

Economic Impact Comment Period on Permanent Rule FH-02-20 (Lake Michigan Whitefish Management and Great Lakes Commercial Harvest Reporting)

The department accepted written comments on the economic impact analysis for permanent rule FH-02-20 from October 13 – November 11. The charge of the EIA comment period was to respond to the following:

Would you, your business, your association, or your local unit of government be affected in a material economic way by the implementation of these whitefish management and commercial harvest reporting rules?

During the comment period, 42 comments were submitted. Thirty-four comments were submitted in support of the rule or potential positive economic outcomes that may result from the rule, 5 comments were submitted in opposition to the rule or expressing concerns, and 3 comments did not explicitly state a position.

Copies of the written comments follow.

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 4:01 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Whitefish

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Is there plans to increase daily bag limits for non commercial fisherman's?

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: New Whitefish Harvest Rules

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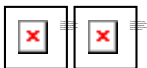
I am in favor of the proposed WDNR rule changes as shown in the email message and document link sent today (10/13/21) by the WDNR.

Kathleen C. Russell
Broker Associate
Apostle Islands Realty

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We proudly conduct business in accordance with all federal, state, and local fair housing laws. It's our honor to provide housing opportunities to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, handicap, national origin or sexual orientation. These fair housing procedures are judiciously followed by everyone associated with the company.



Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 5:31 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Response to questions

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Commercial fishing licenses provide certain people to harvest many times the amount that anglers catch.

Just because they pay a little more for their licenses they are allowed to catch the fish using nets and machinery. Then they are allowed to sell the fish which is against regulations for anglers.

Commercial fishing depletes the quantity of fish in the lake in addition it harms many of the species that are not commercially profitable.

My suggestion is that commercial fishing should be severely restricted and only allowed to catch as many fish that anglers are allowed to take.

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 10:50 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

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Too much cheating going on in today's systems!
Tighten it up for the general public to be able to enjoy for generations to come!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:32 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Whitefish

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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I'm all for electronic harvest reporting on lake Michigan and green bay by commercial fishermen. Robert De Witt
Fremont, WI.

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021 6:47 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: White fish

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Modern commercial fishing boats and equipment necessitate regulation. The proposals are better for the commercial fisher's, the fish, and public.
The 2 options are:1 sustained regulated harvest. Or: 2 no limits, reduced populations, inevitable collapse of the fishery.
Good fay,
Frank

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 3:52 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: John Lyons
Subject: Wisconsin Green Fire comments on Economic Impacts of whitefish commercial Harvest

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Meredith,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the FH-02-20.

Wisconsin's Green Fire fully supports the WDNR's proposed rule change concerning the lake whitefish fishery in Green Bay and Lake Michigan. Recent changes in the whitefish population and fishery require updated rules. Lake whitefish abundance in Green Bay has grown, which allows for more harvest without endangering the population, as the WDNR has proposed.

Lake whitefish numbers in Lake Michigan proper have remained the same or perhaps declined slightly and do not warrant a change in the quota, again consistent with the new WDNR rules. The recreational lake whitefish fishery in Green Bay has increased dramatically over the last two decades, and the 50:50 split in the Green Bay quota between recreational and commercial harvest that the WDNR requests is an equitable and appropriate division. The proposed closure of certain areas in Green Bay to commercial trap nets will also help minimize conflicts between commercial and recreational fishers. Finally, the electronic reporting procedures for catches by commercial fishers the WDNR asks for are long overdue and will help improve management of the lake whitefish fishery.

Please register our whole-hearted support for this well-crafted rule.

John Lyons
Wisconsin's Green Fire
Fisheries Working Group Chair

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: Julie Schmelzer <julie@doorcountybusiness.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 02, 2021 2:05 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Steve Jenkins
Subject: Public Hearing Re Zone 1
Attachments: DNR Letter Re Zone 1.pdf

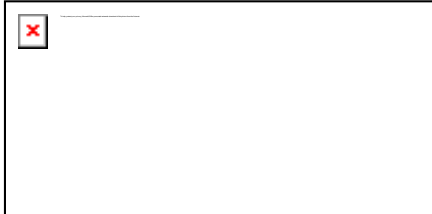
**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Dear Ms. Penthorn,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the public hearing regarding Zone 1. We ask the attached letter be entered into the record. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Steve Jenkins, our Executive Director (copied).

Regards,

Julie Schmelzer
Director of Business Development



185 East Walnut Street • Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
920-737-0230 • doorcountybusiness.com

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November 2, 2021

Submitted Electronically To: Meredith.Penthorn@wisconsin.gov

RE: DNR Rulemaking on Whitefish Commercial Harvest

Dear Ms. Penthorn,

Commercial fishing, whitefish in particular, is critical to Door County's economy. In Door County the industry provides good jobs with employees making above average wages, resulting in a significant multiplier in our county economy. Our data shows industry employees' wages are higher than the average worker, making \$33,000 a year. For every dollar spent, another \$.06 is added to our economy.

All of our fishing companies are small and the majority are operated by people who are self-employed. Over regulation, and the pandemic, has meant these self-employed businesses were faced with constraints beyond their control, the timing of which coincides with projections the fishing industry is predicted to see a decline in growth over the next ten years (it is predicted to decline by 1.2%). We simply can't afford more regulations that negatively impact this industry.

