

COUNTY #4 #8 2010

Northern Pike Size Limit on Diamond Lake

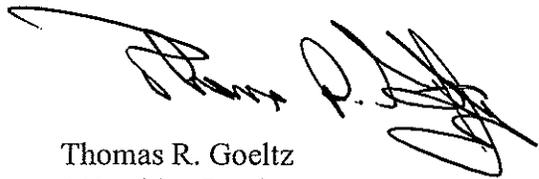
Diamond Lake in Southern Bayfield County currently has a 32" size limit for Northern Pike. In the early 1990's the DNR believed that they could make certain lakes around the state as trophy lakes for Northern. In 1995, a 32" size limit and a daily limit of 1, was established on Diamond Lake.

My family have been land owners in Bayfield County and have been fishing on Diamond Lake for over 100 years. Since 1995, our family has caught very few Northern over 32". My 14 year old son has never caught a "Keeper" Northern – over the 32" limit.

The DNR fish studies conducted on Diamond Lake have shown a gradual decline in the size and number of Northern. In the most recent study in 2009, there were 63 Northern captured, with a length range of 16"-29". No Northern over 29"! There are probably many factors which may be contributing to this size reduction, but the fact remains that the 32" size limit on Diamond Lake over the past 15 years has not been effective.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Congress at its Annual Meeting held in Bayfield County on April 12, 2010 vote to reduce the Northern Pike size limit from 32" down to 26" with a daily limit of 2.

The DNR Fisheries Manager for Bayfield County has been consulted and believes this change would not have a significant adverse impact on the fishery of Diamond Lake



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