



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 Warm Water Advisory Committee
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
 Form 8300-026 (R 11/17) Page 1 of 7

ORDER OF BUSINESS	08/17/2019	0930	Mead Wildlife Area Visitor Center
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Joe Weiss at	0930
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Joe Weiss, Robert Lombard, Rick Olson, Allan Brown, Michael Kelby, Kurt Justice, Steve Budnik, Peter Doperalski, James Engebretson, Bob Bohardt, Randy Symicek, Ted Eisenbacher, Jason Brazzale, Joe Stuchlak, Adam Liebersbach, Scott Strook, Michael Arrowood, Tom Christman, Reed Kabelowsky, Brett Weir, Robert McNeill, J. Michael Gould, John Blumreich, Paul Reith, Thomas Daluga Jr. Joshua Hennlich, Alex Latske, Greg Sass, Rick Rosen
EXCUSED	James Winkler, Harry Bowey Jr.
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	Alex Latske, Fisheries. Greg Sass, Office of applied Science. Robin Barnhardt LE Supervisor

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	Lead by Joe
ACTION	None

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Lead by Joe
ACTION	None

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	None

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A.

1.	Add Forest County to motor trolling restriction list (210219)	none
	DISCUSSION	Kurt Justice commented on space issues when trolling (competition for space with other boating recreationists) and he stated keep the counties all the same. ie, Florence and Forest. A comment was made "It sounds like a user conflict with other water recreation users". Rick Olson said we should do a study on trolling and how it effects exploitation.
	ACTION	Motion to advance by Rick Olson and second by Kurt Justice motion carried
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

2.	Limit motor trolling (210119)	None
	DISCUSSION	led by Joe Weiss. (I believe my computer battery ran low and I had to insert a power cord)
	ACTION	Motion to reject by Daluga second by Pete Doperalski motion carried
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

3.	Make Section 3. NR 20.15 (4) applicable to all counties in the state, in order to make motor trolling rules consistent statewide (440219)	Presenter Dave Manniko
DISCUSSION	General consensus of the committee, this sounds like a social issue of user conflict.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Kurt Justice and second by Mike Arrowood motion carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

4.	All fishing and hunting rules and regulations apply to all license holders equally (200119)	Presenter: Robert Haase
DISCUSSION	A comment was, what about youth outreach and how will this affect them. Also, some rules are designed with youth in mind to get them engaged in fishing. Another comment was, culling promotes fish mortality. And a change in the culling rule will require legislation.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Scott Strook and second by Robert Lombard Motion carries	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

5.	Allow underwater spearfishing in Forest County (210319)	Presenter: Leo Lamers
DISCUSSION	James Engebretson says the local people are in favor of this. The author stated, some local residents believe that underwater spear fisherman were over harvesting Yet a study verbalized by the author stated that Spear Fishermen harvest less fish per hour verses hook and line anglers.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Brett Weir and second by Josh Hennlich motion carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

6.	Annual adjustment of the date in which ice shelters must be removed from lakes (360219)	None
DISCUSSION	Primary concern of this resolution is, how to communicate the fluctuating date change(s) and how does LE enforce the date change. Committee consensous, keep it simple and understandable.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Josh Hennlich and second by Randy Symicek motion carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

7.	Bag limit of panfish on Big Round Lake (Polk County) (490119)	none
DISCUSSION	Individuals have expressed concern that summer and ice fishing pressure has drastically reduced the size of panfish in the lake. it is recommended to reduce bag limit from 25 to 15 pan fish per person.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Paul Rieth and second by Tom Christman. motion carried to reject. Then Motion to advance with a 10 panfish bag by Randy Symicek second by Rick Olson motion carried to advance.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

8.	Bowfishing through ice-hole regulations (080119)	Presenter: Travis Gill
DISCUSSION	Comments from Law Enforcement is that it is hard to enforce fishing regulations. Also another comment, this leads to potential catfish exploitation when they are vulnerable because they are inert (the fish don't move, a state of suspension) during this time (Winter Months)of the year. Also comments by a committee member stated, When a hole as large as 3'x4' is not being used this could lead to a potential hazard. Unlike sturgeon spearing (Holes) whereas the general public and area residents are aware of the Sturgeon Spearing Season and expect to encounter large holes cut thru the ice at a predetermined (short)period of time. So with that said, by allowing	

	indiscriminate large holes 3'x4' be cut into the ice at any time of ice fishing season will lead to unsuspecting hazardous conditions for an unwary individual(s)
ACTION	Motion to reject by Randy Symicek and second by Josh Hennlich Motion carries
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

