

# Wisconsin Conservation Congress

## Trout Committee

### Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	09/29/2012	10:00 am	Mead Visitors Center
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#### I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Chairman VandenBloomen at 10:05 am
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##### B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Dennis Haanpaa, Roger Roehl, Robert Haase, Darriol Sterckx jr, Dennis VandenBloomen, Maurice Amundson, Todd Oestrich, Jim Werzba, Jordan Weeks (DNR), Dave Hausman (DNR)
EXCUSED	Joe Helwig, David Barron, Mike Kuhr, Staush Gruzynski, Robert Maass
UNEXCUSED	none
GUESTS	none

##### C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	Chairman VandenBloomen asked to include a discussion of future meeting dates.
ACTION	Members agreed to add this to the end of the meeting.

##### D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Chairman VandenBloomen asked for all members present to review the mission statement. After review members agreed to leave as is.
ACTION	none

##### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	None present
ACTION	none

#### II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

##### A. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

**VANDEBLOOMEN**

DISCUSSION	Members inquired as to past members of the committee, and why they were no longer on the committee. Chairmen VandenBloomen explained the reduction in the size of the committee, and the fact that any unexcused absence also brought removal from a committee.	
ACTION	none	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

**B. DNR TROUT COMMITTEE****JORDAN WEEKS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	DNR liaison Jordan Weeks gave us a briefing on DNR Trout Committee and the review of the possible trout regulation changes. He also commented on contacts from the public about changes in the regulations. He feels people are bypassing the Conservation Congress and going straight to their legislators. May be due to lack of knowledge of the Congress and its purpose. Also may be due to the time involved in getting changes done due to ACT 21. Haase commented that we become more proactive in letting the public know who the Congress Representatives are for each county and do things such as trying to have sportsman's clubs provide a link on their website if they have one to the Congress Website.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Members asked Weeks, to refer any issues he gets from the public, to contact their county representatives to help get their request proposed to the Conservation Congress.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**C. TROUT STAMP MONEYS****CHAIRMAN VANDENBLOOMEN**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Chairman VandenBloomen brought up the shortage of Trout Stamp money due to the lack of increase in stamp cost, and the increase cost of materials needed. In his review of the money collected he said it appears that only <b>\$3.40</b> from the \$10.00 collected for Trout Stamps from Conservation Patron License sales is being put into the Trout Stamp Fund. Members discussed the possibility of a cost increase for the Stamp. Weeks said the Department position is absolutely no push for raises in prices in the near future. However, with the time it takes for a congress resolution to go through the process, the committee felt it important enough to push forward in the DNR and in the Congress for an increase.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Oestrich, motion to have VandenBloomen form an advisory question to increase the cost of the Trout Stamp from \$10 to \$15 for the spring hearing. 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Haase. Motion passed. Weeks Offered to check on the Patrons stamp money issue and get back to the members with the details.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**D. TROUT SURVEY****JORDAN WEEKS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Weeks gave a review of the upcoming report on Trout Fishing Participation Survey. Explained that the survey shows drop in participation is due mostly to busy lives, and other hobbies. Not because of regulations and limits. Full report due out sometime near the end of the year, or first of next year.	
<b>ACTION</b>	none	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**E. DNR TROUT REGS. REVIEW****JORDAN WEEKS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Weeks gave a report on the DNR Trout Committee review of the current fishing regulations, and possible changes. Some of the proposed changes being looked at are; Longer season, earlier start, and later close Eliminate Category 4 Category 1: no size limit, 5 fish bag limit Category 2: 8" or 9" size limit, 3 fish bag limit Category 3 special regs (catch and release, trophy, ETC,) Eliminate Fly Fishing only regulations, convert to artificial only.  He stressed all of these are only proposals as of now, no changes have been agreed to as of yet.	
<b>ACTION</b>	none	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**F. FRAC SAND MINING****CHAIRMAN VANDENBLOOMEN**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Chairman VandenBloomen expressed concerns with frac sand mining and its relation to Trout Streams. The major concerns are high capacity wells and their affect on water tables, and wash plants and the possibility of runoff of settling pools warm water into cold water streams. Weeks commented that the department reviews all these well permit applications, but cannot stop the wells construction without good cause. His concern is the affect of the wells is not something that is easily predicted.	
<b>ACTION</b>	none	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Oestrich voiced his concern of Category 5 streams for certain user groups, such as sections of the Wolf River.
<b>ACTION</b>	Weeks explained the new regulations coming out of the DNR review will most likely take care of the Fly Fishing only sections on streams
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Hausman proposed members be open to changes in how and when meetings are conducted. He suggested we look into Live Meeting over the DNR blue line in the future to save travel, and time.
<b>ACTION</b>	Members agreed to this concept
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Haase asked if it would be possible to have a Congress Rep. and a Trout Unlimited Rep. on the DNR Cold Water Management Committee, similar to their representation on the DNR Muskie Committee.
<b>ACTION</b>	Weeks said he would check with the Committee Chair, as it is his decisions to have one on or not.
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Amundson questioned why there was no more actual Trout Stamp. He has been asked the question by others who have collected them from before the change. Haase informed us that Trout Unlimited had ran the Trout Stamp competition last year and prints were made available that included the Trout Stamp. Virgil Beck was the winner of the competition. Darrell Toliver and Trout Unlimited will be running the competition again this year.
<b>ACTION</b>	none
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Next meeting date
<b>ACTION</b>	All attending agreed to meet the first Saturday after Labor Day next year. Sept. 7, 2013

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>12:30 pm</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Roger Roehl</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>10/01/2012</b>