SNOWMOBILE ADVISORY WORKGROUP (SAW)

Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2024
1 – 4:30 p.m.
Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center

Welcome – Roll Call

PRESENT FOR THE OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ADVISORY WORKGROUP:

- Don Britton, Chair
- Karen Middendorp
- Jim Kelts
- Scott Lacombe (virtual)
- Douglas Baum (absent)
- Chad VanBennekom
- Joe Kuchnicki (absent)

PRESENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR) STAFF

Scott Slavin, Matt Torreano, Ron Yesney, Jessica Holley-Roehrs, Peter Costa, Greg Kinser, Heather Durocher, Nicole Hunt, Annalisa Centofanti, Michelle Ballard, Christopher Stark, Jill Sell, Ron Yesney, Michael Hearn (LED), Michelle Ballard, Rob Katona

Meeting minutes

ACTION ITEMS

Meeting called to order at 1:01 p.m.

Motion made to approve the May 16, 2024 minutes by Karen Middendorp, seconded by Jim Kelts, with all in favor. Motion carried.

Don Britton requested to add an item under e.) Snow Equipment Subcommittee:

- Provide equipment subcommittee meeting minutes to each SAW member

Motion made to approve the August 22 agenda as amended by Chad VanBennekom, seconded by Karen Middendorp, with all in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Bartlett
Mr. Bartlett is concerned about recent trends local snow clubs are seeing that county road commissions are denying road access permits. Mr. Bartlet is asking the DNR to apply for road access permits in Benzie County with the county road commission (see attached map). Mr. Bartlett is encouraging an internal discussion to take place about road access concerns.

Paul Anderson/Joe Bartlett
Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Anderson discussing the trends on using snow rolling equipment. Rolling trails can be helpful, particularly for the first snow, rollers compact snow rather than dig up dirt (see attached report). Both Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Anderson are advocating for snow clubs to have the ability to purchase this equipment.

Karl Davenport
Mr. Davenport pointed out that Pinney Bridge has not been on the SAW agenda over the last few meetings and there has not been any communication for a year. Nicole Hunt, DNR, added there is litigation going on now and the Attorney General (AG) is working on the issues. DNR staff is waiting to hear back from the AG' s office until any guidance can be provide.

MOTION
Motion to keep Pinney Bridge updates on the SAW agenda made by Karen Middendorp, seconded by Jim Kelts. All in favor, motion carried.

BUSINESS ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

SNOWMOBILE LAND USE ORDER (LUOD) STATE PARKS
Nicole Hunt, DNR (see attached proposed LUOD for list of parks)

MOTION
Motion to support Snow LUOD for state parks as written made by Chad VanBennekom, seconded by Karen Middendorp. All in favor, motion carried.

REFERENCE:
The general management plan for parks is an evaluation of zones and conditions and cannot be changed once implemented.
https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/prd/parks/mgt-plans
Sign up for DNR New Bulletins which will provide public input meeting dates.

SNOWMOBILE LUOD MACHINE WIDTHS
Nicole Hunt, DNR (see attached proposed language)

The proposed LUOD is for the width of a snowmobile and not seasons. Nicole does not recommend combining the two in one LUOD. Nicole asked the committee who they thought will oppose this proposal. Karen Middendorp mentioned the ORV community, mainly for dual use trails. Nicole said she is not seeing significant controversy and would like to propose this LUOD at the same time as the state parks, but as separate LUOD's.

PREVAILING WAGE
Greg Kinser, DNR
Greg reported staff is waiting on guidance from the AG's office. DNR is hoping to provide an answer on does prevailing wage apply, and if it does, to what extent.

The SAW Committee's comments suggest clubs are receiving feedback from contractors that they are not bidding on projects due to the requirement of signing the prevailing wage form. Pending on the outcome, this may stifle the Snow Program.

**Keep "Prevailing Wage" topic on agenda.

UPDATES

USFS UPDATE
None

LED UPDATE
Cpl. Michael Hearn, DNR/Law Enforcement Division (LED)
(see attached presentation)
The presentation attached provides snowmobile crash data of when, who, and where from the previous snow season.

The SAW Committee asked if the DNR has trail counters to monitor usage on the snow trails. DNR has some counters but staffing and resource plays into the equation along with technology challenges. Cp. Mike Hearn said most groomers are aware of where the busy trails are located. Cpl. Hearn noted that 3 of the 4 fatalities were on private property.

