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

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board proposes an order to repeal and recreate NR 20.20(26), to repeal 20.20(34)(d)2.,20.20(57)(b), 26.01(57)(a) and (b), 26.05(26), 26.06(57)(b), (d) and (g), 26.09(57)(a) and (b); to amend NR 20.20(2)(a), 20.20(3)(f)1.20.20(21)(h)1., 20.20(34)(d)1., 20.20(44)(g), 20.20(49)(am), 20.20(51)(a), 20.20(57)(a), (d), (f)1., and (i)4., 20.20(64)(d)1m., 20.20(66)(g)3., 20.20(69)(f)3., 20.20(73)(a)3., 21.04(7)(a) and 23.05(5)(d)1.; and to create NR 20.20(3)(am)2., 20.20(4)(c)3., 20.20(4)(i)4., 20.20(7)(c)2., 20.20(7)(h), 20.20(57)(i)5., 20.20(49)(f)2., 20.20(51)(b)2., 20.20(51)(e)3., 20.20(57)(i)5., 20.20(66)(bm), 20.20(68)(cm), 20.20(69)(c)3. and 20.20(69)(d)3., relating to fishing on the inland, outlying, and boundary waters of Wisconsin.

#### FH-03-10

#### Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources

**1. Statutes Interpreted:** In promulgating this rule, ss. 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053, 29.531and, 29.533, Stats., which authorize fishing, have been interpreted as giving the department the authority to make changes to fishing and clamming regulations on inland and boundary waters of Wisconsin.

**2.** Statutory Authority: Sections 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053 and 227.11(2)(a), Stats.

# **3. Explanation of Agency Authority to Promulgate the Proposed Rules Under the Statutory Authority:** Sections 29.014(1), 29.039, 29.041, 29.053 grant rule making authority to the department to establish and maintain open and closed seasons for fish and any bag limits, size limits, rest days and conditions governing the taking of fish that will conserve the fish supply and ensure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing; grant that the department may establish limitations relating to taking, possession, transportation, processing, and sale or offer for sale, of nongame species; and provide that the department may regulate fishing on and in all interstate boundary waters, and outlying waters. Section 227.11(2)(a), Stats., expressly confers rulemaking authority on the department to promulgate rules interpreting any statute enforced or administered by it, if the agency considers it necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute.

#### 4. Related Rule or Statute: None.

#### 5. Plain Language Rule Analysis:

Sections 1, 9, 15 and 18 permit motor trolling in Ashland, Iron, Price and Sawyer counties.

Section 2 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Bear, Horsehead, and Upper and Lower Turtle lakes (Barron county).

Section 3 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Bear, Horseshoe (T36N, R14E, S3, 115 ac.), and Upper and Lower Turtle lakes (Barron county) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 4 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Lake Owen (Bayfield couunty).

Section 5 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Lake Owen (Bayfield County) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 6 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Big McKenzie lake (Burnett/ Washburn counties).

Section 7 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Big McKenzie lake (Burnett/Washburn counties) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 8 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Metonga lake (Forest county) from 15 to 18 inches and decreases the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Sections 10 and 11 standardize trout regulations for all of the Wolf river (Langlade county), allowing hook and line fishing only with artificial lures from the First Saturday in May at 5:00am until September 30 with a bag limit of 3 and a maximum size of 12 inches. There is also a catch and release season from October 1 to November 15 for hook and line fishing with artificial lures.

Section 12 replaces the current no minimum length limit and 14 to 18 inch protected slot with no minimum length limit but only on fish over 14 inches in length and increases the daily bag limit from 3 to 5 for walleye in the Three Lakes chain and replaces the no minimum length limit but only on fish over 14 inches in length with a 15" minimum length limit on Sevenmile lake, Oneida county.

Section 13 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes (Polk county).

Section 14 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Big Butternut, Half Moon, Pipe, and Ward lakes (Polk county) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 16 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes, Rusk county).

Section 17 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Chain, Clear, Island, and McCann lakes (Island chain of lakes, Rusk county) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Sections 19 and 21 extends the season on Chippewa flowage (Sawyer county) from the first Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March for all species except muskellunge, walleye, and lake sturgeon.

Section 20 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Whitefish and Sissabagama lakes, and the Chippewa flowage (Sawyer county).

Section 20 also increases the minimum size restriction in Nelson, Sissabagama and Whitefish lakes from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 20 also changes the panfish daily bag limit to 10 fish daily bag limit for all panfish all season on the Chippewa flowage, and creates a continuous open season for panfish. The previous panfish bag limits were 25 with no more than 15 crappie from the first Saturday in May until November 30 but no crappie from December 1 to the first Sunday in March, with fishing for panfish prohibited between the first Sunday in March and the first Saturday in May.