Additionally, many businesses rely on the whitefish industry for their revenues, and any limits which negatively impact our fishermen's ability to supply restaurants, processors, and smokers with that product will have a critical negative impact on Door County's tourism economy, impacting the multipliers for those industries as well.

Our commercial fishermen support current rules regarding the quota system but deserve equal access to the same fisheries as sport fishing. It is not only inequitable to allow charter fishing and other sport fishing sole rights to Zone 1, but its unfair to those fishermen which are more regulated, abide by quotas, and electronic harvest reporting, to only have access to a small share of the fishery. We urge you to support all measures that provide equitable access to Zone 1 so fishermen who rely on the species for their livelihood, and to pay their taxes, have equal access as those that use the water recreationally and with less regulation.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Steve Jenkins, written in a cursive style.

Steve Jenkins
Executive Director

A blue ink signature of Julie Schmelzer, written in a cursive style.

Julie Schmelzer
Director of Business Development

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 02, 2021 9:26 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: White fish

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Michael Parkinson
Owner and GM
Blue Harbor Fish
Green Bay WI. 54303
[REDACTED]

As a major supplier of fish in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan . Blue Harbor sells over 2000 lb of Whitefish a week this is fillet weight so we need 4000 lbs to fill our orders. To take away fish from us would impact 6 families in the Green Bay area. We employ 11 people full time and supply into Mackinaw Island and Sault St Marie Michigan.

I would draw your attention to Canada who has never cut quota on white fish. They have a great fisheries and supply a lot of white fish in our country. I would say 50%. You would open the door to give them control on price and who gets fish. They have accomplished this with perch now driving up our markets having full control of the Perch market..

I would suggest an increase in production and maybe some new license to help control our own markets. Also encouraging young people to get into the industry. You are turning most of it into a part time job. You keep cutting quota and what is gonna happen you will kill the industry.

Markets have changed thru the years we have built up new markets and fishermen have had to find ways of marketing their fish. I think everyone has done a good job there is never enough fish to go around.

I am against any quota adjustment at this time. Fish have been a good size and this seems to be getting better. Why mess with it.

Michael Parkinson

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 12:09 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Whitefish

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Just to go over the statement I made

I am for any increase and against any decrease in quota.. Any increase will help insure employment of my Employees. I need more fish. I bought 29000 lb of from Canada Last 2 years

Mike Parkinson
Blue Harbor Fish
green bay wi

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: Door County North <doorcountynorth@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 3:50 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

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Re: FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

We support our commercial fisherman. They are critical to the economic sustainability of our area. In addition to providing a critical product, they help to maintain a very important cultural heritage that we need to protect.

--

Thank you,
Mickie Rasch
Community Coordinator, CTA
[REDACTED]

[Take the Care for Door County Pledge](#)

Door County North
PO Box 10
Ellison Bay, WI
[Click here to engage with us on facebook](#)
Doorcountynorth.org



Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Whitefish Commercial Harvest in Lake Michigan and Green Bay

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I am a consumer of whitefish and support the proposed rule on commercial harvest. Whitefish is very popular with visitors to Door County and without an adequate supply the restaurants would take a big hit. Also, there are numerous non-profits that depend on commercially supplied local whitefish for fund raising activities. I believe that with proper management there is enough fish for everybody.
Charles Klima
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 3:59 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Support for FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

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My family and I are writing in support of the FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate. This proposal supports working families that rely on commercial fishing in the State of Wisconsin, specifically Door County, which has a strong and responsible commercial fishing industry.

As stated, this rule will revise the total allowable commercial harvest for Green Bay and Lake Michigan to reflect lake whitefish population abundance and distribution. It will also establish how the harvest for Green Bay and Lake Michigan will be divided between the three zones of Lake Michigan and implement a harvest cap mechanism for Zone 2 to prevent overharvest while still allowing commercial fishing throughout the zone. This is a very strongly appropriate change for the harvest at this time.

Please be advised that we strongly support this change. I can be contacted at [REDACTED] for additional questions or comments.

Best wishes,

MaryKay Shumway, Broker, ABR®/CRS®, Realtor®
LOCAL – LIVING – LIFESTYLE
MORE DOOR COUNTY moredoorcounty.com

The Kellstrom-Ray Agency, Inc.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 3:59 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

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Re: FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

I want our commercial fishermen to be able to continue to operate successfully and I support them. They are critical to the economic sustainability of businesses and the quality of life in Door County.

Sincerely,
Mickie Rasch

[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 4:05 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Savory Spoon Cooking School

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My company is in support of our commercial fisherman as follows.

Re: FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

We support our commercial fisherman. They are critical to the economic sustainability of our area. In addition to providing a critical product, they help to maintain a very important cultural heritage that we need to protect.

Janice W. Thomas

Have a delicious day!
Janice W Thomas
Savory Spoon Cooking School
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 7:33 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: support letter

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To whom it may concern:

The purpose of this correspondence is to indicate support on behalf of Henriksen Fisheries for FH-02-20 pertaining to Commercial Whitefish harvesting in Lake Michigan (including the Bay of Green Bay) and electronic harvest reporting for all Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

Our Support reaches to fairness that commercial fisherman should have an equal share with the sport fisheries in zone 1 (Green Bay below Chambers Island). This is extremely important to the Island Lions Club and our ability to supply local demands for our events that depend on this product for fundraising.

In closing, as a local organization who relies heavily on whitefish for our events, we strongly support all efforts and encourage equality and fairness in allowing the commercial fisherman the same privileges as gteh sports fisherman.

