

Citizen Resolution # 410121

(For Hearing Officer completion)



DNR should fully implement the 1996 Natural Resources Board Order (FM-42-96) regarding commercial lake trout harvest on Lake Superior

In 1996, per Natural Resources Board Order FM-42-96, the DNR entered into agreement with the public to reduce the number of state commercial licenses for issuance for Lake Superior lake trout from 21 to 10 and lower their annual non-Tribal harvest limit to 6,480 lake trout, in exchange for \$1.4 million public dollars paid to 11 lake trout commercial fishers retiring the commercial licenses and trout quota allocations. To date FM-42-96 has not yet been fully implemented. In 1996 the DNR instead raised the commercial lake trout limit to 13,430 and have yet to reduce the trout limit to 6,480, in order to 'enhance lake trout restoration in Lake Superior'. Per latest numbers available to me, 10 surviving commercial lake trout licenses contributed ~\$9,000 to cover their costs to the DNR. In 2014 the total Wisconsin Lake trout harvest of 26,905 lbs. had a reported dockside value of \$20,345, worth an estimated ~\$ 2,441 after expenses, or \$~241 per license. Yet it cost sportsmen ~\$222,895 in 2014 to cover just the commercial lake trout restoration costs. Sportsmen therefore paid \$8.28/lb. to remove lake trout which generated only 79 cents/lb. dockside or ~9.4 cents/lb. after expenses. It's obvious that paying 91 times more to put trout into the lake than is generated via netting is economically unwise and unsustainable to sportsmen. Should the Wisconsin Conservation Congress work with DNR to permanently reduce the annual state licensed commercial lake trout harvest in Lake Superior to 6,480 trout per the 1996 Natural Resources Board Order FM-42-96?

**Steven Alt
2342 W. Daphne Rd
Glendale, WI 53209
414247-2029
Milwaukee County**

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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.