

Annual Regulatory Plan 2023-2024

Department of Natural Resources
Executive Division

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

R 299.3001 – R 299.3099 Department Organization and General Functions - The rules provide the organizational structure, methods of operation, and declaratory ruling process for the Department. Website links need to be updated.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No.

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

None.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The retained rules remain necessary.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rules for the Executive Division.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints regarding the complexity of the rules for the Executive Division.

- D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any similar rules or regulations.

- E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs. The advances in technology and increased popularity of electric bicycles has impacted the regulatory activity covered by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission General Rules. The rules were amended to address the impact on regulatory activity.

5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

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6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

Completed – Mackinac Island State Park Commission General Rules. Outstanding – None.

**Department of Natural Resources
Fisheries Division**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

R 299.721 – R 299.846 Commercial Fishing
R 299.1061 Marketing of Imported Commercial and Game Fish
R 299.1071 – R 299.1079 Commercial Fishing.
The above rulesets need to be rescinded if statutory amendments to Parts 467 and 473 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, PA 451 of 1994 are adopted. House Bills 4567-4569 were introduced during the 2019-2020 legislative session that would have amended these Parts, but they were never signed into law. If these previous bills or similar bills were introduced to modify commercial fishing laws and adopted by the legislature during this legislative session, it would likely allow for the rescission/amendment of the listed rulesets as appropriate. Rescission/amendments to the listed rulesets could occur in 2023 or 2024, depending on legislative action.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

R 299.721 – R 299.846 Commercial Fishing
R 299.1061 Marketing of Imported Commercial and Game Fish
R 299.1071 – R 299.1079 Commercial Fishing
The above rule sets describe commercial fishing areas, gear, licenses, and other specifics related to the industry. During a previous legislative session Fisheries Division worked with representatives from the industry, Michigan’s recreational fishing stakeholder groups, and members of the legislature to introduce a series of bills to modify all commercial fishing laws, rules, and orders. If these previous House Bills 4567-4569 of 2019, or similar bills, were introduced during this session it would modify commercial fishing laws and would allow for the rescission/amendment of the rulesets listed. If Parts 467 and 473 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act are amended, these rules will likely become obsolete, and it is anticipated that most would be rescinded in their entirety. Further, many of the rules listed or language contained within these rule sets are obsolete or not applicable to the present conditions of the fishery. Specifically, R 299.1072(a) & (e), R 299.1073, 299.1074(b), (c), & (e), portions of R 299.1075, as well as R 299.1078 in its entirety will no longer be necessary if legislative action occurs.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

Some sections within the listed rules are problematic to industry but cannot be rescinded until Parts 467 and 473 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act are amended.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

Currently, a continued need for the rules exists to properly regulate state-licensed commercial fishing.

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- B.** Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rules for the Fisheries Division.

- C.** Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The Department has not received any comments regarding the complexity of complying with the rules for the Fisheries Division.

- D.** Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any other similar rules or regulations.

- E.** Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs.

- 5.** Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

- 6.** Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

Completed action - rescinded R 299.701 – R 299.705 Use of Trawls.

Outstanding and dependent on future legislative action:

R 299.721 – R 299.846 Commercial Fishing

R 299.1061 Marketing of Imported Commercial and Game Fish

R 299.1071 – R 299.1079 Commercial Fishing

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**Department of Natural Resources
Forest Resources Division**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

Commercial Forests R 299.2601- R 299.2612.

The commercial forest program was established in the 1920s to encourage private landowners to manage their land for timber in exchange for a property tax incentive. The rules complement Part 511, Commercial Forests, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA). Changes to the rules are needed to clarify, correct errors, and improve consistency with Part 511.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No.

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

None.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The retained rules remain necessary.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rules for the Forest Resources Division.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The Department has not received any comments regarding the complexity of complying with the rules for the Forest Resources Division.

- D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any other similar rules or regulations.

- E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs.

5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

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Completed - None

Outstanding -

R 299.2601 - R 299.2612 Commercial Forests

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**Department of Natural Resources
Law Enforcement Division**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

R 257.1691: Placement of ORV Decal: establish the “location designated by the department” (per MCL 324.81116(4)) to affix the ORV registration to various types of ORVs. (To reflect change in MCL in 324.81116(4)).

R 281.1221 – R 281.1226 Marine Collisions, Accidents, or Other Casualties: establish reporting requirements in the event of a collision on waters in Michigan’s jurisdiction.

R 281.1231 – R 281.1252 Associated Equipment on Vessels: amend definitions and descriptions of required equipment to align with updates to federal law.

R 299.922 – State Land Use Rule for unlawful acts State-owned land other than parks, recreation areas, game and wildlife areas, designated campgrounds and access sites: permit dogs being used for hunting, in field trials, while being trained, or when upon state-owned land open to such use to be off-leash.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No.

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

All rules are required and/or necessary to meet statutory requirements and/or address public safety concerns.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The retained rules remain necessary.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rules.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The Department has not received any comments regarding the complexity of complying with the rules.

- D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

The marine-related rules will be updated to align with and provide consistency with federal standards.

- E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs.

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5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

Completed - None

Outstanding -

R 257.1691: Placement of ORV Decal: establish the “location designated by the department” (per MCL 324.81116(4)) to affix the ORV registration to various types of ORVs. (To reflect change in MCL in 324.81116(4)).

R 281.1221 – R 281.1226 Marine Collisions, Accidents, or Other Casualties: establish reporting requirements in the event of a collision on waters in Michigan’s jurisdiction.

