NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

ARTICLE III
NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 1
HABITAT PROTECTION

INLAND WATERS

PART 301
INLAND LAKES AND STREAMS

324.30101 Definitions.

Sec. 30101. As used in this part:

(a) "Bottomland" means the land area of an inland lake or stream that lies below the ordinary high-water mark and that may or may not be covered by water.

(b) "Bulkhead line" means a line that is established pursuant to this part beyond which dredging, filling, or construction of any kind is not allowed without a permit.

(c) "Dam" means an artificial barrier, including dikes, embankments, and appurtenant works, that impounds, diverts, or is designed to impound or divert water.

(d) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(e) "Expand" means to occupy a larger area of an inland lake or stream than authorized by a permit issued under this part for marina mooring structures and watercraft moored at the marina.

(f) "Fund" means the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

(g) "Height of the dam" means the difference in elevation measured vertically between the natural bed of an inland lake or stream at the downstream toe of the dam, or, if it is not across a stream channel or watercourse, from the lowest elevation of the downstream toe of the dam, to the design flood elevation or to the lowest point of the top of the dam, whichever is less.

(h) "Impoundment" means water held back by a dam, dike, floodgate, or other barrier.

(i) "Inland lake or stream" means either of the following:

(*i*) An artificial or natural lake, pond, or impoundment that is a water of the United States as that term is used in section 502(7) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1362.

(*ii*) A natural or artificial lake, pond, or impoundment; a river, stream, or creek which may or may not be serving as a drain as defined by the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630; or any other body of water that has definite banks, a bed, and visible evidence of a continued flow or continued occurrence of water, including the St. Marys, St. Clair, and Detroit Rivers.

Inland lake or stream does not include the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, or a lake or pond that has a surface area of less than 5 acres.

(j) "Marina" means a facility that is owned or operated by a person, extends into or over an inland lake or stream, and offers service to the public or members of the marina for docking, loading, or other servicing of recreational watercraft.

(k) "Minor offense" means either of the following violations of this part if the project involved in the offense is a minor project or the department determines that restoration of the affected property is not required:

(*i*) The failure to obtain a permit under this part.

(*ii*) A violation of a permit issued under this part.

(*l*) "Mooring structures" means structures used to moor watercraft, including, but not limited to, docks, piers, pilings, mooring anchors, lines and buoys, and boat hoists.

(m) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the line between upland and bottomland that persists through successive changes in water levels, below which the presence and action of the water is so common or recurrent that the character of the land is marked distinctly from the upland and is apparent in the soil itself, the configuration of the surface of the soil, and the vegetation. On an inland lake that has a level established by law, it means the high established level. Where water returns to its natural level as the result of the permanent removal or abandonment of a dam, it means the natural ordinary high-water mark.

(n) "Project" means an activity that requires a permit pursuant to section 30102.

(o) "Property owners' association" means any group of organized property owners publishing a directory of their membership, the majority of which are riparian owners and are located on the inland lake or stream that

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is affected by the proposed project.

(p) "Reconfigure" means to, without expanding the marina, do either of the following:

(*i*) Change the location of the dock or docks and other mooring structures at the marina to occupy an area of the inland lake or stream that was not previously authorized by a permit issued under this part.

(*ii*) Decrease the distance available for ingress and egress to an outside slip as described in section 30106a.

(q) "Riparian interest area" means that portion of an inland lake or stream over which a riparian owner has an ownership interest.

(r) "Riparian owner" means a person who has riparian rights.

(s) "Riparian rights" means those rights which are associated with the ownership of the bank or shore of an inland lake or stream.

(t) "Seasonal structure" includes any type of dock, boat hoist, ramp, raft, or other recreational structure that is placed into an inland lake or stream and removed at the end of the boating season.

(u) "Seawall" means a vertically sloped wall constructed to break the force of waves and retain soil for the purpose of shore protection.

(v) "Structure" includes a wharf, dock, pier, seawall, dam, weir, stream deflector, breakwater, groin, jetty, sewer, pipeline, cable, and bridge.

(w) "Upland" means the land area that lies above the ordinary high-water mark.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 106, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1999;—Am. 2006, Act 275, Imd. Eff. July 7, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 139, Imd. Eff. Nov. 4, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 351, Eff. Jan. 16, 2015;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30101a Applicability of powers and duties of department to "navigable waters" and "waters of the United States" as defined in federal law.

Sec. 30101a. For the purposes of this part, the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities exercised by the department because of federal approval of Michigan's permit program under section 404(g) and (h) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344, apply only to "navigable waters" and "waters of the United States" as defined under section 502(7) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1362, and further refined by federally promulgated rules and court decisions that have the full effect and force of federal law. Determining whether additional regulation is necessary to protect Michigan waters beyond the scope of federal law is the responsibility of the Michigan legislature based on its determination of what is in the best interest of the citizens of this state.

History: Add. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30102 Operations prohibited without permit; exception.

Sec. 30102. (1) Except as provided in this part, a person without a permit from the department shall not do any of the following:

(a) Dredge or fill bottomland.

(b) Construct, enlarge, extend, remove, or place a structure on bottomland.

(c) Construct, reconfigure, or expand a marina.

(d) Create, enlarge, or diminish an inland lake or stream.

(e) Structurally interfere with the natural flow of an inland lake or stream.

(f) Construct, dredge, commence, extend, or enlarge an artificial canal, channel, ditch, lagoon, pond, lake, or similar waterway where the purpose is ultimate connection with an existing inland lake or stream, or where any part of the artificial waterway is located within 500 feet of the ordinary high-water mark of an existing inland lake or stream.

(g) Connect any natural or artificially constructed waterway, canal, channel, ditch, lagoon, pond, lake, or similar water with an existing inland lake or stream for navigation or any other purpose.

(2) A person shall not remove submerged logs from rivers or streams for the purpose of submerged log recovery. This subsection does not prohibit the department from issuing a permit under this part for other purposes, including removing logjams or removing logs that interfere with navigation of the river or stream.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2009, Act 139, Imd. Eff. Nov. 4, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30103 Exceptions; "water withdrawal" and "agricultural drain" defined.

Sec. 30103. (1) A permit is not required under this part for any of the following:

(a) Any fill or structure existing before April 1, 1966, in waters covered by former 1965 PA 291, and any fill or structures existing before January 9, 1973, in waters covered for the first time by former 1972 PA 346.

(b) A seasonal structure placed on bottomland to facilitate private noncommercial recreational use of the water if it does not unreasonably interfere with the use of the water by others entitled to use the water or interfere with water flow.

(c) Reasonable sanding of beaches to the existing water's edge by the riparian owner or a person authorized by the riparian owner.

(d) Maintenance of an agricultural drain, regardless of outlet, if all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The maintenance includes only activities that maintain the location, depth, and bottom width of the drain as constructed or modified at any time before July 1, 2014.

(*ii*) The maintenance is performed by the landowner or pursuant to the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630.

(e) Maintenance and operation of a waste collection or treatment facility either ordered to be constructed or approved for operation under a state or a federal water pollution control law and this part. For purposes of this subdivision, "operation" includes dredging, filling, or construction and placement of structures in the waste collection or treatment facility in compliance with this act.

(f) Construction and maintenance of minor drainage structures and facilities that are identified by rule promulgated by the department under section 30110. Before a rule is promulgated pursuant to this subsection, the rule must be approved by the majority of a committee consisting of the director of the department, the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, and the director of the state transportation department or their designated representatives. The rules shall be reviewed at least annually.

(g) Maintenance of a drain that either was legally established and constructed before January 1, 1973, pursuant to the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630, except those legally established drains constituting mainstream portions of certain natural watercourses identified in rules promulgated by the department under section 30110, or was constructed or modified under a permit issued pursuant to this part. As used in this subdivision, "maintenance of a drain" means the physical preservation of the location, depth, and bottom width of a drain and appurtenant structures to restore the function and approximate capacity of the drain as constructed or modified at any time before July 1, 2014, and includes, but is not limited to, the following activities if performed with best management practices:

(*i*) Excavation of accumulated sediments back to original contours.

(*ii*) Reshaping of the side slopes.

(*iii*) Bank stabilization where reasonably necessary to prevent erosion. Materials used for stabilization must be compatible with existing bank or bed materials.

(*iv*) Armoring, lining, or piping if a previously armored, lined, or piped section is being repaired and all work occurs within the footprint of the previous work.

(*v*) Replacement of existing control structures, if the original function of the drain is not changed and the original approximate capacity of the drain is not increased.

(*vi*) Repair of stabilization structures.

(*vii*) Culvert replacement, including culvert extensions of not more than 24 additional feet per culvert.

(*viii*) Emergency reconstruction of recently damaged parts of the drain. Emergency reconstruction must occur within a reasonable period of time after damage occurs in order to qualify for this exemption.

(h) Projects constructed under the watershed protection and flood prevention act, 16 USC 1001 to 1012.

(i) Construction and maintenance of privately owned cooling or storage ponds used in connection with a public utility except at the interface with public waters.

(j) Maintenance of a structure constructed under a permit issued pursuant to this part and identified by rule promulgated under section 30110, if the maintenance is in place and in kind with no design or materials modification.

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(k) A water withdrawal.

(*l*) Annual installation of a seasonal dock or docks, pilings, mooring buoys, or other mooring structures previously authorized by and in accordance with a permit issued under this part.

(m) Controlled access of livestock to streams for watering or crossing if constructed in accordance with applicable practice standards set by the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(n) Temporary drawdowns of impoundments at hydroelectric projects licensed by the federal energy regulatory commission (FERC) and subject to FERC's authority if both of the following apply:

(*i*) The FERC licensee has consulted this state during the drawdown plan development and this state's concerns have been addressed in the drawdown plan as FERC considers appropriate.

(*ii*) Adverse environmental impacts, including stream flow, aquatic resources, and timing, have been avoided and minimized to the extent practical.

(o) Removal, by the riparian owner or a person authorized by the riparian owner, of plants that are an aquatic nuisance as defined in section 3301, if the removal is accomplished by hand-pulling without using a powered or mechanized tool and all plant fragments are removed from the water and properly disposed of on land above the ordinary high-water mark as defined in section 30101.

(p) Raking of lake bottomlands by the riparian owner or a person authorized by the riparian owner. To minimize effects on the lake bottomlands, the areas raked shall be unvegetated before raking and predominantly composed of sand or pebbles, and the raking shall be performed without using a powered or mechanized tool. For the purposes of this subdivision, the pulling of a nonpowered, nonmechanized tool with a boat is not the use of a powered or mechanized tool.

(2) As used in this section, "water withdrawal" means the removal of water from its source for any purpose.

(3) As used in this part, "agricultural drain" means a human-made conveyance of water that meets all of the following requirements:

(a) Does not have continuous flow.

(b) Flows primarily as a result of precipitation-induced surface runoff or groundwater drained through subsurface drainage systems.

(c) Serves agricultural production.

(d) Was constructed before January 1, 1973, or was constructed in compliance with this part or former 1979 PA 203.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 139, Imd. Eff. Nov. 4, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 253, Imd. Eff. June 30, 2014;—Am. 2018, Act 163, Eff. Aug. 21, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Administrative rules: R 281.811 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

Popular name: NREPA

324.30104 Application for permit; fees; refund.

Sec. 30104. (1) A person shall not undertake a project subject to this part except as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13. An application for a permit must include any information that may be required by the department. If a project includes activities at multiple locations, 1 application may be filed for the combined activities.

(2) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4), until October 1, 2025, an application for a permit must be accompanied by an application fee based on an administrative cost in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) For an initial permit for a seasonal drawdown or associated reflooding, or both, of a dam or impoundment for the purpose of weed control that is issued for the first time after October 9, 1995, a fee of $500.00, but for subsequent permits for the same purpose a fee of $50.00.

(b) For activities included in a minor project category established under section 30105(7), a fee of $100.00.

(c) For activities included in a general permit category established under section 30105(8), a fee of $50.00.

(d) For construction or expansion of a marina, a fee as follows:

(*i*) $50.00 for an expansion of 1-10 marina slips to an existing permitted marina.

(*ii*) $100.00 for a new marina with 1-10 proposed marina slips.

(*iii*) $250.00 for an expansion of 11-50 marina slips to an existing permitted marina, plus $10.00 for each marina slip over 50.

(*iv*) $500.00 for a new marina with 11-50 proposed marina slips, plus $10.00 for each marina slip over 50.

(*v*) $1,500.00 if an existing permitted marina proposes maintenance dredging of 10,000 cubic yards or

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more, unless the dredge material is determined through testing to be 90% or more sand, or the addition of seawalls, bulkheads, or revetments of 500 feet or more.

(e) For major projects other than a project described in subdivision (d)(*v*), involving any of the following, a fee of $2,000.00:

(*i*) Dredging of 10,000 cubic yards or more, unless the dredge material is determined through testing to be 90% or more sand.

(*ii*) Filling of 10,000 cubic yards or more.

(*iii*) Seawalls, bulkheads, or revetments of 500 feet or more.

(*iv*) Filling or draining of 1 acre or more of wetland contiguous to a lake or stream.

(*v*) New dredging or upland boat basin excavation in areas of suspected contamination.

(*vi*) Shore projections, such as groins and underwater stabilizers, that extend 150 feet or more into a lake or stream.

(*vii*) New commercial docks or wharves of 300 feet or more in length.

(*viii*) Stream enclosures 100 feet or more in length.

(*ix*) Stream relocations 500 feet or more in length.

(*x*) New golf courses.

(*xi*) Subdivisions.

(*xii*) Condominiums.

(f) For the removal of submerged logs from bottomland of an inland lake, a $500.00 fee.

(g) For all other projects not listed in subdivisions (a) to (f), a fee of $500.00.

(3) A project that requires review and approval under this part and 1 or more of the following acts or parts of acts is subject to only the single highest fee required under this part or the following acts or parts of acts:

(a) Section 3104.

(b) Part 303.

(c) Part 323.

(d) Part 325.

(e) Section 117 of the land division act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.117.

(4) If work has been done in violation of a permit requirement under this part and restoration is not ordered by the department, the department may accept an application for a permit if the application is accompanied by a fee equal to 2 times the permit fee required under this section.

(5) If the department denies an application for a permit under this part, the department shall promptly refund the application fee paid under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 171, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 97, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 1996;—Am. 1999, Act 106, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1999;—Am. 2003, Act 163, Imd. Eff. Aug. 12, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 275, Imd. Eff. July 7, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 531, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 276, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2008;—Am. 2009, Act 139, Imd. Eff. Nov. 4, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011;—Am. 2013, Act 13, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2015, Act 76, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 84, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2021, Act 91, Imd. Eff. Oct. 20, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30104b Applicability of MCL 324.30306b to proposed project or proposed permit application.

Sec. 30104b. Section 30306b applies to a proposed project or a proposed permit application under this part.

History: Add. 2006, Act 592, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2007;—Am. 2010, Act 179, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2010;—Am. 2015, Act 76, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30105 Pending applications; posting on website; public hearing; review of application; statement; final inspection and certification; notice of hearing; conditional permit in emergency; provisions applicable to minor project; issuance of general permits; minor project category; general permit for activities in drains; definitions.

Sec. 30105. (1) The department shall post on its website all of the following under this part:

(a) A list of pending applications.

(b) Public notices.

(c) Public hearing schedules.

(2) The department may hold a public hearing on pending applications.

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(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, upon receiving an application, the department shall submit copies for review to the director of the department of community health or the local health department designated by the director of the department of community health, to the city, village, or township and the county where the project is to be located, to the local conservation district, to the watershed council established under part 311, if any, to the local port commission, if any, and to the persons required to be included in the application pursuant to section 30104. Each copy of the application shall be accompanied by a statement that unless a written request is filed with the department within 20 days after the submission for review, the department may grant the application without a public hearing where the project is located. The department may hold a public hearing upon the written request of the applicant or a riparian owner or a governmental unit or other person that is entitled to receive a copy of the application pursuant to this subsection.

(4) After completion of a project for which an application is approved, the department may cause a final inspection to be made and certify to the applicant that the applicant has complied with the department's permit requirements.

(5) At least 10 days' notice of a hearing to be held under this section shall be given by publication in a newspaper circulated in the county where the project is to be located, to the person requesting the hearing, and to the governmental units and other persons that are entitled to receive a copy of the application pursuant to subsection (3).

(6) In an emergency, the department may issue a conditional permit before the expiration of the 20-day period referred to in subsection (3).

(7) After providing notice and an opportunity for a public hearing, the department shall establish minor project categories of activities and projects that are similar in nature, have minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment. The department may act upon an application received pursuant to section 30104 for an activity or project within a minor project category without providing notices pursuant to subsection (3). The department shall develop a minor project category under this subsection for repair or replacement of a failed seawall. All other provisions of this part, except provisions applicable only to general permits, are applicable to a minor project.

(8) The department, after notice and an opportunity for a public hearing, shall issue general permits on a statewide basis or within a local unit of government for projects that are similar in nature, that will cause only minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and that will only have minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment. Before authorizing a specific project to proceed under a general permit, the department may provide notice pursuant to subsection (3) but shall not hold a public hearing and shall not typically require a site inspection. A general permit issued under this subsection shall not be valid for more than 5 years. Among the activities the department may consider for general permit eligibility under this subsection are the following:

(a) The removal of qualifying small dams.

(b) The maintenance or repair of an existing pipeline, if the pipeline is maintained or repaired in a manner to ensure that any adverse effects on the inland lake or stream will be minimized.

(9) The department may issue, deny, or impose conditions on project activities authorized under a minor project category or a general permit if the conditions are designed to remove an impairment to the inland lake or stream, to mitigate the effects of the project, or to otherwise improve water quality. The department may also establish a reasonable time when the proposed project is to be completed or terminated.

(10) If the department determines that activity in a proposed project, although within a minor project category or a general permit, is likely to cause more than minimal adverse environmental effects, the department may require that the application be processed according to subsection (3) and reviewed for compliance with section 30106.

(11) The department shall develop by December 31, 2013 and maintain a general permit for activities in drains legally established pursuant to the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630. The general permit is subject to all of the following:

(a) The general permit shall cover installation and replacement of culverts, clear span bridges, and end sections; culvert extensions; drain realignments; installation of bank stabilization structures and grade stabilization structures; spoil placement; and other common drain activities that use best management practices.

(b) A drain commissioner or drainage board may submit an application for an authorization under the general permit on a countywide basis. The department of agriculture and rural development may submit an application for an authorization under the general permit on behalf of an intercounty drainage board on a drainage-district-wide basis.

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(c) The department shall grant or deny an authorization under the general permit by March 1 if the drain commissioner or drainage board applies for the authorization by the preceding January 20. An authorization under the general permit is valid until March 30 of the year after the year in which the authorization is granted.

(d) By December 31 of each year, the drain commissioner or drainage board shall submit a report to the department that includes the names of the drains on which activities were performed under the general permit during that calendar year, the locations and nature of the activities, and plans and other documentation demonstrating that those activities met the general permit requirements.

(e) A drain commissioner or drainage board is not eligible to be granted a new authorization under the general permit if significant violations of the general permit under a previous authorization granted to that drain commissioner or drainage board have not been corrected.

(12) As used in this section:

(a) "Failed seawall" means a seawall that has deteriorated to the point that it no longer effectively breaks the force of waves or retains soil for the purpose of shore protection and meets either or both of the following:

(*i*) The seawall is currently breaking the force of waves and retaining soil across a minimum of 50% of its length and there is evidence of a previous seawall along the other 50% of its length.

(*ii*) The seawall was breaking the force of waves and retaining soil but was damaged by a single catastrophic event which occurred within the 2 years prior to the repair or replacement of the seawall.

(b) "Qualifying small dam" means a dam that meets all of the following conditions:

(*i*) The height of the dam is less than 2 feet.

(*ii*) The impoundment from the dam covers less than 2 acres.

(*iii*) The dam does not serve as the first dam upstream from the Great Lakes or their connecting waterways.

(*iv*) The dam is not serving as a sea lamprey barrier.

(*v*) There are no threatened or endangered species that have been identified in the area that will be affected by the project.

(*vi*) There are no known areas of contaminated sediments in the area that will be affected by the project.

(*vii*) The department has received written permission for the removal of the dam from all riparian property owners adjacent to the dam's impoundment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 171, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 106, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1999;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 275, Imd. Eff. July 7, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 531, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 351, Eff. Jan. 16, 2015.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 281.811 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.30106 Prerequisite to issuance of permit; specification in permit.

Sec. 30106. The department shall issue a permit if it finds that the structure or project will not adversely affect the public trust or riparian rights. In passing upon an application, the department shall consider the possible effects of the proposed action upon the inland lake or stream and upon waters from which or into which its waters flow and the uses of all such waters, including uses for recreation, fish and wildlife, aesthetics, local government, agriculture, commerce, and industry. The department shall not grant a permit if the proposed project or structure will unlawfully impair or destroy any of the waters or other natural resources of the state. This part does not modify the rights and responsibilities of any riparian owner to the use of his or her riparian water. A permit shall specify that a project completed in accordance with this part shall not cause unlawful pollution as defined by part 31.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30106a Construction, expansion, or reconfiguration of marina; issuance of permit;

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conditions; definitions.

Sec. 30106a. (1) The department shall issue a permit to construct, expand, or reconfigure a marina if the department determines that the marina meets the conditions of section 30106 and all of the following conditions:

(a) The marina extends from riparian property of the applicant.

(b) The marina does not unreasonably interfere with navigation.

(c) The marina is located and designed to be operated consistently with the correlative rights of other riparians, including the rights of adjacent riparians.

(2) In order to be designed consistently with the correlative rights of other riparians as required under subsection (1), the marina shall be configured so that all boat mooring under any wind condition will occur solely within the marina's riparian interest area. Additionally, boat mooring and ingress and egress for an outside slip shall require a minimum maneuvering distance of 1.5 times the length of the slip. This minimum distance shall be measured from the end of the slip or, for broadside moorage, the outside beam of a watercraft moored at the slip, to the boundary of the marina's riparian interest area.

(3) In order to support the determinations under this section, the department may require the applicant to do either of the following:

(a) Submit a riparian interest area estimate survey, sealed by a licensed surveyor. In making its determination on the need for a riparian interest area estimate survey, the department shall consider factors such as the shape of the water body, the location of the marina on the water body, how much frontage is available to locate the marina, and the dock and mooring configurations.

(b) Obtain an easement from any affected adjacent riparian owner authorizing an incursion and record the easement with the register of deeds for the county in which the marina is located.

(4) The owner or operator of a marina existing on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section that has not been authorized by a permit issued under this part shall obtain a permit under this section before expanding or reconfiguring the marina, or by January 1, 2012, whichever comes first. The owner or operator of a marina existing on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section that has been authorized by a construction permit under this part does not need to obtain a new construction permit except to expand or reconfigure.

(5) As used in this section:

(a) "Marina's riparian interest area" means the riparian interest area of an applicant for a permit under subsection (1) and any adjacent area for which the applicant has secured written authorization from the riparian owner whose interest is or may be affected.

(b) "Outside slip" means a slip that is accessed from a location between the boundary of the marina's riparian interest area and the mooring structure.

(c) "Slip length" means the longer of either of the following:

(*i*) The total length of all mooring structures, including the docks and pilings.

(*ii*) The total length of the vessel moored in the slip, including, but not limited to, outboard engines, boat hoists, bowsprits, and swim platforms.

History: Add. 2009, Act 139, Imd. Eff. Nov. 4, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Compiler's note: NREPA

324.30106b Dredging or placing dredged spoils on bottomland; permit; conditions.

Sec. 30106b. A permit under this part to dredge or place dredged spoils on bottomland is subject to both of the following:

(a) The permit shall be valid for a period of 5 years.

(b) During the term of the permit, the department shall not require additional environmental studies or surveys unless an act of God results in significant geological or ecological changes to the permitted area.

History: Add. 2013, Act 87, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30107 Duration, terms, and revocation of permit; hearing; modification or revocation of general permit.

Sec. 30107. (1) A permit is effective until revoked for cause but not beyond its term and may be subject to renewal. A permit may specify the term and conditions under which the work is to be carried out. A permit may be revoked after a hearing for violation of any of its provisions, any provision of this part, any rule

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promulgated under this part, or any misrepresentation in application.

(2) A general permit may be modified or revoked if, after opportunity for a public hearing, the department determines that the activities authorized by the general permit have more than a minimal adverse impact on the environment on an individual or cumulative basis, or the activities generally would be more appropriately processed according to section 30105(3) and reviewed for compliance with section 30106.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 531, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30108 Bulkhead line; establishment; application; jurisdiction; duties.

Sec. 30108. The department may establish by permit a bulkhead line on its own application or on the application of a local unit of government. The application shall be filed as provided in section 30104(1) with public notice and hearings as provided in section 30105. Upon acceptance of the bulkhead line by the affected units of government, the area landward of the bulkhead line shall after that acceptance be under the jurisdiction of those units of government as to the placement of structures and fills in the waters unless jurisdiction is returned to the state. In establishing a bulkhead line, the department shall provide for local requirements and ensure the public trust in the adjacent waters against unreasonable interferences.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30109 Ordinary high-water mark agreement with riparian owner; agreement as proof of location; fee.

Sec. 30109. Upon the written request of a riparian owner and upon payment of a service fee, the department may enter into a written agreement with the riparian owner establishing the location of the ordinary high-water mark for his or her property. In the absence of substantially changed conditions, the agreement is conclusive proof of the location in all matters between this state and the riparian owner and his or her successors in interest. Until October 1, 2025, the service fee provided for in this section is $500.00. The department shall forward service fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 171, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 106, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1999;—Am. 2003, Act 163, Imd. Eff. Aug. 12, 2003;—Am. 2008, Act 276, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2008;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2015, Act 76, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 84, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2021, Act 91, Imd. Eff. Oct. 20, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30110 Rules; promulgation and enforcement; hearing; review; proceeding by riparian owner.

Sec. 30110. (1) The department may promulgate and enforce rules to implement this part.

(2) If a person is aggrieved by any action or inaction of the department, he or she may request a formal hearing on the matter involved. The hearing shall be conducted by the commission in accordance with the provisions for contested cases in the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(3) A determination, action, or inaction by the commission following the hearing is subject to judicial review as provided in Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969.

(4) This section does not limit the right of a riparian owner to institute proceedings in any circuit court of the state against any person when necessary to protect his or her rights.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 281.811 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.30111 Rights of riparian owner as to water frontage and exposed bottomland.

Sec. 30111. This part does not deprive a riparian owner of rights associated with his or her ownership of water frontage. A riparian owner among other rights controls any temporarily or periodically exposed bottomland to the water's edge, wherever it may be at any time, and holds the land secure against trespass in the same manner as his or her upland subject to the public trust to the ordinary high-water mark.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30111b Public road end; prohibited use; violation as misdemeanor; fine; civil action; definitions.

Sec. 30111b. (1) A public road end shall not be used for any of the following unless a recorded deed, recorded easement, or other recorded dedication expressly provides otherwise:

(a) Construction, installation, maintenance, or use of boat hoists or boat anchorage devices.

(b) Mooring or docking of a vessel between 12 midnight and sunrise.

(c) Any activity that obstructs ingress to or egress from the inland lake or stream.

(2) A public road end shall not be used for the construction, installation, maintenance, or use of a dock or wharf other than a single seasonal public dock or wharf that is authorized by the local unit of government, subject to any permit required under this part. This subsection does not prohibit any use that is expressly authorized by a recorded deed, recorded easement, or other recorded dedication. This subsection does not permit any use that exceeds the uses authorized by a recorded deed, recorded easement, other recorded dedication, or a court order.

(3) A local unit of government may prohibit a use of a public road end if that use violates this section.

(4) A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than $500.00. Each 24-hour period in which a violation exists represents a separate violation of this section. A peace officer may issue an appearance ticket as authorized by sections 9c to 9g of chapter IV of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 764.9c to 764.9g, to a person who violates subsection (1) or (2).

(5) This section does not prohibit a person or agency from commencing a civil action for conduct that violates this section.

(6) As used in this section:

(a) "Local unit of government" means a township, city, or village in which the public road end is located.

(b) "Public road end" means the terminus at an inland lake or stream of a road that is lawfully open for use by the public.

History: Add. 2012, Act 56, Imd. Eff. Mar. 22, 2012;—Am. 2014, Act 168, Imd. Eff. June 12, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30111d Issuance of written emergency order; violation of Part 301.

Sec. 30111d. (1) The director of the department may issue a written emergency order that requires any person that the department determines to be in violation of this part to take emergency action necessary to prevent significant harm to public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources or the public trust in natural resources. The emergency action may include, but is not limited to, immediate repair or removal of a structure or fill owned by the person and located on bottomlands. This subsection does not expand the department's authority under part 315 as limited by section 31506(2)(a). If a person fails to comply with an order under this subsection, or is unavailable or unable to be contacted, the department may take the action necessary and may recover the costs incurred from that person in a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction. The director of the department may modify an emergency order. The director of the department may terminate an emergency order upon a determination in writing that all necessary emergency actions have been completed and that an emergency no longer exists.

(2) Within 15 days after the director of the department issues an emergency order to a person under subsection (1), the department shall provide the person with an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.288. At the hearing, the director of the department shall determine, based on information and fact, if the emergency order must be continued, modified, suspended, or terminated as necessary for or consistent with the protection of public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources or the public trust in natural resources.

(3) Before taking action to recover costs incurred under subsection (1), the department shall consider any evidence, provided by the person liable for the costs, that the person is unable to pay the costs.

History: Add. 2024, Act 102, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30112 Civil action; commencement by department; fine; violation as misdemeanor; penalty; civil sanction as appropriate to violation.

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Sec. 30112. (1) The department may commence a civil action in the circuit court of the county in which a violation occurs to enforce compliance with this part, to restrain violation of this part or any action contrary to an order of the department denying a permit, to enjoin the further performance of, or order the removal of, any project that is undertaken contrary to this part or after denial of a permit by the department, or to order the restoration of the affected area to its prior condition.

(2) In a civil action commenced under this part, the circuit court, in addition to any other relief granted, may assess a civil fine of not more than $5,000.00 per day for each day of violation.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (4), a person who violates this part or a permit issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $10,000.00 per day for each day of violation.

(4) A person who commits a minor offense is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $500.00 for each violation. A law enforcement officer may issue and serve an appearance ticket upon a person for a minor offense pursuant to sections 9c to 9g of chapter IV of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 764.9c to 764.9g.

(5) A person who knowingly makes a false statement, representation, or certification in an application for a permit or in a notice or report required by a permit, or a person who knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained by a permit, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $10,000.00 per day for each day of violation.

(6) Any civil sanction assessed, sought, or agreed to by the department shall be appropriate to the violation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30113 Land and water management permit fee fund.

Sec. 30113. (1) The land and water management permit fee fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments. The state treasurer shall annually present to the department an accounting of the amount of money in the fund. The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only to implement this part and the following:

(a) Sections 3104, 3107, and 3108.

(b) Part 303.

(c) Part 315.

(d) Part 323.

(e) Part 325.

(f) Part 339.

(g) Part 353.

(h) Section 117 of the land division act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.117.

(5) The department shall annually report to the legislature how money in the fund was expended during the previous fiscal year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 171, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 246, Eff. Oct. 1, 2004;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006;—Am. 2014, Act 253, Imd. Eff. June 30, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 303
WETLANDS PROTECTION

****** 324.30301 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

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324.30301 Definitions; technical wetland delineation standards.

Sec. 30301. (1) As used in this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(b) "Director" means the director of the department.

(c) "Exceptional wetland" means wetland that provides physical or biological functions essential to the natural resources of this state and that may be lost or degraded if not preserved through an approved site protection and management plan for the purposes of providing compensatory wetland mitigation.

(d) "Fill material" means soil, rocks, sand, waste of any kind, or any other material that displaces soil or water or reduces water retention potential.

(e) "Hydric soil" means a soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part.

(f) "Landscape level wetland assessment" means the use of aerial photographs, maps, and other remotely sensed information to predict and evaluate wetland characteristics and functions in the context of all of the following:

(*i*) The wetland's landscape position and hydrologic characteristics.

(*ii*) The surrounding landscape.

(*iii*) The historic extent and condition of the wetland.

(g) "Minor drainage" includes ditching and tiling for the removal of excess soil moisture incidental to the planting, cultivating, protecting, or harvesting of crops or improving the productivity of land in established use for agriculture, horticulture, silviculture, or lumbering.

(h) "Nationwide permit" means a nationwide permit issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers under 72 FR 11091 to 11198 (March 12, 2007), including all general conditions, regional conditions, and conditions imposed by this state pursuant to a water quality certification under section 401 of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1341, or a coastal zone management consistency determination under section 307 of the coastal zone management act of 1972, 16 USC 1456.

(i) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the ordinary high-water mark as specified in section 32502.

(j) "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, association, municipality, this state, an instrumentality or agency of this state, the federal government, an instrumentality or agency of the federal government, or other legal entity.

(k) "Rapid wetland assessment" means a method for generally assessing the functions, values, and condition of individual wetlands based on existing data and field indicators.

(*l*) "Rare and imperiled wetland" means any of the following:

(*i*) Great Lakes marsh.

(*ii*) Southern wet meadow.

(*iii*) Inland salt marsh.

(*iv*) Coastal plain marsh.

(*v*) Interdunal wetland.

(*vi*) Lakeplain wet prairie.

(*vii*) Lakeplain wet-mesic prairie.

(*viii*) Coastal fen.

(*ix*) Wet-mesic prairie.

(*x*) Wet prairie.

(*xi*) Prairie fen.

(*xii*) Northern fen.

(*xiii*) Patterned fen.

(*xiv*) Poor fen.

(*xv*) Muskeg.

(*xvi*) Relict conifer swamp.

(*xvii*) Southern floodplain forest.

(m) "Water dependent" means requiring access or proximity to or siting within an aquatic site to fulfill its basic purpose.

(n) "Wetland" means a land or water feature, commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh, inundated or saturated by water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, hydric soils and a predominance of wetland vegetation or aquatic life. A land or water feature is not a wetland unless it meets any of the following:

(*i*) Is a water of the United States as that term is used in section 502(7) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1362.

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(*ii*) Is contiguous to the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a stream. As used in this subparagraph, "pond" does not include a farm or stock pond constructed consistent with the exemption under section 30305(2)(g).

(*iii*) Is more than 5 acres in size.

(*iv*) Has the documented presence of an endangered or threatened species under part 365 or the endangered species act of 1973, Public Law 93-205.

(*v*) Is a rare and imperiled wetland.

(2) In 2019 and every 5 years thereafter, the department of natural resources may make recommendations to the legislature for changes in the list of rare and imperiled wetlands to reflect the status of each type of wetland to be included on the list as rare and imperiled throughout this state.

(3) As used in section 30312f:

(a) "Altered or degraded wetland" means wetland that meets any of the following criteria:

(*i*) Has been partially or fully drained, such as by ditching, tiling, or pumping.

(*ii*) Has been partially or fully filled by direct placement of material in the wetland or significant sedimentation.

(*iii*) Invasive plant species dominate in a majority of the vegetated surface area of the wetland.

(*iv*) Has undergone land use conversion or alteration to vegetation, soil, or hydrology that currently affects the wetland functions and services.

(b) "Former wetland" means land that was wetland but that has been modified to the point that it no longer has the hydrologic characteristics of wetland.

(c) "Net increase in wetland functions and services" means an increase in 1 or more wetland functions and services with not more than a minimal decrease in other wetland functions and services.

(d) "Voluntary wetland restoration project", subject to subdivision (e), means any of the following:

(*i*) Activities that are voluntarily undertaken to restore, reestablish, rehabilitate, or enhance altered or degraded wetland or former wetland and that result in a net increase in wetland functions and services.

(*ii*) Activities to maintain or manage sites where activities described in subparagraph (*i*) have taken place, including sites restored before October 1, 1980, the effective date of former 1979 PA 203.

(e) Voluntary wetland restoration project does not include an activity undertaken to fulfill, currently or in the future, a federal, state, or local wetland permit mitigation requirement.

(f) "Wetland functions and services" means any of the following:

(*i*) Wetland hydrology that approximates the predisturbance condition or that emulates the natural condition of the wetland.

(*ii*) Fish and wildlife habitat quality or quantity.

(*iii*) Plant community quality, characterized by native vegetation types and diversity.

(*iv*) Water- and soil-related functions of the wetland, such as nutrient removal, sediment retention, flood control, or groundwater recharge.

(*v*) Recreational use of the wetland, including, but not limited to, fishing, hunting, trapping, and birdwatching.

(4) The department and local units of government shall apply the technical wetland delineation standards set forth in the United States Army Corps of Engineers January, 1987, Wetland Delineation Manual, technical report Y-87-1, and appropriate regional United States Army Corps of Engineers supplements, in identifying wetland boundaries under this part, including, but not limited to, section 30307.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 562, Eff. Mar. 28, 2019;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

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****** 324.30302 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30302 Legislative findings; criteria to be considered in administration of part.

Sec. 30302. (1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Wetland conservation is a matter of state concern since a wetland of 1 county may be affected by acts on a river, lake, stream, or wetland of other counties.

(b) A loss of a wetland may deprive the people of the state of some or all of the following benefits to be derived from the wetland:

(*i*) Flood and storm control by the hydrologic absorption and storage capacity of the wetland.

(*ii*) Wildlife habitat by providing breeding, nesting, and feeding grounds and cover for many forms of wildlife, waterfowl, including migratory waterfowl, and rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife species.

(*iii*) Protection of subsurface water resources and provision of valuable watersheds and recharging ground water supplies.

(*iv*) Pollution treatment by serving as a biological and chemical oxidation basin.

(*v*) Erosion control by serving as a sedimentation area and filtering basin, absorbing silt and organic matter.

(*vi*) Sources of nutrients in water food cycles and nursery grounds and sanctuaries for fish.

(c) Wetlands are valuable as an agricultural resource for the production of food and fiber, including certain crops which may only be grown on sites developed from wetland.

(d) That the extraction and processing of nonfuel minerals may necessitate the use of wetland, if it is determined pursuant to section 30311 that the proposed activity is dependent upon being located in the wetland and that a prudent and feasible alternative does not exist.

(2) In the administration of this part, the department shall consider the criteria provided in subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30303 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30303 Studies regarding wetland resources; contracts; study as public record for distribution at cost; identification of land suitable for cranberry production activities.

Sec. 30303. (1) The department may enter into an agreement to make contracts with the federal government, other state agencies, local units of government, private agencies, or persons for the purposes of making studies for the efficient preservation, management, protection, and use of wetland resources. A study shall be available as a public record for distribution at cost as provided in section 4 of the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.234.

(2) Within 180 days after the effective date of the 2009 amendatory act that added this subsection, the commission of agriculture in consultation with the department of environmental quality shall identify at least 2,500 acres of land suitable for cranberry production activities. Priority shall be given to upland sites, sites that have been drained for agricultural use and are no longer wetland, and sites that have been drained for agricultural use and continue to be wetland. The department and the department of agriculture shall make available to the public a map of the areas identified as provided in this section. The map is for informational purposes and does not constitute a regulatory determination for purposes of this part.

(3) After 2,000 acres of sites identified under subsection (2) have been developed for cranberry production activities, at least an additional 2,500 acres shall be identified as provided in subsection (2).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009.

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Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

324.30303b Repealed. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Oct. 1, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to implementation of pilot program to facilitate role of local units of government, conservation districts, nonprofit organizations, and wetland professionals seeking assistance with certain proposed projects.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

324.30303d Repealed. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Oct. 1, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to pilot program for development of wetland mitigation banks, participants, and report.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30304 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30304 Prohibited activities.

Sec. 30304. Except as otherwise provided in this part or by a permit issued by the department under this part and pursuant to part 13, a person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Deposit or permit the placing of fill material in a wetland.

(b) Dredge, remove, or permit the removal of soil or minerals from a wetland.

(c) Construct, operate, or maintain any use or development in a wetland.

(d) Drain surface water from a wetland.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30304b THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30304b Issuance of state programmatic general permits; agreement with United States army corps of engineers; applicability of subsections (2) and (3).

Sec. 30304b. (1) The department shall pursue an agreement with the United States army corps of engineers for the corps to issue state programmatic general permits under section 404(e) of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344, for activities regulated under this part in waters over which the corps retains jurisdiction under section 404(g)(1) of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344.

(2) This subsection applies beginning January 1, 2011. This subsection applies to an application for a permit under this part only if the application is for an activity or use in waters over which the corps retains jurisdiction under section 404(g)(1) of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344, and if

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the corps has not issued a state programmatic general permit for the activity or use. In such a case, if requested by the applicant in the application, all of the following apply:

(a) The department shall approve or deny the application for a permit under this part not more than 30 days after the corps grants or denies an application for a permit for the project under section 404(a) of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344, or by the end of the processing period otherwise provided for in section 1301, whichever is later. If a project proposed in a permit application processed under this subsection also requires authorization under 1 or more of parts 31, 301, 315, 323, 325, or 353, the requirements of this subdivision also apply to the department's decision under that part or parts.

(b) Subject to subsection (3), if the corps grants a permit for the project, the department shall grant a permit under this part without conditions or limitations other than those imposed by the corps unless any of the following apply:

(*i*) The wetland is a rare and imperiled wetland.

(*ii*) The wetland is regionally significant for the protection of fisheries, wildlife, or migratory birds.

(*iii*) The site is described in section 30309(a), (e), or (g).

(*iv*) The proposed project involves a use or activity not regulated under section 404(a) of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344.

(3) The department shall inform the applicant in writing of the basis for a finding that the requirements of subsection (2)(b)(*i*), (*ii*), (*iii*), or (*iv*) are met and the specific reasons why denial of the permit or the imposition of additional conditions or limitations on the permit is consistent with this part and rules promulgated under this part.

(4) Subsections (2)(b) and (3) apply only to the department's decision under this part notwithstanding that the project proposed in the application also requires authorization under 1 or more of parts 31, 301, 315, 323, 325, and 353.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30305 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30305 Activities not requiring permit under part; uses allowed without permit; farming operation in wetland not requiring permit; incidental creation of wetland; area created as result of commercial excavation; activities not subject to regulation; subsection (6) inapplicable to certain lands; "agricultural drain" defined.

Sec. 30305. (1) Activities that require a permit under part 325 or part 301 or a discharge that is authorized by a discharge permit under section 3112 or 3113 do not require a permit under this part.

(2) The following uses are allowed in a wetland without a permit subject to other laws of this state and the owner's regulation:

(a) Fishing, trapping, or hunting.

(b) Swimming or boating.

(c) Hiking.

(d) Grazing of animals, including fencing and post placement if the fence is designed to control livestock, does not exceed 11 feet in height, and utilizes an amount of material that does not exceed that of a woven wire fence utilizing 6-inch vertical spacing and posts.

(e) Farming, horticulture, silviculture, lumbering, and ranching activities, including plowing, irrigation, irrigation ditching, seeding, cultivating, minor drainage, harvesting for the production of food, fiber, and forest products, or upland soil and water conservation practices. All of the following apply for the purposes of

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this subdivision:

(*i*) Beginning October 1, 2013, to be allowed in a wetland without a permit, these activities shall be part of an established ongoing farming, ranching, horticultural, or silvicultural operation. Farming and silvicultural activities on areas lying fallow as part of a conventional rotational cycle are part of an established ongoing operation, unless modifications to the hydrological regime or mechanized land clearing are necessary to resume operation. Activities that bring into farming, ranching, horticultural, or silvicultural use an area not in any of these uses, or that convert an area from a forested or silvicultural use to a farming, ranching, or horticultural use, are not part of an established ongoing operation.

(*ii*) Minor drainage does not include drainage associated with the immediate or gradual conversion of a wetland to a nonwetland, or conversion from 1 wetland use to another. Minor drainage does not include the construction of a canal, ditch, dike, or other waterway or structure that drains or otherwise significantly modifies a stream, lake, or wetland.

(*iii*) Wetland altered under this subdivision shall not be used for a purpose other than a purpose described in this section without a permit from the department.

(f) Maintenance or operation of serviceable structures in existence on October 1, 1980 or constructed pursuant to this part or former 1979 PA 203.

(g) Construction or maintenance of farm or stock ponds.

(h) Maintenance of an agricultural drain, regardless of outlet, if all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The maintenance includes only activities that maintain the location, depth, and bottom width of the drain as constructed or modified at any time before July 1, 2014.

(*ii*) The maintenance is performed by the landowner or pursuant to the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630.

(*iii*) The maintenance does not include any modification that results in additional wetland drainage or conversion of a wetland to a use to which it was not previously subject.

(i) Maintenance of a drain that was legally established and constructed pursuant to the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630, if the drain was constructed before January 1, 1973 or under a permit issued pursuant to this part. As used in this subdivision, "maintenance of a drain" means the physical preservation of the location, depth, and bottom width of a drain and appurtenant structures to restore the function and approximate capacity of the drain as constructed or modified at any time before July 1, 2014, including the placement of spoils removed from the drain in locations along that drain where spoils have been previously placed. Maintenance of a drain under this subdivision does not include any modification that results in additional wetland drainage or conversion of a wetland to a use to which it was not previously subject.

(j) Construction or maintenance of farm roads, forest roads, or temporary roads for moving mining or forestry equipment, if the roads are constructed and maintained in a manner to ensure that any adverse effect on the wetland will be minimized. Borrow material for road construction or maintenance shall be taken from upland sources if feasible. In determining whether an alternative will minimize any adverse effect on the wetland, the department shall consider cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes.

(k) Maintenance of public streets, highways, or roads that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Does not include any modification that changes the original location or footprint.

(*ii*) Is done in a manner that minimizes any adverse effect on the wetland.

(*l*) Maintenance or repair of utility lines and associated support structures that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is done in a manner that minimizes any adverse effect on the wetland.

(*ii*) Does not include any modification to the character, scope, or size of the originally constructed design.

(*iii*) Does not convert a wetland area to a use to which it was not previously subject.

For the purposes of this subdivision and subdivision (m), "utility line" means any pipe or pipeline used for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid, liquescent, or slurry substance, for any purpose, and any cable, line, or wire for the transmission for any purpose of electrical energy, telephone or telegraph messages, or radio or television communication.

(m) Installation of utility lines having a diameter of 6 inches or less using directional drilling or boring, or knifing-in, and the placement of poles with minimal (less than 1 cubic yard) structure support, if the utility lines and poles are installed in a manner that minimizes any adverse effect on the wetland. Directional drilling or boring under this subdivision shall meet all of the following requirements:

(*i*) The top of the utility line is at least 4 feet below the soil surface of the wetland. However, if the presence of rock prevents the placement of the utility line at the depth otherwise required by this subparagraph, the bottom of the utility line is not placed higher than the top of the rock.

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(*ii*) The entry and exit holes are located a sufficient distance from the wetland to ensure that disturbance of the wetland does not occur.

(*iii*) The operation does not result in the eruption or release of any drilling fluids up through the ground and into the wetland and there is an adequate plan to respond to any release of drilling mud or other fill material.

(n) Operation or maintenance, including reconstruction of recently damaged parts, of serviceable dikes and levees in existence on October 1, 1980 or constructed pursuant to this part or former 1979 PA 203.

(o) Placement of biological residuals from activities, including the cutting of woody vegetation or the in-place grinding of tree stumps, performed under this section within a wetland, if all the biological residuals originate within that wetland.

(3) An activity in a wetland that was effectively drained for farming before October 1, 1980 and that on and after October 1, 1980 has continued to be effectively drained as part of an ongoing farming operation is not subject to regulation under this part.

(4) A wetland that is incidentally created as a result of 1 or more of the following activities is not subject to regulation under this part:

(a) Excavation as part of commercial sand, gravel, or mineral mining, if the area was not a wetland before excavation. This exemption from regulation applies until the property on which the wetland is located meets both of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is no longer used for excavation as part of commercial sand, gravel, or mineral mining.

(*ii*) Is being used for another purpose unrelated to excavation as part of commercial sand, gravel, or mineral mining.

(b) Construction and operation of a water treatment pond, lagoon, or storm water facility in compliance with the requirements of state or federal water pollution control laws.

(c) A diked area associated with a landfill if the landfill complies with the terms of the landfill construction permit and if the diked area was not a wetland before diking.

(d) Construction of drains in upland for the sole purpose of removing excess soil moisture from upland areas that are primarily in agricultural use.

(e) Construction of roadside ditches in upland for the sole purpose of removing excess soil moisture from upland.

(f) An agricultural soil and water conservation practice designed, constructed, and maintained for the purpose of enhancing water quality.

(5) An area that becomes contiguous to a water body created as a result of commercial excavation for sand, gravel, or mineral mining is not subject to regulation under this part solely because it is contiguous to the created water body. This exemption from regulation applies until the property on which the wetland is located meets both of the following requirements:

(a) Is no longer used for excavation as part of commercial sand, gravel, or mineral mining.

(b) Is being used for another purpose unrelated to excavation as part of commercial sand, gravel, or mineral mining.

(6) Except as provided in subsection (7), the following activities are not subject to regulation under this part:

(a) Leveling of sand, removal of vegetation, grooming of soil, or removal of debris, in an area of unconsolidated material predominantly composed of sand, rock, or pebbles, located between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge.

(b) Mowing of vegetation between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge.

(7) Subsection (6) does not apply to lands included in the survey of the delta of the St. Clair River, otherwise referred to as the St. Clair flats, located within Clay township, St. Clair county, as provided for in 1899 PA 175.

(8) As used in this part, "agricultural drain" means a human-made conveyance of water that meets all of the following requirements:

(a) Does not have continuous flow.

(b) Flows primarily as a result of precipitation-induced surface runoff or groundwater drained through subsurface drainage systems.

(c) Serves agricultural production.

(d) Was constructed before January 1, 1973, or was constructed in compliance with this part or former 1979 PA 203.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 550, Imd. Eff. Jan. 15, 1997;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30305b THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30305b Cranberry beds.

Sec. 30305b. (1) The department shall consider construction of cranberry beds, including associated dikes and water control structures associated with dikes, such as headgates, weirs, and drop inlet structures, to be a water dependent activity.

(2) The following activities associated with cranberry operations are not considered to be water dependent:

(a) The construction of roads, ditches, reservoirs, and pump houses that are used during the cultivation of cranberries.

(b) The construction of secondary support facilities for shipping, storage, packaging, parking, and similar purposes.

(3) The demonstration by an applicant under section 30311 that there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the construction of cranberry beds, including dikes and water control structures associated with dikes, is not subject to either of the following presumptions:

(a) That feasible and prudent alternatives that do not involve a wetland are available.

(b) That a feasible and prudent alternative that does not affect a wetland will have less adverse effects on the aquatic ecosystem.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30306 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30306 Permit for use or development listed in MCL 324.30304; filing, form, and contents of application; proposed use or development as single permit application; fee; work done in violation of permit requirement; fee refund; conditional permit.

Sec. 30306. (1) Except as provided in section 30307(6), to obtain a permit for a use or development listed in section 30304, a person shall file an application with the department on a form provided by the department. The application shall include all of the following:

(a) The person's name and address.

(b) The location of the wetland.

(c) A description of the wetland.

(d) A statement and appropriate drawings describing the proposed use or development.

(e) The wetland owner's name and address.

(f) An environmental assessment of the proposed use or development if requested by the department. The assessment shall include the effects upon wetland benefits and the effects upon the water quality, flow, and levels, and the wildlife, fish, and vegetation within any contiguous inland lake or stream.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a proposed use or development of a wetland shall be covered by a single permit application under this part if the scope, extent, and purpose of a use or development are made known at the time of the application for the permit.

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(3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5), an application for a permit submitted under subsection (1) shall be accompanied by the following application fee, as applicable:

(a) For a project in a category of activities for which a general permit is issued under section 30312(2), a fee of $50.00.

(b) For activities included in a minor project category established under section 30312(1), a fee of $100.00.

(c) For a major project, including any of the following, a fee of $2,000.00:

(*i*) Filling or draining of 1 acre or more of coastal or inland wetland.

(*ii*) 10,000 cubic yards or more of wetland fill.

(*iii*) A new golf course affecting wetland.

(*iv*) A subdivision affecting wetland.

(*v*) A condominium affecting wetland.

(d) For all other projects, a fee of $500.00.

(4) A project that requires review and approval under this part and 1 or more of the following is subject to only the single highest fee required under this part or the following:

(a) Section 3104.

(b) Part 301.

(c) Part 323.

(d) Part 325.

(e) Section 117 of the land division act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.117.

(5) If work has been done in violation of a permit requirement under this part, the department shall consider accepting and may accept an application for a permit if the application is accompanied by a fee equal to twice the application fee otherwise required under this section.

(6) If the department determines that a permit is not required under this part or denies an application for a permit under this part, the department shall promptly refund the application fee paid under this section.

(7) The department may issue a conditional permit before the expiration of the 20-day period referred to in section 30307 if emergency conditions warrant a project to protect property or the public health, safety, or welfare.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 228, Imd. Eff. July 3, 1998;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30306b THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30306b Preapplication meeting; fee; withdrawal of request; refund of fee; duration of written agreement.

Sec. 30306b. (1) If a preapplication meeting is requested in writing by the landowner or another person who is authorized in writing by the landowner, the department shall meet with the person or his or her representatives to review a proposed project or a proposed permit application in its entirety. The preapplication meeting shall take place at the department's district office for the district that includes the project site or at the project site itself, as specified in the request.

(2) Except as provided in this subsection, the request shall be accompanied by a fee. The fee for a preapplication meeting at the district office is $150.00. The fee for a preapplication meeting at the project site is $250.00 for the first acre or portion of an acre of project area, plus $50.00 for each acre or portion of an acre in excess of the first acre, but not to exceed a fee of $1,000.00. However, both of the following apply:

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(a) If the location of the project is a single family residential lot that is less than 1 acre in size, there is no fee for a preapplication meeting at the district office, and the fee for a preapplication meeting at the project site is $100.00.

(b) There is no fee for a preapplication meeting for cranberry and blueberry production activities, whether at the district office or project site.

(3) If the person withdraws the request at least 24 hours before the preapplication meeting, the department may agree with the person to reschedule the meeting or shall promptly refund the fee and need not meet as provided in this section. Otherwise, if, after agreeing to the time and place for a preapplication meeting, the person requesting the meeting is not represented at the meeting, the person shall forfeit the fee for the meeting. If, after agreeing to the time and place for a preapplication meeting, the department is not represented at the meeting, the department shall refund the fee and send a representative to a rescheduled meeting to be held within 10 days after the first scheduled meeting date.

(4) Any written agreement provided by the department as a result of the preapplication meeting regarding the need to obtain a permit is binding on the department for 2 years after the date of the agreement.

History: Add. 2006, Act 435, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2010, Act 180, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30307 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30307 Hearing; location; notice; approval or disapproval of permit application; appeal; legal action; website and electronic notification of pending permit applications, public notices, and public hearing schedules; effect of ordinance regulating wetlands; review of permit application by local unit of government; effect of failure to approve or disapprove within time period; recommendations; notice of permit issuance.

Sec. 30307. (1) Within 60 days after receipt of the completed application and fee, the department may hold a hearing. If a hearing is held, it shall be held in the county where the wetland to which the permit is to apply is located. Notice of the hearing shall be given in the same manner as for the promulgation of rules under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The department may approve or disapprove a permit application without a public hearing unless a person requests a hearing in writing within 20 days after the mailing of notification of the permit application as required by subsection (3) or unless the department determines that the permit application is of significant impact so as to warrant a public hearing.

(2) The action taken by the department on a permit application under this part or part 13 may be appealed pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. A property owner may, after exhaustion of administrative remedies, bring appropriate legal action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(3) The department shall post on its website, and shall have a process to provide electronic mail notification of, all of the following under this part:

(a) A list of pending applications.

(b) Public notices.

(c) Public hearing schedules.

(4) A local unit of government may regulate wetland within its boundaries, by ordinance, only as provided under this part. This subsection is supplemental to the existing authority of a local unit of government. An ordinance adopted by a local unit of government pursuant to this subsection shall comply with all of the following:

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(a) The ordinance shall not provide a different definition of wetland than is provided in this part, except that a wetland ordinance may regulate wetland of less than 5 acres in size.

(b) If the ordinance regulates wetland that is smaller than 2 acres in size, the ordinance shall comply with section 30309.

(c) The ordinance shall comply with sections 30308 and 30310.

(d) The ordinance shall not require a permit for uses that are authorized without a permit under section 30305, and shall otherwise comply with this part.

(5) A local unit of government that adopts an ordinance regulating wetlands under subsection (4) shall notify the department.

(6) A local unit of government that adopts an ordinance regulating wetlands shall use an application form supplied by the department, and each person applying for a permit shall make application directly to the local unit of government. Upon receipt, the local unit of government shall forward a copy of each application along with any state fees that may have been submitted under section 30306 to the department. The department shall begin reviewing the application as provided in this part. The local unit of government shall review the application pursuant to its ordinance and shall modify, approve, or deny the application within 90 days after receipt. If a local unit of government does not approve or disapprove the permit application within the time period provided by this subsection, the permit application shall be considered approved, and the local unit of government shall be considered to have made the determinations as listed in section 30311. The denial of a permit shall be accompanied by a written statement of all reasons for denial. The failure to supply complete information with a permit application may be reason for denial of a permit. If requested, the department shall inform a person whether or not a local unit of government has an ordinance regulating wetlands. If the department receives an application with respect to a wetland located in a local unit of government that has an ordinance regulating wetlands, the department immediately shall forward the application to the local unit of government, which shall modify, deny, or approve the application under this subsection. The local unit of government shall notify the department of its decision. The department shall proceed as provided in this part.

(7) If a local unit of government does not have an ordinance regulating wetlands, the department shall promptly send a copy of the permit application to the local unit of government where the wetland is located. The local unit of government may review the application; may hold a hearing on the application; may recommend approval, modification, or denial of the application to the department or may notify the department that the local unit of government declines to make a recommendation. The recommendation of the local unit of government, if any, shall be made and returned to the department within 45 days after the local unit of government's receipt of the permit application.

(8) In addition to the requirements of subsection (7), the department shall notify the local unit of government that the department has issued a permit under this part pertaining to wetland located within the jurisdiction of that local unit of government within 15 days of issuance of the permit. The department shall enclose a copy of the permit with the notice.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 103, Imd. Eff. June 23, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 228, Imd. Eff. July 3, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 430, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30308 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30308 Adoption of wetlands ordinance by local unit of government; availability of wetland inventory; completion of inventory map; notice; enforceable presumptions not created; processing wetland use applications.

Sec. 30308. (1) Prior to the effective date of an ordinance authorized under section 30307(4), a local unit of government that wishes to adopt such an ordinance shall complete and make available to the public at a reasonable cost an inventory of all wetland within the local unit of government, except that a local unit of government located in a county that has a population of less than 100,000 is not required to include public lands on its map. A local unit of government shall make a draft of the inventory map available to the public, shall provide for public notice and comment opportunity prior to finalizing the inventory map, and shall

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respond in writing to written comments received by the local unit of government regarding the contents of the inventory. A local unit of government that has a wetland ordinance on December 18, 1992 has until June 18, 1994 to complete an inventory map and to otherwise comply with this part, or the local unit of government shall not continue to enforce that ordinance. Upon completion of an inventory map or upon a subsequent amendment of an inventory map, the local unit of government shall notify each record owner of property on the property tax roll of the local unit of government that the inventory maps exist or have been amended, where the maps may be reviewed, that the owner's property may be designated as a wetland on the inventory map, and that the local unit of government has an ordinance regulating wetland. The notice shall also inform the property owner that the inventory map does not necessarily include all of the wetlands within the local unit of government that may be subject to the wetland ordinance. The notice may be given by including the required information with the annual notice of the property owner's property tax assessment. A wetland inventory map does not create any legally enforceable presumptions regarding whether property that is or is not included on the inventory map is or is not a wetland.

(2) A local unit of government that adopts a wetland ordinance shall process wetland use applications in a manner that ensures that the same entity makes decisions on site plans, plats, and related matters, and wetland determinations, and that the applicant is not required to submit to a hearing on the application before more than 1 local unit of government decision making body. This requirement does not apply to either of the following:

(a) A preliminary review by a planning department, planning consultant, or planning commission, prior to submittal to the decision making body if required by an ordinance.

(b) An appeal process that is provided for appeal to the legislative body or other body designated to hear appeals.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30309 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30309 Regulation by local unit of government of wetland less than 2 acres; permit application; determination.

Sec. 30309. A local unit of government that has adopted an ordinance under section 30307(4) that regulates wetland within its jurisdiction that is less than 2 acres in size shall comply with this section. Upon application for a wetland use permit in a wetland that is less than 2 acres in size, the local unit of government shall approve the permit unless the local unit of government determines that the wetland is essential to the preservation of the natural resources of the local unit of government and provides these findings, in writing, to the permit applicant stating the reasons for this determination. In making this determination, the local unit of government must find that 1 or more of the following exist at the particular site:

(a) The site supports state or federal endangered or threatened plants, fish, or wildlife appearing on a list specified in section 36505.

(b) The site represents what is identified as a locally rare or unique ecosystem.

(c) The site supports plants or animals of an identified local importance.

(d) The site provides groundwater recharge documented by a public agency.

(e) The site provides flood and storm control by the hydrologic absorption and storage capacity of the wetland.

(f) The site provides wildlife habitat by providing breeding, nesting, or feeding grounds or cover for forms of wildlife, waterfowl, including migratory waterfowl, and rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife species.

(g) The site provides protection of subsurface water resources and provision of valuable watersheds and recharging groundwater supplies.

(h) The site provides pollution treatment by serving as a biological and chemical oxidation basin.

(i) The site provides erosion control by serving as a sedimentation area and filtering basin, absorbing silt and organic matter.

(j) The site provides sources of nutrients in water food cycles and nursery grounds and sanctuaries for fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30310 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30310 Regulation by local unit of government of wetland less than 2 acres; revaluation for assessment purposes; protest and appeal; judicial review; right to initiate proceedings not limited by section.

Sec. 30310. (1) A local unit of government that adopts an ordinance authorized under section 30307(4) shall include in the ordinance a provision that allows a landowner to request a revaluation of the affected property for assessment purposes to determine its fair market value under the use restriction if a permit is denied by a local unit of government for a proposed wetland use. A landowner who is aggrieved by a determination, action, or inaction under this subsection may protest and appeal that determination, action, or inaction pursuant to the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being sections 211.1 to 211.157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) If a permit applicant is aggrieved by a determination, action, or inaction by the local unit of government regarding the issuance of a permit, that person may seek judicial review in the same manner as provided in the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(3) This section does not limit the right of a wetland owner to institute proceedings in any circuit of the circuit court of the state against any person when necessary to protect the wetland owner's rights.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30311 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30311 Permit for activity listed in MCL 324.30304; approval conditioned on certain determinations; criteria; findings of necessity; criteria for determining unacceptable disruption to aquatic resources; additional showing; feasible and prudent alternatives; determination of unreasonable costs.

Sec. 30311. (1) A permit for an activity listed in section 30304 shall not be approved unless the department determines that the issuance of a permit is in the public interest, that the permit is necessary to realize the benefits derived from the activity, and that the activity is otherwise lawful.

(2) In determining whether the activity is in the public interest, the benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal shall be balanced against the reasonably foreseeable detriments of the activity. The decision shall reflect the national and state concern for the protection of natural resources from pollution, impairment, and destruction. The following general criteria shall be considered:

(a) The relative extent of the public and private need for the proposed activity.

(b) The availability of feasible and prudent alternative locations and methods to accomplish the expected benefits from the activity.

(c) The extent and permanence of the beneficial or detrimental effects that the proposed activity may have on the public and private uses to which the area is suited, including the benefits the wetland provides.

(d) The probable effects of each proposal in relation to the cumulative effects created by other existing and anticipated activities in the watershed.

(e) The probable effects on recognized historic, cultural, scenic, ecological, or recreational values and on the public health or fish or wildlife.

(f) The size of the wetland being considered.

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(g) The amount of remaining wetland in the general area.

(h) Proximity to any waterway.

(i) Economic value, both public and private, of the proposed land change to the general area.

(3) In considering a permit application, the department shall give serious consideration to findings of necessity for the proposed activity which have been made by other state agencies.

(4) A permit shall not be issued unless it is shown that an unacceptable disruption will not result to the aquatic resources. In determining whether a disruption to the aquatic resources is unacceptable, the criteria set forth in section 30302 and subsection (2) shall be considered. A permit shall not be issued unless the applicant also shows either of the following:

(a) The proposed activity is primarily dependent upon being located in the wetland.

(b) A feasible and prudent alternative does not exist.

(5) If it is otherwise a feasible and prudent alternative, a property not presently owned by the applicant which could reasonably be obtained, utilized, expanded, or managed in order to fulfill the basic purpose of the proposed activity may be considered. If all of the following requirements are met, there is a rebuttable presumption that alternatives located on property not presently owned by the applicant are not feasible and prudent:

(a) The activity is described in section 30304(a) or (b).

(b) The activity will affect not more than 2 acres of wetland.

(c) The activity is undertaken for the construction or expansion of a single-family home and attendant features, the construction or expansion of a barn or other farm building, or the expansion of a small business facility.

(d) The activity is not covered by a general permit.

(6) Consideration of feasible and prudent alternatives regarding the size of a proposed structure shall be based on the footprint of the structure and not the square footage of the structure.

(7) The choice of and extent of the proposed activity within a proposed structure shall not be considered in determining feasible and prudent alternatives.

(8) An alternative that entails higher costs, as described in R 281.922a(11) of the Michigan administrative code, is not feasible and prudent if those higher costs are unreasonable. In determining whether such costs are unreasonable, the department shall consider both of the following:

(a) The relation of the increased cost to the overall scope and cost of the project.

(b) Whether the projected cost is substantially greater than the costs normally associated with the particular type of project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30311a THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30311a Guideline, bulletin, interpretive statement, or form with instructions; effect.

Sec. 30311a. A guideline, bulletin, interpretive statement, or form with instructions under this part shall not be given the force and effect of law. A guideline, bulletin, interpretive statement, or form with instructions under this part is not legally binding on the public or the regulated community and shall not be cited by the department for compliance and enforcement purposes.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

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"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30311b THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30311b Permit; validity; duration; conditions.

Sec. 30311b. (1) A permit issued under this part shall not be valid for more than 5 years.

(2) The department may establish a reasonable time when the construction, development, or use authorized under any permit issued under this part is to be completed or terminated.

(3) The department may impose on any permit or authorization under a general permit under this part conditions designed to do any of the following:

(a) Remove or reduce an impairment to wetland benefits, as set forth in section 30302, that would otherwise result from the project.

(b) Improve the water quality that would otherwise result from the project.

(c) Remove or reduce the effect of a discharge of fill material.

(4) The department may impose a condition on an authorization under a general permit under subsection (3) only after consultation with the applicant or applicant's agent.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30311d THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30311d Compensatory wetland mitigation; methods; submission of mitigation plan; financial assurance.

Sec. 30311d. (1) The department may impose as a condition on any permit, other than a general permit, under this part a requirement for compensatory wetland mitigation. The department may approve 1 or more of the following methods of compensatory wetland mitigation:

(a) The acquisition of approved credits from a wetland mitigation bank. The department shall not require a permit applicant to provide compensatory wetland mitigation under subdivision (b), (c), or (d) if the applicant prefers and qualifies to use approved credits from the wetland mitigation bank to provide required compensatory wetland mitigation under this subdivision.

(b) The restoration of previously existing wetland. The restoration of previously existing wetland is preferred over the creation of new wetland where none previously existed.

(c) The creation of new wetlands, if the permit applicant demonstrates that ecological conditions necessary for establishment of a self-sustaining wetland ecosystem exist or will be created.

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(d) The preservation of exceptional wetlands.

(2) If compensatory wetland mitigation under subsection (1)(b), (c), or (d) is required, a permit applicant shall submit a mitigation plan to the department for approval. In approving a compensatory mitigation plan, the department shall consider how the location and type of wetland mitigation supports the sustainability or improvement of aquatic resources in the watershed where the activity is permitted. The permit applicant shall provide for permanent protection of the wetland mitigation site. The department may accept a conservation easement to protect wetland mitigation and associated upland.

(3) If a permittee carries out compensatory wetland mitigation under subsection (1)(b), (c), or (d) in cooperation with public agencies, private organizations, or other parties, the permittee remains responsible for the compensatory wetland mitigation to the extent otherwise provided by law.

(4) The department may require financial assurance to ensure that compensatory wetland mitigation is accomplished as specified. To ensure that wetland benefits are replaced by compensatory wetland mitigation, the department may release financial assurance only after the permit applicant or mitigation bank sponsor has completed monitoring of the mitigation site and demonstrated compliance with performance standards in accordance with a schedule in the permit or mitigation banking agreement.

(5) If compensatory wetland mitigation is required, in setting the mitigation ratio the department shall consider the method of compensatory mitigation, the likelihood of success, differences between the functions lost at the impacted site and the functions expected to be produced by the compensatory mitigation project, temporary losses of aquatic resource functions, the difficulty of restoring or establishing the desired aquatic resource type and functions, and the distance between the affected aquatic resource and the mitigation site.

(6) For agricultural activities, a permit applicant may provide for protection and restoration of the impacted site under a conservation easement with the department as part of mitigation requirements. A permit applicant may make a payment into the stewardship fund, if established under subsection (7), as part of mitigation requirements, as an alternative to providing financial assurances required under subsection (4).

(7) The department may establish a stewardship fund in the state treasury. The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments. Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund. The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes. The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only to develop mitigation for impacted sites or as an alternative to financial assurance required under subsection (4).

(8) By 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, the department shall submit to the office of regulatory reform for informal review revised administrative rules on mitigation that do all of the following:

(a) Reduce the preference for on-site mitigation.

(b) Allow flexibility in mitigation ratios for uses of wetlands.

(c) Allow a reduction of mitigation ratios when approved credits from a wetland mitigation bank are used.

(d) Allow consideration of additional ecologically beneficial features.

(e) Allow any excess mitigation for any project to be credited to another project at a later date.

(9) The department shall submit revised administrative rules that encourage the development of wetland mitigation banks to the office of regulatory reform for informal review within 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection. The rules shall do all of the following:

(a) Enlarge mitigation bank service areas. However, a service area shall be located within the same watershed or ecoregion as the permitted project or activity, ensure no net loss of the wetland resources, and protect the predominant wetland functions of the service area. The department shall consider enlarging the size of ecoregions for mitigation bank service areas.

(b) Allow earlier release of credits if the benefits of a mitigation bank have been properly established and the credits are revocable or covered by a financial assurance.

(c) Allow wetland preservation to be used in areas where wetland restoration opportunities do not exist, if an unacceptable disruption of the aquatic resources will not result.

(10) The department shall establish a wetland mitigation bank funding program under part 52 that provides grants and loans to eligible municipalities for the purposes of establishing mitigation banks.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994

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PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30312 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30312 Minor project categories of activities; general permit for category of activities; notice and public hearing; determinations; requirements and standards; duration of general permit; determination of more than minimal adverse effects; coordination of general permit and minor project categories; conversion to blueberry farming or certain other agriculture.

Sec. 30312. (1) After providing notice and an opportunity for a public hearing, the department shall establish minor project categories of activities that are similar in nature, have minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment. The department may act upon an application received pursuant to section 30306 for an activity within a minor project category without holding a public hearing or providing notice pursuant to section 30307(1) or (3). A minor project category shall not be valid for more than 5 years, but may be reestablished. All other provisions of this part, except provisions applicable only to general permits, are applicable to a minor project.

(2) The department, after notice and opportunity for a public hearing, shall issue general permits on a statewide basis or within a local unit of government for a category of activities if the department determines that the activities are similar in nature, will cause only minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment. A general permit shall be based on the requirements of this part and the rules promulgated under this part, and shall set forth the requirements and standards that shall apply to an activity authorized by the general permit. A general permit shall not be valid for more than 5 years, but may be reissued.

(3) Before authorizing a specific project to proceed under a general permit, the department may provide notice pursuant to section 30307(3) but shall not hold a public hearing and shall not typically require a site inspection. The department shall issue an authorization under a general permit if the conditions of the general permit and the requirements of section 30311 are met. However, in determining whether to issue an authorization under a general permit, the department shall not consider off-site alternatives to be feasible and prudent alternatives.

(4) If the department determines that activity in a proposed project, although within a minor project category or a general permit, is likely to cause more than minimal adverse effects on aquatic resources, including high-value aquatic habitats, the department may require that the application be processed under section 30307.

