

Integrated Aquatic Plant Management

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Agenda

- Introductions and program overview
- Rulemaking 101
- Planning
- Permitting Process and Public Notification
- Monitoring
- How you can get involved

There will be a 10-minute question period after each section

Laws of Wisconsin – Aquatic Plant Management

State Statute

- Written by Legislature
- Provides direction and clarity
- “General Laws of the state”

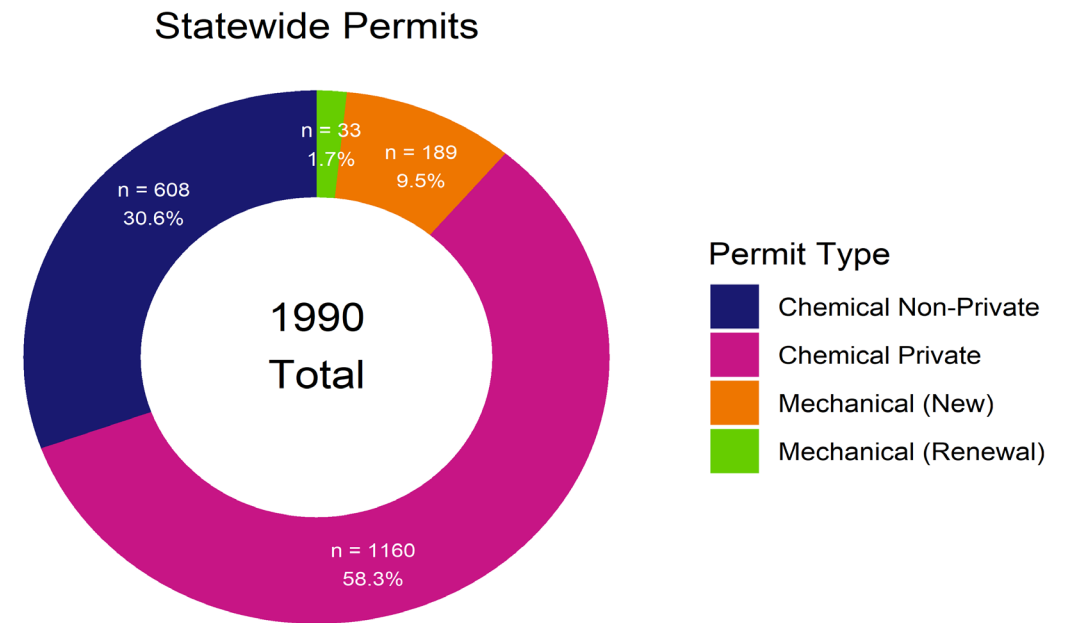
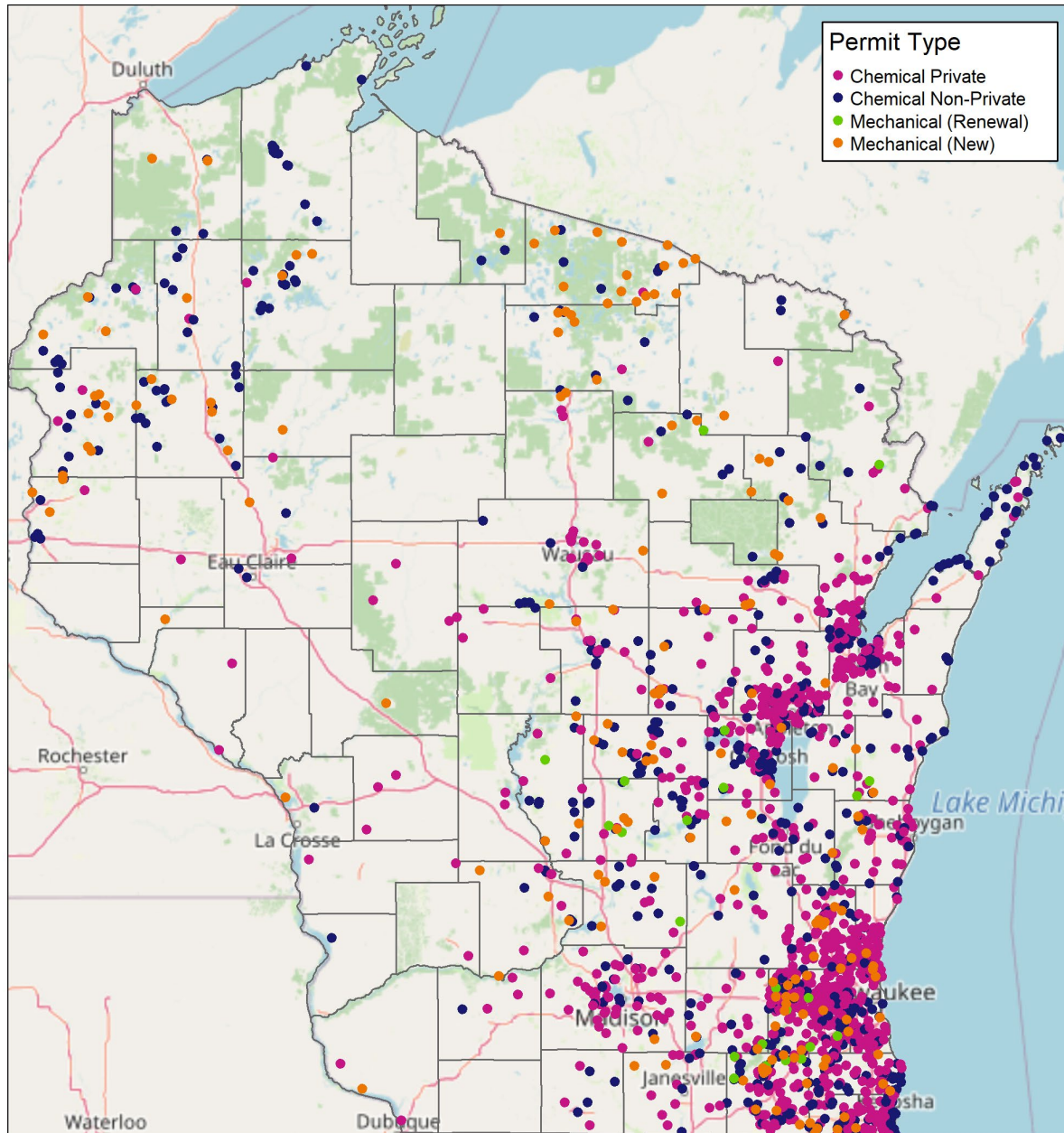
Administrative Rule – NR 107 and 109

