

Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board Meeting
October 11, 2023 5 p.m.

Bayfield DNR Office
141 South Third Street
Bayfield, WI 54814

Remote Option: Microsoft Teams: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board Draft Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** Call to order at 5:00 pm
2. **Roll Call Present:** Craig Hoopman, Chris Boyd, Maurine Halvorson, Bill Bodin Absent: Bryan Bainbridge; Also present: Bruce Prentice, Jessica Resac, Jeff Johnson, Sandy Naas
DNR Present: Brad Ray, Dray Carl, Miranda Westphal, Bob Stroess, Brad Eggold, Justine Hasz, Jack Luessman. Online: Hailey Owen, Ryan Propson, Sharon Moen, Meredith Penthorn
3. **Meeting posting:** meeting was posted as required
4. **Agenda Approval:** Maurine moved, Bill seconded, motion carried
5. **2023APR19 Meeting Minutes Approval:** Bill Moved, Maurine Seconded, Comments about Ian Harding from Red Cliff October fishery and revisited some stats and information. Motion carried
6. **Chairman & Board Member Communications:** None
7. **General Business Discussion:**
 - 7.1 **Old Business:**
 - 7.1.1 **Discussion: October Fishery:** The season starts on October 3rd and ends on October 24th, decision on future will likely be in September of 2024, Bill mentioned from a marketing aspect it is helpful as long as it is sustainable, Gill netting from state fishers not likely because lack of lake trout tags, would maybe use trap nets if possible. Craig is not in favor of it and feels that it should not be happening. Too much of a chance with the change and compare to other areas that allow October fishery. Maurine agreed that the potential for too much harvest is a concern. Lake Michigan does not have much of a fishery left because of allowance of whitefish harvest in October. Concern about catching spawning fish that are congregated at that time of year.
 - 7.2 **New Business**
 - 7.2.1 **Informational: EFHRS survey Results:** Justine gave a presentation about the EFHRS survey. The results were summarized, the survey that went out to EFHRS users and the reason that the survey was sent out was to gain insight into how the first year went and to gain insights into potential needs for the future. DNR staff has entered trap nets for them in past but fishers need to be consistent on inactive and active. The board expressed a desire to have the traps net locations preserved in the system because they have standard positions. Brad explained that changing the system to retain individual net locations is currently cost prohibitive

for the DNR. In lieu, Brad will give a spreadsheet for each fishers' net locations for next year.

7.2.2 Informational: New Liaison/Commercial Contact: Miranda Westphal Miranda introduced herself and explained that she should be the primary contact for all commercial fishers.

7.2.3 Informational: New Marine Warden: Jack Luessman Jack introduced himself as being the primary contact for commercial fishers and on the water issues and handed out business contacts. Ryan Propson shared that there will be a new Bayfield Warden after training is completed. The position has been announced.

7.2.3 Discussion: Cisco and Lake Trout Quota Update: Dray gave an update on the Lake Trout and Cisco quotas proposed in the next cycle. Although it has not been approved, there is a rule before the Natural Resources Board to increase the lake trout quota 18% in WI2, which would be a total of 22,500 fish/tags (7,500 for commercial fishers and 15,000 tags/fish for sport fishers) or 750 tags per commercial license. Brad gave a brief summary of the rule process. Craig said to make sure to message to sport fishers that are benefiting as well from the lake trout quota increase. As a whole, state and tribal fishermen achieved about 70% of overall cisco quota.

7.2.4 Discussion: Cisco Top Net Safety: Floated nets with set anchor decreases drifting and moving of nets. Goal is for when there is a need to leave the anchors in for weather to call LE and they can use discretion if needed about leaving the anchor in for safety reasons.

7.2.3 Discussion: LSCFB agenda items for next meeting: Trap Nets in EFHRS, Lamprey Update, PFAS, cisco age break down and harvest summary in 2023 harvest and rules in MN and Ontario, Rule process.

8. **Public Comment:** Crew cards through GoWild are still on the radar.
9. **Set Next Meeting date:** Tentative Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 5:00 p.m. @ Bayfield DNR office
10. **Adjournment:** Chris motioned, Bill seconded, motion to adjourn at 648 pm