Sincerely,

Washington Island Lions Club
Joel Gunnlaugsson

[REDACTED]
Board of Directors correspondence designee / Club Treasurer

--

Joel Gunnlaugsson

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2021 7:49 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: support letter

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To whom it may concern:

This email indicates our support in efforts referencing FH-02-20 for the WisDNR public comment on the economic impact of Whitefish harvesting.

We support 100% commercial fishermen (Henriksen Fisheries of Door County) the right to have an equal share with the sports fisheries the ability to harness the resources of Zone 1 (Green Bay below Chambers Island) and be offered the same rights to make a living. We believe that there are more than enough fish to go around and it should be afforded to the commercial sector equally as the sports sector.

This decision is extremely important to the livelihood of the local commercial fisherman as well as all the businesses that rely on them all throughout Door County.

Please support allowing this proposed rule change,

Joel and Krista Gunnlaugsson - Owners
Townliner Motel, LLC
Washington Island, WI 54246
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2021 8:03 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: commercial fisheries support

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Re: FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

I support our commercial fisherman. They are critical to the economic sustainability of our area. In addition to providing a critical product, they help to maintain a very important cultural heritage that we need to protect.

Paul Schwengel
Supervisor: Town of Liberty Grove

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2021 9:43 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: mike leclair public comment

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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My name is Michael LeClair, co-owner of Susie-Q Fish Company in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. Our family has been in business for over 60 years. We own 3 fishing vessels and a fish market where we smoke and process whitefish. We catch about 200,000# of whitefish yearly. We smoke around 40,000# a year and fillet about 10,000# per year. Our whole whitefish are sold throughout the state, Chicago and New York City. The whitefish fillets are sold to restaurants, in our store and at the Green Bay Farmer's market. Our smoked whitefish are sold all throughout the mid-west and even to markets in Chicago.

I am a member of the Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board. I have seen data from the DNR and listened to comments by concerned citizens, and everything is positive.

Commercial Fishermen supply means by which the consumer can enjoy the great resources Lake Michigan offers. Our company and its 12 employees are in total support of the whitefish rule being proposed.

Thank you,

Michael LeClair

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2021 11:53 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Charles Henriksen
Subject: FH-02-20

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Meredith:

I have been a public member on the Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board (LMCFB), since about 1999. As a public member, I believe my role and responsibility is to assist the DNR in proper fish management of the Wisconsin waters of the Bay of Green Bay and Lake Michigan. As such, I believe the legislation FH-02-20, is logical and justified for the Lake Whitefish harvest. This legislation has been "in process" for about 7 years and has been adjusted due to input from stakeholders. The end result is there is enough whitefish for commercial and sport alike.

The proposed quota system and controls affects about 20 commercial fishing businesses is manageable. There are more licenses, but the effect is on about 20 fishing businesses. The sustainable commercial whitefish harvest is intended for the fish consuming public, either at home or in local restaurants. These whitefish are a mainstay of the Friday Wisconsin Fish Fry.

I am in support of FH-02-20.

I am CC'ing Charlie Henriksen, President of the LMCFB.

Sincerely,
Dan Pawlitzke

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 04, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Commercial Fisheries

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Dear Meredith,

Our area, Door County, is directly related to the commercial fishing industry. The tourism draw for sport fishing is great, but so is commercial fishing. Besides the impact on a historical and cultural way of life, the impact on restaurants and local sustainable food is just as important if not more so. Local fish is on the menu in every Door County restaurant not to mention the attraction of the historic "Fish Boil". Smoked fish and specialty products at farmers markets and local shops are a huge draw to tourists that buy local and support sustainably produced food. This far outweighs the impact of sport fishing on the local population and tourists alike. Commercial fishing is highly regulated for sustaining balance. That is why I support this proposal:

"Currently there is a proposed rule change we have been working towards for 7 years, that has some public and DNR support.

While maintaining the quota system and restrictive controls on commercial harvest that ensure the sustainability of our fishery, it would give us an **EQUAL** share with the sport fishery in Zone 1 (Green bay below Chambers Island). **This is extremely important to all Door County businesses and our ability to supply local demand with this important product"**

Thank you for your support

Sincerely

Mary Ellen Sisulak
Robert Bussler

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: Louise Howson <coordinator@sisterbay.com>
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2021 10:25 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Louise Howson; Drew
Subject: FH - 02-20 NR 25

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Dear Ms. Penthorn,

We are writing to voice our support of a rule change to FH -02-20 NR 25.

This rule change will improve the quota system and respective controls on commercial harvest that ensure the sustainability of fisheries here in Door County and give those fisheries an equal share with the sport fishery in Zone 1.

As a Tourism entity, we see the importance of both sport fishing and commercial fisheries.

Our dining establishments rely on local fisheries for their menu items.

Our visitors come here expecting to get fresh Door County fish at our restaurants or to prepare themselves.

Our resident's shop at local fisheries and grocers for their family meals.

Our local fisheries are part of the fabric of our communities and give their time and money to support many local causes.

The economic impact of making this rule permanent would be devastating to our businesses, visitors, and residents.

We believe that this rule change is necessary, fair and critical to the future of local fisheries in Door County.

