

NOTICE TO WISDOT PROJECT STAFF, CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

Subject: **Emergency Rule Notification updated October 24, 2007 to include any waters of the State of Wisconsin**

Please be advised that an Emergency Rule impacting equipment used on some surface waters was recently issued by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The emergency rule takes effect immediately and requires the draining of equipment that has been in contact with any waters of the State. An emergency rule is legally enforceable and must be complied with per WisDOT specification 107.18.

This emergency rule results from the recent discovery in the Great Lakes of a highly transmissible fish virus known as VHS (Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia). Although the virus is not a risk to humans, it can infect and kill many species of fish.

DNR's emergency rule requires that any person who operates a boat, boat trailer, or boating equipment on any waters of the State, or removes this equipment from any of the subject waters, must drain all water from the boat, trailer, and any equipment (including bilge water, ballast tanks, or other water-holding containers) immediately after removing the boat, trailer, or boating equipment from the water.

This emergency rule applies to construction equipment that has been operated in, removed from, or has contained any of the subject waters. **For example boats, boat trailers and boating equipment, barges, and their trailers, backhoe or end-loader buckets, water containers (not drinking water), pumps, hoses, and other construction equipment that comes in contact with the subject surface waters must be drained immediately after removing them from the water.** Additional information on the virus is available on DNR's website at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/pages/vhs.html>

If you have additional questions please contact the regional DNR transportation liaison, or the appropriate WisDOT Regional Environmental Coordinator listed in the following table:

WisDOT REGION	Lead Environmental Coordinator	Phone
Northwest	Troy Stapelmann	(715) 836-3911
North Central	Rosie Meer	(715) 365-5715
Southwest	Robert Swartz	(608) 789-4611
Southeast	Reem Shana	(262) 548-6706
Northeast	Mike Helmrick	(920) 492-7738

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