SOS REGISTRATION STICKER SIZE

Greg Kinser, DNR
No update at this time. Leave on agenda.

U.P. EASEMENT UPDATES

LONGYEAR

Matt Torreano, DNR
Matt Torreano shared the Longyear Company in Marquette, Michigan has expressed an interest in selling easements on their property to the DNR. Longyear has asked the DNR to move snow trails due to proposed residential development. The costs for the DNR to develop new trails will be challenging due to land issues, crossings, and private properties. This is not a trail change that will happen over the next year or two. Natural Resource Trust Funds were awarded back in 2018 to move the bridge and address other trail items. Since that time, plans have stalled and the DNR may not be able to utilize the trust funds timely. Longyear is working with DNR staff on about 35 miles of trail.

SNOW EQUIPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

MACHINE HORSEPOWER LIMITATIONS

Don Britton
Mr. Britton reported that three groomers and six drags were purchased this year with snow program funds. The snow equipment subcommittee has been discussing options of renting a grooming machine for Four Flags snow club versus purchasing the equipment. Karen Middendorp asked if this option will be available to other clubs and will this save the program money, adding this may be a consideration for the snow club in the thumb area of Michigan. Don Britton is still waiting for costs to see what will be available for the next round of equipment purchases. Karl Davenport added that at some time there should be an evaluation of the grant funds allocated to clubs that do not groom a lot of trail miles. Karl stated the equipment costs over the last 3 years has increased almost fifty percent. Karen believes that snow clubs are purchasing more robust equipment than what is needed. Jim Kelts suggested that a “standard unit” should be written into the program. Part of the issue is extra grooming due to the ORV traffic on the snow trails. Maybe it is time to go back to restricted grooming schedules. Scott LaCombe suggests two segments a day for grooming reimbursement. Scott Nestle feels the reimbursement paperwork should reflect if they are over grooming. Greg Kinser expressed it is a balance between the expectation for the trail conditions in the area or is it simply a base level

service provided. Karen Middendorp agreed that it is time to redefine a standardized equipment list. Don Britton said the horsepower has to be limited.

ACTION
SAW and equipment subcommittee members will schedule to meet and discuss this topic further.

CARMEUSE/ROGERS CITY SPUR
Greg Kinser, DNR
DNR staff is continuing to meet regularly with Carmeuse staff to formalize an agreement. Keep topic on agenda.

MINERS CASTLE
Ron Yesney, DNR
The Department has responded to the Alger County Road Commission letter letting them know the Department is not in support of funding the road and the road commissions offer is not acceptable. Alger County has not responded.

DNR LOGO SIGNS
Jessica Holley-Roehrs, DNR
Need to connect with sign vendor to see what costs will be for changing the template.

VERIZON FLEET MANAGMENT
Jessica Holley-Roehrs, DNR
DNR field unit contacts have been working with Verizon to get GPS trackers installed on machines. Snow clubs still are having concerns over the battery drainage, and this will be discussed more at the snow pre-season meetings and along with offering suggestions.

FRD/PRD SNOW TRANSITION UPDATE
Greg Kinser, DNR
The snow staff transition is moving forward smoothly. Some areas are increasing staff. Expect full transition still on schedule for October 2024.

Don Britton mentioned that some grooming machines have been active in off-season and wondering if this is being recognized. Scott Slavin, DNR noted that some clubs in his area have been using the grooming machines and they have been contacted to inquire about their use.

Chad VanBennekom recommended an annual inspection of the equipment at the previous SAW meeting and would like a DNR response on this item.

SAW CHAIR NOMINEES (2025)

Committee

Don Britton will be resigning as Chair at the end of 2024 and proposed the nomination of a new chair and vice chair.

Chad VanBennekom volunteered to serve as chair or vice chair.

Karen Middendorp is nominated by Jim Kelts for chair. Karen has to check on some things and will get back to the committee at the next schedule SAW meeting.

2024 MEETING DATES

- Sept. 25-26 Trails Fall Summit (Lansing)
- Dec. 5 – U.P. (Hiawatha Snowmobile Club/Marquette MI)

ROUND ROBIN/CLOSING

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

M. SCOTT BOWEN
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: XXX XX, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Parks and Recreation Division Management of State-Owned Lands
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. X of 2024
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

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:

Periodically, the Parks and Recreation Division reviews the Land Use Orders that govern the lands it administers to determine whether any updates are necessary due to operational needs, statutes and/or clarifications to existing Land Use Orders. This proposed Land Use Order of the Director is a result of such efforts.

