

Citizen Resolution # 640623



Willow Flowage Panfish Bag Limit

The Willow Flowage in Oneida County is one of the State's most beautiful bodies of water, but also one of its best self sustaining bodies. Panfish numbers are lower than on many natural lakes in the area, but this lack of population and competition within the fish community produces above average growth rates for black crappies, yellow perch and bluegills. Fishing pressure is high for these species, particularly in the fall and winter when crappies, bluegills and perch congregate in specific areas of the Flowage. In spring bluegills grow quickly. But due to some years summer drawdowns at spawning time, it decreases bluegill numbers. DNR regulations from 2015 states: "It takes (25) 5" filleted bluegills to get 1/2# of meat; vs. (3 1/2) 8" filleted bluegills to get the same amount of meat?" Too much overharvest of this water's panfish could mean 0 number of panfish to filet. A higher population of high quality panfish would make for more enjoyable outings for anglers on this beautiful, aesthetic body of water.

Would you support the Conservation Congress working with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to adopt, from their fish management tool box, a 25 fish bag limit on panfish, but not more than 10 panfish per species (Crappie, Perch, Bluegill or Pumpkinseed Sunfish) on the waters of the Willow Flowage in Oneida county?

Additional Information provided by author:
2015 DNR Fish Regulations

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