

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

The statement of scope for this rule, SS 014-16, was approved by the Governor on February 12, 2016, published in Register No. 722A4 on February 22, 2016, and approved by the Natural Resources Board on May 24, 2016. This rule was approved by the Governor on November 7, 2017.

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board proposes an order to repeal NR 20.20 (25) (c) 1., (26) (h) 5., 20.20 (38) (d) 4., (64) (c) 6.; to amend NR 20.10 (3) and (3s), NR 20.20 (4) (h) 5. and 6., (9) (d) 1., (11) (f) 1., (15) (d) 1. a., (19) (g) 5., (21) (b) 1. and (e) 1., (22) (e) 1., (25) (f) 3. and 4., and (26) (h) 4., (27) (h) 1., (30) (a) 1., (34) (b) 2. a., and (38) (d) 2., (50) (d) 1., and (g) 3. and 4., (51) (a) 1., (c) 1., (e) 2., and (h) 2., (55) (e) 1. and 2., (56) (g) 2., (57) (a) 1., (e) 1., (f) 3., and (i) 2. and 5., and (63) (c) 4., (64) (h) 3., and (i) 3. and 6., (65) (e) 2., and (73) (e) 2., NR 20.33 (5) (d), NR 20.38 (1) (a); and to create NR 20.20 (48) (b) 1m., and 26.01 (16) (br) relating to minor changes to fisheries administrative code.

**FH-06-16**

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

**1. Statute Interpreted:** Sections 29.014(1), 29.041, and 29.053(2), Stats., have been interpreted as giving the department the authority to make changes to Wisconsin fishing rules.

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

**3. Explanation of Agency Authority:** Section 29.014(1), Stats., directs the department to establish and maintain conditions governing the taking of fish that will conserve the fish supply and ensure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing.

Section 29.041, Stats., provides that the department may regulate fishing on and in all interstate boundary waters and outlying waters.

Section 29.053 (2), Stats., provides that the department may establish conditions governing the taking of fish for the state as a whole, for counties or parts of counties, or for waterbodies or parts of waterbodies.

**4. Related Statutes or Rules:** Section 29.192 (3), Stats., allows the department to limit the number of persons fishing for sturgeon by hook and line or by spear or both, and may limit the maximum harvest of sturgeon in any area.

**5. Plain Language Analysis:** The proposed rule addresses minor changes to administrative code relating to the regulation of fishing. The rule is being pursued to ensure the rule language that governs fishing in inland, outlying, and boundary waters is accurate and properly reflects the desired management of Wisconsin waters. The objectives are to:

- Remove sections of code that are outdated or have been replaced by other statute or code changes.
- Correct errors that occurred during the drafting of rules.
- Add or repeal language to clarify intent of original rules.

SECTIONS 1 through 14 make minor changes to regulations to correct spelling errors, define boundaries of regulations on streams and rivers for better understanding and enforcement by the public, and ensure proper management of the waters as determined by local fish biologists.

For example, minor code errors were discovered after a statewide package of trout regulations were put in place in spring 2016. Changes in this rule in Bayfield and Florence counties respond to public questions about the trout regulation boundaries and make them comply with resource needs. Other examples of minor changes include:

