

Clearinghouse Rule 11-007

Report to
Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse
NR 10 and 45, Wis. Adm. Code
Natural Resources Board Order WM-01-11

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

ss. 23.09(2)(p), 23.11, 29.011, 29.014, 29.059 and 29.089 Stats.

Federal Authority

N/A

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None.

Analysis of the Rule – Rule Effect – Reason for the Rule

The Department of Natural Resources annually prepares a package of administrative rule that updates regulations relating to hunting and trapping and the use of department managed lands. The proposals contained in this rule originate from the recommendations of department staff, members of the Conservation Congress, and members of the public. The proposed rules will:

1. Repeal the sunset of a two year trial period for the extended fall turkey hunting season so that this December hunt will become permanent.
2. Extend each of the six consecutive five day spring turkey hunting seasons by two days. New seasons would run from Wednesday through the following Tuesday.
3. Eliminate the archery deer hunting season closure during the traditional November nine day gun deer season.
4. Repeal the requirement that elk hunters must wear blaze orange except when a firearm deer season is open.
5. Establish a September firearm and archery hunting season for elk. The season would run concurrently with the first 30 days of the archery deer hunting season.
6. Allow a landowner, lessees or occupant of private land, or any other person with permission of the landowner, lessee or occupant, to shoot a cougar that is in the act of killing, wounding or biting a domestic animal and require that the carcass of the cougar be turned over to the Department. Department rules already allow landowners, lessees or occupants to shoot a wolf in the same situation, although the authority is currently pre-empted by federal rule. These sections clarify that, in addition to the landowner, lessee or occupant, the authority to shoot a wolf also applies to employees and family members should wolves be delisted at the federal level.
7. Allow normal hunting hours for pheasants on weekends at stocked properties that otherwise close at 2:00 p.m.
8. Require that, if asked, bear hunters must provide carcass samples to the Department at the time of harvest registration for purposes of research.

9. Allow the use of rifles, in addition to shotguns, for firearm deer hunting in all of Waupaca County.

10. Allow firearm deer hunting at Copper Falls State Park during the traditional nine day and muzzleloader only seasons.

11. Include Manitowoc, Pierce and St. Croix in the list of counties where the discharge of firearms on Department lands is prohibited except while hunting, dog training, or at established ranges.

Agency Procedures for Promulgation

Public hearings on April 11 in each county, followed by Natural Resources Board adoption in May, followed by legislative review.

Description of any Forms (attach copies if available)

None

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