Section 21 also increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in the Chippewa flowage from no minimum to 18 inches. The daily bag limit is unchanged at 3 walleye per day.

Section 22 makes permanent the 45 inch minimum size restriction for muskellunge in Little St. Germain lake (Vilas county). The current 45-inch minimum regulation is scheduled to expire November 30, 2011.

Section 23 eliminates the minimum size restriction for largemouth and smallmouth bass in Middle McKenzie, Nancy and Long lakes (Washburn county).

Section 24 increases the minimum size restriction for walleye in Middle McKenzie (Washburn/ Burnett counties), Nancy and Long lakes (Washburn county) from 15 to 18 inches and reduces the daily bag limit for walleye from 5 fish to 3 fish.

Section 25 increases the minimum size restriction for northern pike on Big Muskego lake including Bass bay (Waukesha county) from 26 inches to 40 inches and reduces the daily bag limit from 2 to 1 fish.

Section 26 increases the minimum size restriction for bass in Marion Pond (Waupaca county) from 14 inches to 18 inches and reduces the daily angler bag limit from 5 to 1. This rule will expire on April 1, 2016.

Section 27 increases the minimum size restriction for northern pike in Marion pond (Waupaca county) from no minimum to 26 inches and reduces the daily angler bag limit from 5 to 2. This rule will expire April 1, 2016.

Section 28 decreases the minimum length restriction to 7 inches for all trout in the Waupaca river downstream of River road. Current regulations are 12 inches for brown trout and rainbow trout, and 8 inches for brook trout. It also increases the daily angler bag from 3 trout to 5 trout.

Section 29 prohibits night fishing from September 15 to the first Saturday in May in the section of the Oconto river from the upstream side of the US 141 Bridge to the Stiles dam (Oconto county).

Section 30 adds a catch-and-release season for Lake Sturgeon on the St. Croix river from October 1 to 15. This section of the St. Croix river is a Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary water, and this section will make Wisconsin rules consistent with Minnesota rules.

Section 31 extends the largemouth and smallmouth bass fishing season on Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters from November 30 to December 31. This will make Wisconsin and Michigan rules consistent.

Sections 32, 33, 34, and 35 eliminate the following fish refuges: on the Chippewa flowage for 500 feet below Moose lake (Sawyer county), on Spider creek between Spider lake and State highway 77 (Sawyer county), on Island creek between Island and Black Dan lakes (Sawyer county), on Malviney creek (Sawyer county), on the unnamed tributary of Lake Chetac from Lake Chetac to 1000 feet upstream (Sawyer county), on the Brunet River from Lake Winter to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer county), on the Couderay river from the Grimh (Radisson) dam to 500 feet downstream (Sawyer county) and on the Little Turtle river and Turtle-Flambeau flowage 200 feet upstream of Popko's Circle road until 200 feet downstream of Popko's Circle road (Iron county).

6. Summary of and Comparison with Existing or Proposed Federal Regulations: None known.

7. Comparison of 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, bag and size limits may differ for species across the surrounding states; however, the general principles are similar. Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois all have statewide seasons, bag and size limits for fish species, along with special or experimental regulations on individual waters.

8. Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies Used in Support of the Rule: Rule proposals were developed by fisheries and law enforcement staff to address management and enforcement concerns. Proposals were reviewed for need and adequacy, and approved by a fish team or law enforcement team supervisor and forwarded to regional director for approval. Proposals approved by the regions were forwarded to the Fisheries Management Bureau Director, who conducted a review with the Fisheries Management Board, law enforcement, legal services, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Only proposals approved by the Fisheries Management Bureau Director are included.

**9.** Analysis and Documentation Used in Support of the Agency's Determination Under s. 227.114, Stats., (Small Business Impact): The proposed rules do not apply directly to businesses, but to sport anglers.

**10. Effect on Small Business, Including How the Rule Will Be Enforced:** The proposed rules do not impose any compliance or reporting requirements on small businesses nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule. The rules will be enforced by Conservation Wardens who have arrest powers and may use citations.

**11.** Agency contact person: Joseph Hennessy, FM/4, 101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921; email: Joseph.Hennessy@wisconsin.gov; phone: 608.267.9427.

