



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 Warm Water
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
 Form 8300-026 (R 11/17) Page 1 of 9

ORDER OF BUSINESS	08/13/2022	0930	Holiday Inn, Stevens Point
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Joe Weiss at	0930
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Robert Lombard Rick Olson Joe Weiss Paul Reith Thomas Schwefel Eugene Altwies Randy Farchmin Allan Brown Michael Kelby Nick Schertz Kurt Justice Bob Bohardt Ted Eisenbacher Jason Brazzale Randy Symicek Al Peterson Michael Arrowood Scott Strook Harry Bowey Jr. Tom Christman Brett Weir Robert McNeill J. Michael Gould
EXCUSED	James Engebretson Reed Kabelowsky Pete Doperalski
UNEXCUSED	Adam Liebersbach Robert Nicksic
GUESTS	DNR Liaison Alex Latzka Fisheries. DNR Liaison Greg Sass Office of Applied Science DNR Liaison Matt Groppi Law Enforcement

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Allowed Puplic Resloution Speakers/Authors to present their resolutions first.

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Joe Weiss presented Warm Water Committee Mission Statement

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

- A.** 1. Panfish limits on Delta Lake, Bayfield County (041622) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Chairman Joe Weiss hereon will be referred as Joe. Joe presented resolution.	
ACTION	Paul Reith made a motion to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution. And he stated to advance the aforementioned resolution(s) to read, a 10 bag limit aggregate of all Pan fish Species which will align with the statewide regulation. Motion Second by Rick Olson to advance. Motion to advance passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- B.** 2. Chippewa River/ Lake Wissota Daily panfish/ crappie bag limit decrease (090122) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution	
ACTION	Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- C.** 3. Establish new panfish regulation for a sustainable trophy fishery (090322) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	DNR Fish Biologist Alex Latzka mentioned that there is no current study for a stricter regulations.	
ACTION	Motions to reject by Tom Schwefel and Second by Kurt Justice, the motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- D.** 4. Transportation of fish rule change (090722) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to reject by Eugene Altweis and second by Harry Bowey. The motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- E.** 5. Mead Lake (Clark County) panfish bag limit initiative (100322) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution	
ACTION	Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- F.** 6. Panfish limits (100522) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Comments by Paul Reith favors to reject because "we should let local people to decide" Nick Schertz comments, "not all lakes are created equal, forage for pan fish is different from lake to lake" Kurt Justice comments, "Let the local people decide"	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Nick Schertz and second by Scott Strook. The motion to reject passed	

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

G. 7. Reduction of pan fishing on Mead Lake in Clark County (100622) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution	
ACTION	Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

H. 8. The DNR should not develop a distinct population segment (DPS) of Lake Winnebago Sturgeon (133722) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Alex Latzka commented that there is a distinctive possibility of DPS (distinct population segment of Lake Winnebago Sturgeon) Author is referring to Lake Sturgeon in general.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Nick Schertz and second by Thomas Schwefel, Motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

I. 9. Fishing in the sturgeon hole (200622) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to advance by Mike Arrowood and Second by Scott Strook, Motion to advance passed. Hand vote was initiated by Joe Weiss, 11 hands to advance and 7 hands to reject. Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

J. 10. Change the Forest County Trolling regulation to align Forest County with the northern most counties (1 line per person/ 3 max per boat) (210222) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to advance by Kurt Justice and second by Al Peterson, Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

K. 11. Wisconsin Northern Pike ice spearing (280422, 380822, 540822, 570822, 590222, 661022, 711622) Cody Krueger, David Finch, Brian Davis

DISCUSSION	Alex Latzka, DNR is neutral on this matted. Alex did state, there is no biological impact for this kind a harvest. Rick Olson commented harvest under 18", Paul Reith commented underwater spearing was rejected last year and we need consistency. Tom Schwefel commented he is on support of the resolution, because it is another opportunity for young anglers.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by ?? and second by ?? Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

