Wisconsin
Trout Management
Wisconsin Trout Fishing

Is fantastic...

• Over 13,000 miles of trout streams
• Trout populations have increased
• Positive and large economic impact, but...
Wisconsin Trout Fishing

- Regulations and seasons were last revised in 2003

11+ years!
Stakeholder Input

Since 2011.....

• 31 Public meetings
• 3 angler surveys
• Task Force stakeholder meetings
• Spring Hearing advisory questions
Wisconsin Trout Anglers Ask for…..

- More quality fishing opportunities
- Less confusing regulations
- Fewer special regulations
Trout Regulation Review Goals

- **Simplify** regulations and **retain** quality fishing
- **Increase** trout fishing opportunities and economic impact
Proposed Regulations (inland)

.....Based on biology and angler input

Simplify regulations and retain quality fishing

• Reduce categories & special regulations (management goals)
• More uniformity & clear boundaries
• Monitor & evaluate
• Update maps & tools
Proposed Regulations (inland)

Increase opportunity for all trout anglers

- Extend early season where it exists (catch & release) – January 1st
- Extend fall season statewide (harvest opportunities) – October 15th
- Eliminate 5-day closure (catch & release)
- Stocked lakes – gamefish season (May-March)
Stop Light concept for Inland Trout Regulations
Stop Light for Inland Regulations

GO FISH – No length limit, bag limit 5, no bait restriction
Stop Light for Inland Regulations

CAUTION —
8-inch length limit, bag limit 3, no bait restriction
Stop Light for Inland Regulations

STOP – Special regulations. Understand the regulations before fishing.
Possession Limit

Inland lakes, streams and spring ponds (brook, brown and rainbow)
• Total Daily Bag Limit 5
• Possession Limit 10

Inland Lake trout
• Possession Limit 2
## Proposed Regulations Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulation Type</th>
<th>% Trout stream miles</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No size limit (5 or more bag)</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow (8” min, 3 bag)</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial only</td>
<td>2.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High quality size structure (no bait restrictions)</td>
<td>6%</td>
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</tbody>
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Timeline and Process

- WCC District meetings – August 2014
- Public meetings/stakeholder briefings – Summer/Fall 2014
- Spring hearings – April 2015
- Rules effective – Spring 2016
Summary

• Simplify and Standardize Regulations
• Increase Opportunities for all Anglers
• Tie Regulations to Management Goals
• Increase Economic Impact