Section 1. NR 20.20(2)(a) is amended to read:

(2) ASHLAND (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

| (a) All | 1. Kakagon river       | a. Motor    | As specified in this | As specified in this | As specified in this |
|---------|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| species | and sloughs <u>All</u> | trolling is | subsection or sub.   | subsection or sub.   | subsection or sub.   |
|         | waters                 | permitted   | (73)                 | (73)                 | (73)                 |

Section 2. NR 20.20(3)(am)2. is created to read:

(3) BARRON (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

| (am) Largemouth and | 2. Bear, Horseshoe ((T36N,       | a. Hook   | First Saturday in May  | 5 | None |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---|------|
| smallmouth bass     | R14E, S3, 115 ac.), Lower Turtle | and line. | to the first Sunday in |   |      |
|                     | and Upper Turtle lakes           |           | March                  |   |      |

Section 3. NR 20.20(3)(f) is amended to read:

(3) BARRON (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

| (f) Walleye, sauger | 1. Red Cedar <del>lake,</del>  | a. Hook  | First Saturday in May  | 3 in  | 18 |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------|----|
| and hybrids         | Hemlock Bear, Horesehead,      | and line | to the first Sunday in | total |    |
| -                   | Lower Turtle, and Upper Turtle |          | March                  |       |    |
|                     | lakes                          |          |                        |       |    |

Section 4. NR 20.20(4)(c)3. is created to read:

(4) BAYFIELD (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

| (c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass | 3. Lake Owen | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in May<br>to Friday preceding<br>third Saturday in June | 0 |      |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|--|---|------|
|                                    |              |                      | Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in                          | 5 | None |

March

Section 5. NR 20.20(4)(i)4. is created to read:

(4) BAYFIELD (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

| (i) Walleye, sauger<br>and hybrids  | 4. Lake Owen   | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in M<br>to the first Sunday<br>March   | •                 | 18  |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Section 6. NR 20.20(                | (7)(c)2 is created to read:  |                      |   |                   |   |
| (4) BURNETT (for s                  | pecies or waters not listed, see s   | ub. (73))            |   |                   |   |
| (c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass  | 2. Big McKenzie lake   | a. Hook and line.    | First Saturday in M<br>to the first Sunday<br>March   | •                 | None  |
| Section 7. NR 20.20(                | (7)(h) is created to read:   |                      |   |                   |   |
| (4) BURNETT (for s                  | pecies or waters not listed, see s   | ub. (73))            |   |                   |   |
| (h) Walleye, sauger,<br>and hybrids | 1. Big McKenzie lake   | a. Hook and line.    | First Saturday in M<br>to the first Sunday<br>March   | •                 | 18  |
| Section 8. NR 20.20(                | (21)(h)1. is amended to read:  |                      |   |                   |   |
| (21) FOREST (for sp                 | becies or waters not listed, includ  | ling Lake Super      | ior, see sub. (73))                                   |                   |   |
| (h) Walleye, sauger<br>and hybrids  | 1. Crane, Lucerne <u>, Metonga</u><br>and Pickerel lakes   | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in M<br>to the first Sunday<br>March   | •                 | 18  |
| Section 9. NR 20.20(                | (26) is repealed and recreated to  | read:                |   |                   |   |
| (26) IRON (for speci                | es or waters not listed, including   | gLake Superior,      | see sub. (73))  |                   |   |
| (a) All species                     | 1. All waters excluding Etna,<br>Grey, Lost (Iron county-Vilas<br>county line), Minette, Oriole,<br>Pardee and Sherman lakes | trolling is          | As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)          | specified in this | As<br>specified<br>in this<br>subsection<br>or sub.<br>(73) |
| (b) Lake sturgeon                   | 1. North Fork Flambeau river<br>downstream from the Turtle<br>Flambeau flowage dam   | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>September to<br>September 30     | 1 per<br>season   | 60  |
| (c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass  | 1. Evelyn lake, O'Brien lake,<br>One Man lake  | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to Friday<br>preceding third | 0                 | -   |

|                 |   |                      | Saturday in June  |            |  |
|-----------------|---|----------------------|---|------------|--|
|                 |   |                      | Third Saturday in<br>June to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 1 in total | 18   |
|                 | 2. Wilson lake  | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to Friday<br>preceding third<br>Saturday in June | 0          | -  |
|                 |   |                      | Third Saturday in<br>June to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 5 in total | No<br>minimum<br>length but<br>the<br>possession<br>of fish<br>from 12<br>through<br>16 inches<br>is<br>prohibited |
|                 | 3. Turtle-Flambeau flowage  | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to Friday<br>preceding third<br>Saturday in June | 0          | -  |
|                 |   |                      | Third Saturday in<br>June to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 2 in total | 15   |
|                 | 4. Gile flowage   | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to Friday<br>preceding third<br>Saturday in June | 0          | -  |
|                 |   |                      | Third Saturday in<br>June to the first<br>Sunday in March                 |            | None<br>except the<br>possession<br>of fish<br>from 14<br>through<br>18 inches<br>is<br>prohibited                 |
| (d) Muskellunge | 1. Catherine lake, Cedar lake,<br>Fisher lake, Gile flowage,<br>Long lake, Lower Springstead<br>lake, Mercer lake, Moose<br>lake, Pine lake, Turtle-<br>Flambeau flowage including<br>Trude lake, Upper | line                 | Saturday nearest<br>Memorial day to<br>November 30                        | 1          | 40   |

