

Public meetings to discuss Winnebago Sturgeon Harvest Regulations

The Department of Natural Resources will be conducting three public meetings following the close of the 2005 Winnebago Pool sturgeon spearing season to discuss regulation options for future seasons.

Following the short 2004 season many spearers made suggestions on how we might be able to have longer harvest seasons, but at the same time maintain safe harvest levels, and an open fishery. The Winnebago Citizens Sturgeon Advisory Committee has reviewed these suggestions along with DNR Fisheries Staff and would like to review them further with the public.



We will be discussing these suggestions at the following locations and dates:

Wednesday February 23	Darboy Club, Darboy	6:00 PM*
Tuesday March 8	Westward Ho Hall, Butte des Mort	7:00 PM
Wednesday March 9	Taycheedah Town Hall	7:00 PM

**The first hour of the February 23rd meeting will be a formal public hearing to collect comments on the Emergency Rule passed for the 2005 spearing season that gave the Department authority to close the season at the end of a spearing day if 100% of the harvest cap was reached that day. This formal hearing is required by state statute. Following the hearing, a regular public meeting will be conducted.*

For further information contact Ron Bruch, DNR Fisheries Supervisor, Oshkosh at Ronald.bruch@dnr.state.wi.us or at 920-424-3059.