(5) The department shall coordinate general permit and minor project categories under this part and parts 301 and 325 and may develop and maintain new general permit and minor project categories consistent with nationwide permits, as appropriate. The department may alter the scope of the activities covered under general permit and minor project categories corresponding to nationwide permits if any adverse environmental effects will be minimal.

(6) The department shall develop by October 1, 2013 and maintain a general permit for alteration of wetland for blueberry farming that includes minimal drainage and earth moving if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The wetland will be restored when farming activities in the wetland cease.

(b) The farmed wetland is placed under conservation easement protection until the wetland is restored when farming activities cease.

(c) Activities that convert the wetland to a nonwetland are prohibited.

(d) Roads, ditches, reservoirs, pump houses, and secondary support facilities for shipping, storage, packaging, parking, and similar purposes are prohibited unless authorized under section 30305.

(7) By December 31, 2013, the department shall propose new general permits or minor project categories

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for conversion of wetland to blueberry farming or other agriculture that includes more than minimal drainage or earth moving.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

324.30312b Repealed. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Oct. 1, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to new or existing general permits or minor project categories equivalent to certain nationwide permits.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30312d THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30312d Blueberry production assistance program.

Sec. 30312d. The department shall develop a blueberry production assistance program to provide wetland delineation and preapplication services and assistance with avoidance and minimization. The department shall coordinate this program with the department of agriculture and rural development. The department shall also provide education and outreach on wetland regulations and agricultural activities and assist interested parties with the development of wetland mitigation banks for the purpose of providing required compensatory mitigation for agricultural impacts.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 561, Eff. Apr. 27, 2019.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

324.30312f Voluntary wetland restoration program; permit applications; exceptions; eligible applicants; review and approval process; joint agency restoration committee; qualified activities; applicability to former wetlands.

Sec. 30312f. (1) The legislature finds that voluntary restoration of altered or degraded wetland or former wetland by qualified agencies and organizations helps to restore lost wetland functions and services, and is therefore valuable to the people of this state. Accordingly, the department shall develop a program to facilitate voluntary wetland restoration projects in coordination with state, federal, tribal, and nongovernmental agencies and organizations specializing in wetland restoration and conservation. The program shall include, but not be limited to, enhancing coordination, consistency, and operational procedures and improving and streamlining the permitting process, to facilitate a net increase in wetland functions and services. The

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department shall convene these agencies and organizations at least quarterly to review the program, suggest and develop improvements, and provide training and guidance in voluntary wetland restoration.

(2) The department and the department of natural resources shall develop and lead a voluntary wetland restoration group to simplify and streamline the permit process for voluntary wetland restoration projects with the intent of giving greater credence and flexibility to agencies and organizations specializing in wetland restoration and conservation. The voluntary wetland restoration group shall consist of designated staff from the department and the department of natural resources, working in collaboration on the review of permit applications. The group shall, after seeking input from agencies and organizations specializing in wetland restoration and conservation, develop voluntary wetland restoration permit applications and guidelines to implement a voluntary wetland restoration permit program consistent with this section.

(3) A permit is not required for voluntary wetland restoration activities that meet any of the following:

(a) The section 30305(2)(f) exemption for maintenance or operation of serviceable structures. Operation of serviceable structures as used in section 30305(2)(f) includes management of water levels using serviceable structures.

(b) The section 30305(2)(n) exemption for operation or maintenance of serviceable dikes and levees.

(4) There is no fee for a preapplication meeting under section 30306b with the voluntary wetland restoration group for a voluntary wetland restoration project conducted with a person described in subsection (5). The purpose of such a preapplication meeting is an outcome-based assessment of a project made by evaluating overall net increases in wetland functions and services and acreage. Such a preapplication meeting may include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(a) Presentation of project outcomes related to net increases in wetland functions and services and project purposes and justifications.

(b) Suggestions that will minimize permitting delays, including information needed for permit application review.

(c) Options for maximizing net increases in wetland functions and services while minimizing other impacts.

(d) Coordination with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, United States Army Corps of Engineers, and United States Fish and Wildlife Service, if applicable.

(5) Any of the following persons may apply for a permit under this part, including authorization to proceed under a general permit, for a voluntary wetland restoration project:

(a) A state or federal agency, including the department of natural resources, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Forest Service, or the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(b) A tribal agency.

(c) A nongovernmental organization whose stated primary mission, purpose, or programs include wetland conservation.

(d) A person that is in partnership through a written agreement with an entity described in subdivision (a), (b), or (c).

(6) Voluntary wetland restoration applications shall be processed subject to all of the following:

(a) Not more than 30 days after submission of an application for a permit for a voluntary wetland restoration project, the voluntary wetland restoration group shall review the application and do 1 of the following:

(*i*) Notify the applicant of the status of the application.

(*ii*) Recommend issuance of a permit to the department.

(*iii*) If the application is not administratively complete, request additional information from the applicant to make the application administratively complete as provided in part 13.

(b) If the department has not made a permit decision within 60 days after an application for a permit is considered administratively complete, at the request of the applicant, any conflict shall be mediated by the joint agency restoration committee created under subsection (9).

(c) The department, voluntary wetland restoration group, and the joint agency restoration committee shall expedite permit review for voluntary wetland restoration projects to the extent possible.

(d) Except for sections 1313 to 1317, part 13 applies to a voluntary wetland restoration permit application. Applicable time periods under part 13 and this section run concurrently.

(7) In reviewing a permit application for a voluntary wetland restoration project, the voluntary wetland restoration group shall evaluate the net increase in wetland functions and services from the project. An applicant shall provide justification for the asserted net increase in wetland functions and services based on federal or state agency programmatic authority, published research, case studies, ecological reference, demonstration projects, or federal, regional, or statewide wetland or wildlife restoration and management

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plans.

(8) The department shall issue a permit for a voluntary wetland restoration project if the project contributes to a net increase in wetland functions and services and meets the requirements of this part and section 404 of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344.

(9) The department shall create a joint agency restoration committee comprised of the directors or their designees of the department, the department of natural resources, and the office of the Great Lakes to mediate permit conflicts regarding voluntary wetland restoration projects and make a recommendation to the department. The department shall give serious consideration to recommendations of the joint agency restoration committee in its permit decision. The applicant may further request review under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(10) The department shall not require compensatory mitigation for voluntary wetland restoration project activities that result in a net increase in wetland functions and services.

(11) The department, in cooperation with the department of natural resources and voluntary wetland restoration agencies and organizations, shall develop new or modified general permit or minor project categories for voluntary wetland restoration projects that address the scope and intent of this section.

(12) A voluntary wetland restoration project may include, but is not limited to, any of the following activities in altered or degraded wetland or previously restored wetland if the activity results in a net increase in wetland functions and services:

(a) The removal of accumulated sediments.

(b) The installation, removal, and maintenance of water control structures, dikes, and berms; as well as discharges of dredged or fill material to restore appropriate grade configuration after water control structures, dikes, and berms are removed.

(c) The installation of water supply devices.

(d) The removal of existing drainage structures, such as drain tiles, and the filling, blocking, grading, or reshaping of drainage ditches to restore wetland hydrology.

(e) The installation of structures or fills necessary to restore or enhance wetland hydrology.

(f) The construction of open water areas.

(g) Activities needed to establish or reestablish native vegetation, including plowing or disking for seedbed preparation and the planting of appropriate species.

(h) The reestablishment of submerged aquatic vegetation.

(i) Mechanized land clearing or other activities to remove nonnative or invasive vegetation.

(j) The installation of nesting structures and islands, micro and macro topography reestablishment, dredging, soil manipulation, controlling, disking, and other activities related to a specific wetland habitat or species conservation practices.

(k) The installation and removal of temporary coffer dams, soil mats, and other devices used during voluntary wetland restoration construction activities.

(*l*) Construction of ancillary facilities that increase recreational access, such as a parking lot or boat ramp. However, such ancillary facilities and their use, alone, do not constitute an increase in wetland functions and services.

(13) All of the following apply to a voluntary wetland restoration project:

(a) A change in wetland plant communities that occurs when wetland hydrology is more fully restored during voluntary wetland restoration activities is not considered a conversion to another aquatic habitat type.

(b) The placement of fill in an area of altered or degraded wetland is not considered a loss of wetland if that area continues to sustain the characteristics of wetland as described in section 30301(1)(m).

(c) Voluntary wetland restoration projects or activities are not considered a major discharge as defined in the memorandum of agreement between the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the department under section 404 of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344, upon approval by the United States Environmental Protection Agency of an amendment to the memorandum so providing.

(14) Former wetland is not regulated under this part unless the wetland was modified in violation of this part or former 1979 PA 203.

History: Add. 2018, Act 561, Eff. Apr. 27, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

***** *324.30313 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE*

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*EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30313 Grounds for revocation or modification of general permit; grounds for termination or modification for cause of general permit.

Sec. 30313. (1) A general permit may be revoked or modified if, after opportunity for a public hearing or a contested case hearing under the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the department determines that the activities authorized by the general permit have an adverse impact on the environment or the activities would be more appropriately authorized by an individual permit.

(2) A permit may be terminated or modified for cause, including:

(a) A violation of a condition of the permit.

(b) Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation or failure to fully disclose relevant facts.

(c) A change in a condition that requires a temporary or permanent change in the activity.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30313b THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30313b Minor permit revisions.

Sec. 30313b. (1) The department may make minor revisions in a permit issued under this part if all of the following apply:

(a) The project is in compliance with the permit and this part.

(b) The minor revisions are requested by the permittee in writing.

(c) The request is accompanied by a fee of $250.00.

(d) If the request is for a transfer of the permit, the request is accompanied by a written agreement between the current and new owners or operators containing a specific date for transfer of responsibility, coverage, and liability under the permit.

(2) The department shall approve or deny the request within 20 business days. However, if the only minor revision requested is a transfer under subsection (4)(a), the department shall approve or deny the request within 10 business days. If the department fails to approve or deny the request within the time required by this subsection, the department shall refund the fee.

(3) If the department determines that none of the changes requested are minor revisions, the department shall retain the fee but the permittee may apply the fee toward a new permit for a project at that site.

(4) As used in this section, "minor revision" means either of the following with respect to a permit issued under this part:

(a) A transfer.

(b) A revision that does not increase the overall impact of a project on wetlands and that is within the scope of the project as described in the original permit.

History: Add. 2006, Act 431, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30314 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

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324.30314 Information required to obtain compliance with part; conditions for entering on premises.

Sec. 30314. (1) The department shall require the holder of a permit to provide information the department reasonably requires to obtain compliance with this part.

(2) The department may enter on, upon, or through the premises on which an activity listed in section 30304 is located or on which information required to be maintained under subsection (1) is located under any of the following circumstances, as applicable:

(a) Upon obtaining a search warrant, an administrative warrant issued by the director of the department, or the consent of the person who owns or controls the premises.

(b) If there is an imminent threat to the public health or environment.

(c) Upon reasonable cause, if the wetland is a water of the United States as that term is used in section 502(7) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1362.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30315 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30315 Violation; order requiring compliance; civil action.

Sec. 30315. (1) If, on the basis of information available to the department, the department finds that a person is in violation of this part or a condition set forth in a permit issued under section 30311 or 30312, the department shall issue an order requiring the person to comply with the prohibitions or conditions or the department shall request the attorney general to bring a civil action under section 30316(1).

(2) An order issued under subsection (1) shall state with reasonable specificity the nature of the violation and shall specify a time for compliance, not to exceed 30 days, which the department determines is reasonable, taking into account the seriousness of the violation and good faith efforts to comply with applicable requirements.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30316 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30316 Civil action; commencement; request; venue; jurisdiction; violations; civil fines and penalties; restoration of wetland; award of attorney fees.

Sec. 30316. (1) The attorney general may commence a civil action for appropriate relief, including injunctive relief upon request of the department under section 30315(1). An action under this subsection may be brought in the circuit court for the county of Ingham or for a county in which the defendant is located, resides, or is doing business. The court has jurisdiction to restrain the violation and to require compliance with this part. In addition to any other relief granted under this section, the court may impose a civil fine of not more than $10,000.00 per day of violation. A person who violates an order of the court is subject to a civil fine not to exceed $10,000.00 for each day of violation.

(2) A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than $2,500.00.

(3) A person who willfully or recklessly violates a condition or limitation in a permit issued by the department under this part, or a corporate officer who has knowledge of or is responsible for a violation, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than $2,500.00 or more than $25,000.00 per day of violation or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both. A person who commits a violation described

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in this section a second or subsequent time is guilty of a felony punishable by a fine of not more than $50,000.00 for each day of violation or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or both.

(4) In addition to the civil fines and penalties provided under subsections (1), (2), and (3), the court may order a person who violates this part to restore as nearly as possible the wetland that was affected by the violation to its original condition immediately before the violation. The restoration may include the removal of fill material deposited in the wetland or the replacement of soil, sand, or minerals.

(5) The award of attorney fees in a civil action under this part is subject to applicable provisions of chapter 24 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 235, MCL 600.2401 to 600.2461. However, regardless of whether this state's position was substantially justifiable, reasonable expert professional witness fees, as determined by the court, shall be awarded to a landowner that prevails against this state on the issue of whether the landowner's property is wetland.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30317 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30317 Disposition of fees and civil fines; expenditures; report.

Sec. 30317. (1) The civil fines collected under this part shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the general fund of the state. The fees collected under this part shall be deposited in the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to fines or fees collected under an ordinance adopted under section 30307(4).

(3) Subject to section 30113, the department shall expend money from the land and water management permit fee fund, upon appropriation, to support guidance for property owners and applicants, permit processing, compliance inspections, and enforcement activities under this part. Not more than 90 days after the end of each state fiscal year, the department shall prepare a report describing how money from the land and water management permit fee fund was expended during that fiscal year and shall submit the report to the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate that primarily address issues pertaining to the protection of natural resources and the environment, and the appropriations committees in the house of representatives and the senate. Other than civil fines and costs, the disposition of which is governed by section 8379 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.8379, or criminal fines, funds collected by a local unit of government under an ordinance authorized under section 30307(4) shall be deposited in the general fund of the local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 530, Imd. Eff. Jan. 13, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 228, Imd. Eff. July 3, 1998;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30318 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

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324.30318 Revaluation of property for assessment purposes.

Sec. 30318. If a permit is denied for a proposed wetland activity, the landowner may request a revaluation of the affected property for assessment purposes to determine its fair market value under the use restriction.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30319 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30319 Rules; hearing; award of costs; judicial review; proceedings to protect wetland owner's rights.

Sec. 30319. (1) The department shall promulgate and enforce rules to implement this part.

(2) If a person is aggrieved by any action or inaction of the department, the person may request a formal hearing on the matter involved. The hearing shall be conducted by the department pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(3) The award of costs in a contested case under this part and the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, is subject to chapter 8 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.321 to 24.328. However, regardless of whether the department's position was substantially justifiable, reasonable expert professional witness fees, as determined by the presiding officer, shall be awarded to a landowner that prevails on the issue of whether the landowner's property is wetland.

(4) A determination, action, or inaction by the department following the hearing is subject to judicial review as provided in the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(5) This section does not limit the right of a wetland owner to institute proceedings in any circuit of the circuit court of the state against any person if necessary to protect the wetland owner's rights.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

Administrative rules: R 281.921 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

****** 324.30320 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30320 Inventories of wetland; use; updating; maps, ground surveys, and descriptions as public documents; availability and cost of aerial photographs and satellite telemetry data reproduction to county register of deeds.

Sec. 30320. (1) As inventories of wetland are completed, the inventories shall be used as 1 of the criteria by the department in issuing permits. The inventories shall be periodically updated. The maps, ground surveys, and descriptions of wetlands included in the inventories shall be submitted to the respective county register of deeds and shall become a public document available to review by any member of the public.

(2) Aerial photographs and satellite telemetry data reproductions shall be made available to the respective county register of deeds for cost as determined by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30321 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE*

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*ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30321 Basis and filing of preliminary inventory of wetland; assessment of property; report; determination; agricultural drain; culvert, ditch, or channel; assessment; fee; providing copy of delineation forms.

Sec. 30321. (1) The department shall make or cause to be made a preliminary inventory of all wetland in this state on a county by county basis and file the inventory with the agricultural extension office, register of deeds, and county clerk.

(2) A person who owns or leases a parcel of property may request that the department of environmental quality assess whether the parcel of property or a portion of the parcel is wetland. The request shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

(a) Be made on a form provided by the department.

(b) Be signed by the person who owns or leases the property.

(c) Contain a legal description of the parcel and, if only a portion of the parcel is to be assessed, a description of the portion to be assessed.

(d) Include a map showing the location of the parcel.

(e) Grant the department or its agent permission to enter on the parcel for the purpose of conducting the assessment.

(3) The department shall assess the parcel within a reasonable time after the request is made. The department may enter upon the parcel to conduct the assessment. Upon completion of the assessment, the department shall provide the person with a written assessment report. The assessment report shall do all of the following:

(a) Identify in detail the location of any wetland in the area assessed.

(b) If wetland is present in the area assessed, describe the types of activities that require a permit under this part.

(c) If the assessment report determines that the area assessed or part of the area assessed is not wetland, state that the department lacks jurisdiction under this part as to the area that the report determines is not wetland and that this determination is binding on the department for 3 years from the date of the assessment.

(d) Contain the date of the assessment.

(e) Advise that the person may request the department to reassess the parcel or any part of the parcel that the person believes was erroneously determined to be wetland if the request is accompanied by evidence pertaining to wetland vegetation, soils, or hydrology that is different from or in addition to the information relied upon by the department.

(f) Advise that the assessment report does not constitute a determination of wetland that may be regulated under local ordinance or wetland areas that may be regulated under federal law and advise how a determination of wetland areas regulated under federal law may be obtained.

(g) List regulatory programs that may limit land use activities on the parcel, advise that the list is not exhaustive, and advise that the assessment report does not constitute a determination of jurisdiction under those programs. The regulatory programs listed shall be those under the following parts:

(*i*) Part 31, with respect to floodplains and floodways.

(*ii*) Part 91.

(*iii*) Part 301.

(*iv*) Part 323.

(*v*) Part 325.

(*vi*) Part 353.

(4) A wetland is not contiguous to the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream if the department determines that there is no direct physical contact and no surface water or interflowing groundwater connection to such a body of water.

(5) A person may request that, as part of an assessment, the department make a determination whether a wetland is contiguous to the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a stream. The department shall make the determination in writing within 30 days after an on-site evaluation. As used in this subsection, "pond" does not include a farm or stock pond constructed consistent with the exemption under section 30305(2)(g).

(6) The department shall not consider an agricultural drain, as defined in section 30305, in determining whether a wetland is contiguous to the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream.

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(7) A drainage structure such as a culvert, ditch, or channel, in and of itself, is not a wetland. A temporary obstruction of drainage, in and of itself, is not a wetland until the presence of water is of sufficient frequency and duration to be identified as wetland pursuant to section 30301(4).

(8) A person may request the department to reassess any area assessed under subsections (2) and (3) that the person believes the department erroneously determined to be wetland. The requirements of subsections (2) and (3) apply to the request, assessment, and assessment report. However, the request shall be accompanied by evidence pertaining to wetland vegetation, soils, or hydrology that is different from or in addition to the information relied upon by the department. The assessment report shall not contain the information required by subsection (3)(e).

(9) If an assessment report determines that the area assessed or part of the area assessed is not a wetland regulated by the department under this part, then the area determined by the assessment report not to be a wetland is not a wetland regulated by the department under this part for a period of 3 years after the date of the assessment.

(10) The department may charge a fee for an assessment requested under subsection (2) based upon the cost to the department of conducting an assessment.

(11) There shall be no fee for an assessment under the blueberry production assistance program.

(12) The department shall, upon request of the applicant and without charge, provide to the applicant a copy of any delineation forms completed by the department associated with a permit application.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 530, Imd. Eff. Jan. 13, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30322 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30322 Notice to owners of record of change in status of property.

Sec. 30322. As wetland inventories are completed as specified in section 30321, owners of record as identified by the current property tax roll shall be notified of the possible change in the status of their property. Notification shall be printed on the next property tax bill mailed to property owners in the county. It shall contain information specifying that a wetland inventory has been completed and is on file with the agricultural extension office, register of deeds, and county clerk, and that property owners may be subject to regulation under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30323 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30323 Legal rights or authority not abrogated; action to determine if property taken without just compensation; court order; limitation on value of property.

Sec. 30323. (1) This part shall not be construed to abrogate rights or authority otherwise provided by law.

(2) For the purposes of determining if there has been a taking of property without just compensation under state law, an owner of property who has sought and been denied a permit from the state or from a local unit of government that adopts an ordinance pursuant to section 30307(4), who has been made subject to modifications or conditions in the permit under this part, or who has been made subject to the action or inaction of the department pursuant to this part or the action or inaction of a local unit of government that adopts an ordinance pursuant to section 30307(4) may file an action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(3) If the court determines that an action of the department or a local unit of government pursuant to this

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part or an ordinance authorized pursuant to section 30307(4) constitutes a taking of the property of a person, then the court shall order the department or the local unit of government, at the department's or the local unit of government's option, as applicable, to do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Compensate the property owner for the full amount of the lost value.

(b) Purchase the property in the public interest as determined before its value was affected by this part or the local ordinance authorized under section 30307(4) or the action or inaction of the department pursuant to this part or the local unit of government pursuant to its ordinance.

(c) Modify its action or inaction with respect to the property so as to minimize the detrimental affect to the property's value.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the value of the property may not exceed that share of the state equalized valuation of the total parcel that the area in dispute occupies of the total parcel of land, multiplied by 2, as determined by an inspection of the most recent assessment roll of the township or city in which the parcel is located.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

324.30325 Repealed. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to agreement with United States environmental protection agency to expand categories of discharge subject to waiver.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30327 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30327 Certifications by department under federal water pollution control act.

Sec. 30327. The department may provide certifications under section 401 of title IV of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1341.

History: Add. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

****** 324.30328 THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 98 OF 2013 EFFECTIVE 160 DAYS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AS PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, OF AN ORDER BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY UNDER 40 CFR 233.53(c)(8)(vi) WITHDRAWING APPROVAL OF THE STATE PROGRAM UNDER 33 USC 1344(g) AND (h). (See enacting section 2 of Act 98 of 2013.) ******

324.30328 Applicability to "navigable waters" and "waters of the United States" as defined under federal law.

Sec. 30328. For the purposes of this part, the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities exercised by the department because of federal approval of Michigan's permit program under section 404(g) and (h) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1344, apply only to "navigable waters" and "waters of the United States" as defined under section 502(7) of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1362, and further

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refined by federally promulgated rules and court decisions that have the full effect and force of federal law. Determining whether additional regulation is necessary to protect Michigan waters beyond the scope of federal law is the responsibility of the Michigan legislature based on its determination of what is in the best interest of the citizens of this state.

History: Add. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30329 Repealed. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Apr. 1, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to the wetland advisory council.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Wetland Protection Act

PART 305
NATURAL RIVERS

324.30501 Definitions.

Sec. 30501. As used in this part:

(a) "Free flowing" means existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, riprapping, or other modification.

(b) "Natural river" means a river that has been designated by the department for inclusion in the wild, scenic, and recreational rivers system.

(c) "River" means a flowing body of water or a portion or tributary of a flowing body of water, including streams, creeks, or impoundments and small lakes thereon.

(d) "System" means all of those rivers or portions of rivers designated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30502 Natural river; designation; purpose; long-range plans; publicity; cooperation.

Sec. 30502. The department, in the interest of the people of the state and future generations, may designate a river or portion of a river as a natural river area for the purpose of preserving and enhancing its values for water conservation, its free flowing condition, and its fish, wildlife, boating, scenic, aesthetic, floodplain, ecologic, historic, and recreational values and uses. The area shall include adjoining or related lands as appropriate to the purposes of the designation. The department shall prepare and adopt a long-range comprehensive plan for a designated natural river area that sets forth the purposes of the designation, proposed uses of lands and waters, and management measures designed to accomplish the purposes. State land within the designated area shall be administered and managed in accordance with the plan, and state management of fisheries, streams, waters, wildlife, and boating shall take cognizance of the plan. The department shall publicize and inform private and public landowners or agencies as to the plan and its purposes, so as to encourage their cooperation in the management and use of their land in a manner consistent with the plan and the purposes of the designation. The department shall cooperate with federal agencies administering any federal program concerning natural river areas, and with any watershed council established under part 311, when such cooperation furthers the interest of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30503 Qualifications for designation; categories of rivers.

Sec. 30503. A river qualifying for designation as a natural river area shall possess 1 or more of the natural or outstanding existing values cited in section 30502 and shall be permanently managed for the preservation or enhancement of such values. Categories of natural rivers shall be defined and established by the department, based on the characteristics of the waters and the adjoining lands and their uses, both as existing and as proposed, including such categories as wild, scenic, and recreational. The categories shall be specified in the designation and the long-range comprehensive plan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.30504 Land acquisition; purpose; interest acquired; consent.

Sec. 30504. The department may acquire lands or interests in lands adjacent to a designated natural river for the purpose of maintaining or improving the river and its environment in conformance with the purposes of the designation and the plan. Interests that may be acquired include, but are not limited to, easements designed to provide for preservation and to limit development, without providing public access and use. Lands or interests in lands shall be acquired under this part only with the consent of the owner.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30505 Federal financial assistance programs; leases; expenditures; purposes.

Sec. 30505. (1) The department may administer federal financial assistance programs for natural river areas.

(2) The department may enter into a lease or agreement with any person or political subdivision to administer all or part of their lands in a natural river area.

(3) The department may expend funds for works designed to preserve and enhance the values and uses of a natural river area and for construction, management, maintenance, and administration of facilities in a natural river area conforming to the purposes of the designation, if the funds are appropriated by the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30506 Public hearings; notice.

Sec. 30506. Before designating a river as a natural river area, the department shall conduct public hearings in the county seat of any county in which a portion of the designated natural river area is located. Notices of the hearings shall be advertised at least twice, not less than 30 days before the hearing, in a newspaper having general circulation in each such county and in at least 1 newspaper having general circulation in the state and 1 newspaper published in the Upper Peninsula.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30507 Land uses; zoning; local ordinances; state rule.

Sec. 30507. After designation of a river or portion of a river as a natural river area and following the preparation of the long-range comprehensive plan, the department may determine that the uses of land along the river, except within the limits of an incorporated municipality, shall be controlled by zoning contributing to accomplishment of the purposes of this part and the natural river plan. County and township governments are encouraged to establish these zoning controls and additional controls as may be appropriate, including, but not limited to, building and subdivision controls. The department may provide advisory, planning, and cooperative assistance in the drafting of ordinances to establish these controls. If the local unit does not, within 1 year after notice from the department, have in full force and effect a zoning ordinance or interim zoning ordinance established under authority of the acts cited in section 30510, the department, on its own motion, may promulgate a zoning rule in accordance with section 30512. A zoning rule may also be promulgated if the department finds that an adopted or existing zoning ordinance fails to meet adequately guidelines consistent with this part as provided by the department and transmitted to the local units concerned, does not take full cognizance of the purposes and objectives of this part, or is not in accord with the purposes of designation of the river as established by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30508 Zoning ordinance or rule; purpose.

Sec. 30508. A zoning ordinance adopted by a local unit of government or a zoning rule promulgated by the department shall provide for the protection of the river and its related land resources consistent with the preservation and enhancement of their values and the objectives set forth in section 30502. The ordinance or rule shall protect the interest of the people of the state as a whole. It shall take cognizance of the

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characteristics of the land and water concerned, surrounding development, and existing uses and provide for conservation of soil, water, stream bed and banks, floodplains, and adjoining uplands.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30509 Zoning ordinance or rule; establishment of districts; powers; distance.

Sec. 30509. The ordinance or rule shall establish zoning districts within which such uses of land as for agriculture, forestry, recreation, residence, industry, commerce, and additional uses may be encouraged, regulated, or prohibited. It may limit or prohibit the placement of structures of any class or designate their location with relation to the water's edge, to property or subdivision lines, and to flood flows and may limit the subdivision of lands for platting purposes. It may control the location and design of highways and roads and of public utility transmission and distribution lines, except on lands or other interests in real property owned by the utility on January 1, 1971. It may prohibit or limit the cutting of trees or other vegetation, but such limits shall not apply for a distance of more than 100 feet from the river's edge. It may specifically prohibit or limit mining and drilling for oil and gas, but such limits shall not apply for a distance of more than 300 feet from the river's edge. It may contain other provisions necessary to accomplish the objectives of this part. A zoning rule promulgated by the department shall not control lands more than 400 feet from the river's edge.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30510 Local zoning ordinance; conformance with applicable law; construction.

Sec. 30510. A local unit of government, in establishing a zoning ordinance, in addition to the authority and requirements of this part, shall conform to the township zoning act, 1943 PA 184, MCL 125.271 to 125.310, or the county zoning act, 1943 PA 183, MCL 125.201 to 125.240, including, but not limited to, the variance provisions of those acts. Any conflict shall be resolved in favor of the provisions of this part. The powers granted under this part shall be liberally construed in favor of the local unit or the department exercising them, in such manner as to promote the orderly preservation or enhancement of the values of the rivers and related land resources and their use in accordance with a long-range comprehensive general plan to ensure the greatest benefit to the state as a whole.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 17, Imd. Eff. Mar. 8, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30511 Districts; valuation for tax purposes.

Sec. 30511. Upon adoption of a zoning ordinance or rule, certified copies of the maps showing districts shall be filed with the local tax assessing officer and the state tax commission. In establishing true cash value of property within the districts zoned, the assessing officer shall take cognizance of the effect of limits on use established by the ordinance or rule.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30512 Rules; enforcement; promulgation; variance; existing use.

Sec. 30512. (1) The department shall prescribe administrative procedures and rules and provide personnel as it considers necessary for the enforcement of a zoning ordinance or rule enacted in accordance with this part. A circuit court, upon petition and a showing by the department that there exists a violation of a rule properly promulgated under this part, shall issue any necessary order to the defendant to correct the violation or to restrain the defendant from further violation of the rule.

(2) The department shall promulgate a zoning rule to implement this part. The rule shall include procedures for receiving and acting upon applications from local units of government or landowners for change of boundaries or change in permitted uses in accordance with chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.287. An aggrieved party may seek judicial review under chapter 6 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.301 to 24.306.

(3) A variance from a zoning rule promulgated by the department to implement this part may be applied for and granted pursuant to section 4 of the uniform condemnation procedures act, 1980 PA 87, MCL 213.54,

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and the variance provisions of the zoning rule.

(4) The lawful use of any building or structure and of any land or premise as existing and lawful at the time of enactment of a zoning ordinance or rule or of an amendment of a zoning ordinance or rule may be continued although the use does not conform with the ordinance, rule, or amendment. The ordinance or rule shall provide for the completion, restoration, reconstruction, extension, or substitution of nonconforming uses upon reasonable terms as set forth in the zoning ordinance or rule.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 17, Imd. Eff. Mar. 8, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30513 National wild and scenic river system; administration.

Sec. 30513. This part does not preclude a component of the system from becoming a part of the national wild and scenic river system under the wild and scenic rivers act, Public Law 90-542, 16 U.S.C. 1271 to 1287. The department may enter into written cooperative agreements for joint federal-state administration of rivers that may be designated under the wild and scenic rivers act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30514 Area plans; approval; rules.

Sec. 30514. The department shall approve preliminary and final plans for site or route location, construction, or enlargement of utility transmission lines, publicly provided recreation facilities, access sites, highways, roads, bridges, or other structures and for publicly developed water management projects, within a designated natural river area, except within the limits of a city or incorporated village. The department may require any measure necessary to control damaging erosion or flow alteration during or in consequence of construction. The department shall promulgate rules concerning the approvals and requirements provided for in this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30515 Construction of part.

Sec. 30515. This part does not prohibit a reasonable and lawful use of any other natural resource that benefits the general welfare of the people of this state and that is not inconsistent with the purpose of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 307
INLAND LAKE LEVELS

324.30701 Definitions.

Sec. 30701. As used in this part:

(a) "Commissioner" means the county drain commissioner, or the board of county road commissioners in counties not having a drain commissioner. However, if more than 1 county is involved, commissioner means the drain commissioner or board of county road commissioners, as applicable, for each county.

(b) "County board" means the county board of commissioners. However, if more than 1 county is involved, county board means the county board of commissioners of each of those counties.

(c) "Court" means a circuit court. However, if more than 1 judicial circuit is involved, court means the circuit court designated by the county board or otherwise authorized by law to preside over an action.

(d) "Dam" means an artificial barrier, structure, or facility, and appurtenant works, used to regulate or maintain the level of an inland lake.

(e) "Delegated authority" means the county drain commissioner or any other person designated by the county board to perform duties required under this part.

(f) "Department" means the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy.

(g) "Inland lake" means a natural or artificial lake, pond, impoundment, or a part of 1 of those bodies of water. Inland lake does not include the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair.

(h) "Interested person" means the department and a person who has a record interest in the title to, a right

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of ingress to, or a reversionary right to land that would be affected by a permanent change in the natural or normal level of an inland lake.

(i) "Normal level" means the target level or levels of the water of an inland lake, around which actual levels may fluctuate, that provide the most benefit to the public; that best protect the public health, safety, and welfare; that best preserve the natural resources of this state; and that best preserve and protect the value of property around the inland lake. A normal level shall be measured and described as an elevation or elevations based on a geodetic vertical datum including ranges based on tolerance, operational or weather conditions, seasonality, or other similar natural and regional considerations. An inland lake shall be considered to be maintained at its normal level during temporary water level fluctuations resulting from weather or natural events, during construction activities authorized by the department, or if a county or its delegated authority operates lake level infrastructure in a manner that may affect water levels but is reasonably intended to maintain a normal level. The application of this definition includes, but is not limited to, all normal levels established before the effective date of the amendatory act of the 2023-2024 legislative session that amended this section.

(j) "Normal level project" means a project to establish or maintain a normal level.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2024, Act 112, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30702 Determination of normal inland lake level; motion or petition to initiate action; delegation of powers and duties by county board; maintenance.

Sec. 30702. (1) The county board of a county in which an inland lake is located may upon the board's own motion, or shall within 45 days following receipt of a petition to the board of 2/3 of the owners of lands abutting the inland lake, initiate action to take the necessary steps to cause to be determined the normal level of the inland lake.

(2) Unless required to act by resolution as provided in this part, the county board may delegate powers and duties under this part to that county's commissioner, road commission, or other delegated authority.

(3) If a court-determined normal level is established pursuant to this part, the delegated authority of the county or counties in which the lake is located shall maintain that normal level.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30703 Preliminary study; costs; contents of study.

Sec. 30703. (1) Before proceeding on a motion made or a petition filed under section 30702, the county board may require that a preliminary study be conducted by a licensed professional engineer. The county board, by resolution, may require a cash payment from the petitioners sufficient to cover the actual preliminary study costs or of $10,000.00, whichever is less.

(2) A preliminary study shall include all of the following:

(a) The feasibility of a project to establish and maintain a normal level of the inland lake.

(b) The expediency of the normal level project.

(c) Feasible and prudent alternative methods and designs for controlling the normal level.

(d) The estimated costs of construction and maintenance of the normal level project.

(e) A method of financing initial costs.

(f) The necessity of a special assessment district and the tentative boundaries if a district is necessary.

(g) Other information that the county board resolves is necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.30704 Initiating proceeding for determining normal inland lake level and establishing special assessment district; required finding; multicounty lake; joinder permitted.

Sec. 30704. (1) If the county board, based on the preliminary study, finds it expedient to have and resolves to have determined and established the normal level of an inland lake, the county board shall direct the prosecuting attorney or other legal counsel of the county to initiate a proceeding by proper petition in the court of that county for determination of the normal level for that inland lake and for establishing a special assessment district if the county board determines by resolution that one is necessary as provided in section 30711.

(2) If the waters of an inland lake are located in 2 or more counties, the normal level of the lake may be determined in the same manner if the county boards of all counties involved, by resolution, direct the prosecuting attorney or other legal counsel of 1 or more of the counties to institute proceedings. All counties may make a single preliminary study.

(3) The department may join a proceeding initiated under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30705 Special assessment bonds or notes; lake level orders; proceedings; full faith and credit.

Sec. 30705. (1) A special assessment district provided for in section 30704 may issue any of the following in anticipation of the collection of special assessments:

(a) Bonds or notes, subject to section 30716.

(b) Lake level orders.

(2) Bonds or notes issued under subsection (1) shall have a final maturity date not more than 40 years after the date of original issuance.

(3) All proceedings relating to the making, levying, and collection of special assessments authorized by this part and the issuance of bonds, notes, or lake level orders in anticipation of the collection of the special assessments shall conform as nearly as possible to the proceedings for levying special assessments and issuing special assessment bonds as set forth in the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.1 to 280.630.

(4) A county board by a vote of 2/3 of its members may pledge the full faith and credit of the county for payment of bonds or notes issued by a special assessment district under subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 215, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002;—Am. 2020, Act 221, Imd. Eff. Oct. 16, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30706 Initiation of proceedings by director of department.

Sec. 30706. If the department finds it expedient to have the normal level of an inland lake determined, the department may initiate by civil action on behalf of the state, in the court of any county in which the lake is located, a proceeding for determination of the normal level.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30707 Hearing; notice; service; powers and duties of court.

Sec. 30707. (1) Upon filing of a civil action under this part, the court shall set a day for a hearing. The prosecuting attorney or other legal counsel of the county or counties or the department shall give notice of the hearing by publication in 1 or more newspapers of general circulation in the county and, if the waters of the inland lake are situated in 2 or more counties, in 1 or more newspapers of general circulation in each of the counties in which the inland lake is located. The notice shall be published at least once each week for 3 successive weeks before the date set for the hearing.

(2) The commissioner shall serve a copy of the published notice of hearing by first-class mail at least 3 weeks prior to the date set for the hearing to each person whose name appears upon the latest city or township tax assessment roll as owning land within a tentative special assessment district at the address shown on the roll; to the governing body of each political subdivision of the state in which the lake is located; and to the governing body of each affected political subdivision of the state. If an address does not appear on the roll, then a notice need not be mailed to the person. The commissioner shall make an affidavit of mailing. The failure to receive a notice properly mailed shall not constitute a jurisdictional defect invalidating proceedings

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under this part.

(3) The prosecuting attorney or the legal counsel of the county shall serve notice on the department at least 21 days prior to the date of the hearing.

(4) In a determination of the normal level of an inland lake, the court shall consider all of the following:

(a) Past lake level records, including the ordinary high-water mark and seasonal fluctuations.

(b) The location of septic tanks, drain fields, sea walls, docks, and other pertinent physical features.

(c) Government surveys and reports.

(d) The hydrology of the watershed.

(e) Downstream flow requirements and impacts on downstream riparians.

(f) Fisheries and wildlife habitat protection and enhancement.

(g) Upstream drainage.

(h) Rights of riparians.

(i) Testimony and evidence offered by all interested persons.

(j) Other pertinent facts and circumstances.

(5) The court shall determine the normal level to be established and maintained, shall have continuing jurisdiction, and may provide for departure from the normal level as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this part. The court shall confirm the special assessment district boundaries within 60 days following the lake level determination. The court may determine that the normal level shall vary seasonally.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30708 Maintenance of normal level; acquisition by gift, grant, purchase, or condemnation; contract for operation and maintenance of existing dam; dam in adjoining county; operation of pumps and wells.

Sec. 30708. (1) After the court determines the normal level of an inland lake in a proceeding initiated by the county, the delegated authority of any county or counties in which the inland lake is located shall provide for and maintain that normal level.

(2) A county may acquire, in the name of the county, by gift, grant, purchase, or condemnation proceedings, an existing dam that may affect the normal level of the inland lake, sites for dams, or rights in land needed or convenient in order to implement this part. A county may enter into a contract for operation and maintenance of an existing dam. The county may construct and maintain a dam that is determined by the delegated authority to be necessary for the purpose of maintaining the normal level. A dam may be acquired, constructed, or maintained in a county adjoining the county in which the lake is located.

(3) For the purpose of maintaining the normal level, a delegated authority may drill wells or pump water from another source to supply an inland lake with additional water, may lower the level of the lake by pumping water from the lake, and may purchase power to operate pumps, wells, or other devices installed as part of a normal level project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30709 Powers of department.

Sec. 30709. (1) After the court determines the normal level of an inland lake in a proceeding initiated by the department, the department may provide for and maintain that normal level.

(2) In a proceeding initiated by the department, the department has the same powers in connection with a normal level project as a county has under sections 30708, 30713, and 30718.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30710 Condemnation of private property.

Sec. 30710. If the department or the delegated authority determines that it is necessary to condemn private property for the purpose of this part, the department or county may condemn the property in accordance with the uniform condemnation procedures act, Act No. 87 of the Public Acts of 1980, being sections 213.51 to 213.77 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30711 Defraying project costs by special assessment; special assessment roll; reassessment.

Sec. 30711. (1) The county board may determine by resolution that the whole or a part of the cost of a project to establish and maintain a normal level for an inland lake shall be defrayed by special assessments against the following that are benefited by the project: privately owned parcels of land, political subdivisions of this state, and state owned lands under the jurisdiction and control of the department of natural resources. If the county board determines that a special assessment district is to be established, the delegated authority shall compute the cost of the project and prepare a special assessment roll.

(2) If the revenues raised pursuant to the special assessment are insufficient to meet the computation of cost under section 30712, or if these revenues are insufficient to meet bond obligations, the special assessment district may be reassessed without hearing using the same apportioned percentage used for the original assessment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2024, Act 112, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30712 Computation of project costs.

Sec. 30712. (1) Computation of the cost of a normal level project shall include the cost of all of the following:

(a) The preliminary study.

(b) Surveys.

(c) Establishing a special assessment district, including preparation of assessment rolls and levying assessments.

(d) Acquiring land and other property.

(e) Locating, constructing, operating, repairing, and maintaining a dam or works of improvement necessary for maintaining the normal level.

(f) Legal fees, including estimated costs of appeals if assessments are not upheld.

(g) Court costs.

(h) Interest on bonds and other financing costs for the first year, if the project is so financed.

(i) Any other costs necessary for the project which can be specifically itemized.

(2) The delegated authority may add as a cost not more than 15% of the sum calculated under subsection (1) to cover contingent expenses.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30713 Contract with agency or corporation; provisions.

Sec. 30713. The delegated authority of a county in which an inland lake is located may contract with a state or federal government agency or a public or private corporation in connection with a project for the establishment and maintenance of a normal level. The contract may specify that the agency or corporation will pay the whole or a part of the cost of the project or will perform the whole or a part of the work connected with the project. The contract may provide that payment made or work done relieves the agency or corporation in whole or in part from assessment for the cost of establishment and construction of the project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30714 Special assessment roll; public hearing; notice; approval; appeal.

Sec. 30714. (1) A special assessment roll shall describe the parcels of land to be assessed, the name of the owner of each parcel, if known, and the dollar amount of the assessment against each parcel.

(2) The delegated authority shall set a time and place for a public hearing or hearings on the project cost and the special assessment roll. Notice of a hearing shall be by both of the following:

(a) By publication of notice at least twice prior to the hearing in a newspaper that circulates in the special assessment district, the first publication to be at least 10 days before the hearing.

(b) As provided in Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the

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(3) At or after a public hearing, the delegated authority may approve or revise the cost of the project or the special assessment roll. Before construction of a project is begun, the county board shall approve the cost and the special assessment roll by resolution.

(4) The special assessment roll with the assessments listed shall be final and conclusive unless appealed in a court within 15 days after county board approval.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30715 Assessment payments; installments; amount; interest, penalty, and collection; lien; preliminary study payment credited.

Sec. 30715. (1) The county board may provide that assessments under this part are payable in installments.

(2) Assessment payments shall be sufficient to meet bond and note obligations of the special assessment district.

(3) Special assessments under this part shall be spread upon the county tax rolls, and shall be subject to the same interest and penalty charges and shall be collected in the same manner as county taxes.

(4) From the date of approval of the special assessment roll by the county board, a special assessment under this part shall constitute a lien on the parcel assessed. The lien shall be of the same character and effect as a lien created for county taxes.

(5) A payment for the cost of the preliminary study under section 30703 shall be credited against an assessment for the amount of the payment made by the person assessed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30716 Bonds and notes; issuance; exempt from MCL 141.2505.

Sec. 30716. (1) With approval of the county board and pursuant to section 30705, the district may issue bonds or notes that are payable by special assessments under this part. Except as provided in subsection (2) and section 30717(3), the issuance of the bonds and notes is subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. Bonds or notes shall not be issued exceeding the cost of the lake level project that is being financed.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, bonds, notes, and other obligations issued under this part are exempt from section 505 of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2505.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 216, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002;—Am. 2024, Act 112, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30717 Special assessment district; acceptance and repayment of advance.

Sec. 30717. (1) A special assessment district under this part may borrow money or accept an advance of work, material, or money from a public or private corporation, a partnership, an association, an individual, or the federal government or any agency of the federal government for payment of financing of any costs in connection with a normal level project, including all of the following:

(a) Costs of easement and land acquisition.

(b) Engineering fees.

(c) Financing costs.

(d) Legal fees.

(e) Costs of a preliminary, feasibility, practicability, environmental assessment, or impact study.

(f) Any other permissible costs under this part.

(2) The special assessment district shall pay or provide reimbursement for the obligations under subsection (1), with or without interest as may be agreed, when funds are available. The obligation of the special assessment district under this subsection may be evidenced by a contract or note. The contract or note may pledge the full faith and credit of the special assessment district and may be made payable out of any of the following:

(a) Assessments made or to be made against public corporations at large or against lands in the special assessment district.

(b) The proceeds of lake level orders, notes, or bonds issued by the special assessment district pursuant to

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this act.

(c) Any other available funds.

(3) A contract or note described in subsection (2) is not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821, unless the principal amount of the obligation is more than $600,000.00. However, if the principal amount of the obligation is $600,000.00 or less, the contract or note is subject to the agency financing reporting act, 2002 PA 470, MCL 129.171 to 129.177. Projects in which advances or loans are made by any public corporation, the federal government, or any agency of the federal government are not subject to either the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821, or the agency financing reporting act, 2002 PA 470, MCL 129.171 to 129.177.

(4) The county board of commissioners by a majority vote of its members may pledge the full faith and credit of the county for the payment of a contract or note of the special assessment district.

(5) All notes previously issued under this section shall be considered to have been validly issued.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 217, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002;—Am. 2024, Act 112, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30718 Dam construction or maintenance; plans and specifications; approval by department; bids; work relief project.

Sec. 30718. Plans and specifications for a dam constructed or maintained under this part shall be prepared by a licensed professional engineer under the direction of the delegated authority. The plans and specifications shall be approved by the department before construction begins. The department shall review and approve or reject the plans and specifications within 30 days after they are received by the department. If the plans and specifications are rejected, the department shall propose changes in the plans and specifications that would result in their approval by the department. Bids for doing the work may be advertised in the manner the delegated authority directs. The contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the contract, but the delegated authority may reserve the right to reject any and all bids. The county may erect and maintain a dam as a work relief project in accordance with the law applicable to a work relief project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30719 Dam construction; underspill device; fish ladder.

Sec. 30719. (1) The department may require that a new dam that is proposed to be constructed be equipped with an underspill device for the release of cold bottom waters for the protection of downstream fish habitats.

(2) The department may require the installation of a fish ladder or other device to permit the free passage of fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30720 Unauthorized change of level; penalty.

Sec. 30720. A person who is not authorized by a delegated authority or the department to operate a dam or other normal level control facility and who changes, or causes to change, the level of an inland lake, the normal level of which has been established under this part or any previous act governing lake levels, and for which the delegated authority or the department has taken steps to maintain the normal level, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than $1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both, and shall be required to pay the actual cost of restoration or replacement of the dam and any other property including any natural resource that is damaged or destroyed as a result of the violation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30721 Establishment of normal inland lake level prohibited in certain cases.

Sec. 30721. A normal level shall not be established for an inland lake in either of the following cases:

(a) The inland lake is used as a reservoir for a municipal water supply system, unless a normal level determination is petitioned for by the governing body of the municipality.

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(b) The state has title, flowage rights, or easements to all riparian land surrounding the inland lake, unless a normal level determination is petitioned for by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30722 Inspection; report; repairs; penalty; expenditure.

Sec. 30722. (1) The delegated authority of a county shall cause an inspection to be made of each dam on an inland lake within the county which has a normal level established under this part or under any previous act governing lake levels. The inspection shall be conducted by a licensed professional engineer. The inspection shall take place every third year from the date of completion of a new dam or every third year from the determination of a normal level for an existing dam. An inspection report shall be submitted promptly to the department in the form and manner the department prescribes.

(2) If a report discloses a need for repairs or a change in condition of the dam that relates to the dam's safety or danger to natural resources, the department shall conduct an inspection to confirm the report. If the report is confirmed and the public safety or natural resources are endangered by the risk of failure of the dam, the department may require the county either to repair or to replace the dam. Plans and specifications for the repairs or replacement shall be prepared by a licensed professional engineer under the direction of the delegated authority. The plans and specifications shall be approved by the department before construction begins. The department shall review and approve or reject the plans and specifications within 30 days after they are received by the department. If the plans and specifications are rejected, the department shall propose changes in the plans and specifications that would result in their approval by the department. If the dam is in imminent danger of failure, the department may order an immediate lowering of the lake level until necessary repair or replacement is complete.

(3) A person failing to comply with this section, or falsely representing dam conditions, is guilty of misconduct in office.

(4) If an inspection discloses the necessity for maintenance or repair, the delegated authority, without approval of the county board, may spend not more than $10,000.00 annually for maintenance and repair of each lake level project. An expenditure of more than $10,000.00 annually shall be approved by resolution of the county board.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30723 Other requirements not abrogated.

Sec. 30723. This part does not abrogate the requirements of other state statutes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 309
INLAND LAKE IMPROVEMENTS

324.30901 Definitions.

Sec. 30901. As used in this part:

(a) "Benefit" or "benefits" means advantages resulting from a project to public corporations, the inhabitants of public corporations, the inhabitants of this state, and property within public corporations. Benefit includes benefits that result from elimination of pollution and elimination of flood damage, elimination of water conditions that jeopardize the public health or safety; increase of the value or use of lands and property arising from improving a lake or lakes as a result of the lake project and the improvement or development of a lake for conservation of fish and wildlife and the use, improvement, or development of a lake for fishing, wildlife, boating, swimming, or any other recreational, agricultural, or conservation uses.

(b) "Inland lake" means a public inland lake or a private inland lake.

(c) "Interested person" means a person who has a record interest in the title to, right of ingress to, or reversionary right to a piece or parcel of land that would be affected by a permanent change in the bottomland of a natural or artificial, public or private inland lake, or adjacent wetland. In all cases, whether having such an interest or not, the department is an interested person.

(d) "Local governing body" means the legislative body of a local unit of government.

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(e) "Preliminary costs" includes costs of the engineering feasibility report, economic study, estimate of total cost, and cost of setting up the assessment district.

(f) "Private inland lake" means an inland lake other than a public inland lake.

(g) "Public inland lake" means a lake that is accessible to the public by publicly owned lands or highways contiguous to publicly owned lands or by the bed of a stream, except the Great Lakes and connecting waters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30902 Petition for improvement of lake or wetland; local governing bodies' powers; lake boards.

Sec. 30902. (1) The local governing body of any local unit of government in which the whole or any part of the waters of any public inland lake is situated, upon its own motion or by petition of 2/3 of the freeholders owning lands abutting the lake, for the protection of the public health, welfare, and safety and the conservation of the natural resources of this state, or to preserve property values around a lake, may provide for the improvement of a lake, or adjacent wetland, and may take steps necessary to remove and properly dispose of undesirable accumulated materials from the bottom of the lake or wetland by dredging, ditching, digging, or other related work.

(2) Upon receipt of the petition or upon its own motion, the local governing body within 60 days shall set up a lake board as provided in section 30903 that shall proceed with the necessary steps for improving the lake or to void the proposed project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30903 Lake board; composition; election of chairperson, treasurer, and secretary; quorum; concurrence of majority required; technical data; recommendations.

Sec. 30903. (1) The lake board shall consist of all of the following:

(a) A member of the county board of commissioners appointed by the chairperson of the county board of commissioners of each county affected by the lake improvement project; 1 representative of each local unit of government, other than a county, affected by the project, or, if there is only 1 such local unit of government, 2 representatives of that local unit of government, appointed by the legislative body of the local unit of government; and the county drain commissioner or his or her designee, or a member of the county road commission in counties not having a drain commissioner.

(b) A member elected by the members of the lake board serving pursuant to subdivision (a) at the first meeting of the board or at any time a vacancy exists under this subdivision. Only a person who has an interest in a land contract or a record interest in the title to a piece or parcel of land that abuts the lake to be improved is eligible to be elected and to serve under this subdivision. An organization composed of and representing the majority of lakefront property owners on the affected lake may submit up to 3 names to the board, from which the board shall make its selection. The terms served by this member shall be 4 years in length.

(2) The lake board shall elect a chairperson, treasurer, and secretary. The secretary shall attend meetings of the lake board and shall keep a record of the proceedings and perform other duties delegated by the lake board. A majority of the members of the lake board constitutes a quorum. The concurrence of a majority in any matter within the duties of the board is required for the determination of a matter.

(3) The department, upon request of the lake board, shall provide whatever technical data it has available and make recommendations in the interests of conservation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 522, Eff. Mar. 1, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30904 Initiation of action by freeholders.

Sec. 30904. Action may be initiated under section 30902 relating to any private inland lake only upon petition of 2/3 of the freeholders owning lands abutting the lake.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.30905 Preliminary costs; revolving funds; assessments.

Sec. 30905. The county board of commissioners may provide for a revolving fund to pay for the preliminary costs of improvement projects within the county. The preliminary costs shall be assessed to the property owners in the assessment district by the lake board after notice of the hearing is given pursuant to Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and shall be repaid to the fund where the project is not finally constructed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30906 Institution of proceedings for lake improvement; conflicts with local ordinances and charters.

Sec. 30906. (1) Whenever a local governing body, in accordance with section 30902, considers it expedient to have a lake improved, it, by resolution, shall direct the lake board to institute proceedings as prescribed in this part.

(2) When the waters of any inland lake are situated in 2 or more local units of government, the improvement of the lake may be determined jointly in the same manner as provided in this part, if the local governing bodies of all local units of government involved determine it to be expedient in accordance with section 30902 and, by resolution, direct the lake board to institute proceedings as prescribed in this part. Where local ordinances and charters conflict, this part shall govern.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30907 Lake improvement; initiation by department.

Sec. 30907. If the department considers it expedient, in accordance with section 30902, to have a lake dredged or improved, the department may petition the local governing body or governing bodies in which the lake is located for an improvement of the lake. The department may also join with the local governing body of any local unit of government in instituting proceedings for improvements as set forth in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30908 Lake board; determination of scope of project; establishment of special assessment districts; ministerial duties.

Sec. 30908. The lake board, when instructed by resolution of the local governing body, shall determine the scope of the project and shall establish a special assessment district, including within the special assessment district all parcels of land and local units which will be benefited by the improvement of the lake. The local governing body may delegate to the lake board other ministerial duties including preparation, assembling, and computation of statistical data for use by the board and the superintending, construction, and maintenance of any project under this part, as the local governing body considers necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30909 Engineering and economic reports; cost estimates.

Sec. 30909. (1) The lake board shall retain a licensed professional engineer to prepare an engineering feasibility report, an economic study report, and an estimate of cost. The report shall include, when applicable, recommendations for normal lake levels and the methods for maintaining those levels.

(2) The engineering feasibility report shall include the methods proposed to implement the recommended improvements, such as dredging, removal, disposal, and disposal areas for undesirable materials from the lake. The report shall include an investigation of the groundwater conditions and possible effects on lake levels from removal of bottom materials. A study of existing nutrients and an estimate of possible future conditions shall be included. Estimate of costs of right-of-way shall be included.

(3) The estimate of cost prepared under subsection (1) shall show probable assessments for the project. The economic report shall analyze the existing local tax structure and the effects of the proposed assessments on the local units of government involved. A copy of the report shall be furnished to each member of the lake

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board.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30910 Review of reports by board; determinations of practicability; public hearings; notice; determination.

Sec. 30910. Within 60 days after his or her receipt of the reports, the chairperson shall hold a meeting of the lake board to review the reports required under section 30909 and to determine the practicability of the project. The hearing shall be public, and notice of the hearing shall be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation in each local unit of government to be affected. The first publication shall be not less than 20 days prior to the time of the hearing. The board shall determine the practicability of the project within 10 days after the hearing unless it is determined at the hearing that more information is needed before the determination can be made. Immediately upon receipt of the additional information, the board shall make its determination.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30911 County contributions toward costs of improvement.

Sec. 30911. The county board of commissioners may provide up to 25% of the cost of a lake improvement project on any public inland lake.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30912 Approval of plans and cost estimates; sufficiency of petition; resolution; publication; assessment roll.

Sec. 30912. If the lake board passes a resolution in which it determines the project to be practicable, the lake board shall determine to proceed with the project, shall approve the plans and estimate of costs as originally presented or as revised, corrected, amended, or changed, and shall determine the sufficiency of the petition for the improvement. The resolution shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in each local unit of government to be affected. After the resolution has been published, the sufficiency of the petition shall not be subject to attack except in an action brought in a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after publication. The lake board, after finally accepting the special assessment district, shall prepare an assessment roll based upon the benefits to be derived from the proposed lake improvement, and the lake board shall direct the assessing official of each local unit of government to be affected to join in making an assessment roll in which shall be entered and described all the parcels of land to be assessed, with the names of the respective owners of the parcels of land, if known, and the total amount to be assessed against each parcel of land and against each local unit of government to be affected, which amount shall be such relative portion of the whole sum to be levied against all parcels of land and local units of government in the special assessment district as the benefit to such parcel of land and local unit of government bears to the total benefit to all parcels of land and local units of government in the special assessment district. When the assessment roll has been completed, each assessing official shall affix to the assessment roll his or her certificate stating that it was made pursuant to a resolution of the lake board adopted on a specified date, and that in making the assessment roll he or she has, according to his or her best judgment, conformed in all respects to the directions contained in the resolution and the statutes of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30913 Report of assessment to lake board; review; notice and hearing; confirmation.

Sec. 30913. The assessment roll shall be reported to the lake board by the assessing official of the local unit or units of government initiating the proceeding and filed in the office of the clerk of each local unit of government to be affected. Before confirming the assessment roll, the lake board shall appoint a time and place when it will meet and review the assessment roll and hear any objections to the assessment roll, and shall publish notice of the hearing and the filing of the assessment roll twice prior to the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in each local unit of government to be affected, the first publication to be at

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least 10 days before the hearing. Notice of the hearing shall also be given in accordance with Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The hearing may be adjourned from time to time without further notice. Any person or local unit of government objecting to the assessment roll shall file his or her objection in writing with the chairperson before the close of the hearing or within such further time period as the lake board may grant. After the hearing, the lake board may confirm the special assessment roll as reported to it or as amended or corrected by it, may refer it back to the assessing officials for revision, or may annul it and direct a new roll to be made. When a special assessment roll has been confirmed, the clerk of each local unit of government shall endorse on the assessment roll the date of the confirmation. After confirmation, the special assessment roll and all assessments on the assessment roll shall be final and conclusive unless attacked in a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after notice of confirmation has been published in the same manner as the notice of hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30914 Special assessments; installments; interest; penalties.

Sec. 30914. Upon the confirmation of the assessment roll, the lake board may provide that the assessments be payable in 1 or more approximately equal annual installments, not exceeding 30. The amount of each installment, if more than 1, need not be extended upon the special assessment roll until after confirmation. The first installment of a special assessment shall be due on or before such time after confirmation as the board shall establish, and the several subsequent installments shall be due at intervals of 12 months from the due date of the first installment or from such other date as the board shall establish. All unpaid installments, prior to their transfer to the tax roll of each local unit of government involved, shall bear interest, payable annually on each installment due date, at a rate to be set by the board, not exceeding 6% per annum, from such date as established by the board. Future due installments of an assessment against a parcel of land may be paid to the treasurer of each local unit of government at any time in full, with interest accrued to the due date of the next installment. If any installment of a special assessment is not paid when due, then it shall be considered to be delinquent and there shall be collected on the installment, in addition to interest as above provided, a penalty at the rate of 1/2 of 1% for each month or fraction of a month that it remains unpaid before being reported to the township board for reassessment upon the tax roll.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30915 Special assessments; liens.

Sec. 30915. All special assessments contained in any special assessment roll, including any part of the special assessment payment that is deferred, constitute a lien, from the date of confirmation of the roll, upon the respective parcels of land assessed. The lien shall be of the same character and effect as the lien created for taxes in each local unit of government and shall include accrued interest and penalties. A judgment, decree, or any act of the board vacating a special assessment does not destroy or impair the lien upon the premises assessed for the amount of the assessment as may be equitably charged against the premises, or as by a regular mode of proceeding might be lawfully assessed on the premises.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30916 Special assessments; collections.

Sec. 30916. When any special assessment roll is confirmed, the lake board shall direct the assessments made in the roll to be collected. The clerk of each local unit of government involved shall then deliver to the treasurer of each local unit of government the special assessment roll, to which he or she shall attach his or her warrant commanding the treasurer to collect the assessments in the roll in accordance with the directions of the lake board. The warrant shall further require the treasurer, on September 1 following the date when any assessments or any part of an assessment have become due, to submit to the lake board a sworn statement setting forth the names of delinquent persons, if known, a description of the parcels of land upon which there are delinquent assessments, and the amount of the delinquency, including accrued interest and penalties computed to September 1 of the year. Upon receiving the special assessment roll and warrant, the treasurer shall collect the amounts assessed as they become due.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30917 Delinquent assessments; reassessment.

Sec. 30917. If the treasurer reports as delinquent any assessment or part of an assessment, the lake board shall certify the delinquency to the assessing official of each local unit of government, who shall reassess, on the annual tax roll of the local unit of government of that year, in a column headed "special assessments", the delinquent sum, with interest and penalties to September 1 of that year, and an additional penalty of 6% of the total amount. Thereafter, the statutes relating to taxes shall be applicable to the reassessments in each local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30918 Division of land parcels; uncollected assessment apportioned.

Sec. 30918. If any parcel of land is divided after a special assessment on the land has been confirmed and before the collection of the assessment, the lake board may require the assessment official to apportion the uncollected amounts between the divisions of the parcel of land, and the report of the apportionment when confirmed by the lake board shall be conclusive upon all parties. If the interested parties do not agree in writing to the apportionment, then, before confirmation, notice of hearing shall be given to all the interested parties, either by personal service or by publication as provided in the case of an original assessment roll.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30919 Additional special assessments.

Sec. 30919. If the assessments in any special assessment roll prove insufficient for any reason, including the noncollection of the assessment, to pay for the improvement for which they were made or to pay the principal and interest on the bonds issued in anticipation of the collection of the assessment, then the lake board shall make additional pro rata assessments to supply the deficiency, but the total amount assessed against any parcel of land shall not exceed the value of the benefits received from the improvement.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30920 Special assessments; invalidity and new assessments.

Sec. 30920. Whenever, in the opinion of the lake board, any special assessment is invalid by reason of irregularities or informalities in the proceedings, or if any court of competent jurisdiction adjudges such assessment illegal, the lake board, whether the improvement has been made or not and whether any part of the assessment has been paid or not, may proceed from the last step at which the proceedings were legal and cause a new assessment to be made for the same purpose for which the former assessment was made. All proceedings on that reassessment and for the collection of the assessment shall be conducted in the same manner as provided for the original assessment. Whenever an assessment or any part of an assessment levied upon any premises has been set aside, if the assessment or part of an assessment has been paid and not refunded, the payment shall be applied upon the reassessment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30921 Special assessments; exempt lands.

Sec. 30921. The governing body of any department of the state or any of its political subdivisions, municipalities, school districts, townships, or counties, whose lands are exempt by law, may by resolution agree to pay the special assessments against the lands, in which case the assessment, including all the installments of the assessment, shall be a valid claim against the local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.30922 Borrowing; issuance of lake level orders and bonds.

Sec. 30922. The lake board may borrow money and issue lake level orders or the bonds of the special assessment district in anticipation of the collection of special assessments to defray the cost of any improvement made under this part after the special assessment roll has been confirmed. The bonds or lake level orders shall not exceed the amount of the special assessments in anticipation of the collection of which they are issued. Collections on special assessments to the extent pledged for the payment of bonds or lake level orders shall be set aside in a special fund for the payment of the bonds or lake level orders. The issuance of special assessments bonds or lake level orders shall be governed by the general laws of this state applicable to the issuance of special assessments bonds or lake level orders and in accordance with the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. Bonds or lake level orders may be issued in anticipation of the collection of special assessments levied in respect to 2 or more public improvements, but no special assessment district shall be compelled to pay the obligation of any other special assessment district. The local governing body may pledge the full faith and credit of a local unit of government for the prompt payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds or lake level orders as they become due. The pledge of full faith and credit of the local unit of government shall be included within the total limitation prescribed by the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. Bonds and lake level orders issued under this part shall be executed by the chairperson and secretary of the lake board, and the interest coupons to be attached to the bonds and orders shall be executed by the officials causing their facsimile signatures to be affixed to the bonds and orders.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30923 Condemnation; commencement and conduct of proceedings.

Sec. 30923. Whenever the lake board determines by proper resolution that it is necessary to condemn private property for the purpose of this part, the condemnation proceedings shall be commenced and conducted in accordance with Act No. 149 of the Public Acts of 1911, being sections 213.21 to 213.25 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30924 Gifts and grants-in-aid; acceptance by lake board; contract or agreement.

Sec. 30924. (1) The lake board may receive and accept gifts or grants-in-aid for the purpose of implementing this part.

(2) The lake board may contract or make agreement with the federal government or any agency of the federal government whereby the federal government will pay the whole or any part of the costs of a project or will perform all or any part of the work connected with the project. The contract or agreement may include any specific terms required by act of congress or federal regulation as a condition for the participation of the federal government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30925 Gifts and grants-in-aid; acceptance by department.

Sec. 30925. The department in carrying out the purposes of this part may receive and accept, on behalf of the state, gifts and grants-in-aid.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30926 Advertising for bids; letting of contracts; work relief project.

Sec. 30926. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the chairperson of the lake board shall advertise for bids. A contract shall be let to the lowest bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the contract, but the lake board shall reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

(2) The lake board may let a contract with a local, incorporated, nonprofit homeowner association, the membership of which is open on a nondiscriminatory basis to all residents within the geographic area to be

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assessed or serviced, without advertising for public bids. The homeowner association shall give adequate security for the performance of the contract.

(3) The local governing body may improve a lake as a work relief project pursuant to applicable provisions of law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30927 Costs of projects; computation; expenditures; representation by attorney.

Sec. 30927. (1) Within 10 days after the letting of contracts or, in case of an appeal, immediately after the appeal has been decided, the lake board shall make a computation of the entire cost of a project under this part that includes all preliminary costs and engineering and inspection costs incurred and all of the following:

(a) The fees and expenses of special commissioners.

(b) The contracts for dredging or other work to be done on the project.

(c) The estimated cost of an appeal if the apportionment made by the lake board is not sustained.

(d) The estimated cost of inspection.

(e) The cost of publishing all notices required.

(f) All costs of the circuit court.

(g) Any legal expenses incurred in connection with the project, including litigation expenses, the costs of any judgments or orders entered against the lake board or special assessment district, and attorney fees.

(h) Fees for any permits required in connection with the project.

(i) Interest on bonds for the first year, if bonds are to be issued.

(j) Any other costs necessary for the administration of lake board proceedings, including, but not limited to, compensation of the members of the lake board, record compilation and retention, and state, county, or local government professional staff services.

(2) In addition to the amounts computed under subsection (1), the lake board may add not less than 10% or more than 15% of the gross sum to cover contingent expenses, including additional necessary hydrological studies by the department. The sum of the amounts computed under subsection (1) plus the amount added under this subsection is considered to be the cost of the lake improvement project.

(3) A lake board shall not expend money for improvements, services, or other purposes unless the lake board has adopted an annual budget.

(4) A lake board may retain an attorney to advise the lake board in the proper performance of its duties. The attorney shall represent the lake board in actions brought by or against the lake board.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 522, Eff. Mar. 1, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30928 Intervention by department.

Sec. 30928. Whenever a public inland lake is to be improved, the department may intervene for the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.30929 Lake board for inland lake; dissolution.

Sec. 30929. A lake board for an inland lake is dissolved if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The governing body of each local unit of government in which all or part of the lake is located holds a public hearing on the proposed dissolution, determines that the lake board is no longer necessary for the improvement of the lake because the reasons for the establishment of the lake board no longer exist, and approves the dissolution of the lake board. For a public inland lake, the governing body of each local unit of government in which all or part of the lake is located may hold the public hearing on the dissolution of the lake board on its own initiative. For a public or private inland lake, the governing body of each local unit of government in which all or part of the lake is located shall hold a public hearing on the dissolution of the lake board upon petition of at least 2/3 of the property owners owning land abutting the lake or upon petition of the property owners who have been assessed at least 2/3 of the cost of the most recent improvements, excluding the amount assessed to local units at large. Notice of the public hearing shall be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation in each local unit of government in which all or part of the lake is located. The first notice shall be published not less than 10 days before the date of the hearing.

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(b) All outstanding indebtedness and expenses of the lake board are paid in full.

(c) Any excess funds of the lake board are refunded based on the last approved special assessment roll. However, if the amount of excess funds is de minimis, the excess funds shall be distributed to the local units of government in which all or part of the lake is located, apportioned based on the amounts assessed against each local unit of government and lands in that local unit on the last approved special assessment roll.

(d) The lake board determines that it is no longer necessary for the improvement of the lake, because the reasons for its establishment no longer exist, and adopts an order approving its dissolution.

History: Add. 2004, Act 522, Eff. Mar. 1, 2005;—Am. 2011, Act 96, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 311
LOCAL RIVER MANAGEMENT

324.31101 Definitions.

Sec. 31101. As used in this part:

(a) "Board" means a river management board created as the governing body of a river management district in accordance with this part.

(b) "Council" means a watershed council created under this part.

(c) "District" means a river management district established under this part.

(d) "Level of stream flow" means a measure of water quantity including the amount of water passing a designated point over a designated period and the levels of lakes that are an integral part of the surface drainage system of the watershed.

(e) "Local agencies" means local units of government, special districts, or other legally constituted agencies of local units of government exercising powers that may affect water resources.

(f) "River management" means the control of river flow by the operation of dams, reservoirs, conduits, and other human-made devices in order to improve and expand the uses of the river for those who depend upon it for a variety of private and public benefits.

(g) "Watershed" means the drainage area of a stream.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31102 Watershed council; petition; contents; organizational meeting; notice.

Sec. 31102. (1) To promote cooperation among local units of government in river management, a watershed council shall be established by the department upon a petition from 3 or more local units of government lying wholly or partially in the watershed as defined in the petition. The petition shall provide a statement of necessity, a description of general purposes and functions to be performed, a description of the area, including a map, and a list of all local units of government lying wholly or partly within the watershed, which shall be eligible for membership on the watershed council.

(2) Upon finding that the petition is in conformance with this part, the department shall establish the council, schedule an organizational meeting, and notify all local units of government eligible for membership by registered mail. The date for the meeting shall be not less than 60 or more than 90 days after the date of mailing the notice.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31103 Watershed council; membership; voting rights; term; river management board.

Sec. 31103. (1) The watershed council shall be composed of representatives of local units of government within the watershed who are appointed to and maintain membership in the council in the following manner:

(a) Each local unit of government using the river for water supply or waste disposal shall appoint 1 representative for each 20,000 population or fraction thereof. The governing body of each local unit of government shall determine the method by which its representatives are selected.

(b) Each county having 15% or more of its area in the watershed shall appoint 1 representative, and 1 additional representative for each 20,000 population or fraction thereof, which aggregate total shall be computed from the population of eligible townships not otherwise represented. These townships shall be eligible under this section if they have 15% or more of their respective areas in the basin. The methods by

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which the county representatives are selected shall be determined by the county board of commissioners.

(c) Any local agency wholly or partly within the basin may appoint a representative to the council upon a finding by the council that the agency is so affected by or concerned with the use and development of water resources in the basin as to warrant representation. If any township is represented under this subdivision, its population shall not be counted in determining the eligible total representatives of its county.