|                   | Springstead lake, Wilson lake  |  |  |             |   |
|-------------------|--|--|--|-------------|---|
|                   | 2. Owl lake  | a. Hook and<br>line  | Saturday nearest<br>Memorial day to<br>November 30       | 1 in total  | 28                                      |
| (e) Northern pike | 1. Lake Six, all tributaries and<br>connected sloughs to Lake<br>Superior upstream to the first<br>dam or lake | a. Hook and<br>line.   | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 2           | 26                                      |
| (f) Panfish       | 1. Turtle-Flambeau flowage including Trude lake  | a. Hook and line.  | Continuous   | 10 in total | Crappie<br>10, other<br>species<br>none |
|                   | 2. Pine lake, Bearskull lake,<br>Island lake, Spider lake  | a. Hook and<br>line  | Continuous   | 10 in total | None                                    |
| (e) Rough fish    | 1. Trout streams   | a. Hook and line.  | During the open season for trout                         | None        | None                                    |
|                   |  | b. By hand.  | Continuous   | None        | None                                    |
|                   |  | c. Dip netting<br>at any time for<br>smelt only on<br>tributaries to<br>Lake Superior<br>from the<br>mouth<br>upstream for<br>one-half mile. | April 1 to May 25  | None        | None                                    |
|                   | 2. All other tributaries to Lake Superior  | a. Hook and<br>line.   | Continuous   | None        | None                                    |
|                   |  | b. Dip netting<br>at any time for<br>smelt only<br>from the<br>mouth<br>upstream for<br>one-half mile.                                       | April 1 to May 25  | None        | None                                    |
|                   | 3. All other waters  | a. Hook and<br>line.   | Continuous   | None        | None                                    |
|                   |  | b. Spearing with bow and   | Saturday nearest<br>May 20 to July 1                     | None        | None                                    |

|                      |   | arrow only.         |  |   |   |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|--|---|---|
| (h) Trout and salmon | 1. Montreal river downstream from Superior falls  | a. Hook and<br>line | Continuous   | 5 in total  | 10  |
|                      | 2. Montreal river upstream from Superior falls  | a. Hook and<br>line | April 26 to<br>September 30                              | 5 in total  | 7   |
|                      | 3. Graveyard creek<br>downstream from U.S. hwy. 2   | a. Hook and<br>line | Last Saturday in<br>March to<br>November 15              | 5 in total<br>but only 2<br>may be<br>brown<br>trout<br>longer<br>than 15<br>inches<br>and only 1<br>may be a<br>rainbow<br>trout, and<br>none may<br>be brook<br>trout until<br>November<br>15, 2011 | trout 10,<br>salmon<br>12,<br>rainbow<br>trout 26,<br>brook<br>trout 8 on |
|                      | 4. Oronto creek, Parker creek   | a. Hook and<br>line | Saturday nearest<br>April 1 to<br>November 15            | 5 in total<br>but only 2<br>may be<br>brown<br>trout<br>longer<br>than 15<br>inches<br>and only 1<br>may be a<br>rainbow<br>trout   |   |
|                      | <ul><li>5. All other tributaries and portions of tributaries to Lake Superior not listed in subds.</li><li>1. to 4.</li></ul> | a. Hook and<br>line | First Saturday in<br>May at 5:00 a.m.<br>to September 30 | 5 in total<br>but only 2<br>may be<br>brown<br>trout<br>longer<br>than 15<br>inches<br>and only 1<br>may be a<br>rainbow<br>trout   |   |
|                      |   |                     |  |   |   |

