

Citizen Resolution # 090722

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Transportation of Fish Rule Change

I would like to submit a citizen's request for a rule change that is on page 9 of the fishing regulations, it states: "to transport fish subject to a length limit, unless you keep the carcasses of the fish with the fillet and the skin and scales intact (on the fillet) to show the fish still meet the length restrictions." I would like to propose the removal fillet size length limit unless you keep the carcass. I propose a new rule to transport fish on land. • Package frozen game fish subject to a length limit individually and not cut into more than two fillets with the tail intact so they can be readily counted. Fillets must have a 1-inch patch of skin with scales intact to identify the species. Not belly skin. (The DNR knows the approximate head size of various game fish at the minimum legal length which can then be added to the fillet and tail length for an approximate total length.) • Sunfish and crappie may be filleted without leaving skin intact. • Tag and identify any fish placed in public storage. A lake that has a 15" minimum walleye size limit, you would need to catch approximately a 24" walleye or larger to meet the legal fillet size required by the current law. It is not practical to keep the fish carcasses when you are camping, at a resort, hotel or at a cabin especially in the summer. No one has that kind of freezer or refrigerator space to keep fish carcasses from getting spoiled and smelling when they are on a vacation or a weekend getaway. Would you want to put spoiled fish carcasses in your vehicle? States around us and Canada only require a patch of skin on the fillet which I feel would reasonable to identify the species.

Would you support the Conservation Congress working with the state legislature to change the current transportation of fish law.

Additional Information provided by author:

Many areas in the state provide public fish cleaning stations some with fish grinders, just to be fined as you pull away from the cleaning station because now the fillet does not meet the legal whole fish legal length limit. Our state is supposed to be a tourist state. This is not a very friendly way to treat tourists to basically not allow the transportation of game fish if you are camping or staying at a cabin, resort or hotel. No consistent legal length limits from one lake to another makes this law even more difficult for the wardens to enforce.

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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.