

## Notice of Hearing

The Department of Natural Resources announces that it will hold a public hearing on a permanent rule to revise ch. NR 20, 21 and 26, relating to changes to fishing regulations on inland, outlying and boundary waters (the 2023 Fisheries Management Spring Hearing rule), at the time and place shown below.

### Hearing Information

Date: April 12, 2023

Time: 5 p.m.

Location: Wisconsin Natural Resources Building (GEF 2), Room G27, 101 S. Webster St., Madison, WI 53703, or virtually by [Zoom](#), or by phone at 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID 882 7366 5654

If you are able, please pre-register using the Zoom link above whether you plan to attend in person or online/by phone. This will allow us to provide an estimate of the number of in-person attendees to the front desk.

**Rule Information:** This rule will apply fishing regulations to waters of the state to accomplish management goals including improving size structure of game fish, increasing the density or abundance of certain fish species or increasing the survival of mature adults, establishing statewide regulations that provide harvest opportunity while protecting fish populations, and aligning regulations with public desires for certain waterbodies. The department utilizes the annual Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings questionnaire, available online statewide, to gain broad public feedback from outdoor recreators on standard fishing regulation change proposals.

### Accessibility

For the hearing or visually impaired, non-English speakers, or those with other personal circumstances which might make communication at the meeting/hearing difficult, DNR will, to the maximum extent possible and with reasonable advance notice, provide aids including an interpreter, or a non-English, large-print, or recorded version of hearing documents. To access these resources, please contact the email address or phone number listed below as soon as possible.

### Appearances at the Hearing and Submittal of Written Comments

The public has the opportunity to testify at the hearing. Registration will take place at the hearing by completing a Hearing Appearance form, which is available here <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html>. The Hearing Appearance form also can be used for submitting a written comment at the hearing. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged if you plan to provide spoken comments during the hearing. Please download and complete the fillable [Hearing Appearance form](#) and send it to Meredith.Penthorn@wisconsin.gov.

Written comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before April 14, 2023. Written comments may be submitted by U.S. mail, E-mail, or through the internet and will have the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearing.

Written comments and any questions on the proposed rules should be submitted to:

Department of Natural Resources  
Attn: Meredith Penthorn  
P.O. Box 7921  
101 S. Webster Street,  
Madison, WI 53707-7921  
[Meredith.Penthorn@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Meredith.Penthorn@wisconsin.gov)

The rule may be viewed at: <https://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html>

Comments can be made at: [DNRAAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRAAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov)

The rule may be reviewed, and comments made at:  
<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/hearings>.

**Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:** The proposed rule would not impose any reporting requirements on small businesses, nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule. The rule would not allow for the potential to establish a reduced fine for small businesses, nor would it establish “alternative enforcement mechanisms” for “minor violations” of administrative rules made by small businesses.

This rule would require organizers of fishing tournaments that are not required to obtain a tournament permit to self-register the tournament with the department, but no fee or approval process would be associated with the self-registration system.

**Agency Small Business Regulatory Coordinator:**

Emma Esch (608) 266-1959

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