9. Change the opening of musky season to the 1st Saturday in May with May being catch and release only (640319) Presented Elmer Jensen

DISCUSSION	Standardize the Musky season to a statewide same day opener of the first Saturday in May, with May being catch and release only, thru and up to the Memorial Day (Friday midnight) Weekend Opener.
ACTION	Motion to advance by Scott Strook and second by Michael Kelby Motion Motion carried
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

10. Green Lake panfish bag limit (670219) Presenter: Mike Beattie

DISCUSSION	Brett Weir, stated Green Lake Wash Co is in close proximity with two Experimental Panfish Regulation Lakes, arca anglers believe setting Green Lake bag limit to match surrounding lake makes good sense and should ease some of the harvest preasure and this is supported by our area Biologist
ACTION	Motion to advance by Brett Weir and second by Kurt Justice Motion carried
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

11. Improving Wisconsin gamefish and panfish resources through more effective and simplified rules (560319) Presenter Adam Glickman

DISCUSSION	Lead by Joe Weiss, The general consensus from the committee is the resolution is too vague. No specifics mentioned. Rick Olson mentioned that rule simplification is hard to implement because of diverse habitats. Mike Arrowood said, when you have the same species year class. The growth rate/pattern from one waterbody to another waterbody will vary greatly. A committee member made a comment regarding consistency in fish regulations. Also "we" want to prevent over exploitation and increase sustainability.
ACTION	Motion to reject by Mike Arrowood and second by Al Brown. motion to reject carried
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

12. Largemouth bass size removal on Buckatabon Lakes (640619) Presenter John Uecker

DISCUSSION	No comments
ACTION	Motion to advance by Kurt Justice and second by Mike Arrowood. Motion carried
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

13. Lowering the panfish daily bag limit on the Yahara Chain of Lakes (Mendota, Monona, Waubesa, and Kegonsa) (130119) Author Austin Ragotzkie Presenter Austin R

DISCUSSION	General consensus of the committee is wait for the Experimental Panfish Regulation to end, year 2020 is when data will be tallied and results posted.
ACTION	Motion to reject by John Blumeich and second by Tom Daluga motion carried
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

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| 14. | Reduced daily bag limits for panfish on Big Eau Pleine Reservoir (370519) | Presenter: John Kennedy |
| | DISCUSSION | Lead by Joe. Rick Olson agrees with the resolution. General consensus from the committee is agreement with the resolution. And local Fish Biologist supports this resolution. |
| | ACTION | Motion to advance by Rick Olson and second by Kurt Justice. Motion carried |
| | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| 15. | Reduce the daily bag limit of panfish to 10 statewide (560219) | Author James Laird Presenter James Laird |
| | DISCUSSION | What ever happened to the family fish fry, with a 10 bag limit it is hard to feed a family fish fry |
| | ACTION | Motion to reject by Rick Olson and second by John Blumreich |
| | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| 16. | Namekagon River (NR) and St. Croix River (SCR) smallmouth bass (SMB) and muskellunge (Musky) minimum size and bag limit (070119, 580119) | Presenter Richard Neville |
| | DISCUSSION | The presenter did state that there is a consistent consensus with area residents of all three counties and the local biologist has no problem with this resolution. |
| | ACTION | Motion made by John Blumereich and second by Tom Daluga to advance, motion carries |
| | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| 17. | Northern pike limit on Wallace Lake (Washington County) (670119) | None |
| | DISCUSSION | "Too many hammer handles" over abundance of small Northern Pike. |
| | ACTION | Motion to advance by Brett Weir and second by Mike Arrowood motion carried |
| | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| 18. | Open the currently closed counties for rough fish bowfishing, dip netting, underwater spearfishing and spearing (580219) | none |
| | DISCUSSION | User Conflict, Original motion was to advance but no second, motion failed. |
| | ACTION | Motion to reject by Kurt Justice and second by Al Brown. Motion carries |
| | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| 19. | Presque Isle Lake muskellunge size limit increase (640519) | None |
| | DISCUSSION | Include Van Vliet |
| | ACTION | Motion to reject by Brett Weir and second by Randy Symicek, motion carried Motion to advance adding lake Van Vliet by Steve Budnick and second by Thomas Daluga motion carried. |
| | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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| 20. | Prohibit the use of privately-owned fishing rafts on the Wolf River (200319) | Presenter Mike Arrowood |
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DISCUSSION	Mike Arrowood said privatization of the shoreline and privatization of fishing spots is created by fishing rafts. Local law enforcement, stated the following. "There has been an increase in harvest violations because of anglers concealing fish.
ACTION	Motion to advance by Kurt Justice and second Mike Gould. Motion carries
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