Proposed to be addressed in this Land Use Order is the addition of several sections or entire Parks and Recreation units to existing Land Use Orders prohibiting snowmobile operation. Currently state park and recreation area lands are open to snowmobile use, unless closed by Land Use Order or statute.

A park's general management plan defines a long-range (10- to 20-year) planning and management strategy that protects the site's natural and cultural resources and provides access to land- and water-based public recreation and educational opportunities. Several management zones have been identified as incompatible with snowmobile use:
Primitive Zone

- *This zone reflects a desired condition that emphasizes the natural resources. It is managed to allow only dispersed and low frequency use for low impact recreational purposes.*

Backcountry Zone

- *The character of this zone is natural, with minimal evidence of human impact. This zone allows for increased use, including non-motorized trails, backcountry (dispersed) camping, and low-impact modifications of the landscape to accommodate that use.*

The following are proposed for closures to snowmobile use though the management plan process:

Cheboygan State Park – Close to snowmobiles due to 86% of the park being zoned primitive or backcountry in the general management plan incompatible with snowmobile use. The areas not zoned in this fashion have cultural resources as well as a network of non-motorized trails.

Wilderness State Park – Close to snowmobile use except for the sections of Wilderness Park Drive in Emmet County, T39N, R5W Sections 19, 20, 21, and 28 and Sturgeon Bay Road in Emmet County T39N, R5W Sections 19, 29, and 30 and all park lands south of West Sturgeon Bay Trail. Approximately 90% of the park is zoned as primitive and includes four dedicated Natural Areas, two Natural Area Registry sites, a designated Environmental Area, as well as a Critical Dunes area. The areas remaining open would accommodate snowmobile use and public access to the park's rental cabins during the winter months. The lands south of West Sturgeon Bay Trail were transferred to Parks and Recreation Division from Forest Resources Division in 2020. Historically these lands have been open to snowmobile use and a designated snowmobile trail is contained in this section of the park.
Tahquamenon Falls State Park – Move the already existing closure of 17,800 acre proposed Tahquamenon Natural Area which is zoned as primitive, to the use of snowmobiles from Chapter IV. This does not affect the remaining 28,000 acres of the park, or the existing snowmobile trails that traverse the park.
Ludington State Park – Close to snowmobiles due to 82% of the park being zoned primitive or backcountry in the general management plan incompatible with snowmobile use. This includes the proposed Ludington Dunes natural area and lands enrolled in The Nature Conservancy's Natural Areas Registry.
Negwegon State Park – Close to snowmobiles due to 100% of the park being zoned primitive or backcountry in the general management plan incompatible with snowmobile use.
Silver Lake State Park – Close the sand dune portion of the park to snowmobiles, including 1395 acres zones primitive in the general management plan as well as the 790-acre ORV area which is open to equestrian and fat tire biking use in the off-season.
Leelanau State Park – Close to snowmobiles due to 65% of the park being zoned primitive or backcountry in the general management plan incompatible with snowmobile use. Most of the areas not zoned in this fashion have cultural resources as well as a network of non-motorized trails.
Hartwick Pines State Park – Close the 3761 acres (47% of the park) zoned as backcountry in the general management plan as well as the 49-acre Old Growth Forest. The Old Growth Forest is a developed zone with established non-motorized paths and a protected stand of white pines.

Some developed areas of PRD land may also not be suitable for snowmobile usage due to user-conflicts or safety concerns.

The following are proposed for closures to snowmobile use due to user-conflicts or safety concerns:

Maybury State Park – With over 25 miles of various non-motorized trails crisscrossing the approximately 1,000-acre park, the entire park is proposed to be closed to snowmobiles due to the safety concerns of user conflicts created by the large amount of non-motorized trails within the park.
Island Lake Recreation Area – Lands east of Kensington Road are proposed to be closed to snowmobile use due to the safety concerns of user conflicts created by the large amount of non-motorized trails within this section of the park.
Highland Recreation Area – Proposing to close the field trial areas to snowmobile use as the primary activities in the identified field trial areas are incompatible with snowmobile use due to the presence of off-leash dogs and equestrian use. Also, resource damage has been occurring to vegetation which has been established to provide standing cover for field trialing.
Ionia Recreation Area – Proposing to close the field trial areas to snowmobile use as the primary activities in the identified field trial areas are incompatible with snowmobile use due to the presence of off-leash dogs and equestrian use. Also, resource damage has been occurring to vegetation which has been established to provide standing cover for field trialing.