(2) Representatives on the watershed council shall be appointed for 2 years, but are subject to replacement at the pleasure of the appointing authority. A representative is not eligible to vote on the council unless the local government he or she represents has met its financial obligations to the council.

(3) Representatives to the watershed council may also represent their local units of government, if so designated by their local units of government, on river management boards established in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31104 Watershed council; duties.

Sec. 31104. In carrying out its authorized functions, the council shall do all of the following:

(a) Adopt bylaws that govern its operations.

(b) Prepare an annual operating budget, including apportionment of costs to member governments.

(c) Hold an annual meeting at which time it shall elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary-treasurer, submit an annual report to the member governments, and adopt an annual budget that constitutes the council's authorization of activities for the year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31105 Watershed council; powers.

Sec. 31105. A watershed council may do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Conduct, or cause to be conducted, studies of the water resources of the watershed, including investigations of water uses, water quality, and the reliability of the water resource.

(b) Prepare periodic reports concerning, among other things, trends in water use and availability, emerging water problems, and recommendations for appropriate public policies and programs necessary to maintain adequate water resources for the watershed area.

(c) Request the department to survey the watershed for the purpose of determining minimum levels of stream flow necessary for health, welfare, and safety as provided in sections 31112 through 31117.

(d) Recommend the creation of a river management district or districts under the provisions of sections 31106 through 31111 when the need for river management seems to warrant such an action.

(e) Advise agencies of federal, state, and local units of government as to the council's view of the watershed's problems and needs.

(f) Cooperate with federal, state, and local agencies in providing stream gauges, water quality sampling stations, or other water resource data-gathering facilities or programs that aid the council in its responsibility for studying and reporting on water conditions.

(g) Employ an executive secretary and such other professional, administrative, or clerical staff, including consultants, as may be provided for in an approved budget.

(h) Establish such subcommittees or advisory committees as are considered helpful in the discharge of its functions.

(i) Establish special project funds as needed to finance special studies outside its annual budget capacity. For this purpose, the council may accept gifts and grants from any person.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31106 River management district; establishment; powers; consolidation; coordination.

Sec. 31106. (1) The governing bodies of 2 or more local units of government may petition the department to establish a river management district in order to provide an agency for the acquisition, construction, operation, and financing of water storage and other river control facilities necessary for river management. The petition shall be accompanied by a statement of necessity, a description of the district purposes, functions, and operating procedures, which shall include methods of financing capital improvements and of

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apportioning benefit charges, and a general plan of development. Not later than 60 days following receipt of such a petition, the department shall establish the time and place for a public hearing on the petition and shall publish notice of the hearing. The notice shall be published twice in each county involved in at least 1 newspaper of general circulation in the county. At the hearing, the applicant and any other interested party may appear, present witnesses, and submit evidence. Following the hearing, the department may establish the district and publish notice of the establishment in the manner provided for publication of notice of hearing, upon finding the following conditions:

(a) That the proposal is consistent with the public interest in the conservation, development, and use of water resources, and the proposed district is geographically suitable to effectuation of the district purposes.

(b) That the establishment and operation of the district will not unreasonably impair the interests of the public or of riparians in lands or waters or the beneficial public use of lands or waters, and will not endanger public health or safety.

(2) A management district shall not be created that affects any city now or hereafter having a population of more than 1,500,000, except with the concurrence of the governing body of that city.

(3) Prior to approving the establishment of a district consisting of a portion of a river basin, the department shall determine the feasibility of establishing the district to include the entire river basin or as large a portion of the basin as possible. Approval of districts consisting of a portion of a river basin shall be on the basis that when in the judgment of the department it becomes feasible to form a district including the entire river basin, the river management boards shall initiate proceedings to combine the smaller districts into larger districts or into an entire watershed-wide district.

(4) Any plans for a river management district shall be coordinated with plans of adjacent river basins, organizations, or agencies and with any comprehensive regional master programs for river management.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31107 River management district; organizational meeting; notice; date; board; membership; term; voting rights.

Sec. 31107. (1) Within 60 days after establishing a district, the department shall schedule an organizational meeting of the district board and shall provide notice of the meeting by registered mail to the governing bodies of all local units of government comprising the district. The date for the meeting shall be not less than 60 or more than 90 days after the date of mailing the notice. At the meeting, the department shall serve as temporary chairperson. The board shall elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and treasurer and adopt bylaws.

(2) A district shall be governed by a river management board composed of representatives of local units of government within the district. The representation of each local unit of government on the board may be provided as part of the operating procedures submitted to the department in the petition of local units of government made in accordance with section 31106. If the composition of the board is not so designated, representation shall be established under section 31103.

(3) Representatives on the river management board shall be appointed for 2 years but are subject to replacement at the pleasure of the appointing authority. A representative is not eligible to vote on the board unless the local government he or she represents has met its financial obligations to the district.

(4) Representatives to the river management board may also serve as representatives of their local units of government, if so designated by their local units of government, on the watershed council.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31108 River management board; powers.

Sec. 31108. A river management board may do any of the following:

(a) Conduct a continuing study of river use requirements and needs for river management within its area of jurisdiction; analyze alternative methods of meeting needs; and develop and adopt a river management program, including plans for constructing, operating, and financing water storage and river control structures and negotiating coordinated policies and programs relating to river use among local units of government within the district.

(b) Impound and control the waters of the river system within the district, subject to minimum levels of stream flow established pursuant to sections 31112 and 31113, through acquisition, construction, maintenance, and/or operation of water storage reservoirs, dams, or other river control structures as necessary

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to assure adequate quantity, quality, and stability of river flow to protect the public health, welfare, and safety. A river management district shall not release water in such an amount as to produce or increase flooding or otherwise damage downstream interests.

(c) Contract with or enter into agreement with the federal government or any agency or department of the federal government or with other governmental agencies or with private individuals or corporations that may maintain and operate reservoirs and control structures or that may construct, maintain, and operate new reservoirs and control structures as necessary to carry out the purposes of this part.

(d) Perform, with respect to the area within the district, the functions assigned to a watershed council by sections 31102 through 31105 whenever a relevant watershed council has not been formed, or if the appropriate watershed council's failure to act impairs the functions and programs of a district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31109 River management district; body corporate; powers; taxing power.

Sec. 31109. A district formed under this part is a body corporate with powers to contract; to sue and be sued; to exercise the right of eminent domain; to apportion administrative costs and benefit charges for river management and related facilities among the local units of government members, which costs shall be payable from general funds or taxes raised by the local units of government; to collect revenues for services rendered by the exercise of its functions; to issue bonds; to apply for and receive grants, gifts, and other devises from any governmental agency or from the federal government; and to exercise other powers as necessary to implement this part. The river management district shall not have direct taxing power.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31110 River management board; duties.

Sec. 31110. A river management board shall do all of the following:

(a) Adopt bylaws to govern its operations.

(b) Prepare an annual operating budget and levy an annual assessment of local unit of government members to cover costs of organizing, developing plans, and maintaining general overhead administration.

(c) Adopt and maintain a schedule of benefit assessments upon local units of government in the district levied to help defray the costs of capital improvements, which schedule constitutes a legal obligation upon those assessed.

(d) Hold an annual meeting at which it shall report to its members and to the watershed council, elect officers, and adopt an annual budget.

(e) Maintain a public record of its transactions.

(f) Do all other things necessary for the operation of the district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31111 Executive secretary; additional staff.

Sec. 31111. The executive secretary of a watershed council may serve as executive secretary to the river management board. If a relevant watershed council does not exist, or if the executive secretary of a watershed council is otherwise unavailable, the board may employ an executive secretary. In addition, the board may employ additional staff as it determines appropriate within its approved budget.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31112 Minimum level of stream flow; industrial use of water.

Sec. 31112. Upon request of a council or a board, the department shall determine, within the watershed subject to the council, the minimum level of stream flow necessary to safeguard the public health, welfare, and safety, but a determination or order shall not prevent any industry along the stream from using water from the stream for industrial use sufficient for the industry's requirement if all the water used is returned to the stream within 72 hours of the taking.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31113 Minimum level of stream flow; order of determination; notice; publication; review.

Sec. 31113. In carrying out its authority to determine minimum levels of stream flow, the department, after public hearing, shall issue an order of determination setting forth minimum levels at locations as necessary to carry out the purposes of this part. Notice of the order of determination shall be published and the order may be reviewed in the circuit court in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, upon petition filed by any person within 15 days following the last date of the publication.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31114 Minimum level of stream flow; determination by watershed council or department; request.

Sec. 31114. A river management board may request a watershed council to seek a determination of minimum levels of stream flow in accordance with sections 31112 and 31113, or the board may request the department to make the determinations if a watershed council has not been formed for the larger watershed of which the district is a part, or when an appropriately established council fails to act within 90 days upon the district's request.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31115 Measurement of stream flow, lake levels, and water quality; gauges and sampling devices; entering public property.

Sec. 31115. The department may maintain gauges and sampling devices to measure stream flow, lake levels, and water quality as necessary to implement this part, and may enter at all reasonable times in or upon any public property for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to implementing this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31116 Preparation of river management plan; advice, assistance, and supervision by department.

Sec. 31116. The department may cooperate and negotiate with any person in establishing and maintaining gauges and sampling devices to measure stream flow, lake levels, or water quality or in implementing any other provision of this part. When requested by a council or board, the department shall provide technical advice and assistance in the preparation of a river management plan of the district. A river management plan shall not be placed into effect until it has been approved by the department as conforming to the stated objectives of the petition. The department shall maintain supervision over the functioning of the district to the extent it considers necessary for the purpose of ensuring conformance with the plan in the public interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31117 Rules.

Sec. 31117. The department shall promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31118 Authority of department not affected by part.

Sec. 31118. This part does not abridge the authority vested in the department by part 31. Permits granted by the department in accordance with part 35 are not affected by this part. The granting of future permits under part 35 shall proceed without regard to anything contained in this part.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31119 Director of public health; powers unaffected.

Sec. 31119. The functions, powers, and duties of the director of public health as provided for by Act No. 98 of the Public Acts of 1913, being sections 325.201 to 325.214 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, shall remain unaffected by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 312
WATERSHED ALLIANCES

324.31201 Definitions.

Sec. 31201. As used in this part:

(a) "County agency" means an agency created or controlled by a county board of commissioners or a county executive, a board of county road commissioners, or an office of the county drain commissioner.

(b) "Member" means a municipality, county, county agency, public school district, public college or university, or other local or regional public agency that is a member of a watershed alliance as provided for in this part.

(c) "Watershed" means a geographic area in the state within which surface water drains into a common river, stream, or body of water.

(d) "Watershed alliance" means an organization established under section 31202.

(e) "Watershed management plan" means a written document prepared and approved by a watershed alliance that identifies water management issues and problems, proposes goals and objectives, and outlines actions to achieve the goals and objectives identified by members of a watershed alliance.

History: Add. 2004, Act 517, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31202 Watershed alliance; establishment by municipalities; purpose; resolution; bylaws; voluntary membership.

Sec. 31202. (1) Two or more municipalities, by resolution of their respective governing bodies, may establish a watershed alliance for the purpose of studying problems and planning and implementing activities designed to address surface water quality or water flow issues of mutual concern within the portion of a watershed located within their boundaries, including 1 or more of the following:

(a) Preparation of watershed management plans and other required documents as part of state or federal requirements to obtain water discharge permits or grant funding.

(b) Monitoring, sampling, and analyses of data necessary to manage the watershed, including, but not limited to, surface water quality, water quantity and flows, ecosystem health, recreational use, and the publication of results.

(c) Conducting public surveys, preparing and distributing informational and educational materials, and organizing activities involving the public.

(d) Designing and implementing projects and conducting activities to protect or enhance water quality and related beneficial uses, or manage flows to protect or reduce damage to riparian property and aquatic habitat.

(e) Designing and implementing other actions consistent with watershed management plans adopted by a watershed alliance, or required to protect public health, and maintain and restore beneficial public uses of the surface water resources of the watershed.

(2) A resolution under subsection (1) establishing a watershed alliance shall include bylaws that identify, at a minimum, all of the following:

(a) The structure of the organization and decision-making process.

(b) The geographic boundaries of the watershed.

(c) The municipalities, counties, county agencies, public school districts, and other local or regional public agencies eligible for membership in the watershed alliance as provided under subsection (3).

(d) The basis for assessing costs to members.

(e) A mechanism to be used for adoption of an annual budget to support projects and activities.

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(3) A watershed alliance shall provide an equitable basis for all municipalities, counties, and county agencies within the geographic boundaries of the watershed to voluntarily join as members. In addition, at its discretion, the watershed alliance may authorize the voluntary membership of any local public school district, public college or university, or any other local or regional public agency that has water management responsibilities. Following establishment of a watershed alliance under subsection (1), by resolution of its governing body, a municipality, county, county agency, public school district, public college or university, or other local or regional public agency established under state law with surface water management responsibility may voluntarily join a watershed alliance as provided for in this subsection.

History: Add. 2004, Act 517, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31203 Watershed alliance as body corporate; powers and authority.

Sec. 31203. A watershed alliance is a body corporate with power to sue and be sued in any court of this state and with the authority to carry out its responsibilities under this part and as otherwise provided by law.

History: Add. 2004, Act 517, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31204 Watershed alliance; powers and authority; report; assessment or collection of fees or taxes.

Sec. 31204. (1) A watershed alliance, consistent with the purposes identified in section 31202 and its bylaws, may do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Employ personnel to coordinate and implement actions.

(b) Enter into agreements or contracts with public or private entities to coordinate or implement actions.

(c) Assess and collect fees from members with approval of the governing bodies of the members.

(d) Solicit grants, gifts, and contributions from federal, state, regional, or local public agencies and from private sources.

(e) Expend funds provided by members, or through grants, gifts, and contributions.

(f) Represent members of the watershed alliance before other bodies considering issues affecting water quality or flow management issues within the designated watershed, including obtaining local, state, or federal permits or authorizations that may be required to carry out activities as may be authorized by its members.

(2) A watershed alliance shall prepare and deliver to its members on or before April 1 of each year a report detailing the revenue received and expenditures by the watershed alliance during the immediately prior January 1 through December 31 period.

(3) A watershed alliance shall have no independent authority to assess or collect any fees or taxes directly from individuals or property owners. A watershed alliance member may allocate the use of public funds from fees, taxes, or assessments generated under the provisions of other state laws for use by a watershed alliance.

History: Add. 2004, Act 517, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31205 Audit.

Sec. 31205. (1) A watershed alliance shall obtain an audit of its financial records, accounts, and procedures at least every other year.

(2) A watershed alliance shall submit the results of an audit under subsection (1) to the governing bodies of its members and to the state treasurer.

(3) An audit under subsection (1) shall satisfy all audit requirements set under the uniform budgeting and accounting act, 1968 PA 2, MCL 141.421 to 141.440a.

History: Add. 2004, Act 517, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Act 451

324.31206 Additional authority prohibited.

Sec. 31206. This part does not provide a watershed alliance or any of its members with any additional authority not otherwise provided by law.

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History: Add. 2004, Act 517, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 313
SURPLUS WATERS

324.31301 Definitions.

Sec. 31301. As used in this part:

(a) "Board" means the county board of commissioners.

(b) "Dams" means dams, embankments, dikes, pumps, weirs, locks, gates, tubes, ditches, or any other devices or construction to impound or release water.

(c) "Local unit" means any city, village, township, or soil conservation district acting through its governing body.

(d) "Optimum flow" means that rate and quantity of flow in any stream as determined in accordance with this part.

(e) "Plan" means a plan adopted by the board or boards and approved by an order of the department for the best development, utilization, and conservation of the surplus water of the state.

(f) "Surplus water" means water that may be impounded without decreasing the flow of a river or stream below its optimum flow.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31302 Request for surveys; utilization of reports.

Sec. 31302. Any board or group of boards or local unit or units acting singly or in concert may request the department to undertake a survey of the water in a river basin or watershed located or partially located in the county or counties or in the local unit or units of government to determine whether there is surplus water that may be available and, if so, how it may be best impounded, utilized, and conserved. All studies, surveys, and reports made by public and other competent authorities may be utilized by the department in making this determination.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31303 Request for surveys; involvement of other boards.

Sec. 31303. If it appears to the department, after a review of the request, that a feasible plan for the impoundment, utilization, and conservation of surplus water will involve the water in counties or local units other than those making the request, the department shall so inform the requestors. If the request was originally made by a local unit only, the board of the county in which the local unit is situated shall be informed of the decision of the department; and unless the board joins in the request and becomes an originator of the request, the department shall discontinue any further work on the survey. The requesting board may then request the other boards to join in the request so that a complete survey of the surplus water located in all affected counties may be made. Refusal on the part of any of the other boards to join in the request shall be reported to the department, and if the department believes that the plan can be effectuated without the cooperation of the refusing boards, the department shall enter a decision to that effect and the boards requesting the survey may proceed in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31304 Request for surveys; determination of optimum flow; plan for improvement, utilization, and conservation of surplus water; factors; limitations.

Sec. 31304. (1) Upon receipt of a request, the department shall determine the optimum flow for the rivers and streams that may be substantially affected by the impounding and releasing of surplus water and upon its completion shall require the boards to prepare and submit to the department a plan for the impoundment, best utilization, and conservation of the surplus water in accordance with this part. The department shall cooperate and collaborate with the boards in the preparation of the plan. The plan shall specify the persons who may

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make use of the water and the terms, conditions, and restrictions under which the water may be used.

(2) In making the determination of optimum flow and in preparing the plan, the department and boards shall consider the following factors:

(a) The range of stream flow variation.

(b) The uses that are being made of the water from the stream or that may be made in the foreseeable future by any riparian owner.

(c) The stream's waste assimilation capacity and its practical utility for domestic use, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, municipal and industrial water supply, commercial and recreational navigation, including portages, public and private utilities, and water storage purposes.

(d) Other factors that appear to the department to be necessary to adequately protect and preserve the rights of riparians on the streams involved.

(3) A plan shall not permit the impounding of water if the flow is below the optimum flow. This part does not authorize the diversion of water from 1 watershed to another.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31305 Public hearing; determination of optimum flow; notice; order; review.

Sec. 31305. (1) Before making a determination of optimum flow, the department shall hold a public hearing on the issue. The department shall set the time and place for the public hearing and shall publish notice of the hearing. The hearing shall be held not less than 180 days after the date of the first publication. The notice shall be published once during each of 2 separate weeks in at least 1 newspaper of general circulation in each county that requested the survey or later joined in the survey. Notice shall be given by first-class mail to each owner or party in interest of upper and lower riparian property that will be affected by the determination and whose name appears upon the most recent local tax assessment records. The notice shall be mailed at least 60 days prior to the date of the hearing to the address shown on the tax records. At the hearing, any interested person may appear, present witnesses, and submit evidence.

(2) Upon the completion of the public hearing pursuant to subsection (1), the department, if it believes it to further the public interest, shall enter an order making a determination of optimum flow. The order shall become final 30 days after the mailing of a copy of it by certified mail to those interested persons who appeared and testified or filed a written statement at the hearing. The order is subject to review as to questions of law only by a writ of superintending control in an action in the nature of certiorari brought before the order becomes final. Only an owner or party in interest of upper or lower riparian property affected by the order who appeared, testified, or filed a written statement at the hearing, who considers himself or herself aggrieved by the order, has the right to file a petition for a writ of superintending control in the nature of certiorari in the circuit court for the county of Ingham or in the circuit court for any county that requested the survey or joined in the survey.

(3) After the order of determination becomes final, the department shall hold a public hearing on the proposed plan as submitted by the board. The department shall set the time and place for the public hearing and shall publish notice in the manner provided in subsection (1). The hearing shall be held not less than 30 days after the date of the first publication. Notice shall be given by first-class mail to the persons and in the manner provided in subsection (1) and shall be mailed at least 30 days prior to the date of the hearing. At the hearing, any interested person may appear, present witnesses, and submit evidence. If the department finds that the proposed plan is in the public interest and in compliance with this part, it shall enter an order approving the plan. The order shall become final 30 days after the mailing of a copy of it by certified mail to those interested persons who appeared and testified or filed a written statement at the hearing. The order is subject to review as is provided in subsection (2).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31306 Transmission of plans to boards; adoption; dams; supervision.

Sec. 31306. (1) When the order has become final, the department shall transmit the plan to all of the boards involved, and, if the plan is adopted by the boards involved, the boards may construct, operate, and maintain, either singly or jointly, the dams necessary to impound the surplus waters and to make use or disposition of the surplus water in accordance with the plan. The department shall maintain supervision over the execution of the plan to the extent it considers necessary to protect the public interest of the state.

(2) For the implementation and effectuation of the plan, the boards, either singly or jointly, may establish a

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governmental agency or commission as may be necessary, may hire employees or assistants as may be required, and may enter into contracts with each other and any person as may be necessary to implement this part. The boards constructing, maintaining, or operating the dams shall be responsible for the proper construction, maintenance, and operation of the dams, and they shall be in full and complete charge of the dams and of the impoundments created by the dams.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31307 Gifts and grants; buying, selling, exchanging, or condemning land; restrictions on financing dams.

Sec. 31307. For the purpose of implementing this part, the boards may receive and accept in the name of the county gifts and grants of land and other property and grants-in-aid from any person, and may buy, sell, exchange, or condemn land and other property or property interests, including the rights of riparian owners to surplus waters, in any county where the land and property are located. The department, if direct acceptance by the boards is not possible, may accept the gifts or grants on their behalf. The boards shall not use any money of the county to implement the terms and provisions of this part, but shall finance the construction, operation, and maintenance of the dams wholly and solely from gifts or grants-in-aid that may be received and from fees and charges as may be made for the use of the surplus water.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31308 Gifts and grants-in-aid; acceptance by department.

Sec. 31308. The department, in carrying out the purposes of this part, may receive and accept on behalf of the state gifts and grants-in-aid from any person.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31309 Use of increased flowage; waste assimilation; rates for usage.

Sec. 31309. All increased flowage resulting from operation of a plan shall be available for nonconsumptive use to all riparians. A person shall not utilize for waste assimilation, or divert from the stream, any surplus water created by release from dams operated under this part, except in accordance with the plan. The amount of surplus water released from any impoundment shall be determined by the department by the use of well-recognized engineering computations. The boards may charge users of the surplus water for waste assimilation or consumptive use, except those making an incidental, noncommercial, or recreational use, a reasonable fee or rate for the quantity of water or for the benefits they receive. Those users who contribute to the construction, maintenance, or operation of the dams may be charged a reduced fee or no fee, but the fees and rates charged by the boards shall be sufficient at all times to defray all costs, expenses, and other financial burdens assumed by the boards in the construction, maintenance, and operation of the dams.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31310 Permits granted by department not affected by part.

Sec. 31310. This part does not abridge the authority of the department as it presently exists. Permits granted by the department in accordance with part 35 are not affected by this part. The granting of future permits under part 35 shall proceed without regard to anything contained in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31311 Rules.

Sec. 31311. The department shall promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.31312 Redetermination of optimum flow; modification of plan; hearings.

Sec. 31312. After a determination or plan has been in effect for 5 years, any riparian owner may petition the department for a redetermination of the optimum flow or modification of the plan, and upon a showing of substantial changes in conditions, the department shall hold hearings as provided in section 31305 and may redetermine the optimum flow or modify the plan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31313 Violation as misdemeanor.

Sec. 31313. Any person knowingly violating this part, or any rule promulgated under this part, or any written order of the department in pursuance of this part, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31314 Applicability of part to river management districts.

Sec. 31314. This part does not apply within the boundaries of any river management district created under part 311.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 315
DAM SAFETY

324.31501 Meanings of words and phrases.

Sec. 31501. For purposes of this part, the words and phrases defined in sections 31502 to 31505 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31502 Definitions; A to D.

Sec. 31502. (1) "Abandonment" means an affirmative act on the part of an owner to discontinue maintenance or operation of a dam.

(2) "Administrative procedures act of 1969" means Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(3) "Alteration" means a change in the design of an existing dam that directly affects or may directly affect the structural integrity of a dam.

(4) "Appurtenant works" means the structure or machinery incident to or annexed to a dam that is built to operate and maintain a dam, including spillways, either in a dam or separate from the dam; low level outlet works; and water conduits such as tunnels, pipelines, or penstocks, located either through the dam or through the abutments of the dam.

(5) "Auxiliary spillway" means a secondary spillway which is operational at all times and does not require stoplog removal or gate manipulation.

(6) "Dam" means an artificial barrier, including dikes, embankments, and appurtenant works, that impounds, diverts, or is designed to impound or divert water or a combination of water and any other liquid or material in the water; that is or will be when complete 6 feet or more in height; and that has or will have an impounding capacity at design flood elevation of 5 surface acres or more. Dam does not include a storage or processing tank or standpipe constructed of steel or concrete, a roadway embankment not designed to impound water, or a dug pond where there is no impoundment of water or waste materials containing water at levels above adjacent natural grade levels.

(7) "Days" means calendar days, including Sundays and holidays.

(8) "Design flood" means the design flow rate for spillway capacity and dam height design.

(9) "Design flood elevation" means the maximum flood elevation that is considered in the design of the

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spillway capacity and freeboard for a dam.

(10) "Downstream toe elevation" means the elevation of the lowest point of intersection between the downstream slope of an earthen embankment and the natural ground.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31503 Definitions; E to H.

Sec. 31503. (1) "Emergency action plan" means a plan developed by the owner that establishes procedures for notification of the department, public off-site authorities, and other agencies of the emergency actions to be taken prior to and following an impending or actual failure of a dam.

(2) "Enlargement" means any change in or addition to an existing dam which raises or may raise the design flood elevation of the water impounded by the dam.

(3) "Failed dam" means a dam not capable of impounding water at its intended level due to a structural deficiency.

(4) "Failure" means an incident resulting in an unplanned or uncontrolled release of water from a dam.

(5) "Flood of record" means the greatest flow rate determined by the department to have occurred at a particular location.

(6) "Freeboard" means the vertical distance between the design flood elevation and the lowest point of the top of the dam.

(7) "Half probable maximum flood" means the largest flood that may reasonably occur over a watershed, and is derived from the combination of hydrologic runoff parameters and the half probable maximum storm that produces the maximum runoff.

(8) "Half probable maximum storm" means the spatial and temporal distribution of the probable maximum precipitation, divided by 2, that produces the maximum volume of precipitation over a watershed.

(9) "Hazard potential classification" means a reference to the potential for loss of life, property damage, and environmental damage in the area downstream of a dam in the event of failure of the dam or appurtenant works.

(10) "Height" means the difference in elevation measured vertically between the natural bed of a stream or watercourse at the downstream toe of the dam, or, if it is not across a stream channel or watercourse, from the lowest elevation of the downstream toe of the dam, to the design flood elevation or to the lowest point of the top of the dam, whichever is less.

(11) "High hazard potential dam" means a dam located in an area where a failure may cause serious damage to inhabited homes, agricultural buildings, campgrounds, recreational facilities, industrial or commercial buildings, public utilities, main highways, or class I carrier railroads, or where environmental degradation would be significant, or where danger to individuals exists with the potential for loss of life.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31504 Definitions; I to P.

Sec. 31504. (1) "Impoundment" means the water held back by a dam.

(2) "Low hazard potential dam" means a dam located in an area where failure may cause damage limited to agriculture, uninhabited buildings, structures, or township or county roads, where environmental degradation would be minimal, and where danger to individuals is slight or nonexistent.

(3) "Maintenance" means the upkeep of a dam and its appurtenant works but does not include alterations or repairs.

(4) "One-hundred year flood" means a flood that has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

(5) "Owner" means a person who owns, leases, controls, operates, maintains, manages, or proposes to construct a dam.

(6) "Probable maximum precipitation" means the theoretically greatest depth of precipitation for a given duration that is physically possible over a given size storm area at a particular geographic location at a certain time of year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.31505 Definitions; R to T.

Sec. 31505. (1) "Removal" means the physical elimination of a dam or impoundment.

(2) "Repair" means to substantially restore a dam to its original condition and includes only such restoration as may directly affect the structural integrity of the dam.

(3) "Riparian owner" means a person who has riparian rights.

(4) "Riparian rights" means rights which accrue by operation of law to a landowner on the banks of an inland lake or stream.

(5) "Significant hazard potential dam" means a dam located in an area where its failure may cause damage limited to isolated inhabited homes, agricultural buildings, structures, secondary highways, short line railroads, or public utilities, where environmental degradation may be significant, or where danger to individuals exists.

(6) "Spillway" means a waterway in or about a dam designed for the discharge of water.

(7) "Spillway capacity" means the maximum rate of discharge that will pass through a spillway at design flood elevation.

(8) "Two-hundred year flood" means a flood that has a 0.5% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31506 Jurisdiction of dams and impoundments; exemptions.

Sec. 31506. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (2) and (3), dams and impoundments in the state are under the jurisdiction of the department.

(2) The following are exempt from this part:

(a) Projects licensed, projects that have preliminary permits, or projects for which an application for licensure has been filed under the federal power act, chapter 285, 41 Stat. 1063, 16 U.S.C. 791a to 793, 796 to 797, 798 to 818, 820 to 824a, and 824b to 825r, if federal dam safety inspection provisions apply during the license period and the inspection reports are provided to the department.

(b) Projects located on boundary waters under the jurisdiction and supervision of the United States army corps of engineers.

(c) Impoundments licensed pursuant to part 115 that contain or are designed to contain type III wastes as defined in rules promulgated under that part.

(3) Until January 1, 1998, a permit shall not be required under this part for the repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a dam, a portion of which is at least 75 years old, was damaged or destroyed by an act of God and is located in a county that has a per capita income of less than $8,500.00. However, a person who is performing a project for the repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a dam that is exempt from obtaining a permit under this subsection shall submit to the department and the joint capital outlay committee plans and specifications for the project. These plans and specifications shall be prepared by a licensed professional engineer and shall meet acceptable standards in the industry in order for a dam to be repaired, reconstructed, or improved. In reviewing plans and specifications for the project, the joint capital outlay committee may recommend environmental considerations to protect water quality such as underspill devices, minimum flow releases and removal of contaminated sediments that may be resuspended in the water column upon impoundment. Such contaminated sediments shall be disposed of in accordance with state law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 100, Imd. Eff. June 22, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31507 Prohibited conduct; exception.

Sec. 31507. (1) A person shall not construct, enlarge, repair, reconstruct, alter, remove, or abandon any dam except in a manner provided for in this part.

(2) This section does not apply to maintenance performed on a dam that does not affect the structural integrity of the dam.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31508 Preparation of plans and specifications; licensed professional engineer required;

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exceptions.

Sec. 31508. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), a licensed professional engineer shall prepare all plans and specifications, except for minor projects undertaken pursuant to section 31513.

(2) A person who is not a licensed professional engineer may prepare plans and specifications only for repairs or alterations to a dam where the application is made by a nonprofit organization under the following circumstances:

(a) The nonprofit organization has assets of less than $30,000.00, is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501, and is not composed primarily of the owners of property adjacent to or contiguous to an impoundment.

(b) The proposed repairs or alterations have a projected total cost of less than $25,000.00.

(c) The impoundment is open to the public and a notice of public access is posted.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31509 Activities requiring permit; application for permit; fees; waiver and disposition of fees.

Sec. 31509. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part or as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13, a person shall not undertake any of the following activities:

(a) Construction of a new dam.

(b) Enlargement of a dam or an impoundment.

(c) Repair of a dam.

(d) Alteration of a dam.

(e) Removal of a dam.

(f) Abandonment of a dam.

(g) Reconstruction of a failed dam.

(2) An application for a permit shall include information that the department determines is necessary for the administration of this part. If a project includes activities at multiple locations, 1 application may be filed for the combined activities.

(3) An application for a permit for construction of a new dam, reconstruction of a failed dam, or enlargement of a dam shall be accompanied by the following fees:

(a) For a dam with a height of 6 feet or more but less than 10 feet, $500.00.

(b) For a dam with a height of 10 feet or more but less than 20 feet, $1,000.00.

(c) For a dam with a height of 20 feet or more, $3,000.00.

(4) An application for a permit for the repair, alteration, removal, or abandonment of a dam shall be accompanied by a fee of $200.00, and an application for a permit for a minor project pursuant to section 31513(1) shall be accompanied by a fee of $100.00.

(5) The department shall waive the fees under this section for applications from state agencies, department sponsored projects located on public lands, and organizations of the type described in section 31508(2)(a) through (c).

(6) The department shall forward fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31510 Request for notification of pending applications for permits; annual fee; biweekly list of applications; copies; contents.

Sec. 31510. (1) A person who wants to be notified of pending applications for permits issued under this part may make a written request to the department, accompanied by an annual fee of $25.00. The fee shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

(2) The department shall prepare a biweekly list of the applications made during the previous biweekly period and shall promptly mail copies of the list for the remainder of the calendar year to the persons who have requested notice and paid the fee under this section.

(3) The biweekly list shall state the name and address of each applicant, the legal description of the lands included in the applicant's project, and a summary statement of the purpose of the project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31511 Copies of application and statement; submission; public hearing; notice.

Sec. 31511. (1) Upon receipt of an application for a permit under this part, the department shall submit copies of the application accompanied by a statement indicating that the department may act upon the application without a public hearing unless a written request is filed with the department within 20 days after the submission for review. The department shall submit copies of the application to all of the following:

(a) The local unit of government where the project is to be located.

(b) The adjacent riparian owners.

(c) Any person considered appropriate by the department.

(d) Any person who requests copies.

(e) A watershed council, organized pursuant to part 311, of the watershed within which the project is located or is to be located.

(2) The department may hold a public hearing upon the written request of any of the following:

(a) An applicant.

(b) A riparian owner.

(c) A person or local unit of government that is entitled to receive a copy of the application pursuant to subsection (1).

(3) A public hearing held pursuant to this section shall be held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the hearing shall be given in the manner provided by that act. Additionally, the department shall mail copies of the public notice to the persons who have requested the biweekly list pursuant to section 31510, the person requesting the hearing, and the persons and local units of government that are entitled to receive a copy of the application pursuant to subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31512 Necessity for immediate action; emergency conditions; application for permit to reconstruct failed dam.

Sec. 31512. (1) When immediate action is necessary to protect the structural integrity of a dam, the department may issue a permit before the expiration of the 20-day period referred to in section 31511(1). This subsection does not prohibit an owner from taking action necessary to mitigate emergency conditions if imminent danger of failure exists.

(2) A person applying for a permit to reconstruct a failed dam shall file a complete application not less than 1 year after the date of the failure. If such an application is filed more than 1 year after the date of the failure, the department shall consider the application to be an application to construct a new dam.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31513 Minor project categories; rules.

Sec. 31513. (1) The department shall promulgate rules to establish minor project categories for alterations and repairs that have minimal effect on the structural integrity of a dam. The department may act upon an application and grant a permit for an activity or project within a minor project category, after an on-site inspection of the dam, without providing public notice.

(2) All other provisions of this part shall be applicable to minor projects, except that a final inspection by the department or certification of the project by a licensed professional engineer shall not be required for a project completed under a permit granted pursuant to subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31514 Effect of proposed activity on public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources.

Sec. 31514. The department shall not issue a permit to construct a new dam, reconstruct a failed dam for which a complete application to reconstruct has been submitted more than 1 year after the date of the failure,

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or enlarge the surface area of an impoundment by more than 10% unless it determines, after a review of the application submitted, that the proposed activity for which a permit is requested will not have a significant adverse effect on public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31515 Approval of plans and specifications; completion of permitted activity; time; extension; approval of changes; duration and renewal of permit; terms and conditions; mitigating measures; recommendations; performance bond; suspension, revocation, annulment, withdrawal, recall, cancellation, or amendment of permit; hearings.

Sec. 31515. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a permit issued by the department under this part shall require that plans and specifications be approved by the department before construction begins. The department shall approve or reject complete plans and specifications within 60 days after their receipt. The permitted activity shall be completed within a specified time not to exceed 2 years after the date of issuance of the permit. Upon the written application of the permittee, and for good cause shown, the department may extend the time for completing construction. The permittee shall notify the department at least 10 days before beginning construction and shall otherwise notify the department as the department may require.

(2) A change in approved plans and specifications shall not be implemented unless the department gives its prior approval. The department shall approve or reject changes in plans and specifications within 30 days after the request for the changes.

(3) A permit is effective for the length of time specified in the permit unless it is revoked pursuant to this part. The department may renew a permit.

(4) A permit to alter, repair, or construct a new dam, reconstruct a failed dam, or enlarge the surface area of an impoundment by more than 10% may specify the terms and conditions including, but not limited to, requirements for minimum flows, cold water release, impoundment fluctuations, portage, contingency plans, and conditions under which the work is to be performed. The terms and conditions of a permit shall be effective for the life of the project. The department may consider, in issuing a permit, any mitigating measures in conjunction with the permitted activities and may make recommendations as to fish passage that may be required by part 483.

(5) A permit to construct a new dam or reconstruct a failed dam may require a performance bond to assure completion of the project or to provide for complete or partial restoration of the project site, as determined by the department in rules promulgated by the department.

(6) A permit may be suspended, revoked, annulled, withdrawn, recalled, canceled, or amended after a hearing for a violation of any of its provisions, a violation of this part, a violation of a rule promulgated under this part, or any misrepresentation contained in the application. Hearings shall be conducted by the department in accordance with the provisions for contested cases in the administrative procedures act of 1969.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31516 Spillway capacity; minimum criteria; freeboard; auxiliary spillway; duty of owner.

Sec. 31516. (1) Spillway capacity shall meet the following minimum criteria:

(a) Low hazard potential dams shall be capable of passing the 100-year flood, or the flood of record, whichever is greater.

(b) Significant hazard potential dams shall be capable of passing the 200-year flood, or the flood of record, whichever is greater.

(c) High hazard potential dams, less than 40 feet in height, as measured from the 200-year design flood elevation to the lowest downstream toe elevation, shall be capable of passing the 200-year flood, or the flood of record, whichever is greater.

(d) High hazard potential dams, 40 feet or greater in height, as measured from the 200-year design flood elevation to the lowest downstream toe elevation, shall be capable of passing the half probable maximum flood. The half probable maximum flood criterion may be reduced to not less than the 200-year flood, with proper documentation evidencing a failure of a dam under half probable maximum flood conditions will not cause additional flood damage or loss of life.

(e) Spillway design capacity shall not be less than the flood of record.

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(2) Freeboard shall be considered when determining spillway capacity.

(3) If a dam cannot pass the design flood, an auxiliary spillway must be provided. The owner must document, to the satisfaction of the department, that the dam has sufficient spillway capacity, and that proper means are available to operate the spillway or spillways during the design flood.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31517 Duties of owner; inspection; notice of final approval; notice of project not completed in accordance with plans, specifications, or conditions; enforcement action.

Sec. 31517. (1) Except for minor projects authorized pursuant to section 31513, the owner shall do both of the following:

(a) Within 10 days after the completion of a new, reconstructed, enlarged, repaired, or altered dam, notify the department of its completion.

(b) Within 20 days after submitting the notice of completion, file with the department as-built plans and a statement signed by a licensed professional engineer certifying that the project was constructed in conformance with plans and specifications approved by the department.

(2) The department shall inspect the project and shall provide the owner with written notice of final approval if the project is determined to have been completed in accordance with approved plans, specifications, and permit conditions.

(3) If the project is determined not to be completed in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the department and permit conditions, the department shall provide notice to the permittee as to the specific reasons the department determines the project not to be completed in accordance with those plans, specifications, or conditions. The department may then take enforcement action as provided in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31518 Inspection reports; determination of hazard potential classification; inspection schedule; notice; additional inspection reports; contents of inspection report; visual inspection and report; detailed investigation or evaluation; life or property threatened by breach of dam; cause of action; ordering actions to alleviate danger.

Sec. 31518. (1) An owner shall submit to the department inspection reports prepared by a licensed professional engineer that evaluate the condition of the dam. The inspection report shall be submitted as follows:

(a) Not less than once every 3 years for high hazard potential dams.

(b) Not less than once every 4 years for significant hazard potential dams.

(c) Not less than once every 5 years for low hazard potential dams.

(2) The department shall determine the hazard potential classification of all dams and shall establish an inspection schedule. The inspection schedule shall require annual submission of inspection reports for approximately 1/3 of all high hazard potential dams, 1/4 of all significant hazard potential dams, and 1/5 of all low hazard potential dams. The department shall notify owners in writing when inspection reports are due. The department may order additional inspection reports following an event or change in condition that could threaten a dam.

(3) An inspection report required by this section shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:

(a) An evaluation of the dam's condition, spillway capacity, operational adequacy, and structural integrity.

(b) A determination of whether deficiencies exist that could lead to the failure of the dam.

(c) Recommendations for maintenance, repair, and alterations of a dam as are necessary to eliminate any deficiencies.

(4) Instead of engaging a licensed professional engineer to prepare an inspection report, local units of government or an organization of the type described in section 31508(2)(a) through (c) may request the department to conduct a visual inspection of a dam owned by that local unit of government and prepare a report on the condition of the dam in accordance with subsection (3). The department shall notify a requesting local unit of government as to when the inspection is to occur.

(5) If an inspection report discloses the need for a more detailed investigation or evaluation of certain dam features for the purpose of determining the condition of the dam, the department may order the completion and submission of that detailed investigation or evaluation at the expense of the owner. An investigation or

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evaluation required under this subsection shall be conducted under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer.

(6) If an owner does not submit an inspection report as required by subsection (1) or conduct additional investigations if required by subsection (5), the department or any person who would have life or property threatened by a breach of the dam may have a report prepared and recover the costs of preparing the report in a civil action commenced in a court of competent jurisdiction. This subsection does not limit the right of any person to bring a cause of action in a court of proper jurisdiction to compel an owner to comply with the requirements of this part.

(7) If, based on the findings and recommendations of the inspection report and an inspection by the department, the department finds that a condition exists which endangers a dam, it shall order the owner to take actions that the department considers necessary to alleviate the danger.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31519 Order to limit dam operations; order to remove dam; hearing.

Sec. 31519. (1) Where significant damage to the public health, safety, welfare, property, and natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources or damage to persons or property occurs or is anticipated to occur due to the operation of a dam, the department may order the owner to limit dam operations. These orders may include, but are not limited to, cold water release, minimum flow releases from dams, impoundment fluctuation restrictions, or requirements for run-of-the-river operation. In issuing these orders, the department shall take into account social, economic, and public trust values.

(2) Where significant damage to persons, property, or natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources occurs as a result of the condition or existence of a dam, the department may order the removal of the dam following a determination by the department that, due to the continued condition or existence of the dam, the dam is likely to continue to cause significant damage. In issuing a removal order, the department shall take into account social and economic values, the natural resources, and the public trust in those natural resources and shall not issue a removal order when those factors exceed adverse impacts on natural resources or present danger to persons or property. The department shall not issue a removal order involving a dam subject to the regulatory authority of the Michigan public service commission or the federal energy regulatory commission unless that commission has concurred in writing with the order.

(3) Prior to finalizing an order under this section, the department shall provide an owner an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31520 Sudden or unprecedented flood; unusual or alarming circumstance or occurrence; emergency drawdowns, repairs, breaching, or other action; notice.

Sec. 31520. (1) The owner or his or her agent shall advise the department and the affected off-site public authorities and safety agencies of any sudden or unprecedented flood or unusual or alarming circumstance or occurrence existing or anticipated that may affect the safety of the dam within 24 hours of the flood, circumstance, or occurrence.

(2) The owner shall notify the department as soon as possible of any necessary emergency drawdowns, repairs, breaching, or other action being taken in response to an emergency condition.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31521 Emergency orders.

Sec. 31521. (1) The department may issue emergency orders as provided in this section. The department may, by written notice, order an owner to immediately repair, draw down, breach, or cease operation of a dam where a dam is in imminent danger of failure and is causing or threatening to cause harm to public health, safety, welfare, property, or the natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources. If an owner fails to comply with an order, or is unavailable or unable to be contacted, then the department may undertake immediate repair, drawdown, breaching, or cessation of operation, as may be necessary to alleviate the danger, and may recover from the owner the costs incurred in a civil action commenced in a court of competent jurisdiction. The department may terminate an emergency order upon a determination in writing

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that all necessary emergency actions have been complied with by the owner and that an emergency no longer exists.

(2) When ordering emergency actions under subsection (1), the department may specify maximum drawdown level and discharge rates and require sediment surveys, water quality sampling, monitoring, or any other action determined necessary by the department to ensure adequate protection of the public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources. The department may modify the requirements of an emergency order if, during the conduct of ordered actions, it determines that the modification is necessary to protect the public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources.

(3) Upon the issuance of an emergency order, the department shall provide the owner with an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969 within 15 days of the date of its issuance. At the hearing, the department shall determine, based on information and fact, if the emergency order shall be continued, modified, or suspended as necessary to protect public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources or the public trust in those natural resources.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31522 Structural integrity and operation of dam; investigations and studies.

Sec. 31522. The department may make, or cause to be made, hydrologic or other investigations and studies as may be required to facilitate its decisions regarding the structural integrity and operation of a dam.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31523 Emergency action plans; submissions; review; consistency with other plans; contents of plans.

Sec. 31523. (1) An owner shall prepare, and keep current, emergency action plans for all high and significant hazard potential dams owned by that person.

(2) Emergency action plans shall be submitted to the department.

(3) The applicable county or local emergency management coordinators shall review for consistency emergency action plans with the county or local emergency operations plan prior to submission of those plans to the department.

(4) An emergency action plan shall be consistent with the applicable provisions of the affected county or local emergency operations plans and the Michigan emergency preparedness plan as developed pursuant to the emergency preparedness act, Act No. 390 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 30.401 to 30.420 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(5) Emergency action plans shall include, but not be limited to, the name, address, and telephone number of the person, and of an alternate person, responsible for operation of the dam; the name and telephone number of local emergency management coordinators; and a listing of occupied facilities, buildings, and residences that may be threatened with flooding due to a failure of the dam.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31524 Violation; order; suspension, modification, or revocation of permit; remedies cumulative; civil action.

Sec. 31524. (1) If the department determines that a person is in violation of this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or a condition set forth in a permit issued under this part, the department may issue an order requiring the person to comply with the conditions or to restore the site affected by the violation as nearly as practicable to its original condition. Restoration may include, but is not limited to, removing fill material deposited or replacing soil, sand, or minerals.

(2) An order shall state the nature of the violation and the required remedial action, and shall specify a time for compliance that the department determines is reasonable, taking into account the seriousness of the violation and the nature of any threat to public health, safety, welfare, property, or natural resources, or the public trust in those natural resources, that may be involved.

(3) If the department determines that a person is in violation of this part, a rule promulgated under this part,

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an order issued by the department, or a permit, the department, after notice and opportunity for hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, may suspend, modify, or revoke a permit. The remedies under this section and section 31525 are cumulative and do not prevent the department from imposing other penalties available under this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or an order of the department.

(4) If the department determines that a person is in violation of this part, a rule promulgated under this part, an order issued by the department pursuant to this part, or a permit issued pursuant to this part, the department may bring a civil action in the circuit court.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31525 Commencement of civil action; request; place; civil fine; contempt; willful or reckless violation as misdemeanor; penalty; subsequent violations; fine for failure to obtain permit; restoration of site; schedule of administrative monetary penalties for minor violations.

Sec. 31525. (1) The attorney general may commence a civil action for appropriate relief, including injunctive relief, upon request of the department under section 31524.

(2) Any civil action under this section may be brought in the circuit court for the county of Ingham or for the county in which the dam is located.

(3) In addition to any other relief granted under this section, the court may impose a civil fine of not more than $10,000.00 for each day of violation of this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or a permit issued under this part.

(4) A person found guilty of contempt of court for the violation of an order of the court shall be subject to a civil fine not to exceed $10,000.00 for each day of violation.

(5) A person who willfully or recklessly violates this part, a rule promulgated under this part, an order issued by the department, or a condition in a permit issued under this part, which violation places or may place a person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury or may cause serious property damage or serious damage to natural resources, or a person who has knowledge of or is responsible for such a violation, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not less than $2,500.00 or more than $25,000.00 for each day of violation, or both. A person who violates this section a second or subsequent time is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 2 years or a fine of not less than $10,000.00 for each day of violation, or both.

(6) A person required to obtain a permit for activity regulated under this part who does not obtain that permit shall be fined not less than twice the fee charged for the appropriate permit application.

(7) In addition to the orders of compliance and penalties provided under this part, the court may order a person who violates this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or a permit issued under this part to restore the site affected by the violation as nearly as practicable to its original condition. Restoration may include, but is not limited to, removing fill material deposited or replacing soil, sand, or minerals.

(8) The department may establish, by rule, a schedule of administrative monetary penalties for minor violations of this part, a rule promulgated under this part, a permit issued pursuant to this part, or an order issued by the department pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31526 Person aggrieved by action or inaction of department; hearing; determination; judicial review.

Sec. 31526. (1) A person aggrieved by any action or inaction of the department under this part or rules promulgated under this part may request a hearing on the matter involved. The hearing shall be conducted by the department in accordance with the provisions for contested cases in the administrative procedures act of 1969.

(2) A determination of action or inaction by the department following the hearing may be subject to judicial review as provided in the administrative procedures act of 1969.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.31527 Entering private or public property; time; purpose.

Sec. 31527. The department may enter in or upon any private or public property anytime where the public safety may be in danger and at all reasonable times, after attempting to contact the owner before entering the site and having shown proper identification, for the purpose of inspecting or investigating conditions relating to the construction, operation, or safety of a dam and for the purpose of determining compliance with the terms, conditions, and requirements of permits, orders, or notices of approval issued under this part and rules promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31528 Rules.

Sec. 31528. The department shall promulgate rules as necessary to implement and enforce this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31529 Construction of part.

Sec. 31529. (1) This part does not abrogate requirements of parts 31, 91, 301, 303, 305, 307, and 483 or other applicable law.

(2) This part does not relieve an owner of any legal duty, obligation, or liability incident to the ownership or operation of a dam or impoundment.

(3) This part does not deprive an owner of any legal remedy to which he or she may be entitled under the laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 317
AQUIFER PROTECTION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

324.31701 Definitions.

Sec. 31701. As used in this part:

(a) "Agricultural well" means a high-capacity well that is located on a farm and is used for an agricultural purpose as that term is defined in section 32701.

(b) "Complaint" means a complaint submitted under section 31702 alleging a potential groundwater dispute.

(c) "Construction" means the process of building a building, road, utility, or another structure, including all of the following:

(*i*) Assembling materials.

(*ii*) Disassembling and removing a structure.

(*iii*) Preparing the construction site.

(*iv*) Work related to any of the items described in subparagraphs (*i*) to (*iii*).

(d) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(e) "Dewatering well" means a well or pump that is used to remove water from a mining operation or that is used for a limited time period as part of a construction project to remove or pump water from a surface or subsurface area and ceases to be used upon completion of the construction project or shortly after completion of the construction project.

(f) "Director" means the director of the department or his or her designee.

(g) "Farm" means that term as it is defined in section 2 of the Michigan right to farm act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.472.

(h) "Fund" means the aquifer protection revolving fund created in section 31710.

(i) "Groundwater" means the water in the zone of saturation that fills all of the pore spaces of the subsurface geologic material.

(j) "Groundwater dispute" means a groundwater dispute declared by order of the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development under section 31703.

(k) "High-capacity well" means 1 or more water wells associated with an industrial or processing facility, an irrigation facility, or a farm that, in the aggregate from all sources and by all methods, have the capability

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of withdrawing 100,000 or more gallons of groundwater in 1 day.

(*l*) "Local health department" means that term as it is defined in section 1105 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.1105.

(m) "Owner of a high-capacity well" means the person that owns or controls the parcel of property where a high-capacity well is located.

(n) "Owner of a small-quantity well" means the person that owns or controls the parcel of property where a small-capacity well is located.

(o) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

(p) "Potable water" means water that at the point of use is acceptable for human consumption.

(q) "Small-quantity well" means 1 or more water wells of a person at the same location that, in the aggregate from all sources and by all methods, do not have the capability of withdrawing 100,000 or more gallons of groundwater in 1 day.

(r) "Water well" means an opening in the surface of the earth, however constructed, that is used for the purpose of withdrawing groundwater. Water well does not include a drain as defined in section 3 of the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, MCL 280.3.

(s) "Well drilling contractor" means a well drilling contractor registered under part 127 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.12701 to 333.12771.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31701, which pertained to definitions used in part, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31702 Allegation of potential groundwater dispute; submission of complaint by small-quantity well owner; investigation; on-site evaluation; inability to resolve complaint; toll-free facsimile and telephone line; duties of director of department of environmental quality and director of department of agriculture and rural development; unverified complaints; other resolutions.

Sec. 31702. (1) The owner of a small-quantity well may submit a complaint alleging a potential groundwater dispute if the small-quantity well has failed to furnish the well's normal supply of water or the well has failed to furnish potable water and the owner has credible reason to believe that the well's problems have been caused by a high-capacity well. A complaint shall be submitted to the director or to the director of the department of agriculture and rural development if the complaint involves an agricultural well. The complaint shall be in writing and shall be submitted in person, via certified mail, via the toll-free facsimile telephone number provided in subsection (6), or via other means of electronic submittal as developed by the department. However, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development may refuse to accept an unreasonable complaint. The complaint shall include all of the following information:

(a) The name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the small-quantity well.

(b) The location of the small-quantity well, including the county, township, township section, and address of the property on which the small-quantity well is situated, and all other available information that indicates the location of that well.

(c) A written assessment by a well drilling contractor that the small-quantity well failure was not the result of well design or equipment failure. The assessment shall include a determination of the static water level in the well at the time of the assessment, if the static water level determination will not result in the well being damaged or decommissioned, and, if readily available, the type of pump and equipment.

(d) An explanation of why the small-quantity well owner believes that a high-capacity well has interfered with the proper function of the small-quantity well and any information available to the small-quantity well owner about the location and operation of the high-capacity well.

(e) The date or dates on which the interference by a high-capacity well occurred.

(f) Sufficient evidence to establish a reasonable belief that the interference was caused by a high-capacity well.

(2) The owner of a small-quantity well may call the toll-free telephone line provided for in subsection (6) to request a complaint form or other information regarding the dispute resolution process provided in this part.

(3) Within 2 business days after receipt of a complaint under subsection (1), the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall contact the complainant and the owner of each high-capacity well identified in the complaint, shall provide actual notice of the complaint to

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the owner of each high-capacity well identified in the complaint, and shall begin an investigation.

(4) Within 5 business days after the owner of each high-capacity well has been provided with actual notice of the complaint under subsection (3), the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall conduct an on-site evaluation. If the well is an agricultural well, the department shall consult with and provide technical assistance to the department of agriculture and rural development regarding the on-site evaluation. However, if the complaint is for a small-quantity well that is in close proximity to other small-quantity wells for which documented complaints have been received and investigated during the previous 60 days, the department or the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, need not conduct an on-site evaluation unless it determines that an on-site evaluation is necessary. The director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall give affected persons an opportunity to contribute to the investigation of a complaint. In conducting the investigation, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall consider whether the owner of the high-capacity well is using industry-recognized water conservation management practices.

(5) After conducting an investigation, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall make a diligent effort to resolve the complaint. In attempting to resolve a complaint, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, may propose a remedy that he or she believes would equitably resolve the complaint.

(6) The director shall provide for the use of a toll-free facsimile line to receive complaints and a toll-free telephone line for owners of small-quantity wells to request complaint forms and to obtain other information regarding the dispute resolution process provided in this part.

(7) The director and the director of the department of agriculture and rural development shall do both of the following:

(a) Publicize the toll-free facsimile line and the toll-free telephone line provided for in subsection (6).

(b) Enter into a memorandum of understanding that describes the process that will be followed by each director when a complaint involves an agricultural well.

(8) A complainant who submits more than 2 unverified complaints under this section within 1 year may be ordered by the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development to pay for the full costs of investigation of any third or subsequent unverified complaint. As used in this subsection, "unverified complaint" means a complaint in response to which the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development determines that there is not reasonable evidence to declare a groundwater dispute.

(9) If an owner of a high-capacity well that is not an agricultural well does not wish to participate in the dispute resolution process under this part, that dispute shall be resolved as otherwise provided by law.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31702, which pertained to complaints alleging potential groundwater disputes, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31702a Informal meeting between parties.

Sec. 31702a. (1) If a complaint regarding an agricultural well is not resolved under section 31702, the director of the department of agriculture and rural development shall schedule and provide written notice of an informal meeting between the parties to the dispute. The informal meeting shall be scheduled at least 10 business days prior to the issuance of an order declaring a groundwater dispute under section 31703. The participants at the informal meeting shall include the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, the owner of the agricultural well, and the owner or owners of the small-quantity wells that are alleged to be impacted by the agricultural well who wish to attend. However, upon written notice provided to the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, the owner of the agricultural well may waive the informal meeting.

(2) At the informal meeting held pursuant to subsection (1), the director of the department of agriculture and rural development shall present the information that he or she has obtained regarding the items listed in section 31703(1)(a) through (f) and (2). The owner of the agricultural well shall be given an opportunity to challenge the department's assertions and may submit information that the problems associated with the small-quantity well or wells are not being caused by the agricultural well. The owner or owners of the small-quantity wells alleged to be impacted may also submit additional information regarding the complaint.

History: Add. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31703 Duties of director or director of department of agriculture and rural development in groundwater dispute.

Sec. 31703. (1) The director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall, by order, declare a groundwater dispute if an investigation of a complaint discloses all of the following, based upon reasonable scientifically based evidence, and within a reasonable amount of time the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, is unable to resolve the complaint:

(a) That the small-quantity well has failed to furnish the well's normal supply of water or failed to furnish potable water.

(b) That the small-quantity well and the well's equipment were functioning properly at the time of the failure. The determination under this subdivision shall be made based upon an assessment from a well drilling contractor that is provided by the owner of the small-quantity well.

(c) That the failure of the small-quantity well was caused by the lowering of the groundwater level in the area.

(d) That the lowering of the groundwater level exceeds normal seasonal water level fluctuations and substantially impairs continued use of the groundwater resource in the area.

(e) That the lowering of the groundwater level was caused by at least 1 high-capacity well.

(f) That the owner of the small-quantity well did not unreasonably reject a remedy proposed by the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development under section 31702(5).

(2) In addition to the authority under subsection (1) to declare a groundwater dispute, if the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, has clear and convincing scientifically based evidence that indicates that continued groundwater withdrawals from a high-capacity well will exceed the recharge capability of the groundwater resource of the area, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, by order, may declare a groundwater dispute.

(3) The director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, may amend or terminate an order declaring a groundwater dispute at any time. Prior to amending an order declaring a groundwater dispute regarding an agricultural well under this subsection, the director of the department of agriculture and rural development shall schedule an informal meeting and provide notice of the informal meeting in the manner provided under section 31702a.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31703, which pertained to declaration of groundwater dispute by order of director, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31704 Order declaring groundwater dispute.

Sec. 31704. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (4), an order declaring a groundwater dispute is effective when a copy of the order is served upon the owner of a high-capacity well that is reasonably believed to have caused the failure of the complainant's small-quantity well.

(2) If a groundwater dispute requires action before service can be completed under subsection (1), oral notification in person by the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, is sufficient until service can be completed. Oral notification is effective for not more than 96 hours.

(3) As soon as possible after an order declaring a groundwater dispute has been issued, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall provide copies of the order to the local units of government in which the high-capacity well and the small-quantity well are located and to the local health departments with jurisdiction over those wells.

(4) Within 14 days after service of an order under subsection (1), the owner of an agricultural well may contest the order by submitting an appeal to the commission of agriculture and rural development. The appeal shall be submitted on a form provided by the department of agriculture and rural development and shall outline the basis for the appeal. Upon receipt of an appeal under this subsection, the commission of agriculture and rural development shall schedule the appeal for consideration at the next scheduled meeting of the commission. Except for the provision of an adequate supply of potable water under section 31705(1), the terms of the order are stayed until a determination is made by the commission of agriculture and rural development regarding the appeal. At the commission's meeting, the commission shall review the order and

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consider any testimony or other documentation contesting the order and shall make a determination to affirm the order or dismiss the order. If the commission of agriculture and rural development dismisses the order, the department of agriculture and rural development shall reimburse the appellant for the cost of providing potable water under section 31705.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31704, which pertained to service of order declaring groundwater dispute and effectiveness of oral notification, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31705 Declaration of groundwater dispute; temporary provision at point of use of adequate supply of potable water; extraction of groundwater; restriction; impact on viability of certain businesses; public water supply owned or operated by local government.

Sec. 31705. (1) Upon declaration of a groundwater dispute, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall, by order, require the immediate temporary provision at the point of use of an adequate supply of potable water.

(2) Except as provided in subsections (3), (4), and (5), if the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, issues an order declaring a groundwater dispute, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, may, by order, restrict the quantity of groundwater that may be extracted from a high-capacity well under either of the following conditions:

(a) If the high-capacity well is reasonably believed to have caused the failure of the complainant's small-quantity well and an immediate temporary provision of an adequate supply of potable water has not been provided to the complainant by the owner of the high-capacity well.

(b) If there is clear and convincing scientifically based evidence that continued groundwater withdrawals from the high-capacity well will exceed the recharge capability of the groundwater resource of the area.

(3) In issuing an order under subsection (2), the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall consider the impact the order will have on the viability of a business associated with the high-capacity well or other use of the high-capacity well.

(4) If an operator of a high-capacity well withdraws water by a means other than pumping, the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, may, by order, temporarily restrict the quantity of groundwater that may be extracted only if the conditions of subsection (2)(a) or (b) have not been met.

(5) The director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, shall not issue an order that diminishes the normal supply of drinking water or the capability for fire suppression of a public water supply system owned or operated by a local unit of government.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31705, which pertained to duties of director upon issuance of order declaring groundwater dispute, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31706 Compensation; conditions.

Sec. 31706. If a groundwater dispute has been declared, the owner of a high-capacity well shall, subject to an order of the director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, provide timely and reasonable compensation as provided in section 31707 if there is a failure or substantial impairment of a small-quantity well and the following conditions exist:

(a) The failure or substantial impairment was caused by the groundwater withdrawals of the high-capacity well.

(b) The small-quantity well was constructed prior to February 14, 1967 or, if the small-quantity well was constructed on or after February 14, 1967, the well was constructed in compliance with part 127 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.12701 to 333.12771.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31706, which pertained to duty of owner of high-capacity well to provide compensation if there is substantial impairment of small-quantity well and certain other conditions exist, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31707 Compensation; requirements.

Sec. 31707. (1) Timely and reasonable compensation under section 31706 consists of and is limited to either or both of the following:

(a) The reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred by the complainant beginning 30 days prior to the date on which a complaint was made under section 31702 in doing the following:

(*i*) Paying for the cost of conducting a well assessment to determine that the small-quantity well and the well's equipment were functioning properly at the time of the failure.

(*ii*) Paying for the cost of obtaining an immediate temporary provision at the prior point of use of an adequate supply of potable water.

(*iii*) Obtaining 1 of the following:

(A) The restoration of the affected small-quantity well to the well's normal supply of water.

(B) The permanent provision at the point of use of an alternative potable supply of equal quantity.

(b) If an adequate remedy is not achievable under subdivision (a), the restriction or scheduling of the groundwater withdrawals of the high-capacity well so that the affected small-quantity well continues to produce either of the following:

(*i*) The well's normal supply of water.

(*ii*) The normal supply of potable water if the well normally furnishes potable water.

(2) The refusal of an owner of an affected small-quantity well to accept timely and reasonable compensation described in subsection (1) is sufficient grounds for the director to terminate an order imposed on the owner of a high-capacity well.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31707, which pertained to limitations to timely and reasonable compensation and the effect of small-quantity well owner's refusal to accept compensation, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Part 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31708 Appeal.

Sec. 31708. Notwithstanding section 31704(4), the owner of a high-capacity well subject to an order under this part may appeal that order directly to circuit court pursuant to the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.101 to 600.9947.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31708, which pertained to appeal of order to circuit court, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31709 Exceptions.

Sec. 31709. This part does not apply to a potential groundwater dispute involving either of the following:

(a) A high-capacity well that is a dewatering well.

(b) A high-capacity well that is used solely for the purpose of fire suppression.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31709, which pertained to inapplicability of part to certain groundwater disputes, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31710 Aquifer protection revolving fund.

Sec. 31710. (1) The aquifer protection revolving fund is created in the state treasury.

(2) The fund may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(5) Money in the fund shall be expended by the department only to implement this part and to reimburse

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the department of agriculture and rural development for its actual costs incurred in implementing this part.

(6) If money in the fund is used to conduct hydrogeological studies or other studies to gather data on the nature of aquifers or groundwater resources in the state, the department shall include this information in the groundwater inventory and map prepared under section 32802.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31710, which pertained to aquifer protection revolving fund, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31711 Report.

Sec. 31711. (1) Not later than April 1, 2013, and every 2 years thereafter, the department shall prepare and submit to the legislature a report that includes both of the following:

(a) An analysis of the department's costs of implementing this part.

(b) Recommendations on modifications to this part that would improve the overall effectiveness of this part.

(2) The department shall file with the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives a report that evaluates the effectiveness of the dispute resolution process during the 5-year period beginning on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection. The report shall be filed within 90 days after the expiration of that 5-year period.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31711, which pertained to preparation and submission of report to legislative committees, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31712 Violation of order; civil fine or costs; default; deposit; action to enforce order.

Sec. 31712. (1) A person who violates an order issued under this part is responsible for a civil fine of not more than $1,000.00 for each day of violation, but not exceeding a total of $50,000.00.

(2) A default in the payment of a civil fine or costs ordered under this section or an installment of the fine or costs may be remedied by any means authorized under the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.101 to 600.9947.

(3) All civil fines recovered under this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

(4) The director or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, as appropriate, may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce an order under this part, including injunctive or other equitable relief.

History: Add. 2012, Act 602, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.31712, which pertained to identification of at-risk geographic areas, was repealed by Act 176 of 2009, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.31713 Repealed. 2009, Act 176, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to penalty, default, disposition, and enforcement action relating to violation of an order.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

THE GREAT LAKES

PART 321
THE GREAT LAKES COMPACT AUTHORIZATION

324.32101 Great Lakes compact; cooperation with Ontario and bordering states; agreement authority.

Sec. 32101. So that the state of Michigan can consult and cooperate with the other states bordering on the Great Lakes and the province of Ontario in regard to all matters and things affecting the rights and interests of

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this state and such other states and province, in the management, control and supervision of the waters of the Great Lakes including the marine life therein, the governor of the state of Michigan is hereby authorized and empowered for and in the name of the state of Michigan to execute an agreement or agreements with any or all the other states bordering on the Great Lakes and the province of Ontario, in conformity with the terms, conditions and provisions contained in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32102 Compact; ratification.

Sec. 32102. Such compact shall become operative whenever, in addition to Michigan, any 3 of the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Minnesota shall have ratified it and congress has given its consent, if needed. The province of Ontario may become a party to this compact by taking such action as its laws and the laws of the Dominion of Canada may prescribe for ratification.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32103 Compact; terms; conditions; provisions.

Sec. 32103. In addition to other pertinent and necessary provisions which are in consonance with the expressed purposes of the compact as herein provided, such a compact shall contain the following terms, conditions and provisions: Said compact shall authorize the compacting parties to do all things reasonably necessary for carrying out the purposes of this part but such a compact shall be entered into solely for the purpose of empowering the duly appointed representatives of said states and the province of Ontario to meet, consult with and make recommendations to their respective governors, legislative bodies or governmental agencies and to the international joint commission established under the treaty of 1909 between the United States and Great Britain with respect to the management, control and supervision of the waters of the Great Lakes including the marine life therein. However, it is distinctly provided that any such recommendation and any decision or agreement arrived at among the compacting parties shall at no time have any force of law or be binding on any compacting party.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32104 Compact commission; memberships.

Sec. 32104. Each compacting party shall have the right to designate 5 representatives to such interstate compact commission to be known as the Great Lakes compact commission. The representatives from this state shall be as provided in section 32202.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32105 Compact; effective date; commission meetings; officers; duties; quorum.

Sec. 32105. The compact herein provided shall become effective upon the adoption of laws by the states referred to in section 2 in conformity with the provisions of this part. When, in addition to Michigan, any 3 of the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Minnesota have adopted such laws and the congress of the United States has given its consent, if needed, the designated representatives of the Great Lakes compact commission shall meet upon the call of any governor of any of the ratifying states or the legally designated governmental official of the province of Ontario. At such meeting or at any subsequent meeting the duly designated representatives shall adopt a compact agreement not inconsistent in any way with this part and containing the necessary provisions for enabling the commission to carry out the purposes of this part. At such meeting or at subsequent meetings, the representatives composing such commission shall select a chairman and a secretary from among their numbers and such other officers as to them may seem expedient and shall prescribe the duties of such officers. A 2/3 majority of all representatives designated shall be sufficient to form a quorum for the transaction of business. Said commission shall meet from time to time or at such places or locations as it shall seem necessary and proper or shall meet upon the call of the chairman and such call shall designate the time and place of meeting and the purpose thereof.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32106 Compact; commission; records of meetings and proceedings; reports.

Sec. 32106. Said commission shall keep a written record of its meetings and proceedings and shall annually make a report thereof to be submitted to the duly designated official of each compacting party.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32107 Compact commission; expenses.

Sec. 32107. Each compacting party shall pay for the expenses of its representatives on said commission and each compacting party shall pay to the secretary of the commission a pro rata share of the expenses of said commission. No expenditures shall be authorized under the provisions of this part unless and until moneys shall be appropriated therefor by the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 322
GREAT LAKES BASIN COMPACT

324.32201 Great Lakes basin compact; ratification; contents.

Sec. 32201. The great lakes basin compact is hereby ratified, enacted into law, and entered into by this state as a party thereto with any other state or province which, pursuant to article II of said compact, has legally joined therein in the form substantially as follows:

GREAT LAKES BASIN COMPACT

The party states solemnly agree:

Article I. Purpose

The purposes of this compact are, through means of joint or cooperative action:

1. To promote the orderly, integrated, and comprehensive development, use, and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin (hereinafter called the Basin).

2. To plan for the welfare and development of the water resources of the Basin as a whole as well as for those portions of the Basin which may have problems of special concern.

3. To make it possible for the states of the Basin and their people to derive the maximum benefit from utilization of public works, in the form of navigational aids or otherwise, which may exist or which may be constructed from time to time.

4. To advise in securing and maintaining a proper balance among industrial, commercial, agricultural, water supply, residential, recreational, and other legitimate uses of the water resources of the Basin.

5. To establish and maintain an intergovernmental agency to the end that the purposes of this compact may be accomplished more effectively.

Article II. Enactment and Effective Date

A. This compact shall enter into force and become effective and binding when it has been enacted by the legislatures of any 4 of the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin and thereafter shall enter into force and become effective and binding as to any other of said states when enacted by the legislature thereof.

B. The Province of Ontario and the Province of Quebec, or either of them, may become states party to this compact by taking such action as their laws and the laws of the government of Canada may prescribe for adherence thereto. For the purpose of this compact the word "state" shall be construed to include a Province of Canada.

Article III. The Basin

The Great Lakes Commission created by Article IV of this compact shall exercise its powers and perform its functions in respect to the Basin which, for the purposes of this compact, shall consist of so much of the following as may be within the party states:

1. Lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan, Ontario, St. Clair, Superior, and the St. Lawrence River, together with any and all natural or man-made water interconnections between or among them.

2. All rivers, ponds, lakes, streams, and other watercourses which, in their natural state or in their prevailing condition, are tributary to Lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan, Ontario, St. Clair, and Superior or any of

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them or which comprise part of any watershed draining into any of said lakes.

Article IV. The Commission

A. There is hereby created an agency of the party states to be known as The Great Lakes Commission (hereinafter called the Commission). In that name the Commission may sue and be sued, acquire, hold and convey real and personal property and any interest therein. The Commission shall have a seal with the words "The Great Lakes Commission" and such other design as it may prescribe engraved thereon by which it shall authenticate its proceedings. Transactions involving real or personal property shall conform to the laws of the state in which the property is located, and the Commission may by bylaws provide for the execution and acknowledgment of all instruments in its behalf.

B. The Commission shall be composed of not less than 3 commissioners nor more than 5 commissioners from each party state designated or appointed in accordance with the law of the state which they represent and serving and subject to removal in accordance with such law.

