RICK SNYDER
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: Orders Regarding Firearms in Grand Mere State Park and South Fox Island, Berrien and Leelanau Counties
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 07 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:

- Bring the present orders governing firearm use in Grand Mere State Park and South Fox Island into conformance with state statute.

With the passage of Public Acts 129 and 130 of 2003 by the Governor, it is legal to carry concealed weapons in Michigan's state parks and recreation areas. The Department of Natural Resources cannot prohibit an individual who possesses a license to carry a loaded firearm or who is exempt by law from licensure and any other rule restricting the possession of firearms, whether concealed or otherwise, on land under the control of the DNR. This repeal of language in the Land Use Orders of the Director brings the Orders in compliance with statute.

This firearm stipulation only affects Grand Mere State Park and South Fox Island's lighthouse complex, due to the stipulations laid out by the Nature Conservancy when the property was bought and transferred to the Department of Natural Resources in 1986. All the other state parks and recreation area's firearm and hunting provisions are governed by the Wildlife Conservation Order.

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

Scott Heather for
William O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division

Douglas G. Reeves for
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. 07 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:

5.11 Grand Mere state park, possession and discharge of certain firearms prohibited.
Order 5.11 A person shall not discharge a rifle or handgun within the boundary of Grand Mere SP.

5.15 Certain state-owned lands, Leelanau county, possession and discharge of firearms prohibited.
Order 5.15 A person shall not do the following upon the described state-owned lands, Leelanau County:

(1) Discharge a firearm of any type on that portion of South Fox Island being south of a line beginning at the west shore of the island and running east along the east-west quarter line of section 16, T34N R13W, and continuing east along the east-west quarter line of section 15, T34N R13W to the point at which the line intersects the shoreline on the east side of the island.

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

Issued on this 7th day of February, 2013.

Keith Creagh
Director