

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Legislative Summary
2017-2019 State Legislative Session
August (26th) 2017

Assembly Bills

- AB28/SB7-----Clarifies expiration date of concealed carry permit
Status: Enacted into law **Wisconsin Act 5**
WWF Position---Support, simple clarification of expiration date
- AB50/SB22-----Strengthens high capacity well pumping law
Status: In Assembly Environment and Forestry Committee
In Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee
WWF Position: Support, protects lakes, streams and wetlands
- AB61/SB68-----Weakens protection against Chronic Wasting Disease
Status: Governor signed into Law, **Wisconsin Act 41**
WWF Position: Strongly opposes, a substantial weakening of deer herd
protection from CWD
- AB63-----Exempts utility filling and dredging wetland permits in highway
right of ways
Status: In Assembly Energy and Utilities Committee
WWF Position: WWF opposes due to likelihood of damage to fish and
wildlife habitat
- AB74-----Reinstates 48 hour waiting period for handgun purchase
Status: In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose, weakens Second Amendment Rights
- AB105/SB76----Removes high capacity well permit renewal requirement
Status: Signed into law, **Wisconsin Act 10**
WWF Position: Oppose, major weakening of stream, lake and
wetland protection laws
- AB157/SB171---Restores Natural Resources Board Appointment of DNR Secretary
Status----In Assembly Natural Resources Committee
In Senate Natural Resources Committee
WWF Position: Strongly support to reduce political natural resource
decision-making

- AB160/SB95-----Changes wetland and stream alteration laws governing fish farms
Status: Signed into law as **Wisconsin Act 21**
WWF Position: Neutral, the aquaculture industry worked with
WWF and other groups to minimize adverse impact
on streams and wetlands
- AB203/SB150----Authorizes special free events for disabled vets to learn to hunt
turkeys
Status: Hearing held in Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Awaiting hearing in Senate Sporting Heritage Committee
WWF Position: Support, special recognition for disabled vets
- AB214/SB152----Prohibits filling or destroying lake beds through iron mining activities
Status: In Assembly Rural Development and Mining Committee
In Senate Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry Committee
WWF Position: Support, bill is important to protect fish and wildlife habitat
- AB230/SB178-----Grandfathers fences on MFL lands owned by three beagle training clubs
Status: Signed by Governor, **Wisconsin Act 43**
WWF Position: Strongly supports bill—saves three WWF Beagle Clubs
- AB246/SB177-----Exempts Drainage Ditches from laws protecting streams and wetlands
Status: In Assembly Agriculture Committee
In Senate Agriculture Committee
WWF Position: Neutral, bill contains sufficient protection of fish and wildlife
habitat
- AB247/SB169-----Bill substantially reduces regulations regarding possession of weapons
Status: In Assembly State Affairs Committee
Hearing held in Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: WWF is a strong supporter of Second Amendment Rights
but objects to provisions allowing rifles and crossbows while shining
wild animals and objects to firearms in wildlife refuges close to
hunting
- AB281/SB180-----Bill relates to municipal sewer service area under the Great Lakes Compact
Status: Signed by the Governor, **Wisconsin Act 38**
WWF Position: Support, this bill is consistent with WWF position in the
City of Waukesha Great Lakes Compact diversion proceeding
- AB 314/SB247-----Bill authorizes hunting from a lift attached to a motor vehicle
Status: Passed the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Passed the Senate Sporting Heritage Committee

