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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: June 7, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Mitchell State Park Open to Hunting and Trapping
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 13 of 2010
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background

One facet of the mission of the Michigan State Park program is to provide access to land and water-based public recreational opportunities. Mitchell State Park and the associated Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center is contributing to the Department's goals of securing wildlife habitat and increasing public outdoor recreation opportunities in close proximity to the city of Cadillac, Michigan. The Department strongly supports the hunting and trapping heritage of the state of Michigan. Thus hunting and trapping have traditionally been allowed as a recreation opportunity in those state parks where the overall mission of the state parks program is not inhibited. Hunting and trapping are also important tools in the management of our wildlife resources in state parks and throughout the state.

Mitchell State Park in Wexford County has recently nearly doubled in size through a recent land purchase. This park provides woodland habitat for white-tailed deer, woodcock, ruffed grouse, furbearers, wild turkey, and an occasional bear. The wetlands and scattered ponds provide outstanding habitat for many species of waterfowl. This proposal opens all state-owned lands of Mitchell State Park in section 31, T22N R09W and section 6, T21N R09W to hunting and trapping during the established seasons.

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Recommendation:

This order is being submitted for information and consideration. This item appeared on the Department's June 2010 calendar and may be eligible for approval on August 12, 2010.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Recreation Division

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest Management Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Kelley D. Smith, Ph.D., Chief
Fisheries Division

Arminda S. Koch, Deputy Director
Resource Management

Frank Ruswick, Deputy Director
Stewardship

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 13 of 2010

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment by sections 40107, and 40113a of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40107, 324.40113a, it is ordered that effective August 13, 2010, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

7.14 ~~Repealed. Am. 16, 1989, Eff. Aug 1, 1989~~ MITCHELL STATE PARK, HUNTING AND TRAPPING ALLOWED.

SEC. 7.14 HUNTING AND TRAPPING SHALL BE ALLOWED DURING THE ESTABLISHED SEASONS ON ALL STATE-OWNED LANDS WITHIN THE DEDICATED BOUNDARY OF MITCHELL STATE PARK IN SECTION 31, T22N R09W, AND SECTIONS 6 T21N R09W.

Issued this 12th day of August, 2010.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Keith J. Charters, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries,
Director