



STATE OF MICHIGAN
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 LANSING



GRETCHEN WHITMER
 GOVERNOR

DANIEL EICHINGER
 DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: July 20, 2020
 RESUBMITTED: August 17, 2020

<p><u>APPROVED</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">,20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)</p>

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Fisheries Order 202.21
 Special Hook Size Fishing Regulations

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue Orders to regulate the taking of fish in the waters of this state.

Discussion and Background:

Fisheries Order 202 governs special hook regulations on select waters to protect susceptible fish during spawning migrations. Fisheries Division is proposing a modification to an existing provision for the Bear River in Emmet County to clarify the downstream boundary of the regulation. The Bear River flows into an area with a marina and breakwall before entering Lake Michigan. Anglers and law enforcement personnel have indicated that the area is confusing because of the design layout. Therefore, adding a more specific landmark “foot bridge north of Lake Street,” to the downstream boundary description will help clarify the boundary better for everyone.

Issue Pros and Cons

Adding a more specific landmark for the downstream boundary of this special regulation will benefit anglers and law enforcement personnel. Anglers will now be able to discern exactly where the boundary is so they can follow the special regulations.

Biological

The change is not based upon biology; however, the fishery resource will benefit by the change because anglers will be able to identify better where the more protective regulations are being implemented.

Social

Anglers are supportive of special regulations to protect unique and high-quality fishing populations which provide a diverse public fishing opportunity. This change should result in better angler compliance because the boundary is easier to see.

Economic

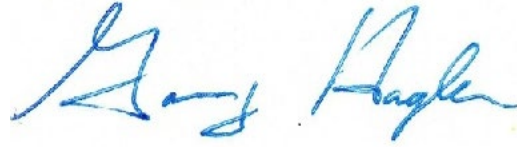
The Department does not expect the proposed changes to have any significant budgetary or personnel implications.

Recommendation:

Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this Order. This Order was submitted for information on August 13, 2020, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's August 4, 2020 calendar and may be eligible for approval on September 10, 2020.



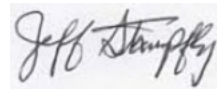
James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



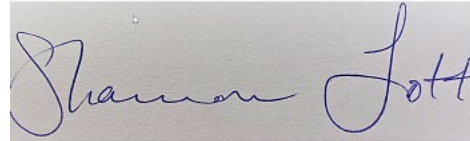
Daniel Kennedy, Acting Chief
Wildlife Division



Jeff Stampfly, Acting Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



Shannon Lott
Natural Resources Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Daniel Eichinger, Director

Date

FISHERIES ORDER

Special Hook Size Regulations Order 202.21

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources by Part 487 of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.48701 to 324.48740, ordered on September 10, 2020, the following section(s) of the Fisheries Order shall read effective April 1, 2021, except as otherwise provided:

- 1) Streams where it shall be unlawful to use other than one single-pointed un-weighted hook measuring ½-inch or less from point to shank:

County	Stream
Allegan	Swan Creek (from the mouth upstream to the dam at 118th Avenue)
Benzie	Platte River
Berrien	Townsend Creek (T6S, R17W, S19 and the mouth area of Lake Chapin, to a point 100 yards below the Townsend Creek mouth into Lake Chapin)
Charlevoix	Boyne River (from mouth upstream to dam in T32N, R5W, S5)
Emmet	Bear River (from foot bridge north of Lake Street upstream to Lake Street Dam T34N, R5W, S6)
Van Buren	South Branch Black River and all tributaries upstream of Breedsville (Mill Street).

- 2) For the purpose of this section, an artificial lure is defined as a body bait, plug, spinner, or spoon. An artificial lure is not a device primarily constructed of lead. From August 1 through November 15, inclusive, terminal fishing gear is restricted to single-pointed hooks or jigs, measuring ½-inch or less from point to shank or treble hooks measuring ¾-inch or less from point to shank only when attached to an artificial lure on the following waters:
- a. Benzie County: all waters of the Betsie River.
 - b. Manistee County: all waters of Bear Creek, all waters of the Betsie River, and the Manistee River from Tippy Dam downstream to Railroad Bridge below M-55 (T21N, R16W, S6).
 - c. Mason County: the Big Sable River (from mouth upstream to Hamlin Lake Dam).
 - d. Mason, Lake, Oceana, Newaygo: all waters of the Pere Marquette River.
 - e. Manistee, Mason, and Lake Counties: all waters of the Little Manistee River.
 - f. Muskegon and Oceana Counties: the White River (from mouth upstream to Hesperia Dam) and all waters of the North Branch White River.
 - g. Muskegon and Newaygo Counties: the Muskegon River upstream to Croton Dam.

- h. Oceana and Mason Counties: all waters of the North Branch Pentwater River, South Branch Pentwater River (upstream to Hart Dam).

This Order shall be assigned number FO-202.21 and is entitled “Special Hook Size Regulations.”

This Order supersedes the Order entitled “Special Hook Size Regulations,” which became effective April 1, 2019, and is assigned number FO-202.19.

This Order shall take effect April 1, 2021 and shall remain in effect until amended/rescinded.

Issued on this 10th day of September, 2020.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Carol Rose, Chair
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Daniel Eichinger
Director