

Citizen Resolution # 640921

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Plum Lake Muskellunge Size Increase

The state of Wisconsin manages certain lakes as trophy Muskellunge waters. Vilas County is within the historical natural range of muskellunge and at one time was the premier destination for anglers seeking a trophy musky fishing experience. Several factors in the modern era including increased angler fishing pressure, modern technology and techniques, sport angler and tribal harvest, and habitat degradation have seriously impacted the ability to maintain sufficient lakes with trophy potential. This adversely affects the angler experience. It also has a negative impact on business and tourism in the region. The latter is a statewide concern as tourists seeking a trophy experience are abandoning Wisconsin in favor of other destinations.

Plum Lake in Vilas County has the size, musky population density and forage base consistent with development of fish to a trophy size of fifty inches and more.

Management of Plum Lake to "trophy" designation would give anglers an opportunity to pursue muskies with a maximum size potential.

Be it resolved that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Vilas County on April 12, 2021 recommends a rule change to the DNR to raise the minimum size limit for muskellunge on Plum Lake to fifty inches and a daily bag limit of one fish.

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Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.