



Hello members, families and friends,

Important Northern Pike Slot Limit Review Meeting

On Wednesday, September 26, 2018, there was an important meeting regarding the review of the Northern Pike Special Regulations Limit on Big Fish Lake by the DNR Area Fisheries Manager, Joe Stewig. The meeting was attended by BFLA Board Member Allen Schmitz and a few other members of the lake association.

The current Big Fish Lake slot limit was created in 2005 with a 10-year trial & review. Joe has asked that I pass this information on to the lake association members so that you can give your feedback directly to him. I have included a form that you can fill out and return to him. This form is due Friday, October 12, 2018. The options are to either:

- 1) Convert the existing Experimental regulation into a special regulation or
- 2) Revert the current Experimental Northern Pike regulation back to the current statewide regulation. (DNR is recommending this second option). In this case, Big Fish Lake would fall in the North Central Zone and the regulation for that zone is 22" - 26" protected slot with a 10-fish possession limit of which only two northern pike over 26" are allowed in the possession limit.

Here is the form to fill out:

Big Fish Lake Regulation Review Meeting
September 26, 2018

Collegeville Township Hall, Cold Spring, MN 6-8 pm

The DNR is proposing to either extend, modify, or drop the existing experimental Northern Pike regulations on Big Fish Lake. The current regulation is a 24-36 inch protected slot limit (PSL) for Northern Pike with a possession limit of three. All Northern Pike within the 24"-36" slot must be immediately released, with one over 36" allowed in possession.

Anglers!!! Please help us by indicating your preference.

_____ Convert existing Experimental regulation into a Special regulation.

_____ Revert current Experimental Northern Pike regulation, back to the current statewide regulation.

_____ Other (write in comments): _____

Optional Survey Questions:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Lakeshore resident? _____

Please leave this survey form at the meeting or mail to: DNR Fisheries, 1035 South Benton Drive, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379 by **October 12, 2018**. Telephone 320-223-7867
e-mail: joe.stewig@state.mn.us.

[Click on this link below to review the Big Fish Lake DNR
Experimental Regulation](#)

Lost: Blue Two-Person Kayak
Is missing from the Northwest end of the lake and if you
know where it is or have it in your possession, please
contact Jamie at
320-293-2062.
Thank you so much!

On Monday, October 8th, you may see Steve McComas and his Blue Water Science team out on the lake. Since we have not had a vegetation survey done since 2015, the Board has decided to update the survey to view all possible Aquatic Invasive Species including, but not limited to, Starry Stonewort and Zebra Mussels. The DNR has informed us that they didn't know when they would be able to do the next survey due to budget cuts. Because of the invasion of Starry Stonewort in Grand Lake and Zebra Mussels in the Chain of Lakes, we felt it was important to go forth with this research. The team will look at over 150 points around the lake for vegetation and they will also have a dive team looking for the zebra mussels on rocks and hard surfaces as well. We will send out the report as soon as we can. Let's hope that the research team does not find anything new but since we are being proactive in looking for possible AIS we are on the right track in keeping our lake clean!

We have several new members to our lake and we want to welcome them to our lake and hope that they enjoy the lake as much as we do. Please extend a warm welcome if and when you get a chance to meet them. If you see that I have not included someone on this list, please let me know.

Gene & Teri Boysen
Tom & Trish Bruce
Neil & Kelly Fandel
Joe & Kathy Kalkman
Don & Lisa McCabe
Mary Schad

Thank you for your time and concern for our lake and have a beautiful fall!

Kit Ferber
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320-249-4800

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Member

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