

Parks and Recreation Division Possession and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages



LUOD No. 2 of 2021

Background

- Chapters II (Boating Access Sites) and V (State Parks and Recreation Areas) provides regulations regarding the prohibition of alcohol possession and consumption at state parks, recreation areas and boating access sites.
- Park and Recreation Staff undertook a review of these Chapters and the regulations for the purpose of establishing greater consistency of the dates and to remove no longer necessary prohibitions.



LUOD

Significant changes include:

- consolidation of the alcohol prohibitions within state parks and recreation areas to April 1 through Labor Day, except within units where circumstances require a different date range;
- removal of the prohibition at three boating access sites to align with the operations within the managing unit; and,
- while no new prohibitions are proposed, removal of the prohibitions were recommended at Ortonville Recreation Area, Waterloo Recreation Area, Silver Lake State Park, except the ORV area, Bay City State Park, and McLain State Park during “K Day”, as this event is no longer held.



Consolidation and Alignment

- Consolidation and alignment of the prohibition dates will assist users of these statewide facilities when planning their recreation adventures and will provide greater consistency for enforcement by PRD Commissioned staff and Conservation Officers.



Questions

Thank you!



Hunting and Trapping in State Parks and Recreation Areas - Corrections



WCO No. 2 of 2021

Background

- The Parks and Recreation Division undertook a review of Wildlife Conversation Order (WCO) Chapter VII, which provides the general regulations regarding hunting and trapping in state parks and recreation areas. It also identifies the specific areas that are open and closed to hunting.
- This review was undertaken for the purpose of comparing the described open/closed boundaries within the WCO to the boundaries identified within the Department's GIS mapping information to ensure accuracy of the information.
- From that review, areas of correction were identified.



WCO

Review:

- Each area of correction was reviewed and discussed with the relevant park unit to confirm the necessary revision language.
- Each park unit then discussed the proposed correction with the local wildlife biologist covering their area to obtain confirmation of support for the proposed WCO correction.



Corrections

- With these corrections, the information displayed to the public identifying the areas open/closed to hunting within state parks and recreation areas will be consistent between the GIS information, which is displayed in the hunting viewer, and the written information contained within the WCO.
- As the purpose of this review was to correct the public information, it did not evaluate an expansion or decrease of the boundary areas. However, the review did provide an opportunity to expand opportunities at recently acquired lands within Fort Wilkins State Park and Van Riper State Park.



Opening of Additional Lands

- Fort Wilkins State Park requested to designate a portion of its newly acquired lands as open to hunting and trapping. This request was supported by both the District Supervisor and the District Wildlife Biologist and was supported at the Grant Township Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021.
- Van Riper State Park requested to open two additional sections south of US-41, Sections 31 and 36, and one new section north of US-41, Section 30. Public opposition to these newly opened areas is not anticipated; however, the Department is scheduling a virtual public open house in February to provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed expansion.



Questions

Thank you!