R 281.1231 – R 281.1252 Associated Equipment on Vessels: amend definitions and descriptions of required equipment to align with updates to federal law.

R 299.922 – State Land Use Rule for unlawful acts State-owned land other than parks, recreation areas, game and wildlife areas, designated campgrounds and access sites: permit dogs being used for hunting, in field trials, while being trained, or when upon state-owned land open to such use to be off-leash.

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**Department of Natural Resources
Michigan History Center**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

R 399.101-399.102 Site Protection

The Department will consider amendments to make technical updates to the rule to address inaccurate statutory citations and departmental organizational changes.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

None

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The rule is necessary to provide basic protection of state lands not covered by other rules but requires technical changes as described.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rule for the Michigan History Center.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The rule is currently confusing due to changes in state statute and government organization but does not present significant complexity related to compliance.

- D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any similar rules or regulations.

- E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rule was promulgated in 1983. The History Center is now under a new authorizing law and is in a different department.

5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

None completed.

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Outstanding—R 399.101-399.102

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**Department of Natural Resources
Minerals Management Section**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

None.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No.

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

All rules within the Minerals Management Section have been reviewed and updated within the last five years with the opportunity for industry input and comment. The Minerals Management Section will continue to review rules and communicate with industry to determine reasonable future revisions to the rules, but at this point, all rules are functioning efficiently.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The retained rules remain necessary.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Minerals Management Section received a suggestion that the public comment period provided for mineral lease applications be extended beyond the 30 days required by the administrative rules. The administrative rules do not limit the comment period to 30 days, rather the rules only establish a minimum of 30 days for public comment. Therefore, an extended comment period can be offered without amending the administrative rules, and the Minerals Management Section has, in fact, extended the comment period to account for unique circumstances.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The most recent amendments to the rules eliminated some complexity resulting from outdated information in the rules.

- D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any other similar rules or regulations.

- E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs. The most recent amendments to the Oil and Gas Leasing Rules updated the rules to acknowledge technological advances by allowing for online auctions rather than requiring in person auctions.

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5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

Complete – None (no action identified in the 2023 ARP)
Outstanding – None

**Department of Natural Resources
Parks and Recreation Division**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

R 257.1501-257.1511 State Aid for Snowmobile Safety Programs

The Advisory Rules Committee made a recommendation to generally update the rules to conform to statute. The DNR will continue to consider possible updates over the next year.

R 299.671(f) Definition

The definition of “Director” needs to be updated to remove “department of natural resources and environment” and replace it with “department of natural resources.”

R 299.921 (j) Definition

The definition of “Pathway” needs to be updated to reflect that “properly signed on the ground” would only be necessary for allowed non-motorized uses.

R 299.922(a) regulates entry, use or occupancy of “state owned land”, since the state also leases lands, the DNR would propose removing “state owned land” from this definition.

R 299.922(j) regulates where animals are allowed on state land and under what circumstances. Because the rule does not define “bathing beach” the DNR would propose clarifying the rule to better reflect the intent and practical application of the rule.

R 299.922(v) prohibits leaving a campsite unoccupied for more than a 24-hour period after the camp is “established,” but “establish” is not defined in the Rules. The DNR would propose amendments to clarify the rule to better reflect the intent and practical application of the rule.

R 299.923(e) prohibits building a fire except in a stove or grill “provided” by the department. The DNR would propose replacing “provided” with “approved”, as there are some instances where the DNR does not provide a stove or grill. □

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No.

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

None.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The retained rules are necessary.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rules for the Parks and Recreation Division.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The Department has not received any comments regarding the complexity of complying with the rules for the Parks and Recreation Division.

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D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any similar rules or regulations.

E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs.

5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

Completed—none.

Outstanding:

- R 257.1501-257.1511 State Aid for Snowmobile Safety Programs
- R 299.671(f) Definition of “Director”
- R 299.921(j) Definition of “Pathway”
- R 299.922(a) Clarification
- R 299.922(j) Clarification
- R 299.922(v) Clarification
- R 299.923(e) Clarification

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**Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division**

1. Rule(s) to be **processed** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. [Give brief description.]

None.

2. Rules that are obsolete or superseded and can be **rescinded** between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Also, please identify the rules or rule sets that are least important to the mission and function of the agency, or are otherwise strong candidates for rescission.

None.

3. Has the agency failed to promulgate any statutorily required rules **or** failed to utilize any statutorily required rules? Please explain.

No.

4. Please indicate the rules that are most problematic to industry and could be reviewed to determine the most business-friendly method of regulation.

None.

- A. Describe whether there is a continued need for the rules.

The retained rules remain necessary.

- B. Provide a summary of any complaints or comments received from the public concerning the rules.

The Department has not received any complaints or comments regarding the rules for the Wildlife Division.

- C. Describe the complexity of complying with the rules.

The Department has not received any comments regarding the complexity of complying with the rules for the Wildlife Division.

- D. Describe whether the rules conflict with or duplicate similar rules or regulations adopted by the federal government or local units of government.

There is no known conflict with any similar rules or regulations.

- E. Provide the date of the last evaluation of the rules and the degree, if any, to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed regulatory activity covered by the rules.

The rules were evaluated as part of EO 2011-5 and yearly thereafter for ARPs.

5. Please provide the URL link the department or bureau is currently using to display their administrative rules.

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws>

6. Please provide a list of the items identified for action in the 2023 ARP that have been completed and those that remain outstanding.

Completed – R 299.1021 – 299.1028, Endangered and Threatened Species

Outstanding – None.