White Pine Trail State Park – The portion of the trail south of the Russell Rd. staging area travels through heavily populated areas of Kent County and is plowed for non-motorized winter recreation. The remainder of the trail is groomed for snowmobile use and would be unaffected by this order.

Otsego Lake State Park – Close the entire park except a designated snowmobile route accessing the lake through the boating access site. A snowmobile trail adjacent to the park leads to an increased amount of snowmobile traffic accessing the lake has led to resource and infrastructure damage in other areas of the park. The large amount of park infrastructure also presents safety concerns for snowmobilers within the campground and day use area.

Burt Lake State Park – Close the entire park except a designated snowmobile route accessing the lake through the boating access site. Large amounts of local snowmobile traffic accessing the lake has led to resource and infrastructure damage in other areas of the park. The large amount of park infrastructure also presents safety concerns for snowmobilers within the campground and day use area.

Hoeft State Park – Close the entire park except the designated snowmobile trail that crosses through the park. Off-trail use of snowmobiles from the trail has led to resource and infrastructure damage in other areas of the park. The large amount of park infrastructure also presents safety concerns for snowmobilers within the campground and day use area.

Clear Lake State Park – Close the entire park except a designated snowmobile route accessing the lake through the boating access site. Large amounts of local snowmobile traffic accessing the lake has led to resource and infrastructure damage in other areas of the park. The large amount of park infrastructure also presents safety concerns for snowmobilers within the campground and day use area. The day use area of the park is also a former CCC camp creating concerns of disturbance by motorized vehicles.

Dodge 4 State Park – Close the entire park due to issues with damage to the facility, grounds etc. This is a small, highly developed facility that isn’t compatible with snowmobile use.

Parks and Recreation Division Management of State-Owned Lands
Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. X of 2024

Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order is being submitted for information and consideration. This item will appear on the Department's XXX XX, 2024 calendar and may be eligible for approval on XXX XX, 2024.

Sara Thompson, Chief
Wildlife Division

Jason S. Haines, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief
Forest Resources Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

Randall M. Claramunt, Chief
Fisheries Division

Shannon Lott
Acting Natural Resources Deputy

LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. X of 2024

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:

4.14 Certain state-owned lands, Chippewa county, entry, camping, snowmobile use, prohibited conduct.

Order 4.14 A person shall not do any of the following upon the described state-owned lands, Chippewa county:

(1) A person shall not enter upon the state-owned lands of lot 5 within the SW¼ of section 32, T51N R5W, Chippewa county, between April 1 and June 15.

~~(2) A person shall not operate a snowmobile upon the state-owned lands south of Farm truck road within sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, and 15, T49N R7W, west of Farm truck road within section 13, T49N R7W, west of highway M-123 within sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, T49N R7W, north of highway M-123 and west of Farm truck road within section 24, T49N R7W, within the NW¼ of section 29, and within the N½ of section 30, T49N R7W.~~

(3) A person shall not operate a snowmobile on the existing trail, located on state-owned land, along the section line between sections 8 and 17 and sections 16 and 9, then northward through sections 9 and 8 and westward through sections 5 and 6, T44N R1E, except for department management purposes.

(4) A person shall not camp, build fires or leave unattended motorized vehicles or moored boats on state-owned property known as Raber dock within section 28, T43N, R3E, Chippewa county.

4.27 Certain state-owned lands, Luce county, camping, snowmobiles, prohibited activities.

Order 4.27 (1) A person shall not camp in the parking lot near the mouth of the blind sucker river located in the NW¼ of the NW ¼ of section 4, T49N R11W, Luce county.

(2) A person shall not camp at Manistique lake in section 29, T45N R12W, Luce county.

(3) A person shall not camp within 400 feet of the two hearted river and its tributaries within the following described locations except at designated state forest campgrounds:

(a) The north branch of the Two hearted river from the southwest corner of section 34, T49N R12W, then southeasterly through T48N R12W and T48N R11W to the mainstream of the two hearted river.

(b) The west branch of the Two hearted river from the west side of section 11, T48N R12W, easterly through T48N R12W to the confluence of the south branch of the Two hearted river in section 9, T48N R11W.

(c) The south branch of the Two hearted river from the southeast portion of section 33, T48N R11W, northerly to the west branch of the Two hearted river.