Respectfully,

The Board of Directors
Sister Bay Advancement Association

Drew Bickford, President
Nate Dineen, Vice President
Windy Bittorf, Treasurer
Leroy Schramm
Collin Doherty
Lisa Tetzloff
Nora Zacek
Tonya Crowell
James Larsen

Louise Howson, Community Coordinator

www.sisterbay.com



Louise Howson
Community Coordinator
Sister Bay Advancement Association
M 920-421-1256
O 920-854-3230
www.sisterbay.com



Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2021 10:54 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Proposed rule change commercial fishing

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To Whom It May Concern

I understand there is a proposed rule change to allow commercial fisherman to harvest Whitefish in Zone 1 in the Bay of Green Bay. I would like to speak in favor of allowing this.

I am and have been in the tourism business in several different businesses in Door County for 45 years. Over the years I have seen what I call agri-tourism grow and become a major source of income and jobs in this area. This includes farm markets, wineries, restaurants and fish houses or retail stores that sell fish and fish related products. I currently host over 3,000 passengers a year on my tour boat and many of them either bring or plan on buying fish at a local market. I also hear feedback of disappointment that they could not get fish at a market or at a fish dinner at a restaurant. Allowing the commercial fisherman a larger opportunity to supply the needed fish will be positive economic impact to NE Wisconsin and beyond as well as create more jobs.

As a Captain I have has the opportunity to travel to many of the ports along Lake Michigan and the Bay of Green Bay. In my travels and conversations there is a lot of support for this from other boaters as well as fisherman including sport fisherman. I hope the DNR opens Zone 1 to commercial Whitefish fishing, there is plenty of fish to go around plus a huge positive economic benefit.

Thank You,
Captain Jim Robinson, U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Master, 100 ton Gills Rock, WI
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FH-02-20 Fiscal Estimate

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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I am sending this email in response to an upcoming ruling regarding Whitefish Commercial Harvest in Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

Our Commercial Fishing Companies here in Door County has been for years supporting local fundraisers by donating their catch to raising money for local organizations in need of help. By restricting their productivity it would have a devastating effect on fundraising efforts here in Door County.

Its important while maintaining the quota system and restrictive controls on commercial harvest, it's also important that our Commercial Fishing Companies here in Door County get an equal share with sport fishery in Zone 1, Green Bay below Chambers Island.

Please support our local Commercial Fishing Companies because they do so much for our community.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Peter J Passuntino

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 05, 2021 3:35 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Kristie Moss
Subject: I support FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Re: FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

We support our commercial fisherman. They are critical to the economic sustainability of our area. In addition to providing a critical product, they help to maintain a very important cultural heritage that we need to protect.

Thank you,
Yannique Purman

Z. Yannique Purman
Owner / Marketing

[REDACTED]
www.islandorchardcider.com

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 06, 2021 9:15 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: FH-02-20 Great Lakes commercial harvest reporting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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FH-02-20 Great Lakes commercial harvest reporting

I support the mandatory requirement for electronic harvest reporting for all Great Lakes commercial fishers. This rule will go a long way toward improving management of commercial fish species and bycatch by providing much more timely and accurate estimates of harvest. It will also ease tensions which exist between commercial fishers and sport anglers regarding the accuracy of catch records.

Longer term objectives should aim toward eliminating the option of paper reporting in the event of failed access to the electronic system. This seems to provide a convenient loophole around the system.

Congratulations to biologists, administrators, and the NRB for moving this forward. A big step in managing Great Lakes fisheries into the future.

Sincerely,

Terry Margenau
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 07, 2021 3:38 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Support for proposed rule

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear DNR and Meredith,

I am writing to support this proposed commercial fishing rule. Our family has had a popular restaurant in downtown Fish Creek, for almost 50 years and we have had fresh fish on the menu for as long as we have served food, because that is what our customers want.

Also As President of the Sturgeon Bay Historical Society, our commercial fishing history can be dated back to our early settlers and maintaining that experience is a Major attraction to the over 2 million visitors today.

Commercial fishing is part of our cultural tourism and Door County would not be "Door County" without protecting our commercial fishing heritage offerings today.

I can remember when we ran out of trout and the panic, which went through the door county businesses, its negative impact on service jobs, businesses and on a major attraction of the fresh "fishboil". That said, we never want to have our fresh fish, fished out again because of ignoring quotas and balance is essential, but commercial fishing should not take second place in its financial contribution, tourist attraction or health of our community over all and needs to be preserved and respected as a real Economic driver of the Door County economy, over a sport, which provides enjoyment for a very limited group of the 2 million visitors a year.

As you know, Door county tourism generates a lot of state and federal tax and our commercial fishing and the service industry and the direct jobs, they provide to our community restaurants, and helps create our unique Door County experience, with ie; fresh fishboil, fish fry, whitefish or walleye offerings daily on our menus, almost all our restaurants in Door County would be negatively impacted financially if it were limited and I would argue it would negatively impact almost every visitors experience and our draw nationally, yes I believe it is that important of an industry to maintaining our history and our current visitors to this area and our Restaurant.

That is why I support this proposal:

"Currently there is a proposed rule change we have been working towards for 7 years, that has some public and DNR support.

While maintaining the quota system and restrictive controls on commercial harvest that ensure the sustainability of our fishery, it would give us an **EQUAL** share with the sport fishery in Zone 1 (Green bay below Chambers Island). **This is extremely important to all Door County businesses and our ability to supply local demand with this important product"**

Thank you for your support

Christie Weber



Sent from my iPhone

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 07, 2021 7:59 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Support FH-02-20 Fiscal Estimate

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Meredith Penthorn,

I am writing to support FH-02-20 Fiscal Estimate. It's crucial to the local economy in Door County, Wisconsin.

