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Chapter NR 192

LAKE MONITORING CONTRACTS AND CITIZEN LAKE MONITORING NETWORK

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NR 192.01 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish administrative procedures for the lake monitoring contracts program and to specify the eligible activities and qualifications for participation in the statewide lake monitoring network pursuant to s. 281.68 (3) (bg), Stats. Citizen lake monitoring is a vital and necessary component of the state's lake protection strategy. The statewide lake monitoring network provides quality, cost-effective lake data useful to federal, state and local lake management efforts on the use of lakes and the understanding of the natural ecosystem of lakes and the water quality of lakes. The purpose of the lake monitoring contract program is to provide training, equipment and support to a statewide network of citizens so that they can provide useful information for the protection and restoration of Wisconsin lakes.

History: CR 05-100: cr. Register June 2006 No. 606, eff. 7-1-06.

NR 192.02 Applicability. Public groups or persons receiving contracts from the department for the support of a statewide lake monitoring network and persons participating in the network as a citizen monitor shall comply with the provisions of this chapter.

History: CR 05-100: cr. Register June 2006 No. 606, eff. 7-1-06.

NR 192.03 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Aquatic invasive species" means nonindigenous water or wetland-dwelling organisms or their hybrids whose introduction into aquatic ecosystems causes or is likely to cause adverse economic, recreational or environmental impacts or harm to human health.

(2) "Citizen monitor" means a person registered with the department for participation in the statewide lake monitoring network and trained in the collection, reporting and interpretation of lake data.

(3) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(4) "Lake" means a lake, reservoir, flowage, or millpond, or portion thereof, within the boundaries of this state that is listed by the department in the most current version of Wisconsin Lakes, publication FM-800.

Note: Pub-FM-800 Wisconsin Lakes includes a listing of most inland lakes in the state. The most current revision is available from the Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 or at: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/lakeinfo.htm#lakebook>.

(5) "Network" means the statewide lake monitoring network consisting of all the citizen monitors listed in the department's Lake Monitoring Directory.

Note: A copy of the Lake Monitoring Directory is available at www.dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/lakemonitors/list.

(6) "Network supporter" means the public groups or persons contracting with the department to provide the goods and services necessary for the operation and maintenance of the network.

(7) "Person" means an individual, owner, operator, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association, municipality, interstate agency, state agency or federal agency.

(8) "Public groups" includes but is not limited to local governmental units as defined in s. 66.0131 (1) (a), Stats., federally recognized Indian tribes, nonprofit conservation organizations, qual-

ified lake association as defined in s. 281.68 (1), Stats., qualified school districts, technical colleges, public and private colleges and universities, the U.S. Postal Service and any subdivision of state government other than the department's division of water.

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NR 192.04 Establishing the network. The department shall establish and maintain a lake monitoring network which shall do all of the following:

(1) Register and train citizen monitors in the collection and reporting of lake data.

(2) Provide support to the network through contracts and its technical staff.

(3) Develop lake monitoring protocols for the following citizen monitoring activities:

(a) Water clarity, quality and trophic condition.

(b) Aquatic invasive species monitoring.

(c) Aquatic plant monitoring.

(d) Lake water level monitoring.

(e) Lake and shoreland ecology including fish, wildlife, plants and habitat feature monitoring.

(f) Lake and watershed use monitoring.

(g) Lake ice coverage and duration monitoring.

(4) Analyze, report and share the data collected through the network.

History: CR 05-100: cr. Register June 2006 No. 606, eff. 7-1-06.

NR 192.05 Qualifications for participation in the network as a citizen monitor. To participate in the network as a citizen monitor, a person shall meet all of the following conditions:

(1) Attend department-sponsored training and demonstrate requisite skill in the lake monitoring protocol.

(2) Have access to a boat that can be used to conduct lake monitoring.

(3) Have access to a computer and telephone for reporting data and to conduct monitoring protocols.

History: CR 05-100: cr. Register June 2006 No. 606, eff. 7-1-06.

NR 192.06 Citizen monitor registration. (1) All citizen monitors shall be registered with the department.

(2) Persons desiring to become monitors shall request participation in the lake monitoring network in writing from the lake monitoring coordinator indicating the lake and type of monitoring of interest.

(3) The lake monitoring coordinator shall consult with the department to determine the need for the monitoring activity and inform the requestors of their acceptance or denial into the network.

(4) Persons accepted by the department as network monitors shall complete DNR form 3200-101 and provide the lake monitoring coordinator with the information necessary to enter them in the volunteer monitoring network database.

Note: The lake monitoring coordinator is a statewide position funded by the department and located at the College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, WI 54481-3897. The coordinator can be contacted by phone at (715)

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346-3989 or email at uwexlakes@uwsp.edu. Form 3200-101 will be provided by the department at the completion of training.

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NR 192.07 Contracts. (1) The department may contract with public groups or persons to support the network for any of the following:

(a) The cost of training, communication and education for citizen monitors.

(b) The cost of equipment and supplies necessary for the collection, preservation, and recording of samples or specimens and observations.

(c) The cost of shipping and handling, laboratory analysis and identification, quality assurance and control, and entry of data into

the statewide lake database system.

(d) The cost of developing and operating database systems for registering and tracking the network and citizen monitors' informational requirements and for storing, evaluating and reporting results.

(e) The cost of producing and distributing reports on the results of monitoring.

(f) The cost of research and demonstration projects to develop and apply new methods and protocols for network participation.

(g) The cost of recognition awards and appreciation for the achievements of citizen monitors and the network.

(2) All contracts for support of the network shall comply with ch. Adm 10 and any other applicable laws as appropriate.

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