- Kentuck Lake straddles both Forest and Vilas counties and regulations were added to Forest County to match those already listed in Vilas County code
- Trout regulations on Lake Superior tributaries in Bayfield and Iron counties were returned to what they were before they were mistakenly changed in a 2015 Board Order. Public hearing information at that time stated that the tributary regulations would not change.
- A drafting error that created a continuous open season for walleyes at Door County's Kangaroo lake is corrected and the standard statewide game fish season is restored.
- Sherman Lake regulations were updated in Iron and Vilas counties to make the season and bag limit match the Ceded Territory regulations.
- Iowa county's Twin Valley Lake currently has a one fish bag limit and 40 inch size limit for northern pike which is repealed by these rules. This is a non-standard regulation type and northern pike are not known to be present in the lake.
- Poerio Park Pond in Kenosha County was removed from the list of urban ponds because it has been filled in and no longer exists
- Northern pike and walleye regulation boundaries were clarified on the Little Eau Pleine River in Portage County to keep regulations consistent with connecting waters
- Clarifies that the trout size and bag limit for George lake/Spring Valley reservoir, located in St. Croix and Pierce counties, is the same as the bag and size limits for St. Croix County.
- In Sawyer County, lake chains were specified for all species to match newly created bass regulations on the Lac Courte Oreilles and Quiet Lake chains
- Wildwood Lake special bass regulations were removed in Vilas County, returning the season, bag, and size limits to the general northern zone regulations. It also removes the requirement for use of artificial lures, which was recently changed under bass regulations as well.
- Sturgeon spearing regulations are clarified to reduce confusion when cutting holes in the ice and to make code language consistent with the open season times designated in s. NR 20.10 (10m)
- The boundaries for sturgeon spearing regulations are clarified in code to be Lake Winnebago, Lake Poygan, Lake Butte des Morts, and Lake Winneconne rather than stating "Lake Winnebago system waters." This clarification matches with how the sturgeon carcass tags are issued for sturgeon spearing and safeguards proper enforcement of spearing boundaries.
- St. Croix County was added to a list of other northern counties in which bullheads are considered detrimental species, allowing easier control and removal of these sometimes undesirable species.
- The Brule River fish refuge in Douglas County was added to code. At some point in time it was mistakenly removed from code, although the refuge has been posted and in place for years. The department website also lists the refuge. This is a sea lamprey barrier refuge closed to fishing year-round that extends 500 feet both upstream and downstream of the barrier.

## **6. Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal Statutes and Regulations:**

Authority to promulgate fishing regulations is granted to states. None of the proposed changes violate or conflict with federal regulations.

**7. Comparison with 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 and bag and size limits may differ for species among the surrounding states, but the general principles are the same. Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois all have statewide seasons and 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 and How Any Related Findings Support the Regulatory Approach Chosen:** Fishing regulations, such as length and bag limits or season dates, are used as a tool to ensure good fishing exists into the future. The department has used different types of fishing regulations in order to: control angler impacts on fish populations; maintain numbers and sizes of fish in a lake or stream; provide different types of fishing experiences, such as fishing for dinner or for a trophy fish; and make access to fishing as fair as possible.

This rule includes minor changes to administrative code that support existing policies and fisheries management goals. The department took steps to insure the accuracy, integrity, objectivity and consistency of data were used in preparing the proposed rule and related analysis.

**9. Analysis and Supporting Documents Used to Determine the Effect on Small Business or in Preparation of an Economic Impact Report:** The proposed rule will have minimal impact on sport anglers and is not expected to have an economic impact. As with any change in regulations, there will be a requirement for anglers to learn the new rules. However, a majority of this rule change clarifies code to reflect existing policies for which anglers must already comply. The department works to notify the public of new regulations via press releases, the internet, and fishing regulations pamphlets.

The department conducted an economic impact analysis to determine if any individuals, businesses, local governments, or other entities will be affected economically. The Department did not receive any comments during the economic impact comment period that began on September 23 and continued through October 7, 2016.

**10. Effect on Small Business (initial regulatory flexibility analysis):** It is expected that there will be no economic impact directly related to these rule changes. The proposed rule does not impose any compliance or reporting requirements on small businesses nor are any design or operational standards contained in the rule.

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**Comment period:** The deadline for written comments was July 25, 2017.

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**SECTION 1. NR 20.10 (3) and (3s) are amended to read:**

**NR 20.10 (3)** Cover ~~ice~~ holes cut, in the ice which are used or maintained for sturgeon spearing pursuant to s. [NR 20.11 \(2\)](#) with a fishing shelter except during the period from 48 hours before and continuing through the open season for sturgeon spearing.

(3s) Cut, use or maintain ice-holes in the ice larger than 48 square feet for sturgeon spearing pursuant to s. NR 20.11 (2).

