Stop fishing guides from gifting fish to paying clients

Concern,

Currently there is no law that prevents professional fishing guides from gifting their catch of fish to a paying client. This, in effect, allows a person who hires a guide to keep a double limit per day. The client may keep the fish he caught and the fish that the guide caught.

Because this is being done solely as a result of a business relationship it appears that the client is essentially able to buy a second limit of fish. This exchange is contrary to the basic principle that fish and wildlife may not be bought or sold.

Furthermore, because guides often fish the same bodies of water repeatedly this situation puts excess pressure on those fisheries. A guide will not achieve a possession limit if he continually gifts his catch, thereby allowing him to catch daily limits without end.

Under this resolution the ability to gift fish to another person is not affected except if that exchange is done between a licensed professional fishing guide and his/her paying client.

Be it Resolved,

The ability of licensed professional fishing guides to gift fish to their paying clients shall cease in the state of Wisconsin. Furthermore, this resolution shall not affect anyone other than a guide and his client.

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