

Natural Resources Commission Meeting

Policy Committee on
Wildlife and Fisheries

November 9, 2017

Proposed Orders

- For Information – NRC
 - Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park; Tobico Marsh Boundaries (WCO # 7 of 2017)
- For Action – NRC
 - Statewide Trout, Salmon, Whitefish, Lake Herring, and Smelt Regulations (FO 200.18)
 - Statewide Warmwater Regulations for Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Northern Pike, Walleye, Muskellunge, Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Yellow Perch, Sunfishes, and White Bass (FO 215.18)
 - Bow, Spear, and Crossbow Fishing Regulations (FO 219.18)
 - Regulations on Freshwater Mollusks (FO 228.18)
 - Netting Regulations (FO 229.18)

Proposed Orders

- For Information – Director
 - Order to Re-designate Bay City State Recreation Area to Bay City State Park (LUOD # 3 of 2017)
 - PA 288 of 2016; Forest Road Inventory in the Northern Lower Peninsula (LUOD # 5 of 2017)

NRC Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

- Fisheries Division Update
- Wildlife Division Update

Fisheries Chief Update

Gary Whelan
Program Manager
Fisheries Division
November 9, 2017

DRAFT Lake Michigan Management Plan

- News release went out November 8
- Copy of plan & feedback information available at:
 - <https://mdnrilmfmp.wordpress.com/>
 - Site provided by Michigan Sea Grant
- Public Meetings
 - November 28, Manistique
 - November 29, Traverse City
 - November 30, Grand Haven
- Update to NRC in January



Lake Michigan Stocking Options

- Goal: reduce predators while providing more Chinook salmon, based on public feedback
- Options are to:
 - Reduce & move brown trout to better habitat areas
 - Move some coho salmon to southern ports
 - Reduce nearshore stocking of lake trout
 - Increase Chinook salmon stocking
- News release & public meetings same as Lake Michigan Management Plan

Fall Salmon Egg-Takes

- All salmon egg requirements met for hatcheries
 - Fish large, good condition & eggs of high quality
- Lake Michigan coho salmon spawning run excellent
 - Platte River Run: 31,000+ (1.3X increase)
 - Jack run smaller this year & closer to average
 - Likely more average spawning run in 2018
 - Boardman River run: 10,400+ (4.1X increase)
- Chinook salmon arrived late at Little Manistee River Weir
 - Little Manistee River Weir: 1,768 (1.3X increase)
 - Swan River Weir: 4,600 (1.9X increase)
 - Boardman Weir: 1,900+ (1.3X increase)
 - Medusa Weir: 2,100+ (2.6x increase)

Questions?

Wildlife Chief Update

Russ Mason

Wildlife Chief Update

- CWD Workgroup
- Woodcock Symposium
- How Hunters Can Submit Samples for Disease Testing
- Summary of Waterfowl Seasons to Date

Thank You