Thank you,

Rachel Willems
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 08, 2021 9:37 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Economic impact of commercial fishing in Door County
Attachments: Jon Jarosh Fish Boil Photos 033.jpg; 2013-05-11 - White Gull Inn 500.JPG

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello, Meredith.

I am writing in support of the proposed bill that would open up commercial fishing of whitefish in Green Bay, south of Chambers Island.

I own the White Gull Inn restaurant in Fish Creek, WI. Our restaurant has been here since 1896, and in my family since 1972. The meal we are best known for is our traditional Door County fish boil, which we have been serving several evenings a week to tens of thousands of visitors each year since 1959. In 2019 (our last season with full capacity in our dining room), we purchased \$81,000 in whitefish from J&M Fisheries. This year to date, with half our dining room capacity, we have purchased \$53,000 in whitefish alone. Our fish boils were booked three to four weeks in advance this year due to the demand for traditional fish boils in Door County.

We also serve whitefish fillets on our fine dining menu, although we have had to limit when we offer it due to a waning supply of whitefish from our local fishermen. We also used to have a popular whitefish sandwich on our lunch menu, but we had to remove it this year due to inconsistent supply. We have guests who ask to see our menu specifically to see if we offer whitefish, and will choose to go elsewhere if we do not have whitefish on the menu.

Commercial whitefish fishing, along with the cherry harvest, are the two legs supporting the Door County food and tourism economy. Demand for whitefish will only continue to increase, and restaurants will have to make the difficult decision to remove their most popular menu items if the supply continues to dwindle. I feel strongly that we need to protect the whitefish population in the lake, but as long as the waters of Green Bay can be fished sustainably, I believe they should be open to commercial and sport fishing.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Meredith

--

Meredith Coulson-Kanter, DVM, MS Agroecology
Innkeeper, [White Gull Inn](#)

[REDACTED]

To sign up for the White Gull Inn mailing list, [click here](#)

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 08, 2021 1:43 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: FH-02-20 Fiscal estimate

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Dear Meredith,

We support our commercial fisherman. Our restaurants feature locally caught whitefish on their menus throughout the season. Not only have whitefish become an inspiration to our culinary team, these dishes have quickly become our guest's favorites. In addition to providing a critical ingredient to the culinary uniqueness of our area, our commercial fishermen help to maintain a very important cultural heritage in our community. This all needs to be protected.

Best,

Mike

--

Mike Holmes
Proprietor & General Manager
Wickman House Restaurant
Trixie's
Taco Cerveza
[REDACTED]

wickmanhouse.com
trixiesfoodandwine.com
tacocerveza.com

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 08, 2021 8:04 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: FH 02-20

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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To whom it may concern,

I would like to expressed my concern regarding the whitefish industry. I have owned restaurants in Northern Door County and purchase whitefish from the local fishermen for years. This is a very important product in our economy both for the fisherman and for the tourist industry. The fishermen have been able to sustain the industry and I tell you that it is imperative that they continue to provide the white fish and continue the industry.

Suzi Woerfel

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 09, 2021 3:38 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Public Comment on FH-02-20

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Hello Meredith,

Please accept my following comments as public comments to FH-02-20

1. I wish to remind everyone that the WI DNR continues to remove money from the Sport Fishing and Hunting License funds to fund the patrol of Commercial Fishing Activities, when they occur. This was instated over 20 years ago by the Legislature and will take legislature action to resolve. Over the years, we have requested the annual amounts which have ranged between \$750,000 to \$350,000 a year. Over 20 years, this is a sizeable amount that should have been used to support Sport Fishing and Hunting. Adding these funds back into sporting activities would lessen any current or anticipated extra expenses.
2. Looking at the Economic Impact Document, it mentions "incidental bycatch." Today's allowable commercial fishing methods consist mainly of using Trap Nets. Expanding the commercial harvest quota and allowing for substantially more gill nets in lower Green Bay has the potential to increase incidental bycatch, and with the use of gill nets, the chances of the bycatch being release alive decrease greatly, as gill nets are intended to kill their catch. There is a substantial amount of Gill Net data available on-line from NOAA. Allowing over 10 miles of contiguous gill net with only a marker on each end, also seems like an accident waiting to happen. How can anyone know what direction a gill net is oriented when the second reference point is more than 10 miles away?
3. In the Economic document, the potential dockside figure of \$875, 603 is stated. Where are the estimated figures pointing out how much money the Guides and Resorts are bringing in for the Sport Harvest of Whitefish?
4. Looking at the FH-02-20 Draft Document, I see a statement regarding the Total Allowable catch along with the quotas being proposed. I see that a 50/50 Whitefish quota is being proposed for Commercial and S[port Harvest. What I do not see is any provisions if there is some catastrophe that affects the number of harvestable Whitefish. How fast would reductions or closings be issued, and would it be equitable between Sport and Commercial harvest? We do not want to see a situation similar to Lake Superior, where Commercial fishing continues for Lake Trout, but has been closed to Sport Fishing since August, because Sport Fishermen reached their assigned quota.
5. The current amount of allowable bycatch allows is 10%. This must go back in the water, dead or alive. With the increased quota to 800,000 pounds, that raises the amount of bycatch to 80,000 pounds. That now is a sizeable amount of gamefish, a lot more than the 20,000 pounds allowed today. Again, with reference to gill nets lethality, that is the potential for an enormous amount of dead bycatch. In the long term, this has the potential to affect the amount of Gamefish inhabiting these waters. It is my understanding that any Salmon or Trout raised by the Stamp Funds, by law can only be harvested by Sport Fishermen paying for the Stamps. How is this increase going to be treated, immediately and over time?

