

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis

<p>1. Type of Estimate and Analysis</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/>Original <input type="checkbox"/>Updated <input type="checkbox"/>Corrected</p>	<p>2. Date</p> <p>03/24/2025</p>
<p>3. Administrative Rule Chapter, Title and Number (and Clearinghouse Number if applicable)</p> <p>Ch. NR 20 (Fishing: Inland Waters; Outlying Waters); Ch. NR 21 (Wisconsin-Minnesota Boundary Waters)</p>	
<p>4. Subject</p> <p>Board Order FH-10-24 relating to changes to fishing regulations on inland, outlying and boundary waters - the 2025 Fisheries Management Spring Hearing rule</p>	
<p>5. Fund Sources Affected</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>GPR <input type="checkbox"/>FED <input type="checkbox"/>PRO <input type="checkbox"/>PRS <input type="checkbox"/>SEG <input type="checkbox"/>SEG-S</p>	<p>6. Chapter 20, Stats. Appropriations Affected</p>
<p>7. Fiscal Effect of Implementing the Rule</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>No Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/>Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/>Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/>Decrease Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/>Decrease Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>Could Absorb Within Agency's Budget</p>	
<p>8. The Rule Will Impact the Following (Check All That Apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>State's Economy <input type="checkbox"/>Specific Businesses/Sectors <input type="checkbox"/>Local Government Units <input type="checkbox"/>Public Utility Rate Payers <input type="checkbox"/>Small Businesses (if checked, complete Attachment A)</p>	
<p>9. Estimate of Implementation and Compliance to Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(1).</p> <p>\$0</p> <p>No implementation or compliance costs to anglers or businesses are expected as a result of this rule. Anglers and businesses will not be required to purchase any special gear or pay any new fees to comply with this rule.</p>	
<p>10. Would Implementation and Compliance Costs Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals Be \$10 Million or more Over Any 2-year Period, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(2)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>No</p>	
<p>11. Policy Problem Addressed by the Rule</p> <p>This rule will serve several purposes, including applying fishing regulations to waters to accomplish management goals, such as 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. Changing these regulations will help sustain quality fish populations and fishing opportunities around the state.</p>	
<p>12. Summary of the Businesses, Business Sectors, Associations Representing Business, Local Governmental Units, and Individuals that may be Affected by the Proposed Rule that were Contacted for Comments.</p> <p>The department will hold a comment period in April 2025 to gain input on the anticipated economic effects. The primary entities who will be affected by the proposed rules are recreational anglers and fishing-associated businesses, but no economic impacts to these groups are anticipated. We do not anticipate any statewide economic impacts.</p>	
<p>13. Identify the Local Governmental Units that Participated in the Development of this EIA.</p> <p>We do not anticipate any impacts on local governmental units as a result of implementing this rule. The department will hold a comment period in April 2025 to gauge potential economic impacts.</p>	
<p>14. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Specific Businesses, Business Sectors, Public Utility Rate Payers, Local Governmental Units and the State's Economy as a Whole (Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)</p> <p>These proposed rules would modify fishing regulations with a management objective of providing excellent fishing</p>	

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opportunities statewide. The impact of these rules is expected to be minimal (less than \$50,000), as any economic impacts generated by angler spending is generally beneficial to the state.

The department anticipates a minimal fiscal impact resulting from the rule. DNR currently conducts a variety of activities related to managing fisheries, selling licenses, providing law enforcement services, and related research. The department will continue to conduct the same activities under the regulations proposed in this rule and does not anticipate any new or reduced expenditures for those activities.

15. Benefits of Implementing the Rule and Alternative(s) to Implementing the Rule

These proposed rules would result in continuing to provide excellent fishing opportunities for a variety of species on waterbodies across the state while maintaining healthy fish populations. The economic impacts that result from spending by anglers will continue to benefit retail businesses and service providers in every corner of the state. Continually evaluating the condition of our waters and responding with regulations that maximize the productivity of those waters is necessary to maintain and improve fishing opportunities. These proposed rule changes are expected to be cost-neutral; any negative economic impacts due to variation in angler activities or fishing effort as a result of these proposed changes are likely to be offset by the beneficial economic impact of strong local fisheries and sustainable fishing populations.

Wisconsin is consistently among the top ten states in the number of anglers and in the amount of angler expenditures. Based on the 2022 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation from the USFWS, 1,366,450 resident & non-resident anglers spent \$2.4 Billion while fishing in Wisconsin. Retail sales had a total multiplier or ripple effect of \$2.6 million and more than 20,600 jobs are supported by the retail expenditures of anglers. State and local tax generated by anglers in Wisconsin are estimated to total \$187 million.

16. Long Range Implications of Implementing the Rule

Managing for balanced fisheries that provide excellent fishing opportunities and meet the interests of many types of anglers will maintain broad participation in fishing as anglers take advantage of these opportunities. The economic activity that results from Wisconsin's popular sport fisheries will also endure well into the future.

17. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Federal Government

No federal regulations apply. None of the rule proposals violate or conflict with federal regulations. Individual state or provincial agencies are responsible for managing fisheries within their state boundaries and each jurisdiction has their own decision making process.

18. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Neighboring States (Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota)

All of Wisconsin's surrounding states utilize comparable harvest regulations as tools to distribute angler harvest and manage for high quality fisheries. They utilize general regulations that apply to many bodies of water and, when appropriate, apply specialized regulations on specific waterbodies or in regional areas.

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ATTACHMENT A

1. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Small Businesses (Separately for each Small Business Sector, Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)

2. Summary of the data sources used to measure the Rule's impact on Small Businesses

3. Did the agency consider the following methods to reduce the impact of the Rule on Small Businesses?

- Less Stringent Compliance or Reporting Requirements
- Less Stringent Schedules or Deadlines for Compliance or Reporting
- Consolidation or Simplification of Reporting Requirements
- Establishment of performance standards in lieu of Design or Operational Standards
- Exemption of Small Businesses from some or all requirements
- Other, describe:

4. Describe the methods incorporated into the Rule that will reduce its impact on Small Businesses

5. Describe the Rule's Enforcement Provisions

6. Did the Agency prepare a Cost Benefit Analysis (if Yes, attach to form)

Yes No
