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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: December 17, 2012
RESUBMITTED: January 14, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Regulate Use of Grand Haven State Park, Ottawa County
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 03 of 2013

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:

The purpose of this order is to:

- Prohibit camping at Grand Haven State Park for more than 15 nights in a 20 night period from May 15th through September 15th.

The focus of the Parks and Recreation Division to provide recreational camping opportunities to as many individuals as possible, and to provide for an equitable standard of customer service policy for campers at Grand Haven State Park. This Order will make it less likely for campsites to remain occupied by the same family or camping unit throughout the summer, and allow more availability to others. This Order will also provide more opportunities for other campers to make a reservation and utilize the facility who may have been unable to do so in the past.

Grand Haven State Park is an extremely popular park with attendance exceeding a million visitors annually. In particular, the popularity of this park's campground often makes it one of the most difficult locations in which to get a campsite reservation between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Due to the intense competition for sites at this park, some patrons have employed practices that unfairly restrict opportunities to a number of others.

Numerous complaints have been documented over the years concerning the ability of some park patrons to monopolize blocks of campsites at Grand Haven State Park.

January 14, 2013

Administrative Rule R299.921 (d) allows no more than 15 consecutive nights of stay during a period of time from May 15 to September 15. However, the rule allows individuals to camp 14 consecutive nights, exit for one night, then have a second 14 night stay. By doing this, a camper can effectively tie up a campsite for the majority of the season.

The amended Land Use Order has been reviewed and approved by the Michigan State Park Advisory Committee by resolution 12-2012-03 at their December 13, 2012 meeting.

Recommendation:

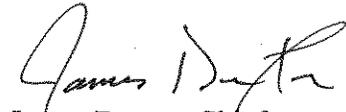
This order was submitted for information and consideration at the January 10, 2013 Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's January 2013 calendar and may be eligible for approval on February 7, 2013.


Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division


Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division


William O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division


Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division


James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division


William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Deputy

LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. 03 of 2013

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:

5.12 Certain state parks and recreation areas, requirements for use, certain conduct prohibited.

Order 5.12. The following conduct shall apply to use of Michigan state parks and recreation areas:

Fayette state park, certain conduct prohibited.

(1) A person shall not do the following at Fayette SP located in Delta county:

(a) Dive, swim, water ski, skin or scuba dive, or attempt to dive, swim, water ski, skin or scuba dive from any vessel operating within or moored to the docks or piling or anchored to the bottomlands of snail shell harbor, Fayette SP, Delta county, without written permission of an authorized representative of the department.

(b) Enter or occupy the limestone cliffs in section 33 T39N R19W and section 4 T38N R19W.

Palms book state park, prohibited conduct.

(2) A person shall not do any of the following at palms book SP:

(a) Swim, bathe, skin or scuba dive, fish, or boat in the big spring, Kitchitikiipi, palms book SP.

(b) Use the department owned raft on the big spring for anything other than viewing.

Island lake recreation area, conduct prohibited.

(3) A person shall not do the following at the island lake RA:

(a) Operate a vessel powered by a motor on the waters of spring mill pond.

Sterling state park, conduct prohibited.

(4) A person shall not do the following at Sterling SP:

(a) Launch or attempt to launch a vessel equipped with an inboard or outboard motor, except an electric motor, into the waters of the south lagoon from any state-owned lands lying south of the centerline of the park entrance road.

Pontiac lake recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(5) A person shall not do any of the following at the Pontiac lake RA:

(a) Possess or fly a hang glider on any state-owned lands within the Pontiac lake RA.

(b) Enter into a pen area or buffer zone around a pen area established by the department from June 10 to July 15 for the temporary holding of geese. This prohibition shall not apply to a person issued a written permit by the district wildlife supervisor allowing entry into the area.

Ludington state park, prohibited conduct.

(6) A person shall not do the following at Ludington SP:

(a) Park a vehicle of any type between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m. in the parking areas adjacent to highway M-116 from the south limit of the park to the bridge over big Sable river.

South Higgins lake state park, prohibited conduct.

(7) A person shall not do the following at south Higgins lake SP:

(a) Park or leave a motor vehicle in the day use area of south Higgins lake SP between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. without written permission from a representative of the department.

(b) Leave a trailer unattached to a vehicle in the boat launch parking lot.

(c) Park a vehicle without boat trailer attached, or a vehicle not being used to transport a boat, in the boat launch parking lot.

(d) A person shall not leave a vessel unattended, moored to access piers, in boat basin, beached along shoreline, or anchored to riparian bottomlands between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., without prior written approval from an authorized representative of the department.

Pinckney recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(8) A person shall not do the following at the Pinckney RA:

(a) Use any state-owned lands in the S ½ of the S ½ of section 23, T1S R3E, for the purpose of launching or attempting to launch onto the waters of Island lake, any watercraft equipped with an inboard or outboard motor.