WWF Position: Support, provides another safe hunting method

- AB323/SB249-----Bill transfers the woodchuck from the protected to game species list
Status: Passed the Assembly, Awaiting a Senate vote
WWF Position: Support, no biological reason not to harvest, often a nuisance
- AB325/SB257-----Removes minimum age limit to apply for bear harvest preference points
Status: Signed into law, **Wisconsin Act 44**
WWF Position: Supports bill, allows youth to hunt bear when reaching hunting age
- AB328/SB225-----Establishes uniform season closing for certain hunting and trapping seasons
Status: Passed Senate, Passed Assembly Committee
WWF Position: Support bill as amended
- AB338/SB270-----Requires DNR to use \$10 million a year for eight years to buy public land owned by the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
Status: In Assembly Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage Committee
In Senate Universities and Technical Colleges Committee
WWF Position: Strongly oppose, uses limited Stewardship funds to buy already public land open to hunting, fishing and trapping
- AB346-----Requires DNR to continue to publish Natural Resources Magazine
Status: Passed as a motion to the State Budget in Joint Finance Committee
WWF Position: Support, the magazine is valuable to subscribers and is totally paid for by subscribers
- AB 347-----Restores Funding for 16 Research Scientists to the DNR
Status: Motion defeated in Joint Finance Committee
WWF Position: Support, the past elimination of these positions significantly weakened the necessary science information development for natural resources program
- AB 374-----Strengthens the fencing requirements for deer farms that have CWD
Status: In the Assembly Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage Committee
WWF Position: Support, this bill is important to protect the wild deer herd
- AB 388/SB320-----Bill allows filling of artificial wetlands that do not have fishery values
Status: In the Assembly Environment and Senate Natural Resource Committees
WWF Position: Neutral; Review shows that bill adequately protects fish and wildlife values

- AB411/SB321-----Bill substantially weakens warden authority to protect fish and wildlife on private property
Status: Hearing held in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee; In the Senate Natural Resources Committee
WWF Position: Strongly oppose; seriously weakens protection of fish and wildlife
- AB416/SB326-----Places surcharge on penalties for the poaching of trophy deer
Status: In Assembly Environment and Senate Sporting Heritage Committees
WWF Position: Support, increases penalties for poaching deer
- AB427/SB340-----Directs DNR and Superintendent of Education to develop curriculum for firearm safety courses (not hunter education) for high schools
Status: Hearing held in Assembly Education Committee; In Senate Education Committee
WWF Position: Support; increases firearm safety and shooting sports
- AB428-----Provides penalties for failure to report stolen or lost firearms
Status: In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose
- AB429-----Requires someone selling or transferring a firearm to furnish a trigger lock or secure storage container
Status: In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose
- AB430----- Requires a trigger lock or secure storage container for all firearms in residences where someone prohibited from possessing firearm resides
Status: In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose
- AB431-----Requires a trigger lock or secure storage container for all firearms in residences where children may be present
Status: In Assembly Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose
- AB441/SB373 -----Directs DNR to issue 5 sturgeon spearing tags to Sturgeon for Tomorrow for raffle to support sturgeon research and management
Status: In Assembly Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage Committee
WWF Position: Support, important funding for sturgeon management
- AB455/SB362-----Removes age limit for hunting mentorship and one firearm requirement
Status: Hearings held in Assembly Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage

Committee and Senate Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry Committee
WWF Position: Oppose unless one firearm requirement remains to provide
a true mentorship of young hunters

AB 464/SB376-----Height of pole traps for bird depredation permits at game preserves
Status: In Assembly Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage and Senate
Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry
WWF Position: Neutral, bill drafted to protect raptors

AB461/SB371-----Provides that nonresidents with terminal disease pay resident sporting fees
Status: In Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage
In Senate : In Senate Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry
WWF Position: Support

AJR69/SJR68-----Opposes Back Forty Mine on the Menominee River
Status: In the Committee on Rural Development and Mining
WWF Position: Oppose, potential damage to excellent fishery

Senate Bills

SB4-----Overturns a DNR rule lowering the Lake Michigan Chub Quota
Status: In Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee
WWF Position: Oppose bill because of low chub populations

SB346-----Requires specific training requirements for concealed carry permit
Status: In Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Neutral, additional information necessary

SB347-----Requires general liability insurance for concealed firearms
Status: In Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose, costly and burdensome for average gun owner

SB 348-----Requires microstamping of semiautomatic handguns
Status: In Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose

SB349-----Requires Attorney General to check "Do Not Fly" list for
concealed carry permit issuance
Status: In Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Neutral, additional information necessary

SB350-----Bans possession, transfer, transportation and possession of semiautomatic "assault weapons"
Status: In Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
WWF Position: Oppose