- Authority for granted in state statute
- Has the effect of law
- Issued by DNR to interpret and implement state statute
- Use administrative rules to administer programs

Aquatic Plant Management (APM)

- Purpose
 - Recognize balanced aquatic plant communities vital for healthy aquatic ecosystems
 - Regulate the management of aquatic plants and other aquatic organisms
 - Prevent and control the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species
- Goals
 - Avoid then minimize harm to the plant community and ecosystem
- Management
 - Chemical, mechanical, manual, biological and physical controls

2019 Permit Data



What Drives APM?

- Social and Ecological Factors
 - Historically: “nuisance aquatic plants”
 - The challenge – nuisance is subjective
 - Now: Aquatic Invasive Species and Nuisance Control
 - AIS drives a majority of lake management in the state
- AIS Population Control
 - Changes the goals of management over time
 - Changes the reasons for management over time

What Prompted the Rule Change?

- Rule Development – “Clean Up and Clarify Expectations”
- Operationally - Back to Basics
 - Identify problem(s) on a waterbody
 - Set realistic management goals
 - Identify all potential management solutions
 - Implement control measures
 - Observe and analyze effects and outcomes
 - *Repeat as needed
- Streamlined, Integrated Management
 - IPM, Integrated plans and permits, BMP's

Administrative Rule Revisions

- Up to a 30-month process
- 6 phases – with approximately 11 major steps
- We are in Phase 4 – Public Hearings

- If you want to learn more:
 - Google Search: WI DNR proposed rules
 - All DNR Rules Webpage: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html>
 - APM Program Webpage: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/plants/rules>

Keep in Mind...

All proposals in this rule draft are just that, proposals

Nothing is set in stone

We want your input on what needs more thought in this rule and why

Questions?

10 minutes

Planning

What Is Integrated Pest Management?

- Decision making strategy
- Focus:
 - Long term control
 - Effective management to achieve goals
- Takes:
 - Information about how the pest interacts with other species and the lake ecosystem.
 - Information about the lake itself (water quality, wildlife, habitat, development)
- Considers:
 - All of the available management options

How can IPM help with APM?

- Effective and environmentally sensitive approach
- Uses all of the available tools
 - Prevent pest species tolerance to any one control technique
 - Reduces compounding impacts from repeated use of one tool
- Incorporates monitoring and evaluation

AIS management is a long-term commitment

Who Will Need a Plan?

- You will need a plan if you are:
 - Conducting large scale management
 - Managing AIS populations
 - Controlling aquatic plants for navigation beyond riparian access zones.
- You will not need a plan if:
 - Controlling a pioneering NR 40 prohibited species.
 - Working under an existing Surface Water Planning Grant.
 - Operating under a DNR made Best Management Practice.
 - Creating a riparian access lane to open water

How will the planning process work?

- Every five years, folks will need a plan
- Plans will:
 - Outline clear goals and objectives
 - Name situations when control is needed
 - List what types of control may be used in different situations
 - Outline a plan to set future goals
- You will need plant data, water quality data and basic habitat data.
- Plans will be built off templates provided by DNR
 - Focused, simple, easy to follow.
 - Data found on DNR webpages.

