

The statement of scope for this rule, SS 040-25, was approved by the Governor on July 10, 2025, published in Register No. 835A2 on July 14, 2025, and approved by the Natural Resources Board on August 13, 2025. This rule was approved by the Governor on insert date.

**ORDER OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
REPEALING, AMENDING, AND CREATING RULES**

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board proposes an order to **repeal** NR 20.19 (2) (b), 20.20 (9) (d) 1. as affected by CR 25-032, (17) (g) 2. as affected by CR 25-032, (18) (g) 1. and 2. as affected by CR 25-032, 21.02 (1), (11), and (20), 21.11 (3) (d), 22.02 (1), 22.12 (17), 25.06 (2) (e) 2. d., 25.09 (1) (am) 7., and (b) 9., 25.10 (1) (b) 1., 25.135 (2); to **amend** NR 8.045 (1) (a) 3., 19.001 (3m), 19.05 (4), 20.03 (18), 20.12 (2) (a) and (d), 20.16 (1) (a) (intro.), 20.20 (4) (f) 1., (20) (b) 3., (22) (e) 4. as affected by CR 25-032, (47) (f) 1m. as affected by CR 25-032, (49) (f) 2., (51) (h) 2., (56) (a) 1. and 2., and (d) 1. and 2., (64) (i) 1., (70) (a) 4., (73) (a) 2. and 3., 20.33 (1) (a) (intro.), 4. and 5., (b) (intro.), 3. and 4., and (c), 21.02 (4), (9), (10) and (16), 21.11 (1) (cf) and (h), (2) (c) 1., (4) (a), (c) 1., and (f), 21.13 (4) (d), 22.02 (5) and (15), 22.11 (8), (9), (19), and (22), 22.13 (4) (d), 25.027 (36), (41) and (47), 25.03 (1) (c) 1. to 3., and (2) (c) 1. to 3., 25.05 (1) (g), (gm), and (gn), and (2), 25.06 (2) (e) 2. b., 25.09 (1) (ah) 1. and 2., (as) 2. and 3., (b) 2. and 11., (bm) 1., (e), 25.10 (1) (b) (intro.) and 2., 3., 4. 5., 6., 9., and 10., 25.10 (1) (c), 25.135 (1) (title), (a) (intro.), (a) 2., and (b), 25.18 (1) (b) 1. and 2., (c) 1. to 4., and (d) 1., 2., and 4., 26.01 (57) (f), 26.02 (1) and (2), 104.20 (5); and to **create** NR 19.001 (3m) (note), 20.03 (31m), 21.02 (2m), (16m), and (32m), 22.02 (3m), (8m), (15m), and (29m), 25.02 (2), (29), (32), (33), and (56m), 25.05 (1) (gl), 25.10 (1) (b) 3m., and (e), and 25.135 (1) (c) relating to minor changes, corrections, and clarifications to fishing regulations on inland, outlying and boundary waters (the 2025 Fisheries Management housekeeping rule).

FH-19-24

Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources

1. Statute Interpreted: Sections 29.014, 29.041, 29.053 (2), 29.424, and 29.519 (1m) (b), Stats., have been interpreted as authorizing the department to conserve and regulate the fish supply in waters of the state while continuing to provide opportunities for good fishing.

2. Statutory Authority: Sections 29.014, 29.041, 29.053 (2), 29.424, and 29.519 (1m) (b), Stats., authorize this rule.

3. Explanation of Agency Authority: Section 29.014, Stats., “rule-making for this chapter,” grants the department the authority to establish and maintain open and closed seasons, bag limits, size limits and other conditions that will conserve fish populations and provide good fishing opportunities for the citizens of the state.

Section 29.041, Stats., provides that the department may regulate fishing on and in all interstate boundary waters and outlying waters.

Section 29.053 (2), Stats., provides that the department may establish conditions governing the taking of fish for the state as a whole, for counties or parts of counties, or for waterbodies or parts of waterbodies.

Section 29.424, Stats., authorizes the department to designate species of fish as detrimental in waters of the state where it is found to be detrimental, and may remove these fish or cause them to be removed.

Additional authorities granted to the department through s. 29.519 (1m) (b), Stats., include the authority to designate the size, kind and amount of gear allowed for commercially harvesting fish, the authority to restrict the number of commercial fishing licenses issued, and the authority to designate areas in outlying waters as restricted to commercial fishing operations. This section also specifies that the limitations on commercial harvests, licenses, restricted areas, and gear must be based on the available harvestable population of fish and must uphold the wise use and conservation of the fish to prevent overexploitation.

4. Related Statutes or Rules: No related statutes or rules apply.

5. Plain Language Analysis:

This rule is minor in nature and mainly clarifies regulations, codifies existing department policies to ensure consistency in implementation, corrects outdated language and drafting errors, removes obsolete provisions, updates cross-references and points of reference, and addresses inconsistencies in administrative code language. Changes to chs. NR 22 and 25 related to commercial fishing regulations will aid the department and stakeholders in interpreting and implementing these chapters. This rule will not impose new regulations on commercial fishers as the changes are minor nature. Some of these changes also make administrative code consistent with regulation changes that were implemented using the process outlined in s. NR 20.35, Wis. Admin. Code, which allows the department to remove a special regulation or implement a predefined alternate regulation through a public notice period and public meeting, if requested. This rule contains the NR 20.35 changes that have been implemented since the previous housekeeping rule.

SECTION 1 clarifies that a valid state-issued identification card is an acceptable form of identification to purchase authorizations as allowed by state statute.

SECTIONS 2, 4, 18, 26, 69, and 85 remove culturally offensive references and replace them with updated location names and terminology.

SECTION 5 defines when a fish comes into an angler's possession. Codifying this definition is necessary to clearly identify the parameters for enforcing possession limit regulations.

SECTIONS 6, 22, 49, 50, 63, 69-78, 82-84, 86 and 87 update the Lake Superior, Lake Michigan tributaries, major Green Bay tributaries and other boundary waters and zones with GPS coordinates that identify exactly where they begin and end with respect to commercial fishing and sport fishing regulations. This is necessary to help commercial fishers, sport fishers, and law enforcement accurately and uniformly identify where specific regulations are in effect.

SECTION 7 clarifies that a person is allowed to use more than 5 set or bank poles or use more than 25 hooks when using setlines authorized in chs. NR 21 or NR 22. Chapter NR 21 allows up to 400 hooks if distributed on 8 setlines with max of 50 hooks per line or 4 setlines with max of 100 hooks per line and Chapter NR 22 allows up to 600 hooks if distributed on up to 12 setlines with a max of 50 hooks per line or 6 setlines with a max of 100 hooks per line, so this section clears up that contradiction.

SECTIONS 8, 14 and 16 update code to reflect errors or omissions that were inadvertently made when a previous rule package was approved.

SECTION 9 updates code to reflect that the unlimited panfish possession limit for this waterbody has reverted to the statewide regulation.

SECTIONS 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, and 21 update code to reflect bag limit changes that were made through the NR 20.35 process.

SECTION 19 clarifies that the boundary is the highway itself instead of a bridge that is no longer present.

SECTION 23 establishes that a catch and release season is an option to put in place when a waterbody is experiencing a temporary water level reduction.

SECTIONS 24, 27, 29, 42, 46 are definitions that are repealed because the terms are not relevant to the respective chapters.

SECTIONS 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, and 48 update or create definitions of various terms related to commercial fishing.

SECTIONS 32, 45, 59, 60, 61, 65, 66, and 67 clarify language related to requirements for the use of various commercial fishing gear. These sections do not change current regulations, but more clearly lay out the requirements for the gear, as well as how and where it should be used.

SECTION 33 clarifies that gill nets are prohibited on the St. Croix River.

SECTIONS 35 and 36 clarify the dates when certain commercial fishing is allowed on specific waters.

SECTION 37 clarifies when and how buoys should be used with setlines in open water and in ice.

SECTIONS 38 and 47 clarify that Blanding's turtles or threatened or endangered turtles may not be kept as incidental take by commercial fishers.

SECTIONS 51 and 52 clarify that commercial fishers must be licensed by the DNR as commercial fishers.

SECTIONS 53 and 55 update language to be consistent with the verbiage used elsewhere in the chapter.

SECTION 54 is created to clarify that bullheads, catfish, and white bass have no open seasons in Green Bay and Lake Michigan and are open year-round in Lake Superior. It was previously listed under a section that had exemptions, but the exemptions did not apply to those species.

SECTION 56 clarifies the appropriate way to measure a fish.

SECTIONS 57 and 58 remove language applicable to past years.

SECTIONS 79 and 80 make the regulations for fleet reporting consistent between Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

SECTION 88 updates a waterbody name with the official USGS name as required by state statute.

6. Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal Statutes and Regulations: No federal regulations apply. States possess inherent authority to manage the fishery and wildlife resources within their boundaries, except insofar as preempted by federal treaties and laws, including regulations established in the Federal Register.

7. If Held, Summary of Comments Received During Preliminary Comment Period and at Public Hearing on the Statement of Scope: A preliminary hearing was not required for this rule.

8. Comparison with Similar Rules in Adjacent States: Fisheries management rules are generally similar in the states surrounding Wisconsin. Each bordering state regulates fishing by the use of seasons, bag limits and size limits. Specific seasons and bag and size limits may differ for species among the surrounding states, but the general principles are the same. Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois all have statewide seasons and bag and size limits for fish species, along with special or experimental regulations on individual waters.

9. Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies Used and How Any Related Findings

Support the Regulatory Approach Chosen: Fishing regulations, such as length and bag limits or season dates, are used as a tool to ensure that good fishing exists into the future. The department has used different types of fishing regulations in order to: control angler impacts on fish populations; maintain numbers and sizes of fish in a lake or stream; provide different types of fishing experiences, such as fishing for dinner or for a trophy fish; and make access to fishing as fair as possible.

This rule includes minor changes to administrative code that support existing policies and fisheries management goals. The items in this rule have been compiled by fisheries staff across the state, as well as department law enforcement professionals.

10. Analysis and Supporting Documents Used to Determine the Effect on Small Business or in Preparation of an Economic Impact Report: The proposed rule is not expected to have any economic impact on sport anglers or commercial fishers. As with any change in regulations, there will be a requirement for anglers to learn the new rules. However, a majority of this rule change clarifies code to reflect existing policies for which anglers must already comply. The department works to notify the public of new regulations via press releases, the internet, and fishing regulations pamphlets.

The department will conduct an economic impact analysis and comment period to determine if any individuals, businesses, local governments, or other entities will be affected economically.

11. Effect on Small Business (initial regulatory flexibility analysis): The department expects no economic impact directly related to these rule changes. The proposed rule does not impose any compliance or reporting requirements on small businesses nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule.

12. Agency Contact Person: Kari Lee-Zimmermann, 608-316-0080, Kari.LeeZimmermann@Wisconsin.gov

13. Place where comments are to be submitted and deadline for submission:

Written comments may be submitted at the public hearings, by regular mail, or email to:

Kari Lee-Zimmermann
Department of Natural Resources, FH/4
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
608-316-0080; Kari.LeeZimmermann@wisconsin.gov

Comments may be submitted to the department contact person listed above or to DNRAAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov until the deadline given in the upcoming notice of public hearing. The notice of public hearing and deadline for submitting comments will be published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register and on the department's website, at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/calendar/>. Comments may also be submitted through the Wisconsin Administrative Rules Website at <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/active>.

RULE TEXT

SECTION 1. NR 8.045 (1) (a) 3. is amended to read:

NR 8.045 (1) (a) 3. An authenticated, current, non-expired Wisconsin operator's license issued by the department of transportation, of the type required under s. 343.18 (1), Stats., or an authenticated, current, non-expired Wisconsin state identification card issued by the department of transportation under s. 343.50, Stats.

SECTION 2. NR 19.001 (3m) is amended to read:

NR 19.001 (3m) "AsianInvasive carp" means bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*), grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), and all other non-native carp species except common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), goldfish (*Carassius auratus*), and koi carp (*Cyprinus carpio* or *Cyprinus rubrofuscus*).

SECTION 3. NR 19.001 (3m) (note) is created to read:

NR 19.001 (3m) Note: "Invasive carp" has the same meaning as "Asian carp" in s. 29.001 (74), Stats.

SECTION 4. NR 19.05 (4) is amended to read:

NR 19.05 (4) Except as authorized under permits pursuant to ch. NR 40 and 50 CFR 16.22, no person may transport AsianInvasive carp over land within or through Wisconsin unless the AsianInvasive carp have been eviscerated or the gills plate completely severed so that the fish cannot be revived under any circumstances.

SECTION 5. NR 20.03 (31m) is created to read:

NR 20.03 (31m) "Possession of a fish" means the angler has control of the fish longer than necessary to retrieve the fish, remove a hook, measure or weigh the fish, take a photograph to document the catch, and to revive it before release. If the angler who caught the fish resumes

fishing while the fish is being revived, then the fish has been reduced to possession and is counted towards the angler's daily bag limit.

SECTION 6. NR 20.03 (18) is amended to read:

NR 20.03 (18) "Lake Michigan tributaries" means the Pike river and its tributaries, Kenosha and Racine counties; Kewaunee river and its tributaries excluding Little Scarboro, Scarboro, Roger and Casco creeks, Kewaunee county; Manitowoc river and its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake, Manitowoc county; Milwaukee river upstream to the Grafton dam in the village of Grafton and tributaries to the Milwaukee river upstream to the first dam or lake; Menomonee river upstream to the Lepper dam in the village of Menomonee Falls and tributaries to the Menomonee river upstream to the first dam or lake; Sauk creek and its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake, Ozaukee county; Sheboygan river downstream to the ~~east guard station~~center of the 8th street bridge located at coordinates 43°44'40.4"N 87°42'46.8"W and its tributaries excluding Unnamed tributary (locally known as Willow creek), Sheboygan county; and all other tributaries to Lake Michigan upstream to the first dam or lake.

SECTION 7. NR 20.12 (2) (a) and (d) are amended to read:

NR 20.12 (2) (a) Use, set, lift, attend or possess more than 5 set or bank poles, except when the use of a setline is authorized under ch. NR 21 or 22.

(d) Use, set, lift or attend a setline with more than 25 hooks, except when the use of a setline is authorized under ch. NR 21 or 22.

SECTION 8. NR 20.16 (1) (a) (intro.) is amended to read:

NR 20.16 (1) (a) *Open season and waters.* Except as specified in sub. (2), there is an open season for trout from 5:00 a.m. on the first Saturday in January through the Friday preceding the first Saturday in MayApril on the following waters:

SECTION 9. NR 20.19 (2) (b) is repealed.

SECTION 10. NR 20.20 (4) (f) 1. is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(4) BAYFIELD (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(f) Panfish	1. Bladder lake, Sawdust lakes; Middle Eau Claire lake, Bony lake	a. Hook and line	Continuous	10 in total	None

SECTION 11. NR 20.20 (9) (d) 1. as affected by CR 25-032 is repealed.

SECTION 12. NR 20.20 (17) (g) 2. as affected by CR 25-032 is repealed.

SECTION 13. NR 20.20 (18) (g) 1. and 2. as affected by CR 25-032 are repealed.

SECTION 14. NR 20.20 (20) (b) 3. is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(20) FOND DU LAC (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(b) Northern pike	3. Kettle Moraine lake, Long lake, <u>Sheboygan river</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5	None

SECTION 15. NR 20.20 (22) (e) 4. as affected by CR 25-032 is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(22)	GRANT (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))				
(e) Trout and salmon	4. Blue river upstream from Snow Bottom road, Bronson creek downstream from Vavricka road, Doc Smith branch from Castle Rock creek upstream to 0.5 miles upstream from Everson road, Castle Rock creek and spring from the third county highway Q bridge (T7N R1W S30 SESW) upstream to Church road, Little Platte river from Waterfall road upstream to state highway 80	a. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	First Saturday in April at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	All trout caught shall be immediately released	--

SECTION 16. NR 20.20 (47) (f) 1m. as affected by CR 25-032 is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(47) PEPIN (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(f) Trout and salmon	1m. Plum creek, Eau Galle river	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in April at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	5 in total	None, except only one fish may be longer than 12

SECTION 17. NR 20.20 (49) (f) 2. is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(49) POLK (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(f) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. Balsam lake, Big Round lake, Big Butternut lake, Half Moon lake, Pipe and North Pipe lakes combined, Ward lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3	18

SECTION 18. NR 20.20 (51) (h) 2. is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE

						RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(51)	PRICE (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(h) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. Pike chain of lakes (Amik lake, Pike lake, Round lake, Turner lake, and connecting waters combined), Solberg lake (including its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake);	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 24 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 24	

The daily bag limit and length restrictions apply separately to each of the following sections of the Elk river and its impoundments, sloughs, and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake: Elk river upstream from the Lac Sault Dore dam (including Lac Sault Dore and Grassy lake) to Jobes dam, Elk river upstream from Jobes dam to Musser Flowage dam