(d) The east branch of the Two hearted river from the south side of section 32, T49N R9W, northerly to the mainstream of the Two hearted river.

(e) Dawson creek from section 24, T48N R11W, easterly through the northeast portion of section 20, T48N R10W, northerly through T48N R10W to its confluence with the mainstream of the Two hearted river in section 29, T49N R10W.

(f) The mainstream of the Two hearted river from confluence of the south branch of the Two hearted river and the west branch of the Two hearted river in section 9, T48N R11W, through the southeast

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portion of T49N R11W, northeasterly through T49N R10W, through the northwest portion of T49N R9W, and through T50N R9W to Lake superior.

(4) A person shall not operate a snowmobile on the forest road in section 3, T49N R11W, from Deer park road to the mouth of the Blind sucker river.

(5) A person shall not operate a snowmobile on the forest road located in the E½ of section 33 and section 34, T49N R11W, as posted.

~~(6) A person shall not operate a snowmobile upon state-owned lands in sections 9, 10, 11, 12,13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 (except the SE¼ of section 25), 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, and 35 (except the SE¼ of section 35), T49N R8W.~~

(7) A person shall not camp upon state-owned lands in section 16, and the north ½ of section 21, T46N, R9W, Luce county.

(8) A person shall not enter, use or occupy on the closed forest road located in section 13, T47N R09W SW ¼ of NE ¼, where the bridge crosses the north branch of Murphy creek.

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 SPs and RAs:

(1) Fayette SP, certain conduct prohibited. 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.

(2) Palms book SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not do any of the following at Palms book SP:

(a) Swim, bathe, skin or scuba dive, fish, boat, enter, place or launch any object in the big spring, Kitchitikipi, Palms book SP.

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

(3) Island lake RA, conduct prohibited. 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.

(b) Operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance on lands east of Kensington Road without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(4) Sterling SP, conduct prohibited. 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.

(5) Pontiac lake RA, prohibited conduct. 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.

(6) Ludington SP, prohibited conduct. 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.

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

(7) South Higgins lake SP, prohibited conduct. 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.

(8) Pinckney RA, prohibited conduct. A person shall not do the following at the Pinckney RA:

(a) Use any state-owned lands in the S 1/2 of the S 1/2 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 1/4 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.

(9) Silver lake SP, prohibited conduct. 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.

(c) Operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance in the sand dunes.

(10) Porcupine mountains wilderness SP, prohibited conduct. 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 Public Act 451 of 1994.

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

(11) Waterloo RA, prohibited conduct. 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.

(b) Operate a snowmobile on the DTE mountain bike trail without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(12) Fort custer RA, prohibited conduct. 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.

(13) Grand haven SP campground, prohibited conduct. 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.

(14) Holland SP, prohibited conduct. 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.

(15) Sanilac petroglyphs historic SP, prohibited conduct. 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.

(16) Ionia RA, prohibited conduct. **A person shall not do the following at Ionia RA:**

(a) 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.

(b) Operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance within the field trial areas without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

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

(18) Port crescent SP, prohibited conduct. 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.

(19) Holly RA, prohibited conduct. A person shall not do any the following:

(a) 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.

(b) Enter, use, or occupy any of the following described state-owned lands, as posted, from June 1 through September 1 except with written permission from the department:

(i) The area commonly known as the Brandt road fen within the N 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of section 12, T05N, R08E, Oakland county.

(20) Algonac SP campground, prohibited conduct. 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.

(21) Bay city SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not do any of the following at Bay city SP:

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

(b) Enter Tobico marsh wildlife refuge of Bay city SP, being those state-owned lands in section sections 24 of T15N R04E, and sections 19 and 30 of T15N R05E, bounded by a line beginning at the water's edge of the Tobico marsh wildlife refuge within section 24 where the Lesperance drain discharges into the Tobico marsh wildlife refuge which is located approximately 1150 feet east and 453 feet north of the center of section 24, T15N R04E, then continuing east parallel to the quarter-quarter section lines section of 24, T15N R04E, and 19, T15N R05E, to Killarney beach road and the eastern boundary of the posted state-owned land with the posted and designated state trail, then southeasterly along the west edge of the designated state trail located west of Killarney beach road to a point on the quarter-quarter section line and approximately 837 feet north of the intersection of little Killarney beach road with Killarney beach road, then west approximately 1766 feet parallel along said quarter-quarter section line approximately 1500 feet to a point on said quarter-quarter section line, then diagonally north-northwesterly approximately 5340 feet, to the point of beginning, excluding the posted and designated state trails, from September 1 to January 1 of each year without written permission from the wildlife regional supervisor or their representative.

