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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: July 15, 2013
RESUBMITTED: August 12, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Fisheries Order 247.14
Number of Fishing Rods on Michigan Waters

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, provides the Natural Resources Commission the exclusive authority to regulate the taking of fish in this state.

Discussion and Background:

This Order governs the number of fishing rods that anglers may use while fishing in Michigan waters and is set to expire on March 31, 2014. In 2000, as prescribed by Michigan law, it became lawful for anglers fishing in boats on the Great Lakes and Great Lake Connecting Waters to use three rods when trolling for trout and salmon. This created separate rod limit regulations for anglers based upon where they were fishing and what fish they were fishing for. It became problematic for law enforcement personnel who had to uphold the regulations and determine what species anglers were targeting. Several years ago, Fisheries Division worked with various stakeholders to get feedback on a proposal to increase the allowable number of rods anglers could use for sport fishing activities. Many fishing organizations and the general public provided overwhelming support for a statewide increase to three rods. In 2008, Michigan law was amended granting authority to the Department to increase the number of rods to be used to three. The three rod regulation has been in effect on all waters since April 1, 2009, and support for this regulation remains strong. Therefore, the Department recommends renewing the Order as written without change.

Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information on August 8, 2013, at the Natural Resources Commission Meeting. This item appears on the Department's July 2013 calendar and may be eligible for approval on September 12, 2013.



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



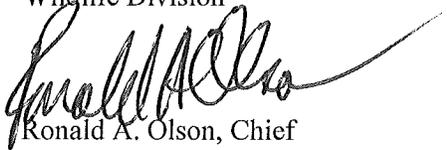
Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



Bill O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Deputy

FISHERIES ORDER

NUMBER OF FISHING RODS ON MICHIGAN WATERS

Order 247.14

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission by section 48703a of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.48703a, it is ordered that effective April 1, 2014, the following section(s) of the Fisheries Order shall read as follows:

The following regulations are established for the number of fishing rods on Michigan waters:

On all of the public waters of Michigan, those persons in the act of fishing shall be restricted to using no more than 3 single lines or 3 single rods and lines, and shall not attach more than six hooks total on all lines.

This Order shall be assigned number FO-247.14, and is entitled "Number of Fishing Rods on Michigan Waters."

This Order supersedes the Order entitled "Number of Fishing Rods on Michigan Waters," which became effective April 1, 2009, and is assigned number FO-247.09.

This Order shall take effect on April 1, 2014, and shall remain in effect until amended/rescinded.

Issued on this 12th day of September, 2013.

J. R. Richardson, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission