

(3) **POSSESSION LIMITS.** Except as otherwise provided, no person may possess species of fish for which there is no open season. The possession limit for species of fish for which an open season is provided and a quota has been established shall be the individual quota established by commercial fishing boards for the person possessing such fish.

History: Cr. Register, September, 1976, No. 249, eff. 10-1-76; emerg. am. (1) (d) and cr. (3), eff. 5-16-79; am. Register, October, 1979, No. 286, eff. 11-1-79; am. (1) (d), Register, May, 1981, No. 305, eff. 7-1-81; emerg., am. (2) (b), eff. 6-24-81; am. (2) (b), Register, August, 1981, No. 308, eff. 9-1-81; emerg. am. (1) (i), eff. 5-20-82.

NR 25.06 Quotas. (1) LAKE SUPERIOR LAKE TROUT HARVEST QUOTAS.

(a) The total allowable annual harvest of lake trout by commercial methods during the open season in Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior shall be determined by the natural resources board based upon recommendations from the department, the U.S. fish and wildlife service and the Great Lakes fishery commission.

(b) The total allowable commercial harvest for any license year may not exceed 180,000 pounds of lake trout.

(c) That quantity of lake trout to be harvested by non-Indian licensed commercial fishers from the waters of Lake Superior may not exceed 80,000 pounds annually.

(d) Eligible members of the Red Cliff and Bad River bands of Lake Superior Chippewas as determined by the respective tribal councils may harvest under permits issued by their respective tribal councils 100,000 pounds lake trout from Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior annually. Copies of the permits will be provided to the department at the time of issue.

(f) All lake trout and siscowet shall be tagged with tags furnished or authorized for each subspecies by the department before being brought to any shore when fishing in open water and before being transported when fishing with nets under the ice. Such fish shall be individually tagged. Untagged fish may not be left unattended.

(g) Untagged lake trout and siscowet shall not be transferred between watercraft.

(h) Tags shall be locked and remain attached to lake trout or siscowet until prepared for final consumption. Tags shall remain with smoked or filleted lake trout or siscowet until sold to final consumers. Commercial fishers of the outlying waters or licensed wholesale fish dealers shall not be considered final consumers and must be in possession of tags for smoked and filleted lake trout or siscowet.

(i) Tags provided or authorized by the department for tagging lake trout and siscowet shall not be transferred.

(2) **LAKE MICHIGAN CHUB QUOTAS.** (a) The total allowable annual harvest of chubs in Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan and northern Green Bay may not exceed 1,650,000 pounds, not to include incidental catches allowed elsewhere in this chapter. No more than 200,000 pounds of the total may be taken in those waters of Lake Michigan north of a line extending due east from the red navigational buoy marking the entrance of Baileys Harbor, this portion to be taken only during the period from July 1 through December 31.

(b) The department reserves 100,000 pounds of the total annual allowable commercial harvest of chubs to be used for special assessment.

(3) **HARVEST OF FISH FROM LAKE SUPERIOR FOR HOME USE BY LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWAS.** (a) Members of the Bad River and Red Cliff bands of Lake Superior Chippewas may harvest species of fish for which there is an open season therefor, during said season, under home use permits issued by their respective tribal councils.

(b) Home use permits will be issued to the heads of households only, and only one permit will be issued to an individual.

(c) Permittees are restricted to the use of no more than 350 feet of gill net and sale of fish taken pursuant to these permits is prohibited. These fishing activities shall be restricted to waters adjacent to the reservations of the Bad River and Red Cliff bands.

(4) **ALLOCATION.** The harvest quotas established herein shall be allocated to individual commercial fishing licensees in accordance with s. NR 25.07.

History: Cr. Register, September, 1976, No. 249, eff. 10-1-76; emerg. am., eff. 5-16-79; am. Register, October, 1979, No. 286, eff. 11-1-79; am. (2) (a), Register, May, 1981, No. 305, eff. 7-1-81; emerg. am. (1) (b) to (d) and (f), r. (1) (e), eff. 6-24-81; am. (1) (b) to (d) and (f), r. (1) (e), Register, August, 1981, No. 308, eff. 9-1-81; emerg. am. (2) (a), eff. 7-1-82; am. (2) (a), Register, September, 1982, No. 321, eff. 10-1-82.

NR 25.07 Individual licensee catch quotas. (1) **LAKE SUPERIOR.** (a) The allotment of catch quotas as established in s. NR 25.06 to individuals holding licenses authorizing commercial fishing on Lake Superior shall be upon application in accordance with sub. (3), as follows:

1. Each commercial fisher licensed under s. 29.33, Stats., shall receive an individual quota of 4,400 pounds of lake trout; except

2. Each such licensed fisher who fishes with pound or trap nets only shall receive a quota of lake trout in the amount of 3,200 pounds.

3. Whenever that quantity of lake trout allocated in subds. 1. and 2. exceeds the total allowable commercial harvest, individual allocations shall be reduced on a pro rata basis.

(2) **LAKE MICHIGAN.** (a) The allotment of catch quotas as established in NR 25.06 to individuals holding licenses authorizing commercial fishing on Lake Michigan and Green Bay shall be by the Lake Michigan commercial fishing board upon application in accordance with sub. (3) and the following criteria:

1. Chubs. a. Lake Michigan chub permits shall be issued to all applicants meeting the following criteria:

- 1) Presently licensed commercial fishers;
- 2) Ownership of a boat of 35 feet in overall length or longer;
- 3) The boat shall be equipped with a powered net lifter.

b. All fishers meeting the criteria in subd. a. shall be eligible for entry upon application with the following limitations;

1) In those waters commonly referred to as the southern chub fishing area, no more than 450,000 pounds of chubs may be harvested during

Register, September, 1982, No. 321

each of the 3-month periods encompassed by the months of July, August and September, the months of October, November and December, and the months of April, May and June respectively.