(c) Launch a motorized vessel from state-owned lands onto the waters of Bay City SP, except department employees, designees of department employees, or fire, emergency, or law enforcement personnel performing official duties.

(22) Rockport state RA, prohibited conduct. 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.

(23) Lime island state RA, prohibited conduct. 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.

(24) Belle isle SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not do any of the following at Belle isle SP.

(a) Enter and remain or park a vehicle of any type on the premises of the Belle isle SP, 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.

(25) Watkins lake SP and county preserve, prohibited conduct. Annually from September 1 through January 1 and from February 15 through May 15, a person shall not enter or take any animals from Watkins lake and the state-owned lands surrounding, unless authorized in writing by the department, specifically being the SE 1/4, the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, and the S 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of section 13, T04S R02E, within Watkins lake SP and county preserve; except Arnold road and the associated upland roadside edge shall remain open to entry.

(26) Mike levine lakelands trail SP, prohibited conduct. a person shall not do any of the following at Mike levine lakelands trail SP:

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

(27) North Higgins lake SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not do the following at North Higgins lake SP:

(a) Park or leave a motor vehicle in the day use area of North 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, beached along the 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.

(28) Ralph A. MacMullan conference center, prohibited conduct. A person shall not access the beach area of the property unless they are a registered guest or with permission from the conference center manager.

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

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

(33) Tahquamenon falls SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance in Chippewa County, upon the state-owned lands south of Farm truck road within sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, and 15, T49N R7W, west of Farm truck road within section 13, T49N R7W, west of highway M-123 within sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, T49N R7W, north of highway M-123 and west of Farm truck road within section 24, T49N R7W, within the NW¼ of section 29, and within the N½ of section 30, T49N R7W and in Luce County, upon state-owned lands in sections 9, 10, 11, 12,13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 (except the SE¼ of section 25), 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, and 35 (except the SE¼ of section 35), T49N R8W without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(34) Wilderness SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance except for the sections of Wilderness Park Drive in Emmet County, T39N, R5W Sections 19, 20, 21, and 28 and Sturgeon Bay Road in Emmet County T39N, R5W Sections 19, 29, and 30 and all park lands south of West Sturgeon Bay Trail without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(35) Highland RA, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance within the field trial areas without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(36) Fred meijer white pine trail SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance south of the Russell Road staging area in Kent County without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(37) Otsego lake SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance off the designated snowmobile route without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(38) Burt lake SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance off the designated snowmobile route without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(39) Hoeft SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance off the designated snowmobile route without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(40) Clear lake SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance off the designated snowmobile route without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(41) Negwegon SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance off the designated snowmobile route without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

(42) Dodge 4 SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

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

(44) Hartwick pines SP, prohibited conduct. A person shall not operate a snowmobile, or other motorized snow contrivance within the Old Growth Forest located within sections 10 and 15 of T27N R3W, or within the backcountry zone located with sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 16 of T27N R3W without written permission from an authorized representative of the department.

This order shall be posted on or after the Xth day of XXX 2023.

Issued on this Xth day of XXX 2023.

Shannon Lott
Acting Director

4.14 Certain state-owned lands, Chippewa county, entry, camping, snowmobile use, prohibited conduct.

Order 4.14 A person shall not do any of the following upon the described state-owned lands, Chippewa county:

4.27 Certain state-owned lands, Luce county, camping, snowmobiles, prohibited activities.

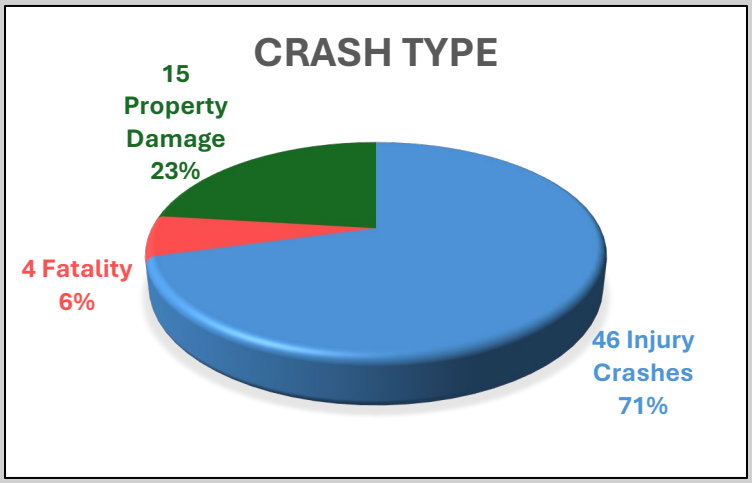
Order 4.27 (1) A person shall not camp in the parking lot near the mouth of the blind sucker river located in the NW¼ of the NW ¼ of section 4, T49N R11W, Luce county.

