

Badger Fly Fishers

An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers



Newsletter

September 2014

Public meetings

Public meetings are scheduled in September to gather citizen comments on proposals to simplify existing inland trout fishing regulations.

"Wisconsin's trout fishing regulations and seasons were last reviewed in 2003 and much has changed, including improved fish populations," says Scot Stewart, DNR district fish supervisor. "Guided by public input, we've developed draft rules that support the continued health of our trout waters while making the fishing experience easier for anglers."

DNR has sought public input throughout the rule review process and the next step is to bring the proposed rules to the public for final comment. Since 2011, DNR staff members have hosted 31 public meetings, developed three angler surveys, organized trout task force stakeholder meetings and developed advisory questions for spring hearings hosted by the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

The public feedback has resulted in a proposal that reduces the number of special regulations from more than 40 to 12. The proposal also creates uniformity on streams within small geographic areas.

The new system uses color-coding resembling a stoplight to guide anglers. Under the proposed rules:

Green means go fish - with no length limit, a bag limit of five fish and no bait restrictions.

Yellow means caution - with an 8 inch length limit, a bag limit of three fish and no bait restrictions.

Red means special regulations are in place.

Anglers are advised to stop and understand the regulations before fishing.

Changes also are proposed in the season dates for inland trout fishing. The current early catch and release season runs from March 1 up to five days before the regular fishing opener. The proposal would extend the early catch and release season to Jan. 1 and would run right to the regular fishing opener with no five-day closure period.

Meetings will be held throughout the state:

September 9:

Green Bay - 6 p.m., DNR Service Center, 2984 Shawano Ave. **La Crosse** - 6:30 p.m., Room B19-20 (lower level), DNR Satellite Center, 3550 Mormon Coulee Road. **Wausau** - 6:30 p.m., DNR Satellite Center, 5301 Rib Mountain Road.

September 10:

Hayward - 7 p.m. DNR Satellite Center, 10220 State Highway 27. **Waupaca** - 6 p.m., Rm. B, Waupaca Public Library, 107 S. Main St.

September 11:

Eau Claire - 6:30 p.m., Room 158/185, DNR Service Center, 1300 W. Clairemont Ave. **Fitchburg** - 7-9 p.m., Gathering Waters and Glaciers Edge meeting rooms, DNR Service Center, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road.

September 16:

Ashland - 7 p.m., DNR Satellite Center, 2501 Golf Course Road.

CONTACTS: Scot Stewart, DNR district fisheries supervisor, 608-273-5967; Joanna Griffin, DNR trout specialist, 608-264-8953; Jennifer Sereno, DNR communications, 608-770-8084

For more information about the proposed trout regulations, visit dnr.wi.gov and search for "trout review."

In addition to the public meetings, comments may be submitted to Joanna Griffin by email to joanna.griffin@wisconsin.gov or mailed to PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921.

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Bart Landwehr from Tight Lines holds a 21 inch smallmouth caught by Bob Harrison on the Menominee River.

For Sale

Ruger Red Label 28 Gauge O/U With box & manual
 W/Screw in choke set; Full, Mod, I/C, Skeet, Skeet

With Ruger (Briley) .410 tube conversion set w/skeet & skeet screw in choke tubes
 With storage bag & manual sheet

With the following ammo:

12 boxes Win. AA 28 ga target loads	This is a lightly used gun in excellent condition Price \$1100 firm (715)-426-2278 Tom Anderson
4 boxes Win. 28 ga. #6 game loads	
1 box Win 28 ga. #7 1/2 game loads	
6 boxes Win. AA .410 target loads	

The Badger Fly Fishers Newsletter is published monthly. Articles, photos, information, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month of issue to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St., Madison WI 53711. If possible, Word files sent to: johnson7@tds.net are most appreciated.

Next Meeting:

Monday
September 22nd

Mike Miller, “Wisconsin Trout Streams:
Angling Strategies, Opportunities and Ecology”

Miller is a stream ecologist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Currently he is collaborating on U.S. EPA's National Rivers and Streams Assessment, sampling randomly-selected wadeable streams and boatable rivers throughout Wisconsin to assess the condition of the state's flowing waters. This involves estimating the number of barriers to upstream fish passage caused by roadway stream crossings and culverts in the Driftless Area.

He is also developing "reference-conditions" - numeric criteria used to judge the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of WI streams.



Events Calendar

September 16th **WSA Monthly Meeting**
Dave McCoy "Door County: Finding and Catching
Trophy Fall Smallmouth"

September 22nd **BFF Monthly Meeting**
Mike Miller - Stream Ecology

October 21st **WSA Monthly Meeting**
Heath Benike "Smallmouth Rivers of
Western Wisconsin"

October 27th **BFF Monthly Meeting**
Rich Ostoff - "Trout in the Driftless Area"

November **BFF Monthly Meeting**
Matt Wagner - "The Elk River in British Columbia"

The Badger Fly Fishers' meetings are normally held on the fourth Monday of each month. **The Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance** meets on the third Tuesday. Both groups meet at the Mapletree Restaurant on Highway 51, in McFarland, Wisconsin.

Programs begin at 7:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. Visitors and guests are always welcome.