I am not against Commercial Fishing. I just feel safeguards need to be put in place with the shared resources. They are there for everyone, hopefully in the proportions on how they are funded. Sport Fishing is a multimillion-dollar business, funded mostly by Sport Fishermen. Sport Fishing is the only outdoor Sport where the Sportsmen and women are competing for their catch opportunity, with commercial harvesting companies. A Commercial Fishing Board exists for Lake Superior and a second exists for Lake Michigan. There is no Sportfishing Board sanctioned by Wisconsin Legislature, DNR or NRB. I see that a "Sport Fishing Advisory Team" has been created in section 7 as a result of earlier hearings and comments. I see no other reference to this entity and am wondering is it was self-appointed within the DNR? Who exactly is representing the Sport Fishermen? This needs to be clarified, please. The DNR already supports Commercial Fishing and has a Commercial Fishing Board they fully support. It would be great to have the same for Sport Fishermen.

Thank You for your time and the opportunity for me to leave my comments. Although I am signing my name with my affiliations, these comments are my own personal comments. Due to COVID our organizations have not held regular meetings and all of our members have not been personally polled for their thoughts. However, based on comments and knowledge accumulated over 15 years of Service with the Great Lakes Sport Fishermen, I wish to leave my titles below, intact.

Thank You,

Bob

Bob Wincek – President - Wisconsin Federation of Great Lakes Sport Fishing Clubs
President and Webmaster, Milwaukee - Great Lakes Sport Fishermen Foundation



Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 9:15 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Walleyes For Tomorrow response to proposed commercial fishing on Green Bay.
Attachments: RULE RESPONSE.docx; GB Economic Report.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Hi Meredith,

I am sending you the WFT response to the proposed Whitefish Rule and the Green Bay Sport Fishing Economic Value Study.

Thank You

Mike Arrowood
Chairman
Walleyes For Tomorrow

1. Walleyes For Tomorrow Inc. wishes to go on record as opposing the entire statement of scope for the rule SS 023-20 until such time as the Bycatch quantity and numbers have had an honest open investigation.

Walleyes For Tomorrow President Gary Henschel and I participated in the September 28 Zoom meeting where the bycatch numbers from Taylor Hrabak's graduate studies at UW Green Bay were presented. Gary is an avid and frequent angler on Green Bay. He had participated in Zoom meetings over the past several months and had never heard any of the documented numbers of bycatch as were presented on Sept. 28. I personally was appalled at the seemingly cavalier attitude of the commercial fishing representative and DNR employees regarding the absolute waste of our fisheries resources documented by Taylor's research.

The numbers that struck me most were the 2020 June harvest of 72,000 Whitefish resulting in a bycatch of 7,000 unmarketable dead Whitefish. 9.7% of the total catch was dead and discarded. The July 2020 harvest was 25,000 Whitefish with 4,500 dead and discarded Whitefish. 18% of the July total catch was discarded to rot and pollute the waters of Green Bay.

Assuming a live weight of 1 pound, there was 11,500 pounds of rotting Whitefish lying on the bottom of Green Bay in 2020. For what purpose?

When the statement was made that these numbers could be worked into the total allowable catch figures, I was dumbfounded. These documented amounts fly in the face of all information the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has ever expressed to sport anglers regarding wise use and conservation of Wisconsin's natural resources.

In the entire text of this rule the capture, kill and waste of game fish is not given the attention it deserves. Bycatch seems to be the sanitized term for the wanton waste of a valuable natural waste. The numbers presented during the Sept. 28 Zoom meeting from Taylor Hrabak's research represent the seamy side of commercial fishing. Game fish are killed directly by the gill nets used for the harvest of Whitefish. Captured fish suffocate in the nets. Gamefish captured in trap nets survive the capture process but they are killed by Barotrauma when retrieved from 60 – 80 feet of water. Taylor's research documented game fish mortality. Doubling the allowable catch of Whitefish will necessitate doubling the effort, the trap nets used and the gill nets set. It is not unreasonable to believe additional capture, death and waste of gamefish will occur as well. This needs to be taken into account by the NRB and DNR in the final assessment of approval or disapproval of this proposed rule.

2. Walleyes For Tomorrow further opposes allowing commercial fishing gear to be set in the newly created restricted area in southern Green Bay.

Section 8 of the RULE TEXT creates a restricted fishing zone in southern Green Bay south of the line at 44 50' N latitude. EXCEPT "nets by permit issued under sub. (4) may be used, set, paced or operated for the taking of whitefish in that restricted area".

#9, page 7 of the **Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources** recognizes the conflicts between sport anglers and commercial fishermen created by the presence of commercial fishing gear in Green Bay. It recognizes the creation of a restricted area is intended to reduce user conflicts between sport and commercial fishers and reduce bycatch of game fish.

