



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



RODNEY A. STOKES
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: September 19, 2011
RESUBMITTED: October 17, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Open More Camping Opportunities for Equestrians Within the Pigeon River Country State Forest (PRCSF), Cheboygan and Otsego Counties
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 07 of 2011

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director to issue orders to implement land use rules.

Discussion and Background:

This amendment to Land Use Order of the Director 4.34 (PRCSF) is being requested to allow for additional equestrian camping opportunities at three remote locations within the PRCSF.

Opening a limited number of camping sites within the PRCSF is desired to improve equestrian access in remote areas of the forest away from the developed facilities at Elk Hill State Forest Campground. These sites were selected because they have reasonable access to roads and/or riding trails open to equestrians, have road access for horse trailers, and are on lands that were not acquired with game and fish fund sources. Additionally, use of the sites will be monitored to ensure that resource damage does not develop and so any user conflicts can be mitigated.

Opening camping sites was reviewed and endorsed by the Pigeon River Advisory Council at their July 2011 meeting, and was also endorsed by the Equine Trailways Subcommittee of the Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Council.

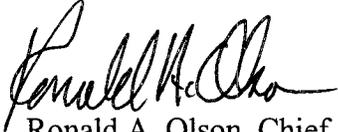
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Recommendation:

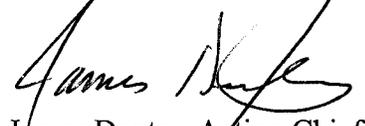
This order was submitted for information at the October 13, 2011, Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's October 2011 calendar and may be eligible for approval on November 10, 2011.


Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest Management Division


Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division


Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division


Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division


James Dexter, Acting Chief
Fisheries Division


Kelley D. Smith, Ph.D.
Acting Natural Resources Deputy

LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. 07 of 2011

By authority conferred on the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by Section 504 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.504, and in accordance with R 299.921 to R 299.933, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources orders the following:

4.34 Pigeon river country state forest. Cheboygan, Montmorency and Otsego counties, defined; prohibited conduct.

Order 4.34 (1) For the purposes of this order, the pigeon river country state forest shall mean those lands in sections 1-26, the N $\frac{1}{2}$ and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27, the N $\frac{3}{4}$ of section 28, the N $\frac{3}{4}$ and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 29, sections 30 and 31, the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 32, sections 35 and 36, T33N R1E; sections 1-36, T33N R1W; sections 19-21, W $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 22, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27, sections 28-33, T34N R1E; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 24, T33N R2W; sections 19-36, T34N R1W; W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 5, section 6 except the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, section 7 except the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 8, the W $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 17, sections 18 and 19, that part of section 20 west of blue lakes road and south of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ line and northerly and north westerly of black river, the part of section 30 northerly of hardwood creek and westerly of black river, the S $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 31, T32N R1E; sections 1-6, the N $\frac{1}{2}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ north of deer trail of section 7, sections 8-17, sections 20 and 21, the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 22, the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 25, section 26 except the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, the N $\frac{1}{2}$ and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27, the N $\frac{3}{4}$ of section 28, sections 29 and 30, the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 35, section 36 except the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, T31N R1W; section 1 except the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, T31N R2W; sections 1-36, T32N R1W; sections 1-5, section 8, the N $\frac{3}{4}$ of section 9, sections 10-15, the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 16, the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 17, the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 19, section 20, section 21 except the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ south of east sturgeon valley road, section 22 except the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ south of the east sturgeon valley road, section 24, the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and that part of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ north of east sturgeon valley road, and that part of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ north of east sturgeon valley road of section 29, the S $\frac{3}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ except the north 165 ft. east of the thread of pigeon river and the east 940 ft. of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 36, T32N R2W; Cheboygan, Montmorency and Otsego counties. The following regulations shall apply to state-owned lands of the pigeon river country state forest.

Wheeled motorized vehicles; conditions for use.

(2) Except as otherwise prohibited in (3) of this order, a person may operate a wheeled motorized-vehicle only if both of the following conditions are met:

(a) The vehicle is currently registered under the Michigan Vehicle Code, 1949 PA 300.

