Citizen Resolution # 640721

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Extend Walleye/Northern ice fishing season until 3rd weekend in March

Currently closing the inland waters gamefish (Walleye and Northern) season on the first weekend in March leaves many lakes in the north with plenty of adequate, safe ice to get at least one (maybe two) more weekends of recreational opportunities to get a little more ice fishing in before winter ends.

On many of the mid/larger lakes in the north, people living on those lakes or people visiting them unfortunately have to wait sometimes 2-3 weeks longer than the smaller lakes before they can safely begin accessing their lakes. Unfortunately they can't get those couple of weeks back at the end of the winter because the season closes.....even though there is a lot of safe ice to continue fishing. Panfisherman continue to fish those lakes for many weeks, proving safe ice has traditionally been available over the years.

I propose extending the gamefish season (specifically interested in Walleye and Northern) until the 3rd weekend in March. I also propose a Northern and Southern Zone season closure format similar to already being used for some other fish season structures. This would allow the North and South closures to be better suited to their own traditional ice conditions in March.

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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.