## arrow only.

6. Boomer creek, Fourche b. Hook and First Saturday in 3 in total 9

|   | creek, Flood creek  | line                 | May at 5:00 a.m.<br>to September 30                                      |   |      |  |  |  |
|---|---|----------------------|--|---|------|--|--|--|
|   | 7. Plunkett (Sugar) and<br>Weber lakes  | a. Hook and<br>line  | First Saturday in<br>May at 5:00 a.m.<br>to the first Sunday<br>in March | 5 in total  | 7    |  |  |  |
|   | 8. All other waters not listed  | a. Hook and<br>line  | First Saturday in<br>May at 5:00 a.m.<br>to September 30                 | 5 in total  | 7    |  |  |  |
| (i) Walleye, sauger<br>and hybrids                | 1. Grand Portage lake, Mercer<br>lake   | a. Hook and line.    | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 3 in total  | 18   |  |  |  |
|   | 2. Bearskull lake, Catherine<br>lake, Cedar lake, Echo lake,<br>Fisher lake, Gile flowage,<br>Island lake, Little Oxbow<br>lake, Lower Springstead lake,<br>Owl lake, Oxbow lake, Pine<br>lake, Randall lake, Sandy<br>Beach lake, Sherman lake,<br>Spider lake, Upper<br>Springstead lake, North Fork<br>Flambeau river and its<br>tributaries, West Branch<br>Montreal river, Turtle river<br>upstream from Echo lake | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 5 in total<br>but only 1<br>may be<br>longer<br>than 14<br>inches | None |  |  |  |
|   | 3. Tributaries to Lake<br>Superior and their connected<br>sloughs   | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 5 in total<br>but only 1<br>may be<br>longer<br>than 14<br>inches | 15   |  |  |  |
|   | 4. Wilson lake  | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March                 | 5 in total  | None |  |  |  |
| Section 10. NR 20.20(34)(d)1. is amended to read: |   |                      |  |   |      |  |  |  |

(34) LANGLADE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

| (d) Trout and salmon | 1. Wolf river from the Soo | b. Hook and      | First Saturday in | <u>03</u> | - <u>under</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
|                      | Line railroad bridge       | line, only       | May at 5:00 a.m.  |           | <u>12</u>      |
|                      | downstream to Dierks       | artificial lures | to November 15)   |           |                |

|                                      | irrigation hole   |                         |       | may be used  | to September 30  |                               |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------|--|--|-------------------------------|---|
|                                      |   |                         |       |  | October 1 to<br>November 15  | <u>0</u>                      | <u>-</u>  |
|                                      | 2. All other po<br>Wolf river-  | <del>rtions of th</del> | e     | <del>a. Hook and</del><br><del>line.</del>                   | First Saturday in<br>May at 5:00am to<br>September 30  | <del>3 in</del><br>total      | Brow<br>and<br>rainbow<br>trout<br>12,<br>brook<br>trout 8                            |
|                                      |   |                         |       | b. Hook and<br>line, only<br>artificial lures<br>may be used | October 1 to<br>November 15  | 0                             | -   |
| Section 11.1                         | NR 20.20(34)(d)2. is repe   | ealed.                  |       |  |  |                               |   |
| Section 12.                          | NR 20.20(44)(g) is amen   | ided to read:           |       |  |  |                               |   |
| (44) ONEID                           | A (for species or waters i  | not listed, se          | ee su | ıb. (73))  |  |                               |   |
| g) Walleye,<br>sauger and<br>hybrids | 1. Wisconsin river and<br>sloughs, bayous and<br>flowages downstream<br>from the St. Regis dam<br>in Rhinelander  | a. Hook<br>and line.    | Ma    | st Saturday in<br>y to the first<br>aday in March            | 5 in total   | None, p<br>s. NR 2            | ursuant to<br>0.35  |
|                                      | 2. Three lakes chain<br>(includes Big, Big<br>Fork, Big Stone,<br>Crystal, Deer, Dog,<br>Fourmile, Island,<br>Laurel, Little Fork,<br>Long, Medicine,<br>Moccasin, Planting<br>Ground, Rangeline,<br>Round, Spirit,<br>Townline, Virgin and<br>Whitefish lakes, all<br>connecting waters and<br>Eagle river downstream<br>to Vilas county line) | a. Hook<br>and line.    | Ma    | st Saturday in<br>y to the first<br>aday in March            | 3 in total but only<br>1 may be<br>longer than 18I<br>5 in total but only<br>1 may be longer<br>than 14" | <del>possess</del><br>from 14 | <del>xcept the</del><br><del>ion of fish</del><br>I <sup>2</sup> through<br>rohibited |

|                       | <b>TT</b> 1 | <b>T</b> ' , <b>Q</b> , <b>1</b> ' | <b>7</b> • • • 11 • • 1     |      |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| 3. Alva, Bearskin,    | a. Hook     | First Saturday in                  | 5 in total but only         | None |
| Buckskin, Buffalo,    | and line.   | May to the first                   | 1 may be                    |      |
| Crescent, Diamond,    |             | Sunday in March                    | longer than 14 <sup>2</sup> |      |
| George, Hasbrook,     |             |                                    |                             |      |
| Katherine, Lost (T38N |             |                                    |                             |      |
| R9E S24), Mercer,     |             |                                    |                             |      |
| Moen chain including  |             |                                    |                             |      |