C. Each state delegation shall be entitled to 3 votes in the Commission. The presence of commissioners from a majority of the party states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Commission. Actions of the Commission shall be by a majority of the votes cast except that any recommendations made pursuant to Article VI of this compact shall require an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the votes cast from each of a majority of the states present and voting.

D. The commissioners of any 2 or more party states may meet separately to consider problems of particular interest to their states but no action taken at any such meeting shall be deemed an action of the Commission unless and until the Commission shall specifically approve the same.

E. In the absence of any commissioner, his or her vote may be cast by another representative or commissioner of his or her state provided that said commissioner or other representative casting said vote shall have a written proxy in proper form as may be required by the Commission.

F. The Commission shall elect annually from among its members a chairman and vice-chairman. The Commission shall appoint an Executive Director who shall also act as secretary-treasurer, and who shall be bonded in such amount as the Commission may require. The Executive Director shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission and at such compensation and under such terms and conditions as may be fixed by it. The Executive Director shall be custodian of the records of the Commission with authority to affix the Commission's official seal and to attest to and certify such records or copies thereof.

G. The Executive Director, subject to the approval of the Commission in such cases as its bylaws may provide, shall appoint and remove or discharge such personnel as may be necessary for the performance of the Commission's functions. Subject to the aforesaid approval, the Executive Director may fix their compensation, define their duties, and require bonds of such of them as the Commission may designate.

H. The Executive Director, on behalf of, as trustee for, and with the approval of the Commission, may borrow, accept, or contract for the services of personnel from any state or government or any subdivision or agency thereof, from any intergovernmental agency, or from any institution, person, firm or corporation; and may accept for any of the Commission's purposes and functions under this compact any and all donations, gifts, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services from any state or government or any subdivision or agency thereof or intergovernmental agency or from any institution, person, firm or corporation and may receive and utilize the same.

I. The Commission may establish and maintain 1 or more offices for the transacting of its business and for such purposes the Executive Director, on behalf of, as trustee for, and with the approval of the Commission, may acquire, hold and dispose of real and personal property necessary to the performance of its functions.

J. No tax levied or imposed by any party state or any political subdivision thereof shall be deemed to apply to property, transactions, or income of the Commission.

K. The Commission may adopt, amend and rescind bylaws, rules and regulations for the conduct of its business.

L. The organization meeting of the Commission shall be held within 6 months from the effective date of this compact.

M. The Commission and its Executive Director shall make available to the party states any information within its possession and shall always provide free access to its records by duly authorized representatives of such party states.

N. The Commission shall keep a written record of its meetings and proceedings and shall annually make a report thereof to be submitted to the duly designated official of each party state.

O. The Commission shall make and transmit annually to the legislature and governor of each party state a report covering the activities of the Commission for the preceding year and embodying such recommendations as may have been adopted by the Commission. The Commission may issue such additional reports as it may deem desirable.

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Article V. Finance

A. The members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, but the expenses of each commissioner shall be met by the state which he or she represents in accordance with the law of that state. All other expenses incurred by the Commission in the course of exercising the powers conferred upon it by this compact unless met in some other manner specifically provided by this compact, shall be paid by the Commission out of its own funds.

B. The Commission shall submit to the executive head or designated officer of each party state a budget of its estimated expenditures for such period as may be required by the laws of that state for presentation to the legislature thereof.

C. Each of the Commission's budgets of estimated expenditures shall contain specific recommendations of the amount or amounts to be appropriated by each of the party states. Detailed commission budgets shall be recommended by a majority of the votes cast, and the costs shall be allocated equitably among the party states in accordance with their respective interests.

D. The Commission shall not pledge the credit of any party state. The Commission may meet any of its obligations in whole or in part with funds available to it under Article IV (H) of this compact, provided that the Commission takes specific action setting aside such funds prior to the incurring of any obligations to be met in whole or in part in this manner. Except where the Commission makes use of funds available to it under Article IV (H) hereof, the Commission shall not incur any obligations prior to the allotment of funds by the party states adequate to meet the same.

E. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under the bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be audited yearly by a qualified public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become a part of the annual report of the Commission.

F. The accounts of the Commission shall be open at any reasonable time for inspection by such agency, representative or representatives of the party states as may be duly constituted for that purpose and by others who may be authorized by the Commission.

Article VI. Powers of Commission

The Commission shall have power to:

A. Collect, correlate, interpret, and report on data relating to the water resources and the use thereof in the Basin or any portion thereof.

B. Recommend methods for the orderly, efficient, and balanced development, use, and conservation of the water resources of the Basin or any portion thereof to the party states and to any other governments or agencies having interests in or jurisdiction over the Basin or any portion thereof.

C. Consider the need for and desirability of public works and improvements relating to the water resources in the Basin or any portion thereof.

D. Consider means of improving navigation and port facilities in the Basin or any portion thereof.

E. Consider means of improving and maintaining the fisheries of the Basin or any portion thereof.

F. Recommend policies relating to water resources including the institution and alteration of flood plain and other zoning laws, ordinances and regulations.

G. Recommend uniform or other laws, ordinances, or regulations relating to the development, use and conservation of the Basin's water resources to the party states or any of them and to other governments, political subdivisions, agencies, or intergovernmental bodies having interests in or jurisdiction sufficient to affect conditions in the Basin or any portion thereof.

H. Consider and recommend amendments or agreements supplementary to this compact to the party states or any of them, and assist in the formulation and drafting of such amendments or supplementary agreements.

I. Prepare and publish reports, bulletins, and publications appropriate to this work and fix reasonable sale prices therefor.

J. With respect to the water resources of the Basin or any portion thereof, recommend agreements between the governments of the United States and Canada.

K. Recommend mutual arrangements expressed by concurrent or reciprocal legislation on the part of Congress and the Parliament of Canada including but not limited to such agreements and mutual arrangements as are provided for by Article XIII of the Treaty of 1909 Relating to Boundary Waters and Questions Arising Between the United States and Canada. (Treaty Series, No. 548).

L. Cooperate with the governments of the United States and of Canada, the party states and any public or private agencies or bodies having interests in or jurisdiction sufficient to affect the Basin or any portion thereof.

M. At the request of the United States, or in the event that a Province shall be a party state, at the request of

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the government of Canada, assist in the negotiation and formulation of any treaty or other mutual arrangement or agreement between the United States and Canada with reference to the Basin or any portion thereof.

N. Make any recommendation and do all things necessary and proper to carry out the powers conferred upon the Commission by this compact; provided that no action of the Commission shall have the force of law in, or be binding upon, any party state.

Article VII. State Action

Each party state agrees to consider the action the Commission recommends in respect to:

A. Stabilization of lake levels.

B. Measures for combating pollution, beach erosion, floods, and shore inundation.

C. Uniformity in navigation regulations within the constitutional powers of the states.

D. Proposed navigation aids and improvements.

E. Uniformity or effective coordinating action in fishing laws and regulations and cooperative action to eradicate destructive and parasitical forces endangering the fisheries, wild life and other water resources.

F. Suitable hydroelectric power developments.

G. Cooperative programs for control of soil and bank erosion for the general improvement of the Basin.

H. Diversion of waters from and into the Basin.

I. Other measures the Commission may recommend to the states pursuant to Article VI of this compact.

Article VIII. Renunciation

This compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each party state until renounced by act of the legislature of such state, in such form and manner as it may choose and as may be valid and effective to repeal a statute of said state; provided that such renunciation shall not become effective until 6 months after notice of such action shall have been officially communicated in writing to the executive head of the other party states.

Article IX. Construction and Severability

It is intended that the provisions of this compact shall be reasonably and liberally construed to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United States, or in the case of a Province, to the British North America Act of 1867 as amended, or the applicability thereof to any state, agency, person or circumstance is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any state, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby, provided further that if this compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of the United States, or in the case of a Province, to the British North America Act of 1867 as amended, or of any party state, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the state affected as to all severable matters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32202 Great Lakes commission; membership; oath; expenses; voting rights.

Sec. 32202. (1) For purposes of this section through section 32206, "commission" means the Great Lakes commission established in the compact entered into by this part.

(2) In pursuance of article IV of the compact, there shall be 5 commissioners on the Great Lakes commission from this state. Each commissioner shall have all of the powers conferred on a commissioner by the compact or which shall be necessary or incidental to the performance of his or her functions as a commissioner. For this state, the governor, or the governor's designee, the attorney general, or the attorney general's designee, an appointee of the majority leader of the senate, and an appointee of the speaker of the house of representatives shall be members of the Michigan representation. In addition, the governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the senate, the remaining 1 member who shall come from groups or organizations interested in or affected by the Great Lakes, which member shall serve at the governor's pleasure. The appointees of the governor, the majority leader of the senate, and of the speaker of the house of representatives, before entering upon the performance of their office, shall take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office. Each commissioner shall receive necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties. Each commissioner shall have the right to cast 3/5 of a vote whenever a vote is required by the terms of the compact.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For the designation of the director of the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy as a commissioner on the Great Lakes commission, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32203 Commission; cooperation by state officers.

Sec. 32203. All officers of this state are hereby authorized and directed to do all things falling within their respective jurisdictions necessary to or incidental to the carrying out of said compact in every particular, it being hereby declared to be the policy of this state to perform and carry out the said compact and to accomplish the purposes thereof. All officers, bureaus, departments, and persons of and in the state government or administration of this state are hereby authorized and directed at reasonable times and upon request of said commission to furnish the said commission with information and data possessed by them or any of them and to aid said commission by loan of personnel or other means lying within their legal powers respectively.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32204 Commission; budget; appropriations.

Sec. 32204. The budget of the estimated expenditures of the commission shall be submitted to the director and to the director of the department of commerce for such period and in form as shall be required by them. Neither the compact nor this part shall be construed to commit, or authorize the expenditure of, any funds of the state except in pursuance of appropriations made by the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32205 Basin compact; transmission of copy of part and compact to other parties.

Sec. 32205. The governor is hereby authorized and directed to transmit a duly authenticated copy of this part and the compact contained herein to each jurisdiction now party to the compact and to each jurisdiction which is or subsequently shall become party to the compact.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32206 Limiting diversions of water of Great Lakes.

Sec. 32206. The commissioners who represent this state shall request the commission to consider and recommend amendments or agreements supplementary to the Great Lakes basin compact that would give the party states the authority to limit diversions of the waters of the Great Lakes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 323
SHORELANDS PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

324.32301 Definitions.

Sec. 32301. As used in this part:

(a) "Connecting waterway" means the St. Marys river, Detroit river, St. Clair river, or Lake St. Clair.

(b) "Environmental area" means an area of the shoreland determined by the department on the basis of studies and surveys to be necessary for the preservation and maintenance of fish and wildlife.

(c) "High-risk area" means an area of the shoreland that is determined by the department on the basis of studies and surveys to be subject to erosion.

(d) "Land to be zoned or regulated" or "land to be zoned" means the land in this state that borders or is adjacent to a Great Lake or a connecting waterway and that, except for flood risk areas, is situated within 1,000 feet landward from the ordinary high-water mark as defined in section 32501, land bordering or adjacent to waters affected by levels of the Great Lakes landward of the ordinary high-water mark as defined by section 30101, and land between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge.

(e) "Shoreland" means the land, water, and land beneath the water that is in close proximity to the shoreline of a Great Lake or a connecting waterway.

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(f) "Shoreline" means that area of the shorelands where land and water meet.

(g) "Flood risk area" means the area of the shoreland that is determined by the department on the basis of studies and surveys to be subject to flooding from effects of levels of the Great Lakes and is not limited to 1,000 feet.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 631, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32302 Shoreland engineering study; determinations.

Sec. 32302. By April 1, 1972, the department shall make or cause to be made an engineering study of the shoreland to determine all of the following:

(a) The high-risk areas.

(b) The areas of the shorelands that are platted or have buildings or structures and that require protection from erosion.

(c) The type of protection that is best suited for an area determined in subdivision (b).

(d) A cost estimate of the construction and maintenance for each type of protection determined in subdivision (c).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32303 Engineering study.

Sec. 32303. Before January 1, 1975, the department shall make or cause to be made an engineering study of the shoreland to determine:

(a) Flood risk areas.

(b) The frequency with which a flood risk area can be expected to be flooded.

(c) Appropriate rules necessary to prevent damage or destruction to property.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32304 Environmental study.

Sec. 32304. By April 1, 1972, the department shall make or cause to be made an environmental study of the shoreland to determine all of the following:

(a) The environmental areas.

(b) The areas of marshes along and adjacent to the shorelands.

(c) The marshes and fish and wildlife habitat areas that should be protected by shoreland zoning or regulation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32305 Use of high risk area; prevention of property loss; notice of determinations and recommendations.

Sec. 32305. The department pursuant to section 32302 shall determine if the use of a high-risk area shall be regulated to prevent property loss or if suitable methods of protection shall be installed to prevent property loss. The department shall notify a local unit of government, the department of labor, the department of treasury, and the department of commerce or other affected state agencies of its determinations and recommendations relative to a high-risk area that is in a local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32306 Use of flood risk area; prevention of property loss; notice of determinations and recommendations.

Sec. 32306. The department pursuant to section 32303 shall determine if the use of a flood risk area shall be regulated to prevent property loss or if suitable methods of protection shall be installed to prevent property loss. The department shall notify a local unit of government, the department of labor, the department of treasury, and the department of commerce or other affected state agencies of its determinations and recommendations relative to a flood risk area that is in a local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32307 Environmental area; use; regulation.

Sec. 32307. The department in accordance with section 32304 shall notify a local unit of government of the existence of any environmental area that is in a local unit of government and shall formulate appropriate use regulations necessary to protect an environmental area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32308 County zoning.

Sec. 32308. Until July 1, 1975, a county, pursuant to rules promulgated under section 32313 and the county rural zoning enabling act, Act No. 183 of the Public Acts of 1943, being sections 125.201 to 125.232 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, may zone any shoreland and land to be zoned that is in the county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32309 City or village zoning.

Sec. 32309. Until July 1, 1975, a city or village, pursuant to rules promulgated under section 32313 and Act No. 207 of the Public Acts of 1921, being sections 125.581 to 125.592 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, may zone any shoreland and land to be zoned that is in the city or village.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32310 Township zoning.

Sec. 32310. Until July 1, 1975, a township, pursuant to rules promulgated under section 32313 and the township rural zoning act, Act No. 184 of the Public Acts of 1943, being sections 125.271 to 125.301 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, may zone any shoreland and land to be zoned that is in the township.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32311 Approval or disapproval of zoning ordinance regulating high risk area, flood risk area, or environmental area.

Sec. 32311. An existing zoning ordinance or a zoning ordinance or a modification or amendment to a zoning ordinance that regulates a high-risk area, a flood risk area, or an environmental area shall be submitted to the department for approval or disapproval. The department shall determine if the ordinance, modification, or amendment adequately prevents property damage or prevents damage to an environmental area, a high-risk area, or a flood risk area. If an ordinance, modification, or amendment is disapproved by the department, it shall not have force or effect until modified by the local unit of government and approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.32312 Rules; fee required with permit application or project; disposition of fees; violation; restraining order.

Sec. 32312. (1) To regulate the uses and development of high-risk areas, flood risk areas, and environmental areas and to implement the purposes of this part, the department shall promulgate rules. If permits are required under rules promulgated under this part, the permits must be issued pursuant to the rules and part 13. Except as provided under subsection (2), until October 1, 2025, if permits are required pursuant to rules promulgated under this part, an application for a permit must be accompanied by a fee as follows:

(a) For a commercial or multifamily residential project, $500.00.

(b) For a single-family home construction, $100.00.

(c) For an addition to an existing single-family home or for a project that has a minor impact on fish and wildlife resources in environmental areas as determined by the department, $50.00.

(2) A project that requires review and approval under this part and under 1 or more of the following is subject to only the single highest permit fee required under this part or the following:

(a) Part 301.

(b) Part 303.

(c) Part 325.

(d) Section 3104.

(e) Section 117 of the land division act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.117.

(3) The department shall forward fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

(4) A circuit court, upon petition and a showing by the department that a rule promulgated under subsection (1) has been violated, shall issue any necessary order to the defendant to correct the violation or to restrain the defendant from further violation of the rule.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 168, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 106, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1999;—Am. 2003, Act 163, Imd. Eff. Aug. 12, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2008, Act 276, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2008;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2015, Act 76, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 84, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2021, Act 91, Imd. Eff. Oct. 20, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 281.21 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.32312a Construction of above grade walls with movable brick.

Sec. 32312a. Notwithstanding any other provision of this part or the rules promulgated under this part, the department shall allow above grade walls to be constructed with movable brick.

History: Add. 1997, Act 126, Imd. Eff. Nov. 5, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32313 Use and management plan; contents; hearings; submission of plan copies to governor and legislature.

Sec. 32313. (1) By October 1, 1972, the department shall, in compliance with the purposes of this part, prepare a plan for the use and management of shoreland. The plan shall include but not be limited to all of the following:

(a) An inventory and identification of the use and development characteristics of the shoreland; the general physical and man-influenced shoreline features; the existing and proposed municipal and industrial water intakes and sewage and industrial waste outfalls; and high-risk areas and environmental areas.

(b) An inventory of existing federal, state, regional, and local plans for the management of the shorelands.

(c) An identification of problems associated with shoreland use, development, conservation, and protection.

(d) A provision for a continuing inventory of shoreland and estuarine resources.

(e) Provisions for further studies and research pertaining to shoreland management.

(f) Identification of the high-risk and environmental areas that need protection.

(g) Recommendations that do all of the following:

(*i*) Provide procedures for the resolution of conflicts arising from multiple use.

(*ii*) Foster the widest variety of beneficial uses.

(*iii*) Provide for the necessary enforcement powers to assure compliance with plans and to resolve conflicts in uses.

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(*iv*) Provide criteria for the protection of shorelands from erosion or inundation, for aquatic recreation, for shore growth and cover, for low-lying lands, and for fish and game management.

(*v*) Provide criteria for shoreland layout for residential, industrial, and commercial development, and shoreline alteration control.

(*vi*) Provide for building setbacks from the water.

(*vii*) Provide for the prevention of shoreland littering, blight harbor development, and pollution.

(*viii*) Provide for the regulation of mineral exploration and production.

(*ix*) Provide the basis for necessary future legislation pertaining to efficient shoreland management.

(2) Upon completion of the plan, the department shall hold regional public hearings on the recommendations of the plan. Copies of the plan shall be submitted with the hearing records to the governor and the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32314 Agreements and contracts.

Sec. 32314. The department may enter into an agreement or make contracts with the federal government, other state agencies, local units of government, or private agencies for the purposes of making studies and plans for the efficient use, development, preservation, or management of the state's shoreland resources. Any study, plan, or recommendation shall be available to a local unit of government in this state that has shoreland. The recommendations and policies set forth in the studies or plans shall serve as a basis and guideline for establishing zoning ordinances and developing shoreland plans by local units of government and the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32315 Money, grants, or grants-in-aid; purpose.

Sec. 32315. For the purposes of this part, the department may receive, obtain, or accept money, grants, or grants-in-aid for the purpose of research, planning, or management of shoreland.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 325
GREAT LAKES SUBMERGED LANDS

324.32501 Additional definitions.

Sec. 32501. As used in this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(b) "Director" means the director of the department.

(c) "Marina purposes" means an operation making use of submerged bottomlands or filled-in bottomlands of the Great Lakes for the purpose of service to boat owners or operators, which operation may restrict or prevent the free public use of the affected bottomlands or filled-in lands.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32502 Unpatented lake bottomlands and unpatented made lands in Great Lakes; construction of part.

Sec. 32502. The lands covered and affected by this part are all of the unpatented lake bottomlands and unpatented made lands in the Great Lakes, including the bays and harbors of the Great Lakes, belonging to the state or held in trust by it, including those lands that have been artificially filled in. The waters covered

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and affected by this part are all of the waters of the Great Lakes within the boundaries of the state. This part shall be construed so as to preserve and protect the interests of the general public in the lands and waters described in this section, to provide for the sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of unpatented lands and the private or public use of waters over patented and unpatented lands, and to permit the filling in of patented submerged lands whenever it is determined by the department that the private or public use of those lands and waters will not substantially affect the public use of those lands and waters for hunting, fishing, swimming, pleasure boating, or navigation or that the public trust in the state will not be impaired by those agreements for use, sales, lease, or other disposition. The word "land" or "lands" as used in this part refers to the aforesaid described unpatented lake bottomlands and unpatented made lands and patented lands in the Great Lakes and the bays and harbors of the Great Lakes lying below and lakeward of the natural ordinary high-water mark, but this part does not affect property rights secured by virtue of a swamp land grant or rights acquired by accretions occurring through natural means or reliction. For purposes of this part, the ordinary high-water mark shall be at the following elevations above sea level, international Great Lakes datum of 1955: Lake Superior, 601.5 feet; Lakes Michigan and Huron, 579.8 feet; Lake St. Clair, 574.7 feet; and Lake Erie, 571.6 feet.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32503 Agreements pertaining to waters over and filling in of submerged patented lands; lease or deed of unpatented lands; terms, conditions, and requirements; reservation of mineral rights; exception; lease or deed allowing drilling operations for exploration of oil or gas purposes; execution of agreement, lease, or deed with United States.

Sec. 32503. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department, after finding that the public trust in the waters will not be impaired or substantially affected, may enter into agreements pertaining to waters over and the filling in of submerged patented lands, or to lease or deed unpatented lands, after approval of the state administrative board. Quitclaim deeds, leases, or agreements covering unpatented lands may be issued or entered into by the department with any person, and shall contain such terms, conditions, and requirements as the department determines to be just and equitable and in conformance with the public trust. The department shall reserve to the state all mineral rights, including, but not limited to, coal, oil, gas, sand, gravel, stone, and other materials or products located or found in those lands, except where lands are occupied or to be occupied for residential purposes at the time of conveyance.

(2) The department shall not enter into a lease or deed that allows drilling operations beneath unpatented lands for the exploration or production of oil or gas.

(3) An agreement, lease, or deed entered into under this part by the department with the United States shall be entered into and executed pursuant to the property rights acquisition act, 1986 PA 201, MCL 3.251 to 3.262.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Apr. 5, 2002;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Compiler's note: Enrolled House Bill No. 5118 was not signed by the Governor, but, having been presented to him at 3:44 p.m. on March 22, 2002, and not having been returned by him to the House of Representatives within the 14 days prescribed by Const 1963, art IV, sec 33, became law (2002 PA 148) on April 5, 2002, the Legislature having continued in session.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32504 Unpatented lake lands and unpatented made lands; application for conveyance; contents; qualifications of applicant; consent; approval; fee.

Sec. 32504. (1) Application for a deed or lease to unpatented lands or agreement for use of water areas over patented lands shall be on forms provided by the department. An application shall include a surveyed description of the lands or water area applied for, together with a surveyed description of the riparian or littoral property lying adjacent and contiguous to the lands or water area, certified to by a registered land surveyor. The description shall show the location of the water's edge at the time it was prepared and other information that is required by the department. The applicant shall be a riparian or littoral owner or owners of property touching or situated opposite the unpatented land or water area over patented lands applied for or an

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occupant of that land. The application shall include the names and mailing addresses of all persons in possession or occupancy or having an interest in the adjacent or contiguous riparian or littoral property or having riparian or littoral rights or interests in the lands or water areas applied for, and the application shall be accompanied by the written consent of all persons having an interest in the lands or water areas applied for in the application.

(2) Before an application is acted upon by the department, the applicant shall secure approval of or permission for his or her proposed use of such lands or water area from any federal agency as provided by law, the department with the advice of the Michigan waterways commission, and the legislative body of the local unit or units of government within which such land or water area is or will be included, or to which it is contiguous or adjacent. A deed, lease, or agreement shall not be issued or entered into by the department without such approvals or permission. The department may also require the applicant to furnish an abstract of title and ownership, and a 20-year tax history on the riparian or littoral property that is contiguous or adjacent to the lands or water area applied for, as well as on the lands applied for, if available.

(3) The department shall require the applicant to deposit a fee of not less than $50.00 for each application filed. The fee shall be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the state's general fund. If a deed, lease, or other agreement is approved by the department, the applicant is entitled to credit for the fee against the consideration that is paid for the deed, lease, or other agreement.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32504a Restoration or maintenance of lighthouse; lease or agreement for use of lands; "approved organization" defined.

Sec. 32504a. (1) The department may accept an application under this part from an approved organization, whether or not the approved organization is a riparian landowner, and may enter into a lease or agreement for the use of lands described in section 32502 on which a lighthouse is located, including the use of water over those lands immediately adjacent to the lighthouse.

(2) As used in this section, "approved organization" means a lawful nonprofit entity as approved by the department, a local unit of government, a federal or state agency or department, an educational agency, or a community development organization, that is seeking to secure a lease or agreement under this section for the purpose of restoring or maintaining a lighthouse.

History: Add. 2002, Act 650, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32505 Unpatented lake bottomlands and unpatented made lands; consideration for conveyances or lease.

Sec. 32505. (1) If the department determines that it is in the public interest to grant an applicant a deed or lease to lands or enter into an agreement to allow use and improvements in the waters or to enter into any other agreement in regard thereto, the department shall determine the amount of consideration to be paid to this state by the applicant for the conveyance or lease of unpatented lands.

(2) The department may allow, by lease or agreement, the filling in of patented and unpatented submerged lands and allow permanent improvements and structures after finding that the public trust will not be impaired or substantially injured.

(3) The department may issue deeds or may enter into leases of unpatented lands if the lands have been artificially filled in or are proposed to be changed from the condition that exists on October 14, 1955 by filling, sheet piling, shoring, or by any other means, and the lands are used or to be used or occupied in whole or in part for uses other than existing, lawful riparian or littoral purposes. The consideration to be paid to this state for the conveyance or lease of unpatented lands by the applicant shall be not less than the fair, cash market value of the lands determined as of the date of the filing of the application, minus any improvements placed on the lands, but the sale price shall not be less than 30% of the value of the land. In determining the fair, cash market value of the lands applied for, the department may consider the fact that the lands are connected with the riparian or littoral property belonging to the applicant, and the uses, including residential and commercial, being made or which can be made of the lands.

(4) Agreements for the lands or water area described in section 32502 may be granted to or entered into with local units of government for public purposes. The agreements may contain terms and conditions considered just and equitable given the public trust involved and may grant permission to fill those lands as

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necessary.

(5) If unpatented lands have not been filled in or in any way substantially changed from their natural character and the application to acquire or lease those lands is filed for the purpose of flood control, shore erosion control, drainage and sanitation control, or to straighten irregular shore lines, then the consideration to be paid to this state by the applicant shall be the fair, cash value of the land, giving due consideration to its being adjacent to and connected with the riparian or littoral property owned by the applicant.

(6) Leases or agreements covering unpatented lands may be granted or entered into with riparian or littoral proprietors for commercial marina purposes or for marinas operated by persons for consideration and containing terms and conditions considered by the department to be just and equitable. The leases may include either filled or unfilled lake bottomlands, or both. Rental shall commence as of the date of use of the unpatented lands for the marina operations. Dockage and other uses by marinas in waters over patented lands on October 14, 1955 shall be considered to be lawful riparian or littoral use.

(7) The department may enter into a lease with the owner of riparian or littoral property, occupied only for single-family residential purposes, to use the abutting unpatented lake bottomlands and waters over those bottomlands for a private harbor if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The private harbor was formed by a breakwater erected on unpatented lake bottomlands.

(b) The private harbor is used exclusively for private, noncommercial recreational watercraft.

(c) The full-term of the lease is 50 years consisting of two 25-year terms.

(d) The consideration for the lease is as follows:

(*i*) For a lease entered into on or after the effective date of the amendatory act that amended this section, a lump-sum payment at the beginning of the first 25-year term of the agreement of 0.5% of twice the current state equalized value of the lessee's upland riparian or littoral property or payment of the lump sum pursuant to a schedule as agreed by the department, and a lump-sum payment at the beginning of the second 25-year term of the agreement of 0.5% of twice the current state equalized value of the lessee's upland riparian or littoral property or payment of the lump sum pursuant to a schedule as agreed by the department.

(*ii*) Unless otherwise requested by the lessee and agreed to by the department, for a lease entered into prior to the effective date of the amendatory act that amended this section, the department shall credit any lease payment made in 2016 against the future payments owed under the terms of subparagraph (*i*).

(8) If the department after investigation determines that an applicant to acquire or lease lands has willfully and knowingly filled in or in any way substantially changed the lands with an intent to defraud, or if the applicant has acquired the lands with knowledge of such a fraudulent intent and is not an innocent purchaser, the consideration shall be the fair, cash market value of the land or leasehold. An applicant may request a hearing of a determination made under this subsection. The department shall grant a hearing if requested.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 18, Eff. May 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32506 Unpatented lands and unpatented made lands; value determination by department; appraisal; decision of court.

Sec. 32506. The fair, cash market value of lands approved for sale under this part shall be determined by the department. Consideration paid to the state shall not be less than $50.00. If the applicant is not satisfied with the value determined by the department, within 30 days after the receipt of the determination he or she may submit a petition in writing to the circuit court of the county in which the lands are located, and the court shall appoint an appraiser or appraisers as the court shall determine for an appraisal of the lands. The decision of the court is final.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32507 Receipts; disposition; accounting; employees.

Sec. 32507. (1) All money received by the department from the sale, lease, or other disposition of land and water areas under this part shall be forwarded to the state treasurer and be credited to the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

(2) The department shall comply with the accounting laws of this state and the requirements with respect to submission of budgets. The department may hire employees, assistants, and services that may be necessary within the appropriation made by the legislature and may delegate this authority as may be necessary to implement this part.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32508 Lands conveyed; taxation.

Sec. 32508. All lands conveyed or leased under this part are subject to taxation and the general property tax laws and other laws as other real estate used and taxed by the governmental unit or units within which the land is or may be included.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32509 Rules.

Sec. 32509. The department may promulgate rules, in accordance with the requirements of law, consistent with this part, that may be necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32510 Land filled, excavated, or modified without approval; misdemeanor; penalty; issuance or service of appearance ticket; "minor offense" defined.

Sec. 32510. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person who excavates or fills or in any manner alters or modifies any of the land or waters subject to this part without the approval of the department is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both. Land altered or modified in violation of this part shall not be sold to any person convicted under this section at less than fair, cash market value.

(2) A person who commits a minor offense is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $500.00 for each violation. A law enforcement officer may issue and serve an appearance ticket upon a person for a minor offense pursuant to sections 9a to 9g of chapter IV of the code of criminal procedure, Act No. 175 of the Public Acts of 1927, being sections 764.9a to 764.9g of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(3) As used in this section, "minor offense" means either of the following violations of this part if the department determines that restoration of the affected property is not required:

(a) The failure to obtain a permit under this part.

(b) A violation of a permit issued under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32511 Certificate of location of lakeward boundary; application; riparian owner; fee.

Sec. 32511. A riparian owner may apply to the department for a certificate suitable for recording indicating the location of his or her lakeward boundary or indicating that the land involved has accreted to his or her property as a result of natural accretions or placement of a lawful, permanent structure. The application must be accompanied by a fee of $200.00 and proof of upland ownership.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 18, Eff. May 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32512 Acts prohibited; exceptions; activities not subject to regulation; applicability of subsection (2) to certain lands.

Sec. 32512. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), unless a permit has been granted by the department pursuant to part 13 or authorization has been granted by the legislature, or except as to boat wells and slips facilitating private, noncommercial, recreational boat use, not exceeding 50 feet in length where the spoil is not disposed of below the ordinary high-water mark of the body of water to which it is connected, a person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Construct, dredge, commence, or do any work with respect to an artificial canal, channel, ditch, lagoon, pond, lake, or similar waterway where the purpose is ultimate connection of the waterway with any of the Great Lakes, including Lake St. Clair.

(b) Connect any natural or artificially constructed waterway, canal, channel, ditch, lagoon, pond, lake, or

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similar waterway with any of the Great Lakes, including Lake St. Clair, for navigation or any other purpose.

(c) Dredge or place spoil or other material on bottomland.

(d) Construct a marina.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3), the following activities are not subject to regulation under this part:

(a) Leveling of sand, removal of vegetation, grooming of soil, or removal of debris, in an area of unconsolidated material predominantly composed of sand, rock, or pebbles, located between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge.

(b) Mowing of vegetation between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to lands included in the survey of the delta of the St. Clair River, otherwise referred to as the St. Clair flats, located within Clay township, St. Clair county, as provided for in 1899 PA 175.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32512a Minor project categories; activities; conditions; application; notice; general permit.

Sec. 32512a. (1) After providing notice and an opportunity for a public hearing, the department shall establish minor project categories of activities that are similar in nature, have minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment. The department may act upon an application received pursuant to section 32513 for an activity within a minor project category without providing notice pursuant to section 32514. A minor project category shall not be valid for more than 5 years, but may be reestablished. All other provisions of this part, except provisions applicable only to general permits, are applicable to a minor project.

(2) The department, after notice and opportunity for a public hearing, shall issue general permits on a statewide basis or within a local unit of government for a category of activities if the department determines that the activities are similar in nature, will cause only minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment. A general permit shall be based on the requirements of this part and the rules promulgated under this part, and shall set forth the requirements and standards that shall apply to an activity authorized by the general permit. Before authorizing a specific project to proceed under a general permit, the department may provide notice pursuant to section 32514 but shall not hold a public hearing and shall not typically require a site inspection. A general permit shall not be valid for more than 5 years, but may be reissued.

History: Add. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32513 Application for permit; contents; fees; disposition of fees.

Sec. 32513. (1) To obtain a permit for any activity specified in section 32512, a person shall file an application with the department on a form provided by the department. The application must include all of the following:

(a) The name and address of the applicant.

(b) The legal description of the lands included in the project.

(c) A summary statement of the purpose of the project.

(d) A map or diagram showing the proposal on an adequate scale with contours and cross-section profiles of any waterway to be constructed.

(e) Other information required by the department.

(2) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4), until October 1, 2025, an application for a permit under

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this section must be accompanied by the following fee, as applicable:

(a) For a project in a category of activities for which a general permit is issued under section 32512a(2), a fee of $50.00.

(b) For activities included in a minor project category established under section 32512a(1), a fee of $100.00.

(c) For construction or expansion of a marina, a fee of:

(*i*) $50.00 for an expansion of 1-10 marina slips to an existing permitted marina.

(*ii*) $100.00 for a new marina with 1-10 proposed marina slips.

(*iii*) $250.00 for an expansion of 11-50 marina slips to an existing permitted marina, plus $10.00 for each marina slip over 50.

(*iv*) $500.00 for a new marina with 11-50 proposed marina slips, plus $10.00 for each marina slip over 50.

(*v*) $1,500.00 if an existing permitted marina proposes maintenance dredging of 10,000 cubic yards or more, unless the dredge material is determined through testing to be 90% or more sand, or the addition of seawalls, bulkheads, or revetments of 500 feet or more.

(d) For major projects other than a project described in subdivision (c)(*v*), involving any of the following, a fee of $2,000.00:

(*i*) Dredging of 10,000 cubic yards or more, unless the dredge material is determined through testing to be 90% or more sand.

(*ii*) Filling of 10,000 cubic yards or more.

(*iii*) Seawalls, bulkheads, or revetment of 500 feet or more.

(*iv*) Filling or draining of 1 acre or more of coastal wetland.

(*v*) New dredging or upland boat basin excavation in areas of suspected contamination.

(*vi*) New breakwater or channel jetty.

(*vii*) Shore protection, such as groins and underwater stabilizers, that extend 150 feet or more on Great Lakes bottomlands.

(*viii*) New commercial dock or wharf of 300 feet or more in length.

(e) For all other projects not listed in subdivisions (a) to (d), $500.00.

(3) A project that requires review and approval under this part and 1 or more of the following is subject to only the single highest permit fee required under this part or the following:

(a) Section 3104.

(b) Part 301.

(c) Part 303.

(d) Part 323.

(e) Section 117 of the land division act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.117.

(4) If work is done in violation of a permit requirement under this part and restoration is not ordered by the department, the department may accept an application for a permit if the application is accompanied by a fee equal to 2 times the permit fee otherwise required under this section.

(5) The department shall forward fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit into the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 170, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 106, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1999;—Am. 2003, Act 14, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2003;—Am. 2003, Act 163, Imd. Eff. Aug. 12, 2003;—Am. 2008, Act 276, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2008;—Am. 2009, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 6, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 11, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 98, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2013;—Am. 2015, Act 76, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 84, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2021, Act 91, Imd. Eff. Oct. 20, 2021.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 120 of 2009 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless both of the following requirements are met:

"(a) $4,000,000.00 from the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund created in section 3e of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573e, and $4,000,000.00 from the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, is appropriated by the legislature to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

"(b) $2,000,000.00 is appropriated by the legislature from the environmental protection fund to support the program under part 303 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.30301 to 324.30329."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32514 Application for permit; copies to department of community health, local units, and adjacent riparian owners; objections; public hearing; notice; conditional permit; additional conditions.

Sec. 32514. (1) Upon receipt of the application, the department shall mail copies of the application to the

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department of community health, the clerks of the county, city, village, and township, and, if one exists, the drain commissioner of the county, in which the project or body of water affected is located, and to the adjacent riparian owners. Along with the application, the department shall include a statement that unless a written objection is filed with the department within 20 days after the mailing of the copies of the application, the department may take action to grant the application. The department may hold a public hearing on the application. If the department holds a public hearing, the department shall provide notice of the public hearing by publication in a newspaper circulated in the county and by mailing copies of the notice to the persons named in this section at least 10 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the department may issue a conditional permit before the expiration of the 20-day period if emergency conditions warrant a project to protect property or public health, safety, or welfare. Following the 20-day period and any public hearing that is held, the department shall take into consideration additional information or objections received and may, consistent with this part, place additional conditions on the final permit.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 12, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32515 Artificial waterway; permit; issuance; conditions; maintenance.

Sec. 32515. If the department finds that the project will not injure the public trust or interest including fish and game habitat, that the project conforms to the requirements of law for sanitation, and that no material injury to the rights of any riparian owners on any body of water affected will result, the department shall issue a permit authorizing enlargement of the waterway affected. The permit shall provide that the artificial waterway shall be a public waterway, except intake or discharge canals or channels on property owned, controlled, and used by a public utility. The existing and future owners of land fronting on the artificial waterway are liable for maintenance of the waterway in accordance with the conditions of the permit.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32515a Dredging or placing dredged spoils on bottomland; permit; conditions.

Sec. 32515a. A permit under this part to dredge or place dredged spoil on bottomland is subject to all of the following:

(a) The permit shall be valid for a period of 5 years.

(b) During the term of the permit, the department shall not require additional environmental studies or surveys unless an act of God results in significant geological or ecological changes to the permitted area.

(c) The permit shall allow, at the discretion of the applicant, open lake disposal of dredge material that is not contaminated with toxic substances as defined in R 323.1205 of the Michigan administrative code in waters at the 30-meter depth contour or deeper. However, dredge materials shall not be disposed of within a Great Lakes bottomland preserve established under part 761, a permitted submerged log removal area under part 326, or a lake trout or diporeia refuge.

History: Add. 2013, Act 87, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32516 Repealed. 2012, Act 247, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to identification of Great Lakes and Lake St. Clair shoreline where removal of vegetation is allowed.

PART 326
GREAT LAKES SUBMERGED LOGS RECOVERY

324.32601 Definitions.

Sec. 32601. As used in this part:

(a) "Bottomlands" means land in the Great Lakes, and bays and harbors of the Great Lakes, lying below and lakeward of the ordinary high-water mark as described in section 32502.

(b) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(c) "Fair market value" means the price based upon the unique historical and physical properties, including, but not limited to, species, growth rates, volume, and condition of the submerged logs as calculated

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at dockside following delivery to shore.

(d) "Fund" means the submerged log recovery fund created in section 32610.

(e) "Great Lakes" means Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, and Lake Erie, and includes Lake St. Clair.

(f) "Ordinary high-water mark" means the elevations described in section 32502. When the soil, configuration of the surface, or vegetation has been altered by human activity, the ordinary high-water mark is located where it would have been if this alteration had not occurred.

(g) "Patented lands" means any bottomlands lying within a specific government grant area, including a private claim patent or federal patent.

(h) "Riparian owner" means a person who owns frontage bordering bottomlands.

(i) "Riparian rights" means those rights that are associated with the ownership of frontage bordering bottomlands, subject to the public trust.

(j) "Submerged log" means a portion of the trunk of a felled tree that has not been further processed for any end use and is located on, in, over, or under bottomlands. Submerged log does not include a portion of a tree that is located in the Great Lakes or on, in, over, or under bottomlands that poses a navigational or safety hazard or is of no or little commercial value.

(k) "Unpatented lands" means all bottomlands except patented lands.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32602 Submerged logs; reservation of ownership rights.

Sec. 32602. This state reserves to itself title and ownership of all submerged logs lying on or over, embedded in, or buried under unpatented lands.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32603 Removal of submerged logs from bottomlands, patented lands, or underwater preserves; permit.

Sec. 32603. (1) A person shall not remove submerged logs from bottomlands except as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13.

(2) The department may issue a permit under this part to a person for the removal of submerged logs from patented lands if permission is received from the lawful owner of the patented lands.

(3) A person shall not recover, alter, or destroy abandoned property as defined in part 761 while engaging in submerged log removal operations under a submerged log removal permit issued under this part.

(4) For submerged log recovery in underwater preserves established under part 761, the department shall place reasonable conditions on submerged log removal permits to prevent damage to abandoned watercraft or other features of archaeological, historical, recreational, or environmental significance and to minimize conflicts between recreational activities within the preserve and the submerged log recovery operation.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32604 Application for submerged log removal permit; submission; form; information; time period for submission; disposition of fees.

Sec. 32604. (1) Applications for submerged log removal permits shall be submitted before February 1 of each calendar year.

(2) An application for a submerged log removal permit shall be submitted in writing on a form provided by the department and shall include all of the following:

(a) A description of the proposed bottomland log removal area with boundaries delineated by the use of current technology such as a digital global positioning system or other technology approved by the department. The proposed bottomland log removal area shall be a contiguous area of not more than 320 acres. The area proposed shall be square or rectangular in shape, and the length shall not exceed the width by more than a factor of 6.

(b) A description of the methods to be used to raise the submerged logs, the time of year during which submerged logs will be raised, and the procedures to be used for transferring logs to the shore.

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(c) Identification of any adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed submerged log removal method.

(d) Identification of the steps proposed to mitigate any adverse environmental impacts caused by the proposed submerged log removal operation.

(e) Other information that the department considers necessary in evaluating a submerged log removal permit application.

(f) A $500.00 application fee.

(3) An application for a submerged log removal permit is not complete until all information requested on the application form and any other information requested by the department are received. Within 30 days of its receipt of an application, the department shall notify the applicant in writing if the application is deficient. The applicant shall submit the requested information to the department within 30 days after the date the notice is provided. If the applicant fails to respond within the 30-day period, the department shall deny the submerged log removal permit unless the applicant requests and the department approves an extension of time based upon the applicant's reasonable justification for the extension.

(4) Application fees received under this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32605 Receipt of completed application; review by department; issuance of permit; conditions.

Sec. 32605. Upon receiving a complete application for a submerged log removal permit, the department shall do both of the following:

(a) Place the application on public notice for a 20-day period for review and comment.

(b) Submit a copy to the department of natural resources and the department of state for their review and comment.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32606 Department review of application; issuance; limitation; time period for making decision; conditions; notification of approval or denial; disposition of fees.

Sec. 32606. (1) The department shall review each complete application received for a submerged log removal permit and shall not issue a permit unless the department determines both of the following:

(a) That any adverse impacts, including, but not limited to, impacts to the environment, natural resources, riparian rights, and the public trust are minimal and will be mitigated to the extent practicable.

(b) That the proposed activity will not unreasonably affect the public health, safety, and welfare.

(2) The department may determine that certain areas within a proposed bottomland log removal area described in an application for a submerged log removal permit shall not be authorized for submerged log removal based upon adverse impacts, including, but not limited to, adverse impacts to the environment, natural resources, riparian rights, and the public trust.

(3) The department shall make a decision on whether or not to issue a submerged log removal permit under this part within 90 days after the close of the review and comment period under section 32605 or, if a public hearing is held under section 32608, within 90 days after the date of that public hearing.

(4) If the department issues a submerged log removal permit, the department shall condition the permit on compliance with both of the following:

(a) The permittee has provided the department with a $3,000.00 log recovery fee.

(b) The permittee has provided the department a bond as required in section 32607(7).

(5) The department shall notify the applicant in writing within 10 days after the date the department approves or denies a submerged log removal permit under this section.

(6) The department shall forward log recovery fees received under this subsection to the state treasurer for deposit into the Great Lakes fund created in section 32611.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.32607 Submerged log removal permit; overlaps; expiration; transfer; bond; termination; "bond" defined.

Sec. 32607. (1) The department shall not authorize the same bottomland log removal area in more than 1 submerged log removal permit at any 1 time.

(2) The department may modify the boundaries of a proposed bottomland log removal area in a submerged log removal permit to avoid overlaps with other active submerged log removal permits or adverse impacts, including, but not limited to, impacts to the environment, natural resources, riparian rights, and the public trust.

(3) A submerged log removal plan approved by the department shall be included in each submerged log removal permit.

(4) A submerged log removal permit shall contain terms and conditions that are determined by the department to protect the environment, natural resources, riparian rights, and the public trust.

(5) Each submerged log removal permit shall expire 5 years after the date the permit is issued. However, a submerged log removal permit issued prior to the effective date of the 2011 amendatory act that amended this section expires 5 years after the effective date of the 2011 amendatory act that amended this section. If federal approval is required, an applicant shall notify the department of the date on which the federal government issued its approval for the submerged log removal permit.

(6) A submerged log removal permit issued under this section is not transferrable unless the transfer is approved in writing by the department.

(7) An applicant for a submerged log removal permit shall provide a bond acceptable to the department in the amount of not less than $10,000.00 or more than $100,000.00 as required by the department, based upon permit conditions including costs of restoration and payments under section 32609. Except as provided in subsection (8), the term of the bond shall extend for 1 year following the expiration of the submerged log removal permit. The bond shall be provided to the department at least 10 days prior to beginning submerged log removal in a bottomland log removal area. The bond shall ensure compliance with the submerged log removal permit and all required payments under section 32609. If a submerged log removal permit is terminated under subsection (8), the department shall issue a written statement releasing the permittee or bonding company, or both, upon satisfaction of the department as to the compliance of the permittee with the terms and conditions of the permit and satisfaction of all payments as required in section 32609.

(8) A permittee may request, in writing, and the department may grant, termination of a submerged log removal permit prior to the expiration date, including release from quarterly reports and bond requirements.

(9) As used in this section, "bond" means a performance bond from a surety company authorized to transact business in this state or an irrevocable letter of credit, in favor of the department.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000;—Am. 2004, Act 546, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32608 Application for submerged log removal permit; hearing.

Sec. 32608. (1) The department may hold a public hearing on an application for a submerged log removal permit if the department desires additional information before making a decision on the permit application, or upon request, if such request is made within the public notice period.

(2) An applicant for a submerged log removal permit or a riparian owner who is aggrieved by an action or inaction of the department under this part may request a formal hearing on the matter, pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, within 60 days of the notice of the department's decision.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32609 Sawlog stumpage value; reservation of payments; "sawlog stumpage value" defined; report and payments due; disposition of payments; overdue payment.

Sec. 32609. (1) The state reserves a payment of 15% of the sawlog stumpage value of each submerged log that is removed from unpatented lands. As used in this subsection, "sawlog stumpage value" means the price received from recovered submerged logs.

(2) The holder of a submerged log removal permit under this part shall provide the department with a detailed report and all payments due under this section within 30 days after the close of each calendar quarter.

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The report shall include an accurate scaling at dockside of all submerged logs removed, by species. The permittee shall provide for an independent agent, approved by the department in writing, to conduct the scaling and species determination.

(3) All payments received under this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

(4) After a permittee is notified in writing that a payment under this section is overdue, the department may order suspension of the submerged log removal permit until the payment is submitted in full. The permittee shall not resume submerged log removal operations until the department provides written authorization for the operations to resume.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32610 Submerged log recovery fund.

Sec. 32610. (1) The submerged log recovery fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), money from the fund shall be used, upon appropriation, for the administrative costs of the department, the department of natural resources, and the department of state in implementing this part.

(5) On December 1, 2001 and on December 1 of each following year, the state treasurer shall transfer the balance of the fund as follows:

(a) Fifty percent to the Great Lakes fund created in section 32611.

(b) Fifty percent to the forest development fund established under section 50507.

History: Add. 2000, Act 277, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32611 Great Lakes fund.

Sec. 32611. (1) The Great Lakes fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the Great Lakes fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the Great Lakes fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the Great Lakes fund interest and earnings from Great Lakes fund investments.

(3) Money in the Great Lakes fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the Great Lakes fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall expend money from the Great Lakes fund, upon appropriation, only for environmental projects related to the Great Lakes and areas contiguous to the Great Lakes including, but not limited to, the prevention and management of nonnative species, coastal wetland restoration, contaminated sediment cleanup, and underwater preserve management, and for the administration of this part.

History: Add. 2000, Act 277, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000;—Am. 2011, Act 218, Imd. Eff. Nov. 10, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32612 Violation; civil action; remedies; civil fine.

Sec. 32612. (1) The department may bring a civil action against a person in the circuit court of the county in which a violation occurs or in Ingham county circuit court to do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Enforce compliance with this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

(b) Restrain a violation of this part or the rules promulgated under this part.

(c) Enjoin the further performance of, or order the removal of, any project that is undertaken contrary to this part or the rules promulgated under this part.

(d) Enforce a permit issued under this part.

(e) Order the restoration of an area affected by a violation of this part or the rules promulgated under this part to its prior condition.

(2) In an action brought under this section, the circuit court, in addition to any other relief granted, may

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assess a civil fine of not more than $5,000.00 per day for each day of violation of this part or the rules promulgated under this part.

(3) Any civil fine or remedy assessed, sought, or agreed to by the department shall be appropriate to the violation.

(4) Civil fines recovered under this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32613 Violation as misdemeanor; penalties.

Sec. 32613. (1) A person who does any of the following is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than $10,000.00 per day for each day of violation:

(a) Violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part.

(b) Violates a permit issued under this part.

(c) Makes a false statement, representation, or certification in an application for or with regard to a permit or in a notice or report required by a permit.

(d) Renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained by a permit.

(2) In addition to any other penalty provided in this section, a court shall order a person convicted under this section to return to the state any logs removed from bottomlands in violation of this part or the rules promulgated under this part, or to compensate the state for the full market value of the logs. If the person convicted under this section had been issued a permit under this part, the permit is void as of the date of conviction.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32614 Repealed. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to an annual report on great lakes submerged logs recovery program.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32615 Rules.

Sec. 32615. The department may promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 2000, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 327
GREAT LAKES PRESERVATION

324.32701 Definitions; retention of established baseline capacity.

Sec. 32701. (1) As used in this part:

(a) "Adverse resource impact" means any of the following:

(*i*) Until February 1, 2009, decreasing the flow of a river or stream by part of the index flow such that the river's or stream's ability to support characteristic fish populations is functionally impaired.

(*ii*) Beginning February 1, 2009, subject to subparagraph (*vi*), decreasing the flow of a cold river system by part of the index flow as follows:

(A) For a cold stream, the withdrawal will result in a 3% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(B) For a cold small river, the withdrawal will result in a 1% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*iii*) Beginning February 1, 2009, subject to subparagraph (*vi*), decreasing the flow of a cold-transitional river system by part of the index flow such that the withdrawal will result in a 5% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*iv*) Beginning February 1, 2009, subject to subparagraph (*vi*), decreasing the flow of a cool river system by part of the index flow as follows:

(A) For a cool stream, the withdrawal will result in a 10% or more reduction in the abundance of

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characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(B) For a cool small river, the withdrawal will result in a 15% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(C) For a cool large river, the withdrawal will result in a 12% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*v*) Beginning February 1, 2009, subject to subparagraph (*vi*), decreasing the flow of a warm river system by part of the index flow as follows:

(A) For a warm stream, the withdrawal will result in a 5% or more reduction in the abundance of characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(B) For a warm small river, the withdrawal will result in a 10% or more reduction in the abundance of characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(C) For a warm large river, the withdrawal will result in a 10% or more reduction in the abundance of characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(*vi*) Beginning February 1, 2009, decreasing the flow of a stream or river by more than 25% of its index flow.

(*vii*) Decreasing the level of a lake or pond with a surface area of 5 acres or more through a direct withdrawal from the lake or pond in a manner that would impair or destroy the lake or pond or the uses made of the lake or pond, including the ability of the lake or pond to support characteristic fish populations, or such that the ability of the lake or pond to support characteristic fish populations is functionally impaired. As used in this subparagraph, lake or pond does not include a retention pond or other artificially created surface water body.

(b) "Agricultural purpose" means the agricultural production of plants and animals useful to human beings and includes, but is not limited to, forages and sod crops, grains and feed crops, field crops, dairy animals and dairy products, poultry and poultry products, cervidae, livestock, including breeding and grazing, equine, fish and other aquacultural products, bees and bee products, berries, herbs, fruits, vegetables, flowers, seeds, grasses, nursery stock, trees and tree products, mushrooms, and other similar products, or any other product, as determined by the commission of agriculture, that incorporates the use of food, feed, fiber, or fur.

(c) "Assessment tool" means the water withdrawal assessment tool provided for in section 32706a.

(d) "Baseline capacity", subject to subsection (2), means any of the following, which shall be considered the existing withdrawal approval amount under section 4.12.2 of the compact:

(*i*) The following applicable withdrawal capacity as reported to the department or the department of agriculture, as appropriate, by the person making the withdrawal in the annual report submitted under section 32707 not later than April 1, 2009 or in the water use conservation plan submitted under section 32708 not later than April 1, 2009:

(A) Unless reported under a different provision of this subparagraph, for a quarry or mine that holds an authorization to discharge under part 31 that includes a discharge volume, the discharge volume stated in that authorization on February 28, 2006.

(B) The system capacity used or developed to make a withdrawal on February 28, 2006, if the system capacity and a description of the system capacity are included in an annual report that is submitted under this part not later than April 1, 2009.

(*ii*) If the person making the withdrawal does not report under subparagraph (*i*), the highest annual amount of water withdrawn as reported under this part for calendar year 2002, 2003, 2004, or 2005. However, for a person who is required to report by virtue of the 2008 amendments to section 32705(2)(d), baseline capacity means the person's withdrawal capacity as reported in the April 1, 2009 annual report submitted under section 32707.

(*iii*) For a community supply, the total designed withdrawal capacity for the community supply under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023, on February 28, 2006 as reported to the department in a report submitted not later than April 1, 2009.

(e) "Characteristic fish curve" means a fish functional response curve that describes the abundance of characteristic fish populations in response to reductions in index flow as published in the document entitled "Report to the Michigan Legislature in response to 2006 Public Act 34" by the former groundwater conservation advisory council dated July 2007, which is incorporated by reference.

(f) "Characteristic fish population" means the fish species, including thriving fish, typically found at relatively high densities in stream reaches having specific drainage area, index flow, and summer temperature characteristics.

(g) "Cold river system" means a stream or small river that has the appropriate summer water temperature that, based on statewide averages, sustains a fish community composed predominantly of cold-water fish species, and where small increases in water temperature will not cause a decline in these populations, as

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determined by a scientific methodology adopted by order of the commission.

(h) "Cold-transitional river system" means a stream or river that has the appropriate summer water temperature that, based on statewide averages, sustains a fish community composed predominantly of cold-water fish species, and where small increases in water temperature will cause a decline in the proportion of cold-water species, as determined by a scientific methodology adopted by order of the commission.

(i) "Community supply" means that term as it is defined in section 2 of the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1002.

(j) "Compact" means the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence river basin water resources compact provided for in part 342.

(k) "Consumptive use" means that portion of water withdrawn or withheld from the Great Lakes basin and assumed to be lost or otherwise not returned to the Great Lakes basin due to evaporation, incorporation into products or agricultural products, use as part of the packaging of products or agricultural products, or other processes. Consumptive use includes a withdrawal of waters of the Great Lakes basin that is packaged within the Great Lakes basin in a container of 5.7 gallons (20 liters) or less and is bottled drinking water as defined in the food code, 2005 recommendations of the food and drug administration of the United States public health service.

(*l*) "Cool river system" means a stream or river that has the appropriate summer water temperature that, based on statewide averages, sustains a fish community composed mostly of warm-water fish species, but also contains some cool-water species or cold-water species, or both, as determined by a scientific methodology adopted by order of the commission.

(m) "Council" means the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence river basin water resources council created in the compact.

(n) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(o) "Designated trout stream" means a trout stream identified on the document entitled "Designated Trout Streams for the State of Michigan", as issued under order of the director of the department of natural resources, FO-210.04, on October 10, 2003.

(p) "Diversion" means a transfer of water from the Great Lakes basin into another watershed, or from the watershed of 1 of the Great Lakes into that of another by any means of transfer, including, but not limited to, a pipeline, canal, tunnel, aqueduct, channel, modification of the direction of a water course, tanker ship, tanker truck, or rail tanker but does not apply to water that is used in the Great Lakes basin or a Great Lake watershed to manufacture or produce a product that is then transferred out of the Great Lakes basin or watershed. Diverted has a corresponding meaning. Diversion includes a transfer of water withdrawn from the waters of the Great Lakes basin that is removed from the Great Lakes basin in a container greater than 5.7 gallons (20 liters). Diversion does not include any of the following:

(*i*) A consumptive use.

(*ii*) The supply of vehicles, including vessels and aircraft, whether for the needs of the persons or animals being transported or for ballast or other needs related to the operation of vehicles.

(*iii*) Use in a noncommercial project on a short-term basis for firefighting, humanitarian, or emergency response purposes.

(*iv*) A transfer of water from a Great Lake watershed to the watershed of its connecting waterways.

(q) "Environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures" means those measures, methods, technologies, or practices for efficient water use and for reduction of water loss and waste or for reducing a withdrawal, consumptive use, or diversion that meet all of the following:

(*i*) Are environmentally sound.

(*ii*) Reflect best practices applicable to the water use sector.

(*iii*) Are technically feasible and available.

(*iv*) Are economically feasible and cost-effective based on an analysis that considers direct and avoided economic and environmental costs.

(*v*) Consider the particular facilities and processes involved, taking into account the environmental impact, the age of equipment and facilities involved, the process employed, energy impacts, and other appropriate factors.

(r) "Farm" means that term as it is defined in section 2 of the Michigan right to farm act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.472.

(s) "Flow-based safety factor" means a protective measure of the assessment tool that reduces the portion of index flow available for a withdrawal to 1/2 of the index flow for the purpose of minimizing the risk of adverse resource impacts caused by statistical uncertainty.

(t) "Great Lakes" means Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron, Erie, and Ontario and their connecting waterways including the St. Marys river, Lake St. Clair, the St. Clair river, and the Detroit river. For purposes

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of this definition, Lakes Huron and Michigan shall be considered a single Great Lake.

(u) "Great Lakes basin" means the watershed of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence river.

(v) "Great Lakes charter" means the document establishing the principles for the cooperative management of the Great Lakes water resources, signed by the governors and premiers of the Great Lakes region on February 11, 1985.

(w) "Great Lakes region" means the geographic region composed of the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin, the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada.

(x) "Index flow" means the 50% exceedance flow for the lowest summer flow month of the flow regime, for the applicable stream reach, as determined over the period of record or extrapolated from analyses of the United States geological survey flow gauges in Michigan. Beginning on October 1, 2008, index flow shall be calculated as of that date.

(y) "Intrabasin transfer" means a diversion of water from the source watershed of a Great Lake prior to its use to the watershed of another Great Lake.

(z) "Lake augmentation well" means a water well used to withdraw groundwater for the purpose of maintaining or raising water levels of an inland lake or stream as defined in section 30101.

(aa) "Large quantity withdrawal" means 1 or more cumulative total withdrawals of over 100,000 gallons of water per day average in any consecutive 30-day period that supply a common distribution system.

(bb) "Large river" means a river with a drainage area of 300 or more square miles.

(cc) "New or increased large quantity withdrawal" means a new water withdrawal of over 100,000 gallons of water per day average in any consecutive 30-day period or an increase of over 100,000 gallons of water per day average in any consecutive 30-day period beyond the baseline capacity of a withdrawal.

(dd) "New or increased withdrawal capacity" means new or additional water withdrawal capacity to supply a common distribution system that is an increase from the person's baseline capacity. New or increased capacity does not include maintenance or replacement of existing withdrawal capacity.

(ee) "Online registration process" means the online registration process provided for in section 32706.

(ff) "Preventative measure" means an action affecting a stream or river that prevents an adverse resource impact by diminishing the effect of a withdrawal on stream or river flow or the temperature regime of the stream or river.

(gg) "Registrant" means a person who has registered a water withdrawal under section 32705.

(hh) "River" means a flowing body of water with a drainage area of 80 or more square miles.

(ii) "Site-specific review" means the department's independent review under section 32706c to determine whether the withdrawal is a zone A, zone B, zone C, or zone D withdrawal and whether a withdrawal is likely to cause an adverse resource impact.

(jj) "Small river" means a river with a drainage area of less than 300 square miles.

(kk) "Source watershed" means the watershed from which a withdrawal originates. If water is withdrawn directly from a Great Lake, then the source watershed shall be considered to be the watershed of that Great Lake and its connecting waterways. If water is withdrawn from the watershed of a direct tributary to a Great Lake, then the source watershed shall be considered to be the watershed of that Great Lake and its connecting waterways, with a preference for returning water to the watershed of the direct tributary from which it was withdrawn.

(*ll*) "Stream" means a flowing body of water with a drainage area of less than 80 square miles.

(mm) "Stream reach" means a segment of a stream or river.

(nn) "Thriving fish curve" means a fish functional response curve that describes the initial decline in density of thriving fish populations in response to reductions in index flow as published in the document entitled "Report to the Michigan Legislature in response to 2006 Public Act 34" by the former groundwater conservation advisory council dated July 2007, which is incorporated by reference.

(oo) "Thriving fish population" means the fish species that are expected to flourish at very high densities in stream reaches having specific drainage area, index flow, and summer temperature characteristics.

(pp) "Warm river system" means a stream or river that has the appropriate summer water temperature that, based on statewide averages, sustains a fish community composed predominantly of warm-water fish species, as determined by a scientific methodology adopted by order of the commission.

(qq) "Waters of the Great Lakes basin" means the Great Lakes and all streams, rivers, lakes, connecting channels, and other bodies of water, including groundwater, within the Great Lakes basin.

(rr) "Waters of the state" means groundwater, lakes, rivers, and streams and all other watercourses and waters, including the Great Lakes, within the territorial boundaries of the state. Waters of the state do not include drainage ways and ponds designed and constructed solely for wastewater conveyance, treatment, or control.

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(ss) "Withdrawal" means the removal of water from surface water or groundwater.

(tt) "Zone A withdrawal" means the following:

(*i*) For a cold river system, as follows:

(A) For a cold stream, less than a 1% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(B) For a cold small river, less than 50% of the withdrawal that would result in an adverse resource impact.

(*ii*) For a cold-transitional river system, there is not a zone A withdrawal.

(*iii*) For a cool river system, as follows:

(A) For a cool stream, less than a 10% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(B) For a cool small river, less than a 5% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(C) For a cool large river, less than an 8% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*iv*) For a warm river system, less than a 10% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(uu) "Zone B withdrawal" means the following:

(*i*) There is not a zone B withdrawal for a cold stream or small river.

(*ii*) For a cold-transitional river system, less than a 5% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*iii*) For a cool river system, as follows:

(A) For a cool stream, a 10% or more but less than a 20% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(B) For a cool small river, a 5% or more but less than a 10% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(C) For a cool large river, an 8% or more but less than a 10% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*iv*) For a warm river system, as follows:

(A) For a warm stream, a 10% or more but less than a 15% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(B) For a warm small river or a warm large river, a 10% or more but less than a 20% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(vv) "Zone C withdrawal" means the following as long as the withdrawal will not decrease the flow of a stream or river by more than 25% of its index flow:

(*i*) For a cold river system, as follows:

(A) For a cold stream, a 1% or more but less than a 3% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(B) For a cold small river, 50% or more of the withdrawal that would result in an adverse resource impact but less than a 1% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*ii*) There is not a zone C withdrawal for a cold-transitional river system.

(*iii*) For a cool river system, as follows:

(A) For a cool stream, a 20% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve but less than a 10% reduction in the abundance of characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(B) For cool small rivers, a 10% or more but less than a 15% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(C) For cool large rivers, a 10% or more but less than a 12% reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve.

(*iv*) For warm river systems, as follows:

(A) For warm streams, a 15% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve but less than a 5% reduction in the abundance of characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(B) For warm small rivers and warm large rivers, a 20% or more reduction in the density of thriving fish populations as determined by the thriving fish curve but less than a 10% reduction in the abundance of characteristic fish populations as determined by the characteristic fish curve.

(ww) "Zone D withdrawal" means, beginning February 1, 2009, a withdrawal that is likely to cause an adverse resource impact.

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(2) For purposes of determining baseline capacity, a person who replaces his or her surface water withdrawal capacity with the same amount of groundwater withdrawal capacity from the drainage area of the same stream reach may retain the baseline capacity established under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 434, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1996;—Am. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 179, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32702 Legislative findings and declarations; authority.

Sec. 32702. (1) The legislature finds and declares that:

(a) A diversion of water out of the basin of the Great Lakes may impair or destroy the Great Lakes. The legislature further finds that a limitation on such diversions is authorized by and is consistent with the mandate of section 52 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963 that the legislature provide for the protection of the air, water, and other natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment, and destruction.

(b) Water use registration and reporting are essential to implementing the principles of the Great Lakes charter and necessary to support the state's opposition to diversion of waters of the Great Lakes basin and to provide a source of information on water use to protect Michigan's rights when proposed water losses affect the level, flow, use, or quality of waters of the Great Lakes basin.

(c) The waters of the state are valuable public natural resources held in trust by the state, and the state has a duty as trustee to manage its waters effectively for the use and enjoyment of present and future residents and for the protection of the environment.

(d) The waters of the Great Lakes basin are a valuable public natural resource, and the states and provinces of the Great Lakes region and Michigan share a common interest in the preservation of that resource.

(e) Any new diversion of waters of the Great Lakes basin for use outside of the Great Lakes basin will have significant economic and environmental impact adversely affecting the use of this resource by the Great Lakes states and Canadian provinces.

(f) The continued availability of water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural water supplies, navigation, hydroelectric power and energy production, recreation, and the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat and a balanced ecosystem are vital to the future economic health of the states and provinces of the Great Lakes region.

(g) Future interbasin diversions and consumptive uses of waters of the Great Lakes basin may have significant adverse impacts upon the environment, economy, and welfare of the Great Lakes region and of this state.

(h) The states and provinces of the Great Lakes region have a duty to protect, conserve, and manage their shared water resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future residents.

(i) The waters of the Great Lakes basin are capable of concurrently serving multiple uses, and such multiple uses of water resources for municipal, public, industrial, commercial, agriculture, mining, navigation, energy development and production, recreation, water quality maintenance, and the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat and a balanced ecosystem and other purposes are encouraged, recognizing that such uses are interdependent and must be balanced.

(j) The waters of the Great Lakes basin are interconnected and part of a single hydrologic system.

(2) The legislature has the authority under sections 51 and 52 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963 to regulate the withdrawal and uses of the waters of the state, including both surface water and groundwater, to promote the public health, safety, and welfare and to protect the natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment, and destruction, subject to constitutional protections against unreasonable or arbitrary governmental action and the taking of property without just compensation. This authority extends to all waters within the territorial boundaries of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 180, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32703 Diversion of waters prohibited.

Sec. 32703. Subject to section 32704, a diversion of the waters of the state out of the Great Lakes basin is prohibited.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 180, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32703a Diversion; authorization; conditions.

Sec. 32703a. (1) If the prohibition in section 32703 is determined to be invalid, the waters of the state shall not be diverted unless authorized by law.

(2) When considering whether to grant legislative approval for a diversion, the legislature shall consider sections 51 and 52 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963 and whether the project serves a public purpose, whether the project will result in no material harm to the waters of the state, the public trust, or related purposes, and whether the project would result in any improvement to the waters of the state or the water dependent natural resources of the state.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32704 Applicability of MCL 324.32703.

Sec. 32704. Section 32703 does not apply to a diversion of the waters of the Great Lakes out of the drainage basin of the Great Lakes existing on September 30, 1985.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32704a Diversion; proposal; comment period; notification; waiver.

Sec. 32704a. The governor shall establish a public comment period with regard to a proposal subject to 42 USC 1962d-20 to divert waters of the Great Lakes basin outside of the Great Lakes basin and shall notify the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over issues primarily pertaining to natural resources and the environment of his or her receipt of the proposal. The governor may waive the comment period under this section if he or she determines that it is necessary to take immediate action to provide humanitarian relief or firefighting capabilities.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32705 Registration of withdrawal; use of assessment tool; exception; agricultural purpose; form; calculating total amount of existing or proposed withdrawal; aggregate information; duration of valid registration.

Sec. 32705. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the owner of real property who intends to develop capacity on that property to make a new or increased large quantity withdrawal from the waters of this state shall register the withdrawal with the department after using the assessment tool, if required under this part, and prior to beginning that withdrawal. A registration under this section may be made using the online registration process.

(2) The following persons are not required to register under this section:

(a) Subject to subdivision (c), a person who has previously registered for that property under this part or the owner of real property containing the capacity to make a withdrawal that was previously requested under this part, unless the property owner develops new or increased withdrawal capacity on the property of an additional 100,000 gallons of water per day from the waters of the state.

(b) A community supply required to obtain a permit under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023.

(c) A person required to obtain a permit under section 32723.

(d) The owner of a noncommercial well located on the following residential property:

(*i*) Single-family residential property unless that well is a lake augmentation well.

(*ii*) Multifamily residential property not exceeding 4 residential units and not more than 3 acres in size unless that well is a lake augmentation well.

(3) Subsection (1) does not limit a property owner's ability to withdraw water from a test well prior to registration if the test well is constructed in association with the development of new or increased withdrawal capacity and used only to evaluate the development of new or increased withdrawal capacity.

(4) A registration under this section by the owner of a farm in which the withdrawal is intended for an agricultural purpose, including irrigation for an agricultural purpose, may be submitted to the department of

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agriculture instead of the department.

(5) A registration submitted under this section that is not submitted via the online registration process shall be on a form provided by the department or the department of agriculture, as appropriate.

(6) In calculating the total amount of an existing or proposed withdrawal for the purpose of this section, a person shall combine all separate withdrawals that the person makes or proposes to make, whether or not these withdrawals are for a single purpose or are for related but separate purposes.

(7) The department shall aggregate information received by the state related to large quantity withdrawal capacities within the state and reported large quantity withdrawals in the state.

(8) Unless a property owner develops the capacity to make the new or increased large quantity withdrawal within 18 months after the property owner registers under subsection (1), the registration is no longer valid.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 35, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 180, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32706 Development of internet-based online registration process; registration; required statement and supporting documentation.

Sec. 32706. (1) Not later than 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that amended this section, the department shall develop and implement an internet-based online registration process that may be used for registrations under section 32705. The online registration process shall be designed to work in conjunction with the assessment tool.

(2) Each registration under this part shall include both of the following:

(a) A statement and supporting documentation that includes all of the following:

(*i*) The place and source of the proposed withdrawal.

(*ii*) The location of any discharge or return flow associated with the proposed withdrawal.

(*iii*) The location and nature of the proposed water use.

(*iv*) The capacity of the equipment used for making the proposed withdrawal.

(*v*) The estimated average annual and monthly volumes and rate of the proposed withdrawal.

(*vi*) The estimated average annual and monthly volumes and rates of consumptive use from the proposed withdrawal.

(b) Beginning 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subdivision, for a new or increased large quantity withdrawal from a stream or river or groundwater, the determination from the use of the assessment tool under section 32706b or the determination from a site-specific review, as appropriate.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 434, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1996;—Am. 2008, Act 180, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32706a Internet-based water withdrawal assessment tool; implementation; determination of proposed zone withdrawal; entering and printing data; working in conjunction with online registration process; technical modifications; redesignation of stream or river; report.