(b) The vehicle is operated on a forest road designated and illustrated as open on the pigeon river country state forest access map.

Motorized vehicles prohibited, green timbers management unit.

(3) A person shall not operate a motorized-vehicle of any type upon state-owned lands lying within the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 3, sections 4, 5, 8-10, 15-17 and 19-22, and that part of section 29 lying northerly of the sturgeon valley road, T32N R2W, commonly known as the green timbers management unit.

Camping with horses, other riding animals, or pack animals restricted to certain areas.

(4) A person shall not camp with a horse or other riding or pack animals except at:

(a) Elk hill equestrian state forest campground and trail camp.

(b) Johnson's crossing trail camp.

(c) The following locations within the pigeon river country state forest in which designated campsites have been established for no more than 12 people using a maximum of four camping units and where a completed camp registration card must be posted:

- (i) The SE of the NE of section 27, T33N, R1E, Cheboygan county.
- (ii) The SE of the SE of section 16, T32N, R1W, Otsego county.
- (iii) The SW of the NW of section 36, T34N, R1W, Cheboygan county.

Horses, riding animals and pack animals, use restricted to certain roads and pathways.

(5) A person shall not ride or lead a horse, other riding animal, or pack animal except on the north spur of the shore-to-shore riding – hiking trail; a county road; a forest road designated and illustrated as open on the pigeon river country state forest access map; or on a service trail road posted open.

Camping, use prohibited in certain locations.

(6) A person shall not camp within the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 22, and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27, T33N R1W, and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 5, and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 20, T32N R2W.

Entry prohibited at a certain location.

(7) A person who does not have authorization from the department shall not enter upon those lands bounded on the south and east by sturgeon valley road, on the west by Pickerel lake road, and on the north by the electrical transmission line, within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 24, T32N R2W.

Snowmobile operation; prohibited.

(8) A person shall not operate a snowmobile except for otherwise lawful operation upon a county road or upon a forest road designated and illustrated as open on the pigeon river country state forest access map.

Camping, use restriction in certain locations.

(9) A person shall not camp within 600 feet of the following described lakes:

- (a) Hemlock lake- T33N, R1W, sections 34 and 35, Cheboygan county.
- (b) Ford lake- T32N- R1W, section 8, Otsego county.
- (c) West lost lake- T32N, R1W, section 3, Otsego county.
- (d) Section four lake- T32N, R1W, section 4, Otsego county.
- (e) Lost lake- T32N, R1W, section 2 and 3, Otsego county.
- (f) North twin lake- T32N, R1W, section 10, Otsego county.
- (g) South twin lake- T32N, R1W, section 10, Otsego county.

Watercraft, use restrictions in certain locations.

(10) Only non-motorized watercraft or those using electric motors may be launched from state-owned land onto any of the following described lakes:

- (a) Hemlock lake- T33N, R1W, sections 34 and 35, Cheboygan county.
- (b) Ford lake- T32N- R1W, section 8, Otsego county.
- (c) West lost lake- T32N, R1W, section 3, Otsego county.

(11) No motorized or non-motorized watercraft with the exception of float tubes (a small one-person watercraft or flotation device, typically based on an inflatable tube that fits around the user's abdomen), may be launched from state-owned land onto any of the following described lakes:

- (a) Section four lake- T32N, R1W, section 4, Otsego county.
- (b) Lost lake- T32N, R1W, section 2 and 3, Otsego county.
- (c) North twin lake- T32N, R1W, section 10, Otsego county.
- (d) South twin lake- T32N, R1W, section 10, Otsego county.

Bicycling restricted to certain roads and pathways.

(12) A person shall not ride a bicycle except on the following roads and pathways:

- (a) Upon a county road or upon a forest road designated and illustrated as open on the pigeon river country state forest access map.
- (b) High country pathway.
- (c) Shingle mill pathway.
- (d) Pickerel lake pathway.

This amended order shall be posted on or after November 11, 2011.

Issued on this 10th day of November, 2011.

Rodney A. Stokes
Director