

680309

Title: Revised open water hunting rule

The problem:

There has been much confusion as to what is considered legal concealment of a boat or blind when waterfowl hunting on Wisconsin lakes or streams. The current rule states that natural vegetation rooted to the bottom and extending above the surface of the water to offer whole or partial concealment to the hunter. This rule causes conflicts because it is open to interpretation. This rule also restricts hunters using boats or blinds from miles of shoreline that do not have emergent vegetation.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing a rule change allowing waterfowl hunters to hunt within five feet of any legal shoreline, (i.e. proper distance from dwellings, city limits, etc.) including islands, or within five feet of any emergent vegetation which is larger in surface area than the boat or blind being hunted from.

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