**SECTION 2. NR 20.20 (4) (h), 5, and 6, (9) (d) 1., (11) (f) 1., (15) (d) 1. a., (19) (g) 5., (21) (b) 1. and (e) 1., and (22) (e) 1. are amended to read:**

**NR 20.20 (4) BAYFIELD** (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see **sub.**

**(73))**

(h) Trout and salmon	<p><del>1. Bark river and all its tributaries, Bono creek, Boyd creek, Cranberry river, East Fork Cranberry river downstream from Lenawee road, Flag river downstream from its confluence with East Fork Flag river, Iron river downstream from the sea lamprey barrier at the former site of the Orienta dam, North Fish creek downstream from its confluence with Pine creek (T47NR6W S13), Onion river downstream from Lake Superior District Power Company power line (T49NR4W S6), Pikes creek downstream from the Red dam, Pine creek downstream from its confluence with Little Pine creek, Sioux river downstream from the Big Rock Falls pool (T49NR4W S19), Siskiwit river downstream from the second bridge from its mouth, Whittlesey creek downstream from Town Hall road</del></p>	a. Hook and line	<p><del>Last Saturday in March First Saturday in May to November 15</del></p>	<p>5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 and only 1 may be a rainbow trout</p>	<p>Brook trout 8, brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26</p>
	<p><u>1m. Cranberry river, East Fork Cranberry river downstream from Lenawee road, Flag river downstream from its confluence with East Fork Flag river, Iron river and all its tributaries downstream from the sea lamprey barrier at the former site of the Orienta dam, North Fish creek downstream from its confluence with Pine creek (T47NR6W S13), Sioux river downstream from the Big Rock Falls pool (T49NR4W S19), Siskiwit river downstream from the second bridge from its mouth</u></p>	a. Hook and line	<p><u>Last Saturday in March to November 15</u></p>	<p><u>5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 and only 1 may be a rainbow trout</u></p>	<p><u>Brook trout 8, brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26</u></p>

<u>1r. Bark river and all its tributaries, Whittlesey creek and all its tributaries downstream from Town Hall road</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to November 15	5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 and only 1 may be a rainbow trout, all brook trout caught shall be immediately released	Brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26
2. All other tributaries and portions of tributaries to Lake Superior not listed in subd. 1. (intro.), <u>1m. (intro.) or 1r. (intro.), including the Little Sioux river downstream from falls in NE1/4 of the NE1/4, S13, T49N, R5W</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	5 in total but only 2 may be brown trout longer than 15 and only 1 may be a rainbow trout	Brook trout 8, brown trout 10, salmon 12, rainbow trout 26
3. Cap creek, Schultz springs	a. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	All trout caught shall be immediately released	—
4. Iron river upstream from the sea lamprey barrier at the former site of the Orienta dam	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	8
5. Long lake branch of the White river <u>downstream from Taylor Lane to the confluence with the White River</u> , White river downstream from Pikes bridge to White River dam	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	1 in total	18
6. White river upstream from Pikes bridge, White river (East Fork), White river (South <del>For</del> Fork and springs), White river (West Fork) and White river unnamed tributaries	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to <del>September 30</del> <u>October 15</u>	3 in total	8
7. Namekagon river	a. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	1 in total	14
9. All waters not listed	a. Hook and line	Streams and connected springs and spring ponds: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15. Lakes: first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None

(d) Trout and salmon	1. Elk creek and all its tributaries (including Big <del>Elk</del> creek, creek 35-12, creek 5-16, creek 17-11, creek 4-2, and creek19-16)	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	5 in total	Maximum length limit 12
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NR 20.20 (11) COLUMBIA (for species and waters not listed, see **sub. (73)**)

(f) Trout and salmon	1. <del>Durward Glen</del> Durward's Glenn creek (Prentice creek)	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	5 in total	None for brown trout and rainbow trout, maximum length limit 9 for brook trout
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NR 20.20 (15) DOOR (for species and waters not listed, see **sub. (73)**)

(d) Walleye, sauger, and hybrids	1. Kangaroo lake	a. Hook and line	<del>Continuous</del> First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	18
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NR 20.20 (19) FLORENCE (for species or waters not listed, see **sub. (73)**)

(g) Trout and salmon	5. Woods creek <u>downstream from state highway 101</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	2 in total	12
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NR 20.20 (21) FOREST (for species or waters not listed, see **sub. (73)**)

(b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Crane lake, Luna lake, McKinley lake, Pickerel lake, Three Johns lake, White Deer, <u>Kentuck lake</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0 for smallmouth bass, 1 for largemouth bass	18 for largemouth bass only
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	18
(e) Panfish	1. Riley and Wabikon lakes combined, <u>Kentuck lake</u>	a. Hook and line	Continuous	25 in total but no more than 10 of a single species until March 1, 2026 when it becomes	None