Sec. 32706a. (1) On October 1, 2008, the department shall make available for testing and evaluation an internet-based water withdrawal assessment tool based upon the recommendations of the former groundwater conservation advisory council and the requirements of this part. The assessment tool shall contain a flow-based safety factor. Beginning 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, the department shall implement the assessment tool.

(2) The assessment tool shall determine whether a proposed withdrawal is a zone A, zone B, zone C, or zone D withdrawal and whether a proposed withdrawal is likely to cause an adverse resource impact based upon whether the proposed withdrawal is from a cold river system, a cold-transitional river system, a cool river system, or a warm river system. The assessment tool shall account for impacts due to cumulative withdrawals as provided for in section 32706e. The assessment tool shall also distinguish the impact of a proposed withdrawal based upon whether the proposed withdrawal is from a stream, a small river, or a large river, subject to the following:

(a) Cool streams and warm streams with less than 3 square miles of drainage area shall be integrated into the next largest drainage area for purposes of assessment tool determinations.

(b) Cool streams and warm streams with less than 20 square miles of drainage area and less than 1 cubic

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foot per second of index flow shall be integrated into the next largest drainage area for purposes of assessment tool determinations.

(c) Cool streams and warm streams with a drainage area of more than 3 square miles but less than 6 square miles shall be integrated into the next largest drainage area for purposes of assessment tool determinations for groundwater withdrawals.

(3) The assessment tool shall allow the user to enter into fields the following data related to a proposed withdrawal:

(a) The capacity of the equipment used for making the withdrawal.

(b) The location of the withdrawal.

(c) The withdrawal source, whether surface water or groundwater.

(d) If the source of the withdrawal is groundwater, whether the source of the withdrawal is a glacial stratum or bedrock.

(e) The depth of the withdrawal if from groundwater.

(f) The amount and rate of water to be withdrawn.

(g) Whether the withdrawal will be intermittent.

(4) The assessment tool shall contain a print function that allows the user, upon receipt of the assessment tool's determination, to print the data submitted and the determination returned along with a date and time.

(5) The assessment tool shall work in conjunction with the online registration process and shall also allow operation independent of the online registration process.

(6) On an ongoing basis, the department shall add verified data to the assessment tool's database from reports submitted under sections 32707, water use conservation plans submitted under section 32708, and permits issued under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023, and other sources of data regarding the waters of the state. Additionally, the department shall make technical modifications to the assessment tool related to considerations of temperature, hydrology, and stream or river flow based upon a scientific methodology adopted by order of the commission.

(7) If a person disagrees with the designation of a particular stream or river as a cold river system, a cold-transitional river system, a cool river system, or a warm river system for use in the assessment tool or otherwise under this part, the person may petition for a redesignation of that stream or river. The petition shall be submitted to the commission for its review and determination.

(8) The department shall report annually to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction primarily pertaining to natural resources and the environment on the implementation of the assessment tool and this part. This report shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(a) The number of zone C withdrawal site-specific reviews requested by applicants each 12 months after the effective date of the implementation of the assessment tool under section 32706a.

(b) The number of zone C withdrawal site-specific review determinations that resulted in changes from zone C to zone B and the number of changes from zone C to zone A.

(c) The number of zone C withdrawal site-specific review determinations that result in a zone D withdrawal determination.

(d) The number of site-specific review determinations where the department failed to meet statutory timelines.

(e) The number of registered assessment tool determinations for each zone.

(f) The number of voluntary requests for site-specific reviews that were submitted to the department and whether the department failed to meet statutory timelines on these site-specific reviews.

(g) The number of registrations submitted to the department under this part.

History: Add. 2008, Act 185, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32706b Utilization of assessment tool; request for site-specific review; designation of proposed withdrawal; registration; rerun of assessment tool; correction of data.

Sec. 32706b. (1) Beginning on the effective date of the implementation of the assessment tool under section 32706a, prior to registering a new or increased large quantity withdrawal under section 32705 for a proposed withdrawal from a stream or river, or from groundwater, the property owner proposing to make the withdrawal shall utilize the assessment tool by entering the data related to the proposed withdrawal into the assessment tool. However, a person who intends to make a new or increased large quantity withdrawal for the purpose of dewatering a mine that has a permit under part 31 and is not regulated under part 631, 632, or 637 may choose to submit a request for a site-specific review rather than utilize the assessment tool.

(2) Upon entry of the relevant data under subsection (1), the assessment tool shall indicate to the user

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whether or not the proposed withdrawal is likely to cause an adverse resource impact and whether the proposed withdrawal falls into the category of zone A, zone B, zone C, or zone D.

(3) If the assessment tool designates a proposed withdrawal as a zone A withdrawal, or a zone B withdrawal in a cool river system or a warm river system, the property owner may register the withdrawal and proceed to make the withdrawal.

(4) If the assessment tool designates a proposed withdrawal as a zone B withdrawal in a cold-transitional river system, or a zone C or zone D withdrawal, the property owner shall not register the withdrawal or make the withdrawal except in accordance with section 32706c.

(5) After a property owner registers a withdrawal, if, in developing the capacity to make the withdrawal, the conditions of the withdrawal deviate from the specific data that were entered into the assessment tool, the property owner shall rerun the assessment tool and shall enter the corrected data into the assessment tool. The property owner shall notify the department of the corrected data and the corrected results from the assessment tool. If the corrected data do not change the determination of the assessment tool, the property owner may proceed with the withdrawal. If the corrected data change the determination from the assessment tool, the property owner shall proceed under the provisions of this part related to the corrected assessment tool determination.

History: Add. 2008, Act 185, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32706c Request for site-specific review; analysis; supporting evidence; conditions; form; information to be included; completion of review by department; withdrawals; registration; corrected data; disclosure under freedom of information act; definitions.

Sec. 32706c. (1) If the assessment tool determines that a proposed withdrawal with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons of water or less per day from the waters of the state to supply a common distribution system is a zone B withdrawal in a cold-transitional river system, or a zone C or zone D withdrawal, the property owner may submit to the department the information described in section 32706a(3) and either of the following:

(a) An analysis of the proposed withdrawal by a professional hydrologist or hydrogeologist calculating the streamflow depletion of the proposed withdrawal. The analysis shall be based on an aquifer performance test, streamflow depletion calculations, and geological data consisting of at least 1 of the following, which shall be included with the analysis:

(*i*) Evidence the proposed withdrawal is in the water management unit or units that were part of a regional or watershed based study of water use impacts accepted by the department under this part. The evidence must include an affidavit by the property owner that the proposed withdrawal is located in a river system and aquifer included in the study, and records of applicable data collected in the study.

(*ii*) A hydrogeologic analysis of the water management unit or units that will potentially be affected by the proposed withdrawal, incorporating data from well logs, gamma ray logs, surficial maps of the glacial geology, geologic cross sections, and any other available hydrogeologic data.

(b) An analysis by a professional hydrologist or hydrogeologist of a proposed withdrawal from an aquifer separated from streams by bedrock, calculating streamflow depletion of the proposed withdrawal as described in this subdivision by providing hydrogeologic data demonstrating the bedrock transmissivity for the formation or relying on published estimates of transmissivity for the bedrock formation.

(2) Within 20 working days after the department's actual receipt of the analysis and supporting evidence and data related to the proposed withdrawal under subsection (1), the department shall determine whether a proposed withdrawal is a zone A, zone B, zone C, or zone D withdrawal and shall provide to the property owner written notification of its determination. However, if upon a preliminary review of the analysis and supporting evidence and data the department determines that the proposed withdrawal will cause a rejection only under subdivision (d)(*iv*), the department may, within the first 20 working days after actual receipt of the analysis and supporting evidence and data related to the proposed withdrawal under subsection (1), provide written notification to the property owner that up to 5 additional working days are needed for confirmation. If the department does not provide written notification stating a need for up to 5 additional working days or if the department cites any other reason under subdivision (d) for rejection, it must make its determination and provide to the property owner written notification of its determination within 20 working days after actual receipt of the analysis and supporting evidence and data related to the proposed withdrawal under subsection (1). The department's determination is subject to the following:

(a) If the department fails to provide written notification to the property owner within the time period required under this subsection, the property owner may register the withdrawal and proceed with the

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withdrawal.

(b) If the department determines that the proposed withdrawal is a zone A or a zone B withdrawal, the property owner may register the withdrawal and may proceed with the withdrawal.

(c) If the department determines that the proposed withdrawal is a zone C withdrawal, the property owner may register the withdrawal and proceed to make the withdrawal if the property owner self-certifies that he or she is implementing applicable environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures prepared under section 32708a that the property owner considers to be reasonable or has self-certified that he or she is implementing applicable environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures developed for the water use associated with that specific withdrawal that the property owner considers to be reasonable. A property owner proceeding under this subdivision shall provide 5 sets of water level recovery measurements, as described in an aquifer performance test, taken after pumping between June and October within 2 years after the production well is put in service. The department shall not require submission of additional information or data from a property owner proceeding under this subdivision.

(d) If the department determines that the proposed withdrawal is a zone D withdrawal, the property owner shall not register the withdrawal and shall not make the withdrawal unless the property owner applies for a water withdrawal permit under section 32723 and the withdrawal is authorized under that section, or unless it is authorized under subsection (4). In addition to the written notification of its determination under this subsection, if the department determines that the proposed withdrawal is a zone D withdrawal, the department shall include documentation demonstrating that the proposed water withdrawal is likely to cause an adverse resource impact. The documentation shall include 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Identification of specific errors in data collection performed by the professional hydrologist or hydrogeologist that render the analysis of the proposed withdrawal invalid.

(*ii*) A statement that the professional hydrologist or hydrogeologist used an inapplicable model to analyze the proposed withdrawal, with an explanation including both why the model selected for analysis was inapplicable for the proposed withdrawal and an analysis using an applicable model that shows the proposed withdrawal is likely to cause an adverse resource impact.

(*iii*) Identification of specific errors in the model analysis performed by the professional hydrologist or hydrogeologist that render the analysis of the proposed withdrawal invalid.

(*iv*) The cumulative streamflow depletion estimated for all the registered water withdrawals in an impacted watershed management area is likely to cause an adverse resource impact. The cumulative streamflow depletion calculation shall account for reevaluation of previously registered water withdrawals in the affected water management units using the Hunt, 2003; Ward and Lough, 2011; or a similar peer-reviewed model that assesses potential stream depletion.

(3) After a property owner registers a withdrawal pursuant to subsection (2), if, in developing the capacity to make the withdrawal, the conditions of the withdrawal deviate from the specific data that were evaluated, the property owner shall notify the department of the corrected data and the department shall confirm its determination under subsection (2). If the corrected data do not change the determination, the property owner may proceed with the withdrawal. If the corrected data change the determination, the property owner shall proceed under the provisions of this part related to the corrected determination.

(4) If a proposed withdrawal is a zone B withdrawal in a cold-transitional river system, or a zone C or zone D withdrawal, and a property owner does not submit any of the information described in subsection (1) or the department determines under subsection (2) that the proposed withdrawal is a zone D withdrawal, the property owner may request a site-specific review. A request for a site-specific review shall be submitted to the department in a form required by the department and shall include all of the following:

(a) The information described in section 32706a(3).

(b) The intended maximum monthly and annual volumes and rates of the proposed withdrawal, if different from the capacity of the equipment used for making the proposed withdrawal.

(c) If the amount and rate of the proposed withdrawal will have seasonal fluctuations, the relevant information related to the seasonal use of the proposed withdrawal.

(d) A description of how the water will be used and the location, amount, and rate of any return flow.

(e) Any other information the property owner would like the department to consider in making its determination under this section.

(5) Upon receipt of a request for a site-specific review under subsection (4), the department shall consider the information submitted and shall consider the actual stream or river flow data of any affected stream reach. The department shall also apply the drainage area integration standards provided in section 32706a(2)(a), (b), and (c), if applicable, and account for cumulative withdrawals as provided for in section 32706e. The department shall not rely on the assessment tool's determination in making its determination under a site-specific review. The department may calculate streamflow depletion using Hunt, 2003; Ward and Lough,

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2011; or a similar peer-reviewed model that assesses potential stream depletion. The calculation of streamflow depletion may also be conducted on existing withdrawals in the same water management unit or units as the proposed withdrawal if applicable data are available. This data may be used to provide additional evidence as needed to demonstrate whether a proposed withdrawal is likely to cause an adverse resource impact.

(6) The department shall complete a site-specific review within 10 working days of submittal of a request for a site-specific review. If the department determines, based upon a site-specific review, that the proposed withdrawal is a zone A or a zone B withdrawal, the department shall provide written notification to the property owner and the property owner may register the withdrawal and may proceed with the withdrawal.

(7) Subject to subsection (8), if the department determines in conducting a site-specific review that the proposed withdrawal is a zone C withdrawal, the property owner may register the withdrawal and proceed to make the withdrawal if the property owner self-certifies that he or she is implementing applicable environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures prepared under section 32708a that the property owner considers to be reasonable or has self-certified that he or she is implementing applicable environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures developed for the water use associated with that specific withdrawal that the property owner considers to be reasonable.

(8) Except for withdrawals exempt from obtaining a water withdrawal permit under section 32723, if a site-specific review determines that a proposed withdrawal is a zone C withdrawal with capacity in excess of 1,000,000 gallons of water per day from the waters of the state to supply a common distribution system, the person proposing the withdrawal shall not register the withdrawal and shall not proceed with making the withdrawal unless the person obtains a water withdrawal permit under section 32723.

(9) If the department determines, based upon a site-specific review, that the proposed withdrawal is a zone D withdrawal, the property owner shall not register the withdrawal and shall not make the withdrawal unless he or she applies for a water withdrawal permit under section 32723 and the withdrawal is authorized under that section.

(10) After a property owner registers a withdrawal following a site-specific review, if, in developing the capacity to make the withdrawal, the conditions of the withdrawal deviate from the specific data that were evaluated in the site-specific review, the property owner shall notify the department of the corrected data and the department shall confirm its determination under the site-specific review. If the corrected data do not change the determination under the site-specific review, the property owner may proceed with the withdrawal. If the corrected data change the determination under the site-specific review, the property owner shall proceed under the provisions of this part related to the corrected determination.

(11) Nothing in this section alters any requirement to disclose information or any exemption from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246, as otherwise provided under sections 32707(6) and 32708(4).

(12) As used in this part:

(a) "Aquifer performance test" means a controlled field test in which all of the following are done:

(*i*) At least 1 monitoring well is installed. The monitoring well must be installed in the same aquifer and screened at or near the same depth as the production well, and be located at a distance of 1 to 5 times the thickness of the aquifer from the proposed production well. A nearby existing well may be used as a monitoring well for the test instead if it meets all the monitoring well requirements.

(*ii*) Static water level elevation measurements are taken at 1-minute intervals for 24 hours before the pumping portion of the test to an accuracy of 0.05 feet.

(*iii*) Pumping is conducted at a rate at or above the desired production rate for the duration of the test and metered or periodically measured to ensure consistency of rate.

(*iv*) The pumping portion of the test is conducted for a period of 24 hours in confined aquifers or 72 hours in unconfined aquifers, during which drawdown measurements are taken at 1-minute intervals to an accuracy of 0.05 feet.

(*v*) After completion of the pumping period, measurements of water level recovery are taken at 1-minute intervals for 24 hours to an accuracy of 0.05 feet.

(*vi*) An analysis is conducted to determine, at a minimum, the aquifer hydraulic characteristics of transmissivity and storage coefficient employing the methods of Cooper and Jacob, 1946; Theis, 1935; Hantush and Jacob, 1955; Hantush and Jacob, 1960; Hantush and Jacob, 1961; Neuman, 1972; Neuman, 1974; or Hunt and Scott, 2007.

(b) "Cooper and Jacob, 1946" means Cooper and Jacob, 1946: "A Generalized Graphical Method for Evaluating Formation Constants and Summarizing Well-Field History".

(c) "Hantush and Jacob, 1955" means Hantush and Jacob, 1955: "Non-Steady Radial Flow in an Infinite Leaky Aquifer".

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(d) "Hantush and Jacob, 1960" means Hantush and Jacob, 1960: "Modification of the Theory of Leaky Aquifers".

(e) "Hantush and Jacob, 1961" means Hantush and Jacob, 1961: "Aquifer Tests on Partially Penetrating Wells".

(f) "Hunt, 1999" means Hunt, 1999: "Unsteady Stream Depletion from Ground Water Pumping".

(g) "Hunt, 2003" means Hunt, 2003: "Unsteady Stream Depletion When Pumping from Semiconfined Aquifer".

(h) "Hunt and Scott, 2007" means Hunt and Scott, 2007: "Flow to a Well in a Two-Aquifer System".

(i) "Neuman, 1972" means Neuman, 1972: "Theory of Flow in Unconfined Aquifers Considering Delayed Gravity Response of the Water Table".

(j) "Neuman, 1974" means Neuman, 1974: "Effect of Partial Penetration on Flow in Unconfined Aquifers Considering Delayed Gravity Response".

(k) "Professional hydrologist or hydrogeologist" means an individual holding a license or registration from any state as a professional hydrologist, hydrogeologist, or geologist, or a current certification as a professional geologist by the American Institute of Professional Geology.

(*l*) "Streamflow depletion calculation" means an evaluation of the potential streamflow depletion in which all of the following are done:

(*i*) The streambed conductance of the potentially impacted streams shall be measured in-situ using slug testing, seepage meter testing, or both.

(*ii*) An aquifer performance test representing the proposed withdrawal location has been completed.

(*iii*) An analysis shall be conducted to calculate streamflow depletion using the applicable method of Hunt, 1999; Hunt, 2003; Ward and Lough, 2011; or a similar peer-reviewed model that assesses potential stream depletion. The analysis may also be conducted on existing withdrawals in the same water management unit or units as the proposed withdrawal if applicable data are available. This may be used to provide additional evidence as needed to demonstrate a proposed withdrawal is unlikely to cause an adverse resource impact.

(m) "Theis, 1935" means Theis, 1935: "The Relation Between the Lowering of the Piezometric Surface and the Rate and Duration of Discharge of a Well Using Groundwater Storage".

(n) "Ward and Lough, 2011" means Ward and Lough, 2011: "Stream Depletion from Pumping a Semiconfined Aquifer in a Two-Layer Leaky Aquifer System".

History: Add. 2008, Act 181, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008;—Am. 2018, Act 209, Eff. June 22, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32706d Collection of stream or river flow measurements by persons other than department; development and use of protocol; training program.

Sec. 32706d. (1) The department shall develop a protocol for the collection of stream or river flow measurements by persons other than the department for use by the department in the administration of this part. The protocol may specify a minimum number of measurements, stream or river flow and weather conditions when the measurements are to be made, and any other conditions necessary to ensure the adequacy and quality of the measurements. The protocol shall ensure that stream or river flow measurements collected for this purpose meet the same data quality standards as stream or river flow measurements collected by the United States geological survey. The department shall consult with the United States geological survey and other recognized scientific experts in developing this protocol.

(2) The department may use stream or river flow data collected using the protocol under subsection (1) in conducting site-specific reviews, in making water withdrawal permit decisions under section 32723, in issuing permits under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023, in updating the water withdrawal assessment tool as appropriate, or in other actions requiring an evaluation of stream or river flow.

(3) The department may establish a program to train and certify individuals in the collection of stream or river flow measurements. The department shall charge a fee sufficient to reimburse the department for the cost of a program developed under this subsection. The department may enter into a cooperative agreement with the United States geological survey to provide training and certification under this section.

History: Add. 2008, Act 181, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32706e Cumulative withdrawals; determination of adverse impact.

Sec. 32706e. The department shall determine whether an adverse resource impact has occurred under this

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part and whether a withdrawal is a zone A, a zone B, a zone C, or a zone D withdrawal under this part based upon cumulative withdrawals affecting the same stream reach. In accounting for these cumulative withdrawals, the department shall apply both of the following:

(a) Beginning on October 1, 2008, the department shall begin water withdrawal accounting for cumulative withdrawals affecting the same stream reach.

(b) Beginning on February 1, 2009, the department shall adjust the water withdrawal accounting under subdivision (a) such that if cumulative withdrawals beginning on October 1, 2008 have removed a sufficient flow of water from a stream reach to change the zone classification of that stream reach, the department shall reset the water withdrawal accounting benchmark for that stream reach as follows:

(*i*) If the cumulative impact of withdrawals on February 1, 2009 results in a classification as a zone B withdrawal, the accounting benchmark shall be reset at the beginning point for zone B withdrawals.

(*ii*) If the cumulative impact of withdrawals on February 1, 2009 results in a classification as a zone C withdrawal, the accounting benchmark shall be reset at the beginning point for zone C withdrawals.

(*iii*) If the cumulative impact of withdrawals on February 1, 2009 results in a classification as a zone D withdrawal, the accounting benchmark shall be reset at the beginning point for zone C withdrawals. If there is not a zone C for the classification of the stream reach, the water withdrawal accounting benchmark shall be reset at the beginning point for zone B withdrawals.

History: Add. 2008, Act 185, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32707 Reporting requirements; forms; water use reporting fees.

Sec. 32707. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3), a person who is required to register under section 32705 or holds a permit under section 32723 shall file a report annually with the department on a form provided by the department. Reports shall be submitted by April 1 of each year. Except as provided in subsection (8), reports shall include the following information:

(a) The amount and rate of water withdrawn on an annual and monthly basis.

(b) The source or sources of the water supply.

(c) The use or uses of the water withdrawn.

(d) The amount of consumptive use of water withdrawn.

(e) If the source of the water withdrawn is groundwater, the location of the well or wells in latitude and longitude, with the accuracy of the reported location data to within 25 feet.

(f) If the source of water withdrawn is groundwater, the static water level of the aquifer or aquifers, if practicable.

(g) Other information specified by rule of the department.

(h) At the discretion of the registrant or permit holder, the baseline capacity of the withdrawal and, if applicable, a description of the system capacity.

(i) At the discretion of the registrant or permit holder, the amount of water returned to the source watershed.

(j) Beginning in 2010, an acknowledgment that the registrant has reviewed applicable environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures prepared under section 32708a.

(2) If a person reports the information required by this section to the department in conjunction with a permit or for any other purpose, that reporting, upon approval of the department, satisfies the reporting requirements of this section.

(3) The owner of a farm who reports water use under section 32708 is not required to report under subsection (1).

(4) The department may, upon request from a person required to report under this section, accept a formula or model that provides to the department's satisfaction the information required in subsection (1).

(5) The department shall develop forms for reporting under this section that minimize paperwork and allow for a notification to the department instead of a report if the annual amount of water withdrawn by a person required to report under this section is within 4% of the amount last reported and the other information required in subsection (1) has not changed since the last year in which a report was filed.

(6) Information described in section 32701(d)(*i*)(B) that is provided to the department under subsection (1)(h) is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246, and shall not be disclosed unless the department determines that the withdrawal is causing an adverse resource impact.

(7) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a person who files an annual report or notification under this section shall annually remit a water use reporting fee of $200.00 to the department. Water use

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reporting fees shall be remitted to the department in conjunction with the annual report or notification submitted under this section. The department shall transmit water use reporting fees collected under this section to the state treasurer to be credited to the water use protection fund created in section 32714. A water use reporting fee is not required for a report or notification related to a farm that reports withdrawals under section 32708 or for a report under subsection (8).

(8) A person who withdraws less than 1,500,000 gallons of water in any year shall indicate this fact on the reporting form and is not required to provide information under subsection (1)(a) or (d). A person who withdraws less than 1,500,000 gallons of water in any year is not required to pay the water use reporting fee under subsection (7).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 434, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1996;—Am. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 182, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32708 Water use conservation plan; formula or model to estimate consumptive use of withdrawals for agricultural purposes; inclusion of information in statewide groundwater inventory and map; disclosure.

Sec. 32708. (1) The owner of a farm that is registered under this part who makes a withdrawal for an agricultural purpose, including irrigation for an agricultural purpose, may report the water use on the farm by annually submitting to the department of agriculture a water use conservation plan. Conservation plans shall be submitted by April 1 of each year. The water use conservation plan shall include, but need not be limited to, all of the following information:

(a) The amount and rate of water withdrawn on an annual and monthly basis in either gallons or acre inches.

(b) The type of crop irrigated, if applicable.

(c) The acreage of each irrigated crop, if applicable.

(d) The source or sources of the water supply.

(e) If the source of the water withdrawn is groundwater, the location of the well or wells in latitude and longitude, with the accuracy of the reported location data to within 25 feet.

(f) If the water withdrawn is not used entirely for irrigation, the use or uses of the water withdrawn.

(g) If the source of water withdrawn is groundwater, the static water level of the aquifer or aquifers, if practicable.

(h) Applicable water conservation practices and an implementation plan for those practices. Beginning in 2010, the water use conservation plan shall include an acknowledgment that the owner of the farm has reviewed applicable environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures prepared under section 32708a.

(i) At the discretion of the registrant, the baseline capacity of the withdrawal based upon system capacity and a description of the system capacity.

(2) The department and the department of agriculture in consultation with Michigan state university shall validate and use a formula or model to estimate the consumptive use of withdrawals made for agricultural purposes consistent with the objectives of section 32707.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), information provided to the department of agriculture under subsection (1)(a), (d), and (e) shall be forwarded to the department for inclusion in the statewide groundwater inventory and map prepared under section 32802.

(4) Information provided under subsection (1)(a), (e), and (i) is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246, and shall not be disclosed by the department, the department of agriculture, or the department of natural resources unless the department determines that the withdrawal is causing an adverse resource impact.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 434, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1996;—Am. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 35, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 182, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32708a Generic water conservation measures; preparation; posting on website; submission of water conservation measures by water user's sector; acceptance by department; water conservation measures for agricultural purposes; report; notification of zone C withdrawal; definitions.

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Sec. 32708a.

(1) Not later than March 31, 2009, the department shall prepare, based upon recommendations from representative trade associations, a set of generic water conservation measures that are applicable to all persons making large quantity withdrawals. The department shall post these generic water conservation measures on its website.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), each water user's sector may prepare and submit to the department water conservation measures that are applicable for water users within its sector. Upon receipt of water conservation measures from a water user's sector, the department shall review the water conservation measures, and, if the department determines that those water conservation measures are appropriate for that sector, the department shall accept those water conservation measures. Upon acceptance, the department shall post the water conservation measures on its website and those water conservation measures shall supersede the generic water conservation measures prepared under subsection (1) for water users within that sector. If the department determines that the water conservation measures are not appropriate for the water user's sector, the department shall provide comments to the water user's sector and suggestions that would result in the department's acceptance of the water conservation measures. A water user's sector may resubmit water conservation measures in response to the department's comments and suggestions.

(3) Water conservation measures for agricultural purposes shall be developed and approved by the commission of agriculture and shall be updated annually as part of the process for review and update of generally accepted agricultural and management practices under the Michigan right to farm act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.471 to 286.474. Water conservation measures approved under this subsection shall be posted on the department of agriculture's website and shall be forwarded to the department for posting on its website.

(4) By April 1, 2010, the department shall report to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction primarily related to natural resources and the environment on the status of the preparation and acceptance of water user sector conservation measures.

(5) If the department receives a registration for a zone C withdrawal, the department shall notify all other registrants and permit holders whose withdrawals are from the same water source as the zone C withdrawal of the status of the water source. Upon receipt of notification under this subsection, each of these registrants and permit holders shall review and consider implementing the applicable water conservation measures prepared under this section.

(6) Compliance with water conservation measures does not authorize a water withdrawal that is otherwise prohibited by law.

(7) As used in this section:

(a) "Permit holders" means persons holding a permit under section 32723 and persons holding a permit under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023.

(b) "Water conservation measures" means environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures.

History: Add. 2006, Act 35, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 182, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32709 Informational materials.

Sec. 32709. The department may contract for the preparation and distribution of informational materials to members of the public related to any of the following:

(a) The purposes, benefits, and requirements of this part.

(b) Information on complying with the registration requirement of this part and on any general or applicable methods for calculating or estimating water withdrawals or consumptive uses.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 182, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32710 Duties of department; electronic mail notification of withdrawals; formation of water resources assessment and education committee.

Sec. 32710. (1) The department shall do all of the following:

(a) Cooperate with the states and provinces in the Great Lakes region to develop and maintain a common base of information on the use and management of the water of the Great Lakes basin and to establish systematic arrangements for the exchange of this information.

(b) Collect and maintain information regarding the locations, types, and quantities of water use, including

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water withdrawals and consumptive uses, in a form that the department determines is comparable to the form used by other states and provinces in the Great Lakes region.

(c) Collect, maintain, and exchange information on current and projected future water needs with the other states and provinces in the Great Lakes region.

(d) Cooperate with other states and provinces in the Great Lakes region in developing a long-range plan for developing, conserving, and managing the water of the Great Lakes basin.

(e) Participate in the development of a regional consultation procedure for use in exchanging information on the effects of proposed water withdrawals and consumptive uses from the Great Lakes basin.

(f) Develop procedures for notifying water users and potential water users of the requirements of this part.

(g) If the department receives a registration for a zone B or a zone C withdrawal or issues a permit under section 32723 or the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023, for a zone B or zone C withdrawal, place a notice on the department's website and notify by electronic mail all of the following that have requested under subsection (2) an electronic mail notification:

(*i*) Conservation districts.

(*ii*) Regional planning agencies.

(*iii*) Watershed management planning committees.

(*iv*) Storm water committees established under part 31.

(*v*) The chief elected officials of the local units of government.

(*vi*) Community supplies owned by political subdivisions.

(*vii*) A water users committee established under section 32725.

(2) An organization listed in subsection (1)(g) that wishes to receive an electronic mail notification of withdrawals described in subsection (1)(g) that are located in its vicinity shall provide to the department an electronic mail address.

(3) Upon receipt of notification from the department under subsection (1)(g), the notified entities may form a water resources assessment and education committee in order to assess trends in water use in the vicinity of the withdrawal and educate water users. The department shall assist in the formation of these water resources assessment and education committees and may provide them with technical information regarding water use and capacity within their vicinity, aggregated at the stream reach level. Meetings of water resources assessment and education committees shall be open to the general public. A water resources assessment and education committee formed under this subsection may provide educational materials and recommendations regarding any of the following:

(a) Long-term water resources planning.

(b) Use of conservation measures.

(c) Drought management activities.

(d) Other topics related to water use as identified by the committee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 184, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32711, 324.32712 Repealed. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to an exemption from water withdrawal reporting requirements for a public water supply and the prohibition on the department to mandate a permit or regulate water withdrawal.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32713 Civil action; commencement; civil fine; recovery of surveillance and enforcement costs.

Sec. 32713. (1) The department may request the attorney general to commence a civil action for appropriate relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction, for a violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part, including falsifying a record submitted under this part. An action under this section shall be brought in the circuit court for the county of Ingham or for the county in which the defendant is located, resides, or is doing business. The court has jurisdiction to restrain the violation and to require compliance.

(2) In addition to any other relief granted under subsection (1), the court may impose a civil fine as follows:

(a) For a person who knowingly violates section 32721 or 32723 or the terms of a permit issued under section 32723, a civil fine of not more than $10,000.00 per day of violation.

(b) For all other violations of this part, a civil fine of not more than $1,000.00.

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(3) In addition to a fine imposed under subsection (2), the attorney general may file a suit in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover the full value of the costs of surveillance and enforcement by the state resulting from the violation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 186, Eff. Oct. 7, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32714 Water use protection fund; creation; disposition of assets; investments; money remaining in fund; expenditures.

Sec. 32714. (1) The water use protection fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund, and shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse into the general fund.

(4) The department may expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for 1 or more of the following:

(a) The implementation and administration of this part.

(b) The preparation of the statewide groundwater inventory and map under section 32802.

(c) The expenses of the groundwater conservation advisory council under part 328.

(d) The implementation and administration of part 317.

History: Add. 1996, Act 434, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1996;—Am. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32721 Large quantity withdrawal; prohibition; exception; certain large quantity withdrawals subject to definition of adverse resource impact existing on February 28, 2006.

Sec. 32721. (1) A person shall not make a new or increased large quantity withdrawal from the waters of the state that causes an adverse resource impact.

(2) This section does not apply to the baseline capacity of a large quantity withdrawal or a well capable of making a large quantity withdrawal that existed on February 28, 2006.

(3) This section does not apply to a withdrawal that is utilized solely for fire suppression.

(4) A person who developed the capacity to make a new or increased large quantity withdrawal on or after February 28, 2006 and prior to February 1, 2009 or who received a determination under former section 32724 during that period is subject to the definition of adverse resource impact that existed on February 28, 2006.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 183, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32722 Presumption.

Sec. 32722. (1) For new or increased large quantity withdrawals developed on or after February 28, 2006 and prior to the implementation date of the assessment tool under section 32706a, there is a rebuttable presumption that the withdrawal will not cause an adverse resource impact in violation of section 32721 under either of the following circumstances:

(a) The location of the withdrawal is more than 1,320 feet from the banks of an affected stream reach.

(b) The withdrawal depth of the well is at least 150 feet.

(2) If the assessment tool determines that a withdrawal is a zone A or a zone B withdrawal and is not likely to cause an adverse resource impact, there is a rebuttable presumption that the withdrawal under the conditions that were the basis for the assessment tool's determination will not cause an adverse resource impact in violation of section 32721.

(3) If the department determines, based upon a site-specific review, or in connection with a permit or approval issued under section 32723 or the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023, that a withdrawal is not likely to cause an adverse resource impact, there is a rebuttable presumption that the withdrawal under the conditions that were the basis of the department's determination will not cause an adverse resource impact in violation of section 32721.

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(4) A presumption under this section is not valid if the capacity to make the withdrawal is not developed within 18 months after the withdrawal is registered. A presumption under this section may be rebutted by a preponderance of evidence that a new or increased large quantity withdrawal from the waters of the state has caused or is likely to cause an adverse resource impact.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 183, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32723 Water withdrawal permit; persons required to obtain; application; fee; issuance; conditions; revocation; petition for contested case hearing; exemptions from permit requirements.

Sec. 32723. (1) Except as provided in subsection (13), the following persons shall obtain a water withdrawal permit prior to making the withdrawal:

(a) A person who proposes to develop withdrawal capacity to make a new withdrawal of more than 2,000,000 gallons of water per day from the waters of the state to supply a common distribution system.

(b) A person who proposes to develop increased withdrawal capacity beyond baseline capacity of more than 2,000,000 gallons of water per day from the waters of the state to supply a common distribution system.

(c) A person who proposes to develop withdrawal capacity to make a new or increased large quantity withdrawal of more than 1,000,000 gallons of water per day from the waters of the state to supply a common distribution system that a site-specific review has determined is a zone C withdrawal.

(d) A person who proposes to develop a new or increased withdrawal capacity that will result in an intrabasin transfer of more than 100,000 gallons per day average over any 90-day period.

(2) A person shall apply for a water withdrawal permit under this section by submitting an application to the department containing the information described in section 32706c(1)(a) to (e) and an evaluation of existing hydrological and hydrogeological conditions. If the applicant proposes to undertake a preventative measure along with the withdrawal, the property owner shall provide the department with a detailed description of the preventative measure and relevant information as to how the preventative measure will be implemented. In addition, the applicant shall submit an application fee in the amount of $2,000.00. The department shall transmit application fees collected under this section to the state treasurer to be credited to the water use protection fund created in section 32714.

(3) An application submitted under subsection (2) is considered to be administratively complete effective 30 days after it is received by the department unless the department notifies the applicant, in writing, during this 30-day period that the application is not administratively complete or that the fee required to be accompanied with the application has not been paid. If the department determines that the application is not administratively complete, the notification shall specify the information necessary to make the application administratively complete. If the department notifies the applicant as provided in this subsection, the 30-day period is tolled until the applicant submits to the department the specified information or fee.

(4) The department shall provide public notification of its receipt of applications under this section and shall provide a public comment period of not less than 45 days before applications are acted upon under subsection (5).

(5) The department shall make a decision whether to grant or deny a water withdrawal permit under this section within 120 days of receipt of an administratively complete application.

(6) The department shall issue a water withdrawal permit under subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c) if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) All water withdrawn, less any consumptive use, is returned, either naturally or after use, to the source watershed.

(b) The withdrawal will be implemented so as to ensure that the proposal will result in no individual or cumulative adverse resource impacts. Cumulative adverse resource impacts under this subdivision shall be evaluated by the department based upon available information gathered by the department.

(c) Subject to section 32726, the withdrawal will be implemented so as to ensure that it is in compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws as well as all legally binding regional interstate and international agreements, including the boundary waters treaty of 1909.

(d) The proposed use is reasonable under common law principles of water law in Michigan.

(e) For permit applications received on or after January 1, 2009, the applicant has self-certified that he or she is in compliance with environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures developed by the applicable water user's sector under section 32708a or has self-certified that he or she is in compliance with environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures developed

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for the water use associated with that specific withdrawal.

(f) The department determines that the proposed withdrawal will not violate public or private rights and limitations imposed by Michigan water law or other Michigan common law duties.

(7) The department shall issue a water withdrawal permit under subsection (1)(d) if the transfer complies with section 4.9 of the compact.

(8) In reviewing a proposed preventative measure, the department shall consider the effect of the preventative measure on preventing an adverse resource impact by diminishing the effect of the withdrawal on stream or river flow or the temperature regime of the stream or river. If the department approves a preventative measure in conjunction with a water withdrawal permit under this section, the department shall enter into a legally enforceable implementation schedule for completion of the preventative measure.

(9) A proposed use for which a water withdrawal permit is issued under this section shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of section 4.11 of the compact.

(10) A permit issued under part 31 pursuant to 33 USC 1326(b) shall be considered sufficient to demonstrate that there will not be an adverse resource impact under section 32721 and satisfies the conditions for a water withdrawal permit under this section. Upon receipt of an application under this section and evidence that the applicant holds a part 31 permit described in this subsection, the department shall grant the applicant a water withdrawal permit under this subsection.

(11) The department may revoke a water withdrawal permit issued under this section if the department determines following a hearing, based upon clear and convincing scientific evidence, that the withdrawal is causing an adverse resource impact.

(12) A person who is aggrieved by a determination of the department under this section related to a water withdrawal permit may file a sworn petition with the department setting forth the grounds and reasons for the complaint and asking for a contested case hearing on the matter pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. A petition filed more than 60 days after action on the water withdrawal permit may be rejected by the department as being untimely. The department shall issue a final decision on a petition for a contested case hearing within 6 months after receiving the petition. A determination, action, or inaction by the department following a contested case hearing is subject to judicial review as provided in the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(13) The following withdrawals are not required to obtain a water withdrawal permit under this section:

(a) A withdrawal by a community supply that holds a permit under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023.

(b) Seasonal withdrawals of not more than 2,000,000 gallons of water per day average in any consecutive 90-day period to supply a common distribution system unless the withdrawals result in a diversion.

(c) A withdrawal for the production of bottled drinking water approved by the department under a water source review conducted under section 17 of the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1017.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 180, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32724 324.32724 Repealed. 2008, Act 181, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to persons exempt from permit requirements.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32725 Water users committee; establishment; purpose; composition; notice of withdrawal; occurrence of adverse resource impacts; recommended solution proposed by department; order by director; petition; "unverified petition" and "permit holders" defined.

Sec. 32725. (1) All persons making large quantity withdrawals within a watershed are encouraged to establish a water users committee to evaluate the status of current water resources, water use, and trends in water use within the watershed and to assist in long-term water resources planning. A water users committee may be composed of all registrants, permit holders, and local government officials within the watershed. Upon establishment of a water users committee, a participating local government official may create an ad hoc subcommittee of residents of that local unit of government to provide that local government official with information and advice on water resources, water use, and trends in water use within the local unit of government.

(2) If the department authorizes a zone B withdrawal in a cold-transitional river system or a zone C withdrawal, the department shall notify all registrants, permit holders, and local government officials within

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the watershed of the withdrawal and of the authority under this section to establish a water users committee and may provide them technical information regarding water use and capacity within their vicinity aggregated at the stream reach level.

(3) If the department determines by reasonable scientifically-based evidence that adverse resource impacts are occurring or are likely to occur from 1 or more large quantity withdrawals, the department shall notify the water users committee in the watershed or shall convene a meeting of all registrants and permit holders within the watershed and shall attempt to facilitate an agreement on voluntary measures that would prevent adverse resource impacts.

(4) If, within 30 days after the department has notified the water users committee or convened the meeting under subsection (3), the registrants and permit holders are not able to voluntarily agree to measures that would prevent adverse resource impacts, the department may propose a solution that the department believes would equitably resolve the situation and prevent adverse resource impacts. The recommended solution is not binding on any of the parties.

(5) The director may, without a prior hearing, order permit holders to immediately restrict a withdrawal if the director determines by clear and convincing scientific evidence that there is a substantial and imminent threat that the withdrawal is causing or is likely to cause an adverse resource impact. The order shall specify the date on which the withdrawal must be restricted and the date on which it may be resumed. An order issued under this section shall remain in force and effect for not more than 30 days and may be renewed for an additional 30 days if the director determines by clear and convincing scientific evidence that conditions continue to pose a substantial and imminent threat that the withdrawal is causing or is likely to cause an adverse resource impact. The order shall notify the person that the person may request a contested case hearing under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The hearing shall be held within 10 business days following the request, unless the permittee requests a later date. As an alternative to requesting a contested case hearing, a person subject to an order under this section may seek judicial review of the order as provided in the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.101 to 600.9947.

(6) A registrant or permit holder may submit a petition to the director alleging that adverse resource impacts are occurring or are likely to occur from 1 or more water withdrawals. The director shall either investigate the petition or forward the petition to the director of the department of agriculture if the water withdrawals are from an agricultural well. The petition shall be in writing and shall include all the information requested by the director or the director of the department of agriculture, as appropriate.

(7) A person who submits more than 2 unverified petitions under this section within 1 year may be ordered by the director to pay for the full costs of investigating any third or subsequent unverified petition. As used in this subsection, "unverified petition" means a petition in response to which the director determines that there is not reasonable evidence to suspect adverse resource impacts.

(8) As used in this section, "permit holders" means persons holding a permit under section 32723 and persons holding a permit under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023.

History: Add. 2006, Act 36, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 184, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32726 Local ordinance.

Sec. 32726. Except as authorized by the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211, a local unit of government shall not enact or enforce an ordinance that regulates a large quantity withdrawal. This section is not intended to diminish or create any existing authority of municipalities to require persons to connect to municipal water supply systems as authorized by law.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32727 Exemptions; compilation and sharing of certain data.

Sec. 32727. (1) The following withdrawals are exempt from the requirements of this part unless they result in a diversion:

(a) A withdrawal undertaken as part of an activity authorized by the department under part 111, 115, 201, 213, or 615.

(b) A withdrawal undertaken as part of an activity authorized by the United States environmental protection agency under either of the following:

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(*i*) The comprehensive environmental response, compensation, and liability act of 1980, Public Law 96-510.

(*ii*) The resource conservation and recovery act of 1976, Public Law 94-580.

(c) A withdrawal that is undertaken for hydroelectric generation at sites certified, licensed, or permitted by the federal energy regulatory commission.

(d) A hydroelectric facility authorized under section 12 of chapter 264 of the act of March 3, 1909, commonly known as the river and harbor act of 1909, 35 Stat. 821.

(e) A hydroelectric facility authorized under section 1075(c) of the intermodal surface transportation efficiency act of 1991, Public Law 102-240.

(f) A hydroelectric facility authorized under Public Law 85, chapter 1368, 34 Stat. 102.

(g) Removal of water from an artificially created surface water body that has as its primary source of water either of the following:

(*i*) A withdrawal that is not a new or increased large quantity withdrawal.

(*ii*) A registered new or increased large quantity withdrawal that has been determined by the assessment tool, a site-specific review, or a permit issued under section 32723 to be a withdrawal that is not likely to cause an adverse resource impact.

(h) A withdrawal from a noncommercial well located on the following residential property:

(*i*) Single-family residential property unless that well is a lake augmentation well.

(*ii*) Multifamily residential property not exceeding 4 residential units and not more than 3 acres in size unless that well is a lake augmentation well.

(2) The director of the department shall ensure that data in the possession of the state related to withdrawals that are not regulated under this part are compiled and shared with departmental personnel responsible for implementing this part.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 183, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32728 Construction and scope of act; rules.

Sec. 32728. (1) This part shall not be construed as affecting, intending to affect, or in any way altering or interfering with common law water rights or property rights or the applicability of other laws providing for the protection of natural resources or the environment or limit, waive, cede, or grant any rights or interest that the state possesses as sovereign for the people of the state in the waters or natural resources of the state.

(2) This part does not limit the right of a person whose interests have been or will be adversely affected to institute proceedings in circuit court against any person to protect such interests.

(3) Except as specifically authorized under this part, this part does not authorize the promulgation of rules.

History: Add. 2006, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 185, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32729 Fees not authorized; exception.

Sec. 32729. Except as specifically authorized under this part, this part does not authorize the assessment of fees.

History: Add. 2008, Act 185, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32730 Compact; implementation.

Sec. 32730. The compact shall be implemented as follows:

(a) Except as specifically provided in this part, water withdrawals originating within this state shall be regulated exclusively under this part.

(b) A proposed use for which a water withdrawal permit is issued under section 32723 shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of section 4.11 of the compact.

(c) The 2008 amendments to this part, the 2008 amendments to part 328, and the 2008 amendments to sections 4 and 17 of the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1004 and 325.1017, are intended to fully implement the compact in this state. For purposes of section 9.1 of the compact, all acts and parts of acts that were inconsistent with the compact on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section have been modified, as necessary, to be consistent with the compact, and therefore section 9.1 does not repeal

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any acts or parts of acts.

(d) If the council proposes a revision to the standard of review and decision under section 3.1 and 3.3 of the compact, the governor shall notify the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction primarily related to natural resources and the environment. A regulation adopted pursuant to section 3.1 and 3.3 of the compact that amends the standard of review and decision shall not be deemed duly adopted in accordance with the statutory authorities and applicable procedures of this state unless the regulation is approved by the legislature and enacted into law.

History: Add. 2008, Act 190, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 328
AQUIFER PROTECTION

324.32801 Definitions.

Sec. 32801. As used in this part:

(a) "Annex 2001" means the Great Lakes charter annex signed by the governors and premiers of the Great Lakes region on June 18, 2001.

(b) "Aquifer" means any water bearing bed or stratum of earth or rock capable of yielding groundwater to a water well in sufficient quantities that can be withdrawn.

(c) "Assessment tool" means the water withdrawal assessment tool provided for in part 327.

(d) "Base flow" means groundwater discharge to rivers and streams.

(e) "Conflict areas" means an aquifer or a portion of an aquifer in which the department has determined that there is reasonable, scientifically based evidence of a pattern of groundwater withdrawal conflicts or a single extended groundwater withdrawal conflict.

(f) "Council" means the water use advisory council created under section 32803.

(g) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(h) "Director" means the director of the department.

(i) "Groundwater" means water below the land surface in a zone of saturation.

(j) "Groundwater withdrawal conflict" means the failure of an existing water well that was constructed in compliance with part 127 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.12701 to 333.12771, to furnish its normal supply of groundwater because of a progressive decline of the static water level within the aquifer due to the withdrawal of groundwater from the aquifer by a high-capacity well or sump, as determined based on reasonable, scientifically based evidence.

(k) "Static water level" means the distance between the ground surface and the water level within a well that is not being pumped.

History: Add. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2008, Act 189, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008;—Am. 2018, Act 509, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32802 Groundwater data; collection and compilation into statewide groundwater inventory and map; update; availability to public.

Sec. 32802. (1) Not later than 2 years after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, the department shall collect and compile groundwater data into a statewide groundwater inventory and map. The department shall use existing sources of groundwater data where those data are available, including information reported under part 327, information reported under the safe drinking water act, 1976 PA 399, MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023, and information collected under the groundwater dispute resolution program created in part 317, but may supplement those data through additional studies if those data are incomplete. Following completion of the initial statewide groundwater inventory and map, the department shall update the statewide groundwater inventory and map as new information becomes available. The department shall include data on all of the following in the statewide groundwater inventory and map:

(a) Location and water yielding capabilities of aquifers in the state.

(b) Aquifer recharge rates in the state, if available to the department.

(c) Static water levels of groundwater in the state.

(d) Base flow of rivers and streams in the state.

(e) Conflict areas in the state.

(f) Surface waters, including designated trout lakes and streams, and groundwater dependent natural

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resources, that are identified on the natural features inventory.

(g) The location and pumping capacity of all of the following:

(*i*) Industrial or processing facilities registered under section 32705 that withdraw groundwater.

(*ii*) Irrigation facilities registered under section 32705 that withdraw groundwater.

(*iii*) Public water supply systems that have the capacity to withdraw over 100,000 gallons of groundwater per day average in any consecutive 30-day period.

(h) Aggregate agricultural water use and consumptive use, by township.

(2) The department shall make the statewide groundwater inventory and map available to the general public.

History: Add. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32803 Water use advisory council; creation; qualifications and appointment of members; appointment of technical advisors; duties of council; report.

Sec. 32803. (1) The water use advisory council is created within the department. The council shall consist of all of the following members:

(a) Four individuals appointed by the senate majority leader as follows:

(*i*) One individual representing business and manufacturing interests.

(*ii*) One individual representing public utilities.

(*iii*) One individual representing a statewide angler association.

(*iv*) One individual representing a statewide agricultural organization.

(b) Four individuals appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives as follows:

(*i*) One individual representing registered well drilling contractors with hydrology and drilling field experience.

(*ii*) One individual representing local units of government.

(*iii*) One individual representing agricultural irrigators.

(*iv*) One individual representing wetlands conservation organizations.

(c) Five individuals appointed by the governor as follows:

(*i*) One individual representing municipal water suppliers.

(*ii*) One individual representing a statewide conservation organization.

(*iii*) One individual representing a statewide riparian landowners association.

(*iv*) One individual representing professional hydrologists and hydrogeologists, as defined in section 32706c, with hydrogeology field experience.

(*v*) One individual representing Indian tribes.

(d) Four individuals appointed by the director as follows:

(*i*) One individual representing nonagriculture irrigators.

(*ii*) One individual representing the aggregate industry.

(*iii*) One individual representing environmental organizations.

(*iv*) One individual representing local watershed councils.

(e) Six individuals serving as ex officio, nonvoting members, representing the department, the department of agriculture and rural development, the department of natural resources, the office of the Great Lakes, the Michigan geological survey, and the attorney general.

(2) The appointments to the council under subsection (1) shall be made not later than 60 days after the effective date of the 2018 amendatory act that amended this section. The individual making the appointment under subsection (1) shall give consideration and deference to individuals currently serving on the department's water use advisory council.

(3) An individual appointed to the council shall serve for a term of 4 years, and may be reappointed. Individuals appointed to the council serve without compensation. A vacancy on the council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(4) The council may elect co-chairs, form committees, set meeting schedules and work plans to address the council's responsibilities as provided by law, address charges from the department, and establish priorities. Members of the council may participate in any committees created by the council. Members of the council shall strive to make recommendations by consensus vote, and may submit opposition statements that must be included in the council's report under subsection (7).

(5) The council may appoint technical advisors with specific scientific, technical, legal, and similar expertise relevant to the council's responsibilities. Technical advisors may participate in any council meetings, committees, or subgroups created by the council but shall not vote on recommendations made by the council

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to the department or legislature under subsection (7).

(6) A meeting of the council must be held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(7) The council shall do all of the following:

(a) Make recommendations to the department, the department of agriculture and rural development, the department of natural resources, and the legislature on the implementation of part 327, including all of the following:

(*i*) Strategies for collection, verification, and use of data, including geology, aquifer characteristics, and groundwater and surface water hydrology.

(*ii*) Improvement, verification, regionalization, and integration of models used in the water withdrawal assessment tool and site-specific review, including models developed by private and public entities, organizations, or individuals.

(*iii*) Identification of research, public-private partnerships, training, and changes to the water withdrawal assessment tool needed to improve the department's ability to implement part 327 and to improve the water withdrawal assessment process under part 327.

(b) Study and make recommendations, as needed or as requested by the relevant standing committees of the legislature or the department, regarding the development and refinement of the water withdrawal assessment process under part 327.

(c) Make recommendations on reconciling conflicts in state laws related to the use of the waters of the state.

(d) At least every 2 years after the effective date of the 2018 amendatory act that amended this section, provide a report to the senate majority leader, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction primarily related to natural resources and the environment that makes recommendations regarding how the water withdrawal assessment process under part 327 could be improved. The report shall contain specific recommendations on the use of the assessment tool, the site-specific review process, the permitting process, the staffing, budgetary, software, and other resources required by the departments to successfully implement part 327, and any other measure that the council determines would improve the water withdrawal assessment process under part 327.

History: Add. 2003, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Aug. 8, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 34, Imd. Eff. Feb. 28, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 189, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008;—Am. 2018, Act 509, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: For abolishment of the groundwater conservation advisory council and transfer of its powers and duties to the department of environmental quality, see E.R.O. No. 2007-5, compiled at MCL 324.99907.

For transfer of powers and duties of water resources conservation advisory council from department of natural resources to natural resources commission, and abolishment of the advisory council, see E.R.O. No. 2009-31, compiled at MCL 324.99919.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 329
GREAT LAKES PROTECTION

324.32901 Definitions.

Sec. 32901. As used in this part:

(a) "Board" means the Michigan Great Lakes protection fund technical advisory board created in section 32908.

(b) "Fund" means the Michigan Great Lakes protection fund created in section 32905.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For the type III transfer of the office of the great lakes within the department of natural resources to the new office of the great lakes within the department of environment, great lakes, and energy, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32902 Legislative findings.

Sec. 32902. The legislature finds that:

(a) The Great Lakes are a valuable resource providing an important source of food, fresh water, recreation, beauty, and enjoyment.

(b) The ecosystems of the Great Lakes, which provide sustenance and recreation to the people of this state and other states and nations, have been severely affected and are continually threatened by the introduction of foreign species into the lakes and by pollution of the Great Lakes waters.

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(c) Careful management of the Great Lakes will permit the rehabilitation and protection of the lakes, their waters, and their ecosystems, while continuing and expanding their use for industry, food production, transportation, and recreation.

(d) This state, because it is surrounded by the Great Lakes and because the Great Lakes contribute in innumerable ways to the state's economy, recreation, and way of life, must act as a steward for the protection, enhancement, and wise utilization of the Great Lakes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32903 Office of the Great Lakes; establishment; purpose; duties.

Sec. 32903. The office of the Great Lakes is established within the department of natural resources and is designated as the lead agency within state government for the development of policies, programs, and procedures to protect, enhance, and manage the Great Lakes. The office of the Great Lakes shall do all of the following:

(a) Advise the governor, the director, and the directors of other appropriate state departments on appropriate steps needed to coordinate state policy and state actions on the Great Lakes and to implement an ecosystem approach to this state's Great Lakes policies.

(b) Provide representation at the national level for this state's Great Lakes interests.

(c) Represent this state before Great Lakes policy development bodies such as the international joint commission.

(d) Ensure adequate research and staff work to maintain this state's regional leadership in resolving Great Lakes problems.

(e) Promote the wise use of the ports of this state and Great Lakes water transportation.

(f) Promote the Great Lakes tourism industry.

(g) Advocate the interests of this state in actions, policies, and legislation affecting the Great Lakes proposed in other Great Lakes states, Canadian provinces, Great Lakes policy development bodies, and the federal government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of the Office of the Great Lakes, including but not limited to the authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

For transfer of the office of the Great Lakes from department of environmental quality to department of natural resources and environment, see E.R.O. No. 2009-31, compiled at MCL 324.99919.

For transfer of office of Great Lakes from department of natural resources and environment to department of environmental quality, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

For transfer of office of the Great Lakes from department of environmental quality to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2017-5, compiled at MCL 324.99922.

For the type III transfer of the office of the Great Lakes within the department of natural resources to the new office of the Great Lakes within the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32904 Reports, analysis, and inventory to be submitted by governor to legislature.

Sec. 32904. The governor, with the assistance of the office of the Great Lakes, shall prepare and submit to the legislature the following:

(a) An annual report, submitted by December 31 of each year, on the state of the Great Lakes.

(b) A comprehensive analysis, in the governor's annual budget message, of all the funds from state and federal sources that the governor recommends be expended for the protection, enhancement, and management of the Great Lakes.

(c) A comprehensive inventory, submitted by August 2, 1986, of all state, federal, interstate, and international agencies, programs, and projects associated with the protection, enhancement, and management of the Great Lakes.

(d) A report, submitted by February 2, 1987, on the status of the agreement between the United States and Canada known as the Great Lakes water quality agreement of 1978, and recommending steps to be taken to execute the state's obligations in that agreement and to promote the state's role and objectives in the renegotiation of that agreement.

(e) A report, submitted by August 2, 1987, listing the priority research needs with respect to the Great Lakes.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of the Office of the Great Lakes, including but not limited to the authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

For the type III transfer of the office of the Great Lakes within the department of natural resources to the new office of the Great Lakes within the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32905 Michigan Great Lakes protection fund; creation; sources of money; investment of fund; crediting interest and earnings to fund; money not to revert to general fund; annual report.

Sec. 32905. (1) The Michigan Great Lakes protection fund is created in the state treasury.

(2) The fund shall receive money from the following sources:

(a) Money received by the state from the Great Lakes protection fund authorized in part 331.

(b) Gifts and contributions to the fund.

(c) Other sources provided by law.

(3) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. Interest and earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund. Money in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not revert to the general fund.

(4) The state treasurer shall annually report to the board and the department on the amount of money in the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32906 State treasurer to credit money to fund.

Sec. 32906. The state treasurer shall credit all money the state receives from the Great Lakes protection fund as authorized in part 331 to the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32907 Use of money in fund.

Sec. 32907. Money in the fund shall be used only for programs or grants to supplement existing Great Lakes research and protection programs consistent with the purposes of part 331 including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Research on the economic, environmental, and human health effects of contamination in the Great Lakes.

(b) The collection and analysis of data on the Great Lakes.

(c) The development of new or improved environmental cleanup technologies.

(d) Research to assess the effectiveness of pollution control policies.

(e) The assessment of the health of Great Lakes fish, waterfowl, and other organisms.

(f) Other programs consistent with the purposes of part 331.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32908 Michigan Great Lakes protection fund technical advisory board; creation; appointment, qualifications, and terms of members; removal of member; election of chairperson; meetings; public notice; member not to receive grant.

Sec. 32908. (1) The Michigan Great Lakes protection fund technical advisory board is created within the department. The board shall consist of the following members:

(a) An individual appointed by the department who has knowledge or expertise in Great Lakes water issues.

(b) An individual appointed by the department who has knowledge or expertise in the effects of air pollution on the Great Lakes.

(c) Six individuals appointed by the department as follows:

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(*i*) One individual from an environmental organization.

(*ii*) One individual from a business or industry related to the Great Lakes.

(*iii*) One individual who has performed research related to the water quality of the Great Lakes.

(*iv*) One individual who has performed research related to public health concerns associated with the Great Lakes.

(*v*) One individual who has knowledge or expertise in the demographics of the Great Lakes region or the climatology of the Great Lakes region.

(*vi*) One individual who represents the hazardous substance research center.

(2) A member of the board shall serve for a term of 3 years. However, of the first appointments to the board by the department under subsection (1)(c), 3 shall be appointed to serve 2-year terms and 3 shall be appointed to serve 1-year terms.

(3) A member of the board may be removed for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office by the body that appointed him or her.

(4) The board shall elect a chairperson from among its members. The board shall meet at the call of the chairperson at least annually. A meeting of the board shall be held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be given in the manner required by that act.

(5) A member of the board shall not receive a grant under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32909 Duties of board generally.

Sec. 32909. The board shall do both of the following:

(a) Advise this state's representatives on the board of directors of the Great Lakes protection fund authorized in part 331.

(b) Consult with the technical advisory committee of the Great Lakes protection fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32910 Programs and grants to be funded; advice to department; compilation and submission of list; statement of guidelines; appropriation.

Sec. 32910. (1) The board shall annually advise the department on the programs or grants that should be funded under this part and shall submit a list of these programs or grants to the department for its approval. This list shall be compiled in order of priority. Upon approval of the list, the department shall submit the list to the legislature in January of each year.

(2) The department and the board shall include with each list submitted under subsection (1) a statement of the guidelines used in listing and assigning the priority of the proposed programs or grants.

(3) The legislature shall annually appropriate money from the Michigan Great Lakes protection fund and from the Great Lakes spill prevention research fund for programs or grants pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.32911 Great Lakes spill prevention research fund; creation; appropriations, gifts, and contributions; investments; disposition of interest and earnings; reversions; use of money; definitions.

Sec. 32911. (1) The Great Lakes spill prevention research fund is created in the state treasury.

(2) The research fund may receive money as appropriated by the legislature, from gifts and contributions to the fund, and as otherwise provided by law. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the research fund. Interest and earnings of the research fund shall be credited to the research fund. Money in the research fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the research fund and shall not revert to the general fund.

(3) Money in the research fund shall be used only for the following purposes:

(a) Research into the prevention of spills during the transportation of hazardous materials on the Great Lakes and major tributaries of the Great Lakes.

(b) Research on selected pollution incidents to determine causal factors in spills of hazardous materials on

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the Great Lakes and major tributaries of the Great Lakes.

(c) Research into a total systems approach to address Great Lakes pollution problems that include human factors and socio-technical considerations.

(d) Research into the role of human factors in spills of hazardous materials on the Great Lakes and major tributaries of the Great Lakes, including human factors in pollution alarms, pollution monitoring systems, and instrumentation.

(e) Research into the deployment of existing and new technology related to transportation of hazardous materials on the Great Lakes and major tributaries of the Great Lakes and the appropriate allocation of functions between individuals and machines.

(f) Research to determine the relative contribution of spills of hazardous materials into the Great Lakes and major tributaries of the Great Lakes to the total pollution of the Great Lakes basin.

(g) Research on and modeling of spills to determine their effect on water intakes.

(4) As used in this section:

(a) "Great Lakes" means the Great Lakes and their connecting waterways over which the state has jurisdiction.

(b) "Hazardous material" means a chemical or other material which is or may become injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare, or to the environment.

(c) "Major tributary of the Great Lakes" means a river that flows into the Great Lakes that has a drainage area in excess of 700 square miles or has a drainage area that contains a population of 1,000,000 or more individuals.

(d) "Research fund" means the Great Lakes spill prevention research fund created in subsection (1).

(e) "Spill" means any leaking, pumping, pouring, emptying, emitting, discharging, escaping, leaching, or disposing of a hazardous material in a quantity which is or may become injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare or to the environment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 331
REGIONAL GREAT LAKES PROTECTION FUND

324.33101 Definitions.

Sec. 33101. As used in this part:

(a) "Agreement" means the document entitled "Great Lakes protection fund agreement" signed by the governor on February 26, 1989.

(b) "Great Lakes protection fund" or "fund" means the Great Lakes protection fund approved in the agreement.

(c) "Great Lakes toxic substance control agreement" means the document entitled "Great Lakes toxic substance control agreement" signed by the governor on May 21, 1986.

(d) "Great Lakes water quality agreement of 1978" means the "Great Lakes water quality agreement of 1978" between the United States and Canada signed November 22, 1978, including the phosphorous load reduction supplement signed October 7, 1983, and as amended by protocol signed November 18, 1987.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of the Office of the Great Lakes, including but not limited to the authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

For the type III transfer of the office of the Great Lakes within the department of natural resources to the new office of the Great Lakes within the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33102 Legislative findings and declaration.

Sec. 33102. The legislature finds and declares that:

(a) The Great Lakes protection fund has been created to advance the principal goals and objectives of the Great Lakes toxic substances control agreement and the Great Lakes water quality agreement of 1978.

(b) The Great Lakes protection fund has been created to finance and support state and regional projects for the protection, research, and cleanup of the Great Lakes.

(c) There is a need for a stable and predictable funding commitment for the preservation of Great Lakes water quality.

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(d) The protection of the Great Lakes is of paramount public concern in the interest of the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the state and the participation of the state in the Great Lakes protection fund will assist in achieving this protection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of the Office of the Great Lakes, including but not limited to the authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

For the type III transfer of the office of the Great Lakes within the department of natural resources to the new office of the Great Lakes within the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33103 Great Lakes protection fund; formation and operation; agreement; appointment of members to board of directors.

Sec. 33103. (1) The governor, on behalf of this state, may take all steps necessary to join with other states in the formation and operation of the Great Lakes protection fund provided that the fund does all of the following:

(a) Provides for the fund to receive money from each of the participating states and to expend only the interest and earnings of the fund for the purposes of subdivision (b).

(b) Provides for the funding of activities related to Great Lakes research and protection including but not limited to:

(*i*) Research on the economic, environmental, and human health effects of contamination in the Great Lakes.

(*ii*) The collection and analysis of data on the Great Lakes.

(*iii*) The development of new or improved environmental cleanup technologies.

(*iv*) Research to assess the effectiveness of pollution control policies.

(*v*) The assessment of the health of Great Lakes fish, waterfowl, and other organisms.

(2) The governor shall do all things necessary to implement the agreement.

(3) The governor shall appoint members to the board of directors of the Great Lakes protection fund in accordance with the agreement.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of the Office of the Great Lakes, including but not limited to the authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

For the type III transfer of the office of the Great Lakes within the department of natural resources to the new office of the Great Lakes within the department of environment, Great Lakes, and energy, see E.R.O. 2019-1, compiled at MCL 324.99923.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33104 Withdrawal of participation in fund; dissolution of fund and distribution of assets; agreement to extend deadline.

Sec. 33104. (1) If, by February 28, 1991, fewer than 4 states whose representatives signed the agreement have enacted legislation and provided funding as required by the agreement to participate in the fund, the governor shall take all steps necessary to withdraw the participation of the state in the fund, to dissolve the fund, and to equitably distribute the assets of the fund.

(2) If 2/3 of the states whose representatives signed the agreement agree to extend the deadline provided in subsection (1), the governor shall not withdraw the participation of the state during the extension period.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33105 Delegation of responsibilities.

Sec. 33105. The governor may delegate his or her responsibilities under this part to the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 333
COASTAL BEACH EROSION

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324.33301 Coastal beach erosion or protection; expenditures authorized.

Sec. 33301. Any political subdivision of the state, by resolution of its legislative body adopted by a majority vote of its full membership, is authorized to make expenditures from its general fund, contingent fund, or from any special funds available for the purposes described in this section, to undertake, either independently or in cooperation with any other political subdivision or with any agency of the state or federal government, investigative or study functions related to coastal beach erosion or protection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 337
FLOOD, DRAINAGE, AND BEACH EROSION CONTROL

324.33701 Flood, drainage, or beach erosion control; lands; acquisition; contract with federal government; terms.

Sec. 33701. The township board of any township, the legislative body of any incorporated city or incorporated village, or the board of county road commissioners of any county when directed by the county board of commissioners of the county, pursuant to a resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of the members of the county board of commissioners, is authorized to acquire any and all interests in lands necessary to any flood control, drainage, or beach erosion control project and is authorized to contract with the federal government or any agency of the federal government, whereby the federal government or agency will pay the whole or a part of the cost of flood control, drainage control, or beach erosion control projects or will perform the whole or any part of the work connected with the project, or both, which contract may include any specific terms, including, but not limited to, the holding and saving of the United States free from damages due to the construction works, required by act of congress or federal regulation as a condition for participation on the part of the federal government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33702 Relief from assessment.

Sec. 33702. A contract entered into under section 33701 may provide that payments made or work done by the federal government or agency of the federal government relieves it in whole or in part from assessment for the cost of the project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33703 Contract; provisions.

Sec. 33703. A contract entered into under section 33701 may provide for the granting, without cost to the United States, of all lands, easements, and rights-of-way necessary for the construction of the project, except as otherwise provided by act of congress or federal regulation. Such a contract may also provide for the maintenance and operation of the project after completion in accordance with regulations prescribed by the secretary of the army.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33704 Expenditures from municipal or county funds.

Sec. 33704. The township board of any township, the legislative body of any incorporated city or

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incorporated village, or the county board of commissioners of any county, pursuant to a resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of its members, is authorized in connection with any contract entered into under section 33701 to make expenditures from its general fund, contingent fund or from any special funds available.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33705 Assurances to federal government.

Sec. 33705. The township board of any township, the legislative body of any incorporated city or incorporated village, or the board of county road commissioners of any county when directed by the county board of commissioners of the county, pursuant to a resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of its members, is authorized to grant to the United States assurances as are required by federal flood control acts, by amendments to those acts, and by such other federal acts existing, or which may be enacted in the future, authorizing expenditure of federal funds for flood control, drainage, or beach erosion control projects.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33706 Joint contracts for implementation of part.

Sec. 33706. The township board of any township, the legislative body of any incorporated city or incorporated village, or the board of county road commissioners of any county when directed by the county board of commissioners of the county, may provide for joint participation and a joint contract or contracts in implementing this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33707 Contracts; borrowing funds from federal government.

Sec. 33707. Contracts entered into under this part involving the financial ability of the incorporated city, incorporated village, township, or county to meet all obligations and liabilities imposed by the contracts as to cost of lands, easements, rights-of-way, construction, or the maintenance and operation costs of the project or projects are subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. Any incorporated city, incorporated village, or township, or the board of county road commissioners of any county when directed by the county board of commissioners, authorized to contract with the federal government or any agency of the federal government under this part, may borrow funds from the federal government or any agency of the federal government to implement this part, which borrowings shall be subject to existing statutes and charter limitations that are applicable to the borrowing. The revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821, applies to those borrowings.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 219, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33708 Interest in lands; easement for flood plain; acquisition; declared public purposes.

Sec. 33708. For the accomplishment of the purposes of this part, any city, incorporated village, township, or board of county road commissioners may acquire any interest in land necessary to any flood control, drainage, or beach erosion control project, or to preserve flood plains, by purchase, gift, exchange, condemnation, or otherwise. If an easement to preserve a flood plain is acquired, the acquiring agency, in any instrument conveying such right or in any eminent domain proceedings instituted therefor, may acquire the further right to use the land subject to the easement, or any part of the easement, for any other public purpose, but only to the extent that the other uses are specifically enumerated in the conveyance or eminent domain proceedings. The legislative body of any city, incorporated village, or township, or the board of county road commissioners of any county when directed by the county board of commissioners of the county, may institute and prosecute proceedings under the power of eminent domain in accordance with the laws of the state or any local charter relative to condemnation. Two or more adjoining cities, villages, or townships are authorized to maintain proceedings in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Act No. 81 of the Public Acts of 1925, being sections 123.71 to 123.73 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The purposes contemplated by this part are declared to be public purposes within the meaning of the constitution, state laws, and charters relative to the power of eminent domain.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 339
CONTROL OF CERTAIN STATE LANDS

324.33901 Unpatented overflowed lands, made lands, and Lake St. Clair bottomlands; authority of department.

Sec. 33901. All of the unpatented overflowed lands, made lands, and Lake St. Clair bottomlands belonging to this state or held in trust by this state as provided in this part shall be held, leased, disposed of by deed, and controlled by the department in the manner provided in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33902 Powers of department to convey lands; dedication of unleased lands for recreational uses.

Sec. 33902. The department shall not deed or convey the lands described in section 33901 except as provided in sections 33903 to 33911. The department may dedicate unleased lands of the character described in section 33901 for public hunting, fishing, and other recreational uses.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33903 Conveyance of certain leased lands by department; rights reserved.

Sec. 33903. The department, upon application of any person who, on the effective date of the 2006 amendatory act that amended this section, holds a lease of any portion or portions of land from this state pursuant to former 1913 PA 326, or this part, or upon application by that person's heirs or assigns, shall execute and deliver to the applicant or his or her heirs or assigns a deed conveying to him or her all of the right, title, and interest of this state in and to the lands described in this section, subject to the paramount rights of navigation, hunting, and fishing that remain in the general public and in the government as now existing and recognized by law. The deeds shall contain the provisions as to residency and club use and occupancy as now set forth in all leases previously granted under former 1913 PA 326. An application under this section must be filed at least 1 year before the date on which the lease expires.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33904 Deeds; prerequisites to granting.

Sec. 33904. Before the department grants a deed, there shall be presented evidence that the applicant requesting the deed is the lessee of the land, that the land is part of the lands described in section 33903, and that all taxes on the land are paid. All property deeded under this part is thereafter subject to the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.157, and the recording laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33905 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to sale of leased lands in St. Clair Flats.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33906 St. Clair Flats lands; conflicting claims; determination; appeal.