(including Phillips
chain of lakes: Duroy,
Elk, Long, Wilson
lakes, and connecting
waters and ~~Squaw~~
~~erreek~~Aabajijiwani-
ziibiinsing upstream
to Solberg dam);
The daily bag limit
and length restrictions
apply separately to
each of the following
sections of the North
Fork Flambeau river
and its
impoundments,
sloughs, and
tributaries upstream
to the first dam, lake,
or fish refuge: Upper
Park Falls Flowage
dam upstream to the
Turtle-Flambeau
flowage in Iron
County, Lower Park
Falls Flowage dam
upstream to Upper
Park Falls Flowage
dam, Pixley Flowage
dam upstream to
Lower Park Falls
Flowage dam,
Crowley Flowage
dam upstream to

Pixley Flowage dam,
 Big Falls Flowage
 dam in Rusk county
 (Flambeau river)
 upstream to Crowley
 Flowage dam (North
 Flambeau
 river); South Fork
 Flambeau river
 upstream from its
 confluence with the
 Flambeau river and its
 impoundments,
 sloughs, and
 tributaries
 upstream to the first
 dam or lake including
 Elk river upstream
 from its confluence
 with the South Fork
 Flambeau river to Lac
 Sault Dore dam

SECTION 19. NR 20.20 (56) (a) 1. and 2., and (d) 1. are amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(56)	SAUK (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))				

(a) Catfish	1. Lower Wisconsin river from the Prairie du Sac dam downstream to the U.S. highway 12 bridge	a. Hook and line	First	10 in total	None
			Saturday in May to November		
			30		
	b. Bow and arrow, crossbow	First	5 channel, 1 flathead		None
		Saturday in May to November			
		30			
	c. By hand	June 1 to	5 channel,		None
		August 31	1 flathead		
	2. Lower Wisconsin river downstream from the U.S. highway 12 bridge	a. Hook and line, set or bank pole, setline	Continuous	10 in total	None
		b. Bow and arrow, crossbow	Continuous	5 channel, 1 flathead	None
		c. By hand	June 1 to	5 channel,	None
			August 31	1 flathead	
(d)	1. Redstone lake, Wisconsin river downstream to the U.S. highway 12 bridge including sloughs, bayous and flowages upstream to	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to December	1	50

the first dam or
highway bridge

SECTION 20. NR 20.20 (64) (i) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(64) VILAS (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))					
(i) Walleye, 1. Big Portage lake, sauger and hybrids	a. Hook and Eagle chain (includes Catfish lake, Cranberry lake, Duck lake, Eagle lake, Lynx lake, Otter lake, Scattering Rice lake, Voyageur lake, Watersmeet lake including Wisconsin river from Otter Rapids dam to county highway G, Yellow Birch lake, and all connecting waters and Eagle river upstream to the Long lake (Burnt Rollways) dam in Oneida county combined), Forest lake, Lost Canoe lake, Plum lake, West Plum lake	line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	None except the possession of fish from 14 to 18 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 18

2. Big lake (T42N R6E S4), Big Arbor Vitae lake, Big Muskellunge lake, Birch lake, Boulder lake, Crab lake, Harris lake, Ike Walton lake, Island lake, Little Arbor Vitae lake, North Crab lake, North Turtle lake, Oxbow lake, Presque Isle chain (Averill lake, Presque Isle lake, and Van Vliet lake combined), Rock lake, South Turtle lake, Amber lake (on Oneida county border), Star lake, Sherman lake (on Oneida county border), Squirrel lake, Three lakes chain (includes Big, Big Fork, Big Stone, Deer, Dog, Fourmile, Island, Laurel, Little Fork, Long, Medicine, Moccasin, Mud, Planting Ground, Rangeline, Round, Spirit, Townline, Virgin, and Whitefish lakes and all connecting waters and Eagle river	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	None but only 1 may be longer than 14
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downstream to the
Long Lake (Burnt
Rollways) dam
combined)

SECTION 21. NR 20.20 (70) (a) 4. is amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON (both dates inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)
(70)	WAUSHARA (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))				
(a)	4. Huron lake, <u>Irogami</u> lake, <u>Pearl lake</u> , and <u>Pleasant lake</u> smallmouth bass	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None for largemouth bass, 14 for smallmouth bass
			Monday following the first Sunday in March to the Friday preceding the first Saturday in May	0	None

SECTION 22. NR 20.20 (73) (a) 2. and 3. are amended to read:

COUNTY AND SPECIES	WATERS	AUTHORIZED METHODS	OPEN SEASON	DAILY BAG LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH OR OTHER SIZE
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			(both dates inclusive)	RESTRICTIONS (INCHES)	
(73)	SPECIES OR WATERS NOT LISTED IN SUBS. (1) TO (72)				
(a) All species	2. Peshtigo river upstream to the first railroad bridge <u>located</u> at <u>coordinates</u> <u>45°02'50.5"N,</u> <u>87°44'42.3"W,</u> Marinette county; Oconto river and tributaries except the Little river downstream from <u>the upstream side</u> of the highway 141 bridge <u>located at coordinates</u> <u>44°51'31.4"N,</u> <u>88°02'55.3"W,</u> Oconto county	a. From September 15 to the first Saturday in May	As specified in this subsection	As specified in this subsection	As specified in this subsection

For the purposes of this section, the following Green Bay tributaries begin upstream of these coordinates:

Peshtigo river,
44°58'30.1"N,
87°39'18.3"W,
Marinette county;
Oconto river,
44°53'42.3"N,
87°49'45.8"W, Oconto county; Little river,

center of Stiles road,

located at coordinates

44°52'00.6"N,

87°59'40.3"W, Oconto

county

3. Lake Michigan a. In addition to As specified As specified As specified in tributaries; Peshtigo the restrictions in this in this this subsection river upstream from the under pars. (b) subsection subsection first railroad bridge to (o), all of the located at following 45°02'50.5"N, restrictions 87°44'42.3"W to the apply: From first dam, Marinette September 15 to county; Little river the first downstream from the Saturday in May downstream side of the only hooks with highway 141 bridge a one-half inch located at coordinates gap or less may 44°52'41.8"N, be used and 88°02'46.2"W to Stiles hook and line road located at fishing is coordinates prohibited from 44°52'00.6"N, one-half hour 87°59'40.3"W, Oconto after sunset to county; Oconto river one-half hour upstream from the before sunrise. upstream side of the From September highway 141 bridge 15 to December located at coordinates 31, fishing by 44°51'31.4"N, any method is 88°02'55.3"W to the prohibited from first dam, Oconto one-half hour county; and all other after sunset to tributary streams, rivers

and ditches — one-half hour
excluding the before sunrise
Menominee river and
Fox river — to Green
Bay upstream to the
first dam or lake.

For the purposes of this

section, the following

Lake Michigan and

Green Bay tributaries

begin upstream of these

coordinates:

Pike creek, discharge

pipe located at

coordinates

42°35'17.0"N,

87°49'07.8"W,

Kenosha county; Pike

river, 42°36'21.4"N

87°49'06.5"W,

Kenosha county; Root

river, center of N. Main

street bridge located at

coordinates

42°44'02.6"N

87°47'04.7"W, Racine

county; Oak creek,

42°54'23.0"N

87°50'29.6"W,

Milwaukee county

Milwaukee river,

railroad swing bridge

located at coordinates

43°01'40.9"N
87°54'17.9"W,
Milwaukee county;
Menomonee river,
railroad swing bridge
located at coordinates

43°01'56.6"N
87°54'42.8"W,
Milwaukee county;
Kinnickinnic river,
railroad swing bridge
located at coordinates

43°00'49.1"N
87°54'15.3"W,
Milwaukee county;
Sauk creek, center of
foot bridge located at
coordinates

43°23'11.2"N
87°52'09.5"W,
Ozaukee county;
Sheboygan river, center
of the 8th street bridge
located at coordinates

43°44'40.4"N
87°42'46.8"W,
Sheboygan county;
Manitowoc river, center
of the highway 10
bridge located at
coordinates

44°05'32.0"N
87°39'28.0"W,
Manitowoc county;

East Twin river, center
of the 17th street bridge

located at coordinates
44°08'55.3"N

87°33'50.2"W,

Manitowoc county;

West Twin river, center
of the Washington

street bridge located at
coordinates

44°08'42.5"N

87°34'05.6"W,

Manitowoc county;

Kewaunee river,

44°27'34.2"N

87°29'57.9"W,

Kewaunee county;

Ahnapee river,

44°36'30.4"N

87°25'56.0"W,

Kewaunee county;

Stony creek, center of
the County highway U

bridge located at

coordinates

44°40'26.1"N

87°22'37.6"W,

Kewaunee county;

Duck creek, center of

the southbound I41

bridge located at

coordinates

44°33'54.0"N

88°02'58.6"W, Brown

county; Pensaukee
river, 44°49'22.1"N
87°54'10.5"W, Oconto
county; Little river,
downstream side of the
County highway BB
bridge located at
coordinates
45°02'41.8"N
87°37'33.7"W,
Marinette county

SECTION 23. NR 20.33 (1) (a) (intro.), 4. and 5., (b) (intro.), 3. and 4., and (c) are amended to read:

NR 20.33 (1) (a) *Water level reduction.* Pursuant to par. (e), the department may establish a catch and release only season, close the harvest season for specific fish species, or close the season for fishing in all or part of any inland water which has experienced sudden water level reduction or where a sudden reduction is imminent as a result of dam failure, draw down or other loss of water supply. The ~~closed~~-season change shall remain in ~~full force and effect~~ until the department determines that the water has been returned to its original level and the season is open pursuant to par. (e) 2. The department may ~~close~~ implement the season change when it finds, after scientific investigation and study, that all of the following have occurred:

4. Continued sport fishing harvest may result in a depletion of the game fish supply.
5. ~~Closure of the~~The season change is necessary to conserve the game fish supply until water levels are restored and to ~~insure~~ ensure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing.

