

Citizens Resolution #-----

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REQUIRE DNR TO LOWER THE WALLEYE LENGTH LIMIT AT BLACKHAWK, COX HOLLOW, AND TWIN VALLEY LAKES, IOWA COUNTY, FROM 18 INCHES TO 15 INCHES AND THE DAILY BAG LIMIT OF 3 WALLEYES to 1 WALLEYE.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned lakes are all navigable waters of the State and all are located within state property boundaries. The walleye fishery of these lakes, have statewide significance, for their economic, recreational and resource values. They are enjoyed by both state residents and non-residents.

Walleyes inhabiting these lakes are stocked, there is no natural reproduction. They are a put and take fishery. The current walleye length limit of 18 inches is not cost effective, has unacceptable mortality rates and losses through or over the dams. This results in high costs with low returns to fishing license holders. The current size limit has a greater mercury health risk than the proposed 15 inch size limit. Many waters of the state have 15 inch walleye size limits. Walleye stocked in these lakes, take about 5 years to reach 18 inches and less than 3 years to reach 15 inches. The majority of fishermen will experience a greater degree of success and satisfaction with a 15 inch size limit, including, inexperienced and youth anglers.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting, here, in Iowa County, on April 11, 2016 recommend to the Conservation Congress to call upon the DNR and the Natural Resources Board, to take necessary remedial action, through the process of Emergency Rule making authority, to make the requested rule changes.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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