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DNR Rule Books Have Become Too Confusing and Too Long.

The Problem:

It now takes a Philadelphia lawyer to read, understand, and interpret all of the DNR rule books. Law abiding citizens can be arrested for not following some rule buried on page 20. Further, complex rules have discouraged citizens from sports, such as duck/goose hunting and trout fishing, for fear of being arrested for violating a rule on page 20. Lawyers, anti-hunters, and anti-fisher people love this way to discourage us.

The rule books have also become too long, e.g., 2010 fishing book 71 pages; 2010 Trout book 32 pages; turkey regulations book 31 pages. Each year, new rules are added without regard to consolidation to existing rules. No one seems to be looking at the "big picture". While helpful to post rules at the boat landing for each lake, it is also a needless expense that could be avoided. Even printing so many pages for each rule book is a needless expense.

My father and grandfather would roll over in their graves if they knew the present day complexity and length of the DNR rule books.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in St Croix County on April 12, 2010 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by taking actions as follows:

1. Limit the number of pages of the DNR rule books, while keeping print size the same or larger, to be equal or less than that of the 2011 rule books;
2. Create a committee to (a) consolidate rules, and (b) eliminate obsolete rules; and
3. Any new proposed rule must cite the present rule most associated with it or cite a rule that would be eliminated if the new rule is enacted.

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19 yes
28 no