| Fou<br>con<br>Mu<br>Pin<br><del>Sev</del><br>Squ<br>lake<br>cha<br>San<br>Sto | en, Second, Third,<br>urth, Fifth lakes and<br>mecting waters,<br>skellunge, Oneida,<br>e (T37N R9E S4),<br>enmile, Soo,<br>tash and Squirrel<br>es and Sugar Camp<br>in including Dam,<br>d, Echo, Chain and<br>ne (T39N R9E S32)<br>es and connecting<br>ers |                         |  |  |  |
|---|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|
|   | Maple lake, Stella<br>e, Thunder lake  | a. Hook<br>and line.    | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 3 in total   | 18   |
| 5. S  | Shishebogama lake  | a. Hook<br>and line.    | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 3 in total posted<br>public boat<br>landings pursuan<br>to s. NR 20.37 | otherwise posted at  |
| Section 13. NR 20   | 0.20(49)(am) is ame  | nded to rea             | ad:  |  |  |
| (49) POLK (for s  | pecies or waters not ]   | listed, see             | sub. (73))   |  |  |
| (am) Largemouth<br>and smallmouth<br>bass                                     | 1. Big Round lake,<br>Balsam lake  | a. Hook<br>and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 5 in total but only<br>1 may be less than<br>14 until March 1,<br>2012 | 1, 2012, when it   |
|   | 2. Big Butternut,<br>Half Moon, Pipe,<br>and Ward lakes  | a. Hook<br>and<br>line  | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 5  | None   |
| -   | 3. Pipe lake   | a. Hook<br>and<br>line  | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 3 in total but only<br>1 may be larger<br>than 18                      | None except the<br>possession of fish<br>from 14 through 18<br>is prohibited |

Section 14. NR 20.20(49)(f)2. is created to read:

(49) POLK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

| (f) Walleye, sauger | 2. Big Butternut, Half | a. Hook and line | First Saturday in May 3 | 18 |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----|
| and hybrids         | Moon, Pipe, and Ward   |                  | to the first Sunday in  |    |
|                     | lakes                  |                  | March                   |    |

## Section 15. NR 20.20(51)(a) is amended to read:

(51) PRICE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

| (a) All species                     | 1. <del>Pike lake, Round</del><br><del>lake</del> <u>All waters</u>  | a. Motor trolling is permitted | As specified in this<br>subsection or sub.<br>(73)       | As specified As<br>in this specified<br>subsection in this<br>or sub. (73) subsection<br>or sub.<br>(73) |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Section 16. NR 20.20                | 0(51)(b)2. is created to re  | ad:                            |  |  |
| (55) RUSK (for spec                 | ies or waters not listed, so   | ee sub. (73))                  |  |  |
| (b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass  | 2. Chain, Clear, Island,<br>McCann lakes (Island<br>chain of lakes), and<br>connecting waters  | a. Hook and line.              | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 5 None   |
| Section 17. NR 20.20                | 0(51)(e)3. is created to rea   | ad:                            |  |  |
| (55) RUSK (for spec                 | ies or waters not listed, so   | ee sub. (73))                  |  |  |
| (e) walleye, sauger,<br>and hybrids | 3. Chain, Clear, Island,<br>McCann lakes (Island<br>chain of lakes), and<br>connecting waters  | a. Hook and line.              | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in March | 3 18   |
| Section 18. NR 20.20                | 0(57)(a) is amended to rea   | ad:                            |  |  |
| (57) SAWYER (for s                  | pecies or waters not liste   | d, see sub. (73))              |  |  |
| (a) All species                     | 1. Chetac lake,<br>Grindstone lake, Lac<br>Courte Oreilles lake,<br>Nelson lake, Round<br>lake, Whitefish lake,<br>Windigo lake <u>All</u><br>waters | a. Motor trolling is permitted | As specified in this<br>subsection or sub.<br>(73)       | AsAsspecifiedspecifiedin thisin thissubsectionsubsectionor sub.or sub.(73)(73)                           |
| Section 19. NR 20.20                | )(57)(b) is repealed.  |                                |  |  |
| Section 20. NR 20.20                | 0(57)(d), (f)1., and (i)4. ar  | re amended to read:            |  |  |
| (57) SAWYER (for s                  | pecies or waters not liste   | d, see sub. (73))              |  |  |
| (d) Largemouth and smallmouth bass  | 1. Black lake, Christne<br>lake  | r a. Hook and line.            | First Saturday in 0<br>May to Friday                     |  |

