



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER  
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: October 14, 2019  
RESUBMITTED: November 12, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Regulate Target Shooting at the Lapeer State Game Area, Lapeer County  
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 5 of 2019

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:

Land Use Order of the Director (LUOD) Amendment No. 6 of 2016, Order to Regulate Target Shooting on State Game and Wildlife Areas, was submitted for information and consideration at the July 14, 2016, Natural Resources Commission Meeting and was signed by the Director August 11, 2016. The purpose of the order was to provide basic target shooting regulations to facilitate responsible use across all designated game and wildlife areas. To further guide the extensive use and recurrent problems at the Lapeer State Game Area (Lapeer SGA), specifically the Lapeer Pit shooting area, the Director approved LUOD Amendment No. 10 of 2016 on October 13, 2016. This LUOD provided more restrictive use and target shooting regulations at the Lapeer Pit shooting area.

Due to the busy nature of the Lapeer Pit shooting area, individuals have begun shooting in other, less desirable, areas of the Lapeer SGA resulting in a variety of safety, nuisance, user conflict, and habitat destruction issues. The Lapeer County Road Commission cooperated with the Department to abandon a portion of a county road adjacent to the Lapeer Pit to deter access to one of the expanded shooting areas in order to help eliminate these issues and aid in restoration efforts.

Since the signing of LUOD Amendment No. 10 of 2016, Department staff have continued conversations with township officials, the Lapeer County Road Commission, Law Enforcement representatives, area residents, and legislators representing the area in order to evaluate what site improvements would be best for the resources and the neighboring property owners. County law enforcement has increased area patrols to aid Department Law Enforcement with compliance.

The Department has completed engineering design work and anticipates moving forward with construction in 2019 at the Lapeer Pit shooting area, located in T8N, R10E, Section 10, Mayfield Township, Lapeer County. To ensure protection of the Lapeer SGA, increase safety, and

decrease user conflicts, the Department recommends closing the entire Lapeer SGA to target shooting during construction improvements at the Lapeer Pit shooting area. The Department further recommends that, upon completion of improvements at the Lapeer Pit shooting area, the area be re-named the Lapeer State Game Area Range, and that target shooting be restricted on the entirety of the Lapeer SGA, except at the Lapeer State Game Area Range.

This order will protect the Lapeer SGA from expanded trash, safety and noise complaints during renovations at the Lapeer Pit shooting area and will ensure continued protection of the Lapeer SGA habitat following the reopening of the Lapeer Pit shooting area.

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Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on November 7, 2019, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's October calendar and may be eligible for approval on December 12, 2019.

Rex Ainslie, Acting Chief  
Wildlife Division

Gary Hagler, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division

Deb Begalle, Chief  
Forest Resources Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division

James Dexter, Chief  
Fisheries Division

Shannon Hanna  
Natural Resources Deputy

# **LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR**

## **Amendment No. 5 of 2019**

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 the Natural Resources orders the following:

### **3.19 State game and research areas, shooting ranges designated by director.**

Order 3.19. The following are designated shooting ranges:

- (1) Sharonville SGA shooting ranges, Jackson county.
- (2) Lost nation SGA shooting range, Hillsdale county.
- (3) Dansville SGA shooting range, Ingham county.
- (4) Rose lake wildlife research area shooting ranges, Clinton county.
- (5) Echo Point shooting range, Allegan SGA, Allegan county.
- (6) Lapeer state game area range, Lapeer county.

### **3.31 Lapeer state game area, Lapeer county, prohibited conduct.**

Order 3.31 A person shall not do any of the following within the Lapeer SGA, Lapeer county, subject to additional provisions as may be provided in these orders:

(1) Except from July 1 to August 31 and from December 15 to March 1 for the purpose of fishing or with written permission from the department, enter upon the following lands:

- (a) Section 13, T08N, R10E lying south of Vernor road and east of Five lakes road.
- (b) Section 24, T08N, R10E, lying east of Five lakes road.
- (c) Section 18, T08N, R11E lying south of Vernor road, except the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the section.
- (d) Section 19, T08N, R11E, except the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the section.

(2) Target, trap, or skeet shoot except within the Lapeer State Game Area range.

### **3.31a Lapeer state game area range, Lapeer county, prohibited conduct.**

Order 3.31a The state-owned lands in the SWSE of section 10, T8N, R10E, Mayfield township, Lapeer county is designated as the Lapeer state game area range.

(1) Subject to additional provisions provided in this order, a person shall not do any of the following at the Lapeer state game area range:

- (a) Enter, use, or occupy the range outside of designated range hours posted on site or when the gates are closed.
- (b) Target shoot before signing in.
- (c) Target shoot without ear and eye protection.
- (d) Target shoot at any object other than a paper target with a bullseye or depiction of legal game only affixed to target holders, as provided.

- (e) Target shoot outside of existing shooting lanes.
- (f) Use human form silhouettes or metal targets.
- (g) Use anything other than a handgun on the 10-yard range.
- (h) Use aerial, incendiary, explosive, armor piercing or tracer ammunition, including tannerite.
- (i) Use a firearm other than a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, handheld firearm or muzzleloading firearm.
- (j) Use a firearm greater than .80 caliber.
- (k) Utilize the range while under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances.

(2) This section shall not apply to department employees, designees of department employees, or fire, emergency, or law enforcement personnel performing official duties.

This amended order shall be posted on or after the 13th day of December, 2019.

Issued on this 12th day of December, 2019.

Daniel Eichinger  
Director