(b) *Fish concentrated under ice.* Pursuant to par. (e), the department may establish a catch and release only season, close the harvest season for specific fish species, or close the season for fishing through the ice in all or part of any inland water. The ~~closed~~-season change shall remain in ~~full force and effect~~ until the water is no longer covered with ice and the season is

opened pursuant to par. (e) 2. The department may ~~close~~ implement the season change when it finds, after scientific investigation and study, that all of the following apply:

3. Continued sport fishing harvest would deplete the supply of game fish.
4. ~~Closure of the~~The season change is necessary to conserve the game fish supply and ~~insure~~ensure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing;.

(c) *Fishery rehabilitation.* Pursuant to par. (e), the department may establish a catch and release only season, close the harvest season for specific fish species, or close the season for fishing in all or part of any inland water in which fish have been removed or destroyed as a result of a rehabilitation program, to reestablish a good supply of game fish and ~~insure~~ensure the citizens of this state future opportunities for good fishing. The ~~closed~~ season change shall remain in ~~full force and effect~~ until opened pursuant to par. (e) 2., scientific investigation indicates the game fish population has achieved a harvestable surplus of fish of desirable size, and reopening the season does not conflict with the closed seasons for each species specified in sub. (1).

SECTION 24. NR 21.02 (1) is repealed.

SECTION 25. NR 21.02 (2m) is created to read:

NR 21.02 (2m) “Buoy” means a buoyant marker that includes a staff and flag, all of which protrude above the surface of the water or ice, and in combination are used to mark the location of a commercial fishing net or setline.

SECTION 26. NR 21.02 (4), (9), and (10) are amended to read:

NR 21.02 (4) “Commercial fish” means rough and detrimental fish as defined by this chapter, shovelnose (hackleback) sturgeon 25 inches long or longer only when taken on setlines, catfish 15 inches long or longer ~~or dressed catfish at least 12 inches long~~ and bullheads of any length when taken with commercial fishing gear and all taken while fishing under a commercial fishing license on the Mississippi RiverWisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters.

(9) “Dead set ~~gill net~~” means a ~~gill~~ net that is set and allowed to catch fish without being moved and without constant net attendance by the operator.

(10) “Detimental fish” means all species of ~~Asian~~invasive carp, including bighead, silver, grass, and black carp.

SECTION 27. NR 21.02 (11) is repealed.

SECTION 28. NR 21.02 (16) is amended to read:

NR 21.02 (16) “Frame net” or “fyke net” ~~has the meaning given in s. NR 22.02~~
~~(15)means an unbaited modified hoop net with one lead of netting attached to the first hoop. Two~~
~~fence-like nets called wings are staked out from the net providing a barrier that funnels fish into~~
~~the hoop portion of the net. Internal funnels within the fyke net are designed to lead fish to the~~
~~fish holding area of the net. Any mesh size is allowed with a front not to exceed four feet by~~
~~eight feet if rectangular or eight feet in diameter if round.~~

SECTION 29. NR 21.02 (16m) is created to read:

NR 21.02 (16m) “Gang” means the entire length of a single gill net, multiple gill nets fastened together, or a setline.

SECTION 30. NR 21.02 (20) is repealed.

SECTION 31. NR 21.02 (32m) is created to read:

NR 21.02 (32m) “Stake fyke net” as referenced in s. 29.516 (2), Stats., means a fyke net, also called a frame net, that uses stakes pushed into the substrate to support the leader or wings or tunnel or pot of the net.

SECTION 32. NR 21.11 (1) (cf) and (h) are amended to read:

NR 21.11 (1) (cf) No person may mark or tag a net or setline with his or her license number or metal tag if the net or setline is already marked or tagged by another licensed commercial fisher, ~~except that up to two commercial fishers may each place one of their net tags on the same net and may lift or operate this net when it is agreed to by both commercial fishers.~~

~~Only one net flag with one number may be displayed on a net at any time and only the commercial fisher whose flag is attached to the net may set, place, tend, operate or lift the net.~~

(h) ~~No person may possess or control~~Nets or other devices designed or used to capture fish, other than commercial fishing gear not authorized for use in the Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters by this chapter, may not be possessed or under one's control while on the ice or the open waters of the state or while engaged in a fishing operation involving those waters
Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary waters.

SECTION 33. NR 21.11 (2) (c) 1. is amended to read:

NR 21.11 (2) (c) 1. ~~Open water gill net sets~~ Gill sets are prohibited in ~~Lake~~the St. Croix from the highway 64 bridge at Houlton, downstream to its confluence with the Mississippi river at all times.

SECTION 34. NR 21.11 (3) (d) is repealed.

SECTION 35. NR 21.11 (4) (a) is amended to read:

NR 21.11 (4) (a) Setlines may be used in the waters of the Mississippi river from the Saturday nearest April 1 to October 31, except for the closed areas and alternate dates listed in pars. (b) and (c).

SECTION 36. NR 21.11 (4) (c) 1. is amended to read:

NR 21.11 (4) (c) 1. Pool 4, between river mile 780 and 797, closed from March 1 through May 31 and open from June 1 through the last day of February.

SECTION 37. NR 21.11 (4) (f) is amended to read:

NR 21.11 (4) (f) There shall be a buoy at each end of every setline set in open water. The buoys shall have a staff extending at least 3 feet above the surface of the water. Upon

the upper end of each staff, there shall be a flag at least 10 inches square. Upon the bowl of each buoy, there shall be maintained in plain figures the license number of the licensee. On setlines set through the ice, there shall be maintained on each end of the gang a board or similar material which shall bear the license number authorizing the use of the setline.

SECTION 38. NR 21.13 (4) (d) is amended to read:

Turtle species	Open seasons (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag and possession limit	Size limit
(d) Turtles incidentally taken in licensed commercial fishing operations, <u>except Blanding's turtles and any turtles listed as threatened or endangered in ch. NR 27</u>	Continuous	None	None

SECTION 39. NR 22.02 (3m) is created to read:

NR 22.02 (3m) “Buoy” means a buoyant marker that includes a staff and flag, all of which protrude above the surface of the water or ice, and in combination are used to mark the location of a commercial fishing net or setline.

SECTION 40. NR 22.02 (5) is amended to read:

NR 22.02 (5) “Commercial fish” means species of rough and detrimental fish as defined in this chapter, shovelnose (hackleback) sturgeon 27 inches and over but less than 34 inches in fork length, catfish 15 inches or over in length ~~or 12 inches or over dressed~~ and bullheads of any length when taken with commercial fishing gear under a commercial fishing license.

SECTION 41. NR 22.02 (8m) is created to read:

NR 22.02 (8m) “Dead set” means a net that is set and allowed to catch fish without being moved and without constant net attendance by the operator.

SECTION 42. NR 22.02 (10) is repealed.

SECTION 43. NR 22.02 (15) is amended to read:

NR 22.02 (15) “Frame net” or “fyke net” means ~~an~~ unbaited modified hoop net with ~~no more than two lead~~^{one} lead of netting attached to the first hoop. ~~The~~^{Two} fence-like nets called wings are staked out from the net providing a barrier that funnels fish into the hoop portion of the net. Internal funnels within the ~~frame~~^{fyke} net are designed to lead fish to the fish holding area of the net. Any mesh size is allowed with a front not to exceed four feet by eight feet if rectangular or eight feet in diameter if round.

SECTION 44. NR 22.02 (15m) and (29m) are created to read:

NR 22.02 (15m) “Gang” refers to the entire length of a single gill net, multiple gill nets fastened together, or a setline.

(29m) “Stake fyke net” as referenced in s. 29.516 (2), Stats., means a fyke net, also called a frame net, that uses stakes pushed into the substrate to support the leader or wings or tunnel or pot of the net.

SECTION 45. NR 22.11 (8), (9), (19), and (22) are amended to read:

NR 22.11 (8) A licensed commercial fisher or any member of the crew or any person in or on a boat may not have in possession any game fish while operating licensed commercial gear ~~or bank poles~~, or when traveling to or from the operation of such gear while on the waters or ice.