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 SPs and RAs:

A snowmobile, including a historic snowmobile, as those terms are defined in Part 821 of PA 451 of 1994, that exceeds 48 inches between the centers of the spindles shall not operate on any lands open to snowmobile use.

2023/2024 Snowmobile Crash Data

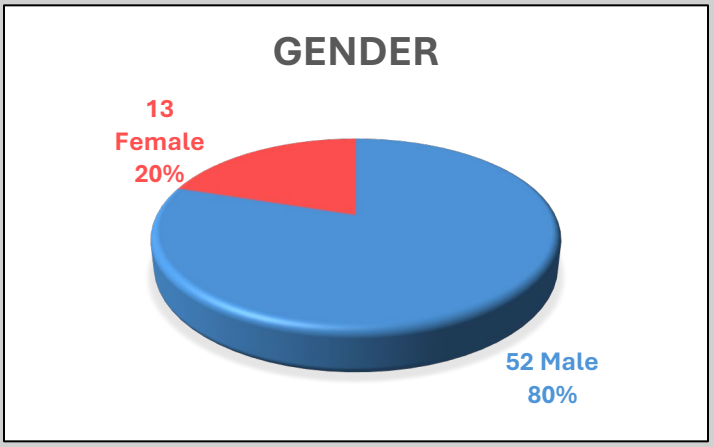
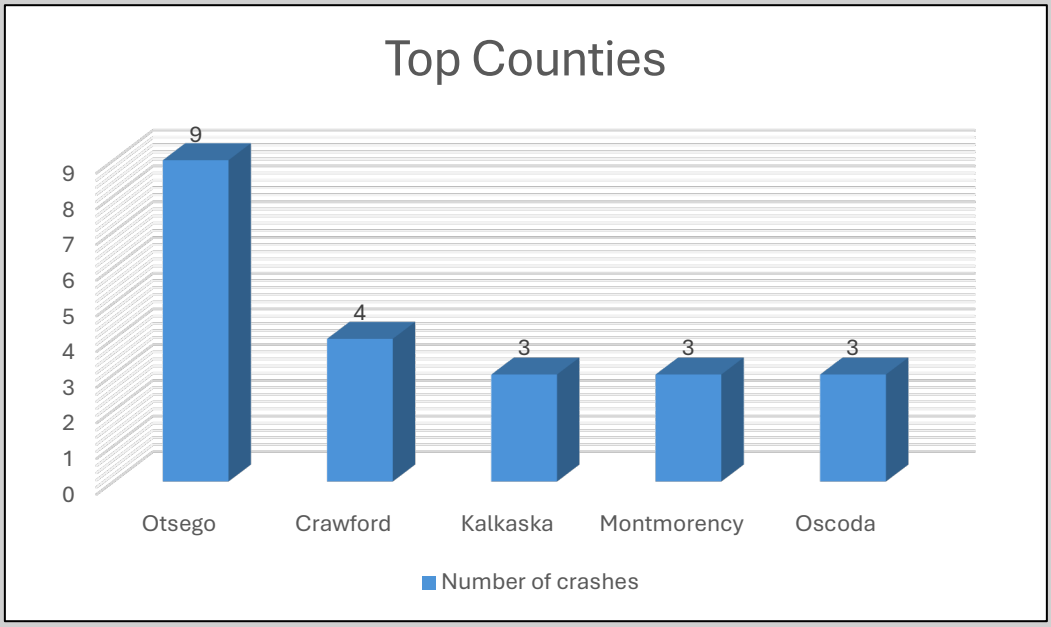


When:

- 53 out of 65 crashes occurred in January = 81%
- Peak day:
  Friday/Saturday/Sunday = 69% total crashes
- Peak time:
  20 out of 65 crashes occurred from 12P-2P = 30%

Who:

- 5 out of 65 crashes involved person under 18yo = 7%



Where: