

## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis

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| <b>1. Type of Estimate and Analysis</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Updated <input type="checkbox"/> Corrected   | <b>2. Date</b><br>September 14, 2021                        |
| <b>3. Administrative Rule Chapter, Title and Number (and Clearinghouse Number if applicable)</b><br>Chapter NR 19   |   |
| <b>4. Subject</b><br>Amending the list of date-regulated wild rice harvesting waters in NR 19.09(4).  |   |
| <b>5. Fund Sources Affected</b><br><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  | <b>6. Chapter 20, Stats. Appropriations Affected</b><br>N/A |
| <b>7. Fiscal Effect of Implementing the Rule</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs<br><input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Could Absorb Within Agency's Budget   |   |
| <b>8. The Rule Will Impact the Following (Check All That Apply)</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> State's Economy <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Businesses/Sectors<br><input type="checkbox"/> Local Government Units <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utility Rate Payers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <b>(if checked, complete Attachment A)</b>   |   |
| <b>9. Estimate of Implementation and Compliance to Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(1).</b><br>\$0  |   |
| <b>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)?</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No   |   |
| <b>11. Policy Problem Addressed by the Rule</b><br>Since 1964, certain prominent wild rice harvesting waters have been formally regulated by a date opening through administrative rule. However, the list of date-regulated wild rice harvesting waters within the portion of Wisconsin which was ceded through the Treaties of 1836 and 1842 between the United States and Wisconsin's Ojibwe Tribes (the Ceded Territory), found in NR 19.09(4), has not changed since 1985. The purpose of date regulation has been to protect the most critical and popular wild rice waters from premature harvest and damage to the beds of wild rice, and to inform harvesters of when the resource is mature and ready for harvest. Within the Ceded Territory, wild rice is an important resource to both the state and the Ojibwe tribes, with both members and non-members participating in harvest.<br><br>Over time, changes to long-term wild rice abundance and corresponding harvest activities have occurred on certain waters. Wild rice has been completely absent or significantly diminished on several waters that are currently date-regulated under portions of NR 19.09(4) for several years. The result has been mutual agreement between Ojibwe tribes and DNR officials to completely close these waters to wild rice harvest on an annual basis. Retaining these waters as date-regulated may give some harvesters the false impression that they contain stands of rice that are large enough to make harvest a worth-while effort. By eliminating waters which no longer benefit from date-regulation from administrative code, administrative time will be saved for posting the waters and notifying the public through various communications. |   |
| <b>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.</b><br>A notice for solicitation of comments on this analysis will be posted on the department's website in October 2021 and various interest groups may be contacted. No fiscal effects on small businesses, their associations, or local governments are anticipated..  |   |
| <b>13. Identify the Local Governmental Units that Participated in the Development of this EIA.</b><br>A notice for solicitation of comments on this analysis will be posted on the department's website during a 14 day period in October 2021 and various interest groups, including local governments, may be contacted.  |   |

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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)

These rules, and the legislation which grants the department rule making authority, do not have a fiscal effect on the private sector or small businesses. These rules are applicable to individual sportspersons and impose no compliance or reporting requirements for small business, nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule.

These rules are not expected to significantly affect currently available outdoor opportunities and no impacts to the economic activities of hunters, trappers, or outdoor recreation enthusiasts are expected.

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

The rule change would substantially cut down on administrative time posting boat launches and notifying the public of lake openings through other means, as well as enforcement time. An alternative related to the proposed addition of 4 waters to the list is voluntary compliance with suggested harvest dates for those waters. However, suggested harvest dates have been posted in the past on some lakes without success.

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16. Long Range Implications of Implementing the Rule

The long range implications of this rule proposal will be the same as the short term impacts. These proposals will contribute to providing good opportunities for hunting and trapping and maintenance of the economic activity generated by people who participate in those activities.

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17. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Federal Government

Federal regulations allow states to manage the wildlife resources located within their boundaries provided they do not conflict with regulations established in the Federal Register. None of these rule changes violate or conflict with the provisions established in the Federal Code of Regulations.

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

The only other two neighboring states where northern wild rice (*Zizania paulustris*) is naturally found are Minnesota and Michigan.

Minnesota does not designate date-regulated lakes, but the open season for all waters is between August 15 – September 30. However, some Minnesota tribes regulate specific opening dates on reservation waters. Wild rice harvesting is lawful in Michigan, but no such harvest regulations exist.

Illinois and Iowa have populations of southern wild rice (*Zizania palustris*). However, this species is seldom harvested.

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19. Contact Name

Scott Karel

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20. Contact Phone Number

608-206-0222

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**ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**  
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**ATTACHMENT A**

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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)

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

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

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5. Describe the Rule's Enforcement Provisions

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

- Yes    No
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