Sport anglers will quickly realize the boundary of the area and understand commercial fishing is restricted there. However, quickly placed commercial gear by a special permit will result in sport anglers gear becoming tangled in unexpected places within the restricted area.

There is no mention of the rationale behind allowing permitted commercial harvest in the restricted area. Additionally, no limit on the number of permits or number of nets allowed to be set is delineated anywhere in the text of the Analysis.

Permitting of commercial harvest in the restricted area will definitely cause conflict between sporting anglers and commercial harvesters. This is very clearly a bad idea.

#5, page 2 states "the rule implements provisions to minimize the incidental catch of bycatch in the whitefish fishing operations. Minimizing bycatch is important because walleye, yellow perch, northern pike smallmouth bass and muskellunge occupying Green Bay".

Lake Sturgeon have a fragile and recovering population in Green Bay. There is absolutely no mention of incidental catch and kill of Lake Sturgeon by commercial harvest activities in the proposed rule. Sturgeon must be part of the conversation when considering greater commercial harvest efforts on Green Bay.

Allowing commercial harvest permitting in a restricted area is not justifiable by any rational reading of the proposed rule. The restricted area is enacted to limit commercial harvest in an area of abundant game fish populations

Sport angling attracts many anglers to the area each year and contributes \$264,300,000 (see attached document) in direct and indirect effects to the Green Bay area economy annually. This was documented in the publication "The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Green Bay Recreational Fishing". Walleyes For Tomorrow funded this study to showcase the value of sport fishing on Green Bay. A healthy and robust sport fishing population in Green Bay represents a huge benefit for economic development in the City of Green Bay.

Sport fishing for game fish occurs from the south end of Green Bay to Washington Island at the North end of Door County. The proposed rule doubles the allowable catch of Whitefish. To accomplish this the commercial harvesters will greatly increase their presence on Green Bay. More trap and gill nets will necessarily be set to accomplish this goal. This increase will result in increased conflict between sport anglers and commercial activities. In the text of the rule there are no limits on the total number of nets allowed or the number of commercial harvesters allowed in Green Bay.

The number of allowed nets set and commercial operators in Green Bay must be established in Code to maintain order on the Bay.

3. Walleyes For Tomorrow opposes the proposed boundaries of the restricted area as not sufficiently protecting the spawning stock of whitefish in the Peshtigo and Oconto Rivers.

#9, Pages 5-7 document the existence of a whitefish spawning in the Peshtigo and Oconto Rivers. Whitefish spawn from October through December. As the mature spawning age whitefish congregate to spawn they will become susceptible to increased exploitation at the river mouth via the doubling of allowable Zones 1 & 2 harvest quotas. This spawning activity has been a relatively recent occurrence and all efforts must be made to facilitate the existence, increase and protection of this unique spawning stock.

Paragraph 2 of #9 page 7 states that fish spawned in the Peshtigo and Oconto Rivers remain in Green Bay as adults. For this reason, a restricted area at the mouths of the Oconto and Peshtigo Rivers must be established to maintain a viable harvestable population of whitefish in Green Bay despite being exploited by a doubled harvest quota.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this opinion statement.

Michael Arrowood

Chairman of the Board of Directors

Walleyes For Tomorrow, Inc.

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 2:11 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FH-02-20 Fiscal Estimate

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Meredith,

We support our commercial fishermen. They are critical to the economic sustainability of our area. In addition to providing a critical product, they help to maintain a very important cultural heritage that we need to protect.

I am the President of the Norrland Resort in Ellison Bay, WI. Our owners and our customers support this rule revision, and appreciate the commercial fishermen's positive impact on our business and our community.

Please support this Rule Revision.

Sincerely,
Marlon McDonald
President
Norrland Resort
Ellison Bay, WI

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 6:00 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Mark LaBarbera
Subject: Proposed Commercial Whitefish permanent Rule

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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My comments regarding the proposed permanent rule for expanding commercial whitefish quotas on Lake Michigan including the Bay of Green Bay are:

Initially the expansion into zone one, was indicated because whitefish have changed their patterns, and commercial fisherman are not able to catch their quota in northern Green Bay and Lake Michigan! Wouldn't it make sense to substantially reduce the quota in those zones to allow the Whitefish to recover?

I am also concerned that we are increasing the commercial quota in zone one before we know the impact of the emergency rule expansion. Whitefish are a part of the forage base in zone one and this commercial harvest may have serious impacts on the rich game fish populations that have nurtured a 7 million dollar sport fishery over the past 30 years. Extensive state and federal dollars (mostly sport fisherman dollars) have been expended building this sport walleye, Northern Pike, Perch, and Muskellunge fishery! It would be a disaster to risk that investment.

I am concerned about the limited knowledge we have on bycatch and undersized whitefish that are wasted, with initial reports that as much as 25% of all bycatch and undersized fish caught are wasted.

I am concerned with the expanded use of Gill nets in zone one a rich game fish environment! Fish caught in Gill nets are wasted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Keith A. Pamperin
Great Lakes Chair
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 6:51 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: FH-02-20

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Comments from henriksen Fisheries are attached

Thanks



[FH-02-20 Fiscal Estimate](#)

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HENRIKSEN FISHERIES
HEALTHY . SUSTAINABLE . LOCAL . FRESH

Henriksen Fisheries Inc & Door County Caviar



Healthy, Fresh, Local, Sustainable

Charles W Henriksen -President

Will Henriksen - Vice President

To: Meredith Penthorn

Re: FH-020-20 Fiscal estimate

In the ever evolving dynamics of fish management this rule has vast economic impact.