|                                    |   |                   | preceding third<br>Saturday in<br>June                                       |  |                         |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|--|--|-------------------------|
|                                    |   |                   | Third Saturday<br>in June to the<br>first Sunday in<br>March                 | 1 in total   | 18                      |
|                                    | 2. Nelson <u>, Whitefish</u><br>lake <u>s</u> , and Chippewa<br>flowage and all connected<br>waters within T39N R6,<br>T39N R7, T39N R8,<br>T40N R6, T40N R7 and<br>T40N R8 except the<br>Chippewa river<br>downstream from the<br>Chippewa flowage<br>(Winter) dam |                   | First Saturday in<br>May to Friday<br>preceding third<br>Saturday in<br>June | 0  |                         |
|                                    |   |                   | Third Saturday<br>in June to the<br>first Sunday in<br>March                 | 5 in total   | None                    |
|                                    | 3. <u>Big Chetac,</u><br><u>Sissabagama, lakes</u>  | a. Hook and line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in<br>March                  | 5 in total   | None                    |
| (f) Panfish                        | 1. Chippewa <u>flowage and</u><br><u>all connected waters</u><br><u>within T39N R6, T39N</u><br><u>R7, T39N R8, T40N R6,</u><br><u>T40N R7 and T40N R8</u><br><u>except the Chippewa</u><br><u>river downstream from</u><br><u>the Chippewa flowage</u>             | a. Hook and line  | . Year round<br>December 1 to<br>the first Sunday<br>in March                | 25 <u>10</u> in total<br>but no more<br>than 15 may<br>be crappie<br>15 in total<br>but none<br>may be | None<br><del>None</del> |
| (i) Walleye, sauger<br>and hybrids | 4. Sand lake, including<br>Sissabagama creek<br>upstream to Sand lake<br>road, <u>Nelson</u> ,<br><u>Sissabagama, and</u><br><u>Whitefish lakes</u>   | a. Hook and line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in<br>March                  | crappie  | 18                      |

Section 21. 20.20(57)(i)5. is created to read:

(57) SAWYER (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

| (i) Walleye, sauger,<br>and hybrids | 5. Chippewa flowage and a<br>all connected waters<br>within T39N R6, T39N<br>R7, T39N R8, T40N R6,<br>T40N R7 and T40N R8<br>except the Chippewa<br>river downstream from<br>the Chippewa flowage<br>(Winter) dam | . Hook and line      | . First Saturday in<br>May to<br>November 30                                 | 3 in total | 18   |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|------------|--|
| Section 22. NR 20.20                | 0(64)(d)1m. is amended to rea   | d:                   |  |            |  |
| (64) VILAS (for spec                | eies or waters not listed, see su   | ub. (73))            |  |            |  |
| (d) Muskellunge                     | 1m. Little St. Germain lake   | a. Hook and<br>line. | Saturday nearest<br>Memorial day to<br>November 30                           | 1          | 45 until<br>November<br>30, 2011<br>when it<br>becomes<br>34 |
| Section 23. NR 20.20                | (66)(bm) is created to read:  |                      |  |            |  |
| (66) WASHBURN (f                    | or species or waters not listed   | l, see sub. (73))    |  |            |  |
| (bm) Largemouth and smallmouth bass | 1. Nancy lake   | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to Friday<br>preceding third<br>Saturday in<br>June | 0          |  |
|                                     |   |                      | Third Saturday<br>in June to the<br>first Sunday in<br>March                 | 5 in total | None   |
|                                     | 2. Long and Middle<br>McKenzie lakes  | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May first<br>Sunday in<br>March                         | 5 in total | None   |
| Section 24. NR 20.20                | (66)(g)3. is amended to read:   |                      |  |            |  |
| (66) WASHBURN (f                    | or species or waters not listed   | l, see sub. (73))    |  |            |  |
| (g) Walleye, sauger<br>and hybrids  | 3. Balsam <del>lake</del> , Red Cedar <u>,</u><br>Long, Middle McKenzie<br>and Nancy lake <u>s</u>  | a. Hook and<br>line. | First Saturday in<br>May to the first<br>Sunday in<br>March                  | 3          | 18   |

