

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
DOA-2049 (R09/2016)

DIVISION OF EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE  
101 EAST WILSON STREET, 10TH FLOOR  
P.O. BOX 7864  
MADISON, WI 53707-7864  
FAX: (608) 267-0372

## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis

<p>1. Type of Estimate and Analysis  <input type="checkbox"/> Original   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Updated   <input type="checkbox"/> Corrected</p>	<p>2. Date  11/09/2020</p>
<p>3. Administrative Rule Chapter, Title and Number (and Clearinghouse Number if applicable)  NR 20, Fishing: Inland Waters; Outlying Waters</p>	
<p>4. Subject  FH-25-19 and FH-17-20 (E), Minocqua Chain walleye harvest regulations</p>	
<p>5. Fund Sources Affected  <input type="checkbox"/> GPR   <input type="checkbox"/> FED   <input type="checkbox"/> PRO   <input type="checkbox"/> PRS   <input type="checkbox"/> SEG   <input type="checkbox"/> SEG-S</p>	<p>6. Chapter 20, Stats. Appropriations Affected</p>
<p>7. Fiscal Effect of Implementing the Rule  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Fiscal Effect   <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues   <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs   <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs  <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate   <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues   <input type="checkbox"/> Could Absorb Within Agency's Budget</p>	
<p>8. The Rule Will Impact the Following (Check All That Apply)  <input type="checkbox"/> State's Economy   <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Businesses/Sectors  <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government Units   <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utility Rate Payers  <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <b>(if checked, complete Attachment A)</b></p>	
<p>9. Estimate of Implementation and Compliance to Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(1).  \$0</p> <p>The emergency rule extends an existing catch-and-release regulation for walleye on the Minocqua Chain of Lakes. The permanent rule will implement a limited harvest regulation in administrative code moving forward. No implementation or compliance costs are expected to be incurred.</p>	
<p>10. Would Implementation and Compliance Costs Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals Be \$10 Million or more Over Any 2-year Period, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(2)?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>11. Policy Problem Addressed by the Rule  This emergency rule will extend the existing walleye harvest regulation on the Minocqua Chain of Lakes (consisting of Kawaguesaga, Minocqua, Mid, Little Tomahawk and Tomahawk lakes), continuing the extension that was originally implemented in FH-24-19 (E). The catch-and-release regulation, established to allow the walleye population to recover from a population decline, sunsetted in April 2020. Extending this regulation will allow walleye stocked into these waters to continue to replenish populations on the Minocqua Chain. The Lac du Flambeau Chippewa tribe has also agreed to maintain the catch-and-release only regulation as long as the state also does so, so the Minocqua Chain will remain closed to tribal spearing for the 2021-22 fishing season in concert with the emergency and permanent rules. Permanent rule FH-25-19 will also establish a limited harvest regulation; the final regulation will be determined following spring 2021 data collection and public input.</p>	
<p>12. Summary of the Businesses, Business Sectors, Associations Representing Business, Local Governmental Units, and Individuals that may be Affected by the Proposed Rule that were Contacted for Comments.  The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, lake associations, business associations, the local chamber of commerce, local bait shops, and anglers participated in public meetings held in Minocqua prior to development of this rule.</p>	
<p>13. Identify the Local Governmental Units that Participated in the Development of this EIA.  The department will contact local governments that may have an interest in developing this EIA for the permanent rule.</p>	
<p>14. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Specific Businesses, Business Sectors, Public Utility Rate Payers, Local Governmental Units and the State's Economy as a Whole (Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)</p>	

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The proposed rules are expected to have a minimal economic impact, if any. The rule will mainly affect individual anglers and does not directly affect businesses. There may be a slight economic benefit to these rules due to shifting from a catch-and-release management strategy to one that allows limited angler harvest with the permanent rule. No expenses are imposed on businesses, business associations, public utility rate payers, or local governmental units as a result of the rules. No additional compliance or reporting requirements will be imposed on small businesses as a result of these rule changes.

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### 15. Benefits of Implementing the Rule and Alternative(s) to Implementing the Rule

The rules will allow the walleye population additional time to rebuild, with the aim of solidifying natural walleye reproduction and recruitment by 2021. A more sustainable walleye population will contribute to improved fishing opportunities for all anglers. Allowing limited harvest after years of catch-and-release-only fishing will provide anglers a catch-and-keep fishing experience. Not implementing the rules would mean that the Minocqua Chain would revert to inappropriate harvest regulations for walleye. The increased harvest pressure could reverse the positive trend of population growth, resulting in a failure of the walleye population to meet management goals and remain self-sustaining.

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### 16. Long Range Implications of Implementing the Rule

These rules will contribute to a healthier, more sustainable walleye population and the reduced need for stocking walleye in the Minocqua Chain of Lakes

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### 17. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Federal Government

No federal regulations apply. States possess inherent authority to manage the fishery and wildlife resources within their boundaries, except insofar as preempted by federal treaties and laws, including regulations established in the Federal Register.

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### 18. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Neighboring States (Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota)

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.

Notably, Minnesota established a catch-and-release only regulation for walleye on Mille Lacs to address walleye population decline and low walleye recruitment. The catch-and-release-only season was in effect for three years. The Minnesota DNR manages Mille Lacs jointly with the Ojibwe tribes, similar to the cooperative approach for managing the Minocqua Chain by the Wisconsin DNR and Ojibwe tribes.

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