(9) ~~Commercial~~Nets or other devices designed or used to capture fish, other than commercial fishing gear not-authorized for use in the Wisconsin-Iowa boundary waters by this chapter, may not be in possession or under control while on those waters or ice of those waters.

(19) No person may mark or tag a net or setline with his or her license number or metal tag if the net or setline is already marked or tagged by another licensed commercial fisher, except that up to two commercial fishers may each place one of their net tags on the same net and may lift or operate this net when it is agreed to by both commercial fishers. ~~Only one net flag with one number may be displayed on a net at any time and only the commercial fisher whose flag is attached to the net may set, place, tend, operate or lift the net.~~

(22) All nets shall be equipped with a metal tag stamped to designate the number of the license issued to the commercial fisher using the net as described in s. 29.523, Stats. Gill nets, setlines, and frame nets, ~~that are left unattended~~ shall have the metal tag attached ~~next~~ to a stake or buoy located on at least one end of the net so it will be visible above the surface of the water. If a stake is used, the stake shall extend at least three feet above the surface of the water and upon the upper end of the stake there shall be a white flag at least ten inches square. The flag shall be numbered with legible figures at least three inches in height corresponding with the number of the license authorizing the use of such net. ~~A buoy may be placed in lieu of a stake and flag, providing the buoy or buoys are numbered with legible figures at least three inches in height corresponding with the number of the license authorizing the use of such nets. On gill nets and setlines set in open water, a buoy is required on each end of the gang. The buoys shall have a staff extending at least 3 feet above the surface of the water, and upon the upper end of the staff, there shall be a flag at least 10 inches square. Each flag shall be numbered with legible figures at least 3 inches in height corresponding with the number of the license authorizing the use of the nets.~~ On gill nets and setlines set through the ice, there shall be maintained on each end of the gang a board or similar material which is readily identifiable and which shall bear the license number authorizing the use of the net.

SECTION 46. NR 22.12 (17) is repealed.

SECTION 47. NR 22.13 (4) (d) is amended to read:

Turtle species	Open seasons (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag and possession limit	Size limit
(d) Turtles incidentally taken in licensed commercial fishing operations, <u>except Blanding's turtles and any turtles listed as threatened or endangered in ch. NR</u> <u>27</u>	Continuously	None	None

SECTION 48. NR 25.02 (2), (29), (32), (33), and (56m) are created to read:

NR 25.02 (2) “Buoy” means a buoyant marker that includes a staff and flag, all of which protrude above the surface of the water or ice, and in combination are used to mark the location of a commercial fishing net or setline. However, an “ice buoy” may have a staff or flag, but is not required to have a staff or flag.

(29) “Float” means a buoyant marker without a staff or flag and used to mark the location of a commercial fishing net or setline and suspend a commercial fishing net or setline either at the surface of the water and ice, above the bed of the water, or anywhere else within the water column. For example, a float is used under the surface of the water to suspend the wings on a trap/pound net, mark the surface of the water above the wings of a trap or pound net, suspend the top of a leader, suspend the top of a gill, seine, or trammel net, mark the location of a net so it is visible at the surface, etc. An “ice buoy” is not a “float”.

(32) “Frame net” or “fyke net” means an unbaited modified hoop net with one lead of netting attached to the first hoop. Two fence-like nets called wings are staked out from the net providing a barrier that funnels fish into the hoop portion of the net. Internal funnels within the

fyke net are designed to lead fish to the fish holding area of the net. Any mesh size is allowed with a front not to exceed four feet by eight feet if rectangular or eight feet in diameter if round.

(33) "Gang" refers to the entire length of a single gill net, multiple gill nets fastened together, or a setline.

(56m) "Stake fyke net" as referenced in s. 29.516 (2), Stats., means a fyke net, also called a frame net, that uses stakes pushed into the substrate to support the leader or wings and/or tunnel or pot of the net.

SECTION 49. NR 25.027 (36) and (41) are amended to read:

NR 25.027 (36) "Northern chub fishing zone" means those waters of Lake Michigan ~~lying north of a line extending from the midchannel marker buoy of Baileys Harbor~~ encompassed by the following points, starting at N45° 01.842', W87° 05.949', then ~~on a 135° bearing, and east of a line from the point where the line extending on a 135° bearing from the mid channel marker buoy of Baileys Harbor intersects the 35 fathom contour, to the easternmost point of Rock Island at N45° 24.454', W86° 48.313', then following the northeast shore of Rock Island to the northernmost point of Rock Island at N45° 25.709', W86° 49.691', then proceeding north to the Wisconsin-Michigan state line at N45° 26.648', W86° 49.691', then following the state line to N45° 26.617', W86° 48.254', then following the state line to N45° 14.168', W86° 14.973', then following the state line to N45° 04.830', W86° 29.970', then following the state line to N44° 58.187', W86° 36.219', then due west to N44° 58.187', W87° 00.098', then back to the starting point at N45° 01.842', W87° 05.949'.~~

(41) "Southern chub fishing zone" means those waters of Lake Michigan ~~lying south of a line extending east~~ encompassed by the following points, starting from the entrance of Kewaunee harbor at N44° 27.459', W87° 29.522' to its intersection with the 45 fathom (270 feet) depth contour then due east to N44° 27.459', W87° 23.424', then proceeding northerly along the 45 fathom depth contour to its intersection with a line extending east from the entrance of Algoma harbor at N44° 36.397', W87° 25.792' N44° 36.397', W87° 14.793', then proceeding east along a line from the entrance of Algoma harbor at N44° 36.397', W87° 25.792' to its intersection with the Wisconsin-Michigan state line at N44° 36.397', W86° 48.390°.468', then following the state

line to N44° 07.914', W87° 00.794', then following the state line to N43° 40.225', W87° 07.507', then following the state line to N43° 20.238', W87° 08.466', then following the state line to N42° 29.610', W87° 01.196', then following the state line west to the shoreline at N42° 29.556', W87° 48.228', then following the shoreline back to Kewaunee at N44° 27.459', W87° 29.894', then back to the starting point at N44° 27.459', W87° 29.522'.

SECTION 50. NR 25.027 (47) is amended to read:

NR 25.027 (47) "Superior Bay" means that body of water in Douglas county ~~lying south and east between Minnesota point and encompassed by the following locations~~: the main land of Douglas county; ~~the north line of section 29, extending from a line drawn from the most southerly point in section 20, township 49 north, range 13 west, to in Douglas county; the Wisconsin-Minnesota state line; and a line running due north from~~ the most northerly point in section ~~2910, same township 49 north, and range 14 west to the Wisconsin-Minnesota state line.~~

SECTION 51. NR 25.03 (1) (c) 1. to 3. are amended to read:

NR 25.03 (1) (c) 1. First to individuals who have been licensed by the department as commercial fishers on Lake Superior during the preceding license year and who are applying for renewal of that license.

2. Next to individuals who were not licensed the preceding license year, but who had been licensed by the department as commercial fishers on Lake Superior for at least 2 years.

3. Next to individuals who worked as a licensed crew member licensed by the department on Lake Superior under s. 29.519 (4) (a), Stats., for at least 2 years.

SECTION 52. NR 25.03 (2) (c) 1. to 3. are amended to read:

NR 25.03 (2) (c) 1. First to individuals who have been licensed by the department as commercial fishers on Lake Michigan during the preceding license year and who are applying for renewal of that license.

2. Next to individuals who were not licensed the preceding license year, but who had been licensed by the department as commercial fishers on Lake Michigan for at least 2 years.

3. Next to individuals who worked as a licensed crew member licensed by the department on Lake Michigan under s. 29.519 (4) (a), Stats., for at least 2 years.

SECTION 53. NR 25.05 (1) (g) is amended to read:

	A	B	C
Species	Green Bay	Lake Michigan	Lake Superior
(g) Menominees (round whitefish)	At all times <u>Year-round</u>	At all times <u>Year-round</u>	At all times <u>Year-round</u>

SECTION 54. NR 25.05 (1) (gl) is created to read:

	A	B	C
Species	Green Bay	Lake Michigan	Lake Superior
(gl) Bullheads, catfish, white bass	No open season	No open season	Year-round

SECTION 55. NR 25.05 (1) (gm), and (gn) are amended to read:

Species	A Green Bay	B Lake Michigan	C Lake Superior
(gm) Carp, <u>bullheads</u> , burbot, <u>catfish</u> , gizzard shad, suckers, <u>white bass</u> , white perch	No open season except by permit or contract issued under s. 29.417, 29.421 or 29.424, Stats.	No open season except by permit or contract issued under s. 29.417, 29.421 or 29.424	<u>At all times Year-round</u>
(gn) Smelt	<u>At all times Year-round</u> except trawls may be used only from June 15 to September 30 and only from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise	<u>At all times Year-round</u> except trawls may <u>be</u> used only from Nov. 15 to April 20	<u>At all times Year-round</u>

SECTION 56. NR 25.05 (2) is amended to read:

NR 25.05 (2) SIZE LIMITS. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this chapter, no fish of a length or size less than that shorter than the minimum or longer than the maximum specified for each variety of any of the following varieties may be possessed or under control. The measurement of the length of a fish within the meaning of this chapter shall be taken in a straight line in a natural position without manipulation from the tip of the snout to the end of the fully extended tail finthe distance from the tip of the snout in a straight line to the utmost end of the tail fin fully compressed. The measurement of length shall apply without allowance made for the shrinkage of the fish.