Sec. 33906. In all cases where there is a contest or conflict between applicants for a deed to the same piece or parcel of land growing out of errors of description, overlapping descriptions, prior leases, or otherwise, the conflicting claims shall be determined by the department at a meeting scheduled by the department after notice to each of the claimants of the time and place of hearing, and in such cases depositions may be taken

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by any claimant in the manner provided for in taking depositions in the circuit courts of this state. Any party considering himself or herself aggrieved by any decision of the department refusing to grant him or her a deed under this part, whether in case of conflict, contest, or otherwise, shall have a right of appeal to the circuit court for the county in which the land is situated, and the proceedings to take the appeal and the trial of the appeal in any of the courts shall be in accordance with the statutes providing for appeals from district courts of this state, or to take such other action at law or in equity as provided by the statutes and laws of the state of Michigan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33907 St. Clair Flats area; rules.

Sec. 33907. The department may promulgate and enforce rules as it considers necessary for the preservation and use of the paramount right of navigation, hunting, and fishing covering the entire St. Clair Flats area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33908 Receipts; credit of consideration and fees to land and water management permit fee fund.

Sec. 33908. The consideration received for the execution and delivery of deeds under this part and all fees collected under this part shall be forwarded to the state treasurer and credited to the land and water management permit fee fund created in section 30113.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33909 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to conveyance and sale of lots in St. Clair Flats.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33910 Water highway lands; lease; conveyance to contiguous lessees.

Sec. 33910. The department, in its discretion, upon application of a person holding a lease or deed under this part to any lands lying contiguous to a water highway as surveyed under former 1899 PA 175, if it is determined that the water highway is no longer needed for navigation, ingress, and egress to surveyed lots, or for any public use, whether dredged or not, may execute and deliver to the applicant a deed subject to all the applicable conditions and provisions of sections 33902 to 33908, to all of the right, title, and interest of the state in and to 1/2 of the surveyed width of that portion of the water highway as lies contiguous to land held under lease or deed by the applicant.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33911 Granting deeds to certain property; requirements.

Sec. 33911. (1) Upon application of a person that holds a lease from this state of any portion or portions of the real property described in this part, the department may execute and deliver to the applicant a deed conveying all of the right, title, and interest of this state in and to that real property, subject to the paramount rights of hunting, fishing, and navigation, which remain in the general public and in the government as recognized by law. The deeds shall contain the same provisions as to use and occupancy now set forth in all the leases previously granted under former 1913 PA 326 or under this part. The department shall not grant a deed under this part unless the lessee of the subject property agrees to cancel the lease and relinquishes all rights under the lease.

(2) The department shall not grant a deed under this part for a lot that contains a structure unless the structure and the lot subject to the deed, including seawalls where present, comply with the applicable township building code and county and state sanitation codes and part 325, and the structure is located on a

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parcel of land that is adequately protected from erosion.

(3) A deed granted under this part shall not include a portion of the original lease that is submerged or lies below the elevation of 575.3 International Great Lakes Datum (IGLD 1985). The department of environmental quality shall perform a site inspection and set stakes, if necessary, to identify the boundaries of the area of the leased lot to be deeded. The applicant shall provide a boundary survey, completed by a professional surveyor, that delineates the area of the real property to be deeded. The state shall retain proprietary ownership in trust over the portion of the leased lot below the ordinary high-water mark of Lake St. Clair at the time of the conveyance.

(4) A deed shall not be granted under this part at less than the estimated land value of the real property as determined by the township in which the real property is located. Appraisal procedures and practices may include utilizing independent fee appraisal contractors. The appraisal shall not include improvements such as buildings, seawalls, and docks. Credit shall not be granted to the lessee for the years remaining on an unexpired lease when determining the sale value to the state. The applicant shall remit the full consideration within 1 year after being notified in writing of the selling price by the department. If the applicant does not remit the full consideration for the deed within 1 year, the department shall close the file and a new application must be submitted.

(5) If the applicant is not satisfied with the fair market value determined by the department under subsection (4), the applicant, within 30 days after receiving the determination, may submit a petition in writing to the circuit court in the thirty-first judicial circuit, and the court shall appoint an appraiser or appraisers from the department's approved listing to conduct an appraisal of the parcel. The decision of the court is final. The applicant shall pay all costs associated with this additional appraisal.

(6) A request for a deed shall be on a form provided by the department of environmental quality and shall be accompanied by an application fee of $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33912 Rental valuation periods; determination; improvements; maximum increase; gross sum.

Sec. 33912. Whenever any person is entitled under this part to lease for the period of 99 years, the department shall divide the term of 99 years into 2 periods of 50 and 49 years each, to be known as rental valuation periods, and the consideration or rental to be paid by the lessee for the first period of 50 years is to be determined by the department at the time such lessee is adjudged entitled to the lease. At the expiration of the first period of 50 years, the department shall redetermine the rental value or consideration to be paid by the lessee for the next succeeding rental period of 49 years until the expiration of the full term of the lease. However, the department, in determining the rental value to be paid by the lessee, shall consider the value of the land only and shall not increase the rental value or consideration for any of the rental periods because of the improvements that may have been made on any of the premises by a lessee. In determining the rental value or consideration to be paid by the lessee for the second valuation period of 49 years, the department shall not increase the rental value or consideration to any sum in excess of double the rental value or consideration determined for the first valuation period of 50 years. The consideration so fixed shall, as applied to the claimants coming within the provisions of this section, be a gross sum and not an annual rental.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33913-324.33915 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to rental valuation periods, applications for leases, and uncontested applications.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33916 Former lease holder as trespasser; recovery of possession by state.

Sec. 33916. If a lease under this part expires and a deed is not issued under this part to the former lease holder, the former lease holder shall be considered to be a trespasser, and an action may be brought in the circuit court for the county in which that land is located, in the name of the people of this state, by the attorney general of this state, to recover possession of that land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33917-324.33920 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to form of lease, fixing rental value, occupants or claimants in possession of lands, and leasing certain lands.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33921 Rights of lessees subject to certain public rights.

Sec. 33921. The rights of lessees under this part shall be subject to the paramount right of navigation, hunting, and fishing, which rights are to remain in the general public and in the government as now existing and recognized by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33922, 324.33923 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to possessor or occupant of lands, and application or right to lease.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33924 Definitions.

Sec. 33924. As used in this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of natural resources unless expressly indicated otherwise.

(b) "Possession", "occupancy", and "improvement" include dredging or ditching, the throwing up of embankments, sheetpiling, filling in, the erection of fences, a boathouse, land made by dredging and filling, or building structures.

(c) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other nongovernmental legal entity.

(d) "Well maintained" means that any structure on the land complies with township building codes and current county and state sanitation codes and part 325 and that the land is adequately protected from erosion.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33925 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to application to lease.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33926 Surveys governing terms of part.

Sec. 33926. In describing the lands that may be leased under this part, the department shall be governed by maps, plats, and field notes of surveys made by the United States surveyors or by this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33927 Ascertainment of rights by department; hearing; powers of department.

Sec. 33927. The department shall ascertain and decide upon the rights of persons claiming the benefit of this part, and it may hear and decide in a summary manner all matters respecting such applications or claims, except as otherwise provided in this part, and to that end may compel the attendance of witnesses and receive testimony by deposition or otherwise as may be produced, and determine thereon, according to equity and justice, the validity and just extent of the claim and respective rights of conflicting claimants making application for a lease. It shall cause minutes of the filing of such claims and all its proceedings to be entered in a book kept for that purpose and keep a record of the evidence from which its decisions are made, and it is authorized when it considers it necessary, or upon request of any of the claimants, to employ a stenographer to assist the department. The department may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and compel the attendance of

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witnesses and the production of papers upon any hearing before the department under this part. In case of disobedience on the part of any person or persons, or willful failure to appear pursuant to any subpoena issued by the department, or upon refusal of any witnesses to testify regarding any matter pending before the department or to produce books and papers which he or she is required by the department to produce, the circuit court of any county in this state, upon the application of the department, shall compel obedience by attachment proceedings for contempt as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued from such court or a refusal to testify therein, and in addition the department shall have the powers vested in the circuit court to compel witnesses to testify to any matter pending before the department, and each witness who appears before the department by its order or subpoena shall receive for his or her attendance the fees and mileage provided witnesses in civil cases in circuit courts, said fees to be paid by the party calling such witnesses.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33928 Conflicting claims; determination by department; hearing; notice; depositions; appeal.

Sec. 33928. In all cases where there is a contest or conflict between applicants for a lease to the same piece or parcel of land growing out of a prior occupation or improvements, such conflicting claims shall be determined by the department at a meeting scheduled by the department after notice to each of the claimants of the time and place of hearing, and in such cases depositions may be taken by any claimant in the manner provided for taking depositions in the circuit courts of this state. Any party considering himself or herself aggrieved by any decision of the department refusing to grant him or her a lease under the provisions of this part, whether in case of conflict, contest, or otherwise, has the right of appeal to the circuit court for the county in which the land is situated, and the proceedings to take the appeal and the trial of the appeal in any of those courts shall be in accordance with the statutes providing for appeals from district courts of this state, or the aggrieved party may take such other action at law or in equity as provided by the statutes and laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33929 State leased lands; sale or transfer of lease; statement of purpose; approval by department; record of assignment.

Sec. 33929. (1) Each sale or transfer of a lease shall contain a specific statement of the purpose for which the property leased is to be used by the purchaser or assignee. A sale or transfer of a lease for other than club or residence purposes is not valid unless and until the sale or transfer is approved by the department of environmental quality.

(2) Before selling or transferring a property that is subject to a lease under this part, the parties involved shall apply to the department of environmental quality for approval of the transfer of the lease to the purchaser. The application shall be made on a form provided by the department of environmental quality and shall be accompanied by a fee of $250.00. Upon approval by the department of environmental quality, an assignment of lease form shall be recorded with the county register of deeds.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33930-324.33932 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to state leased lands and disposition of money received from leasing.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33933 State leased lands; taxes; assessment.

Sec. 33933. The lessee's interest in all leases made under this part shall be assessed as real estate by the assessing officer of the township, city, or village in which the lands leased may be located, and the levy and collection of taxes so assessed on said lessee's interest shall be made and collected in the same manner and subject to the law now in force for the levy and collection of taxes upon real estate, and the assessing officers

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in determining the value of such leasehold interest for taxation purposes shall take into consideration the value of the land together with the improvements on the land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33934 State leased lands; tax default; procedure for payment; forfeiture of lease; co-owners; partial payment of taxes; certificate of cancellation.

Sec. 33934. (1) If default is made in the payment of taxes to the treasurer of the township, city, or village in which the lands leased are located, the same shall be returned to the county treasurer according to and subject to the provisions of law for the return and collection of unpaid taxes assessed upon real estate. The treasurer of the township, city, or village, at the same time that he or she makes returns to the county treasurer, shall make and transmit to the department a list of the lands so delinquent for taxes and the amount of taxes delinquent upon each description in the list. The county treasurer shall, at the same time he or she makes his or her return of delinquent lands to the department of treasury, make a similar return to the department of all such leasehold interests, the taxes upon which have not been collected, with a statement of the amount thereof. The county treasurer shall not receive payment of the amount of any taxes assessed upon such leasehold interests; but such taxes when returned delinquent by the township treasurer shall be payable only to the department. The department shall provide suitable books and enter in those books the description of every leasehold interest so returned and the taxes thereon. The person holding such interest in any parcel of this land may pay to the department at any time within 1 year after the same becomes a lien on the premises, the taxes assessed thereon, with interest at the rate of 1/2 of 1% per month or fraction thereof, with 4% as a collection fee, from the first day of March last preceding. However, if the taxes are not paid within this time period, the leasehold interest is forfeited because of the nonpayment of the taxes, and within its discretion the department may release the premises to any person for any term of years not exceeding 99 years, upon that person paying to the department all unpaid taxes on the land, together with such rental as may be determined upon under this part by the department.

(2) If the leasehold interest is owned by 2 or more persons, and any 1 or more of the persons neglect or refuse to pay his or her or their proportionate share of the taxes assessed against the leasehold at the date when the taxes become due and payable, then any 1 or more of the owners may pay his or her or their proportionate share of the taxes, and the county treasurer, in his or her return of delinquent lands to the department, shall indicate partial payments of taxes credited to the owner or owners making them. Any owner not having made payment of his or her proportionate share of the taxes may, at any time within 1 year after the taxes have become a lien on the premises, pay to the department his or her proportionate share of the taxes with interest at the rate of 1% per month or fraction thereof, from the first day of March last preceding. If the proportionate share of taxes of any such owner is not paid within this time period, the interest of the owner in the leasehold is forfeited because of the nonpayment of the taxes, and thereafter within 30 days, such of the owners as have paid their proportionate share of the taxes, upon payment to the department of the amount of the taxes remaining due with interest accrued to the date of forfeiture, shall be entitled to conveyances by the department of the interests in the leasehold that have been forfeited. The interest thus conveyed shall be allotted equally among those owners who shall pay the delinquent taxes with interest as provided in this section.

(3) If default is made by any lessee in the payment of taxes, he or she shall be notified in writing by the department at least 3 months before the date of final forfeiture of the amount due and the penalty for nonpayment and the date upon which forfeiture is to occur.

(4) Upon payment to the department of taxes and interest as provided in this section, the payment amount shall be credited to the county in which such leasehold interests were assessed, in the same manner as taxes and interest are now credited to counties on part-paid state lands.

(5) Immediately upon formal determination by the department that a lease has been forfeited under this part, a certificate of cancellation of the lease shall be executed under the seal of the department and shall be forwarded to the register of deeds of the county where the land is situated. Upon receipt of this certificate, the register of deeds shall at once cause it to be recorded in a suitable book to be provided by the register of deeds. If the lease is of record in the register of deeds, the register of deeds shall note on the lease the fact that a certificate of cancellation has been issued and shall also note the citation to the record of such certificate.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 356, Imd. Eff. May 23, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.33935 State leased lands; nonpayment of taxes; report.

Sec. 33935. Each county treasurer shall report to the department all descriptions of parcels of property subject to this part that have been returned for nonpayment of taxes, if those taxes have not been paid within 6 months after being returned for nonpayment of taxes. The report shall be made by the treasurer within 30 days after the 6-month period has expired. Land leased or deeded under this part that is returned to state ownership through purchase, gift, devise, lease expiration, or tax reversion shall not be re-leased or sold by the state if that land is not well maintained.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.33936-324.33939 Repealed. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to unpatented overflowed lands, supervisor of wells, removal of natural materials from or beneath Great Lakes bottomlands, and violation of MCL 324.33938.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 341
IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

324.34101 Irrigation districts; conditions and limitations for withdrawal of waters from Great Lakes; enforcement of section.

Sec. 34101. (1) This part is applicable in counties with a population of 400,000 or less to the use of water from the Great Lakes only, which for the purposes of this part include those portions of those lakes and streams tributary to the Great Lakes where the natural water levels are controlled by and at essentially the same water level as the Great Lake involved.

(2) Water shall not be withdrawn from the Great Lakes if it is being used within the confines of an irrigation district under this part which cannot reasonably be expected to benefit agricultural crops or other agricultural operations for improvement of the food supply and water shall not be withdrawn from the Great Lakes under this part at any place or at any time or in any amount or amounts for a single irrigation district or for the sum of all irrigation districts and water from the Great Lakes shall not be stored or transmitted by or for any irrigation district, authorized to be created by this part, in any manner or by any means or with the aid of any dam or other device that does 1 or more of the following:

(a) Will materially injure other users of the waters of the Great Lakes and connecting channels.

(b) Will significantly affect the levels of the Great Lakes and prejudice the state in its relations with other states bordering on the Great Lakes.

(c) Will adversely affect the state in its development and maintenance of fish and wildlife resources.

(d) Will be detrimental to the health and welfare of the people of the state.

(3) The department shall enforce and implement the conditions and limitations of this section in performing all duties placed upon it by the terms of this part, and for this purpose the department may call upon any officer, board, department, school, university, or other state institution and the officers or employees of any officer, board, department, school, university, or other state institution for assistance considered necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34102 Construction of part.

Sec. 34102. This part shall be liberally construed to promote the public welfare by irrigating lands, improving the existing water supply for the lands or providing new means or methods of water supply, or constructing and completing dams, reservoirs, canals, drains, structures, mechanical devices, levees, dikes, barriers and the use of any pumping equipment, pipelines, or other works or a combination of any or all of the same specified in the petition to be utilized for the preservation or operation of any irrigation system constructed, or proposed to be constructed, for the purpose of irrigation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.34103 Previously organized districts; validity, rights, privileges, and obligations; applicability of part.

Sec. 34103. This part does not affect the validity of any district organized under the laws of this state prior to July 10, 1967, or its rights in or to property, or any of its rights or privileges of any kind or nature; but the districts are subject to this part so far as practicable. In addition, this part shall not do any of the following:

(a) Affect, impair, or discharge any contract, obligations, lien, or charge for, or upon which, a district was or might become liable or chargeable if former Act No. 205 of the Public Acts of 1967 had not been passed.

(b) Affect the validity of any bonds which had been issued prior to July 10, 1967.

(c) Affect any action pending on July 10, 1967.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34104 Irrigation district as body corporate; powers; seal; condemnation.

Sec. 34104. An established irrigation district is a body corporate with power to contract, to sue and be sued, and to hold, manage, and dispose of real and personal property, in addition to any other powers conferred upon it by law, and shall continue in existence until such time as the district is dissolved by operation of law. In addition, each established irrigation district may adopt and use a corporate seal, acquire the right to use of water for irrigation purposes, under plans approved by the department, acquire sites for reservoirs and rights-of-way for drains, canals, and laterals, and exercise the right of condemnation pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 149 of the Public Acts of 1911, being sections 213.21 to 213.25 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, or under the applicable provisions of sections 75 to 84 of the drain code of 1956, Act No. 40 of the Public Acts of 1956, being sections 280.75 to 280.84 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and shall be considered to be a state agency as that term is used in that act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34105 District contracts with federal government, state, and others; approval by department; state's public trust.

Sec. 34105. As used in this section, "federal government" means the United States and includes any and all agencies of the United States. The irrigation district may contract with the federal government, whereby the federal government will pay the whole or part of the cost of the project or will perform the whole or any part of the work connected with the project, which contract may include any specific terms required by act of congress or federal regulation as a condition for the participation of the federal government. The irrigation district may also contract with the state or any agency of the state or with any person in respect to any matter connected with the construction, operation, or maintenance of any irrigation works or for providing new means of water supply or the improvement of the existing water supply for the lands within the irrigation district. All contracts and agreements executed under this section shall be subject to the approval of the department. Such a contract or agreement or anything in consequence of such a contract or agreement shall not in any manner infringe upon or invade the state's public trust in its waters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34106 Grant to United States or irrigation district of right to use rights-of-way in county or intercounty drainage districts; approval; rights of private persons.

Sec. 34106. Subject to the written assignment, consent, and approval of the drain commissioner administering a county drainage district or the written assignment, consent, and approval of the drainage board of an intercounty drainage district, the county drain commissioner and the drainage board of intercounty drainage districts may grant unto the United States or to any irrigation district the right to use all the easements and rights-of-way conveyed to their respective drainage district or to any county lying wholly or in part in such districts for the construction, use, and maintenance of any county or intercounty drain by the United States or any irrigation district in connection with any irrigation project undertaken by the irrigation district, solely or in cooperation with the United States or any other federal department or agency. Private rights of persons acquired by reason of the establishment and construction of the drain or part of the drain shall not be interfered with or in any way impaired by the use of the drain for irrigation purposes within the

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scope of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34107 Dams for irrigation; approval.

Sec. 34107. A dam for irrigation purposes shall not be constructed unless the dam is approved in a manner provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34108 Grants of federal, state, and private aid for irrigation projects.

Sec. 34108. An irrigation district may apply for and accept grants or any aid which the United States government or any agency of the United States government, the state or any of its political subdivisions, or any person may authorize to be made or given in aid of an irrigation project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34109 Irrigation districts; petitions for formulation or improvement; contents; circulation; signatures.

Sec. 34109. (1) Whenever a majority of freeholders owning lands in a proposed irrigation district who represent 1/3 or more of the area of lands within the district, or whenever freeholders owning lands who represent more than 1/2 the area of lands within the district, desire to provide for the irrigation of the lands; to improve the existing water supply for the lands or provide a new water supply system for the lands; to purchase, extend, operate, or maintain constructed irrigation works; or to cooperate with the United States for the assumption as principal or guarantor of indebtedness to the United States on account of district lands, they may file in the office of the county drain commissioner of the county that embraces the largest acreage of the district a petition, hereinafter referred to as the "petition", which shall include all of the following:

(a) The name of the proposed irrigation district.

(b) The necessity of the proposed work, describing the necessity.

(c) The object and purpose of the system proposed to be constructed, together with a general description of the system.

(d) A general description of the lands proposed to be included in the district, accompanying the petition shall be a preliminary engineering report on the feasibility of the project, including a report on the sufficiency of its water supply; the approximate area of irrigable land within the district, including an estimate of the cost of construction.

(e) The names of all freeholders owning lands in the proposed district, when known.

(f) Whether or not the petitioners desire and propose to cooperate with the United States.

(g) A general plea for the organization of the district.

(2) The petitions for the organization of the same district may be circulated and may be filed in more than 1 counterpart and, when filed, shall together be regarded as a single petition having as many signers as there are separate signers on the several petitions filed. All petitions for the organization of the district filed prior to the hearing on the petition shall be considered by the irrigation board the same as if filed with the first petition placed on file, and the signatures contained on those petitions shall be counted in determining whether sufficient persons have signed the petition.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34110 Irrigation districts; affidavit of signers of petitions; evidence.

Sec. 34110. The affidavit of 1 or more of the signers of the petition stating that they have examined it and are acquainted with the locality of the district and that the petition is signed by a sufficient number of persons owning lands in the district may be taken by the irrigation board as sufficient evidence of the facts stated in the petition.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34111 Irrigation districts; lands included.

Sec. 34111. The lands proposed to be included in any irrigation district need not be contiguous if the benefit of the proposed work in each part will exceed the costs of the proposed work in each part; and lands within any city, village, or township may be included within the limits of any irrigation district if the creation of the irrigation district will benefit the lands within the city, village, or township in any amount equal to or in excess of the amount of assessment for construction against the lands therein.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34112 Irrigation board; creation; membership; chairperson; availability of writings to public; minutes; records and files; member as commissioner of irrigation and public officer; presumption; contested report or action; burden of proof; exception.

Sec. 34112. (1) There is created for each irrigation district petitioned for under this part an irrigation board to consist of the drain commissioner of each county involved in the project in which the lands of the proposed irrigation district are located, the director of the department of agriculture, and the chairperson of the directors of each soil conservation district involved in the project in which the lands of the proposed irrigation district are located. The director of the department of agriculture may designate a representative from the department of agriculture and the chairperson of the directors of each soil conservation district may designate a representative from the directors of the soil conservation district to serve in their place as members of the irrigation board. The county drain commissioner of the county in which the largest amount of irrigation district land is contained shall serve as chairperson of the irrigation board.

(2) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the irrigation board in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The chairperson of the irrigation board shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the irrigation board, and records and files of the board shall be kept in his or her office.

(3) A member of the irrigation board shall be known as a commissioner of irrigation. A commissioner of an irrigation district is a public officer. The presumption shall be in favor of the regularity and validity of the official act of a commissioner of irrigation. When a report of the commissioners of an irrigation district or action is contested, the burden of proof shall rest upon the contestant. This subsection shall not apply to an action brought with respect to a failure to comply with Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, as prescribed in subsection (2), or a failure to comply with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34113 Commissioners of irrigation; oath of office; annual accounts.

Sec. 34113. Before entering upon their duties, commissioners shall take and subscribe the constitutional oath of office. The commissioners shall make a true account of their activities to the department at least once annually.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34114 Control over withdrawals and operations; rules; orders; expenses.

Sec. 34114. (1) The department shall maintain superintending control over withdrawals and operations of each irrigation district formed under this part and may promulgate rules to implement this authority.

(2) The department may enforce the limitations and conditions of section 34101 by order prohibiting the further withdrawal of water or by taking other action as is authorized by this part or any other act or law. Each irrigation district shall reimburse the department for any reasonable and necessary expense incurred by the department in maintaining superintending control over that district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.34115 Irrigation board; conducting business at public meeting; notice; calling and notice of meetings; affidavit as proof of mailing; waiver of additional notice; quorum; adjournment; action by board; signing of orders.

Sec. 34115. (1) The business that the irrigation board may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the irrigation board held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be given in the manner required by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976.

(2) A meeting of the irrigation board may be called by the chairperson or by 2 members of the irrigation board. In addition to the notice prescribed in subsection (1), notice setting forth the time and place of the meeting shall be sent by certified mail to each member. That notice shall be mailed not less than 5 days before the meeting. The affidavit of the chairperson as to this mailing shall be conclusive proof of the mailing.

(3) The notice of a meeting prescribed in subsection (2) is not required if all members are present. A member of the board may waive the additional mailed notice of a meeting, either before or after the meeting.

(4) A majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn the meeting. Unless otherwise provided in this part, an action shall not be taken by the board except by a majority vote of the board's members. The adjournment of the hearing need not be advertised. Each order issued by the irrigation board shall be signed by the chairperson.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34116 Proceedings upon petition for establishment of irrigation districts; meetings; filing and examination of petition; report; expenses and compensation.

Sec. 34116. (1) Upon receipt of a petition for the establishment of an irrigation district, the county drain commissioner shall call the first meeting of the irrigation board. A copy of the petition and duplicates of all maps and other papers filed with the petition shall be filed with the department at least 4 weeks before the date set for the public hearing on the petition. The department shall examine the petition, maps, and other papers and, if it considers it necessary, examine the proposed district, the irrigation works proposed to be constructed, or the location of the irrigation works to be constructed, and prepare a report covering those features of the proposed irrigation project that relate to section 34101 and other matters as the department considers advisable. The department shall submit the report to the irrigation board at the meeting set for the hearing of the petition. All reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the department in making the report shall be paid for by the persons signing the petition.

(2) Any additional compensation for services rendered on behalf of an irrigation district by members of the irrigation board in addition to official duties of the members shall be provided by the respective governmental agencies from which the original compensation for other various duties and services rendered are received.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34117 Irrigation board; first meeting; considerations; naming project and irrigation district; determination of sufficiency of petition and practicability of proposed project; objections; hearing; notice; report of department; final order of determination; order of department; eliminating or adding land in irrigation district; rehearing; legal establishment of irrigation district.

Sec. 34117. (1) The irrigation board at its first meeting shall consider the petition for the project, make a tentative determination as to the sufficiency of the petition and the practicability of the proposed irrigation project, and make a tentative determination of the area to be assessed. The irrigation board shall give a name to the project and to the irrigation district.

(2) After the irrigation board has made the determination regarding sufficiency of the petition and practicability of the proposed project, it shall set a time and place to hear objections to the proposed irrigation project and the petition for the project, and to consider the matter of assessing the cost of the irrigation project in the affected lands.

(3) In addition to the public notice prescribed in section 34115(1), additional notice of the hearing shall be published twice in the county in not less than 1 newspaper published in the county and designated by the irrigation board, with the first publication not less than 20 days before the hearing. Notice of the hearing shall

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also be given to property owners in the assessment district pursuant to Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The irrigation board may provide a form to be substantially followed in giving this notice.

(4) At the hearing, the department shall submit its report on the petition, and any person is entitled to be heard. After the hearing, the irrigation board shall make a determination as to the sufficiency of the petition, the practicability of the irrigation project, and whether the irrigation project should be constructed. If the department determines that the project should be constructed, it shall issue an appropriate final order of determination.

(5) A final order of determination establishing an irrigation district shall not be issued by the irrigation board until the board has been served with an order by the department stating that the department has determined that the proposed irrigation by the proposed irrigation district, as set forth in the petition, supporting papers, and examinations specified in section 34116, is feasible and within the purpose of this part and that the project can be constructed and operated in a manner that would not violate the conditions and limitations of section 34101. If the department by its order determines that the proposed irrigation district cannot be established without violating a condition or limitation of section 34101, its order shall be final and further action for the formation of the proposed irrigation district shall not be taken by the irrigation board. Land in the irrigation district shall not be eliminated from or added to that land tentatively determined to be assessed without a rehearing after notice, as provided in this section. The irrigation district is legally established after entry of the final order of determination.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34118 Plans, specifications, and costs; estimates of proposed irrigation projects.

Sec. 34118. The irrigation board shall proceed to secure from a competent engineer plans and specifications and an estimate of the cost of the proposed irrigation project which, when adopted by the board, shall be filed with the chairperson.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34119 Design plans of irrigation works; commissioner's alteration or deviation; approval of department.

Sec. 34119. The commissioners shall not be confined to the points of location, commencement, routes, or termini of the drains, reservoirs, dams, canals, ditches, pumps, or other work, or the number, extent, or size of the same, as proposed by the petitioners, but shall locate, design, lay out, and plan the same in the manner that they determine is best to promote the public welfare and to benefit the lands of the parties interested with the least damage and greatest benefit to all lands affected thereby. All alterations or deviations in the design plans of the irrigation works shall have the final approval of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34120 Acquisition of lands or rights-of-way.

Sec. 34120. The irrigation board shall proceed to secure the lands or rights-of-way necessary for the irrigation project. If the lands or rights-of-way cannot be secured by negotiation, then the irrigation board may proceed under section 34104.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34121 Advertisement for bids for construction; acceptance and rejection of bids; readvertisement.

Sec. 34121. The irrigation board shall advertise for bids for construction of the improvements requested in the petition. The contract shall be let to the lowest bidder in accordance with the statutory provisions applicable to award of public contracts, and the irrigation board has the right to reject any and all bids and readvertise the bids.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34122 Costs of irrigation district; computation; approval.

Sec. 34122. Within 10 days after the letting of contracts, or, in case of an appeal, then immediately after the appeal has been decided, the chairperson of the irrigation board shall make a computation of cost of a project under this part, which shall include all preliminary costs, the cost of construction of the improvement, establishment of the special assessment district, the preparation of the tax roll, notices, advertising, printing, financing, legal, professional, engineering, inspection, condemnation expenses, interest on the bonds for the first year if bonds are to be issued and an amount not to exceed 10% of the gross sum to cover contingent expenses, and all other administrative costs incidental to making of the improvement or establishment of the irrigation special assessment district. The chairperson shall submit the computation of cost to the irrigation board for its approval, and, when the computation of cost is approved by the board or amended and approved by the board, it shall become the final computation of cost for the irrigation district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34123 Assessment roll; description of lands benefited; apportionment of costs; objections.

Sec. 34123. The chairperson of the irrigation board, under the direction of the board, shall make out an assessment roll, entering and describing on the assessment roll all the lots, premises, and parcels of land to be assessed, including on the assessment roll all lands benefited by the construction of the irrigation improvement. The assessments shall be based upon benefits to be derived from the proposed irrigation improvement. The irrigation board shall tentatively establish the percentage of the cost of the irrigation improvement which is to be borne by each of the parcels of land assessed on the special assessment roll. After the tentative apportionments and assessment roll is made, the irrigation board shall set a time and place when and where they will meet and hear any objections to the roll.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34124 Notice of hearing; publication; form.

Sec. 34124. Notice of hearing shall be given as prescribed in section 34115 and Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and also by publication at least twice in a newspaper published and of general circulation in the county, the first publication to be at least 20 days before the time of the hearing. The irrigation board shall provide a form to be substantially followed in giving of the notice.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34125 Hearing on objections; scope of review; equalization.

Sec. 34125. At the hearing, the irrigation board shall hear the proofs and allegations of all parties interested, shall carefully reconsider and review the description of land comprised within the irrigation improvement special assessment district, the several descriptions, and the apportionment of benefits, and shall define and equalize the district as may seem just and equitable.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34126 Special assessment rolls; final orders and confirmation; endorsement; memorandum of installments; conclusiveness.

Sec. 34126. After the hearing, the irrigation board shall enter its final order of apportionment and order of confirmation of the roll and shall make an endorsement upon the roll showing the date of confirmation and when the amount to be raised is to be payable. If the amount is to be payable in more than 1 installment, the irrigation board shall enter on the roll a memorandum of the installments and of the years when the

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installments shall be spread and shall add a certificate in writing of the determination whether the taxes assessed for benefits shall be paid in 1 or more years. The special assessment rolls shall be dated and signed by the irrigation board and filed on or before the last Wednesday in September of each year in the office of the county clerk of the counties involved. When any improvement special assessment roll is confirmed by the irrigation board, it shall be final and conclusive.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34127 Irrigation special assessments liens.

Sec. 34127. From the date of confirmation of the special assessment roll, all irrigation special assessments constitute a lien upon the respective lots or parcels assessed and, when assessed, shall be charged against the person to whom assessed until paid.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34128 Tax assessment rolls; contents; permanent installment payments.

Sec. 34128. The chairperson of the irrigation board, at the direction of the irrigation board, shall prepare a tax assessment roll in each year for the collection of taxes for the current year and shall certify it to the county clerk on or before the first day of the annual meeting of the county board of commissioners. In each roll, he or she shall add to the amount to be collected interest on all unpaid installments to the date of tax collection. To the roll for the last year, he or she shall add a further amount, if any, as may be necessary, together with outstanding uncollected taxes, to pay all outstanding bonds and interest on the bonds to maturity. If the roll is made payable in more than 1 installment, a permanent assessment roll may be maintained in the office of the county treasurer, subject to the direction of the board of county auditors, in counties having such a board, and of the county board of commissioners in other counties, showing the total cost, the number of installments, and the amount of each annual assessment, together with interest charges on the assessment, which shall be carried in a separate column. If the roll is made payable in more than 1 installment, and the total amount of any assessment is $10.00 or less, exclusive of interest, then the assessment shall be payable in 1 installment; but if the assessment exceeds $10.00 and is made payable in more than 1 installment, then no installment, exclusive of interest, shall be less than $10.00, excepting the final installment, which shall be payable in the amount of the actual balance.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34129 Spread of special assessments on local tax rolls; orders by county board of commissioners.

Sec. 34129. The county board of commissioners of the counties involved shall order the spread of all irrigation special assessments on the local tax rolls by the local tax assessing officials pursuant to sections 36 to 38 of the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being sections 211.36 to 211.38 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34130 Spread of special assessments on local tax rolls; duties of local assessing officers.

Sec. 34130. The supervisor or the village or city assessor shall spread on his or her roll the total amount of all irrigation special assessment taxes determined by the irrigation board and approved by the county board of commissioners to be assessed upon the county, township, city, or village tax roll for the year in which the same was assessed and extending the tax in the same column with the general county, township, city, or village tax. In villages or cities where the municipal taxes are assessed and collected prior to the October meeting of the county board of commissioners, all taxes ordered to be spread against the municipalities shall be spread during the calendar year following the action by the county board of commissioners. The supervisor, assessor, or tax levying official shall spread upon the roll, separately and immediately following the other descriptions, all tracts or parcels of land specified by the irrigation board to be assessed for benefits,

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and shall place opposite each description, in a column marked "(giving the name or number)..... irrigation special assessment taxes", the amount of taxes apportioned on that tract or parcel of land, as certified to him or her by the county clerk.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34131 Special assessment taxes; interest, charges, collections, disbursement; defense of collector; limitation on actions; payments under protest; liens.

Sec. 34131. All irrigation special assessment taxes assessed under this part shall be subject to the same interest and charges, and shall be collected in the same manner, as state and other general taxes are collected, and collecting officers are vested with the same power and authority in the collection of the taxes as are or may be conferred by law for collecting general taxes. Irrigation special assessment taxes, when collected, shall be returned to the county treasurer to be disbursed by him or her. If a suit is brought against the collector arising out of the collection of an irrigation special assessment tax, the county shall defend the collector in the same manner that he or she has the right to be defended in the collection of general taxes. A suit shall not be instituted to recover any special assessment tax or money paid or property sold therefor, or for damages on account thereof, unless brought within 30 days from the time of payment of the money to, or sale of the property by, the collecting officer. If the tax is paid under protest, the reasons for the protest shall be specified, and the same procedure observed as is required by the general tax law. All taxes levied under this part, with all lawful costs, interest, and charges, shall be and remain a perpetual lien upon the lands upon which they are assessed, and a personal claim against the owner of the lands until they are paid. If the taxes levied by the special assessment irrigation district are not collected by the treasurer of a participating municipality, they shall be returned by him or her, together with the lands upon which they were levied, to the county treasurer in the same return, at the same time, and in the same manner, in every respect, naming in each case the particular irrigation district, as lands are returned for state, county, and township taxes, and the taxes shall follow the lands, the same as all other taxes, and all the general provisions of law for enforcing the payment of township, county, and state taxes shall apply to irrigation special assessment taxes and to the lands returned delinquent for those taxes, in the same manner and with the same effect.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34132 Additional pro rata assessments; limitations.

Sec. 34132. If the assessments in any special assessment roll prove insufficient for any reason, including the noncollection of the assessments, to pay for the improvement for which they were made or to pay the principal and interest on the bonds issued in anticipation of the collection of the assessments, then the irrigation board shall make additional pro rata assessments to supply the deficiency, but the total amount assessed against any parcel of land shall not exceed the value of the benefits received from the improvement.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34133 Invalid assessments; validation procedure; payments applied to reassessments.

Sec. 34133. If, in the opinion of the irrigation board, a special assessment is invalid by reason of irregularities or informalities in the proceedings, or if any court of competent jurisdiction adjudges an assessment illegal, the irrigation board, whether the improvement has been made or not and whether any part of the assessment has been paid or not, may proceed from the last step at which the proceedings were legal and cause a new assessment to be made for the same purpose for which the former assessment was made. All proceedings on the reassessment and for the collection of the reassessment shall be conducted in the same manner as provided for the original assessment. Whenever an assessment or any part of an assessment levied upon any premises has been set aside in such a manner, if the assessment or part of an assessment has been paid and not refunded, the payment made shall be applied upon the reassessment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34134 Irrigation orders to pay charges and to pay easements or rights-of-way;

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installments; drawing orders on first and succeeding years' assessments; limitations; certification by treasurer.

Sec. 34134. The irrigation board of each special assessment district may issue irrigation orders for the payment of all charges reflected by the computation of costs upon the irrigation fund of each particular district. Irrigation taxes shall not be assessed for benefits received that are to be paid by irrigation orders in excess of 10 annual installments. All irrigation orders for the payment for easements or rights-of-way shall be paid out of the first year's taxes, and the balance of the first year's taxes shall be applied toward payment of the irrigation construction contracts. For the balance due upon such contracts, the irrigation board shall draw irrigation orders payable out of each succeeding year's assessment. An irrigation board shall not draw orders payable in any 1 year for a larger amount than 90% of that year's assessment. Irrigation orders shall be ordered to be paid by the irrigation board only after a certification by the treasurer of the irrigation district that there are sufficient funds in the irrigation district fund to pay the order. The county treasurers of the counties involved in irrigation districts shall keep a record of all receipts and disbursements of all irrigation districts in their respective counties.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34135 Interest on bonds; board of commissioners; resolution pledging full faith and credit of county to pay.

Sec. 34135. The county board of commissioners of the county involved by a resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of its members may pledge the full faith and credit of the county for the prompt payment of the interest on the bonds or evidences of indebtedness issued by the respective irrigation districts under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34136 Operating and maintaining property of irrigation district; fixing and collecting water charges; approval of charges; charges for water services as lien on affected lands; certification of delinquent charges; entering charges on tax roll; enforcement; exaction of other charges; future expenses; assessment; notice of hearing.

Sec. 34136. (1) The irrigation board shall operate and maintain the property of the irrigation district.

(2) The irrigation board may fix and collect water charges to cover the cost of the operation and maintenance of physical structures and administrative expenses of the district in connection with the transportation, impoundment, and utilization of water for irrigation purposes. The charges shall be approved by the majority vote of the irrigation board and shall be made to each user of water.

(3) Charges for water services furnished to a user or to a landowner shall be a lien on the affected lands from the date the charges are due. Charges delinquent for 6 months or more shall be certified annually to the proper tax assessing officer or agency, who shall enter the charges upon the next tax roll against the premises to which the services have been rendered, and the charges shall be collected and the lien shall be enforced in the same manner as provided for the collection of taxes assessed upon the tax roll and the enforcement of the lien. The time and manner of certification and other procedures regarding the collection of the charges and the enforcement of the lien shall be prescribed by the irrigation board in cooperation with the governing bodies of the public corporations in which the lands are located. Instead of or in addition to levying water charges for the operation and maintenance of the properties of the irrigation district, the irrigation board, under the same conditions and for the same purpose, may exact connection, readiness to serve, availability, or service charges to be paid by the users or owners of land utilizing irrigation water for irrigation purposes.

(4) Future necessary expenses incurred in the administration and operation of the district and its properties may be assessed not less than once every 3 years on the basis of benefits derived after notice of the hearing on the maintenance assessment roll is given in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34137 Attack on orders; proceedings by writ of superintending control; legality of

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irrigation special assessment district and project; assessments; actions.

Sec. 34137. (1) Except as prescribed in subsection (2), the final order of determination, the order of apportionment of benefits, or the order confirming the special assessment roll shall not be subject to attack in a court except by proceedings by writ of superintending control brought within 20 days after the filing of the order in the office of the chairperson of the irrigation board issuing the order. If a proceeding is not brought within the time prescribed, the irrigation special assessment district and project shall be considered to have been legally established, and the legality of the irrigation special assessment district and project and the assessments for the district and project shall not be questioned in an action at law or in equity.

(2) This section shall not prohibit the bringing of an action pursuant to the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34138 Suspension of water delivery; delinquent irrigation taxes; right-of-way for laterals; condemnation; payment.

Sec. 34138. The irrigation board may, by the adoption of an appropriate order, provide for the suspension of water delivery to any land in the district upon which the irrigation taxes levied and assessed remain due and unpaid for 2 years. The irrigation board shall make all arrangements for right-of-way for laterals from the main drain or canal to each tract of land subject to assessment, and when necessary the board shall condemn to procure right-of-way for laterals and make such rules in regard to the payment for the right-of-way as it considers just and equitable.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34139 Irrigation boards; powers and duties.

Sec. 34139. The irrigation board shall manage and conduct the business affairs of the district, make and execute all necessary contracts, employ agents, officers, and employees as may be required and prescribe their duties, establish equitable orders and rules for the distribution and use of water among owners of such lands, and generally perform all acts as are necessary to fully implement this part. The orders and rules with respect to the irrigation district shall be printed in convenient form for distribution to the freeholders in the irrigation district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34140 Right of entry upon land to survey; location of drains; acquisition of property; reservoirs for storage or transfers of Great Lakes water.

Sec. 34140. The irrigation board and its agents and employees may enter upon any land within the district to make surveys, and may locate the line of any drain or canal and the necessary branches of that location. The irrigation board may acquire, either by purchase or condemnation, all lands and other property necessary for the construction, use, maintenance, repair, and improvement of any canal, drain or drains, and lands for reservoirs or dams, for the storage of water, and for all necessary appurtenances thereto. The board may acquire by purchase or condemnation any irrigation works, dams, drains, canals, pumping equipment, pumps, or reservoirs for the use of the district. The irrigation board may construct the necessary dams, reservoirs, and works for the storage or transfer of Great Lakes water for the district, and may perform any lawful act necessary to furnish water to each landowner in the district for irrigation purposes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34141 Advancement of money to pay costs; reimbursement by irrigation special assessment district; obligations.

Sec. 34141. Any person may advance money for the payment of any part of the cost of a project and shall be reimbursed by the irrigation special assessment district, with or without interest as may be agreed, when funds are available for that purpose. The obligation of the irrigation special assessment district to make the

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reimbursement may be evidenced by a contract or note, which contract or note may pledge the full faith and credit of the irrigation special assessment district and may be made payable out of the assessments made against properties in the irrigation special assessment district, out of the proceeds of bonds issued by the irrigation special assessment district pursuant to this part, or out of any other available funds, but the contract or note is subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 220, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34142 District accounts; duties of county treasurer; expenditure from district funds; bond interest; funds transfer.

Sec. 34142. The county treasurers of the counties in which the irrigation district is located shall carry all accounts and items pertaining thereto as a separate account upon the books of their office. A record shall be kept of the amount of money paid from the irrigation district funds for the use and benefit of any irrigation district and, upon payment to the county treasurer of taxes assessed by the irrigation district, the county treasurer shall pay for the outstanding interest on bonds issued out of the taxes received or shall transfer the excess of funds to the irrigation district fund for the use and benefit of the irrigation district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34143 Irrigation district funds; deposit; interest; use.

Sec. 34143. The irrigation district funds shall be deposited by the county treasurer in a bank of the county in accordance with the general laws of this state, and interest so received shall belong to the irrigation district fund. Money collected or appropriated for an individual irrigation special assessment district fund shall be used solely for the use and benefit of the irrigation district for which it was raised or received.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34144 Irrigation district funds; county treasurers as custodians; deputies; bond; orders for payment.

Sec. 34144. The county treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the irrigation district. He or she may designate 1 or more of his or her deputies who may act for him or her in the performance of any of his or her duties under this section. The irrigation board may require the county treasurer and any deputy county treasurer, so designated, to furnish a bond payable to the irrigation district, in addition to any bond payable to the county, conditioned upon the faithful discharge of his or her duties in respect to money belonging to the irrigation district, the premium on the bond to be paid by the irrigation district. Money held by the treasurer shall be paid out only upon order of the irrigation board, except that an order shall not be required for the payment of principal and interest on bonds.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.34145 Revolving fund to pay for preliminary costs; assessment of preliminary costs; repayment of fund.

Sec. 34145. The county board of commissioners in which an irrigation district is proposed to be formed may provide for an appropriation to create a revolving fund to pay for the preliminary costs of irrigation improvement projects within the county. The preliminary costs shall be assessed to the property owners in the assessment district by the irrigation board after notice of the hearing is given as prescribed in section 34115 and Act No. 162 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 211.741 to 211.746 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The preliminary costs shall be repaid to the fund if the project is not finally constructed. The preliminary costs shall be repaid to the fund when a project is constructed out of the first bond proceeds, taxes, or assessments received.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.34146 Borrowing money; issuing bonds; anticipating collection of special assessments; amount; applicability of law.

Sec. 34146. The irrigation board may borrow money and issue the bonds of the special assessment district for that money in anticipation of the collection of special assessments to defray the cost of any improvement made under this part after the special assessment roll has been confirmed. The bonds shall not exceed the amount of the special assessments in anticipation of the collection of which they are issued. The issuance of special assessment bonds shall be governed by the general laws of this state applicable to the issuance of special assessment bonds and in accordance with the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. Bonds may be issued in anticipation of the collection of special assessments levied in respect to 2 or more public improvements, but no special assessment district shall be compelled to pay the obligation of any other special assessment district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 221, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 342
GREAT LAKES—ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN WATER RESOURCES COMPACT

324.34201 Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact.

Sec. 34201. The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact is hereby ratified, enacted into law, and entered into by this state as a party as follows:

AGREEMENT

Section 1. The states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby solemnly covenant and agree with each other, upon enactment of concurrent legislation by the respective state legislatures and consent by the Congress of the United States as follows:

GREAT LAKES—ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN WATER RESOURCES COMPACT

ARTICLE 1

SHORT TITLE, DEFINITIONS, PURPOSES AND DURATION

Section 1.1. Short Title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact."

Section 1.2. Definitions. For the purposes of this Compact, and of any supplemental or concurring legislation enacted pursuant thereto, except as may be otherwise required by the context:

Adaptive Management means a Water resources management system that provides a systematic process for evaluation, monitoring and learning from the outcomes of operational programs and adjustment of policies, plans and programs based on experience and the evolution of scientific knowledge concerning Water resources and Water Dependent Natural Resources.

Agreement means the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement.

Applicant means a Person who is required to submit a Proposal that is subject to management and regulation under this Compact. Application has a corresponding meaning.

Basin or Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin means the watershed of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River upstream from Trois-Rivières, Québec within the jurisdiction of the Parties.

Basin Ecosystem or Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Ecosystem means the interacting components of air, land, Water and living organisms, including humankind, within the Basin.

Community within a Straddling County means any incorporated city, town or the equivalent thereof, that is located outside the Basin but wholly within a County that lies partly within the Basin and that is not a Straddling Community.

Compact means this Compact.

Consumptive Use means that portion of the Water Withdrawn or withheld from the Basin that is lost or otherwise not returned to the Basin due to evaporation, incorporation into Products, or other processes.

Council means the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council, created by this Compact.

Council Review means the collective review by the Council members as described in Article 4 of this Compact.

County means the largest territorial division for local government in a State. The County boundaries shall be defined as those boundaries that exist as of December 13, 2005.

Cumulative Impacts mean the impact on the Basin Ecosystem that results from incremental effects of all

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aspects of a Withdrawal, Diversion or Consumptive Use in addition to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses regardless of who undertakes the other Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses. Cumulative Impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses taking place over a period of time.

Decision-Making Standard means the decision-making standard established by Section 4.11 for Proposals subject to management and regulation in Section 4.10.

Diversion means a transfer of Water from the Basin into another watershed, or from the watershed of one of the Great Lakes into that of another by any means of transfer, including but not limited to a pipeline, canal, tunnel, aqueduct, channel, modification of the direction of a water course, a tanker ship, tanker truck or rail tanker but does not apply to Water that is used in the Basin or a Great Lake watershed to manufacture or produce a Product that is then transferred out of the Basin or watershed. Divert has a corresponding meaning.

Environmentally Sound and Economically Feasible Water Conservation Measures mean those measures, methods, technologies or practices for efficient water use and for reduction of water loss and waste or for reducing a Withdrawal, Consumptive Use or Diversion that *i*) are environmentally sound, *ii*) reflect best practices applicable to the water use sector, *iii*) are technically feasible and available, *iv*) are economically feasible and cost effective based on an analysis that considers direct and avoided economic and environmental costs and *v*) consider the particular facilities and processes involved, taking into account the environmental impact, age of equipment and facilities involved, the processes employed, energy impacts and other appropriate factors.

Exception means a transfer of Water that is excepted under Section 4.9 from the prohibition against Diversions in Section 4.8.

Exception Standard means the standard for Exceptions established in Section 4.9.4.

Intra-Basin Transfer means the transfer of Water from the watershed of one of the Great Lakes into the watershed of another Great Lake.

Measures means any legislation, law, regulation, directive, requirement, guideline, program, policy, administrative practice or other procedure.

New or Increased Diversion means a new Diversion, an increase in an existing Diversion, or the alteration of an existing Withdrawal so that it becomes a Diversion.

New or Increased Withdrawal or Consumptive Use means a new Withdrawal or Consumptive Use or an increase in an existing Withdrawal or Consumptive Use.

Originating Party means the Party within whose jurisdiction an Application or registration is made or required.

Party means a State party to this Compact.

Person means a human being or a legal person, including a government or a nongovernmental organization, including any scientific, professional, business, non-profit, or public interest organization or association that is neither affiliated with, nor under the direction of a government.

Product means something produced in the Basin by human or mechanical effort or through agricultural processes and used in manufacturing, commercial or other processes or intended for intermediate or end use consumers. (*i*) Water used as part of the packaging of a Product shall be considered to be part of the Product. (*ii*) Other than Water used as part of the packaging of a Product, Water that is used primarily to transport materials in or out of the Basin is not a Product or part of a Product. (*iii*) Except as provided in (*i*) above, Water which is transferred as part of a public or private supply is not a Product or part of a Product. (*iv*) Water in its natural state such as in lakes, rivers, reservoirs, aquifers, or water basins is not a Product.

Proposal means a Withdrawal, Diversion or Consumptive Use of Water that is subject to this Compact.

Province means Ontario or Québec.

Public Water Supply Purposes means water distributed to the public through a physically connected system of treatment, storage and distribution facilities serving a group of largely residential customers that may also serve industrial, commercial, and other institutional operators. Water Withdrawn directly from the Basin and not through such a system shall not be considered to be used for Public Water Supply Purposes.

Regional Body means the members of the Council and the Premiers of Ontario and Québec or their designee as established by the Agreement.

Regional Review means the collective review by the Regional Body as described in Article 4 of this Compact.

Source Watershed means the watershed from which a Withdrawal originates. If Water is Withdrawn directly from a Great Lake or from the St. Lawrence River, then the Source Watershed shall be considered to be the watershed of that Great Lake or the watershed of the St. Lawrence River, respectively. If Water is Withdrawn from the watershed of a stream that is a direct tributary to a Great Lake or a direct tributary to the St. Lawrence River, then the Source Watershed shall be considered to be the watershed of that Great Lake or

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the watershed of the St. Lawrence River, respectively, with a preference to the direct tributary stream watershed from which it was Withdrawn.

Standard of Review and Decision means the Exception Standard, Decision-Making Standard and reviews as outlined in Article 4 of this Compact.

State means one of the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio or Wisconsin or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Straddling Community means any incorporated city, town or the equivalent thereof, wholly within any County that lies partly or completely within the Basin, whose corporate boundary existing as of the effective date of this Compact, is partly within the Basin or partly within two Great Lakes watersheds.

Technical Review means a detailed review conducted to determine whether or not a Proposal that requires Regional Review under this Compact meets the Standard of Review and Decision following procedures and guidelines as set out in this Compact.

Water means ground or surface water contained within the Basin.

Water Dependent Natural Resources means the interacting components of land, Water and living organisms affected by the Waters of the Basin.

Waters of the Basin or Basin Water means the Great Lakes and all streams, rivers, lakes, connecting channels and other bodies of water, including tributary groundwater, within the Basin.

Withdrawal means the taking of water from surface water or groundwater. Withdraw has a corresponding meaning.

Section 1.3. Findings and Purposes.

The legislative bodies of the respective Parties hereby find and declare:

1. Findings:

a. The Waters of the Basin are precious public natural resources shared and held in trust by the States;

b. The Waters of the Basin are interconnected and part of a single hydrologic system;

c. The Waters of the Basin can concurrently serve multiple uses. Such multiple uses include municipal, public, industrial, commercial, agriculture, mining, navigation, energy development and production, recreation, the subsistence, economic and cultural activities of native peoples, Water quality maintenance, and the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat and a balanced ecosystem. And, other purposes are encouraged, recognizing that such uses are interdependent and must be balanced;

d. Future Diversions and Consumptive Uses of Basin Water resources have the potential to significantly impact the environment, economy and welfare of the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River region;

e. Continued sustainable, accessible and adequate Water supplies for the people and economy of the Basin are of vital importance; and,

f. The Parties have a shared duty to protect, conserve, restore, improve and manage the renewable but finite Waters of the Basin for the use, benefit and enjoyment of all their citizens, including generations yet to come. The most effective means of protecting, conserving, restoring, improving and managing the Basin Waters is through the joint pursuit of unified and cooperative principles, policies and programs mutually agreed upon, enacted and adhered to by all Parties.

2. Purposes:

a. To act together to protect, conserve, restore, improve and effectively manage the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the Basin under appropriate arrangements for intergovernmental cooperation and consultation because current lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to protect the Basin Ecosystem;

b. To remove causes of present and future controversies;

c. To provide for cooperative planning and action by the Parties with respect to such Water resources;

d. To facilitate consistent approaches to Water management across the Basin while retaining State management authority over Water management decisions within the Basin;

e. To facilitate the exchange of data, strengthen the scientific information base upon which decisions are made and engage in consultation on the potential effects of proposed Withdrawals and losses on the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the Basin;

f. To prevent significant adverse impacts of Withdrawals and losses on the Basin's ecosystems and watersheds;

g. To promote interstate and State-Provincial comity; and,

h. To promote an Adaptive Management approach to the conservation and management of Basin Water resources, which recognizes, considers and provides adjustments for the uncertainties in, and evolution of, scientific knowledge concerning the Basin's Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources.

Section 1.4. Science.

1. The Parties commit to provide leadership for the development of a collaborative strategy with other

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regional partners to strengthen the scientific basis for sound Water management decision making under this Compact.

2. The strategy shall guide the collection and application of scientific information to support:

a. An improved understanding of the individual and Cumulative Impacts of Withdrawals from various locations and Water sources on the Basin Ecosystem and to develop a mechanism by which impacts of Withdrawals may be assessed;

b. The periodic assessment of Cumulative Impacts of Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses on a Great Lake and St. Lawrence River watershed basis;

c. Improved scientific understanding of the Waters of the Basin;

d. Improved understanding of the role of groundwater in Basin Water resources management; and,

e. The development, transfer and application of science and research related to Water conservation and Water use efficiency.

ARTICLE 2
ORGANIZATION

Section 2.1. Council Created.

The Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Council is hereby created as a body politic and corporate, with succession for the duration of this Compact, as an agency and instrumentality of the governments of the respective Parties.

Section 2.2. Council Membership.

The Council shall consist of the Governors of the Parties, ex officio.

Section 2.3. Alternates.

Each member of the Council shall appoint at least one alternate who may act in his or her place and stead, with authority to attend all meetings of the Council and with power to vote in the absence of the member. Unless otherwise provided by law of the Party for which he or she is appointed, each alternate shall serve during the term of the member appointing him or her, subject to removal at the pleasure of the member. In the event of a vacancy in the office of alternate, it shall be filled in the same manner as an original appointment for the unexpired term only.

Section 2.4. Voting.

1. Each member is entitled to one vote on all matters that may come before the Council.

2. Unless otherwise stated, the rule of decision shall be by a simple majority.

3. The Council shall annually adopt a budget for each fiscal year and the amount required to balance the budget shall be apportioned equitably among the Parties by unanimous vote of the Council. The appropriation of such amounts shall be subject to such review and approval as may be required by the budgetary processes of the respective Parties.

4. The participation of Council members from a majority of the Parties shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Council.

Section 2.5. Organization and Procedure.

The Council shall provide for its own organization and procedure, and may adopt rules and regulations governing its meetings and transactions, as well as the procedures and timeline for submission, review and consideration of Proposals that come before the Council for its review and action. The Council shall organize, annually, by the election of a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members. Each member may appoint an advisor, who may attend all meetings of the Council and its committees, but shall not have voting power. The Council may employ or appoint professional and administrative personnel, including an Executive Director, as it may deem advisable, to carry out the purposes of this Compact.

Section 2.6. Use of Existing Offices and Agencies.

It is the policy of the Parties to preserve and utilize the functions, powers and duties of existing offices and agencies of government to the extent consistent with this Compact. Further, the Council shall promote and aid the coordination of the activities and programs of the Parties concerned with Water resources management in the Basin. To this end, but without limitation, the Council may:

1. Advise, consult, contract, assist or otherwise cooperate with any and all such agencies;

2. Employ any other agency or instrumentality of any of the Parties for any purpose; and,

3. Develop and adopt plans consistent with the Water resources plans of the Parties.

Section 2.7. Jurisdiction.

The Council shall have, exercise and discharge its functions, powers and duties within the limits of the Basin. Outside the Basin, it may act in its discretion, but only to the extent such action may be necessary or convenient to effectuate or implement its powers or responsibilities within the Basin and subject to the consent of the jurisdiction wherein it proposes to act.

Section 2.8. Status, Immunities and Privileges.

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1. The Council, its members and personnel in their official capacity and when engaged directly in the affairs of the Council, its property and its assets, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall enjoy the same immunity from suit and every form of judicial process as is enjoyed by the Parties, except to the extent that the Council may expressly waive its immunity for the purposes of any proceedings or by the terms of any contract.

2. The property and assets of the Council, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall be considered public property and shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation or any other form of taking or foreclosure by executive or legislative action.

3. The Council, its property and its assets, income and the operations it carries out pursuant to this Compact shall be immune from all taxation by or under the authority of any of the Parties or any political subdivision thereof; provided, however, that in lieu of property taxes the Council may make reasonable payments to local taxing districts in annual amounts which shall approximate the taxes lawfully assessed upon similar property.

Section 2.9. Advisory Committees.

The Council may constitute and empower advisory committees, which may be comprised of representatives of the public and of federal, State, tribal, county and local governments, water resources agencies, water-using industries and sectors, water-interest groups and academic experts in related fields.

ARTICLE 3
GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 3.1. General.

The Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the Basin are subject to the sovereign right and responsibilities of the Parties, and it is the purpose of this Compact to provide for joint exercise of such powers of sovereignty by the Council in the common interests of the people of the region, in the manner and to the extent provided in this Compact. The Council and the Parties shall use the Standard of Review and Decision and procedures contained in or adopted pursuant to this Compact as the means to exercise their authority under this Compact. The Council may revise the Standard of Review and Decision, after consultation with the Provinces and upon unanimous vote of all Council members, by regulation duly adopted in accordance with Section 3.3 of this Compact and in accordance with each Party's respective statutory authorities and applicable procedures. The Council shall identify priorities and develop plans and policies relating to Basin Water resources. It shall adopt and promote uniform and coordinated policies for Water resources conservation and management in the Basin.

Section 3.2. Council Powers.

The Council may: plan; conduct research and collect, compile, analyze, interpret, report and disseminate data on Water resources and uses; forecast Water levels; conduct investigations; institute court actions; design, acquire, construct, reconstruct, own, operate, maintain, control, sell and convey real and personal property and any interest therein as it may deem necessary, useful or convenient to carry out the purposes of this Compact; make contracts; receive and accept such payments, appropriations, grants, gifts, loans, advances and other funds, properties and services as may be transferred or made available to it by any Party or by any other public or private agency, corporation or individual; and, exercise such other and different powers as may be delegated to it by this Compact or otherwise pursuant to law, and have and exercise all powers necessary or convenient to carry out its express powers or which may be reasonably implied therefrom.

Section 3.3. Rules and Regulations.

1. The Council may promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the implementation and enforcement of this Compact. The Council may adopt by regulation, after public notice and public hearing, reasonable Application fees with respect to those Proposals for Exceptions that are subject to Council review under Section 4.9. Any rule or regulation of the Council, other than one which deals solely with the internal management of the Council or its property, shall be adopted only after public notice and hearing.

2. Each Party, in accordance with its respective statutory authorities and applicable procedures, may adopt and enforce rules and regulations to implement and enforce this Compact and the programs adopted by such Party to carry out the management programs contemplated by this Compact.

Section 3.4. Program Review and Findings.

1. Each Party shall submit a report to the Council and the Regional Body detailing its Water management and conservation and efficiency programs that implement this Compact. The report shall set out the manner in which Water Withdrawals are managed by sector, Water source, quantity or any other means, and how the provisions of the Standard of Review and Decision and conservation and efficiency programs are implemented. The first report shall be provided by each Party one year from the effective date of this

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Compact and thereafter every 5 years.

2. The Council, in cooperation with the Provinces, shall review its Water management and conservation and efficiency programs and those of the Parties that are established in this Compact and make findings on whether the Water management program provisions in this Compact are being met, and if not, recommend options to assist the Parties in meeting the provisions of this Compact. Such review shall take place:

a. 30 days after the first report is submitted by all Parties; and,

b. Every five years after the effective date of this Compact; and,

c. At any other time at the request of one of the Parties.

3. As one of its duties and responsibilities, the Council may recommend a range of approaches to the Parties with respect to the development, enhancement and application of Water management and conservation and efficiency programs to implement the Standard of Review and Decision reflecting improved scientific understanding of the Waters of the Basin, including groundwater, and the impacts of Withdrawals on the Basin Ecosystem.

ARTICLE 4
WATER MANAGEMENT AND REGULATION

Section 4.1. Water Resources Inventory, Registration and Reporting.

1. Within five years of the effective date of this Compact, each Party shall develop and maintain a Water resources inventory for the collection, interpretation, storage, retrieval exchange, and dissemination of information concerning the Water resources of the Party, including, but not limited to, information on the location, type, quantity, and use of those resources and the location, type, and quantity of Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses. To the extent feasible, the Water resources inventory shall be developed in cooperation with local, State, federal, tribal and other private agencies and entities, as well as the Council. Each Party's agencies shall cooperate with that Party in the development and maintenance of the inventory.

2. The Council shall assist each Party to develop a common base of data regarding the management of the Water Resources of the Basin and to establish systematic arrangements for the exchange of those data with other States and Provinces.

3. To develop and maintain a compatible base of Water use information, within five years of the effective date of this Compact any Person who Withdraws Water in an amount of 100,000 gallons per day or greater average in any 30-day period (including Consumptive Uses) from all sources, or Diverts Water of any amount, shall register the Withdrawal or Diversion by a date set by the Council unless the Person has previously registered in accordance with an existing State program. The Person shall register the Withdrawal or Diversion with the Originating Party using a form prescribed by the Originating Party that shall include, at a minimum and without limitation: the name and address of the registrant and date of registration; the locations and sources of the Withdrawal or Diversion; the capacity of the Withdrawal or Diversion per day and the amount Withdrawn or Diverted from each source; the uses made of the Water; places of use and places of discharge; and, such other information as the Originating Party may require. All registrations shall include an estimate of the volume of the Withdrawal or Diversion in terms of gallons per day average in any 30-day period.

4. All registrants shall annually report the monthly volumes of the Withdrawal, Consumptive Use and Diversion in gallons to the Originating Party and any other information requested by the Originating Party.

5. Each Party shall annually report the information gathered pursuant to this Section to a Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Water use data base repository and aggregated information shall be made publicly available, consistent with the confidentiality requirements in Section 8.3.

6. Information gathered by the Parties pursuant to this Section shall be used to improve the sources and applications of scientific information regarding the Waters of the Basin and the impacts of the Withdrawals and Diversions from various locations and Water sources on the Basin Ecosystem, and to better understand the role of groundwater in the Basin. The Council and the Parties shall coordinate the collection and application of scientific information to further develop a mechanism by which individual and Cumulative Impacts of Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses and Diversions shall be assessed.

Section 4.2. Water Conservation and Efficiency Programs.

1. The Council commits to identify, in cooperation with the Provinces, Basin-wide Water conservation and efficiency objectives to assist the Parties in developing their Water conservation and efficiency program. These objectives are based on the goals of:

a. Ensuring improvement of the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources;

b. Protecting and restoring the hydrologic and ecosystem integrity of the Basin;

c. Retaining the quantity of surface water and groundwater in the Basin;

d. Ensuring sustainable use of Waters of the Basin; and,

e. Promoting the efficiency of use and reducing losses and waste of Water.

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2. Within two years of the effective date of this Compact, each Party shall develop its own Water conservation and efficiency goals and objectives consistent with the Basin-wide goals and objectives, and shall develop and implement a Water conservation and efficiency program, either voluntary or mandatory, within its jurisdiction based on the Party's goals and objectives. Each Party shall annually assess its programs in meeting the Party's goals and objectives, report to the Council and the Regional Body and make this annual assessment available to the public.

3. Beginning five years after the effective date of this Compact, and every five years thereafter, the Council, in cooperation with the Provinces, shall review and modify as appropriate the Basin-wide objectives, and the Parties shall have regard for any such modifications in implementing their programs. This assessment will be based on examining new technologies, new patterns of Water use, new resource demands and threats, and Cumulative Impact assessment under Section 4.15.

4. Within two years of the effective date of this Compact, the Parties commit to promote Environmentally Sound and Economically Feasible Water Conservation Measures such as:

a. Measures that promote efficient use of Water;

b. Identification and sharing of best management practices and state of the art conservation and efficiency technologies;

c. Application of sound planning principles;

d. Demand-side and supply-side Measures or incentives; and,

e. Development, transfer and application of science and research.

5. Each Party shall implement in accordance with paragraph 2 above a voluntary or mandatory Water conservation program for all, including existing, Basin Water users. Conservation programs need to adjust to new demands and the potential impacts of cumulative effects and climate.

Section 4.3. Party Powers and Duties.

1. Each Party, within its jurisdiction, shall manage and regulate New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses and Diversions, including Exceptions, in accordance with this Compact.

2. Each Party shall require an Applicant to submit an Application in such manner and with such accompanying information as the Party shall prescribe.

3. No Party may approve a Proposal if the Party determines that the Proposal is inconsistent with this Compact or the Standard of Review and Decision or any implementing rules or regulations promulgated thereunder. The Party may approve, approve with modifications or disapprove any Proposal depending on the Proposal's consistency with this Compact and the Standard of Review and Decision.

4. Each Party shall monitor the implementation of any approved Proposal to ensure consistency with the approval and may take all necessary enforcement actions.

5. No Party shall approve a Proposal subject to Council or Regional Review, or both, pursuant to this Compact unless it shall have been first submitted to and reviewed by either the Council or Regional Body, or both, and approved by the Council, as applicable. Sufficient opportunity shall be provided for comment on the Proposal's consistency with this Compact and the Standard of Review and Decision. All such comments shall become part of the Party's formal record of decision, and the Party shall take into consideration any such comments received.

Section 4.4. Requirement for Originating Party Approval.

No Proposal subject to management and regulation under this Compact shall hereafter be undertaken by any Person unless it shall have been approved by the Originating Party.

Section 4.5. Regional Review.

1. General.

a. It is the intention of the Parties to participate in Regional Review of Proposals with the Provinces, as described in this Compact and the Agreement.

b. Unless the Applicant or the Originating Party otherwise requests, it shall be the goal of the Regional Body to conclude its review no later than 90 days after notice under Section 4.5.2 of such Proposal is received from the Originating Party.

c. Proposals for Exceptions subject to Regional Review shall be submitted by the Originating Party to the Regional Body for Regional Review, and where applicable, to the Council for concurrent review.

d. The Parties agree that the protection of the integrity of the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Ecosystem shall be the overarching principle for reviewing Proposals subject to Regional Review, recognizing uncertainties with respect to demands that may be placed on Basin Water, including groundwater, levels and flows of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, future changes in environmental conditions, the reliability of existing data and the extent to which Diversions may harm the integrity of the Basin Ecosystem.

e. The Originating Party shall have lead responsibility for coordinating information for resolution of issues

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related to evaluation of a Proposal, and shall consult with the Applicant throughout the Regional Review Process.

f. A majority of the members of the Regional Body may request Regional Review of a regionally significant or potentially precedent setting Proposal. Such Regional Review must be conducted, to the extent possible, within the time frames set forth in this Section. Any such Regional Review shall be undertaken only after consulting the Applicant.

2. Notice from Originating Party to the Regional Body.

a. The Originating Party shall determine if a Proposal is subject to Regional Review. If so, the Originating Party shall provide timely notice to the Regional Body and the public.

b. Such notice shall not be given unless and until all information, documents and the Originating Party's Technical Review needed to evaluate whether the Proposal meets the Standard of Review and Decision have been provided.

c. An Originating Party may:

i. Provide notice to the Regional Body of an Application, even if notification is not required; or,

ii. Request Regional Review of an application, even if Regional Review is not required. Any such Regional Review shall be undertaken only after consulting the Applicant.

d. An Originating Party may provide preliminary notice of a potential Proposal.

3. Public Participation.

a. To ensure adequate public participation, the Regional Body shall adopt procedures for the review of Proposals that are subject to Regional Review in accordance with this Article.

b. The Regional Body shall provide notice to the public of a Proposal undergoing Regional Review. Such notice shall indicate that the public has an opportunity to comment in writing to the Regional Body on whether the Proposal meets the Standard of Review and Decision.

c. The Regional Body shall hold a public meeting in the State or Province of the Originating Party in order to receive public comment on the issue of whether the Proposal under consideration meets the Standard of Review and Decision.

d. The Regional Body shall consider the comments received before issuing a Declaration of Finding.

e. The Regional Body shall forward the comments it receives to the Originating Party.

4. Technical Review.

a. The Originating Party shall provide the Regional Body with its Technical Review of the Proposal under consideration.

b. The Originating Party's Technical Review shall thoroughly analyze the Proposal and provide an evaluation of the Proposal sufficient for a determination of whether the Proposal meets the Standard of Review and Decision.

c. Any member of the Regional Body may conduct their own Technical Review of any Proposal subject to Regional Review.

d. At the request of the majority of its members, the Regional Body shall make such arrangements as it considers appropriate for an independent Technical Review of a Proposal.

e. All Parties shall exercise their best efforts to ensure that a Technical Review undertaken under Sections 4.5.4.c and 4.5.4.d does not unnecessarily delay the decision by the Originating Party on the Application. Unless the Applicant or the Originating Party otherwise requests, all Technical Reviews shall be completed no later than 60 days after the date the notice of the Proposal was given to the Regional Body.

