

Integrated Aquatic Plant Management

PROPOSED RULES FOR MECHANICAL HARVESTING

Carroll Schaal, Lakes & Rivers Section Chief

May 20, 2022

Rule Background / Reasons for Changes

Authority from Chap. 23.22 - 24 Aquatic plants and Invasive Species

- Combine NR 107 (chemical) and NR 109 (mechanical, manual, physical)
- Outdated definitions and methods, new technologies
- Consistent with newer laws and rules
 - AIS grants, NR 40, Integrated Pest Management
- Wetlands
- Fees

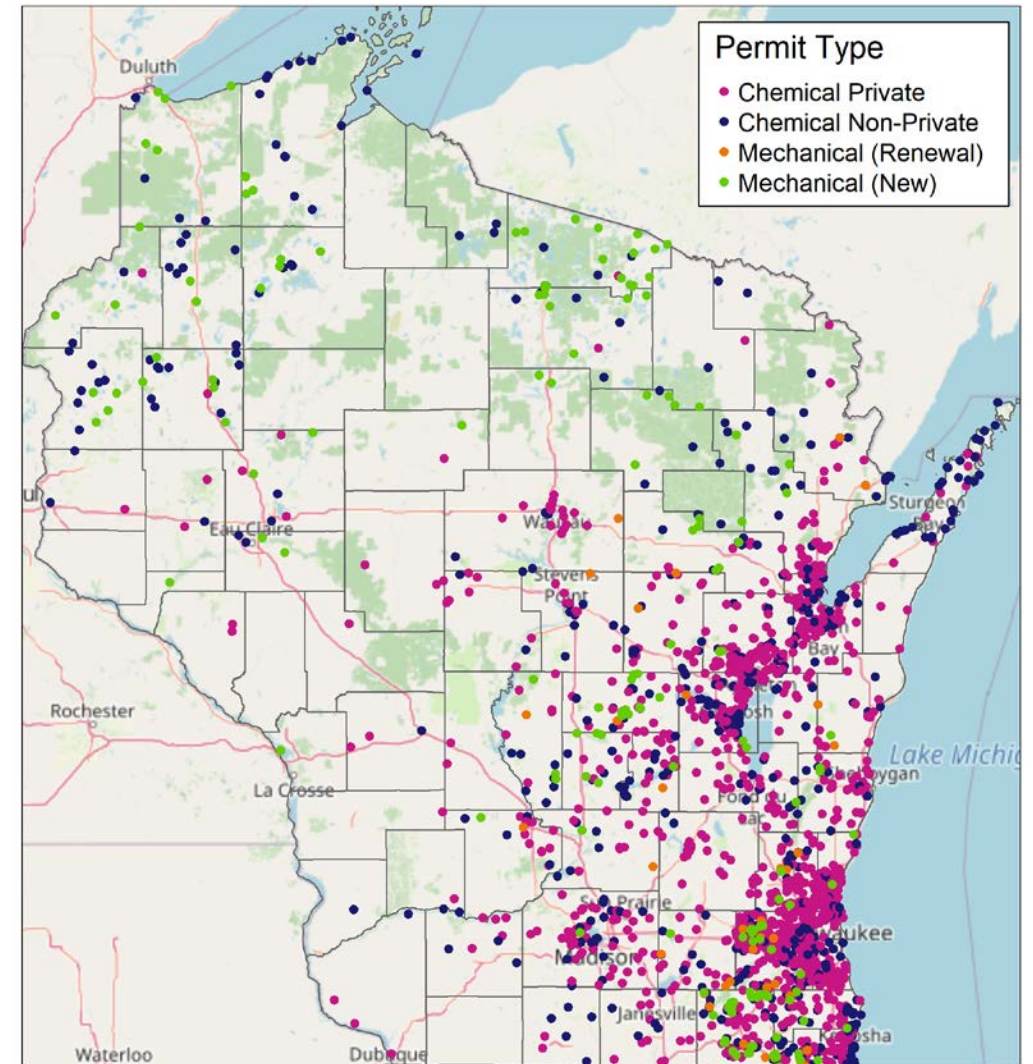
Rule Background / Reasons for Changes

APM Permitting in 2021

Acres Chemically Managed	16,863
Acres Mechanically Managed	<u>3,616</u>
Total Acres Managed	20,479