L. 12. Improving Moose Lake (Sawyer County) crappie resource (slot size) (320822) Ted Eisenbacher

DISCUSSION	Alex Latzka commented that this regulation is not in the tool box. Mike Arrowood commented that complex regulations are not in the tool box. Paul Reith commented that this would be hard to enforce this regulation. Kurt Justice commented that unique regulations are posted at boat launches. Local Biologist is in favor of this regulation. comment was these authors are property owners on this lake. Rick Olson commented, people can read the regulations at the boat launch.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Alan Lombard and second by Brett Weir. no vote. Motion to reject by Paul Reith and second by Tom Christman. Motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- M.** 13. Catch and release bass fishing outlying waters of Green Bay and Lake Michigan within ¼ mile of Washington, Detroit, Plum, Pilot, Hog or Rock islands (370222) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to reject by Tom Christman and second by Brett Weir. Motion to reject passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- N.** 14. Emma Lake panfish bag limit reduction to 15/5 (370422) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to reject by Brett Weir and second by Tom Christman. Motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- O.** 15. Lake Wausau Northern Pike slot limit (370722) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to advance by Eugene Altweis and second by Rob Lombard. Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- P.** 16. Reducing daily bag limits in response to increases in pressure and technological advances (370822) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to reject by Harry Bowey and second by Nick Schwertz. Motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- Q.** 17. Reducing panfish bag limits on Norrie Lake to 10 fish of each species from the current 25 (370922) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution	
ACTION	Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- R.** 18. Spirit River Flowage panfish bag limit reduction to 10 (371122) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution	
ACTION	Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- S.** 19. Bass size and bag limit on Pelican Lake, Oneida County (440322) Larry Burkhardt and ED Rueckl

DISCUSSION	Paul Reith commented last assessment was ?, Kurt Justice commented "was the census average"? Mike Arrowood commented 50 fish cribs have an impact form human exploitation of pan fish.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Kurt Justice and second by Brett Weir. Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- T.** 20. Panfish daily limit on Pelican Lake, Oneida County (441222) Larry Burkhardt

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to advance by Tom Schwefel and second by Paul Reith. Motion to advance passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- U.** 21. Reduce panfish limits on Wisconsin River’s Rainbow Flowage (441322) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution	
ACTION	Motion to advance passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- V.** 22. Creating a catch and release season for sturgeon that mirrors the Minnesota catch and release season (560422) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to advance by Ted Eisenbacher and second by Mike Arrowood. Motion to advance rejected. Motion to reject by Paul Reith and second Kurt Justice. Motion to reject passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- W.** 23. Improving Moose Lake (Sawyer County) crappie resource (580822) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion to reject by Paul Reith and second by Tom Christman. Motion to reject passed	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

- X.** 24. Problems with fishing tournaments on small lakes (580922) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Alex Latzka, said the DNR is looking into this	
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ACTION	Motion to advance by Tom Christman and second by Rick Olson. motion Failed. Motion to reject by Eugene Altweis and second by HarryBowey. Motion to reject passed
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Y. 25. Restoring Moose Lake crappie resource (581122) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Rob Lombard and second by Ted Eisenbacher. Motion to reject passed.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Z. 26. Protecting Wisconsin’s panfish fishery by changing daily limits statewide to 25 fish total but no more than 10 of the following species (bluegill/sunfish, crappies, and perch) (601022) Joe Weir

DISCUSSION	DNR is not in support of this
ACTION	Motion to reject by Rob Lombard and second by Harry Bowey. Motion to reject passed
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

AA. 27. Panfish protection on Marl Lake, Waushara County (700222) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Refer to Resolution (041622) to combine resolutions 1,2,5,7,17,18,21,27 as one resolution
ACTION	Motion to advance passed
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

AB. 28. Use upriver sturgeon tag on Lake Winnebago after upriver season closes (700322) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Tom Schwefel and second by Bob Mc Neil. Motion to reject passed.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

AC. 29. Restriction on rough fishing methods on the Fox and Wolf rivers during the Spring spawning run (711322) Joe Weiss

DISCUSSION	Alex Latzka the DNR is looking into this.
ACTION	Motion to reject by Brett Weir and second by Eugene Altweis. Motion to reject passed.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

AD. 1. DNR Fisheries update

Alexander Latzka, Ph.D

DISCUSSION	<p>Here are the talking points I went through today.</p> <p>Walleye Management Plan is in the final stages of approval all of the public comments have been reviewed and taken into account and the final version is headed to the Fisheries Management Policy Team in August and we anticipate a final approved version being presented to the Natural Resources Board in December.</p> <p>We continue hiring and have hired over 40 FTE positions in the past 18 months and have several more in the process of recruitment at this time.</p> <p>We are doing a program review of the fisheries management program looking at our staffing levels, budget and workload. This review will be complete at the end of this year and results and recommendations will be shared with the WCC.</p> <p>Starting at the end of August and into the Fall we will be engaging the public in the next cycle of Lake Michigan stocking</p> <p>We have completed the translation of the general inland regulations and the trout regulations in to Hmong and Spanish and also have a large print format available online</p> <p>We continue to monitor PFOS levels in fish and work closely with Department of Health Services on updating fish consumption advisories on a water by water basis</p> <p>2022 license sales have dropped slightly from the high we saw in 2020 and 2021, however sales are still stronger than prior to 2020</p> <p>-Alex</p>	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

AE. 2. DNR fisheries research project update

Greg G. Sass, Ph.D.