How will the planning process work?

- Timeline:
 - Let your biologist know you intend to write a plan 30 days out
 - Biologist may request a meeting to check in.
 - Once plan is written, hold a 21-day public comment period
 - Advertise two ways: local newspaper and one other medium
 - Add all comments as an appendix to your plan
 - Submit plan to biologist
 - At least 60 days before submitting a permit
 - Biologist has 45 days to review the plan, provide feedback, approve plan.

What about plan updates?

- In some situations, plan updates can be streamlined:
 - Supply a PI survey and updated management history of the last 5 years.
 - If data shows no changes needed to plan, then biologist can approve plan for an additional 5 years.

Questions?

10 minutes

Permit Process and Public Notification

- Fee Increase: \$75 base, \$50/acre capped at \$2,500
- Public Notification
 - Submit permit through ePermitting
 - All lake permits posted on DNR webpage for 14 days
- Issuance Timelines:
 - 45 days for wild rice waters or waters in the Ceded Territory
 - 30 days for permits with large scale effects
 - 21 days all other permits (this is the same as now, 15 business days)

Riparian Notification

- A copy of the application should be sent to all affected persons or organizations on the body of water.
 - Do this within 5 days of submitting permit to the DNR
- How this is done is up to the permittee, there are options
- Why?
 - Public waters = shared waters.
 - Everyone has the right to know what's going on in and the lake.

Your permit is approved, now what?

- Notify your lake of upcoming control
 - Post two signs at all public access points
 - 5-day window after permit approved
- Signs will Include
 - Control dates, map of control areas and URL's to permit and plan
 - Signs up and visible until all control is done for the season
 - DNR will have template signage for permit holder use.
- Why include this requirement?
 - Public waters = shared waters
 - May be the best way to let members of the public know what's going on.

Questions

10 minutes

Monitoring and Large Scale Control

What's the big deal with large scale control?

- Time consuming and costly to plan and conduct
- Purpose of APM program - *Protect aquatic habitat*

So, we should make sure that:

1. Control worked as planned, met our goals
2. Control didn't cause unnecessary harm to fish, wildlife, plants, water quality

Monitoring is a key component of IPM, it's smart management.

Large Scale Chemical

- Control is “large scale” when it affects a significant part of the lake, stream reach or wetland.
- Chemicals can quickly move through water and often have affects beyond where they are applied.

Large scale chemical – calculation shows control will affect most or all the body of water

- Calculation will be part of the permit application, if calculation shows there will not be large scale impacts, monitoring not required.

Large Scale Mechanical

- Affects from mechanical or manual removal is site specific.
- Large scale mechanical – Control is over more than 50% of the littoral area

What kind of monitoring is required?

- A Point Intercept survey before and after control.
- PI Survey
 - Uses a boat, GPS and rake
 - Sampler uses a rake to gather information about the types of plants and their abundance levels.
 - Consistent and repeatable monitoring technique
 - Look over time at the same lake to see changes.

How will the data be used?

- Lake association, consultant, applicant, DNR all reviewing the same information.
- Any data collected for large scale control will:
 - Be included in the next plan update summary
 - Be used to evaluate the success of the control
 - Be used to evaluate the effects of control on the aquatic habitat
- Over time, the data will build on itself, to inform smart decisions about lake management.

Is there any other monitoring?

If you are not doing large scale control on your lake, no.

However, the application will ask for a verification of the target species.

This can be accomplished with a photo or past monitoring data from planning.

Questions?

10 minutes

What's Next?

- Draft rule is open for public comment
 - Now to March 1st.
- Public Hearing:
 - February 22nd, at 1 PM.
 - You may provide written comments or register to speak at the hearing.
- Then, DNR will consider all of your comments during final edits

How Can You Get Involved?

- Go to Program's Webpage for Helpful Background Information:
 - Google Search: WDNR apm rules
 - Program Webpage: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/plants/rules>
 - DNR Rules Webpage:
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html>
- Attend public hearing on February 22nd.
- Provide written comments to Madi Johansen between now and March 1st.

Helpful and Effective Input

- We want clear, direct comments from you.
- Helpful Comments:
 - Are relevant
 - Are specific
 - Provide real-world examples of how a policy may or may not affect you.
 - If comment is in opposition, the comment provides an alternative suggestion for consideration.
 - If comment is in support, the comment states why and how the policy is good.
- Saying, “I don’t like X...” will only get you so far ;)

How will we use your comments?

- We will consider all of the comments received between now and March 1st.
- We will weigh the pros and cons of different options based on public input and DNR constraints
- We will make final edits to the draft board order, showing what changes were made based on public input.
- We will send that version to the Natural Resources Board, Governor and Legislature for approval.

Other Opportunities to Engage with APM

- Wisconsin Lakes Convention
 - Workshop on new program components
 - Session on rule updates

Final Questions?

Thanks for listening in!

CONNECT WITH US

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"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"