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Title: Petenwell and Castle Rock Flowages Walleye Regulations

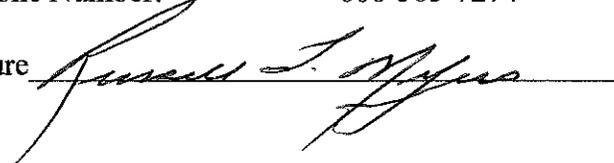
Problem:

Daily bag limits of 5 walleye on Petenwell and Castle Rock Flowages has existed for many years. This Wisconsin fishery is open year round. In 2001 a recommendation to change the bag limit to three was proposed along with a 15"-20" slot limit with one walleye over 28". This implemented (trial basis) program was an attempt to protect female spawning during the heavy spring fishing pressure. However, DNR creel census records did not indicate the need to change the bag limit; therefore the bag limit remained unchanged at 5. As a result, anglers feel walleye populations continue to decline on these two flowages.

Additionally, high fishing pressures remove many three to five year old fish from the river system, many of which are spawning females. Of continued concern, the Wisconsin River Power Company (WRPC) periodically, rapidly raises / lowers the water levels, thereby flushing the river system.

BE IT RESOLVED: the Conservation Congress at its Annual Meeting held in Juneau County on April 13th 2009 recommends the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take actions to correct this situation. Given the high harvest pressure and impacts of the WRPC it is felt current regulations are inadequate to protect this walleye fishery. It is recommended that the walleye regulation on Petenwell and Castlerock Flowages be changed to an 18" minimum size limit and 3 fish daily bag limit. This regulation should improve angler opportunity; protecting female walleye for an additional two to three spawning seasons, and re-establishes natural walleye recruitment.

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Signature 

Local Question

Spoke to local DNR staff. No indication of response.