

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
DOA-2049 (R09/2016)

DIVISION OF EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE
101 EAST WILSON STREET, 10TH FLOOR
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15. Benefits of Implementing the Rule and Alternative(s) to Implementing the Rule

This rule will amend s. NR 20.35, Wis. Adm. Code, "alternate size and bag limits" to outline specific conditions that, if met, will allow the department to implement alternate size and bag limits for walleye on specific waters where a quick regulation change is needed to preserve or rehabilitate a walleye fishery without sufficient natural reproduction.

If these rule changes are not pursued, the department will not have the ability to change the size and/or bag limit in as timely a manner. The standard process to change the size and/or bag limit on a water body is approximately two years, which is not responsive enough for a struggling walleye fishery.

16. Long Range Implications of Implementing the Rule

The ability to adjust alternative size limits, bag limits or both for fish species provide for better use and management of the fishery resource of the water to which the proposed alternate limit would apply. The proposed rules are compatible with existing policies that aim to regulate fish harvest for conservation purposes. 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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