SECTION 57. NR 25.06 (2) (e) 2. b. is amended to read:

NR 25.06 (2) (e) 2. b. For the 2022 and 2023 license years, the allowable harvest for zone 1 shall not exceed 48.4148% of the total allowable commercial harvest of whitefish in Green Bay determined under subd. 2. a. or 569,788 pounds. For any given license year after December 31,

~~2023~~, the allowable harvest for zone 1 shall not exceed 67.9758% of the total allowable commercial harvest of whitefish in Green Bay determined under subd. 2. a. or 800,000 pounds, whichever is less. For any given license year, the allowable harvest for zone 3 shall not exceed 43.9135% of the total allowable commercial harvest of whitefish in Lake Michigan determined under subd. 2. a. or 351,487 pounds, whichever is less, and the allowable harvest for zone 2 shall consist of the total allowable commercial harvest for Green Bay less the allowable harvest for zone 1 plus the total allowable commercial harvest for Lake Michigan less the allowable harvest for zone 3, and shall be implemented in accordance with subd. 2. c. and s. NR 25.07 (2) (e) 5.

SECTION 58. NR 25.06 (2) (e) 2. d. is repealed.

SECTION 59. NR 25.09 (1) (ah) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

NR 25.09 (1) (ah) 1. From January 16 to November 9, the licensee may use gill nets of this size stretch measure only when set on the bottom ~~lead or maître cord, line, or rope is on~~ of the lake ~~bottom~~, only when the depth of water at that location is 12 to 60 feet (2 to 10 fathoms) deep or 210 to 330 feet (35 to 55 fathoms) deep, and only when the number of meshes does not exceed 35 meshes in depth.

2. From November 10 to January 15, the licensee may use gill nets of this size stretch measure only when set on the bottom ~~lead or maître cord, line, or rope is on~~ of the lake ~~bottom~~, only when the depth of water at that location is 60 to 330 feet (10 to 55 fathoms) deep, and only when the number of meshes does not exceed 35 meshes in depth.

SECTION 60. NR 25.09 (1) (am) 7. is repealed.

SECTION 61. NR 25.09 (1) (as) 2. and 3. are amended to read:

NR 25.09 (1) (as) 2. Except as provided in subd. 4., a license holder shall tag each gill net with a mesh size of less than 4 7/16 inches with an informational tag supplied by the department on the buoy staff above the water line for gill nets set in open water or on a board or similar device above the ice for gill nets set through the ice. Each tag shall list the license number or the fleet reporting number of the license holder and "Less than 4 7/16 inches."

3. Except as provided in subd. 4., a license holder shall tag each gill net with a mesh size of 4 7/16 inches or greater with an informational tag supplied by the department on the buoy staff above the water line for gill nets set in open water or on a board or similar device above the ice for gill nets set through the ice. Each tag shall list the time and date upon which the gill net was set, the length of the gang of nets, and the license number or fleet reporting number of the license holder.

SECTION 62. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 2. is amended to read:

NR 25.09 (1) (b) 2. The licensee may only set, place, or operate entrapping nets ~~only in Lake Superior by permit issued under s. NR 25.10 (4) and only in that part of Lake Superior lying between bounded by~~ a line extending due north of a point one mile east of the mouth of the Iron river in section 34, township 50 north, range 9 west, Bayfield county,; ~~and the Lake Superior boundary between Minnesota and Wisconsin; the Lake Superior boundary between Michigan and Wisconsin; the 46 degrees 40 minutes North latitude line; a line extending due north from the mouth of the Bad river in section 17, township 48 north, range 2 west, Ashland county,; and the Wisconsin shoreline of Lake Superior, including all of the Apostle Islands area.~~

SECTION 63. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 9. is repealed.

SECTION 64. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 11. is amended to read:

NR 25.09 (1) (b) 11. The licensee shall mark and maintain each entrapping net with 2 flags, one above the other, on a single staff attached to the inside or shallow lead end of the net, one flag on a staff attached to the pot or lifting buoy, one flag on a staff attached to the anchor at the outward end of the king line, and one float measuring a minimum of 5 inches in diameter attached to the anchor at the outward end of each net wing. All staffs shall be marked with reflective tape. All flags shall measure not less than 9 inches high by 18 inches wide and shall be displayed so that the top edge of the flag is not less than 5 feet above the water, except that the lower of 2 flags on one staff shall be displayed so that the bottom edge is not less than 3 feet above the water. Two flags

displayed on one staff shall be separated by not less than 6 inches. All floats and all flags required under this subdivision, except the flag attached to the king line anchor, shall be of a highly visible color commonly referred to as hunter orange or blaze orange with a color range between 595 nm and 605 nm. The flag attached to the king line anchor shall be a dark color other than orange. The license number or fleet reporting number of the commercial fishing license holder shall be displayed and maintained in legible, block figures at least 1 inch high on the bowl of the pot or lifting buoy. Flags are not required October 16 through April 14.

SECTION 65. NR 25.09 (1) (bm) 1. is amended to read:

NR 25.09 (1) (bm) 1. No net may be placed within one-quarter mile of any other net, except that if a trap net is set illegally within one-quarter mile of a legally placed gill net, that gill net may continue to be lifted and reset in the same location ~~in accordance with par. (am)~~
7. ~~Entrapment~~Entrapping nets are further subject to s. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 6.

SECTION 66. NR 25.09 (1) (e) is amended to read:

NR 25.09 (1) (e) *Ice buoy standards.* These ice buoy standards are for commercial fishing gear set in open water, not through the ice. Whenever ice may reasonably be expected to encroach upon fishing gear, set in open water, an ice buoy shall be used in lieu of ~~the any~~ requirements for a buoy, staff, or flag listed elsewhere in s. NR 25.09 (1), no commercial fisher may fish except with gear that meet. Ice buoys must meet the following standards:

SECTION 67. NR 25.10 (1) (b) (intro.) is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) *Areas restricted to the taking of rough or detrimental fish only and miscellaneous exceptions.* No commercial fishing gear of any kind except nets by permit issued under sub. (4) for the taking of rough or detrimental fish and listed exceptions for species or gear may be used, set, placed, or operated in the following waters:

SECTION 68. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 1. is repealed.

SECTION 69. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 2. is amended to read:

2. 'Siskiwit Bay.' That portion of Siskiwit bay lying south of a line extending from Roman (Quarry) point ~~in section 29, township 50 north, range 6 west at 46° 52.396' N, 91° 8.292' W, to Squaw~~Siskiwit point ~~in section 22, township 50 north, range 6 west at 46° 52.973' N, 91° 5.462' W~~, all in Bayfield county.

SECTION 70. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 3. is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 3. 'Sand Cut.' All waters bounded by a line beginning at the Chequamegon Point light on the western end of Long island ~~in section 13, township 48 north, range 4 west at 46°43'12", 90°48'10"46° 43.715' N, 90° 48.533' W~~, then extending northeasterly to the southernmost point of Madeline island ~~in section 6, township 49 north, range 4 west at 46°45'09" N, 90°34'08" W46° 45.147' N, 90° 47.252' W~~, then due east 2.5 miles to ~~46°45'11" N, 90°44'05" W46° 45.183' N, 90° 44.083' W~~, then due south 1 mile to ~~46°44'22" N, 90°44'05" W46° 44.367' N, 90° 44.083' W~~, then due east to ~~46°44'22" N, 90°36'06" W46° 44.367' N, 90° 36.100' W~~, then due north to ~~46°45'11" N, 90°36'06" W46° 45.183' N, 90° 36.100' W~~, then due east to the western boundary of Gull Island Shoals refuge as described later in s. NR 26.02~~this paragraph~~, then southerly along the refuge boundary to ~~latitude 46°40'00" N, at 90°37'15" W46° 40.000' N, 90° 37.910' W~~ then due west to the mainland shoreline commonly known as Long Island, then northwesterly along the shoreline to the point of beginning, all in Ashland county, except waters within 1 1/2 miles of the mainland shoreline in Ashland county. The western boundary of Gull Island Shoals refuge is described as a line between the following two points: 46° 52.260' N, 90° 29.740' W and 46° 40.000' N, 90° 37.910' W. No person may fish with entrapment nets in waters starting at 46°45'11" N, 90°44'05" W, then due south 1 mile to 46°44'22" N, 90°44'05" W, then due east to 46°44'22" N, 90°36'06" W, then due north to 46°45'11" N, 90°36'06" W, then due west to the starting coordinates of 46°45'11" N, 90°44'05" W.