NR 20.20 (22) GRANT (for species and waters not listed, see **sub. (73)**)

(e) Trout and salmon	1. Big Green river upstream from state highway 133, Big Spring branch downstream from Pine Tree road, Borah creek, Crooked creek, Little Grant river from Govier road upstream to <del>Miner-Milner</del> road, Six Mile branch	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	Maximum length limit 12
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**SECTION 3. NR 20.20 (25) (c) 1. is repealed.**

**SECTION 4. NR 20.20 (25) (f) 3. and 4., and (26) (g) 1. and (h) 4. are amended to read:**

NR 20.20 (25) IOWA (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(f) Trout and salmon	3. Gordon creek from state highway 78 upstream to Spring Creek road, <u>Mill creek from Mill road downstream to county highway H</u> , Six Mile branch upstream to Farmers Ridge road, <u>T rout creek downstream from Dry dam</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	Maximum length limit 12
	4. <del>Mill creek from Mill road downstream to county highway H</del> , Pompey Pillar creek downstream from county highway I, Smokey Hollow creek downstream from county highway P; <del>T rout creek upstream to Dry dam</del>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	2 in total	12

NR 20.20 (26) IRON (for species or waters not listed, including Lake Superior, see sub. (73))

(h) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	4. Bear river, Flambeau river upstream of Turtle-Flambeau flowage (at Murray's Landing), Little Turtle river, Manitowish river (including Benson lake, Sturgeon lake, and Vance lake), Trude lake, Turtle-Flambeau flowage, <u>Sherman lake</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	None
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**SECTION 5. NR 20.20 (26) (h) 5. is repealed.**

**SECTION 6. NR 20.20 (27) (h) 1., (30) (a) 1., (34) (b) 2. a., and (38) (d) 2. are amended to read:**

NR 20.20 (27) JACKSON (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(h) Walleye, sauger, and hybrids	1. <u>Lake Wazee</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	2 in total	15
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NR 20.20 (30) KENOSHA (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(a) All species	1. The following posted urban waters: Anderson park pond, Bong recreation area children's pond, <del>Pocahontas park pond</del>	a. Hook and line	Continuous but only persons under 16 years of age or disabled pursuant to s. 29.193(3)(a), (b), or (c), Stats., may fish from the second Saturday in March to but not including the last Saturday in April	1 largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, sauger or hybrid in total; 10 panfish and bullheads in total; 3 trout and salmon in total; None for rough fish	None
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NR 20.20 (34) LANGLADE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(b) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	2. McGee lake	a. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to <del>September 30</del> <u>October 15</u>	5 in total	None
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NR 20.20 (38) MARINETTE (for species or waters not listed, including Green Bay and its tributaries, see sub. (73))

(d) Trout and salmon	2. Peshtigo river downstream from state highway 8 in Forest County to county highway C in Marinette County, <u>Rat river</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	8
		b. Hook and line, only artificial lures may be used	October 16 to November 15	All trout caught shall be immediately released	—

**SECTION 7. NR 20.20 (38) (d) 4. is repealed.**

**SECTION 8. NR 20.20 (48) (b) 1m. is created to read:**

**NR 20.20 (48) PIERCE (for species or waters not listed, including Green Bay and its tributaries, see sub. (73))**

(b) Trout and salmon	1m. Lake George, also described as Spring Valley Flowage, on the border with St. Croix County	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	None
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**SECTION 9. NR 20.20 (50) (d) 1., and (g) 3. and 4. a., (51) (a) 1., (c) 1., (e) 2., and (h) 2., (55) (e) 1. and 2., (56) (g) 2., (57) (a) 1., (e) 1., (f) 3., and (i) 2. and 5., and (63) (c) 4. are amended to read:**

**NR 20.20 (50) PORTAGE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))**

(d) Northern pike	1. Little Eau Pleine flowage, <u>Little Eau Pleine river</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5	None
(g) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	1. Bass lake, Pleasant lake	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	15
	2. Wisconsin river including sloughs, bayous and flowages upstream to the first dam or highway bridge except that the eastern boundary of the Wisconsin River and the Little Eau Claire River, at Lake DuBay, will be defined by the south-bound lane of Interstate 39	a. Hook and line	Continuous	5 in total	15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 28 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 28
	3. Little Eau Claire river, Little Eau Pleine river <u>downstream from state highway 34</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	5 in total	15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 28 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 28
	4. Little Eau Pleine river <u>upstream from state highway 34, Little Eau Pleine flowage</u>	a. Hook and line	<u>First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March</u>	<u>3 in total</u>	<u>15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 28 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 28</u>

