

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Federation
Wisconsin Federation of
Great Lakes Sports Fishing Clubs

May 14, 2008

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Conservation Organizations Applaud Historic
Legislative Approval of the Great Lakes Compact

Poynette: Today, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the National Wildlife Federation and the Wisconsin Federation of Great Lakes Sports Fishing Clubs with great enthusiasm congratulates the Wisconsin Senate and Assembly, Governor Doyle and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their hard work and efforts to enact the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact. The Compact between the eight Great Lakes states establishes rigorous standards to protect the Great Lakes from the diversion of waters to locations outside the basin.

“The Great Lakes are critically important resources for not only Wisconsin, but also the whole nation and the world”, stated Larry Freitag, (Sheboygan), Great Lakes Committee Chair, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. “The protection of these lakes by all of the Great Lakes states is crucial to assure that these waters will retain their value for our children and their children.”

"In joining the five other states that have passed the Compact, Wisconsin has demonstrated its commitment to protecting the Great Lakes. The Compact is vital to the long-term health of the lakes and will allow the Great Lakes region to maintain control over its water resources. We encourage the remaining two states to act quickly and adopt the Compact," said Andy Buchsbaum, Regional Executive Director of the Great Lakes Office of the National Wildlife Federation.

“Lakes Michigan and Superior provide millions of days of angling opportunity each year for anglers from Wisconsin and virtually every state in the country”, indicated Chuck Weier, (Two Rivers), President of the Wisconsin Federation of Great Lakes Sportsfishing Clubs. “This Compact will play a major role in assuring that these great resources will be available both as recreational and economic resources vital to the future of this state.

“Special recognition is given to Governor Doyle, Senator Mark Miller, Senator Rob Cowles, Senator Neal Kedzie, Senator Bob Wirch, Senator Bob Jauch, Senator John Lehman, Representative Scott Gunderson, Representative Cory Mason, Representative John Richards, DNR Deputy Secretary Pat Henderson, DNR Water Administrator Todd Ambs and Director of the DNR Great Lakes Offices Chuck Ledin,” stated Lil Pipping (Elkhart Lake), President of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. “Their leadership and extremely hard work has resulted in a truly historic document. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the National Wildlife Federation and the Wisconsin Federation of Great Lakes Sports Fishing Clubs are proud to have participated in the development of the Great Lakes Compact.”