2) In those waters commonly referred to as the northern chub fishing area, no more than 100,000 pounds of chubs may be harvested during each of the 3-month periods encompassed by the months of July, August and September, and the months of October, November and December respectively.

3) Should the remaining allowable harvest as of December 31 exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ of the annual allowable harvest, the excess portion shall be allotted to all permittees who reported fishing for chubs during the license year on a pro rata basis, based on their individual reported catches during the period July 1 through December 31.

4) No more than 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of the total quota may be taken by any one vessel or licensee during the license year.

5) In those waters commonly referred to as the southern chub fishing area no permittee may take more than 40% of the maximum established in subpar. b. 4) during any 3-month fishing period.

c. Each permit holder shall submit weekly reports on forms provided by the department. The weekly reports shall be mailed to the department at the address provided on the forms and shall be postmarked no later than the Monday following the weekly report period during the open season. Weekly reports shall be filed by each permit holder regardless of whether the permit holder fished or not.

d. The department shall notify all permit holders to cease fishing upon receipt of information that 85% of the 3-month quota as established in subd. b. 1) and 2) has been harvested except that all nets in the water shall be lifted under s. NR 25.08 (2) (a) 9., and fish therein harvested.

e. The quota for the following 3-month period shall be adjusted based on the actual reported catch of the previous 3-month period.

(3) Applications for individual license year catch quotas shall be made on forms provided by the department and filed with it as designated on those forms no later than March 15 preceding the license year for which a quota is requested.

(4) The harvest quota established by the department from which individuals may be allotted quotas shall not include that poundage reserved for assessment purposes in NR 25.06.

(5) Individual catch quotas determined and issued in accordance with this section shall be issued on a license year basis and be valid only during the open season for the species of fish subject to a harvest quota and only for so long as the applicant holds a valid license authorizing commercial fishing in the waters to which the applicant's quota applies.

(6) Individual catch quotas may not be transferred to another valid licensee authorized to engage in commercial fishing in the waters to

which the applicant's quota applies without review and approval of the commercial fishing board which allotted the quota to the applicant.

History: Cr. Register, September, 1976, No. 249, eff. 10-1-76; emerg. r. and recr. and cr. (2) (a) 1. eff. 5-16-79; r. and recr. Register, October, 1979, No. 286, eff. 11-1-79; r. and recr. (2) (a) 1., Register, June, 1981, No. 306, eff. 7-1-81; emerg. am. (1) (a), eff. 6-24-81; am. (1) (a), Register, August, 1981, No. 308, eff. 9-1-81; emerg. cr. (2) (a) 1. b. 6), eff. 1-2-82; am. (2) (a) (Intro.) Register, April, 1982, No. 316, eff. 5-1-82; emerg. am. (2) (a) 1.b. and c., eff. 7-1-82; am. (2) (a) 1.b. and c. and (3), Register, September, 1982, No. 321, eff. 10-1-82.

NR 25.08 Restricted areas and legal commercial fishing gear. (1)
The following are legal commercial fishing gear when used in the manner provided and areas designated.

(2) LAKE MICHIGAN AND GREEN BAY. (a) Gill nets:

1. Gill nets with a mesh size of not more than 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " stretch measure for the taking of smelt only.

2. Gill nets with a mesh size of 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ " to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " stretch measure in the water of southern Green Bay only.

3. Gill nets with a mesh size of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " stretch measure except such nets may not be used for the taking of chubs in those waters of Lake Michigan lying between a line running due east from the entrance of Keweenaw harbor and a line running due east from the red navigational buoy marking the entrance of Baileys Harbor and in northern Green Bay.

4. Gill nets of 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " stretch measure or less shall not exceed 60 meshes in depth.

5. Gill nets with a mesh size of 4" to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " stretch measure in the waters of southern Green Bay for the taking of rough fish and northern pike in water less than 30 feet in depth from May 20 to March 9, except during the closed season for whitefish. Such nets shall not exceed 30 meshes in depth.

6. Gill nets of mesh size exceeding 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " stretch measure and less than 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " stretch measure may be used only in the waters of Green Bay and of Lake Michigan north of a line running due east from the red navigational buoy marking the entrance of Baileys Harbor. Such gill nets shall not exceed 30 meshes in depth, except $\frac{1}{2}$ can be 50 meshes deep.

7. Gill nets with a mesh size of not less than 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " stretch measure and not more than 12 meshes deep for taking rough fish except during the closed seasons for whitefish and yellow perch.

8. The maximum amount of gill nets of 4" stretch mesh or larger to be employed by any one commercial fishing licensee shall not exceed 12,000 lineal feet in the water at any one time.

9. Gill nets used in open water shall be lifted a minimum of once every 24 hours, except nets need not be lifted on Sunday. Nets fished for chubs in waters deeper than 30 fathoms shall be lifted a minimum of once every 120 hours. Gill nets fished under the ice shall be lifted a minimum of once every 48 hours.

(b) Entrapping nets:

1. Pound nets only when set, placed or operated in not more than 80 feet of water. All pound nets shall be removed from the water or shall