Notice of Hearings

The Department of Natural Resources announces that it will hold public hearings on a permanent rule to repeal and replace chs. NR 320, 323, 326, 328, and 329 relating to placing structures and crossings in navigable waterways at the time and place shown below.

Hearing Information

Hearing 1

• Date: Tuesday, July 30, 2024

• Time: 5:30 pm

• Virtual Teams meeting location link: Join the meeting now

Hearing 2

• Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2024

• Time: 12:00 pm (noon)

• Virtual Teams meeting location link: <u>Join the meeting now</u>

Rule Information

This rule seeks to align administrative code for structures and crossings, including fish and wildlife habitat structures, bridges, culverts, piers, boat shelters, swim rafts, shoreline erosion control structures, and miscellaneous structures, placed in navigable waterways with statutory and programmatic changes and to consolidate these rules to improve administrative efficiency.

Accessibility

For the hearing or visually impaired, non-English speakers, or those with other personal circumstances which might make communication at the meeting/hearing difficult, DNR will, to the maximum extent possible and with reasonable advance notice, provide aids including an interpreter, or a non-English, large-print, or recorded version of hearing documents. To access these resources, please contact the email address or phone number listed below as soon as possible.

Appearances at the Hearing and Submittal of Written Comments

The public has the opportunity to testify at the hearings. Registration will take place at the hearing by completing a Hearing Appearance form. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged if you plan to provide spoken comments during the hearing. To pre-register, please download and complete the fillable Hearing Appearance form and send it to Tom Pearce at Thomas.pearce@wisconsin.gov.

Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before August 1, 2024. Written comments may be submitted by U.S. mail, E-mail, or through the internet and will have the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearing.

Written comments and any questions on the proposed rules should be submitted to:

Department of Natural Resources Attn: Tom Pearce P.O. Box 7921 101 S. Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921

The rule may be viewed at: https://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html

Comments can be made at: DNRAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov

The rule may be reviewed, and comments made at: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/hearings.

Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The proposed rule changes are not expected to result in a significant economic impact on small businesses. Small business applicants account for an estimated 10% of all waterways permit applicants. Language related to exemption standards and permit requirements and review factors in the proposed rule is not predicted to significantly change exemption or permit eligibility or application requirements. The proposed changes bring the rule language up to date with current statutory requirements and program practices. This rule does not affect administrative fees associated with permit applications.

Agency Small Business Regulatory Coordinator:

Emma Esch (608) 266-1959 emma.esch@wisconsin.gov