**NR 20.20 (51) PRICE (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))**

(a) Largemouth and smallmouth bass	1. Bass lake (T38NR2W S18), <del>Cochran lake</del> , Sailor lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to Friday preceding third Saturday in June	0 for smallmouth bass, 1 for largemouth bass	18 for largemouth bass only
			Third Saturday in June to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	18
(c) Muskellunge	1. Butternut lake, Solberg lake <u>including its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake</u>	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to November 30	1	28
(e) Panfish	2. Butternut lake, Phillips chain of lakes (Duroy, Elk, Long, and Wilson lakes combined), Pike chain (Amik, Pike, Round, and Turner lakes combined), Solberg lake <u>including its tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake</u>	a. Hook and line	Continuous	25 in total but no more than 10 of a single species until March 1, 2026 when it becomes 25 in total	None

(h) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. Butternut lake (on Ashland County border), Long (Boyd's) lake, Pike chain of lakes (Amik lake, Pike lake, Round lake, Turner lake and connecting waters combined), Solberg lake (including its tributaries upstream to the first dam or <del>lake highway bridge and Squaw Creek upstream to the first dam</del> ); THE REST OF THIS SECTION REMAINS THE SAME BUT WAS LEFT OUT OF THE RULE DUE TO ITS LENGTH	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	None but only 1 may be longer than 14
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NR 20.20 (55) RUSK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(e) Trout and salmon	1. Bass ( <del>Weyerhaeuser</del> <u>Weyerhaeuser</u> ) lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to the first Sunday in March	1 in total	14
	2. Big <del>Weigor</del> <u>Weirgor</u> creek, Devils creek, Little <del>Weigor</del> <u>Weirgor</u> creek, Main creek (south fork)	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	8

NR 20.20 (56) SAUK (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(g) Trout and salmon	2. Bear creek, Leech creek from county highway <del>TU</del> <u>TU</u> upstream to county highway <del>UT</del> <u>UT</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	2 in total	12
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NR 20.20 (57) SAWYER (for species or waters not listed see sub. (73))

(a) All species	1. Chetac lake, Grindstone lake, Lac Courte Oreilles lake chain (Lac Courte Oreilles lake, Little Lac Courte Oreilles lake, and Billy Boy flowage), Nelson lake, Round lake, Whitefish lake, Windigo lake	a. Motor trolling is permitted with up to 3 hooks, baits, or lures	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)	As specified in this subsection or sub. (73)
(e) Muskellunge	1. Chippewa flowage (and all connected waters within T 39NR6, T 39N R7, T 39NR8, T 40N R6, T 40NR7 and T 40N R8 except the Chippewa river downstream from the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam), Grindstone lake, Lac Courte Oreilles lake chain (Lac Courte Oreilles lake, Little Lac Courte Oreilles lake, and Billy Boy flowage)	a. Hook and line	Saturday nearest Memorial day to November 30	1	50
(f) Panfish	3. Connors lake, Lake of the Pines, <del>Lost Land lake</del> , Round lake chain (Round lake, Little Round lake T 41N-R8W-S36), Spring lake, <del>Teal lake</del> , Winter lake, Quiet lakes chain (Lost Land lake, Teal lake, and Teal River flowage)	a. Hook and line	Continuous	25 in total but no more than 10 of a single species until March 1, 2026 when it becomes 25 in total	None
(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	2. West Fork Chippewa river from <del>Moose Lake dam</del> upstream to FR 474 176, Moose lake, Sand lake including Sissabagama creek upstream to Sand lake road, Windigo lake, Flambeau river and its impoundments, sloughs, and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake from Big Falls Flowage dam (Flambeau river) in Rusk County upstream to Crowley Flowage dam (North Flambeau river) in Price County, South Fork Flambeau river upstream from its confluence with the Flambeau river and its impoundments, sloughs, and tributaries upstream to the first dam or lake	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	None except only 1 may be longer than 14

