

Report to  
Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse  
NR 8 and 10, Wis. Adm. Code  
Natural Resources Board Order No. WM-01-20

Wisconsin Statutory Authority

The chapter on wild animals and plants, in s. 29.014, “rule making for this chapter”, establishes that the department shall maintain open and closed seasons for fish and game and any limits, rest days, and conditions for taking fish and game. This grant of rule-making authority allows the department to make changes related to trapping and hunting regulations.

Also, s. 23.47 (1) grants the department the authority to designate, by rule, forms of acceptable proof of hunting and trapping licenses.

Federal Authority

States possess inherent authority to manage the wildlife resources located within their boundaries, except insofar as preempted by federal treaties and laws, including regulations established in the Federal Register. None of these rule changes violate or conflict with the provisions established in the Federal Code of Regulations.

Comparison of Adjacent States

Michigan, Minnesota and Iowa require in-person registration of bobcat, fisher and otter. Illinois does not require in-person registration for bobcat or otter and does not have a fisher season. Only Michigan still requires a carcass tag be attached to the hide after harvest.

Court Decisions Directly Relevant

None.

Analysis of the Rule - Rule Effect - Reason for the Rule

Agency Procedures for Promulgation

The agency will hold hearings in January and request adoption by the Natural Resources Board. The agency will then obtain the governor’s signature and submit the rules to the legislature for review.

Description of any Forms (attach copies if available)

None.

Name and Telephone Number of Agency Contacts

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