to do so) for the use or sale as bait by himself or others any of the larvae or nymphs of aquatic insects in or from any stream or spring hole tributary thereto inhabited by trout. A licensed fisherman may take such larvae or nymphs from trout streams by hand during the trout season for his immediate personal use as bait in the stream from which taken and no such larvae or nymphs may be carried away from the stream from which taken.

(4) INLAND WATERS. (a) Unless a permit has been issued under sub. (5) by the department in accordance with s. 29.80, Stats., only the following gear may be used for the taking of minnows for bait:

1. Minnow seines. Minnow seines may not exceed 35 feet in length and shall contain mesh not to exceed one-half inch stretch measure.

2. Minnow dip nets. Minnow dip nets shall be defined as follows: A piece of netting suspended from a round or square frame not to exceed 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square.

3. Minnow traps. Minnow traps shall be of a length not greater than 24 inches and of a width not greater than 16 inches square or in diameter with an opening in the throat of the trap not larger than 1½ inches in diameter. The traps shall have securely attached to them a label or tag

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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 48 hours from all waters, except department designated trout waters as indicated in department publications or under s. NR 1.02 (7). On designated trout waters, traps shall be raised and emptied every 24 hours during the open season for trout on the water, and during the closed season on such water, as required in the department permit authorizing placement of the trap.

(b) Unless a permit has been issued by the department, no person may use minnow seines or minnow dip nets of any type or description in inland streams or tributary spring holes inhabited by trout. Licensed bait dealers may use no more than a total of 20 minnow traps when removing minnows from one or more trout streams during the open season for trout, unless a permit has been issued. Persons not possessing a bait dealers license may use no more than a total of 3 minnow traps when conducting such removal. During the closed trout season, minnows may not be removed except by licensed bait dealers as authorized by permit.

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

(5) PERMITS FOR USE OF NONSTANDARD MINNOW GEAR. A licensed bait dealer may apply to the department on a form provided by the department for a permit to take minnows with minnow seines, minnow dip nets or minnow traps which are otherwise prohibited by this section. Applications shall be submitted to the department district office having jurisdiction over the affected waters.

(a) The department shall issue the permit if it determines that the conditions of this paragraph are met.

1. For waters with public access which is adequate according to s. NR 1.90(2) (a), the department must find that:

a. The department does not need the minnows for its fish management activities;

b. Removal of the minnows will not cause or substantially contribute to a long-term depletion of the forage base;

c. Threatened or endangered species listed in ch. NR 27 are not known to be present in or near the affected water;

d. Unique or sensitive biological values such as nesting loons or heron rookeries are not present in, on or near the affected water;

e. The use of the minnow seines, minnow dip nets or minnow traps is not likely to hinder or interfere with the exercise of a permit issued earlier in the year to another person for the water; and

f. The use of the minnow seines, minnow dip nets or minnow traps is not likely to hinder or interfere with any other public uses of the water.

2. For waters lacking adequate public access and for waters surrounded by private lands, the department must find that:

a. The requirements of subd. 1.a. to e. are met; and

b. The applicant provided the department with the name, mailing address and telephone number of the person granting the applicant legal access to the water.

(b) Permits issued by the department under this subsection shall:

1. Include the permit holder's name, address and bait dealer's license number,

2. Specify the water where the permit is valid,

3. Describe the minnow seines, minnow dip nets or minnow traps authorized,

4. Include an expiration date of December 31 of the calendar year in which the permit is issued, unless an earlier date is set under par. (c),

5. Prohibit the removal or destruction of vegetation, logs and other habitat features,

6. Require that minnows be transported only in tanks equipped with either an oxygen tank or an adequate aeration system,

7. Require that transport tanks and holding facilities not be loaded beyond their capacity to keep the minnows alive and healthy,

8. Require that all minnows taken under the permit be sold or used only for angling or rearing of fish in department or private fish hatcheries, and

9. Require that all minnows which are not kept for use or sale and all game fish caught by the minnow seines, minnow dip nets or minnow traps be promptly returned unharmed to the water.

(c) The department may require reporting of the permit holder's activities under the permit and may set reasonable permit conditions to insure that the requirements of par. (a) are met.

(d) The department shall act on a complete application for a permit under this subsection within 20 business days after it is received by the appropriate department district office.

(e) No permit holder may cause or allow the violation of any term or condition of a permit issued under this subsection. In addition to any other penalties, if a permit holder is convicted of causing or allowing a violation of any term or condition of a permit, the permit is terminated.

(f) The department may, at any time, revoke or modify a permit issued under this subsection if it determines that the minnow supply is in danger of being depleted in the water for which the permit was issued. A permit revocation or modification shall become effective when it is received by the permit holder or 3 business days after it is mailed to the permit holder at the address shown on the permit, whichever occurs first.

(g) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the department under this subsection may, within 30 days of the mailing of the decision, request a contested-case hearing before the department on the decision under s. 227.42, Stats.

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History: 1-2-56; am. (4), Register, December, 1956, No. 12, eff. 1-1-57; am. (2), (4) (a) 3 and (b), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. (4) (a) 2., Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 1-1-59; am. (4) (c), cr. (4) (d), Register, December, 1960, No. 60, eff. 1-1-61; r. and recr. (3), Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1-1-62; am. (3) and (4) (a) 1., Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; r. and recr. (4) (a) 1., Register, November, 1965, No. 119; eff. 1-1-66; r. (4) (d), Register, December, 1968, No. 156, eff. 1-1-69; renum. from WCD 20.10 to be NR 20.10, Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; am. (4) (a) 2, Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78; am. (4) (a) 1. and 2., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-75; am. (4) (a) 1. and 2., Register, October, 1979, No. 286, eff. 11-1-79; am. (4) (a) (intro.), Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; r. and recr. (4) (b), Register, August, 1982, No. 320, eff. 9-1-82; am. (4) (a) 3., Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; am.

(4) (a) 1., Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; am. (4) (a) (intro.), cr. (5), Register, June, 1987, No. 378, eff. 7-1-87; am. (1) (intro.), cr. (1) (b), Register, December, 1989, No. 408, eff. 1-1-90.

NR 20.11 Whitefish and cisco in inland waters. (1) The rules and regulations set forth in this section shall apply to the use of all nets and seines used for taking whitefish and cisco.

(2) Cisco dip nets shall not exceed 8 feet in diameter or 8 feet square and such seines shall not exceed 75 feet in length or 6 feet in depth and with a mesh not greater than 2 inches stretch measure.

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