21.	Protection of spawning walleye in Wisconsin River from Scott Street Bridge in Wausau downstream to Prairie du Sac Dam (720519)	Presenter Al Peterson
DISCUSSION	Lead by Joe Weisse, Presenter Al Peterson, says the average walleye population survey per acre is low but no details given. Mike Arrowood said social perception is wrong ie, age of a fish has nothing to do with the length of fish.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Brett Weir and second by Randy Symicek Motion carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

22.	Winnebago spawning walleye and sauger protected slot size March 1 to May 1 (080219)	Presenter "John" Ora Mason
DISCUSSION	Mike Arrowood said, Sauger should not be in the resolution. Also, Winnebago has had the 5th highest walleye year class hatch in the last 30 years. According to Mike Arrowood/Walleys for Tomorrow, there is no walleye spawning problem.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Brett Weir and second by Mike Arrowood motion carries	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

23.	Winnebago walleye and sauger size limit of 15 inches (080319)	Presenter "John" Ora Mason
DISCUSSION	Winnebago walleyes growth is slow compared to other walleye waterbodies. Forage has decreased recently	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Mike Gould and second by Robert Mc Neil. motion failed by hand count 3 -18. Motion to reject by Tom Christman and second by Randy Sysemick motion carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

24.	Spear carp during the Sturgeon Spearing Season on Lake Winnebago	None
DISCUSSION	Discussion lead by Joe Weiss. The young/small carp are a good source of forage for walleye. It was also stated that there already is a harvest season for carp.	
ACTION	Motion made by Rick Olson and Al Brown to reject. motion carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

25.	Fisheries	Alex Latska Fisheries Biologist
DISCUSSION	Alex discussed Lake Classifications, "Flexible Classification of Wisconsin Lakes for Improved Fisheries Conservation and Management. Successful fisheries management practices developed for one ecosystem can often be used in similar ecosystems. We developed a flexible lake classification framework in collaboration with ~100 fisheries biologists for improved fisheries conservation management in Wisconsin, USA. In total, 5,950 lakes were classified into 15 lake classes using a two-tiered approach. In tier-one,	

	lakes were clustered into “simple” and “complex” sportfish assemblages. In tier-two, lakes were further clustered using accumulated degree days, water clarity, and special cases. We focus on temperature and clarity because these factors often drive fisheries change over time—thus a lake’s class can change over time. Lake class assignments were refined through a vetting process where fisheries biologists with expert knowledge provided feedback. Relative abundance, size-structure, and growth rates of fishes varied significantly across classes. Biologists are encouraged to utilize class interquartile ranges in fisheries metrics to make improved fisheries assessments. We highlight hard-won lessons from our effort including: (1) the importance of co-developing classification frameworks alongside fisheries biologists; and (2) encouraging frameworks where lakes can shift classes and fisheries expectations over time due to factors like climate change and eutrophication.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

26.	Office of Applied Science	Greg Sass
DISCUSSION	In general, Greg talked about sustainability of "all fish species" and throughout "all consumer parties."	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

27.	Law Enforcement	Robin Barnhardt LE Supervisor
DISCUSSION	Next year, the Chief and Deputy Chief will retire. Within 5 years 50% of Senior Wardens will retire. which mean more vacancies for future candidates. There will be leadership changes in the next year or two. A Drone Team will be implemented. A "Peer Support Team" has been established to handle personal issues and critical issues within the LE department. And in some critical cases a Chaplin will be provided. Some LE's will be trained to handle fire investigations. Recreational Property Rangers will be tramed up with Warden LE's Vacancies will be filled by 2020 and some will be property specific.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

B. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC] [PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

C. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC] [PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

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III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	Randy Symicek, We need more CWD education. Al Brown, CWD mandatory testing and registration Rick Olson, Create County Fish Advisory Committees Mike Arrowood, Trout Fishing and 10 bag limit on panfish Joe Weiss, Next meeting will be Saturday August 15 2020 and might be at a new location.
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	2:30ish
SUBMITTED BY	Brett Weir
DATE	08/17/2019