

# Policy Changes to Implement 2022 Public Acts

Prepared for the Michigan Senate and House  
Appropriations Committees, the Senate and House  
Committees on Natural Resources, the Joint  
Committee on Administrative Rules, and  
the Senate and House Fiscal Agencies

Prepared by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in accordance with Section 221 of Public Act 166 of 2022, has prepared this Policy Changes to Implement 2022 Public Acts report. The Act states:

*“Sec. 221. The department shall report no later than April 1 on each specific policy change made to implement a public act affecting the department that took effect during the prior calendar year to the senate and house appropriations committees, the senate and house subcommittees on natural resources, the joint committee on administrative rules, and the senate and house fiscal agencies.”*

With the exception of appropriations bills, there were ten bills that the Department was either lead agency on and/or impacted Department activities that became law in calendar year 2022. Following enactment, the Department made policy changes or took other actions to implement those acts where necessary. The following chart lists the changes made to implement each act as of March 31, 2023.

Please contact Taylor Ridderbusch, Legislative Liaison, Department of Natural Resources at 517-281-1437 or [ridderbuscht@michigan.gov](mailto:ridderbuscht@michigan.gov) for more information.

<i>2022 Public Act</i>	<i>Bill</i>	<i>Act Description</i>	<i>Policy Changes</i>
1	HB 4035	Natural resources: inland lakes; lake level assessment fee reimbursement; provide for under certain circumstances. Amends sec. 2150 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.2150).	The Department amended communication to local units of government to make them aware of PA 1 and the need to prioritize payment for special assessments for lake level controls that had not yet been paid.
2	HB 4363	Natural resources: land acquisition; procedures for certain department of natural resources land transactions; modify time periods. Amends secs. 2104, 2132 & 2165 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.2104 et seq.).	The Department updated applications to reflect the 210 days to approve or deny an application for a land transaction. Public notice is also made 30 days prior to the Director's decisions on land transactions.
14	HB 4149	Natural resources: fishing; penalties for certain fishing violations; modify. Amends sec. 48738 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.48738).	The Department provided education and training to conservation officers about the decriminalization of labeling tip ups and fishing with more than three lines.
15	HB 4151	Natural resources: fishing; penalties for certain hunting and fishing licensing violations; modify. Amends sec. 43560 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.43560).	The Department provided education and training to conservation officers about the decriminalization of failure to exhibit a hunting, fur harvesters, or fishing license.
23	HB 4152	Natural resources: hunting; penalties for violations of certain hunting provisions; modify. Amends secs. 40118, 43558, 46509, 80156 & 82133 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.40118 et seq.).	The Department provided education and training to conservation officers about the decriminalization of labeling ground blinds and tree stands and the supplemental feeding of deer.
30	HB 4242	Natural resources: fishing; export of live minnows, wigglers, or crayfish as bait; allow. Amends sec. 48729 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.48729).	The Department's Fisheries Division developed a module for tracking and reporting through the Fishing Activity and Catch Tracking System (FACTS) for exported minnows, wigglers, and crayfish bait. Fisheries Division also enacted Fisheries Order 216 to establish regulations for commercial taking of bait.

<i>2022 Public Act</i>	<i>Bill</i>	<i>Act Description</i>	<i>Policy Changes</i>
34	SB 251	Natural resources: fishing; commercial fishing regulations; modify. Amends secs. 47309, 47311 & 47315 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.47309 et seq.).	The Department provided education and training to conservation officers about the changes in depth limits for trap nets and the season dates for whitefish in Lakes Superior, Michigan, and Huron.
55	HB 4205	Vehicles: snowmobiles; 1 weekend a season waiver to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails in Michigan; provide for. Amends sec. 82103 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.82103).	The Department enacted a Free Snowmobile Weekend to allow residents and non-residents two days of riding on trails without a registration or trial permit. More information about future weekends can be found online at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/snowmobiling/free-snowmobiling-weekend">https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/snowmobiling/free-snowmobiling-weekend</a> .
56	HB 4206	Vehicles: snowmobiles; snowmobile trail permit; provide a 1 weekend per season waiver. Amends sec. 82118 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.82118).	The Department enacted a Free Snowmobile Weekend to allow residents and non-residents two days of riding on trails without a registration or trial permit. More information about future weekends can be found online at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/snowmobiling/free-snowmobiling-weekend">https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/snowmobiling/free-snowmobiling-weekend</a> .
57	HB 4332	Vehicles: registration; placement of off-road vehicle stickers; modify for 2-wheel vehicles. Amends sec. 81116 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.81116).	The Department provided education and training to conservation officers about the new allowable placement of licenses and trail permit stickers on dirt bikes. Additionally, the ORV regulation booklet is routinely updated to reflect changes in statute.