5. Chippewa flowage (and all connected waters within T 39N R6, T39NR7, T39N R8, T 40N R6, T 40N R7, T40N R8 including the Chippewa river downstream from the Chippewa flowage (Winter) dam) to the Arpin dam <u>and the West Fork of the Chippewa river upstream to the Moose Lake dam)</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to November 30	3 in total	15 except the possession of fish from 20 to 24 is prohibited and only 1 fish may be longer than 24
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NR 20.20 (63) VERNON (for species and waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(c) Trout and salmon	4. Little Baraboo river downstream from county highway EE, <u>Seymour creek</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May At 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	8
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**SECTION 10. NR 20.20 (64) (c) 6. is repealed.**

**SECTION 11. NR 20.20 (64) (h) 3., and (i) 3. and 6., (65) (e) 2., and (73) (e) 2. are amended to read:**

NR 20.20 (64) VILAS (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(h) Trout and salmon	3. Deerskin river, Little Deerskin river, <del>Little Tamarack creek</del> , Military creek, Mishonagon creek, North creek and springs, Plum creek, Siphon creek and springs, Tamarack creek <u>(including Little Tamarack creek and East Fork Tamarack creek)</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	3 in total	8
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(i) Walleye, sauger and hybrids	3. Bear river, Manitowish river (including Benson lake, Sturgeon lake, and Vance lake), <u>Sherman lake</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May to the first Sunday in March	3 in total	None
	6. Mystery lake, Nebish lake, Palette lake, <del>Sherman lake</del> , Spruce lake	a. Hook and line	Continuous	None	None

NR 20.20 (65) WALWORTH (for species or waters not listed, see sub. (73))

(e) Trout and salmon	<del>2. Bluff creek south of Mills road upstream to Bluff creek headwaters east of highway P, Whitewater creek upstream of Willis Ray road to south of Mills road</del>  <u>2. Bluff creek upstream from terminus with Whitewater creek west of highway P to headwaters east of highway P, Whitewater creek upstream from Willis Ray road to terminus with Bluff creek west of highway P</u>	a. Hook and line	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to October 15	2 in total	12
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**NR 20.20 (73) SPECIES OR WATERS NOT LISTED IN SUBS. (1) TO (72)**

(e) Lake sturgeon	<del>2. Lake Winnebago system waters Lake Winnebago, Lake Poygan, Lake Butte des Morts, Lake Winneconne</del>	a. Hook and line	No open season	--	--
		b. Spearing	Second Saturday in February and continuing for 16 consecutive days unless closed pursuant to s. NR 20.33 (5).	1 per season, as specified by carcass tag	36

**SECTION 12. NR 20.33 (5) (d) is amended to read:**

NR 20.33 (5) (d) *Effective date of season closure.* The season closure shall take effect at ~~12:30~~ 1:00 p.m. on the day following issuance of the department press release announcing the season closure in par. (c) when the actual harvest meets or exceeds 90% but is less than 100% of the total allowable annual harvest of juvenile female sturgeon, adult female sturgeon or male sturgeon for that season, based upon the registration of harvested sturgeon pursuant to s. NR 20.10 (10). The season closure shall take effect at ~~6:30-7:00~~ a.m. on the day following issuance of the department press release announcing the season closure in par. (c) when the actual harvest meets or exceeds 100% of the total allowable annual harvest of juvenile female sturgeon, adult female sturgeon or male sturgeon for that season, based upon the registration of harvested sturgeon pursuant to s. NR 20.10 (10).

**SECTION 13. NR 20.38 (1) (a) is amended to read:**

**NR 20.38 (1) BULLHEADS.** The department finds that bullheads are detrimental in the following waters:

(a) All waters in Barron, Burnett, Chippewa, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, St. Croix, Taylor, Vilas, and Washburn counties.

**SECTION 14. NR 26.01 (16) (br) is created to read:**

NR 26.01 Fish refuges.

(16) Douglas (br) Brule river 500 feet upstream and downstream from Continuous Continuous  
sea lamprey barrier

**SECTION 15. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This rule takes effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

**SECTION 16. BOARD ADOPTION.** This rule was approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on September 27, 2017.