(b) Consume or possess any alcoholic beverage within ¼ mile surrounding and including the parking lot at Pickerel lake, section 8, T1S R4E, as posted.

(c) Launch or attempt to launch a vessel equipped with an inboard or outboard motor, except an electric motor, onto the waters of Pickerel lake, section 8, T1S R4E.

Silver lake state park, prohibited conduct.

(9) A person shall not do any of the following within Silver lake SP without first obtaining proper written permission from the department:

(a) Store, leave, park or otherwise place any boat, fish shanty, vehicle, bicycle, equipment, tool, device or other property which is at any time during its presence in the park made available for rent, lease, or sale.

(b) Use or occupy any land or water within the park to solicit, conduct, operate, engage in, or maintain a business of any nature or use such areas as a base of commercial operations. For purposes of this order, "base of operations" means a use of lands or waters which is a principal or significant aspect of any commercial activity.

Porcupine mountains wilderness state park, prohibited conduct.

(10) A person shall not do any of the following in the Porcupine mountains wilderness SP without first obtaining proper written permission from the department:

(a) Feed a bear or lure any bear with food. This provision does not apply to the lawful baiting of bear as described in orders issued pursuant to part 401, wildlife conservation, of Act 451 of 1994.

(b) Operate a snowmobile off the designated snowmobile route.

Waterloo recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(11) A person shall not do the following at the Waterloo RA:

(a) Enter into a pen area or buffer zone around a pen area established by the department from June 10 to July 15 for the temporary holding of geese. This prohibition shall not apply to a person issued a written permit by the district wildlife supervisor allowing entry into the area.

Fort Custer recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(12) A person shall not do the following at the fort Custer RA:

(a) Excavate, dig or probe the grounds, or remove ordnance without written permission.

(b) Operate a snowmobile off the designated snowmobile route.

Grand Haven state park campground, prohibited conduct.

(13) A person shall not do the following at Grand Haven SP:

(a) Place or allow a recreational camping unit under their control to be placed front-first upon a campsite in the Grand Haven SP campground. The tongue of a trailer or front of a self-propelled camping unit shall face the roadway.

(b) A person, including a person's camping unit, shall not remain for more than 15 nights in any 20 night period from May 15 through September 15 without the written permission of the district supervisor.

Holland state park, prohibited conduct.

(14) A person shall not possess or use furniture designed or intended for indoor use within Holland SP from May 15 to July 15 unless the furniture is enclosed within a camping shelter. Furniture that is designed or intended for indoor use and is placed outside of a camping shelter may be removed at the discretion of the park manager.

Sanilac petroglyphs historic state park, prohibited conduct.

(15) A person shall not do any of the following at the Sanilac petroglyphs historic SP:

(a) Enter into the fenced area containing the petroglyph rock when the entry gate is closed.

(b) Walk upon or otherwise come into contact with the petroglyph rock within the fenced area.

Ionia recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(16) A person that has been issued a campsite permit shall not possess or allow to be possessed upon the campsite more than 4 animals other than horses by all members of the camping party combined.

Seven lakes state park, prohibited conduct.

(17) A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

Port Crescent state park, prohibited conduct.

(18) With the exception of accessing Saginaw bay via the campground, a person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

Holly recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(19) A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance outside an area bordered by McGinnis road to the north, Wildwood road to the east and Dixie highway to the south, without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

Algonac state park campground, prohibited conduct.

(20) A person shall not place or allow a recreational camping unit under their control to be positioned horizontal to the park's roadways in the riverfront campground. The tongue of a trailer or front or rear of a self-propelled camping unit shall face the park's roadway, and all camping units must be parked on pads where they exist.

Bay City state recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(21) Operate a snowmobile off the designated snowmobile route.

Rockport state recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(22) Operate a snowmobile in sections 13, 24, 25, 26, and the north 750 feet of sections 35 and 36, T33N, R08E, except along the 100-foot wide utility line corridor that parallels the Lake Huron shoreline; section 36, T33N, R08E and section 31, T33N, R09E east of the old railroad corridor that parallels the Lake Huron shoreline; the east half of the northeast quarter of section 12, the south half of section 12, and section 13, T32N, R08E; the south 600 feet of the southwest quarter of section 6, the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 8, the northwest quarter and the south half of section 7, T32N, R09E, except a designated corridor extending from Rockport Road south through section 7; and all state land on Middle Island, sections 3, 4, 9, and 10, T32N, R09E.

Lime island state recreation area, prohibited conduct.

(23) Enter, use, occupy, moor, or dock onto, the southern half of the Lime Island coal dock, as posted, lying within T43N, R03E, Section 26 and T42N, R03E, section 35 between May 1 and September 1, except that boats may be moored on the eastern side of the entire coal dock for safety during high seas and storm events.

This amended order shall be posted on or after February 8, 2013.

Issued on this 7th day of February, 2013.

Keith Creagh
Director