5. Declaration of Finding.

a. The Regional Body shall meet to consider a Proposal. The Applicant shall be provided with an opportunity to present the Proposal to the Regional Body at such time.

b. The Regional Body, having considered the notice, the Originating Party's Technical Review, any other independent Technical Review that is made, any comments or objections including the analysis of comments made by the public, First Nations and federally recognized Tribes, and any other information that is provided under this Compact shall issue a Declaration of Finding that the Proposal under consideration:

i. Meets the Standard of Review and Decision;

ii. Does not meet the Standard of Review and Decision; or,

iii. Would meet the Standard of Review and Decision if certain conditions were met.

c. An Originating Party may decline to participate in a Declaration of Finding made by the Regional Body.

d. The Parties recognize and affirm that it is preferable for all members of the Regional Body to agree whether the Proposal meets the Standard of Review and Decision.

e. If the members of the Regional Body who participate in the Declaration of Finding all agree, they shall issue a written Declaration of Finding with consensus.

f. In the event that the members cannot agree, the Regional Body shall make every reasonable effort to

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achieve consensus within 25 days.

g. Should consensus not be achieved, the Regional Body may issue a Declaration of Finding that presents different points of view and indicates each Party's conclusions.

h. The Regional Body shall release the Declarations of Finding to the public.

i. The Originating Party and the Council shall consider the Declaration of Finding before making a decision on the Proposal.

Section 4.6. Proposals Subject to Prior Notice.

1. Beginning no later than five years of the effective date of this Compact, the Originating Party shall provide all Parties and the Provinces with detailed and timely notice and an opportunity to comment within 90 days on any Proposal for a New or Increased Consumptive Use of 5 million gallons per day or greater average in any 90-day period. Comments shall address whether or not the Proposal is consistent with the Standard of Review and Decision. The Originating Party shall provide a response to any such comment received from another Party.

2. A Party may provide notice, an opportunity to comment and a response to comments even if this is not required under paragraph 1 of this Section. Any provision of such notice and opportunity to comment shall be undertaken only after consulting the Applicant.

Section 4.7. Council Actions.

1. Proposals for Exceptions subject to Council Review shall be submitted by the Originating Party to the Council for Council Review, and where applicable, to the Regional Body for concurrent review.

2. The Council shall review and take action on Proposals in accordance with this Compact and the Standard of Review and Decision. The Council shall not take action on a Proposal subject to Regional Review pursuant to this Compact unless the Proposal shall have been first submitted to and reviewed by the Regional Body. The Council shall consider any findings resulting from such review.

Section 4.8. Prohibition of New or Increased Diversions.

All New or Increased Diversions are prohibited, except as provided for in this Article.

Section 4.9. Exceptions to the Prohibition of Diversions.

1. Straddling Communities. A Proposal to transfer Water to an area within a Straddling Community but outside the Basin or outside the source Great Lake Watershed shall be excepted from the prohibition against Diversions and be managed and regulated by the Originating Party provided that, regardless of the volume of Water transferred, all the Water so transferred shall be used solely for Public Water Supply Purposes within the Straddling Community, and:

a. All Water Withdrawn from the Basin shall be returned, either naturally or after use, to the Source Watershed less an allowance for Consumptive Use. No surface water or groundwater from outside the Basin may be used to satisfy any portion of this criterion except if it:

i. Is part of a water supply or wastewater treatment system that combines water from inside and outside of the Basin;

ii. Is treated to meet applicable water quality discharge standards and to prevent the introduction of invasive species into the Basin;

iii. Maximizes the portion of water returned to the Source Watershed as Basin Water and minimizes the surface water or groundwater from outside the Basin;

b. If the Proposal results from a New or Increased Withdrawal of 100,000 gallons per day or greater average over any 90-day period, the Proposal shall also meet the Exception Standard; and,

c. If the Proposal results in a New or Increased Consumptive Use of 5 million gallons per day or greater average over any 90-day period, the Proposal shall also undergo Regional Review.

2. Intra-Basin Transfer. A Proposal for an Intra-Basin Transfer that would be considered a Diversion under this Compact, and not already excepted pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Section, shall be excepted from the prohibition against Diversions, provided that:

a. If the Proposal results from a New or Increased Withdrawal less than 100,000 gallons per day average over any 90-day period, the Proposal shall be subject to management and regulation at the discretion of the Originating Party.

b. If the Proposal results from a New or Increased Withdrawal 100,000 gallons per day or greater average over any 90-day period and if the Consumptive Use resulting from the Withdrawal is less than 5 million gallons per day average over any 90-day period:

i. The Proposal shall meet the Exception Standard and be subject to management and regulation by the Originating Party, except that the Water may be returned to another Great Lake watershed rather than the Source Watershed;

ii. The Applicant shall demonstrate that there is no feasible, cost effective, and environmentally sound water supply alternative within the Great Lake watershed to which the Water will be transferred, including

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conservation of existing water supplies; and,

iii. The Originating Party shall provide notice to the other Parties prior to making any decision with respect to the Proposal.

c. If the Proposal results in a New or Increased Consumptive Use of 5 million gallons per day or greater average over any 90-day period:

i. The Proposal shall be subject to management and regulation by the Originating Party and shall meet the Exception Standard, ensuring that Water Withdrawn shall be returned to the Source Watershed;

ii. The Applicant shall demonstrate that there is no feasible, cost effective, and environmentally sound water supply alternative within the Great Lake watershed to which the Water will be transferred, including conservation of existing water supplies;

iii. The Proposal undergoes Regional Review; and,

iv. The Proposal is approved by the Council. Council approval shall be given unless one or more Council Members vote to disapprove.

3. Straddling Counties. A Proposal to transfer Water to a Community within a Straddling County that would be considered a Diversion under this Compact shall be excepted from the prohibition against Diversions, provided that it satisfies all of the following conditions:

a. The Water shall be used solely for the Public Water Supply Purposes of the Community within a Straddling County that is without adequate supplies of potable water;

b. The Proposal meets the Exception Standard, maximizing the portion of water returned to the Source Watershed as Basin Water and minimizing the surface water or groundwater from outside the Basin;

c. The Proposal shall be subject to management and regulation by the Originating Party, regardless of its size;

d. There is no reasonable water supply alternative within the basin in which the community is located, including conservation of existing water supplies;

e. Caution shall be used in determining whether or not the Proposal meets the conditions for this Exception. This Exception should not be authorized unless it can be shown that it will not endanger the integrity of the Basin Ecosystem;

f. The Proposal undergoes Regional Review; and,

g. The Proposal is approved by the Council. Council approval shall be given unless one or more Council Members vote to disapprove.

A Proposal must satisfy all of the conditions listed above. Further, substantive consideration will also be given to whether or not the Proposal can provide sufficient scientifically based evidence that the existing water supply is derived from groundwater that is hydrologically interconnected to Waters of the Basin.

4. Exception Standard. Proposals subject to management and regulation in this Section shall be declared to meet this Exception Standard and may be approved as appropriate only when the following criteria are met:

a. The need for all or part of the proposed Exception cannot be reasonably avoided through the efficient use and conservation of existing water supplies;

b. The Exception will be limited to quantities that are considered reasonable for the purposes for which it is proposed;

c. All Water Withdrawn shall be returned, either naturally or after use, to the Source Watershed less an allowance for Consumptive Use. No surface water or groundwater from the outside the Basin may be used to satisfy any portion of this criterion except if it:

i. Is part of a water supply or wastewater treatment system that combines water from inside and outside of the Basin;

ii. Is treated to meet applicable water quality discharge standards and to prevent the introduction of invasive species into the Basin;

d. The Exception will be implemented so as to ensure that it will result in no significant individual or cumulative adverse impacts to the quantity or quality of the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the Basin with consideration given to the potential Cumulative Impacts of any precedent-setting consequences associated with the Proposal;

e. The Exception will be implemented so as to incorporate Environmentally Sound and Economically Feasible Water Conservation Measures to minimize Water Withdrawals or Consumptive Use;

f. The Exception will be implemented so as to ensure that it is in compliance with all applicable municipal, State and federal laws as well as regional interstate and international agreements, including the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909; and,

g. All other applicable criteria in Section 4.9 have also been met.

Section 4.10. Management and Regulation of New or Increased Withdrawals and Consumptive Uses.

1. Within five years of the effective date of this Compact, each Party shall create a program for the

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management and regulation of New or Increased Withdrawals and Consumptive Uses by adopting and implementing Measures consistent with the Decision-Making Standard. Each Party, through a considered process, shall set and may modify threshold levels for the regulation of New or Increased Withdrawals in order to assure an effective and efficient Water management program that will ensure that uses overall are reasonable, that Withdrawals overall will not result in significant impacts to the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the Basin, determined on the basis of significant impacts to the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of Source Watersheds, and that all other objectives of the Compact are achieved. Each Party may determine the scope and thresholds of its program, including which New or Increased Withdrawals and Consumptive Uses will be subject to the program.

2. Any Party that fails to set threshold levels that comply with Section 4.10.1 any time before 10 years after the effective date of this Compact shall apply a threshold level for management and regulation of all New or Increased Withdrawals of 100,000 gallons per day or greater average in any 90 day period.

3. The Parties intend programs for New or Increased Withdrawals and Consumptive Uses to evolve as may be necessary to protect Basin Waters. Pursuant to Section 3.4, the Council, in cooperation with the Provinces, shall periodically assess the Water management programs of the Parties. Such assessments may produce recommendations for the strengthening of the programs, including without limitation, establishing lower thresholds for management and regulation in accordance with the Decision-Making Standard.

Section 4.11. Decision-Making Standard.

Proposals subject to management and regulation in Section 4.10 shall be declared to meet this Decision-Making Standard and may be approved as appropriate only when the following criteria are met:

1. All Water Withdrawn shall be returned, either naturally or after use, to the Source Watershed less an allowance for Consumptive Use;

2. The Withdrawal or Consumptive Use will be implemented so as to ensure that the Proposal will result in no significant individual or cumulative adverse impacts to the quantity or quality of the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources and the applicable Source Watershed;

3. The Withdrawal or Consumptive Use will be implemented so as to incorporate Environmentally Sound and Economically Feasible Water Conservation Measures;

4. The Withdrawal or Consumptive Use will be implemented so as to ensure that it is in compliance with all applicable municipal, State and federal laws as well as regional interstate and international agreements, including the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909;

5. The proposed use is reasonable, based upon a consideration of the following factors:

a. Whether the proposed Withdrawal or Consumptive Use is planned in a fashion that provides for efficient use of the water, and will avoid or minimize the waste of Water;

b. If the Proposal is for an increased Withdrawal or Consumptive use, whether efficient use is made of existing water supplies;

c. The balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection of the proposed Withdrawal and use and other existing or planned withdrawals and water uses sharing the water source;

d. The supply potential of the water source, considering quantity, quality, and reliability and safe yield of hydrologically interconnected water sources;

e. The probable degree and duration of any adverse impacts caused or expected to be caused by the proposed Withdrawal and use under foreseeable conditions, to other lawful consumptive or non-consumptive uses of water or to the quantity or quality of the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the Basin, and the proposed plans and arrangements for avoidance or mitigation of such impacts; and,

f. If a Proposal includes restoration of hydrologic conditions and functions of the Source Watershed, the Party may consider that.

Section 4.12. Applicability.

1. Minimum Standard. This Standard of Review and Decision shall be used as a minimum standard. Parties may impose a more restrictive decision-making standard for Withdrawals under their authority. It is also acknowledged that although a Proposal meets the Standard of Review and Decision it may not be approved under the laws of the Originating Party that has implemented more restrictive Measures.

2. Baseline.

a. To establish a baseline for determining a New or Increased Diversion, Consumptive Use or Withdrawal, each Party shall develop either or both of the following lists for their jurisdiction:

i. A list of existing Withdrawal approvals as of the effective date of the Compact;

ii. A list of the capacity of existing systems as of the effective date of this Compact. The capacity of the existing systems should be presented in terms of Withdrawal capacity, treatment capacity, distribution capacity, or other capacity limiting factors. The capacity of the existing systems must represent the state of the

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systems. Existing capacity determinations shall be based upon approval limits or the most restrictive capacity information.

b. For all purposes of this Compact, volumes of Diversions, Consumptive Uses, or Withdrawals of Water set forth in the list(s) prepared by each Party in accordance with this Section, shall constitute the baseline volume.

c. The list(s) shall be furnished to the Regional Body and the Council within one year of the effective date of this Compact.

3. Timing of Additional Applications. Applications for New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses or Exceptions shall be considered cumulatively within ten years of any application.

4. Change of Ownership. Unless a new owner proposes a project that shall result in a Proposal for a New or Increased Diversion or Consumptive Use subject to Regional Review or Council approval, the change of ownership in and of itself shall not require Regional Review or Council approval.

5. Groundwater. The Basin surface water divide shall be used for the purpose of managing and regulating New or Increased Diversions, Consumptive Uses or Withdrawals of surface water and groundwater.

6. Withdrawal Systems. The total volume of surface water and groundwater resources that supply a common distribution system shall determine the volume of a Withdrawal, Consumptive Use or Diversion.

7. Connecting Channels. The watershed of each Great Lake shall include its upstream and downstream connecting channels.

8. Transmission in Water Lines. Transmission of Water within a line that extends outside the Basin as it conveys Water from one point to another within the Basin shall not be considered a Diversion if none of the Water is used outside the Basin.

9. Hydrologic Units. The Lake Michigan and Lake Huron watersheds shall be considered to be a single hydrologic unit and watershed.

10. Bulk Water Transfer. A Proposal to Withdraw Water and to remove it from the Basin in any container greater than 5.7 gallons shall be treated under this Compact in the same manner as a Proposal for a Diversion. Each Party shall have the discretion, within its jurisdiction, to determine the treatment of Proposals to Withdraw Water and to remove it from the Basin in any container of 5.7 gallons or less.

Section 4.13. Exemptions.

Withdrawals from the Basin for the following purposes are exempt from the requirements of Article 4.

1. To supply vehicles, including vessels and aircraft, whether for the needs of the persons or animals being transported or for ballast or other needs related to the operation of the vehicles.

2. To use in a non-commercial project on a short-term basis for firefighting, humanitarian, or emergency response purposes.

Section 4.14. U.S. Supreme Court Decree: Wisconsin et al. v. Illinois et al.

1. Notwithstanding any terms of this Compact to the contrary, with the exception of Paragraph 5 of this Section, current, New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses and Diversions of Basin Water by the State of Illinois shall be governed by the terms of the United States Supreme Court decree in Wisconsin et al. v. Illinois et al. and shall not be subject to the terms of this Compact nor any rules or regulations promulgated pursuant to this Compact. This means that, with the exception of Paragraph 5 of this Section, for purposes of this Compact, current, New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses and Diversions of Basin Water within the State of Illinois shall be allowed unless prohibited by the terms of the United States Supreme Court decree in Wisconsin et al. v. Illinois et al.

2. The Parties acknowledge that the United States Supreme Court decree in Wisconsin et al. v. Illinois et al. shall continue in full force and effect, that this Compact shall not modify any terms thereof, and that this Compact shall grant the parties no additional rights, obligations, remedies or defenses thereto. The Parties specifically acknowledge that this Compact shall not prohibit or limit the State of Illinois in any manner from seeking additional Basin Water as allowed under the terms of the United States Supreme Court decree in Wisconsin et al. v. Illinois et al., any other party from objecting to any request by the State of Illinois for additional Basin Water under the terms of said decree, or any party from seeking any other type of modification to said decree. If an application is made by any party to the Supreme Court of the United States to modify said decree, the Parties to this Compact who are also parties to the decree shall seek formal input from the Canadian Provinces of Ontario and Québec, with respect to the proposed modification, use best efforts to facilitate the appropriate participation of said Provinces in the proceedings to modify the decree, and shall not unreasonably impede or restrict such participation.

3. With the exception of Paragraph 5 of this Section, because current, New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses and Diversions of Basin Water by the State of Illinois are not subject to the terms of this Compact, the State of Illinois is prohibited from using any term of this Compact, including Section 4.9, to seek New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses or Diversions of Basin Water.

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4. With the exception of Paragraph 5 of this Section, because Sections 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12 (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 10 only), and 4.13 of this Compact all relate to current, New or Increased Withdrawals, Consumptive Uses and Diversions of Basin Waters, said provisions do not apply to the State of Illinois. All other provisions of this Compact not listed in the preceding sentence shall apply to the State of Illinois, including the Water Conservation Programs provision of Section 4.2.

5. In the event of a Proposal for a Diversion of Basin Water for use outside the territorial boundaries of the Parties to this Compact, decisions by the State of Illinois regarding such a Proposal would be subject to all terms of this Compact, except Paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of this Section.

6. For purposes of the State of Illinois' participation in this Compact, the entirety of this Section 4.14 is necessary for the continued implementation of this Compact and, if severed, this Compact shall no longer be binding on or enforceable by or against the State of Illinois.

Section 4.15. Assessment of Cumulative Impacts.

1. The Parties in cooperation with the Provinces shall collectively conduct within the Basin, on a Lake watershed and St. Lawrence River Basin basis, a periodic assessment of the Cumulative Impacts of Withdrawals, Diversions and Consumptive Uses from the Waters of the Basin, every 5 years or each time the incremental Basin Water losses reach 50 million gallons per day average in any 90-day period in excess of the quantity at the time of the most recent assessment, whichever comes first, or at the request of one or more of the Parties. The assessment shall form the basis for a review of the Standard of Review and Decision, Council and Party regulations and their application. This assessment shall:

a. Utilize the most current and appropriate guidelines for such a review, which may include but not be limited to Council on Environmental Quality and Environment Canada guidelines;

b. Give substantive consideration to climate change or other significant threats to Basin Waters and take into account the current state of scientific knowledge, or uncertainty, and appropriate Measures to exercise caution in cases of uncertainty if serious damage may result;

c. Consider adaptive management principles and approaches, recognizing, considering and providing adjustments for the uncertainties in, and evolution of science concerning the Basin's water resources, watersheds and ecosystems, including potential changes to Basin-wide processes, such as lake level cycles and climate.

2. The Parties have the responsibility of conducting this Cumulative Impact assessment. Applicants are not required to participate in this assessment.

3. Unless required by other statutes, Applicants are not required to conduct a separate cumulative impact assessment in connection with an Application but shall submit information about the potential impacts of a Proposal to the quantity or quality of the Waters and Water Dependent Natural Resources of the applicable Source Watershed. An Applicant may, however, provide an analysis of how their Proposal meets the no significant adverse Cumulative Impact provision of the Standard of Review and Decision.

ARTICLE 5

TRIBAL CONSULTATION

Section 5.1. Consultation with Tribes

1. In addition to all other opportunities to comment pursuant to Section 6.2, appropriate consultations shall occur with federally recognized Tribes in the Originating Party for all Proposals subject to Council or Regional Review pursuant to this Compact. Such consultations shall be organized in the manner suitable to the individual Proposal and the laws and policies of the Originating Party.

2. All federally recognized Tribes within the Basin shall receive reasonable notice indicating that they have an opportunity to comment in writing to the Council or the Regional Body, or both, and other relevant organizations on whether the Proposal meets the requirements of the Standard of Review and Decision when a Proposal is subject to Regional Review or Council approval. Any notice from the Council shall inform the Tribes of any meeting or hearing that is to be held under Section 6.2 and invite them to attend. The Parties and the Council shall consider the comments received under this Section before approving, approving with modifications or disapproving any Proposal subject to Council or Regional Review.

3. In addition to the specific consultation mechanisms described above, the Council shall seek to establish mutually agreed upon mechanisms or processes to facilitate dialogue with, and input from federally recognized Tribes on matters to be dealt with by the Council; and, the Council shall seek to establish mechanisms and processes with federally recognized Tribes designed to facilitate on-going scientific and technical interaction and data exchange regarding matters falling within the scope of this Compact. This may include participation of tribal representatives on advisory committees established under this Compact or such other processes that are mutually-agreed upon with federally recognized Tribes individually or through duly-authorized intertribal agencies or bodies.

ARTICLE 6

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Section 6.1. Meetings, Public Hearings and Records.

1. The Parties recognize the importance and necessity of public participation in promoting management of the Water Resources of the Basin. Consequently, all meetings of the Council shall be open to the public, except with respect to issues of personnel.

2. The minutes of the Council shall be a public record open to inspection at its offices during regular business hours.

Section 6.2. Public Participation.

It is the intent of the Council to conduct public participation processes concurrently and jointly with processes undertaken by the Parties and through Regional Review. To ensure adequate public participation, each Party or the Council shall ensure procedures for the review of Proposals subject to the Standard of Review and Decision consistent with the following requirements:

1. Provide public notification of receipt of all Applications and a reasonable opportunity for the public to submit comments before Applications are acted upon.

2. Assure public accessibility to all documents relevant to an Application, including public comment received.

3. Provide guidance on standards for determining whether to conduct a public meeting or hearing for an Application, time and place of such a meeting(s) or hearing(s), and procedures for conducting of the same.

4. Provide the record of decision for public inspection including comments, objections, responses and approvals, approvals with conditions and disapprovals.

ARTICLE 7

DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND ENFORCEMENT

Section 7.1. Good Faith Implementation.

Each of the Parties pledges to support implementation of all provisions of this Compact, and covenants that its officers and agencies shall not hinder, impair, or prevent any other Party carrying out any provision of this Compact.

Section 7.2. Alternative Dispute Resolution.

1. Desiring that this Compact be carried out in full, the Parties agree that disputes between the Parties regarding interpretation, application and implementation of this Compact shall be settled by alternative dispute resolution.

2. The Council, in consultation with the Provinces, shall provide by rule procedures for the resolution of disputes pursuant to this section.

Section 7.3. Enforcement.

1. Any Person aggrieved by any action taken by the Council pursuant to the authorities contained in this Compact shall be entitled to a hearing before the Council. Any Person aggrieved by a Party action shall be entitled to a hearing pursuant to the relevant Party's administrative procedures and laws. After exhaustion of such administrative remedies, (*i*) any aggrieved Person shall have the right to judicial review of a Council action in the United States District Courts for the District of Columbia or the District Court in which the Council maintains offices, provided such action is commenced within 90 days; and, (*ii*) any aggrieved Person shall have the right to judicial review of a Party's action in the relevant Party's court of competent jurisdiction, provided that an action or proceeding for such review is commenced within the time frames provided for by the Party's law. For the purposes of this paragraph, a State or Province is deemed to be an aggrieved Person with respect to any Party action pursuant to this Compact.

2. a. Any Party or the Council may initiate actions to compel compliance with the provisions of this Compact, and the rules and regulations promulgated hereunder by the Council. Jurisdiction over such actions is granted to the court of the relevant Party, as well as the United States District Courts for the District of Columbia and the District Court in which the Council maintains offices. The remedies available to any such court shall include, but not be limited to, equitable relief and civil penalties.

b. Each Party may issue orders within its respective jurisdiction and may initiate actions to compel compliance with the provisions of its respective statutes and regulations adopted to implement the authorities contemplated by this Compact in accordance with the provisions of the laws adopted in each Party's jurisdiction.

3. Any aggrieved Person, Party or the Council may commence a civil action in the relevant Party's courts and administrative systems to compel any Person to comply with this Compact should any such Person, without approval having been given, undertake a New or Increased Withdrawal, Consumptive Use or Diversion that is prohibited or subject to approval pursuant to this Compact.

a. No action under this subsection may be commenced if:

i. The Originating Party or Council approval for the New or Increased Withdrawal, Consumptive Use or

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Diversion has been granted; or,

ii. The Originating Party or Council has found that the New or Increased Withdrawal, Consumptive Use or Diversion is not subject to approval pursuant to this Compact.

b. No action under this subsection may be commenced unless:

i. A Person commencing such action has first given 60 days prior notice to the Originating Party, the Council and Person alleged to be in noncompliance; and,

ii. Neither the Originating Party nor the Council has commenced and is diligently prosecuting appropriate enforcement actions to compel compliance with this Compact.

The available remedies shall include equitable relief, and the prevailing or substantially prevailing party may recover the costs of litigation, including reasonable attorney and expert witness fees, whenever the court determines that such an award is appropriate.

4. Each of the Parties may adopt provisions providing additional enforcement mechanisms and remedies including equitable relief and civil penalties applicable within its jurisdiction to assist in the implementation of this Compact.

ARTICLE 8

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Section 8.1. Effect on Existing Rights.

1. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to affect, limit, diminish or impair any rights validly established and existing as of the effective date of this Compact under State or federal law governing the Withdrawal of Waters of the Basin.

2. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed as affecting or intending to affect or in any way to interfere with the law of the respective Parties relating to common law Water rights.

3. Nothing in this Compact is intended to abrogate or derogate from treaty rights or rights held by any Tribe recognized by the federal government of the United States based upon its status as a Tribe recognized by the federal government of the United States.

4. An approval by a Party or the Council under this Compact does not give any property rights, nor any exclusive privileges, nor shall it be construed to grant or confer any right, title, easement, or interest in, to or over any land belonging to or held in trust by a Party; neither does it authorize any injury to private property or invasion of private rights, nor infringement of federal, State or local laws or regulations; nor does it obviate the necessity of obtaining federal assent when necessary.

Section 8.2. Relationship to Agreements Concluded by the United States of America.

1. Nothing in this Compact is intended to provide nor shall be construed to provide, directly or indirectly, to any Person any right, claim or remedy under any treaty or international agreement nor is it intended to derogate any right, claim, or remedy that already exists under any treaty or international agreement.

2. Nothing in this Compact is intended to infringe nor shall be construed to infringe upon the treaty power of the United States of America, nor shall any term hereof be construed to alter or amend any treaty or term thereof that has been or may hereafter be executed by the United States of America.

3. Nothing in this Compact is intended to affect nor shall be construed to affect the application of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 whose requirements continue to apply in addition to the requirements of this Compact.

Section 8.3. Confidentiality.

1. Nothing in this Compact requires a Party to breach confidentiality obligations or requirements prohibiting disclosure, or to compromise security of commercially sensitive or proprietary information.

2. A Party may take measures, including but not limited to deletion and redaction, deemed necessary to protect any confidential, proprietary or commercially sensitive information when distributing information to other Parties. The Party shall summarize or paraphrase any such information in a manner sufficient for the Council to exercise its authorities contained in this Compact.

Section 8.4. Additional Laws.

Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to repeal, modify or qualify the authority of any Party to enact any legislation or enforce any additional conditions and restrictions regarding the management and regulation of Waters within its jurisdiction.

Section 8.5. Amendments and Supplements.

The provisions of this Compact shall remain in full force and effect until amended by action of the governing bodies of the Parties and consented to and approved by any other necessary authority in the same manner as this Compact is required to be ratified to become effective.

Section 8.6. Severability.

Should a court of competent jurisdiction hold any part of this Compact to be void or unenforceable, it shall be considered severable from those portions of the Compact capable of continued implementation in the

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absence of the voided provisions. All other provisions capable of continued implementation shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 8.7. Duration of Compact and Termination.

Once effective, the Compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each and every Party unless terminated.

This Compact may be terminated at any time by a majority vote of the Parties. In the event of such termination, all rights established under it shall continue unimpaired.

ARTICLE 9

EFFECTUATION

Section 9.1. Repealer.

All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are to the extent of such inconsistency hereby repealed.

Section 9.2. Effectuation by Chief Executive.

The Governor is authorized to take such action as may be necessary and proper in his or her discretion to effectuate the Compact and the initial organization and operation thereunder.

Section 9.3. Entire Agreement.

The Parties consider this Compact to be complete and an integral whole. Each provision of this Compact is considered material to the entire Compact, and failure to implement or adhere to any provision may be considered a material breach. Unless otherwise noted in this Compact, any change or amendment made to the Compact by any Party in its implementing legislation or by the U.S. Congress when giving its consent to this Compact is not considered effective unless concurred in by all Parties.

Section 9.4. Effective Date and Execution.

This Compact shall become binding and effective when ratified through concurring legislation by the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and consented to by the Congress of the United States. This Compact shall be signed and sealed in nine identical original copies by the respective chief executives of the signatory Parties. One such copy shall be filed with the Secretary of State of each of the signatory Parties or in accordance with the laws of the state in which the filing is made, and one copy shall be filed and retained in the archives of the Council upon its organization. The signatures shall be affixed and attested under the following form:

In Witness Whereof, and in evidence of the adoption and enactment into law of this Compact by the legislatures of the signatory parties and consent by the Congress of the United States, the respective Governors do hereby, in accordance with the authority conferred by law, sign this Compact in nine duplicate original copies, attested by the respective Secretaries of State, and have caused the seals of the respective states to be hereunto affixed this ____ day of (month), (year).

History: Add. 2008, Act 190, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

LAND HABITATS

PART 351

WILDERNESS AND NATURAL AREAS

324.35101 Definitions.

Sec. 35101. As used in this part:

(a) "Natural area" means a tract of state land or water under control of the department and dedicated and regulated by the department pursuant to this part which:

(*i*) Has retained or reestablished its natural character, or has unusual flora and fauna or biotic, geologic, scenic, or other similar features of educational or scientific value, but it need not be undisturbed.

(*ii*) Has been identified and verified through research and study by qualified observers.

(*iii*) May be coextensive with or part of a wilderness area or wild area.

(b) "Wild area" means a tract of undeveloped state land or water under control of the department and dedicated and regulated by the department pursuant to this part which:

(*i*) Is less than 3,000 acres of state land.

(*ii*) Has outstanding opportunities for personal exploration, challenge, or contact with natural features of the landscape and its biological community.

(*iii*) Possesses 1 or more of the characteristics of a wilderness area.

(c) "Wilderness area" means a tract of undeveloped state land or water under control of the department and dedicated and regulated by the department pursuant to this part which:

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(*i*) Has 3,000 or more acres of state land or is an island of any size.

(*ii*) Generally appears to have been affected primarily by forces of nature with the imprint of the work of humans substantially unnoticeable.

(*iii*) Has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.

(*iv*) Contains ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, scenic, or natural history value.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 290, Imd. Eff. June 19, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35102 Wilderness, wild, and natural areas; duty of department to identify, dedicate, and administer.

Sec. 35102. The department shall identify for dedication, dedicate, and administer wilderness areas, wild areas, and natural areas in accordance with this part. The department shall enlist the voluntary cooperation and support of interested citizens and conservation groups.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35103 Review of state land; identification of certain tracts; determination of dedication; proposed alteration or withdrawal of previously dedicated areas; filing proposals; procedure for making dedication or denying proposal; exchange of dedicated land; notice requirements.

Sec. 35103. (1) The department shall annually review all state land under its control and identify those tracts that in its judgment best exhibit the characteristics of a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area. The department shall determine which land in its judgment is most suitable for dedication as wilderness areas, wild areas, or natural areas. The department shall administer the proposed land so as to protect its natural values.

(2) A citizen may propose to the department land that in his or her judgment exhibits the characteristics of a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area and is suitable for dedication by the department as such or may propose the alteration or withdrawal of previously dedicated areas. Land under control of the department that has been dedicated or designated before August 3, 1972 as a natural area, nature study area, preserve, natural reservation, wilderness, or wilderness study area shall be considered by the department and, if eligible, proposed for dedication. The proposals of the department shall be filed with both houses of the legislature.

(3) Within 90 days after land is proposed in accordance with subsections (1) or (2), the department shall make the dedication or issue a written statement of its principal reasons for denying the proposal. The department shall dedicate a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area, or alter or withdraw the dedication, by promulgating a rule. The department shall hold a public hearing relative to the dedication in the county where the land to be dedicated is located before a rule making the dedication may be promulgated. Not more than 10% of state land under the control of the department shall be dedicated pursuant to this subsection. All persons who have notified the department in writing during a calendar year of their interest in dedication of areas under this part shall be furnished by the department with a notice of all areas pending dedication or alteration or withdrawal from dedication during that calendar year.

(4) The department may exchange dedicated land for the purpose of acquiring other land that, in its judgment, is more suitable for the purposes of this part.

(5) Except as provided in subsection (4), prior to recommending the transfer of any land that is dedicated as a wilderness area, a wild area, or a natural area under this part, the department shall notify the citizens committee for Michigan state parks created in section 74102a and shall place a public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which the dedicated land is located describing the proposed transfer. Except as provided in subsection (4), dedicated land shall not be transferred except as specifically authorized by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 290, Imd. Eff. June 19, 1996;—Am. 2006, Act 307, Imd. Eff. July 20, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35104 Proximity of wild and natural areas to certain urban centers; designation of private land or land controlled by other governmental units.

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Sec. 35104. (1) The department shall attempt to provide, to the extent possible, wild areas and natural areas in relative proximity to urban centers of more than 100,000 population.

(2) Private land or land under the control of other governmental units may be designated by the department in the same way as a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area and administered by the department under a cooperative agreement between the owner and the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35105 Prohibited activities; easement.

Sec. 35105. (1) The following are prohibited on state land in a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area, or on state land proposed by the department for dedication in 1 of these categories during the 90 days a dedication is pending pursuant to section 35103:

(a) Removing, cutting, picking, or otherwise altering vegetation, except as necessary for appropriate public access, the preservation or restoration of a plant or wildlife species, or the documentation of scientific values and with written consent of the department.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (2), granting an easement for any purpose.

(c) Exploration for or extraction of minerals.

(d) A commercial enterprise, utility or permanent road.

(e) A temporary road, landing of aircraft, use of motor vehicles, motorboats, or other form of mechanical transport, or any structure or installation, except as necessary to meet minimum emergency requirements for administration as a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area by the department.

(f) Motorized equipment, except if the department approves its use for management purposes or conservation practices.

(2) If a right-of-way or an easement for ingress and egress was granted on land prior to the land's designation as a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area, upon request, the department may grant an easement along the route of the existing right-of-way or easement for the installation and maintenance of utilities for gas, electric, telephone, and cable services. In granting an easement under this section, the department shall require conditions necessary to protect the wilderness area, wild area, or natural area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 290, Imd. Eff. June 19, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35106 Landing aircraft or operating mechanical transport in wilderness, wild, or natural area.

Sec. 35106. A person who lands an aircraft or operates a motor vehicle, motorboat, or other form of mechanical transport in a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area without the express written consent of the department is guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35107 Maintenance or restoration of wilderness, wild, or natural area.

Sec. 35107. (1) State land in a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area shall be maintained or restored so as to preserve its natural values in a manner compatible with this part.

(2) Grasslands, forested lands, swamps, marshes, bogs, rock outcrops, beaches, and wholly enclosed waters of this state that are an integral part of a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area shall be included within and administered as a part of the area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35108 Posting signs; contents.

Sec. 35108. The department shall post signs in appropriate locations along the borders of a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area. The signs shall give notice of the area's dedication and may state those activities that are prohibited under section 35105 and those activities that are punishable as a misdemeanor pursuant to section 35106.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 290, Imd. Eff. June 19, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35109 Acquisition of land.

Sec. 35109. The department may acquire land through purchase, gift, or bequest for inclusion in a wilderness area, wild area, or natural area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35110 Taxation; audit of assessments; appropriation.

Sec. 35110. The local taxing authority is entitled to collect from the state a tax on a wilderness, wild, or natural area within its jurisdiction at its ad valorem tax rate or $2.00 per acre, whichever is less. The department shall audit the assessments of wilderness, wild, or natural areas regularly to ensure that the properties are assessed in the same ratio as similar properties in private ownership. The legislature shall appropriate from the general fund for payments under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35111 Saving clause.

Sec. 35111. (1) Nothing in this part affects or diminishes any right acquired or vested before August 3, 1972.

(2) Nothing in this part alters the status of land dedicated by the commission before August 3, 1972 until dedicated pursuant to section 35103, except that tax reverted lands are subject to section 35110. Purchased land dedicated by the commission before August 3, 1972 is subject to ad valorem taxes if dedicated pursuant to section 35103.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 353
SAND DUNES PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

324.35301 Definitions.

Sec. 35301. As used in this part:

(a) "Contour change" includes any grading, filling, digging, or excavating that significantly alters the physical characteristic of a critical dune area, except that which is involved in sand dune mining as defined in part 637.

(b) "Crest" means the line at which the first lakeward facing slope of a critical dune ridge breaks to a slope of less than 1-foot vertical rise in a 5-1/2-foot horizontal plane for a distance of at least 20 feet, if the areal extent where this break occurs is greater than 1/10 acre in size.

(c) "Critical dune area" means a geographic area designated in the "atlas of critical dune areas" dated February 1989 that was prepared by the department of natural resources.

(d) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(e) "Foredune" means 1 or more low linear dune ridges that are parallel and adjacent to the shoreline of a Great Lake and are rarely greater than 20 feet in height. The lakeward face of a foredune is often gently sloping and may be vegetated with dune grasses and low shrub vegetation or may have an exposed sand face.

(f) "Model zoning plan" means the model zoning plan provided for in sections 35304 to 35309 and 35311a to 35324.

(g) "Permit" means a permit for a use within a critical dune area under this part.

(h) "Planning commission" means the body or entity within a local government that is responsible for zoning and land use planning for the local unit of government.

(i) "Restabilization" means restoration of the natural contours of a critical dune to the extent practicable, the restoration of the protective vegetative cover of a critical dune through the establishment of indigenous vegetation, and the placement of snow fencing or other temporary sand trapping measures for the purpose of preventing erosion, drifting, and slumping of sand.

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(j) "Special use project" means any of the following:

(*i*) A proposed use in a critical dune area for an industrial or commercial purpose regardless of the size of the site.

(*ii*) A multifamily use of more than 3 acres.

(*iii*) A multifamily use of 3 acres or less if the density of use is greater than 4 individual residences per acre.

(*iv*) A proposed use in a critical dune area, regardless of size of the use, that the planning commission, or the department if a local unit of government does not have an approved zoning ordinance, determines would damage or destroy features of archaeological or historical significance.

(k) "Use" means a developmental, silvicultural, or recreational activity done or caused to be done by a person that significantly alters the physical characteristic of a critical dune area or a contour change done or caused to be done by a person. Use does not include sand dune mining as defined in part 637.

(*l*) "Zoning ordinance" means an ordinance of a local unit of government that regulates the development of critical dune areas within the local unit of government pursuant to the requirements of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 262, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 1996;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35302 Legislative findings.

Sec. 35302. The legislature finds that:

(a) The critical dune areas of this state are a unique, irreplaceable, and fragile resource that provide significant recreational, economic, scientific, geological, scenic, botanical, educational, agricultural, and ecological benefits to the people of this state and to people from other states and countries who visit this resource.

(b) The purpose of this part is to balance for present and future generations the benefits of protecting, preserving, restoring, and enhancing the diversity, quality, functions, and values of the state's critical dunes with the benefits of economic development and multiple human uses of the critical dunes and the benefits of public access to and enjoyment of the critical dunes. To accomplish this purpose, this part is intended to do all of the following:

(*i*) Ensure and enhance the diversity, quality, functions, and values of the critical dunes in a manner that is compatible with private property rights.

(*ii*) Ensure sound management of all critical dunes by allowing for compatible economic development and multiple human uses of the critical dunes.

(*iii*) Coordinate and streamline governmental decision-making affecting critical dunes through the use of the most comprehensive, accurate, and reliable information and scientific data available.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Land and Water Management Division, with the exception of the farmland and open space preservation program, natural rivers program, and Michigan information resource inventory system, to the Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, see E.R.O. No. 1995-16, compiled at MCL 324.99901 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35303 Notice to local units of government and property owners; copy of “atlas of critical dune areas”; contents of notice; supplying addresses of property owners.

Sec. 35303. (1) As soon as practicable following July 5, 1989, the department shall notify by mail each local unit of government that has within its jurisdiction critical dune areas, and include a copy of the "atlas of critical dune areas" dated February 1989 and a copy of former Act No. 222 of the Public Acts of 1976 with the notice. By October 1, 1989, the department shall mail a copy of the same notice to each property owner of record who owns property within a critical dune area. The notices shall include the following information:

(a) That designated property within the local unit of government is a critical dune area that is subject to regulation under former Act No. 222 of the Public Acts of 1976.

(b) That a local unit of government may adopt a zoning ordinance that is approved by the department, or, if the local unit of government does not have an approved ordinance, the use of the critical dune area will be

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regulated by the department under the model zoning plan.

(2) Upon the request of the department, a local unit of government shall supply to the department the address of each property owner of record who owns property within a critical dune area within its jurisdiction in a timely manner that enables the department to provide notice to the property owners as required under subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35304 Permit for use in critical dune area; requirements; decision of local unit of government; limitations; ordinance; model zoning plan; special exceptions; assisting local units of government.

Sec. 35304. (1) A person shall not initiate a use within a critical dune area unless the person obtains a permit from the local unit of government in which the critical dune area is located or the department if the department issues permits as provided under subsection (7). A permit for a use within a critical dune area is subject to all of the following:

(a) A person proposing a use within a critical dune area shall file an application with the local unit of government, or with the department if the department is issuing permits under the model zoning plan. The application form shall include information necessary to conform with the requirements of this part. If a project proposes the use of more than 1 critical dune area location within a local unit of government, 1 application may be filed for the uses.

(b) The local unit of government shall provide notice of an application filed under this section to each person who makes a written request to the local unit of government for notification of pending applications. The local unit of government may charge an annual fee for providing this notice. The local unit of government shall prepare a monthly list of the applications made during the previous month and shall promptly provide copies of the list for the remainder of the calendar year to the persons who have requested notice. In addition, if the department issues permits under this part within a local unit of government, notice of an application shall also be given to the local conservation district office, the county clerk, the county health department, and the local unit of government in which the property is located. The monthly list shall state the name and address of each applicant, the location of the applicant's project, and a summary statement of the purpose of the use. The local unit of government may hold a public hearing on pending applications.

(c) The notice shall state that unless a written request is filed with the local unit of government within 20 days after the notice is sent, the local unit of government may grant the application without a public hearing. Upon the written request of 2 or more persons who own real property within 2 miles of the project, the local unit of government shall hold a public hearing pertaining to a permit application.

(d) At least 10 days' notice of a hearing to be held pursuant to this section shall be given by publication in 1 or more newspapers of general circulation in the county in which the proposed use is to be located, and by providing notice to the persons who have requested notice pursuant to subdivision (b) and to the person requesting the hearing.

(e) After the filing of an application, the local unit of government shall grant or deny the permit within 60 days, or within 90 days if a public hearing is held. If a permit is denied, the local unit of government shall provide to the applicant a concise written statement of its reasons for denial of the permit, and if it appears that a minor modification of the application would result in the granting of the permit, the nature of the modification shall be stated. In an emergency, the local unit of government may issue a conditional permit before the expiration of the 20-day period referred to in subdivision (c).

(f) The local unit of government shall base a decision to grant or deny a permit under this section on the model zoning plan or on any existing ordinance that is in effect in the local unit of government that provides a substantially equivalent level of protection for critical dune areas and that is approved by the department.

(g) Subject to section 35316, a permit shall be approved unless the local unit of government or the department determines that the use will significantly damage the public interest on the privately owned land, or, if the land is publicly owned, the public interest in the publicly owned land, by significant and unreasonable depletion or degradation of any of the following:

(*i*) The diversity of the critical dune areas within the local unit of government.

(*ii*) The quality of the critical dune areas within the local unit of government.

(*iii*) The functions of the critical dune areas within the local unit of government.

(2) The decision of the local unit of government or the department with respect to a permit shall be in writing and shall be based upon evidence that would meet the standards in section 75 of the administrative

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procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.275. A decision denying a permit shall document, and any review upholding the decision shall determine, all of the following:

(a) That the local unit of government or the department has met the burden of proof under subsection (1).

(b) That the decision is based upon sufficient facts or data.

(c) That the decision is the product of reliable scientific principles and methods.

(d) That the decision has applied the principles and methods reliably to the facts.

(e) That the facts or data upon which the decision is based are recorded in the file.

(3) A permit shall not be granted that authorizes construction of a dwelling or other permanent building on the first lakeward facing slope of a critical dune area or foredune except on a lot of record that was recorded prior to July 5, 1989 that does not have sufficient buildable area landward of the crest to construct the dwelling or other permanent building as proposed by the applicant. The proposed construction, to the greatest extent possible, shall be placed landward of the crest. The portion of the development that is lakeward of the crest shall be placed in the location that has the least impact on the critical dune area.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (3), a permit shall provide that a use that is a structure shall be constructed behind the crest of the first landward ridge of a critical dune area that is not a foredune. However, if construction occurs within 100 feet measured landward from the crest of the first landward ridge that is not a foredune, the use shall meet all of the following requirements:

(a) The structure and access to the structure shall be in accordance with a site plan prepared for the site by a registered professional architect or a licensed professional engineer and the site plan shall provide for the disposal of storm waters without serious soil erosion and without sedimentation of any stream or other body of water.

(b) Access to the structure shall be from the landward side of the dune.

(c) The dune shall be restabilized with indigenous vegetation.

(d) The crest of the dune shall not be reduced in elevation.

(5) As soon as possible following adoption of a zoning ordinance enacted pursuant to this part, the local unit of government shall submit to the department a copy of the ordinance that it determines meets the requirements of this part. If the local unit of government has an existing ordinance that it contends is substantially equivalent to the model zoning plan, that ordinance may be submitted to the department at any time. The department shall review zoning ordinances submitted under this section to assure compliance with this part. If the department finds that an ordinance is not in compliance with this part, the department shall work with the local unit of government to bring the ordinance into compliance and inform the local unit of the failure to comply and in what ways the submitted ordinance is deficient. Unless a local unit of government receives notice, within 180 days after submittal of the ordinance to the department under this subsection, that the ordinance is not in compliance with this part, the ordinance shall be considered to be approved by the department.

(6) A local unit of government may adopt, submit to the department, and obtain approval of a zoning ordinance based on the model zoning plan or an equivalent ordinance as provided in this section by June 30, 1990. If a local unit does not have an approved ordinance by June 30, 1990, the department shall implement the model zoning plan for that local unit of government in the same manner and under the same circumstances as provided in subsection (1). Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, a local unit of government may adopt a zoning ordinance at any time, and upon the approval of the department, that ordinance shall take the place of the model zoning plan implemented by the department.

(7) If a local unit of government in which a proposed use is to be located does not elect to issue permits or does not receive department approval of a zoning ordinance that regulates critical dune areas, the department shall implement the model zoning plan in the place of the local unit of government and issue special exceptions in the same circumstances as provided in this part for the issuance of variances by local units of government, and issue permits pursuant to subsection (1) and part 13.

(8) The department shall assist local units of government in developing ordinances that meet the requirements of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35305 Hearing; judicial review.

Sec. 35305. (1) If an applicant for a permit or a special exception or the owner of the property immediately adjacent to the proposed use is aggrieved by a decision of the department in regard to the issuance or denial of a permit or special exception under this part, the applicant or owner may request a formal hearing on the

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matter involved. The hearing shall be conducted by the department as a contested case hearing in the manner provided for in the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(2) Following the hearing provided for under subsection (1), a decision of the department in regard to the issuance or denial of a permit or special exception under this part is subject to judicial review as provided for in the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35306 Lawful use of land or structure; exemptions.

Sec. 35306. (1) The lawful use of land or a structure, as existing and lawful within a critical dune area at the time the department implements the model zoning plan for a local unit of government, may be continued although the use of that land or structure does not conform to the model zoning plan. The continuance, completion, restoration, reconstruction, extension, or substitution of existing nonconforming uses of land or a structure may continue upon reasonable terms that are consistent, to the extent possible, with the applicable zoning provisions of the local unit of government in which the use is located.

(2) The lawful use of land or a structure, as existing and lawful within a local unit of government that has a zoning ordinance approved by the department, may, but is not required by this part to, be continued subject to the law pertaining to existing uses within the act that enables that local unit of government to zone and the applicable zoning provisions of the local unit of government.

(3) A use needed to obtain or maintain a permit or license that is required by law to continue operating an electric utility generating facility that is in existence on July 5, 1989 shall not be precluded under this part.

(4) A use needed to maintain, repair, or replace existing utility lines, pipelines, or other utility facilities within a critical dune area that were in existence on July 5, 1989, or were constructed in accordance with a permit under this part, is exempt for purposes for which the permit was issued from the operation of this part or a local ordinance approved under this part if the maintenance, repair, or replacement is completed in compliance with all of the following:

(a) Vehicles shall not be driven on slopes greater than 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane.

(b) All disturbed areas shall be immediately stabilized and revegetated with native vegetation following completion of work to prevent erosion.

(c) Any removal of woody vegetation shall be done in a manner to assure that any adverse effect on the dune will be minimized and will not significantly alter the physical characteristics or stability of the dune.

(d) To accomplish replacement of a utility pole, the new pole shall be placed adjacent to the existing pole, and the existing pole shall be removed by cutting at ground level.

(e) In the case of repair of underground utility wires, the repair shall be limited to the minimal excavation necessary to replace the wires by plowing, small trench excavation, or directional boring. Replacement of wires on slopes steeper than 1-foot vertical rise in a 4-foot horizontal plane shall be limited to installation by plowing or directional boring only.

(f) In the case of repair or replacement of underground pipelines, directional boring shall be utilized, and if excavation is necessary to access and bore the pipeline, the excavation area shall be located on slopes 1-foot vertical rise in a 4-foot horizontal plane or less.

(5) Uses that have received all necessary permits from the state or the local unit of government in which the proposed use is located by July 5, 1989, are exempt for purposes for which a permit is issued from the operation of this part or local ordinances approved under this part. Such uses shall be regulated pursuant to local ordinances in effect by that date.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35307 Maps.

Sec. 35307. Upon adoption of an approved zoning ordinance, certified copies of the maps showing critical dune areas, and existing development and uses, shall be sent by the local unit of government to the state tax commission and the assessing office, planning commission, and governing board of the local unit of government, if requested by an entity listed in this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.35308 Prohibited uses; exception.

Sec. 35308. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the following uses shall be prohibited in a critical dune area:

(a) A surface drilling operation that is utilized for the purpose of exploring for or producing hydrocarbons or natural brine or for the disposal of the waste or by-products of the operation.

(b) Production facilities regulated under parts 615 and 625.

(2) Uses described in subsection (1) that are lawfully in existence at a site on July 5, 1989 may be continued. The continuance, completion, restoration, reconstruction, extension, or substitution of those existing uses shall be permitted upon reasonable terms prescribed by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35309 Use permit and inspection fee; disposition of fees; authorization of separate fee; bond.

Sec. 35309. (1) A local unit of government, or the department if the local unit of government does not have an approved zoning ordinance, may establish a use permit and inspection fee.

(2) The department shall forward all fees it collects under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the land and water management permit fee fund created in part 301.

(3) Fees collected by a local unit of government shall be credited to the treasury of the local unit of government to be used to defray the cost of administering uses under a zoning ordinance.

(4) In addition to fees provided for in this section, a soil conservation district may charge a separate fee to cover the actual expense of providing services under this part and for providing technical assistance and advice to individuals who seek assistance in matters pertaining to compliance under this part.

(5) A local unit of government, or the department if the local unit of government does not have an approved zoning ordinance, may require the holder of a permit issued by a local unit of government or the department to file with the local unit of government or the department a bond executed by an approved surety in this state in an amount necessary to assure faithful conformance with the permit.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35310 Suspension or revocation of permit; restraining order, injunction, or other appropriate remedy; instituting action; cumulative rights; performance review; determination of noncompliance; response; implementation of model zoning plan; appeal; civil fine; order to pay cost of restabilization; violation as misdemeanor.

Sec. 35310. (1) If the department finds that a person is not in compliance with the model zoning plan if the department is implementing the plan, or if the department is involved in the modification or reversal of a decision regarding a special use project as provided in section 35322, the department may suspend or revoke the permit.

(2) At the request of the department, the attorney general may institute an action for a restraining order or injunction or other appropriate remedy to prevent or preclude a violation of the model zoning plan if the department is implementing the provisions of the plan or if the department is involved in the modification or reversal of a decision regarding a special use project as provided in section 35322. At the request of the governing body of a local unit of government, the county prosecutor may institute an action for a restraining order or injunction or other proper remedy to prevent a violation of a zoning ordinance approved under this part. This shall be in addition to the rights provided in part 17, and as otherwise provided by law. An action under this subsection instituted by the attorney general may be instituted in the circuit court for the county of Ingham or in the county in which the defendant is located, resides, or is doing business.

(3) The department shall periodically review the performance of all local units of government that have ordinances approved under this part. If the department determines that the local unit of government is not administering the ordinance in conformance with this part, the department shall notify the local unit of government in writing of its determination, including specific reasons why the local unit of government is not in compliance. The local unit of government has 60 days to respond to the department. If the department determines that the local unit of government has not made sufficient changes to its ordinance administration or otherwise explained its actions, the department may withdraw the approval of the local ordinance and implement the model zoning plan within that local unit of government. If a local unit disagrees with an action

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of the department to withdraw approval of the local ordinance, it may appeal that action pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, in the manner provided in that act for contested cases.

(4) In addition to any other relief provided by this section, the court may impose on a person who violates this part, or a permit, a civil fine of not more than $5,000.00 for each day of violation, or may order a violator to pay the full cost of restabilization of a critical dune area or other natural resource that is damaged or destroyed as a result of a violation, or both.

(5) A person who violates this part, or a person who violates a permit issued under this part, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000.00 per day for each day of violation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35311 Review of “atlas of critical dune areas”; appointment and duties of review team.

Sec. 35311. Beginning with the effective date of the 2012 act that amended this section and once every 10 years thereafter, the department may appoint a team of qualified ecologists, who may be employed by the department or may be persons with whom the department enters into contracts, to review "the atlas of critical dune areas" dated February 1989. The review team shall evaluate the accuracy of the designations of critical dune areas within the atlas and shall recommend to the legislature any changes to the atlas or underlying criteria revisions to the atlas that would provide more precise protection to the targeted resource.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35311a Construction, improvement, and maintenance of driveways.

Sec. 35311a. (1) Notwithstanding section 35316 or any other provision of this part, the construction, improvement, and maintenance of a driveway shall be permitted for any dwelling or other permanent building allowed in a critical dune area, including a dwelling or other permanent building approved under this part or a lawful nonconforming use, subject only to applicable permit requirements under sections 35312 through 35325 and the following:

(a) A driveway shall be permitted either to the principal building or, in the sole discretion of the applicant, to an accessory building, under the provisions of this section. Additional driveways, if any, shall meet the applicable requirements for any other use under this part. The development of a plan for a driveway should include consideration of the use of retaining walls, bridges, or similar measures, if feasible, to minimize the impact of the driveway, parking, and turnaround areas, and the consideration of alternative locations on the same lot of record.

(b) Driveways on slopes steeper than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 4-foot horizontal plane, but not steeper than a 1-foot rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane, shall be in accordance with a site plan submitted with the permit application and prepared for the site by a registered professional architect or licensed professional engineer. The site plan shall include (*i*) storm water drainage that provides for disposal of storm water without serious erosion, (*ii*) methods for controlling erosion from wind and water, and (*iii*) restabilization, by design elements including vegetation, cut-and-fill, bridges, traverses, and such other elements as are required in the judgment of the architect or engineer to meet these requirements.

(c) Driveways on slopes steeper than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane shall be in accordance with a site plan submitted with the permit application and prepared for the site by a licensed professional engineer. The site plan shall include (*i*) storm water drainage that provides for disposal of storm water without serious erosion, (*ii*) methods for controlling erosion from wind and water, and (*iii*) restabilization, by design elements including vegetation, cut-and-fill, bridges, traverses, and such other elements as are required in the judgment of the engineer to meet these requirements. The engineer shall certify under seal that the driveway is not likely to increase erosion or decrease stability.

(2) Temporary construction access for all construction, including new construction, renovation, repairs, rebuilding, or replacement, and repair, improvement, or replacement of septic tanks and systems, shall be allowed for any use allowed in a critical dune area for which a driveway is not already installed by the owner, subject only to the requirements that the temporary access shall not involve a contour change or vegetation removal that increases erosion or decreases stability except as can be restabilized upon completion of the construction. The temporary access shall be maintained in stable condition, and restabilization shall be commenced promptly upon completion of the construction.

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(3) As used in this section, "driveway" means a privately owned, constructed, and maintained vehicular access from a road or easement serving the property to the principal building or accessory buildings, that is paved, graveled, or otherwise improved for vehicular access, 16 feet wide or narrower in the sole discretion of the applicant or owner, and may include, in the sole discretion of the applicant or owner, a shared driveway.

History: Add. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35311b Construction, improvement, and maintenance of accessibility measures.

Sec. 35311b. (1) Notwithstanding section 35316 or any other provision of this part, at the request of the applicant, the construction, improvement, and maintenance of accessibility measures shall be permitted for any dwelling or other permanent building allowed in a critical dune area, including a dwelling or other permanent building approved under this part or a lawful nonconforming use, subject only to applicable permit requirements under sections 35312 through 35325 and the following:

(a) Accessibility measures on slopes steeper than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 4-foot horizontal plane, but not steeper than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane, shall be in accordance with a site plan submitted with the permit application and prepared for the site by a registered professional architect or licensed professional engineer. The site plan shall include (*i*) storm water drainage that provides for disposal of storm water without serious erosion, (*ii*) methods for controlling erosion from wind and water, and (*iii*) restabilization, by design elements including vegetation, cut-and-fill, bridges, traverses, and such other elements as are required in the judgment of the architect or engineer to meet these requirements.

(b) Accessibility measures on slopes steeper than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane shall be in accordance with a site plan submitted with the permit application and prepared for the site by a licensed professional engineer. The site plan shall include (*i*) storm water drainage that provides for disposal of storm water without serious erosion, (*ii*) methods for controlling erosion from wind and water, and (*iii*) restabilization, by design elements including vegetation, cut-and-fill, bridges, traverses, and such other elements as are required in the judgment of the engineer to meet these requirements. The engineer shall certify under seal that the accessibility measures are not likely to increase erosion or decrease stability.

(2) As used in this section, "accessibility measures" means a circulation path and at least 1 entrance on a circulation path complying with American national standards institute chapter 4 standards for accessible routes, from a road or easement serving the property, and, at the option of the applicant, from a sidewalk, a driveway, or a garage. As used in this section, accessibility measures do not include driveways.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the choice of components for an accessible route under American national standards institute standard 402.2 shall be at the option of the applicant.

History: Add. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35312 Zoning ordinance; provisions; regulation of additional lands.

Sec. 35312. (1) A local unit of government that has 1 or more critical dune areas within its jurisdiction may formulate a zoning ordinance pursuant to the Michigan zoning enabling act, 2006 PA 110, MCL 125.3101 to 125.3702.

(2) A zoning ordinance shall consist of all of the provisions of the model zoning plan or comparable provisions that provide substantially equivalent protection of critical dune areas as the model zoning plan but shall not be more restrictive than the model zoning plan or the standard of review for permits or variances prescribed in the model zoning plan.

(3) A local unit of government may by an affirmative vote of its governing body following a public hearing regulate additional lands as critical dune areas under this part as considered appropriate by the planning commission if the lands are determined by the local unit of government to be essential to the hydrology, ecology, topography, or integrity of a critical dune area. A local unit of government shall provide within its zoning ordinance for the protection of lands that are within 250 feet of a critical dune area, if those lands are determined by the local unit of government to be essential to the hydrology, ecology, topography, or integrity of a critical dune area.

(4) If a local unit of government does not have an approved zoning ordinance, the department may regulate additional lands described in subsection (3). However, the lands added by the department shall not extend more than 250 feet from the landward boundary of a critical dune area, unless, following a public hearing, an affirmative vote of the governing body of the local unit of government authorizes a further extension. If the director determines that the mapping of a critical dune area designated in the "atlas of critical dune areas"

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dated February 1989 was inaccurate, the department may regulate additional lands. However, the lands added by the department shall not extend more than 250 feet from the landward boundary of a critical dune area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35313 Zoning ordinance; requirements for applications for permits for use of critical dune area.

Sec. 35313. (1) A zoning ordinance shall require that all applications for permits for the use of a critical dune area include in writing all of the following:

(a) That the county enforcing agency designated pursuant to part 91 finds that the project is in compliance with part 91 and any applicable soil erosion and sedimentation control ordinance that is in effect in the local unit of government.

(b) That a proposed sewage treatment or disposal system on the site has been approved by the county health department or the department.

(c) Assurances that the cutting and removing of trees and other vegetation will be performed according to the "forestry management guidelines for Michigan" prepared by the society of American foresters in 1987 as revised in 2010 and may include a program to provide mitigation for the removal of trees or vegetation by providing assurances that the applicant will plant on the site more trees and other vegetation than were removed by the proposed use.

(d) A site plan that contains data required by the planning commission concerning the physical development of the site and extent of disruption of the site by the proposed development.

(2) A local unit of government or the department shall not require an environmental site assessment or environmental impact statement as part of a permit application except for a special use project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35314 Zoning ordinance; provisions; review of subdivision development.

Sec. 35314. (1) A zoning ordinance shall provide for all of the following:

(a) Lot size, width, density, and front and side setbacks.

(b) Storm water drainage that provides for disposal of drainage water without serious erosion.

(c) Methods for controlling erosion from wind and water.

(d) Restabilization.

(2) Each zoning ordinance shall provide that a use that proposes a subdivision development shall be reviewed by the local unit of government to assure compliance with all of the model zoning plan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35315 Zoning ordinance; prohibited uses in critical dune area.

Sec. 35315. A zoning ordinance shall not permit either of the following uses in a critical dune area:

(a) The disposal of sewage on-site unless the standards of applicable sanitary codes are met or exceeded.

(b) A use that does not comply with the minimum setback requirements required by rules that are promulgated under part 323.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35316 Zoning ordinances; additional prohibited uses in critical dune area; variance; contour maps; guidelines; restoration.

Sec. 35316. (1) Unless a variance is granted pursuant to section 35317, a zoning ordinance shall not permit the following uses in a critical dune area:

(a) A structure and access to the structure on a slope within a critical dune area that has a slope that measures from a 1-foot vertical rise in a 4-foot horizontal plane to less than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane, unless the structure and access to the structure are in accordance with a site plan prepared for the site by a registered professional architect or a licensed professional engineer and the site plan provides for

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the disposal of storm waters without serious soil erosion and without sedimentation of any stream or other body of water.

(b) A use on a slope within a critical dune area that has a slope steeper than a 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane.

(c) A use involving a contour change if the local unit of government or the department determines that it is more likely than not to increase erosion or decrease stability.

(d) Silvicultural practices, as described in the "forest management guidelines for Michigan", prepared by the society of American foresters as revised in 2010, if the local unit of government or the department determines that they are more likely than not to increase erosion or decrease stability.

(e) A use that involves a vegetation removal if the local unit of government or the department determines that it is more likely than not to increase erosion or decrease stability.

(2) If the local unit of government is not certain of the degree of slope on a property for which a use permit is sought, the local unit may require that the applicant supply contour maps of the site with 5-foot intervals at or near any proposed structure or roadway.

(3) The department shall develop guidelines to describe the method by which the department and local units of government measure slopes to implement the requirements of the zoning ordinance or the model zoning plan.

(4) If a person is ordered by the department, or by a local unit of government that is enforcing a zoning ordinance authorized under this part, to restore a critical dune area that has been degraded by that person, the department or local unit of government shall establish a procedure by which the restoration of the critical dune area is monitored to assure that the restoration is completed in a satisfactory manner.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 262, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 1996;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35317 Variances; special exceptions; limitations; decision; environmental site assessment or environmental impact statement; annual report; forwarding application to local government; review and comment; waiver of opportunity to review; notice of opposition; determination of practical difficulty.

Sec. 35317. (1) A local unit of government may issue variances under a zoning ordinance, or the department may issue special exceptions under the model zoning plan if a local unit of government does not have an approved zoning ordinance, if a practical difficulty will occur to the owner of the property if the variance or special exception is not granted. In determining whether a practical difficulty will occur if a variance or special exception is not granted, primary consideration shall be given to assuring that human health and safety are protected by the determination and that the determination complies with applicable local zoning, other state laws, and federal law. If a practical difficulty will occur to the owner of the property if the variance or special exception is not granted, a variance or special exception shall be granted under this section unless the local unit of government or the department determines that the use will significantly damage the public interest on the privately owned land, or, if the land is publicly owned, the public interest in the publicly owned land, by significant and unreasonable depletion or degradation of any of the following:

(a) The diversity of the critical dune areas within the local unit of government.

(b) The quality of the critical dune areas within the local unit of government.

(c) The functions of the critical dune areas within the local unit of government.

(2) The decision of the local unit of government or the department shall be in writing and shall be based upon evidence that would meet the standards in section 75 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.275. A decision denying a variance or special exception shall document, and any review upholding the decision shall determine, all of the following:

(a) That the local unit of government or the department has met the burden of proof under subsection (1).

(b) That the decision is based upon sufficient facts or data.

(c) That the decision is the product of reliable scientific principles and methods.

(d) That the decision has applied the principles and methods reliably to the facts.

(e) That the facts or data upon which the decision is based are recorded in the file.

(3) A local unit of government or the department shall not require an environmental site assessment or environmental impact statement for a variance except for a special use project.

(4) A variance shall not be granted from a setback requirement provided for under the model zoning plan or an equivalent zoning ordinance approved under section 35034 enacted pursuant to this part unless the

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property for which the variance is requested is 1 of the following:

(a) A nonconforming lot of record that is recorded prior to July 5, 1989, and that becomes nonconforming due to the operation of this part or a zoning ordinance.

(b) A lot legally created after July 5, 1989 that later becomes nonconforming due to natural shoreline erosion.

(c) Property on which the base of the first landward critical dune of at least 20 feet in height that is not a foredune is located at least 500 feet inland from the first foredune crest or line of vegetation on the property. However, the setback shall be a minimum of 200 feet measured from the foredune crest or line of vegetation.

(5) Each local unit of government that has issued a variance for a use other than a special use project during the previous 12 months shall file an annual report with the department indicating variances that have been granted by the local unit of government during that period.

(6) Upon receipt of an application for a special exception under the model zoning plan, the department shall forward a copy of the application and all supporting documentation to the local unit of government having jurisdiction over the proposed location. The local unit of government shall have 60 days to review and comment on the proposed special exception. The department shall not make a decision on a special exception under the model zoning plan until either the local unit of government has commented on the proposed special exception or has waived its opportunity to review the special exception. The local unit of government may waive its opportunity to review the application at any time within 60 days after receipt of the application and supporting documentation by notifying the department in writing. The local unit of government also waives its opportunity to review the application if it fails to act as authorized in this subsection within 60 days. If the local unit of government waives its opportunity to review the application, the local unit of government also waives its opportunity to oppose the decision by the department to issue a special exception. If the local unit of government opposes the issuance of the special exception, the local unit of government shall notify the department, in writing, of its opposition within the 60-day notice period. If the local unit of government opposes the issuance of the special exception, the department shall not issue a special exception. The local unit of government may also consider whether a practical difficulty will occur to the owner of the property if the special exception is not granted by the department and may make a recommendation to the department within the 60-day notice period. The department shall base its determination of whether a practical difficulty exists on information provided by the local unit of government and other pertinent information.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 262, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 1996;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35318 Request for revaluation to determine fair market value.

Sec. 35318. If a permit for a proposed use within a critical dune area is denied, the landowner may request a revaluation of the affected property for assessment purposes to determine its fair market value under the restriction.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35319 Environmental assessment; contents.

Sec. 35319. The zoning ordinance shall provide that if an environmental assessment is required under section 35313, that assessment shall include the following information concerning the site of the proposed use:

(a) The name and address of the applicant.

(b) A description of the applicant's proprietary interest in the site.

(c) The name, address, and professional qualifications of the person preparing the environmental assessment and his or her opinion as to whether the proposed development of the site is consistent with protecting features of environmental sensitivity and archaeological or historical significance that may be located on the site.

(d) The description and purpose of the proposed use.

(e) The location of existing utilities and drainageways.

(f) The general location and approximate dimensions of proposed structures.

(g) Major proposed change of land forms such as new lakes, terracing, or excavating.

(h) Sketches showing the scale, character, and relationship of structures, streets or driveways, and open space.

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(i) Approximate location and type of proposed drainage, water, and sewage facilities.

(j) Legal description of property.

(k) A physical description of the site, including its dominant characteristics, its vegetative character, its present use, and other relevant information.

(*l*) A natural hazards review consisting of a list of natural hazards such as periodic flooding, poor soil bearing conditions, and any other hazards peculiar to the site.

(m) An erosion review showing how erosion control will be achieved and illustrating plans or programs that may be required by any existing soil erosion and sedimentation ordinance.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35320 Environmental impact statement; contents.

Sec. 35320. If an environmental impact statement is required under section 35313 prior to permitting a proposed use, a zoning ordinance may require that the statement include all of the following:

(a) The name and address of the applicant.

(b) A description of the applicant's proprietary interest in the site of the proposed use.

(c) The name, address, and professional qualifications of the proposed professional design team members, including the designation of the person responsible for the preparation of the environmental impact statement.

(d) The description and purpose of the proposed use.

(e) Six copies and 1 reproducible transparency of a schematic use plan of the proposed use showing the general location of the proposed use and major existing physical and natural features on the site, including, but not limited to, watercourses, rock outcropping, wetlands, and wooded areas.

(f) The location of the existing utilities and drainageways.

(g) The location and notation of public streets, parks, and railroad and utility rights-of-way within or adjacent to the proposed use.

(h) The general location and dimensions of proposed streets, driveways, sidewalks, pedestrian ways, trails, off-street parking, and loading areas.

(i) The general location and approximate dimensions of proposed structures.

(j) Major proposed change of land forms such as new lakes, terracing, or excavating.

(k) Approximate existing and proposed contours and drainage patterns, showing at least 5-foot contour intervals.

(*l*) Sketches showing the scale, character, and relationship of structures, streets or driveways, and open space.

(m) Approximate location and type of proposed drainage, water and sewage treatment and disposal facilities.

(n) A legal description of the property.

(o) An aerial photo and contour map showing the development site in relation to the surrounding area.

(p) A description of the physical site, including its dominant characteristics, its vegetative character, its present use, and other relevant information.

(q) A soil review giving a short descriptive summary of the soil types found on the site and whether the soil permits the use of septic tanks or requires central sewer. The review may be based on the "unified soil classification system" as adopted by the United States government corps of engineers and bureau of reclamation, dated January 1952, or the national cooperative soil survey classification system, and the standards for the development prospects that have been offered for each portion of the site.

(r) A natural hazards review consisting of a list of natural hazards such as periodic flooding, poor soil bearing conditions, and any other hazards peculiar to the site.

(s) A substrata review including a descriptive summary of the various geologic bedrock formations underlying the site, including the identification of known aquifers, the approximate depths of the aquifers, and, if being tapped for use, the principal uses to be made of these waters, including irrigation, domestic water supply, and industrial usage.

(t) An erosion review showing how erosion control will be achieved and illustrating plans or programs that may be required by any existing soil erosion and sedimentation ordinance.

(u) At a minimum, a site plan for compliance with all of the following standards for the construction and postconstruction periods:

(*i*) Surface drainage designs and structures are erosion-proof through control of the direction, volume, and velocities of drainage patterns. These patterns shall promote natural vegetation growth that are included in the

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design so that drainage waters may be impeded in their flow and percolation encouraged.

(*ii*) The design shall include trash collection devices when handling street and parking drainage to contain solid waste and trash.

(*iii*) Watercourse designs, control volumes, and velocities of water to prevent bottom and bank erosion. In particular, changes of direction shall guard against undercutting of banks.

(*iv*) If vegetation has been removed or has not been able to establish on surface areas such as infill zones, it is the duty of the developer to stabilize and control the impacted surface areas to prevent wind erosion and the blowing of surface material through the planting of grasses, windbreaks, and other similar barriers.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35321 Review of site plan; duties of planning commission.

Sec. 35321. A zoning ordinance shall provide that, in reviewing a site plan required under section 35313(1)(d), the planning commission shall do both of the following:

(a) Determine whether the requirements of the zoning ordinance have been met and whether the plan is consistent with existing laws.

(b) Recommend alterations of a proposed development to minimize adverse effects anticipated if the development is approved and to assure compliance with all applicable state and local requirements.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35322 Special use project application, plan, and proposed decision; review; action.

Sec. 35322. Prior to issuing a permit allowing a special use project within a critical dune area, a local unit of government shall submit the special use project application and plan and the proposed decision of the local unit of government to the department. The department shall have 30 days to review the plan and may affirm, modify, or reverse the proposed decision of the local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35323 Destruction of structure or use; exemption; replacement.

Sec. 35323. A structure or use located in a critical dune area that is destroyed by fire, other than arson for which the owner is found to be responsible, or an act of nature, except for erosion, is exempt from the operation of this part or a zoning ordinance under this part for the purpose of rebuilding or replacing the structure or use, if the structure or use was lawful at the time it was constructed or commenced. A replacement structure and its use may differ from that which was destroyed if it does not exceed in size or scope that which was destroyed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35324 Management of federally owned and state owned land.