DISCUSSION	<p>WCC Warmwater Committee Research Report</p> <p>Research Presence</p> <p>Madison – Trout Research, Great Lakes Research, Panfish and Climate Adaptation Research</p> <p>Scientists - Dr. Matthew Mitro (MAFWA fisheries biologist of the year), Dr. Iyob Tsehaye, Dr. Zach Feiner (DNR/UW-Madison)</p> <p>Biologists and Technicians – Nick Hoffman, Mirjana Mataya, Spencer Vanderbloemen</p> <p>Spooner – Muskellunge Research, Walleye Research, Hatchery Research, Alum Effects Research</p> <p>Dr. Colin Dassow (hired this past November to fill 6-year position vacancy)</p> <p>Biologist – Jeremiah Gorne</p> <p>Escanaba Lake Boulder Junction – Walleye Research, Muskellunge Research, Fish Habitat Research, Hatchery Research, Invasive Species Research, Climate Adaptation Research</p> <p>Fisheries Research Team Leader – Dr. Greg Sass</p> <p>Scientists – Dr. Stephanie Shaw, Katti Renik</p> <p>Biologists and Technicians – Matt Lorenzoni, Steven Broda, Brenden Elwer, Taylor Preul-Stimetz, Joe Mrnak</p> <p>Molecular Conservation Genetics Lab – Fish Genetic and Genomic Research</p> <p>Dr. Jared Homola, Paul Abosta</p> <p>Departures</p> <p>Dr. Emma Lundberg – USFWS</p> <p>Ben Breaker – WDNR Fisheries Biologist in Plymouth</p> <p>Logan Sikora – WDNR Fisheries Biologist in Sturgeon Bay</p> <p>Logan Zebro – University of Nebraska-Kearney</p> <p>Current Research</p> <p>Muskellunge Age and Growth – Colin Dassow</p> <p>Temporal Trends in Trout – Matt Mitro</p> <p>Trout-Beaver Interactions – Matt Mitro</p> <p>Brook Trout Genetics – Matt Mitro</p>	
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	Panfish Research – Zach Feiner Spawning Phenology – Zach Feiner Climate Adaptation – Zach Feiner Lake Michigan Predator-Prey – Iyob Tsehaye Lake Michigan Whitefish Model – Iyob Tsehaye Brule River Steelhead Model – Iyob Tsehaye Northern Highland Fishery Research Area – Greg Sass and Steph Shaw Coarse Woody Habitat and Fish Productivity – Greg Sass and Steph Shaw Walleye Comparative Recruitment – Steph Shaw, Colin Dassow, GLIFWC, Greg Sass Musky Exploitation – Steph Shaw, Iyob Tsehaye, Greg Sass, WICFRU Hatchery Walleye Sex Ratios – Steph Shaw, Greg Sass Fish Community Productivity – Greg Sass and Steph Shaw CONSULTATION	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

AF. 3. DNR LE update

Matthew Groppi DNR Law Enforcement

DISCUSSION	Here’s what I have for an LE update, let me know if you want more information for any of these resolutions: LE Feedback regarding resolution #090722: the resolution would require a change in state statute. The background information references it is possible to approximate size of fish based on the species and approximate the total length. The LE response is that for enforcement purposes, we cannot approximate size. LE Feedback regarding resolution #711322: Feedback from an area warden supervisor is that LE has been working with fisheries on this issue and the area supervisor noted that investigating complaints related to the spawning marshes is challenging due to remote areas the spawning marshes are located in. LE Feedback regarding resolution #200622: LE staff in the area have concerns based on their experiences about potential enforcement challenges that this presents. LE Feedback regarding resolution #700322: Area warden supervisor has concerns about the proposal due to lack of precedence with other species that have tagging requirements and using authorizations in another unit. General LE Update: The former Bureau of Law Enforcement is now the Division of Public Safety and Resource Protection. The Division is currently reviewing our statewide team and regional structure to ensure we are best positioned to serve the public. Several recent and pending warden retirements around the state, including Captain Rick Rosen who retired in July and was previously assigned to the WCC Warm Water Committee. Our next Warden Recruit Class will start in October of 2022 and they will be assigned to their stations between July and October of 2023 based on training needs. The Division has a full academy for new wardens with no prior law enforcement experience and an accelerated academy for new staff with prior experience. State recreational property enforcement continues to be a primary focus for the Division, in addition to our responsibilities with hunting, fishing, trapping, environmental, and recreational vehicle enforcement. We have hired Recreation Wardens to provide specialized enforcement in response to trends related to recreational vehicles. Notably, there has been an increase in fatal ATV/UTV incidents around the state. New squad trucks being issued to field staff are fully marked.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	TBA
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ACTION	
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IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	3:15 pm
SUBMITTED BY	Brett Weir
DATE	08/13/2022