



Revised 2012 impaired waters list open for public comments

Anglers can use the list to check on the health of their favorite fishing waters

MADISON – Wisconsin and other states are required by the federal Clean Water Act to publish every two years a list of all waters in which the water quality does not support the fish and aquatic life, recreation, public health and welfare, and wildlife the waters should be able to support.

Wisconsin's 2012 draft list of impaired waters has been revised and public comments are accepted through June 30.

DNR is proposing to add 147 waters to the 2012 Impaired Waters List, as opposed to the 138 additions in the previous draft, and to remove 28. The removals, or "delistings," reflect recent improved stream habitat and recent bacteria concentrations at beaches and include three streams that have been successfully restored: German Valley Branch in Dane County and Eagle and Joos Valley Creeks in Buffalo County.

The proposed 2012 list is the first developed using the state's new phosphorus standards.

The state's existing Impaired Waters List includes more than 700 rivers segments, streams and lakes.

People can find the proposed revised impaired waters list and more information about how DNR arrived at the list on the DNR website, dnr.wi.gov, by searching for "[2012 impaired waters](#)." Comments may be submitted via email through June 2013 to DNRImpairedwaters@wisconsin.gov or by U.S. mail to Aaron Larson, DNR, Water Evaluation Section (WY/3), P.O.Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

THE SMALLMOUTH HORIZON

June 2013

An Opinion

by Dan Johnson

In response to Gov. Scott Walker's announcement on May 22nd unveiling the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative, making available significant funding for use by state, tribal, and private fish hatcheries to produce additional walleye for Wisconsin's lakes:

Perhaps he should pay more attention to what our DNR scientists are telling us.

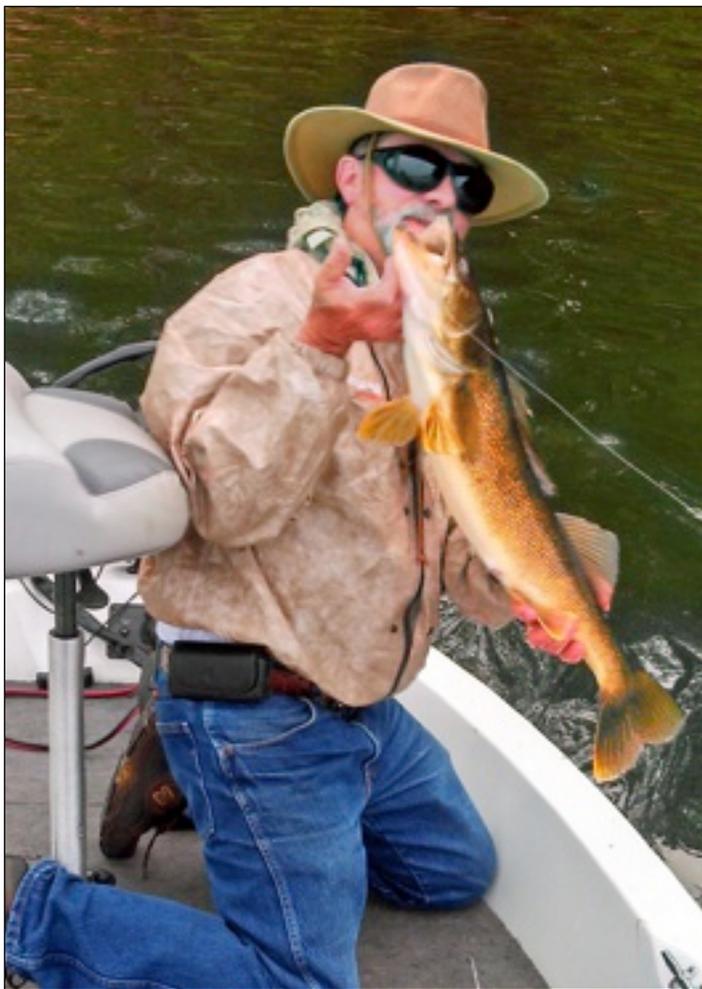
Lisa Gaumnitz, in an article published in [Wisconsin Natural Resources](#) magazine in June, 2010, quoted DNR biologist, Heath Benike, "The number one complaint I hear from anglers locally is, 'We want our walleye back.' We've tried increasing our walleye stocking rates and adding more walleye spawning habitat, and that did not help increase walleye survival or solve the existing problem."

And this from Water Resources Management Specialist Andy Fayram, "It looks like climate change is a suspicious character in this whole thing."

\$13 million could go a long way in helping to protect, create and restore a variety of fisheries in Wisconsin. Stocking more walleyes is a temporary fix at best.

The Governor could just as well give every Wisconsin family a Friday night fish fry voucher, for all the good it would do.





Rick Reese and Andy Davidson were smallmouth fishing in Vilas County on a lake that Andy had never fished before, when they were rewarded with these fish.

Ricks was a 27 1/2" walleye on a small grub and Andy's was a 42" muskie caught on a 3 1/2" Rapala X-Rap.

The muskie was bleeding due to a previous hook-up and piss-poor handling. Andy removed some line from his gills and she eventually swam off with a smile on her face. Rick's walleye was also released.

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Articles, photos, and calendar events for the newsletter are encouraged and should be submitted by the 1st day of the month to: Dan Johnson, 426 Glenway St. Madison, WI 53711. Send to: johnson7@tds.net, editor.

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Our Next Meeting:

*See you in
September!*

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, July 13th
Sauk City

Wisconsin River Float Trip

Saturday, July 27th
Phil and Dale Grimm farm on Willow Creek

BFF Picnic
Sage and Rio demos with Dave Gellatly

Wisconsin Smallmouth Alliance meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month. The Badger Fly Fishers meet on the fourth Monday.

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!**