SECTION 71. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 3m. is created to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 3m. 'Sand Cut Drop-Down Box.' No person may fish with entrapping nets in waters starting at 46° 45.183' N, 90° 44.083' W, then due south to 46° 44.367' N, 90°

44.083' W, then due east to 46° 44.367' N, 90° 36.100' W, then due north to 46° 45.183' N, 90° 36.100' W, then due west to the starting coordinates of 46° 45.183' N, 90° 44.083' W.

SECTION 72. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 4. is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 4. 'Iron River to Cranberry River.' All waters less than 72 feet (12 fathoms) deep lying between a point extending due north from the mouth of the Iron river ~~in section 34, township 50 north, range 9 west at 46° 46.028' N, 91° 29.283' W~~, and a line extending due north from the mouth of the Cranberry river at Herbster ~~in section 5, township 50 north, range 7 west at 46° 49.995' N, 91° 16.013' W~~, all in Bayfield county except float nets described in s. NR 25.09 (1) (ah) 3. may be fished from October 15 to December 31, ~~at a minimum distance of 1/2 mile from shore, and entrapping nets may be fished by permit under s. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 2. only from April 1 to September 30.~~

SECTION 73. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 5. is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 5. 'Minnesota boundary to Iron River.' All waters less than 210 feet (35 fathoms) deep lying between a line extending due north from the mouth of the Iron river ~~in section 34, township 50 north, range 9 west at 46° 46.028' N, 91° 29.283' W~~, Bayfield county, and the Wisconsin-Minnesota state line, except all waters more than 90 feet (15 fathoms) deep lying between a line extending due north from the mouth of the Iron river ~~at 46° 46.028' N, 91° 29.283' W~~ and a line extending due north from the mouth of the Bois Brule river ~~in section 10, township 49 north, range 10 west at 46° 44.849' N, 91° 36.692' W~~, Douglas county, where gill nets with a mesh size of 3 inches or less stretch measure may be used from November 15 through December 31.

SECTION 74. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 6. is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 6. 'Cranberry River to Bark Point to Roman (Quarry) Point.' All waters less than 72 feet (12 fathoms) deep ~~lying encompassed by the points from the mouth of the Cranberry River at Herbster at 46° 49.995' N, 91° 16.013' W, then along the shoreline to Bark point at 46° 53.137' N, 91° 10.844' W, then to Roman (Quarry) point at 46° 52.396' N, 91°~~

8.292' W, between a line extending then due north from to the Wisconsin-Minnesota state line at 47° 5.105' N, 91° 8.292' W, then along the state line to 47° 1.480' N, 91° 16.013' W, then back to the original point at the mouth of the Cranberry river at Herbster in section 5, township 50 north, range 7 west, and a line extending due north from the northernmost point of Roman (Quarry) point in section 29, township 51 north, range 6 west at 46° 49.995' N, 91° 16.013' W, all in Bayfield county, and entrapping nets may be fished by permit under s. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 2. from April 1 to September 30.

SECTION 75. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 9. is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 9. 'Outer Island.' In grids 1212 and 1312, Those waters less than 210 feet (35 fathoms) lying north of latitude 46° 59' 18" 59.3' N refuge line, in In grids 1212, 1312 1211 and 1311, those waters less than 210 feet (35 fathoms) east of longitude 90° 25' 00" 25.000' W and south of latitude 47° 05' 00" 5.000' N in grids 1311 and 1211.

SECTION 76. NR 25.10 (1) (b) 10. is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (b) 10. 'Bark Bay.' That portion of Bark bay lying southwesterly of a line beginning at Roman (Quarry) point at 46° 52.396' N, 91° 8.292' W and extending northwesterly to Bark point in section 24, township 51 north, range 7 west at 46° 53.137' N, 91° 10.844' W, all in Bayfield county, which shall be open for except gill nets may be used from April 1 through May 31 and for entrainment entrapping nets only may be used from June 1 to September 30.

SECTION 77. NR 25.10 (1) (c) is amended to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (c) *Van Tassells Point.* No commercial fishing gear of any kind except by permit issued under sub. (4) for the taking of whitefish only from June 1 to August 15, by permit issued under sub. (4) for entrapping nets for smelt from ice out to May 15, and for other exceptions listed in this paragraph that do not require a permit under sub. (4) may be used, set, placed or operated in the following waters: the area from the easterly easternmost tip of Houghton Point, section 27, township 49 north, range 4 west, at 46° 41.875' N, 90° 51.135' W in Bayfield county, northerly along the shoreline to the entry to the city of Bayfield marina at 46°

48.587' N, 90° 48.680' W, then easterly to Point Defroid on Madeline island, ~~section 30, township 50 north, range 3 west, at 46° 47.102' N, 90° 47.485' W~~ in Ashland county, then southerly along the western end of the island to the tip of Grants Point, ~~section 6, township 49 north, range 3 west, at 46° 45.147' N, 90° 47.240' W~~ in Ashland county, then southerly to Chequamegon Point on the western tip of Long island, ~~section 13, township 49 north, range 4 west, at 46° 43.715' N, 90° 48.533' W~~ in Ashland county, thence southwesterly back to the eastern most tip of Houghton Point, except that float nets as described in s. NR 25.09 (1) (ah) 3. may be fished, bottom set gill nets of not less than 4 7/16 inch minimum stretch measure may be fished from November 28 to March 31 of the following year north of latitude 46°45'00" N 46° 45' N at a minimum depth of 114 feet (19 fathoms), and gill nets of not greater than 1 3/4 inch stretch measure may be fished for smelt and cisco under the ice, but must be at least 1/2 mile from the mouth of any trout stream, ~~and entrapment gear for smelt may be allowed by permit from ice out to May 15~~. Commercial trap nets operated under permits issued under sub. (4) for the restricted area described in this paragraph, ~~but not including the exception for float nets as described in s. NR 25.09 (1) (ah) 3.~~, shall be limited to a maximum of one per commercial fishing license and may not be set within the waters bounded by the following waterspoints: the area from 46° 44'01" N 90° 50'00" W 46° 44.017' N, 90° 50' W then southeast to 46° 43'00" N 90° 49'00" W 46° 43' N, 90° 49' W then southwest to 46° 42'00" N 90° 50'00" W 46° 42' N, 90° 50' W then northwest to 46° 43'01" N 90° 50'02" W 46° 43.017' N, 90° 50.033' W then northeast to 46° 44'00" N 90° 50'00" W 46° 44' N, 90° 50' W then back to 46° 44.017' N, 90° 50' W. All commercial fishing gear operated under permits issued under sub. (4) for the restricted area described in this paragraph, ~~but not including the exception for float nets as described in s. NR 25.09 (1) (ah) 3.~~, shall have the fish holding pot portion rendered inoperable after August 15 and shall have the webbing removed from the water on or before August 18.

SECTION 78. NR 25.10 (1) (e) is created to read:

NR 25.10 (1) (e) *Saxon Harbor.* No commercial fishing gear of any kind except nets by permits issued under sub. (4) for the taking of rough or detrimental fish may be used, set, placed or operated in the following waters except from November 15 through December 15 in water 84 feet (14 fathoms) deep or deeper, when and where gill nets with a mesh size of not less

than 2 1/2 inch and not more than 3 inch stretch measure may be used for taking cisco: all waters bounded by a line beginning at the mouth of Graveyard creek in section 3, township 47 north, range 1 west, extending north to the Gull Island Shoals refuge south boundary as described in s. NR 26.02, then east to the Wisconsin-Michigan state line, then southerly along the state line to the shore at the mouth of the Montreal river in section 7, township 47 north, range 1 east, all in Iron county.

SECTION 79. NR 25.135 (1) (title), (a) (intro.), and 2., and (b) are amended to read:

NR 25.135 (1) FLEET REPORTING FOR LAKE SUPERIOR AND LAKE MICHIGAN.

(a) The department may authorize a person who holds more than one license under s. 29.519 (1m) (a), Stats., and or s. NR 25.03 (1) (a) 3. or (2) (am) for commercial fishing on Lake Superior or Lake Michigan to participate in a fleet reporting program involving those licenses if the person applies for fleet reporting on a form available from the department in accordance with s. NR 25.03 (3) prior to the start of the license year.

