



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH  
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: October 12, 2015  
RESUBMITTED: November 9, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Orders to Regulate Use of Belle Isle Park, Wayne County  
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 7 of 2015

Authority:

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

Discussion and Background:

The Department recommends prohibiting the use of snowmobiles and other motorized snow contrivances in Belle Isle Park, consistent with city ordinances prohibiting snowmobiling in the City of Detroit.

City of Detroit Ordinance 55-4-27 prohibits the operation of snowmobile in public places, including parks. Therefore, the proposed order to prohibit snowmobile operation on Belle Isle does not affect recreation access on the island and would make the Department's rules regulating the Park consistent with the City Ordinance. Additionally, the order will allow DNR park rangers to enforce the prohibition against snowmobile use in the Park.

Historically, snowmobiling has not been allowed on Belle Isle, and aside from the city ordinance, the Belle Isle staff has determined that snowmobiling poses hazards to the Park and its users. No designated snowmobile trails exist in the Park, and snowmobiling on existing trails or open areas can cause damage to the grounds due to varying snow depths around the island. In addition, Belle Isle is an urban park with many man-made and natural structures (playground equipment, statues, rocks, fire hydrants, tables, grills and more), which make the island difficult and dangerous to navigate on high-speed motorized vehicles such as snowmobiles. This poses a safety hazard for both snowmobilers and pedestrians.

The Department provides numerous more suitable locations for snowmobiling in the State of Michigan, with more than 6,400 miles of Department-managed snowmobile trail, including in southern Michigan around Plainwell and in the Thumb area. Snowmobiling is also allowed in most state parks in southeast Michigan, including Waterloo Recreation Area, Island Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, and Wetzel Recreation Area.

This order is supported by the Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee and by law enforcement partners Michigan State Police and the Law Enforcement Division of the Department of Natural Resources. The Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup has discussed the issue and supports this order.

Page 2  
October 12, 2015

Orders to Regulate Use of Belle Isle Park, Wayne County  
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 7 of 2015

Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information and consideration on October 12, 2015. This item appears on the Department's November 2015 calendar and may be eligible for approval on December 10, 2015.



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. 7 of 2015

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, 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 face of 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, Kitchitiki, 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.

Belle Isle Park, prohibited conduct.

(24) A person shall not do any of the following at Belle Isle Park.

(a) Enter and remain or park a vehicle of any type on the premises of the Belle Isle Park, between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m., without permission of the department.

(b) Erect a canopy larger than 9 feet by 9 feet, and have more than 2 canopies per group unless with written permission of the department.

(c) Erect a canopy that is not open on two sides of the structure.

(d) Erect a canopy unless someone of 21 years of age or older is supervising.

(e) Skate, bicycle or use any similar contrivances on buildings or structures not otherwise developed for this purpose.

(f) Feed geese, gulls, and other bird species.

(g) Possess a grill of any type in and around playscapes, giant slides or next to buildings

**(h) Operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.**

This amended order shall be posted on or after the 11th day of December, 2015.

Issued on this 10th day of December, 2015.

Keith Creagh  
Director