Our business employs 10 or more people full and part time , pays hundreds of thousands of dollars in payroll and shares . We represent LM 110,169, and 2002 and Wisconsin Wholesale number 391 and have been in business for nearly 40 years.

We supply whitefish to 5 fish houses from Green Bay to Algoma and Gills Rock. We also supply 25 local restaurants with this healthy sustainable food. A rough estimate is that in 2021 we have supplied the main ingredient in over 200,000 meals.

The fishery is changing, For many years we have been reliant on fish from Zone 1 and have invested heavily in access rights through annual quota leasing and outright purchase. Finally adopting the reasonable and accurate quota numbers in this proposal will be a major positive step for our business and the Wisconsin Commercial Fishery.

Thank You for your consideration

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 7:05 AM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: FH-02-20

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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The LMCFB charged by statute with advising the DNR on Commercial fishing supports this rule. The importance to our industry, and the people of Wisconsin, having access to this robust fishery can not be overstated.

The economic value of this rule change to the local economy is huge.

Sincerely, Charles W Henriksen, Chair LMCFB

--

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 1:17 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: FH-02-20

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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I am writing to support the current Whitefish quota proposal. My father started our smoked fish business in 1932, and it has relied on local caught fish to keep it going over the years. We are a three generation business with 5 employees.

Local residents and tourists seek out fresh and smoked Whitefish. It is a commodity that is essential for our business.

Thank you,

Charles w. Voight

[REDACTED]

Charlie's Smokehouse

[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 2:30 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Charles Henriksen
Subject: Zone 1 Fishing Rule

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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To Whom it may concern,

The Door County fishing industry has provided fish for the world for years. In recent years and the growing popularity of hyper-locally sourced foods, our local companies have found it hard to keep up with the demand. By allowing them to fish in Zone 1, it will make the sustainable food movement more cost effective and successful which leads to a better and healthier world. Our restaurants rely on fresh whitefish daily and there has been a surge in visitors and locals seeking out fish for direct purchase. This new rule would be a great step in keeping our fishermen working and restaurants, visitors and locals eating local and sustainable fish.

Thank you for your consideration,

Brynn Swanson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 2:37 PM
Cc: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR; [REDACTED]
Subject: Fishing Rule - Zone 1

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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As a lifelong fisherman on the Great Lakes, I fully support this rule being made into law. These guys are providing an invaluable service to our community and they should be given the chance to fish in Zone 1. It will not affect the sport fishing industry and will only bring more access to our fishery. I have complete faith in the fishermen to act responsibly as this industry is their lifeblood. They will respect it and treat it with the utmost care. Door County is known for its iconic Fish Boils. These companies provide the thousands of pounds of fish to our restaurants which fuel our economy and make our way of life possible. It's a no brainer in my eyes.

Thanks,
Sern "Buck" Olson

--

Buck Olson
ES Olsson Construction
[REDACTED]

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: Fish

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Commercial fishing of whitefish is very important for our restaurant business.
It is our only local fish on the menu, and very popular.

Kris johnson
JJs restaurant
Sister bay wi 54234

Sent from my iPhone

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 4:45 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Cc: Charles Henriksen
Subject: Quota Increase Zone 1

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Dear Decision Makers,

Let me introduce myself, my name is Larry Krause and I was born and raised in Door County, Wi. I have owned and operated the Old

Post Office Restaurant in Ephraim, Wi since 1975. I began serving fish boils in 1978 due to the demand for locally caught fresh whitefish.

Due to the growth in tourism over the years and the most recent spike in business from people wanting to get away after being home

bound due to Covid restrictions. To make a long story short, the supply of locally caught whitefish can't keep up with the demand.

Through out the past season, on several occasions, we were forced to limit the number of customers we could serve on a given evening.

This not only has a negative effect on my seasonal business but also the people I employ who rely on the summer season as a large

portion of their annual income. The cost of operating a fishery by today's standards has increased significantly. When they lift six nets and

the reward is 40 pounds, it's not going to keep you in business for long. This is an example of the scenario played out many times this

past season.

The proposed rule change would level the playing field while at the same time maintain sustainability in Zone 1. I can't grow or even

maintain my current business if I can't get adequately supplied by local fisherman. We pride ourselves on the fact we serve fresh, locally

caught whitefish at our fish boil. The allure of fresh fish brings tourists to Door County, whether it's boiled, smoked or boiled it keeps the

the tourists coming back.

In closing, the topic has been studied scientifically over the past 7 years to support the rule change. Please level the playing field by

supporting the rule change. Changing the rule will allow for a sustainable future supply of whitefish while at the same time insure future

economic growth in Door County.

Respectfully,

Larry Krause
Owner Old Post Office Restaurant
Ephraim, Wi 54211

Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2021 8:40 PM
To: Penthorn, Meredith C - DNR
Subject: economic input

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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To whom it may concern

I am writing this email to verbalize the impact the permanent rule will have on the economy of not only Door County but the whole world. Our fish is a mainstay for many establishments in Door County. Some like the fish boilers this is their whole income. Many others it is a major part of their menu`s. Our fish literally go all over the world and are consumed by millions of people. I support this permanent rule whole heartily!

Thanks
Mark Weborg, Commercial Fisherman in Gills Rock