2,023 total permits issued

Permit applications have increased 26% since 2017



Public Input Process

2019

- Strategic analysis, APM Study Group

2020 -2021

- Drafted 10 white papers
- Held 4 public meetings and public comment period
- Wrote draft of rule, draft of Economic Impact Analysis
- Public comment period Economic Impact Analysis

2022

- February Public Hearing
- June Natural Resources Board Approval

Program Updates

- Public engagement
- Habitat protection
- Integrated Pest Management and Planning
- Monitoring for large scale control activities
- Ponds and lakes under 10 acres
- Wetlands
- Permit Waivers
- Fees

Public Engagement – NEW

Planning – draft plans

- Post notice in newspaper & one other medium about 21-day public input period on draft plan.

Permit Review - Notice to neighbors of a submitted permit

- Send electronic link/copy or paper copy to all riparians within 7 days of submitting permit to dept.

Public notice

- All permits over 10 acres get posted for 14 days on DNR webpage for public notice.

After Permit Approved

- Public access posting. Two signs at all public access points.

Habitat Protection

- Expand protections for native aquatic habitats
 - Sensitive Area Designations
 - Critical Habitat Areas
 - Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters
 - Public Rights Features for navigation
 - Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest (ASNARI)
- Permit applicant must show no harm will come to resource prior to DNR issuing a permit that will impact these areas.

Integrated Pest Management

Decision-Making Process



University of
Wyoming

Pest Management Tools



Planning

Permit applicants will need a plan if:

- Conducting large scale management
 - 50% littoral areas for harvesting
- Managing AIS populations year to year – main purpose
- To get a 5 year permit

Permit applicants will not need a plan if:

- Controlling a pioneering NR 40 prohibited species.
- Working under an existing Surface Water Planning Grant.
- Conducting small scale control for navigation (unless you want a 5 year permit)
- Creating a riparian access lane to open water
- Waterbody entirely on private property

Planning Process

- Every five years, permit applicants will need a plan
- Plans will:
 - Outline clear goals and objectives
 - Name situations when control is needed
 - List what types of control may be used in different situations
 - Outline a plan to set future goals
- You will need plant data, water quality data and basic habitat data.
- Plans will be built off templates provided by DNR
 - Focused, simple, easy to follow.
 - Data found on DNR webpages.

Large Scale Control – waters over 10 acres

- Mechanical Control –
 - More than 50% of the littoral area
- Chemical Control –
 - If control over more than 5% of the lake surface area, do a calculation.
 - If exceeds predetermined lake wide herbicide threshold, then large scale.
- Wetland control –
 - More than 5 acres of contiguous wetland

Monitoring for Large Scale Control

Large scale control impacts large parts of aquatic habitat

- Important to ensure aquatic habitat is protected

Large scale control takes a lot of resources

- Important to ensure control met goals

For large scale mechanical control:

- Annual report of activities
- Monitoring survey every 5 years with plan update.

Fees

Control Type	Permit Issued	Fee	Max Fee	Renewal Fee
Chemical				
Waters ≤ 10 acres	Up to 5 years	\$50 base fee & \$30 annual fee	\$200 (5 yr.)	NA
Waters > 10 acres	Annual	\$75 base & \$50 per acre	\$2,500 (per yr.)	NA
Wetlands	Up to 5 years with plan	\$75 base & \$50 per acre	\$2,500 (per yr.)	Half of Year 1 fee, not less than \$75
Mechanical	Up to 5 years with plan	\$75 base & \$50 per acre	\$2,500 (per yr.)	Half of Year 1 fee, not less than \$75
Mosquito	Annual	\$75 base	\$75 (per yr.)	NA

Madi Johansen, Statewide Aquatic Plant Management Coordinator

Conditions and Concerns

- Don't harvest in shallow water < 3 feet
- Disturb the bottom as little as possible to avoid resuspension
- Avoid fish spawning beds
- Know the species you are targeting and the high value natives to avoid
- Don't harvest the whole lake – focus on navigation lanes or high use areas
- Fish/reptile bycatch

Proposed NR 107 Integrated Aquatic Plant Management



June 1 check DNR website for final rule, supporting information, fact sheets

Natural Resources Board decision meeting June 21 or 22.

Plant Identification Opportunities

Madi Johansen, Statewide Aquatic Plant Management Coordinator

QUESTIONS?

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OFF THE RECORD"