

1.1 moves to amend H.F. No. 3896 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 86B.005, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.4 to read:

1.5 Subd. 20. **Uncultivated wild rice bed.** "Wild rice bed" means any area within a lake,
1.6 river, stream, or other public waterbody where wild rice is present or growing, including
1.7 but not limited to areas where uncultivated wild rice plants occur in clusters or stands of
1.8 any density. The term includes all stages of growth, including germination, the floating leaf
1.9 stage, emergent stage, and mature stage. For purposes of this section, a wild rice bed shall
1.10 be considered present wherever wild rice plants are visible on or at the surface of the water,
1.11 including when the plants are floating and are particularly vulnerable to disturbance. Wild
1.12 rice beds are recognized as sensitive aquatic habitats that provide food, cover, and ecological
1.13 support for fish, wildlife, and waterfowl species.

1.14 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 86B.311, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.15 Subd. 4. ~~Swimming or bathing areas~~ Unauthorized operation. (a) A person may not
1.16 operate a watercraft within a water area that has been marked off or set aside as a swimming
1.17 or bathing area as prescribed by the commissioner's rules.

1.18 (b) A person may not operate a watercraft:

1.19 (1) in or through an uncultivated wild rice bed unless the watercraft is propelled by hand,
1.20 such as a skiff or canoe; or

1.21 (2) at greater than slow-no-wake speed within 150 feet of an uncultivated wild rice bed.

2.1 Sec. 3. **[86B.342] EDUCATIONAL WARNING FOR DISTURBANCE OF**
2.2 **UNCULTIVATED WILD RICE BEDS.**

2.3 Subdivision 1. **Warning.** A conservation officer or peace officer who observes a person
2.4 operating a watercraft in violation of section 86B.311, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), must
2.5 issue a written or verbal warning. The warning must be accompanied by the distribution of
2.6 educational materials consistent with subdivision 2.

2.7 Subd. 2. **Content of educational materials.** Educational materials must be developed
2.8 or approved by the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and may include printed handouts,
2.9 digital resources, or verbal instruction for officers. The materials must, at a minimum,
2.10 explain:

- 2.11 (1) the ecological importance of wild rice as a sensitive aquatic habitat;
2.12 (2) the vulnerability of wild rice during floating and emergent growth stages;
2.13 (3) best practices for avoiding disturbance, including navigation guidance; and
2.14 (4) applicable laws and potential penalties for future violations.

2.15 Subd. 3. **Documentation.** (a) A conservation officer or peace officer issuing the warning
2.16 may document the warning, including:

- 2.17 (1) the date, time, and location of the incident;
2.18 (2) the identity of the operator; and
2.19 (3) a brief description of the activity observed.

2.20 (b) Documentation under this subdivision must be retained to identify repeat violations."

2.21 Amend the title accordingly