Section 25. NR 20.20(68)(cm) is created to read:

| (68) WAUKESHA (f                   | or species or waters not listed  | d, see sub. (73)) |  |   |  |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---|--|
| (cm) Northern Pike                 | 1. Big Muskego lake including Bass bay   | a. Hook and line. | First Saturday in<br>May to first<br>Sunday in<br>March    | 1 | 40   |
| Section 26. NR 20.20               | 0(69)(c)3. is created to read:   |                   |  |   |  |
| (69) WAUPACA (for                  | r species or waters not listed,  | see sub. (73))    |  |   |  |
| (c) Largemouth and smallmouth bass | 3. Marion pond   | a. Hook and lir   | e. First Saturday<br>in May to first<br>Sunday in<br>March |   | 18 until<br>April 1,<br>2016<br>when it<br>becomes<br>14   |
| Section 27. NR 20.20               | 0(69)(d)3. is created to read:   |                   |  |   |  |
| (69) WAUPACA (for                  | r species or waters not listed,  | see sub. (73))    |  |   |  |
| (d) Northern pike                  | 3. Marion pond   | a. Hook and lir   | e. First Saturday<br>in May to first<br>Sunday in<br>March |   | 26 until<br>April 1,<br>2016<br>when it<br>becomes<br>None |
| Section 28. NR 20.20               | 0(69)(f)3. is amended to read:   |                   |  |   |  |
| (69) WAUPACA (for                  | r species or waters not listed,  | see sub. (73))    |  |   |  |
| (f) Trout and salmon               | 3. Comet creek, Little Wolf<br>river (north branch) except<br>portion described above <del>,</del> | fa. Hookand lir   | e. First Saturday<br>in May at 5:00<br>a.m. to             |   | Brown<br>and<br>rainbow                                    |

river (north branch) except portion described above, Waupaca river except portion described above portion described above portion described above portion described above trout portion described above portion described above brook trout 8

Section 29. NR 20.20(73)(a)3. is amended to read:

(73)

| (a) All species | 3. Lake Michigan tributaries;    | a. In addition to the           | As         | As           | As           |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
|                 | Peshtigo river upstream from     | restrictions under pars. (b) to | specified  | specified in | specified in |
|                 | the first railroad bridge to the | (o), all of the following       | in this    | this         | this         |
|                 | first dam, Marinette county;     | restrictions apply: Motor       | subsection | subsection   | subsection   |
|                 | Little river downstream from     | trolling is permitted in Lake   |            |              |              |
|                 |                                  |                                 |            |              |              |

| highway 141, Oconto county;<br><u>Oconto river upstream from</u><br><u>the upstream side of the</u><br><u>highway 141 bridge to the</u><br><u>first dam, Oconto county;</u> and<br>all other tributary streams,<br>rivers and ditches to Green<br>Bay upstream to the first dam<br>or lake | Michigan tributaries of Racine<br>county. From September 15 to<br>the first Saturday in May only<br>hooks with a one-half inch<br>gap or less may be used and<br>hook and line fishing is<br>prohibited from one-half hour<br>after sunset to one-half hour<br>before sunrise. From<br>September 15 to December |
|--|---|
|  | September 15 to December 31, fishing by any method is   |
|  | prohibited from one-half hour   |
|  | after sunset to one-half hour   |
|  | before sunrise.   |

Section 30. NR 21.04(7)(a) is amended to read:

NR 21.04 Sport fishing; seasons and limits. All regulations applicable to sport fishing are as follows unless expressly provided elsewhere in this chapter or the law. (23.11, 29.041)

| Kind of fish and locality | Open season (both dates inclusive)          | Daily bag limit                | Minimum length (inches) |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7) LAKE STURGEON          |   |                                |                         |
| (a) St. Croix river       | First Saturday in September to September 30 | 1 per season                   | 60 inches               |
|                           | October 1 to October 15                     | 0 (Catch-and-<br>release only) | <u>-</u>                |

Section 31. NR 23.05(5)(d)1. is amended to read:

NR 23.05(5)

(5) The seasons, size limits and bag and possession limits for hook and line fishing in the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary waters for the species listed in this subsection, except as provided in s. NR 23.06, are as follows:

| Kind of fish and locality               | Open season (both dates inclusive)                  | Possession and daily bag limit   | Minimum<br>length (in.) |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|
| (d) Largemouth bass and Smallmouth bass |   |  |                         |
| 1. All boundary waters                  | First Saturday in May to<br>November 30 December 31 | 0, beginning the first<br>Saturday in May to the<br>Friday preceding the third<br>Saturday in June |                         |
|   |   | 5 in total for the third<br>Saturday in June to<br>November 30 December<br>31                      | 14                      |

Section 32. NR 26.01(57)(a) and (57)(b) are repealed.

Section 33. NR 26.05(26) is repealed.

Section 34. NR 26.06(57)(b),(57)(d) and (57)(g) are repealed.

Section 35. NR 26.09(57)(a) and (57)(b) are repealed.

SECTION 36. EFFECTIVE DATE. This rule shall take effect April 1, 2011 except Sections 19, 20, 21, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, which shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Administrative Register, as provided in s. 227.22(2)(intro.), Stats.

SECTION 37. BOARD ADOPTION. This rule was approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin,\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

By \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew J. Frank, Secretary

(SEAL)