2. All commercial fishing licenses held by the person shall be included in the fleet reporting program, but the licensee may not combine licenses from both Lake Superior and Lake Michigan under a single fleet reporting license.

(b) The Lake Superior allowable gill net effort authorized under s. NR 25.09 (1) (am) and the number of nets authorized under s. NR 25.09 (1) (b) 3. for any license included in a person's fleet reporting program may be used for commercial fishing operations under the other licenses included in that person's fleet reporting program.

SECTION 80. NR 25.135 (1) (c) is created to read:

NR 25.135 (1) (c) For Lake Michigan, each license included in the fleet reporting program, the individual catch quotas for all species and all zones, any "racehorse" fisheries, and any "racehorse" fishing permits will be included in fleet reporting.

SECTION 81. NR 25.135 (2) is repealed.

SECTION 82. NR 25.18 (1) (b) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

NR 25.18 (1) (b) 1. Brown County: Suamico. River upstream from N 44° 37.88436', W 88° 00.5445'

2. Door County: Baileys Harbor (north of a line from N 45° 03.303', W 87° 05.526' and N 45° 03.294', W 87° 07.505'), Ellison Bay (along the shoreline from N 45° 15.38994', W 87° 05.61528' to N 45° 16.62426', W 87° 04.33998'), Gills Rock (includes Teskie's, Weborg's and Voight's docks) (along the shoreline from N 45° 17.15796', W 87° 01.57938' to N 45° 17.54874', W 87° 01.39974'), Sand Bay (includes Sand Bay docks at N 45° 12.5229', W 87° 02.37636', Old Sand Bay docks at N 45° 12.78108', W 87° 02.0949', and Rowley's Bay docks~~marina~~ at N 45° 13.17888', W 87° 02.02896'), Jackson Harbor (Washington Island south and west of a line between the points at N 45° 24.061', W 86° 50.876' and N 45° 24.226', W 86° 51.141') and Sturgeon Bay (south and east of a line between the points at N 44° 53.582', W 87° 26.043' and N 44° 54.451', W 87° 24.390').

SECTION 83. NR 25.18 (1) (c) 1. to 4. are amended to read:

NR 25.18 (1) (c) 1. Brown County: Duck Creek (upstream from N 44° 33.90144', W 88° 03.00012'), Windjammers (along the shoreline from N 44° 39.07914', W 88° 00.25518' to N 44° 39.21882', W 88° 00.22236'), and Green Bay (upstream from where the Fox River enters Green Bay at N 44° 32.44098', W 88° 0.20202').

2. Door County: Chaudoir's ~~dock~~Dock County Park (N 44° 44.81844', W 87° 41.88306'), Detroit Harbor (along the shoreline of Washington Island from N 45° 20.016', W 86° 56.451' to N 45° 20.054', W 86° 54.139'), Egg Harbor (along the shoreline from N 45° 03.245', W 87° 18.005' to N 45° 03.265', W 87° 16.938'), Jacksonport (Lake Park Drive at N 44° 58.71984', W 87° 10.99392'), Murphy ~~park~~County Park (N 45° 00.82326', W 87° 20.05518'), Nordheim (Washington Island at N 45° 19.90026', W 86° 52.79052'), Pinney County Park (formerly Old Stone Quarry (Sturgeon Bay at N 44° 54.27402', W 87° 24.31182')), Sister Bay Marina (N 45° 11.51916', W 87° 07.16028'), and Wave Pointe Resort/Carmody County Park (between the points at N 44° 50.73456', W 87° 33.56694' and N 44° 50.62664', W 87° 33.59574').

3. Marinette County: Peshtigo ~~river~~River (Harbor Road landing at N 44° 58.43664', W 87° 39.4008').

4. Oconto County: Little Suamico River (upstream from N 44° 42.37212', W 87° 59.26278') and Geano Beach (N 44° 44.946', W 87° 57.40098').

SECTION 84. NR 25.18 (1) (d) 1., 2., and 4. are amended to read:

NR 25.18 (1) (d) 1. Brown County: Hook Road (at N 44° 40.09458', W 87° 59.9787').

2. Door County: Bay Road (formerly Ern Joy's at N 44° 48.19128', W 87° 38.5534'), Oak Orchard Avenue (at N 44° 53.47992', W 87° 26.3859'), Riley's Point (formerly Pagel's Resort at N 44° 51.2878', W 87° 31.98516'), Porcupine Bay Road (at N 45° 14.6706', W 87° 6.77286'), Sand Bay Lane (formerly Sand Bay Resort at N 44° 51.37356', W 87° 29.90928'), Sugar Creek County Park (at N 44° 47.19804', W 87° 39.64308'), and Waters End Road (at Sister Bay at N 44° 12.44622', W 87° 7.22982').

4. Marinette County: Red Arrow park Park (at 45° 05.16048', W 87° 35.3634'), Pond Road (at N 44° 59.06436', W 87° 37.8102'), and Leaf Road Landing (at N 45° 02.02152', W 87° 37.51812').

SECTION 85. NR 26.01 (57) (f) is amended to read:

COUNTY	WATERS	REFUGE BOUNDARIES	START DATE	END DATE
(57) Sawyer	(f) <u>Squaw Heron</u> creek	From Chetach lake upstream 1,000 feet (section 33, T38N, R9W)	April 1	May 14

SECTION 86. NR 26.02 (1) is amended to read:

NR 26.02 (1) All waters bounded by a line from the Gull Island light at 46° 54.400' N, 90° 26.586' W south to the northernmost point of Michigan Island at 46° 53.931' N, 90° 27.082' W and then proceeding in a southerly direction following the shoreline of Michigan Island to the Michigan Island light at 46° 52.260' N, 90° 29.740' W, then southerly towards the center of the mouth of the Bad river in Ashland county to latitude 46° 40.000' N, 90° 37.910' W, then due east to the Michigan state line at 46° 40.000' N, 90° 21.275' W; then northerly along the state line to latitude 46° 59.300' N, 90° 8.805' W; from that point due west to longitude 46° 59.300' N, 90° 26.500' W and then due southsoutherly to the Gull Island light at 46° 54.400' N, 90° 26.586' W.

SECTION 87. NR 26.02 (2) is amended to read:

NR 26.02 (2) All waters in which the bottom lies at a depth of less than 210 feet (35 fathoms) northerly from a line beginning 2 miles north of the Outer island light at 47° 06.370' N, 90° 25.000' W and extending westerly to the north end of North Twin island at 47° 04.560' N, 90° 35.221' W, then along the shoreline to the south end of North Twin island at 47° 03.562' N, 90° 35.410' W, then southwesterly to the north end of South Twin island at 47° 02.457' N, 90° 38.605' W, then northerly to the north end of Rocky island at 47° 03.260' N, 90° 38.827' W, then along the north shoreline to the northwest point of Rocky island at 47° 02.663' N, 90° 41.263' W, then northwesterly to the south end of Devils island at 47° 03.749' N, 90° 43.570' W, then along the shoreline to the north end of Devils island at 47° 04.862' N, 90° 43.776' W, then westerly to a point 2 1/2 miles north of the York Island Shoal bell buoy at 47° 03.780' N, 90° 51.300' W. The western boundary of this refuge is the 90° 51.300' W longitude line extending to the Wisconsin-Minnesota state boundary and the eastern boundary of this refuge is the 90° 25.000' W longitude line extending to the Wisconsin-Minnesota state boundary. The area within the refuge south of a line running northwesterly from the north tip of Devils Island to the refuge's western boundary, then due south to the southwest corner of the refuge and back to the north tip of Devils Island encompassed by the following three points shall be open to sport and commercial fishing during period 3 (June 1 to September 30): north end of Devils island at 47° 04.862' N, 90° 43.776' W to 47° 09.990' N, 90° 51.300' W along the western boundary of the refuge to 2 1/2 miles north of the York Island Shoal bell buoy at 47° 03.780' N, 90° 51.300' W.

SECTION 88. NR 104.20 (5) is amended to read:

NR 104.20 (5) Turtle Creek below the Rock-Walworth county line, Raccoon Creek, East Fork Raccoon Creek, East Fork Galena River, Spafford Creek, Menominee River, Pecatonica River and ~~Galena~~Fever River are used for recreation, stock and wildlife watering, waste assimilation and fish and aquatic life. Richland Creek and East Branch Richland Creek, Apple River and West Fork Apple River, Sinsinawa River, Little Menominee River and a tributary of the East Fork Galena River have similar uses excepting waste assimilation. Water quality of these streams shall meet standards for recreational use and fish and aquatic life.

SECTION 89. EFFECTIVE DATE. This rule takes effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

SECTION 90. BOARD ADOPTION. This rule was approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on [DATE].

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin _____.

STATE OF Wisconsin

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BY _____

Karen Hyun, Ph. D., Secretary