Sec. 35324. Federally owned land, to the extent allowable by law, and state owned land within critical dune areas shall be managed by the federal or state government, respectively, in a manner that is consistent with the model zoning plan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35325 Purchase of lands or interests in lands; purpose.

Sec. 35325. The department or local units of government may purchase lands or interests in lands from a willing seller in critical dune areas for the purpose of maintaining or improving the critical dune areas and the environment of the critical dune areas in conformance with the zoning ordinance, or the model zoning plan if the local unit of government does not have an approved zoning ordinance. Interests that may be purchased may include easements designed to provide for the preservation of critical dune areas and to limit or eliminate

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development in critical dune areas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35326 Repealed. 2012, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 2012

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to appropriation to department.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 355
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY CONSERVATION

324.35501 Definitions.

Sec. 35501. As used in this part:

(a) "Biological diversity" means the full range of variety and variability within and among living organisms and the natural associations in which they occur. Biological diversity includes ecosystem diversity, species diversity, and genetic diversity.

(b) "Committee" means the joint legislative working committee on biological diversity created pursuant to section 35504.

(c) "Conserve", "conserving", and "conservation" mean measures for maintaining natural biological diversity and measures for restoring natural biological diversity through management efforts, in order to protect, restore, and enhance as much of the variety of native species and communities as possible in quantities and distributions that provide for the continued existence and normal functioning of native species and communities, including the viability of populations throughout the natural geographic distributions of native species and communities.

(d) "Ecosystem" means an assemblage of species, together with the species' physical environment, considered as a unit.

(e) "Ecosystem diversity" means the distinctive assemblages of species and ecological processes that occur in different physical settings of the biosphere.

(f) "Genetic diversity" means the differences in genetic composition within and among populations of a given species.

(g) "Habitat" means the area or type of environment in which an organism or biological population normally lives or occurs.

(h) "Reporting department" means a state department or agency that is required by the committee under this part to file 1 or more reports.

(i) "Species diversity" means the richness and variety of native species.

(j) "State strategy" means the recommended state strategy prepared by the committee.

(k) "Sustained yield" means the achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of regular periodic output of the various renewable resources without impairment of the productivity of the land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35502 Legislative findings.

Sec. 35502. The legislature finds that:

(a) The earth's biological diversity is an important natural resource. Decreasing biological diversity is a concern.

(b) Most losses of biological diversity are unintended consequences of human activity.

(c) Humans depend on biological resources, including plants, animals, and microorganisms, for food, medicine, shelter, and other important products.

(d) Biological diversity is valuable as a source of intellectual and scientific knowledge, recreation, and aesthetic pleasure.

(e) Conserving biological diversity has economic implications.

(f) Reduced biological diversity may have potentially serious consequences for human welfare as resources for research and agricultural, medicinal, and industrial development are diminished.

(g) Reduced biological diversity may also potentially impact ecosystems and critical ecosystem processes that moderate climate, govern nutrient cycles and soil conservation and production, control pests and diseases,

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and degrade wastes and pollutants.

(h) Reduced biological diversity may diminish the raw materials available for scientific and technical advancement, including the development of improved varieties of cultivated plants and domesticated animals.

(i) Maintaining biological diversity through habitat protection and management is often less costly and more effective than efforts to save species once they become endangered.

(j) Because biological resources will be most important for future needs, study by the legislature regarding maintaining the diversity of living organisms in their natural habitats and the costs and benefits of doing so is prudent.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35503 State goal.

Sec. 35503. (1) It is the goal of this state to encourage the lasting conservation of biological diversity.

(2) This part does not require a state department or agency to alter its regulatory functions.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35504 Joint legislative working committee on biological diversity; creation; appointment of members; establishment, organization, and membership of scientific advisory boards; consultation with other qualified individuals; function; reports; meetings; compliance with open meetings act; writings available to public; public hearings; dissolution.

Sec. 35504. (1) The joint legislative working committee on biological diversity is created in the legislature. The committee shall consist of 4 members of the senate appointed by the senate majority leader, 2 members of the house of representatives appointed by the republican leader of the house of representatives, and 2 members of the house of representatives appointed by the democratic leader of the house of representatives. Members of the committee shall be appointed by the senate majority leader and the republican and democratic leaders of the house of representatives within 30 days of March 23, 1994. At least 1 of the committee members appointed from the senate shall be a member of the minority party of the senate, and at least 1 of the committee members appointed from each house shall be a member of a standing committee that primarily addresses legislation pertaining to environmental protection and natural resources, or wildlife and fisheries management, and agriculture. The committee may establish and organize 1 or more scientific advisory boards to provide the committee with specific expertise as the committee considers necessary or helpful. If 1 or more scientific advisory boards are established, each board shall include individuals with expertise pertaining to the area of resource management at issue. The representatives shall include at least 1 individual employed by a state department or agency; 1 or more individuals employed by a university or college who work in applied research; and 1 or more individuals who work in basic research. The committee may consult with other individuals who are qualified representatives of industry and environmental groups. In fulfilling its duties under this part, the committee may consult with individuals and groups who are knowledgeable about, or interested in, biological diversity and conservation or are knowledgeable about scientific and technological issues related to biological diversity and its impact on human habitat.

(2) The function of the committee shall be to prepare a recommended state strategy for conservation of biological diversity and to report on the costs, benefits, and other implications of the strategy. Upon the request of the committee, state departments and state agencies shall submit reports containing the information required under section 35505 to the committee to enable the committee to prepare the state strategy and fulfill its functions under this part. The state strategy shall in part be based on information provided to the committee in these reports required under this section.

(3) The committee shall meet as soon as possible upon formation and then shall meet at least quarterly. The committee shall at its initial meeting develop a timeline establishing when specific reports are due from each of the reporting departments from which the committee requests reports. However, all reports required under section 35505(1) shall be submitted to the committee by a reporting department by December 30, 1994. The committee shall provide assistance to the reporting department as the committee considers necessary or helpful in developing the state strategy.

(4) The committee shall hold regularly scheduled meetings, and the business of the committee shall be conducted at public meetings held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and

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place of meeting shall be given in the manner required by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976.

(5) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the committee shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(6) The committee shall hold public hearings to solicit input from individuals and entities regarding biological diversity.

(7) The committee shall be dissolved on December 30, 1995.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35505 Reports; contents; additional information.

Sec. 35505. (1) The committee may require clear and concise reports containing the information listed under subsection (2) and, if applicable, subsection (3) from state departments and state agencies, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Department of natural resources.

(b) State transportation department.

(c) Department of commerce.

(d) Department of agriculture.

(e) Department of public health.

(f) Department of military affairs.

(2) Each reporting department shall prepare for the committee a report that contains an overview of all of the following:

(a) A report pertaining to those activities of the reporting departments that alter biological diversity, noting which ecosystems and species are impacted and the existence of and effectiveness of mitigation measures.

(b) Any other information determined by the committee to be necessary or helpful in preparing the state strategy.

(c) The costs and benefits of preserving biological diversity and mitigation measures.

(3) In addition to the information required under subsection (2), the department of natural resources and the department of agriculture shall include in their report, to the extent practical, examples of techniques that are used to improve the protection and maintenance of this state's biological diversity, and the long-term viability of ecosystems and ecosystem processes, including all of the following:

(a) Enhancement of scientific knowledge through improved and more complete biological surveys, and research designed to identify factors limiting population viability or persistence.

(b) Identification of habitats and species of special concern and methods to protect them.

(c) Improvement of management techniques based on scientific knowledge of the conservation of biological diversity.

(d) Effective restoration methods for ecosystems or species of concern.

(e) Broad-based education efforts regarding the importance of biological diversity and the need for conservation.

(f) Use of areas demonstrating management techniques that conserve or restore native biological diversity.

(g) Use of cooperative programs among government agencies, public and private ventures, and the public sector.

(h) Promotion of sustained yield of natural resources for human benefit.

(i) Any other technique to improve the protection and maintenance of this state's biological diversity, and the long-term viability of ecosystems and ecosystem processes whether or not the technique is in current use if supported by scientific knowledge.

(j) The costs and benefits associated with activities described in subdivisions (a) to (i).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35506 Development of state strategy; factors; progress report to legislature; circulation of draft report; public hearing; report to legislature.

Sec. 35506. (1) Based on information received from the reporting departments and other sources identified in section 35504(1), the committee shall develop a state strategy that includes, but is not limited to, consideration of all of the following:

(a) Reduction of cumulative adverse impacts of all state departments and agencies on biological diversity.

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(b) Responsibility of each reporting department to conserve biological diversity and determine the costs of such actions.

(c) Methods of cooperation among reporting departments, other states, and provinces concerning ecosystems management.

(d) Establishment of cooperative programs among governmental agencies, public and private ventures, universities and colleges, and the private sector.

(e) Identification of habitats and species of special concern and methods to protect them.

(f) Prevention of extinction of species.

(g) Provisions for the long-term viability of ecosystems and ecosystem processes.

(h) Development of areas demonstrating management techniques that conserve or restore native biological diversity.

(i) Development of broad-based educational efforts regarding the importance of biological diversity and the need for conservation.

(j) Development of criteria for evaluating the progress of this state in implementing the strategy.

(k) The effects on human beings or the environment, taking into account the economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits of the conservation of biological diversity.

(*l*) The effects of conserving biological diversity on agriculture and forestry.

(2) By December 30, 1994, the committee shall submit to the legislature a report detailing progress made toward development of the strategy.

(3) By June 30, 1995, the committee shall circulate a draft of the report described in subsection (4) and conduct a public hearing regarding the content of the draft report.

(4) By December 30, 1995, the committee shall approve and submit to the legislature a report containing all of the following:

(a) The recommended state strategy.

(b) Summaries of all written comments and reporting department reports received by the committee pertaining to the work of the committee.

(c) An evaluation of reports submitted by reporting departments.

(d) An evaluation of the cumulative impacts of the reporting departments on the biological diversity of this state.

(e) Recommendations pertaining to legislative options.

(f) Recommendations regarding whether the definitions in this part should be revised.

(g) Recommendations regarding whether there is a need to establish a biological diversity education center to set research priorities and provide leadership and coordination pertaining to fulfilling the policy of this state to maintain biological diversity.

(h) Recommendations concerning research priorities and personnel training to facilitate the implementation of the state strategy.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 357
NATURAL BEAUTY ROADS

324.35701 Definitions.

Sec. 35701. As used in this part:

(a) "Board" means board of county road commissioners.

(b) "City street" means city major street or city local street as described in section 9 of Act No. 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, being section 247.659 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(c) "County local road" means county local road as described in section 4 of Act No. 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, being section 247.654 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(d) "Native vegetation" means original or indigenous plants of this state including trees, shrubs, vines, wild flowers, aquatic plants, or ground cover.

(e) "Natural" means in a state provided by nature, without human-made changes, wild, or uncultivated.

(f) "Street" means city street or village street.

(g) "Village street" means village major street or village local street as described in section 9 of Act No. 51 of the Public Acts of 1951.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: Natural Beauty Roads

Popular name: NREPA

324.35702 Petition for designation; hearing; notice; resolution.

Sec. 35702. (1) Twenty-five or more freeholders of a township may apply by petition to the board for the county in which that township is located for designation of a county local road or portion of a county local road as a natural beauty road. Twenty-five or more freeholders of a city may petition the legislative body of the city for designation of a city street or a portion of a city street as a natural beauty street. Twenty-five or more freeholders of a village may petition the legislative body of the village for designation of a village street or a portion of a village street as a natural beauty street.

(2) Within 6 months after a petition is received, the board or the legislative body of the city or village shall hold a public hearing to consider designating the road or street described in the petition as a natural beauty road or natural beauty street, respectively. The hearing shall be held at a suitable place within the township in which the proposed natural beauty road is located or the city or village in which the proposed natural beauty street is located. At the hearing, a party or interested person may support or object to the proposed designation. The board, the legislative body of the city, or the legislative body of the village shall give notice of the hearing by publication at least once each week for 2 successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, city, or village, respectively, and by posting 5 notices within the limits of the portion of the road or street to be designated, in public and conspicuous places. The posting shall be done and at least 1 publication in the newspaper shall be made not less than 10 days before the hearing.

(3) Within 30 days after the hearing, if the board, the legislative body of the city, or the legislative body of the village considers the designation desirable, it shall file with the county clerk, city clerk, or village clerk, respectively, a true copy of its resolution designating the portion of the county local road as a natural beauty road, the portion of the city street as a natural beauty street, or the portion of the village street as a natural beauty street, respectively.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Natural Beauty Roads

Popular name: NREPA

324.35703 Designation; petition requesting withdrawal; revocation of designation; determination; publication of notice; reversion to former status.

Sec. 35703. (1) Not more than 45 days after a board designates a road as a natural beauty road or the legislative body of a city or village designates a street as a natural beauty street, the property owners of record of 51% or more of the lineal footage along the natural beauty road or natural beauty street may submit a petition to the board or the legislative body of the city or village, respectively, requesting that the designation be withdrawn. If the petition is valid, the designation as a natural beauty road or natural beauty street shall be withdrawn.

(2) A board or the legislative body of a city or village may revoke a designation of a natural beauty road or natural beauty street after holding a public hearing in accordance with the procedure described in section 35702(2). Not more than 30 days after a hearing, if the board, the legislative body of the city, or the legislative body of the village by majority vote determines that the revocation is necessary, it shall file with the county clerk, city clerk, or village clerk, respectively, a notice of its determination and publish the notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, city, or village, respectively, once each week for 2 successive weeks. After publication of the notice, the road or street previously designated shall revert to its former status.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Natural Beauty Roads

Popular name: NREPA

324.35704 Guidelines and procedures for native vegetation preservation; rights of public utilities or governmental agencies or municipalities.

Sec. 35704. (1) The department shall develop uniform guidelines and procedures that may be adopted by a board to preserve native vegetation in a natural beauty road right-of-way from destruction or substantial damage by cutting, spraying, dusting, mowing, or other means. The department shall develop uniform guidelines that may be adopted by the legislative body of a city or village to preserve native vegetation in a natural beauty street right-of-way from destruction or substantial damage by cutting, spraying, dusting,

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mowing, or other means. Guidelines and procedures developed pursuant to this subsection shall not prohibit the application of accepted principles of sound forest management in a natural beauty road or natural beauty street right-of-way or prevent a local road authority from regulating speed and from taking actions to modify specific road features to correct traffic hazards that pose a direct and ongoing threat to motorists.

(2) The department may advise and consult with a board or a city or village legislative body on the application of the guidelines and procedures.

(3) A board or a city or village legislative body shall provide for a public hearing before an act that would result in substantial damage to native vegetation in the right-of-way of a natural beauty road or natural beauty street, respectively, is permitted.

(4) Subject to subsections (5), (6), and (7), prior to approval of any construction project or tree cutting that would significantly impact native vegetation within the right-of-way of a natural beauty road, the board shall notify the clerk of the city, village, or township within which the road lies of the proposed activity. If the city, village, or township desires to hold a public hearing on the proposed activity, the clerk of the city, village, or township shall notify the board within 7 days of the transmittal of notice by the board. The notice to the board shall include the date, time, and place of the township, city, or village hearing. The hearing shall take place within 14 days of the transmittal of notice to the board. A member of the board or a representative of the board shall attend the hearing. The city, village, or township clerk shall provide the board with a written report of testimony taken at the hearing within 10 days of the hearing. The board shall not approve the construction project or tree cutting until 12 days after notice of the proposed activity has been sent to the city, village, or township clerk, or if notification of a hearing is timely received by the board, until 12 days after the public hearing is held. The board shall consider, in approval or denial of the proposed activity, any report of testimony taken at the public hearing received from the city, village, or township.

(5) The notification and hearing provided for in subsection (4) are not required if the construction or tree cutting is necessitated by emergency conditions.

(6) This part does not affect the right of a public utility to control vegetation in connection with the maintenance, repair, or replacement of public utility facilities constructed in a road or street before its designation as a natural beauty road or natural beauty street, or in connection with the construction, maintenance, repair, or replacement of public utility facilities crossing a natural beauty road or natural beauty street.

(7) This part does not affect or restrict the maintenance activities of a governmental agency or municipality having jurisdiction over a beauty road.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Mar. 6, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Natural Beauty Roads

Popular name: NREPA

324.35705 Citizen's advisory committee; establishment; purpose.

Sec. 35705. The department may establish a citizen's advisory committee to assist in the formulation of proposals for guidelines and procedures.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of citizens advisory committee for natural beauty roads to department of natural resources by type III transfer, see. E.R.O. No. 2009-12, compiled at MCL 324.99916.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Natural Beauty Roads

Popular name: NREPA

324.35706 Violation of guideline or procedure; complaint; civil action; default in payment of civil fine or costs.

Sec. 35706. (1) If there is a violation of a guideline or procedure adopted by a board, the legislative body of a city, or the legislative body of a village pursuant to section 35704, a complaint, signed by 5 or more freeholders of the township, city, or village, respectively, or by freeholders representing 10% or more of the lineal frontage along a natural beauty road or natural beauty street, may be filed with the county prosecutor, city attorney, or village attorney, respectively, or with the attorney general. The county prosecutor, the city attorney, the village attorney, or the attorney general, on behalf of the board, the legislative body of the city, the legislative body of the village, or the department, may commence a civil action seeking either of the following:

(a) A temporary or permanent injunction to enjoin the violation of the guideline or procedure.

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(b) A civil fine of not more than $400.00 for the violation of the guideline or procedure.

(2) A default in the payment of a civil fine or costs ordered under this part or an installment of the fine or costs may be remedied by any means authorized under the revised judicature act of 1961, Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, being sections 600.101 to 600.9947 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Natural Beauty Roads

Popular name: NREPA

PART 358
ADOPT-A-SHORELINE PROGRAM

324.35801 Adopt-a-shoreline program; "department" defined; administration; purpose; rules; agreements with volunteer groups to implement program.

Sec. 35801. (1) As used in this part, "department" means the department of natural resources.

(2) The department shall administer an adopt-a-shoreline program to remove litter from shorelines within state parks and state recreation areas. The program shall include public informational activities, but shall be directed primarily toward encouraging and facilitating the involvement of volunteer groups in litter cleanup work and assisting volunteer groups in selecting specific shoreline or shoreline segments for cleanup activities.

(3) The department may promulgate rules as necessary to implement the adopt-a-shoreline program.

(4) The department may enter into agreements with volunteer groups to implement the adopt-a-shoreline program. Agreements with volunteer groups shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Identification of the designated shoreline or shoreline segment. The volunteer group may request a specific segment of the shoreline it wishes to adopt, subject to the approval of the state park or recreation area manager or supervisor. The department shall assist volunteer groups to select sections of a shoreline and to identify any necessary permits and other authorizations, in cooperation with affected federal, state, and local management agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners.

(b) Specification of the duties of the volunteer group, which shall include both of the following:

(*i*) Removal of litter along the designated shoreline or shoreline segment at least once each year.

(*ii*) Compliance with any rules related to the program that are adopted by the department.

History: Add. 1996, Act 89, Imd. Eff. Feb. 27, 1996;—Am. 2018, Act 79, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Compiler's note: In separate opinions, the Michigan Supreme Court held that Section 45(8), (9), (10), and (12) and the second sentence of Section 46(1) ("An agency shall not file a rule ... until at least 10 days after the date of the certificate of approval by the committee or after the legislature adopts a concurrent resolution approving the rule.") of the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, in providing for the Legislature's reservation of authority to approve or disapprove rules proposed by executive branch agencies, did not comply with the enactment and presentment requirements of Const 1963, Art 4, and violated the separation of powers provision of Const 1963, Art 3, and, therefore, were unconstitutional. These specified portions were declared to be severable with the remaining portions remaining effective. Blank v Department of Corrections, 462 Mich 103 (2000).

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35802 Adopt-a-shoreline program; duties of department.

Sec. 35802. In implementing this part and the adopt-a-shoreline program, the department shall do all of the following:

(a) Create a recognition program that acknowledges the efforts of volunteer groups and the members of the groups that participate in the adopt-a-shoreline program.

(b) Provide safety information and assistance to the participating volunteer groups.

(c) Provide volunteer groups with natural resource information and educational materials.

History: Add. 1996, Act 89, Imd. Eff. Feb. 27, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35803 Cleanup effort conducted on state land; part or agreement construed.

Sec. 35803. This part or an agreement under this part shall not be construed to prohibit a cleanup effort from being conducted on any state land.

History: Add. 1996, Act 89, Imd. Eff. Feb. 27, 1996;—Am. 2018, Act 79, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.35804 Repealed. 2018, Act 79, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to report on implementation and progress of adopt-a-shoreline program.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 359
ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM

324.35901 Adopt-a-river program; "department" defined; administration; purpose; rules; agreements with volunteer groups to implement program.

Sec. 35901. (1) As used in this part, "department" means the department of natural resources.

(2) The department shall administer an adopt-a-river program to remove litter from rivers and riverbanks within state parks and state recreation areas. The program shall include public informational activities, but shall be directed primarily toward encouraging and facilitating the involvement of volunteer groups in litter cleanup work and assisting volunteer groups in selecting specific river or stream segments for cleanup activities.

(3) The department may promulgate rules as necessary to implement the adopt-a-river program.

(4) The department may enter into agreements with volunteer groups to implement the adopt-a-river program. Agreements with volunteer groups shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Identification of the designated river or stream segment. The volunteer group may request a specific segment of the river or stream it wishes to adopt, subject to the approval of the state park or recreation area manager or supervisor. The department shall assist volunteer groups to select sections of a river or stream and to identify any necessary permits or other authorizations, in cooperation with affected federal, state, and local management agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners.

(b) Specification of the duties of the volunteer group, which shall include both of the following:

(*i*) Removal of litter along the designated river or stream segment at least once each year.

(*ii*) Compliance with any rules related to the program that are adopted by the department.

History: Add. 1996, Act 88, Imd. Eff. Feb. 27, 1996;—Am. 2018, Act 78, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Compiler's note: In separate opinions, the Michigan Supreme Court held that Section 45(8), (9), (10), and (12) and the second sentence of Section 46(1) (“An agency shall not file a rule ... until at least 10 days after the date of the certificate of approval by the committee or after the legislature adopts a concurrent resolution approving the rule.”) of the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, in providing for the Legislature's reservation of authority to approve or disapprove rules proposed by executive branch agencies, did not comply with the enactment and presentment requirements of Const 1963, Art 4, and violated the separation of powers provision of Const 1963, Art 3, and, therefore, were unconstitutional. These specified portions were declared to be severable with the remaining portions remaining effective. Blank v Department of Corrections, 462 Mich 103 (2000).

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35902 Adopt-a-river program; duties of department.

Sec. 35902. In implementing this part and the adopt-a-river program, the department shall do all of the following:

(a) Create a recognition program that acknowledges the efforts of volunteer groups and the members of the groups that participate in the adopt-a-river program.

(b) Provide safety information and assistance to the volunteer groups.

(c) Provide volunteer groups with natural resource information and educational materials.

History: Add. 1996, Act 88, Imd. Eff. Feb. 27, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35903 Cleanup effort conducted on state land; part or agreement construed.

Sec. 35903. This part or an agreement under this part shall not be construed to prohibit a cleanup effort from being conducted on any state land.

History: Add. 1996, Act 88, Imd. Eff. Feb. 27, 1996;—Am. 2018, Act 78, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.35904 Repealed. 2018, Act 78, Eff. June 17, 2018.

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Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to report on implementation and progress of adopt-a-river program.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 361
FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

324.36101 Definitions.

Sec. 36101. As used in this part:

(a) "Agricultural conservation easement" means a conveyance, by a written instrument, in which, subject to permitted uses, the owner relinquishes to the public in perpetuity his or her development rights and makes a covenant running with the land not to undertake development.

(b) "Agricultural use" means the production of plants and animals useful to humans, including forages and sod crops; grains, feed crops, and field crops; dairy and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; livestock, including breeding and grazing of cattle, swine, captive cervidae, and similar animals; berries; herbs; flowers; seeds; grasses; nursery stock; fruits; vegetables; maple syrup production; Christmas trees; and other similar uses and activities. Agricultural use includes use in a federal acreage set-aside program or a federal conservation reserve program. Agricultural use does not include the management and harvesting of a woodlot.

(c) "Conservation district board" means that term as defined in section 9301.

(d) "Development" means an activity that materially alters or affects the existing conditions or use of any land.

(e) "Development rights" means an interest in land that includes the right to construct a building or structure, to improve land for development, to divide a parcel for development, or to extract minerals incidental to a permitted use or as set forth in an instrument recorded under this part.

(f) "Development rights agreement" or "agreement" means a restrictive covenant, evidenced by an instrument in which the owner and this state, for a term of years, agree to jointly hold the right to undertake development of the land, and that contains a covenant running with the land, for a term of years, not to undertake development, subject to permitted uses.

(g) "Development rights easement" or "easement" means a grant, by an instrument, in which the owner relinquishes to the public in perpetuity or for a term of years the right to undertake development of the land, and that contains a covenant running with the land, not to undertake development, subject to permitted uses.

(h) "Farmland" means 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) A farm of 40 or more acres in 1 ownership, with 51% or more of the land area devoted to an agricultural use.

(*ii*) A farm of 5 acres or more but less than 40 acres, in 1 ownership, with 51% or more of the land area devoted to an agricultural use, and that has produced a gross annual income from agriculture of $200.00 per year or more per acre of cleared and tillable land. A farm described in this subparagraph enrolled in a federal acreage set-aside program or a federal conservation reserve program is considered to have produced a gross annual income from agriculture of $200.00 per year or more per acre of cleared and tillable land.

(*iii*) A farm designated by the department of agriculture and rural development as a specialty farm in 1 ownership that has produced a gross annual income from an agricultural use of $2,000.00 or more. Specialty farm includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(A) A greenhouse.

(B) A farm used for equine breeding and grazing; the breeding and grazing of cervidae, pheasants, and other game animals; bees and bee products; mushrooms; aquaculture; or other similar uses and activities.

(*iv*) Parcels of land in 1 ownership that are not contiguous but that constitute an integral part of a farming operation being conducted on land otherwise qualifying as farmland.

(i) "Fund" means the agricultural preservation fund created in section 36202.

(j) "Local governing body" means 1 of the following:

(*i*) With respect to farmland or open space land that is located in a city or village, the legislative body of the city or village.

(*ii*) With respect to farmland or open space land that is not located in a city or village but that is located in a township having a zoning ordinance in effect as provided by law, the township board of the township.

(*iii*) With respect to farmland or open space land that is not described in subparagraph (*i*) or (*ii*), the county board of commissioners.

(k) "Open space land" means 1 of the following:

(*i*) Land that is 1 or more of the following:

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(A) An undeveloped site included in a national registry of historic places or designated as a historic site pursuant to state or federal law.

(B) Riverfront property subject to designation under part 305, to the extent that full legal descriptions may be declared open space under the meaning of this part, if the undeveloped parcel or government lot parcel or portions of the undeveloped parcel or government lot parcel as assessed and owned are affected by part 305 and lie within 1/4 mile of the river.

(C) Undeveloped land designated as an environmental area under part 323, including unregulated portions of that land.

(*ii*) Any other area that is approved by the local governing body and is 1 of the following:

(A) An area the preservation of which in its present condition would conserve natural or scenic resources, such as soils, wetlands, and beaches; enhance recreation opportunities; or preserve a historic site.

(B) Idle potential farmland of not less than 40 acres that is substantially undeveloped and because of its soil, terrain, and location is capable of being devoted to agricultural uses as identified by the department of agriculture and rural development.

(*l*) "Owner" means a person having a freehold estate in land coupled with possession and enjoyment. If land is subject to a land contract, owner means the vendee in agreement with the vendor. This subdivision does not apply to section 36104e.

(m) "Permitted use" means any use expressly authorized within a development rights agreement, development rights easement, or agriculture conservation easement that is consistent with the farming operation or that does not alter the open space character of the land, as applicable. The state land use agency shall determine whether a use, other than a use under section 36104c or 36104e, is a permitted use pursuant to section 36104a.

(n) "Person" includes an individual, corporation, limited liability company, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, or association, or 2 or more persons having a joint or common interest in land.

(o) "Planning commission" means a planning commission created under the Michigan planning enabling act, 2008 PA 33, MCL 125.3801 to 125.3885.

(p) "Prohibited use" means a use that is not consistent with an agricultural use for farmland subject to a development rights agreement or is not consistent with the open space character of the land for lands subject to a development rights easement.

(q) "Property taxes" means general ad valorem taxes levied after January 1, 1974, on lands and structures in this state, including collection fees, but not including special assessments, penalties, or interest.

(r) "Regional planning commission" means a regional planning commission created pursuant to 1945 PA 281, MCL 125.11 to 125.25.

(s) "Regional planning district" means a planning and development region as established by Executive Directive No. 1968-1, as amended, whose organizational structure is approved by the regional council.

(t) "State income tax act" means the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.1 to 206.847, and in effect during the particular year of the reference to the act.

(u) "State land use agency" means the department of agriculture and rural development.

(v) "Substantially undeveloped" means any parcel or area of land essentially unimproved except for a dwelling, building, structure, road, or other improvement that is incidental to agricultural and open space uses.

(w) "Unique or critical land area" means agricultural or open space land identified by the land use agency as an area that should be preserved.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June 29, 2000;—Am. 2008, Act 336, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2008;—Am. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016;—Am. 2023, Act 230, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36102 Development rights agreement or easement; execution authorized; provisions.

Sec. 36102. (1) The state land use agency may execute a development rights agreement or easement on behalf of the state.

(2) The provisions of a development rights agreement or easement shall be consistent with the purposes of this part and shall not permit an action which will materially impair the character of the land involved.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

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Popular name: NREPA

324.36103 Development rights agreement or easement; effect of execution and acceptance; term; limitation; disposition; prior lien, lease, or interest not superseded; lien of state or local governing body; subordination.

Sec. 36103. (1) The execution and acceptance of a development rights agreement or easement by the state or local governing body and the owner dedicates to the public the development rights in the land for the term specified in the instrument. A development rights agreement or easement shall be for an initial term of not less than 10 years. A development rights agreement or easement entered into after June 5, 1996 shall not be for a term of more than 90 years.

(2) The state or local governing body shall not sell, transfer, convey, relinquish, vacate, or otherwise dispose of a development rights agreement or easement except with the agreement of the owner as provided in sections 36111, 36111a, 36112, and 36113.

(3) An agreement or easement does not supersede any prior lien, lease, or interest that is properly recorded with the county register of deeds.

(4) A lien created under this part in favor of the state or a local governing body is subordinate to a lien of a mortgage that is recorded in the office of the register of deeds before the recording of the lien of the state or local governing body.

(5) The state shall subordinate its interest in a recorded agreement under section 36104 or an easement under section 36105 or 36106 to a subsequently recorded mortgage lien, lease, or interest if both of the following conditions are met:

(a) The parcel meets the requirements set forth under section 36111(2)(a) for parcels containing existing structures.

(b) The landowner requesting the subordination is an individual essential to the operation of the farm as defined in section 36110(5).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2003, Act 36, Imd. Eff. July 3, 2003.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36104 Application for farmland development rights agreement; form; contents; notice; review, comment, and recommendations; approval or rejection; appeal; preparation, contents, execution, and recordation of agreement; annual listing of current agreements; application effective for current tax year; reapplication; tax exemption.

Sec. 36104. (1) An owner of land desiring a farmland development rights agreement may apply by filing an application with the local governing body having jurisdiction under this part. The owner shall apply on a form prescribed by the state land use agency. The application shall contain information reasonably necessary to properly classify the land as farmland. This information shall include a land survey or a legal description of the land and a map showing the significant natural features and all structures and physical improvements located on the land.

(2) Upon receipt of the application, the local governing body shall notify the county planning commission or the regional planning commission and the soil conservation district agency. If the county has jurisdiction, it shall also notify the township board of the township in which the land is situated.

(3) An agency or local governing body receiving notice has 30 days to review, comment, and make recommendations to the local governing body with which the application is filed. These reviewing agencies do not have an approval or rejection power over the application.

(4) After considering the comments and recommendations of the reviewing agencies and local governing bodies, the local governing body holding the application shall approve or reject the application within 45 days after the application is received, unless that period is extended by agreement of the parties involved. The local governing body's approval or rejection of the application shall be based upon, and consistent with, rules promulgated under section 36116.

(5) If an application for a farmland development rights agreement is approved by the local governing body having jurisdiction, the local governing body shall forward a copy, along with the comments and recommendations of the reviewing bodies, to the state land use agency. The application shall contain a statement from the assessing officer where the property is located specifying the current fair market value of the land and structures in compliance with the agricultural section of the Michigan state tax commission assessor manual. If action is not taken by the local governing body within the time prescribed or agreed upon,

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the applicant may proceed as provided in subsection (6) as if the application was rejected.

(6) If the application for a farmland development rights agreement is rejected by the local governing body, the local governing body shall return the application to the applicant with a written statement regarding the reasons for rejection. Within 30 days after receipt of the rejected application, the applicant may appeal the rejection by submitting the application to the state land use agency.

(7) The state land use agency, within 60 days after a farmland development rights agreement application is received under subsection (5) or (6), shall approve or reject the application. The state land use agency may reject an application for a farmland development rights agreement that has been approved by a local governing body only if the proposed agreement would be inconsistent with section 36101(f). If the application is approved by the state land use agency, the state land use agency shall prepare a farmland development rights agreement that includes all of the following provisions:

(a) A structure shall not be built on the land except for use consistent with farm operations, which includes a residence for an individual essential to the operation of the farm under section 36111(2)(b), or lines for utility transmission or distribution purposes or with the approval of the local governing body and the state land use agency.

(b) Land improvements shall not be made except for use consistent with farm operations or with the approval of the local governing body and the state land use agency.

(c) Any interest in the land shall not be sold except a scenic, access, or utility easement that does not substantially hinder farm operations.

(d) Public access is not permitted on the land unless agreed to by the owner.

(e) Any other condition and restriction on the land as agreed to by the parties that is considered necessary to preserve the land or appropriate portions of it as farmland.

(8) Upon approval of an application by the state, the state land use agency shall execute the farmland development rights agreement on behalf of the state and shall forward the agreement to the applicant for execution. After the applicant executes the farmland development rights agreement, the applicant shall have the executed farmland development rights agreement recorded by the register of deeds in the county in which the property is located. The applicant shall provide a copy of the recorded farmland development rights agreement to the state land use agency.

(9) The state land use agency shall annually provide a listing of current farmland development rights agreements to county equalization offices where the land is located and to the approving local governing body.

(10) An application that is approved by the local governing body by November 1 shall take effect for the current tax year.

(11) If an application for a farmland development rights agreement is rejected by the state land use agency, the state land use agency shall notify the affected local governing body, all reviewing agencies concerned, and the applicant with a written statement containing the reasons for rejection. An applicant receiving a rejection from the state land use agency may appeal the rejection pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(12) An applicant may reapply for a farmland development rights agreement following a 1-year waiting period.

(13) The value of the jointly owned development rights as expressed in a farmland development rights agreement is not exempt from ad valorem taxation and shall be assessed to the owner of the land as part of the value of that land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36104a Permitted use; criteria; exception.

Sec. 36104a. (1) In determining whether a use is a permitted use, the state land use agency shall consider the following criteria:

(a) Whether the use adversely affects the productivity of farmland or adversely affects the character of open space land.

(b) Whether the use materially alters or negatively affects the existing conditions or use of the land.

(c) Whether the use substantially alters the agricultural use of farmland subject to a development rights agreement or substantially alters the natural character of open space land subject to an open space easement.

(d) Whether the use results in a material alteration of an existing structure to a nonagricultural use.

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(e) Whether the use conforms with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a use authorized under section 36104c or 36104e.

History: Add. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2023, Act 230, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36104c Farming operations; permitted uses.

Sec. 36104c. Storage, retail or wholesale marketing, or processing of agricultural products is a permitted use in a farming operation if more than 50% of the stored, processed, or merchandised products are produced by the farm operator for at least 3 of the immediately preceding 5 years.

History: Add. 2023, Act 230, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36104e Solar facility; permitted use; development rights agreement; tax credit; definitions.

Sec. 36104e. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Amended development rights agreement" means a development rights agreement that includes the conditions required to allow a solar facility to be installed and operated on all or a portion of the land subject to the agreement.

(b) "Deferment period" means the period of time beginning when construction of the solar facility commences and ending when the solar facility is completely removed.

(c) "Electric provider" means either of the following:

(*i*) An electric provider as defined in section 5 of the clean and renewable energy and energy waste reduction act, 2008 PA 295, MCL 460.1005.

(*ii*) A merchant plant as defined in section 10g of 1939 PA 3, MCL 460.10g.

(d) "Landowner" means a person that meets both of the following requirements:

(*i*) Has a freehold estate in land coupled with possession and enjoyment or, if land is subject to a land contract, is the vendee.

(*ii*) Has signed a development rights agreement with the state land use agency, and, if the land is subject to a land contract, the vendor.

(e) "NRCS" means the United States Department of Agricultural Natural Resource Conservation Service.

(f) "Solar agreement" means an agreement entered into by the landowner and the solar facility owner or operator to authorize the installation and operation of a solar facility on all or a portion of the land and that contains all conditions specifically identified in this section as the responsibility of the solar facility owner or operator.

(g) "Solar facility" means a facility, owned by an electric provider, for the generation of electricity using solar photovoltaic cells.

(h) "Solar facility site" means the land subject to a solar agreement.

(2) A solar facility is a permitted use under a development rights agreement if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) Before the solar facility became a permitted use, the land was subject to a development rights agreement.

(b) The land subject to the development rights agreement was divided under section 36110(4), if only a portion of the land was to be subject to a solar agreement.

(c) After any split required by subdivision (b), the landowner and state land use agency amend the resulting development rights agreement applicable to the solar facility site.

(d) The amended development rights agreement applicable to the proposed solar facility site extends the existing development rights agreement beyond the original termination date for an amount of time equal to the length of the deferment period. However, the deferment period shall not exceed 90 years minus the remaining term of the development rights agreement. A landowner may enter into a subsequent amended development rights agreement to provide for an additional deferment period.

(e) At least 60 days have elapsed since the development rights agreement was recorded.

(f) The solar facility site is designed, planted, and maintained with groundcover that achieves a score of at least 76 on the Michigan Pollinator Habitat Planning Scorecard for Solar Sites developed by the Michigan

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State University Department of Entomology or is designed, planted, and maintained in compliance with NRCS Cover Standard 327.

(g) A bond or irrevocable letter of credit payable to this state is maintained during the deferment period as financial assurance for the decommissioning of the solar facility and the return of the land to agricultural use. The amount of the financial surety shall be calculated by a licensed professional engineer. Every 3 years, or as the department considers necessary, the amount of the bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall be adjusted as necessary to ensure that the financial assurance is sufficient for the purposes of this subdivision.

(h) The solar facility site is designed, established, and maintained in a manner that ensures the land can be returned to agricultural use at the end of the deferment period.

(i) The land is returned to normal agricultural operations and use by the first growing season following the end of the deferment period.

(3) Under the solar agreement, the electric provider may assume responsibility for compliance with subsection (2)(f), (g), or (h). Under the solar agreement, the electric provider shall assume responsibility for maintenance of any agricultural drain, as defined in section 30103 or 30305, that is privately owned and necessary for exemption from regulation under part 301 or 303, respectively.

(4) When the deferment period ends, the solar facility is no longer a permitted use.

(5) The landowner shall not claim a tax credit under section 36109 during the deferment period. If a landowner relinquishes the development rights agreement under sections 36111 and 36111a at any time during the deferment period, the past 7 years of tax credits are payable. The past 7 years of tax credits are calculated from the time the amended development rights agreement is recorded and shall be held until the land is returned to agricultural production at the end of the deferment period.

History: Add. 2023, Act 230, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36105 Open space land; application for open space development rights easement; approval or rejection; provisions; tax exemption.

Sec. 36105. (1) If an owner of open space land desires an open space development rights easement, and the land is subject to section 36101(j)(*i*), the procedures for filing an application provided by the state land use agency shall follow as provided in section 36104, except section 36104(7) and (12) do not apply to an open space development rights easement.

(2) The state land use agency, within 60 days after the open space development rights easement application is received, shall approve or reject the application. If the application is approved by the state land use agency, the state land use agency shall prepare an open space development rights easement that includes the following provisions:

(a) A structure shall not be built on the land without the approval of the state land use agency.

(b) Improvement to the land shall not be made without the approval of the state land use agency.

(c) An interest in the land shall not be sold, except for a scenic, access, or utility easement that does not substantially hinder the character of the open space land.

(d) Access to the open space land may be provided if access is agreed to by the owner and if access will not jeopardize the conditions of the land.

(e) Any other condition or restriction on the land as agreed to by the parties that is considered necessary to preserve the land or appropriate portions of it as open space land.

(3) Upon receipt of the application, the state land use agency shall notify the state tax commission. Upon notification, the state tax commission shall within 60 days make an on-site appraisal of the land in compliance with the Michigan state tax commission assessors manual. The application shall contain a statement specifying the current fair market value of the land and the current fair market value of the development rights. The state land use agency shall submit to the legislature each application for an open space development rights easement and an analysis of its cost to the state. The application shall be approved in both houses by a resolution concurred in by a majority of the members elected and serving in each house. The amount of the cost shall be returned to the local governing body if lost revenues are indicated. A copy of the approved application and the open space development rights easement shall be forwarded by the state land use agency to the applicant for execution and to the local assessing office where the land is situated.

(4) If an application for an open space development rights easement is rejected under subsection (2), the applicant may reapply for an open space development rights easement beginning 1 year after the rejection.

(5) The development rights held by the state as expressed in an open space development rights easement

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under this section are exempt from ad valorem taxation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2002, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2002.

Compiler's note: In subsection (1), the reference to "section 36101(j)(i)" evidently should be to "section 36101(k)(i)" as the result of Act 265 of 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36106 Open space land; application for open space development rights easement; form; contents; notice; review, comments, and recommendations; approval or rejection; preparation and contents of easement; appraisal; statement of fair market value; execution and recordation of easement; forwarding copies of easement; appeal; legislative approval; costs; reapplication; tax exemption.

Sec. 36106. (1) An owner of open space land desiring an open space development rights easement whose land is subject to section 36101(j)(*ii*) may apply by filing an application with the local governing body. The application shall be made on a form prescribed by the state land use agency. The application shall contain information reasonably necessary to properly identify the land as open space. This information shall include a land survey or a legal description of the land and a map showing the significant natural features and all structures and physical improvements located on the land.

(2) Upon receipt of an application, the local governing body shall notify the county planning commission, the regional planning commission, and the soil conservation district agency. If the local governing body is the county board of commissioners, the county board shall also notify the township board of the township in which the land is situated. If the land is within 3 miles of the boundary of a city or within 1 mile of the boundary of a village, the local governing body shall notify the governing body of the city or village.

(3) An entity receiving notice under subsection (2) has 30 days to review, comment, and make recommendations to the local governing body with which the application was filed.

(4) The local governing body shall approve or reject the application after considering the comments and recommendations of the reviewing entities and within 45 days after the application was received by the local governing body, unless that period is extended by agreement of the parties involved. The local governing body's approval or rejection of the application shall be based upon, and consistent with, rules promulgated by the state land use agency under section 36116. If the local governing body does not act within the time prescribed or agreed upon, the applicant may proceed as provided in subsection (9) as if the application was rejected.

(5) If the application is approved by the local governing body, the local governing body shall prepare the easement. If the application is approved by the state land use agency on appeal, the state land use agency shall prepare the easement. An easement prepared under this section shall contain all of the following provisions:

(a) A structure shall not be built on the land without the approval of the local governing body.

(b) An improvement to the land shall not be made without the approval of the local governing body.

(c) An interest in the land shall not be sold, except for a scenic, access, or utility easement that does not substantially hinder the character of the open space land.

(d) Public access to the open space land may be provided if agreed upon by the owner and if access will not jeopardize the conditions of the land.

(e) Any other condition or restriction on the land as agreed to by both parties that is considered necessary to preserve the land or appropriate portions of it as open space land.

(6) Upon receipt of the application, the local governing body shall direct either the local assessing officer or an independent certified assessor to make an on-site appraisal of the land within 30 days in compliance with the Michigan state tax commission assessors manual. The approved application shall contain a statement specifying the current fair market value of the land and the current fair market value of the development rights, if any. A copy of the approved application and the development rights easement shall be forwarded to the applicant for his or her execution.

(7) If the owner of the land executes the approved easement, it shall be returned to the local governing body for its execution. The local governing body shall record the development rights easement with the register of deeds of the county. A copy of the approved easement shall be forwarded to the local assessing office and to the state land use agency for their information.

(8) The decision of the local governing body may be appealed to the state land use agency, pursuant to subsection (9).

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(9) If an application for an open space development rights easement is rejected by the local governing body, the local governing body shall notify the applicant and all reviewing entities with a written statement of the reasons for rejection. Within 30 days after receipt of the rejected application, the applicant may appeal the rejection to the state land use agency. The state land use agency shall have 60 days to approve or reject the application. The state land use agency shall submit to the legislature each approved application for an open space development rights easement and an analysis of its cost. The application shall be approved in both houses by a resolution concurred in by a majority of the members elected and serving in each house. The amount of the cost shall be returned to the local governing body where lost revenues are indicated. A copy of the approved application and an appropriate easement shall be forwarded by the state land use agency to the applicant for execution and to the local governing body where the land is situated.

(10) If an application for an open space development rights easement is rejected under subsection (4), the applicant may reapply for an open space development rights easement beginning 1 year after the final rejection.

(11) The development rights held by the local governing body as expressed in an open space development rights easement are exempt from ad valorem taxation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2002, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2002.

Compiler's note: In subsection (1), the reference to "section 36101(j)(ii)" evidently should be to "section 36101(k)(ii)" as the result of Act 265 of 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36107 Notice of owners' intentions regarding extension or expiration of agreement or easement; notice of lien.

Sec. 36107. (1) All participants owning land contained under a development rights agreement or easement shall notify, on a form provided by the state land use agency for informational purposes only, the state or the local governing body holding the development rights, 6 months before the natural termination date of the development rights agreement or easement, of the owners' intentions regarding whether the agreement or easement should be extended or allowed to expire.

(2) The state land use agency shall notify the landowner via first-class mail at least 7 years before the expiration of a development rights agreement or easement that a lien may be placed at the time of expiration on the enrolled land in accordance with section 36111(8) if the landowner does not extend the agreement or easement and shall indicate to the landowner the option of not claiming credits during all or a portion of the next 7 years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36108 Special assessments.

Sec. 36108. (1) A city, village, township, county, or other governmental agency shall not impose special assessments for sanitary sewers, water, lights, or nonfarm drainage on land for which a development rights agreement or easement has been recorded, except for years before 1995 as to a dwelling or a nonfarm structure located on the land, unless the assessments were imposed before the recording of the development rights agreement or easement.

(2) Land covered by this exemption shall be denied use of an improvement created by the special assessment until it has paid that portion of the special assessment directly attributable to the actual use of the improvement created by the special assessment.

(3) Upon termination of a development rights agreement or easement that has been exempt from a special assessment under this section, a city, village, township, county, or other governmental agency may impose the previously exempted special assessment. However, the amount of that special assessment shall not exceed the amount the special assessment would have been at the initial time of exemption, and shall not be subject to interest or penalty.

(4) If a dwelling or a nonfarm structure located on land covered by a development rights agreement or easement is required under the public health code, Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of 1978, being sections 333.1101 to 333.25211 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, to connect to an improvement created by a special

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assessment, the owner of that dwelling or nonfarm structure shall pay only that portion of the special assessment directly attributable to the actual use of the improvement created by the special assessment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36109 Credit against state income tax or former state single business tax act or Michigan business tax act.

Sec. 36109. (1) An owner of farmland and related buildings subject to 1 or more development rights agreements under section 36104 or agricultural conservation easements or purchases of development rights under section 36111b or 36206 who is required or eligible to file a return as an individual or a claimant under the state income tax act may claim a credit against state income tax liability for the amount by which the property taxes on the land and structures used in the farming operation, including the homestead, restricted by the development rights agreements, agricultural conservation easements, or purchases of development rights exceed 3.5% of the household income as defined in section 508 of the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.508, excluding a deduction if taken under section 613 of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 613. For the purposes of this section, all of the following apply:

(a) A partner in a partnership is considered an owner of farmland and related buildings owned by the partnership and covered by a development rights agreement, agricultural conservation easement, or purchase of development rights. A partner is considered to pay a proportion of the property taxes on that property equal to the partner's share of ownership of capital or distributive share of ordinary income as reported by the partnership to the Internal Revenue Service or, if the partnership is not required to report that information to the Internal Revenue Service, as provided in the partnership agreement or, if there is no written partnership agreement, a statement signed by all the partners. A partner claiming a credit under this section based upon the partnership agreement or a statement shall file a copy of the agreement or statement with his or her income tax return. If the agreement or statement is not filed, the department of treasury shall deny the credit. All partners in a partnership claiming the credit allowed under this section shall compute the credit using the same basis for the apportionment of the property taxes.

(b) A shareholder of a corporation that has filed a proper election under subchapter S of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 1361 to 1379, is considered an owner of farmland and related buildings covered by a development rights agreement that are owned by the corporation. A shareholder is considered to pay a proportion of the property taxes on that property equal to the shareholder's percentage of stock ownership for the tax year as reported by the corporation to the Internal Revenue Service. Except as provided in subsection (8), this subdivision applies to tax years beginning after 1987.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, an individual in possession of property for life under a life estate with remainder to another person or holding property under a life lease is considered the owner of that property if it is farmland and related buildings covered by a development rights agreement. Beginning January 1, 1986, if an individual in possession of property for life under a life estate with remainder to another person or holding property under a life lease enters into a written agreement with the person holding the remainder interest in that land and the written agreement apportions the property taxes in the same manner as revenue and expenses, the life lease or life estate holder and the person holding the remainder interest may claim the credit under this act as it is apportioned to them under the written agreement upon filing a copy of the written agreement with the return.

(d) If a trust holds farmland and related buildings covered by a development rights agreement and an individual is treated under subpart E of subchapter J of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 671 to 679, as the owner of that portion of the trust that includes the farmland and related buildings, that individual is considered the owner of that property.

(e) An individual who is the sole beneficiary of a trust that is the result of the death of that individual's spouse is considered the owner of farmland and related buildings covered by a development rights agreement and held by the trust if the trust conforms to all of the following:

(*i*) One hundred percent of the trust income is distributed to the beneficiary in the tax year in which the trust receives the income.

(*ii*) The trust terms do not provide that any portion of the trust is to be paid, set aside, or otherwise used in a manner that would qualify for the deduction allowed by section 642(c) of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 642.

(f) A member in a limited liability company is considered an owner of farmland and related buildings

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covered by a development rights agreement that are owned by the limited liability company. A member is considered to pay a proportion of the property taxes on that property equal to the member's share of ownership or distributive share of ordinary income as reported by the limited liability company to the Internal Revenue Service.

(2) An owner of farmland and related buildings subject to 1 or more development rights agreements under section 36104 or agricultural conservation easements or purchases of development rights under section 36111b or 36206 to whom subsection (1) does not apply may claim a credit under the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228, or the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1101 to 208.1601, for the amount by which the property taxes on the land and structures used in farming operations restricted by the development rights agreements, agricultural conservation easements, or purchases of development rights exceed 3.5% of the adjusted business income of the owner as defined in section 36 of the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228, or the business income tax base of the owner as defined in section 201 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1201, plus compensation to shareholders not included in adjusted business income or the business income tax base, excluding any deductions if taken under section 613 of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 613. When calculating adjusted business income for tax years beginning before 1987, federal taxable income shall not be less than zero for the purposes of this subsection only. A participant is not eligible to claim a credit and refund against the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228, or the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1101 to 208.1601, unless the participant demonstrates that the participant's agricultural gross receipts of the farming operation exceed 5 times the property taxes on the land for each of 3 out of the 5 tax years immediately preceding the year in which the credit is claimed. This eligibility requirement does not apply to those participants who executed farmland development rights agreements under this part before January 1, 1978. A participant may compare, during the contract period, the average of the most recent 3 years of agricultural gross receipts to property taxes in the first year that the participant entered the program under the present contract in calculating the gross receipts qualification. Once an election is made by the participant to compute the benefit in this manner, all future calculations shall be made in the same manner.

(3) If the farmland and related buildings covered by a development rights agreement under section 36104 or an agricultural conservation easement or purchase of development rights under section 36111b or 36206 are owned by more than 1 owner, each owner is allowed to claim a credit under this section based upon that owner's share of the property tax payable on the farmland and related buildings. The department of treasury shall consider the property tax equally apportioned among the owners unless a written agreement signed by all the owners is filed with the return, which agreement apportions the property taxes in the same manner as all other items of revenue and expense. If the property taxes are considered equally apportioned, a husband and wife shall be considered 1 owner, and a person with respect to whom a deduction under section 151 of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 151, is allowable to another owner of the property shall not be considered an owner.

(4) A beneficiary of an estate or trust to which subsection (1) does not apply is entitled to the same percentage of the credit provided in this section as that person's percentage of all other distributions by the estate or trust.

(5) If the allowable amount of the credit claimed exceeds the state income tax or the state business tax otherwise due for the tax year or if there is no state income tax or the state business tax due for the tax year, the amount of the claim not used as an offset against the state income tax or the state business tax, after examination and review, shall be approved for payment to the claimant pursuant to 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.1 to 205.31. The total credit allowable under this part and chapter 9 of the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.501 to 206.532, or the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228, or the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1101 to 208.1601, shall not exceed the total property tax due and payable by the claimant in that year. The amount the credit exceeds the property tax due and payable shall be deducted from the credit claimed under this part.

(6) For purposes of audit, review, determination, appeals, hearings, notices, assessments, and administration relating to the credit program provided by this section, the state income tax act, the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228, or the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1101 to 208.1601, applies according to which tax the credit is claimed against. If an individual is allowed to claim a credit under subsection (1) based upon property owned or held by a partnership, S corporation, or trust, the department of treasury may require that the individual furnish it with a copy of a tax return, or portion of a tax return, and supporting schedules that the partnership, S corporation, or trust files under the internal revenue code.

(7) The department of treasury shall account separately for payments under this part and not combine them with other credit programs. A payment made to a claimant for a credit claimed under this part shall be issued

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by 1 or more warrants made out to the county treasurer in each county in which the claimant's property is located and the claimant, unless the claimant specifies on the return that a copy of the receipt showing payment of the property taxes that became a lien in the year for which the credit is claimed, or that became a lien in the year before the year for which the credit is claimed, is attached to the income tax or business tax return filed by the claimant. If the claimant specifies that a copy of the receipt is attached to the return, the payment shall be made directly to the claimant. A warrant made out to a claimant and a county treasurer shall be used first to pay delinquent property taxes, interest, penalties, and fees on property restricted by the development rights agreement. If the warrant exceeds the amount of delinquent taxes, interest, penalties, and fees, the county treasurer shall remit the excess to the claimant. If a claimant falsely specifies that the receipt showing payment of the property taxes is attached to the return and if the property taxes on the land subject to that development rights agreement were not paid before the return was filed, all future payments to that claimant of credits claimed under this act attributable to that development rights agreement may be made payable to the county treasurer of the county in which the property subject to the development rights agreement is located and to that claimant.

(8) For property taxes levied after 1987, a person that was an S corporation and had entered into a development rights agreement before January 1, 1989, and paid property taxes on that property, may claim the credit allowed by this section as an owner eligible under subsection (2). A subchapter S corporation claiming a credit as permitted by this subsection for taxes levied in 1988 through 1990 shall claim the credit by filing an amended return under the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228. If a subchapter S corporation files an amended return as permitted by this subsection and if a shareholder of the subchapter S corporation claimed a credit under subsection (1)(b) for the same property taxes, the shareholder shall file an amended return under the state income tax act. A subchapter S corporation is not entitled to a credit under this subsection until all of its shareholders file the amended returns required by this subsection. The department of treasury shall first apply a credit due to a subchapter S corporation under this subsection to repay credits claimed under this section by the subchapter S corporation's shareholders for property taxes levied in 1988 through 1990 and shall refund any remaining credit to the S corporation. Interest or penalty is not due or payable on an income tax liability resulting from an amended return required by this subsection. A subchapter S corporation electing to claim a credit as an owner eligible under subsection (2) shall not claim a credit under subsection (1) for property taxes levied after 1987.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2000, Act 421, Eff. Mar. 28, 2001;—Am. 2002, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2002;—Am. 2007, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Dec. 21, 2007;—Am. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36110 Sale of land; notice; death or disability of owner; division into smaller parcels of land; "individual essential to the operation of a farm" defined; fee prohibited.

Sec. 36110. (1) Land subject to a development rights agreement or easement may be sold without penalty under sections 36111, 36112, and 36113, if the use of the land by the successor in title complies with the provisions contained in the development rights agreement or easement. The seller shall notify the governmental authority having jurisdiction over the development rights of the change in ownership.

(2) If the owner of land subject to a development rights agreement or easement dies or becomes totally and permanently disabled or when an individual essential to the operation of the farm dies or becomes totally and permanently disabled, the land may be relinquished from the program under this part and is subject to a lien pursuant to sections 36111(11), 36112(7), and 36113(7). A request for relinquishment under this section shall be made within 3 years from the date of death or disability. A request for relinquishment under this subsection shall be made only by the owner in case of a disability or, in case of death, the person who becomes the owner through survivorship or inheritance.

(3) If an owner of land subject to a development rights agreement becomes totally and permanently disabled or dies, land containing structures that were present before the recording of the development rights agreement may be relinquished from the agreement, upon request of the disabled agreement holder or upon request of the person who becomes an owner through survivorship or inheritance, and upon approval of the local governing body and the state land use agency. Not more than 2 acres may be relinquished under this subsection unless additional land area is needed to encompass all of the buildings located on the parcel, in which case not more than 5 acres may be relinquished. If the parcel proposed to be relinquished is less in area than the minimum parcel size required by local zoning, the parcel may not be relinquished unless a variance is obtained from the local zoning board of appeals to allow for the smaller parcel size. The portion of the

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farmland relinquished from the development rights agreement under this subsection is subject to a lien pursuant to section 36111(11).

(4) The land described in a development rights agreement may be divided into smaller parcels of land and continued under the same terms and conditions as the original development rights agreement. The smaller parcels created by the division must meet the minimum requirements for being enrolled under this act or be 40 acres or more in size. Farmland may be divided once under this subsection without fee by the state land use agency. The state land use agency may charge a reasonable fee not greater than the state land use agency's actual cost of dividing the agreement for all subsequent divisions of that farmland. When a division of a development rights agreement is made under this subsection and is executed and recorded, the state land use agency shall notify the applicant, the local governing body and its assessing office, all reviewing agencies, and the department of treasury.

(5) As used in this section, "individual essential to the operation of the farm" means a co-owner, partner, shareholder, farm manager, or family member, who, to a material extent, cultivates, operates, or manages farmland under this part. An individual is considered involved to a material extent if that individual does 1 or more of the following:

(a) Has a financial interest equal to or greater than 1/2 the cost of producing the crops, livestock, or products and inspects and advises and consults with the owner on production activities.

(b) Works 1,040 hours or more annually in activities connected with production of the farming operation.

(6) The state land use agency shall not charge a fee to process a change of ownership under subsection (1) or a division under subsection (4).

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36111 Expiration, renewal, relinquishment, or termination of development rights agreement.

Sec. 36111. (1) A development rights agreement expires at the expiration of the term of the agreement unless renewed with the consent of the owner of the land. If the owner of the land has complied with the requirements of this part regarding development rights agreements, the owner is entitled to automatic renewal of the agreement upon written request of the owner. A development rights agreement may be renewed for a term of not less than 7 years. If a development rights agreement is renewed, the state land use agency shall send a copy of the renewal contract to the local governing body.

(2) A development rights agreement or a portion of the farmland covered by a development rights agreement may be relinquished as provided in this section and section 36111a. Farmland may be relinquished by this state before a termination date contained in the instrument under either of the following circumstances:

(a) If approved by the local governing body and the state land use agency, land containing structures that were present before the recording of the development rights agreement may be relinquished from the agreement. Not more than 2 acres may be relinquished under this subdivision unless additional land area is needed to encompass all of the buildings located on the parcel, in which case not more than 5 acres may be relinquished. If the size of the parcel proposed to be relinquished is less than that required by local zoning, the parcel shall not be relinquished unless a variance is obtained from the local zoning board of appeals to allow for the smaller parcel size.

(b) If approved by the local governing body and the state land use agency, land may be relinquished from the agreement for the construction of a residence by an individual essential to the operation of the farm as defined in section 36110(5). Not more than 2 acres may be relinquished under this subdivision. If the size of the parcel proposed to be relinquished is less than that required by local zoning, the parcel shall not be relinquished unless a variance is obtained from the local zoning board of appeals to allow for the smaller parcel size.

(3) Until April 1, 1997, if an owner who entered into or renewed a development rights agreement before April 15, 1994 makes a request, in writing, to the state land use agency, to terminate that development rights agreement with respect to all or a portion of the farmland covered by the agreement, the state land use agency shall approve the request and relinquish that farmland from the development rights agreement. If farmland is relinquished under this subsection, the state land use agency shall notify the local governing body of the local unit of government in which the land is located of the relinquishment.

(4) If the request for relinquishment of the development rights agreement is approved, the state land use agency shall prepare an instrument, subject to subsections (5) to (8), and shall forward the original

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relinquishment instrument to the applicant. The applicant shall have the relinquishment instrument recorded by the register of deeds in the county in which the property is located. The applicant shall provide a copy of the recorded relinquishment instrument to the department.

(5) If a development rights agreement or a portion of a development rights agreement is to be relinquished pursuant to subsection (2) or section 36111a, the state land use agency shall record a lien against the property formerly subject to the development rights agreement for the total amount of the allocated tax credit of the last 7 years, including the year of termination, received by an owner under section 36109 and attributable to the property formerly subject to the development rights agreement, plus interest at the rate of 6% per annum simple interest from the time the credit was received until the lien is placed on the property.

(6) If the property being relinquished from the development rights agreement is less than all of the property subject to that development rights agreement, the allocated tax credit for the development rights agreement shall be multiplied by the property's share of the taxable value of the agreement. As used in this subsection:

(a) "The allocated tax credit" means the amount obtained by multiplying the owner's total farmland preservation credit claimed in that year on all agreements by the quotient of the ad valorem property tax levied in that year on property subject to the development rights agreement that included the property being relinquished from the agreement divided by the total property taxes levied on property subject to any development rights agreement and used in determining the farmland preservation credit in that year.

(b) "The property's share of the taxable value of the agreement" means the quotient of the taxable value of the property being relinquished from the agreement divided by the total taxable value of property subject to the development rights agreement that included the property being relinquished from the agreement. For years before 1995, taxable value means assessed value.

(7) Thirty days before the recording of a lien under this section, the state land use agency shall notify the owner of the farmland subject to the development rights agreement of the amount of the lien, including interest, if any. If the lien amount is paid before 30 days after the owner is notified, the lien shall not be recorded. The lien may be paid and discharged at any time and is payable to the state by the owner of record when the land or any portion of it is sold by the owner of record, or if the land is converted to a use prohibited by the former development rights agreement. The lien shall be discharged upon renewal or reentry in a development rights agreement, except that a subsequent lien shall not be less than the lien discharged. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, from July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011, a lien under this section recorded before January 1, 2011 may be paid at 85% of the face value of the lien. From October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012, a lien under this section recorded before January 1, 2011 may be paid at 90% of the face value of the lien.

(8) Upon the termination of all or a portion of the development rights agreement under subsection (3) or, subject to subsection (14), the termination of a development rights agreement under subsection (1), the state land use agency shall prepare and record a lien, if any, against the property formerly subject to the development rights agreement for the total amount of the allocated tax credit of the last 7 years, including the year of termination, received by the owner under section 36109, attributable to the property formerly subject to the development rights agreement. The lien shall be without interest or penalty and is payable as provided in subsection (7). However, if the development rights agreement was approved or rejected by the local governing body under section 36104 on or after July 1, 2012 and is terminated under subsection (1), the amount of the lien shall include interest at the current monthly interest rate of 1 percentage point above the adjusted prime rate per annum from the time the lien is recorded until it is paid. The adjusted prime rate shall be determined as provided in section 23 of 1941 PA 122, MCL 205.23.

(9) The state land use agency shall notify the department of treasury of the termination of a development rights agreement.

(10) The unappropriated proceeds from lien payments made under this part shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the agricultural preservation fund created in section 36202.

(11) Upon the relinquishment of all of the farmland under section 36110(2) or a portion of the farmland under section 36110(3), the state land use agency shall prepare and record a lien against the property formerly subject to a development rights agreement in an amount calculated as follows:

(a) Establishing a term of years by multiplying 7 by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of years the farmland was under the development rights agreement, including any extensions, and the denominator of which is the number representing the term of years of that agreement, including any extensions.

(b) The lien amount equals the total amount of the allocated tax credit claimed attributable to that development rights agreement in the immediately preceding term of years as determined in subdivision (a).

(12) When a lien is paid under this section, the state land use agency shall prepare and record a discharge of lien with the register of deeds in the county in which the land is located. The discharge of lien shall

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specifically state that the lien has been paid in full, that the lien is discharged, that the development rights agreement and accompanying contract are terminated, and that the state has no further interest in the land under that agreement.

(13) A farmland development rights agreement is automatically relinquished when the farmland becomes subject to an agricultural conservation easement or purchase of development rights under section 36111b or 36206.

(14) If, upon expiration of the term of a farmland development rights agreement, the farmland becomes subject to an agricultural conservation easement or purchase of development rights under section 36111b or 36206 or if a farmland development rights agreement is automatically relinquished under subsection (13), the farmland is not subject to a lien under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 173, Imd. Eff. Oct. 9, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 567, Imd. Eff. Jan. 16, 1997;—Am. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June 29, 2000;—Am. 2002, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2002;—Am. 2011, Act 79, Imd. Eff. July 12, 2011;—Am. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36111a Relinquishment of development rights agreement; conditions; "economic viability" defined.

Sec. 36111a. (1) Upon request from a landowner and a local governing body, the state land use agency shall relinquish farmland from the development rights agreement if 1 or both of the following occur:

(a) The local governing body determines 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) That, because of the quality of the farmland, agricultural production cannot be made economically viable with generally accepted agricultural and management practices.

(*ii*) That surrounding conditions impose physical obstacles to the agricultural operation or prohibit essential agricultural practices.

(*iii*) That significant natural physical changes in the farmland have occurred that are generally irreversible and permanently limit the productivity of the farmland.

(*iv*) That a court order restricts the use of the farmland so that agricultural production cannot be made economically viable.

(b) The local governing body determines that the relinquishment is in the public interest and that the farmland to be relinquished meets 1 or more of the following conditions:

(*i*) The farmland is to be owned, operated, and maintained by a public body for a public use.

(*ii*) The farmland had been zoned for the immediately preceding 3 years for a commercial or industrial use.

(*iii*) The farmland is zoned for commercial or industrial use and the relinquishment of the farmland will be mitigated by 1 of the following means:

(A) For every 1 acre of farmland to be relinquished, an agricultural conservation easement will be acquired over 2 acres of farmland of comparable or better quality located within the same local unit of government where the farmland to be relinquished is located. The agricultural conservation easement shall be held by the local unit of government where the farmland to be relinquished is located or, if the local governing body declines to hold the agricultural conservation easement, by the state land use agency.

(B) If an agricultural conservation easement cannot be acquired as provided under sub-subparagraph (A), there will be deposited into the state agricultural preservation fund created in section 36202 an amount equal to twice the value of the development rights to the farmland being relinquished, as determined by a certified appraisal.

(*iv*) The farmland is to be owned, operated, and maintained by an organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501, and the relinquishment will be beneficial to the local community.

(2) In determining public interest under subsection (1)(b), the governing body shall consider all of the following:

(a) The long-term effect of the relinquishment upon the preservation and enhancement of agriculture in the surrounding area, including any nonfarm encroachment upon other agricultural operations in the surrounding area.

(b) Any other reasonable and prudent site alternatives to the farmland to be relinquished.

(c) Any infrastructure changes and costs to the local governmental unit that will result from the development of the farmland to be relinquished.

(3) If a landowner's relinquishment application under this section is denied by the local governing body,

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the landowner may appeal that denial to the state land use agency. In determining whether to grant the appeal and approve the relinquishment, the state land use agency shall follow the criteria established in subsection (1)(a) or follow the criteria in subsection (1)(b) and consider the factors described in subsection (2).

(4) The state land use agency shall review an application approved by the local governing body to verify that the criteria provided in subsection (1)(a) were met or the criteria in subsection (1)(b) were met and the factors in subsection (2) were considered. If the local governing body did not render a determination in accordance with this subsection, the state land use agency shall not relinquish the farmland from the development rights agreement.

(5) A local governing body may elect to waive its right to make a relinquishment determination under subsection (1)(a) or (b) by providing written notice of that election to the state land use agency. The written notice shall grant the state land use agency sole authority to grant or deny the application as provided in this section.

(6) A decision by the state land use agency to grant or deny an application for relinquishment under this section that adversely affects a land owner or a local governing body is subject to a contested case hearing as provided under this act and the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(7) As used in this section, "economic viability" means that the cash flow returning to the farming operation is positive. The local governing body or state land use agency shall evaluate an application for relinquishment, and determine the economic viability of the affected farming operation, by doing all of the following:

(a) Estimating crop, livestock, or product value of the farmland using locally accepted production methods and local United States department of agriculture yield capabilities for the specific soil types and average price for crop, livestock, or product over the past 5 years.

(b) Adding average yearly property tax credits afforded by the development rights agreement over the immediately preceding 5-year period.

(c) Subtracting estimated expenses directly attributed to the production of the crop, livestock, or product, including, but not limited to, seed, fertilizer, insecticide, building and machinery repair, drying, trucking, and property taxes.

(d) Subtracting the estimated cost of the operator's labor and management time at rates established by the United States department of agriculture for "all labor", Great Lakes area, as published in the United States department of agriculture labor reports.

(e) Subtracting typical capital replacement cost per acre of nonland assets using a useful life depreciation rate for comparable farming operations.

History: Add. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2002, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36111b Development rights or acquisition of agricultural conservation easements; application; selection criteria and scoring system; notification; points; determination of development rights value; approval by director; installment purchase plan; provisions for protection of farmland; termination of easements; value development rights in event of condemnation.

Sec. 36111b. (1) An application submitted under section 36111(10) for purchase of development rights or acquisition of agricultural conservation easements shall be evaluated and ranked according to selection criteria and a scoring system approved by the commission of agriculture. In developing a point system for selecting the parcels for purchase of development rights or the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements, the department of agriculture shall seek the assistance of the department of natural resources, Michigan state university, the United States department of agriculture-natural resources conservation service, and other appropriate professional and industry organizations. The selection criteria shall give consideration to the quality and physical characteristics of the parcel as well as surrounding land uses and threat of development.

(2) The department of agriculture shall prepare a notification to those individuals whose farmland development rights agreements are expiring in the year of application or expiring 1 year after the year of application. The notice shall be completed not less than 90 days before an application deadline set by the department of agriculture and shall include written information and details regarding the program. Applications for the purchase of development rights or the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements shall be submitted to the department of agriculture by the owner of that land and must include written support

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by the local governing body.

(3) In developing a scoring system, points shall be given to farmland that meets 1 or more of the following criteria, with subdivision (a) given priority over subdivisions (b) to (e):

(a) Productive capacity of farmland suited for the production of feed, food, and fiber, including, but not limited to, prime or unique farmland or farmland of local importance, as defined by the United States department of agriculture-natural resources conservation service.

(b) Lands that are enrolled under this act.

(c) Prime agricultural lands that are faced with development pressure that will permanently alter the ability for that land to be used for productive agricultural activity.

(d) Parcels that would complement and are part of a documented, long-range effort or plan for land preservation by the local governing body.

(e) Parcels with available matching funds from the local governing body, private organizations, or other sources.

(4) For purposes of subsections (7) and (8), the value of development rights in the purchase of development rights or the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements shall be determined by subtracting the current fair market value of the property without the development rights from the current fair market value of the property with all development rights.

(5) The director of the department of agriculture shall approve individual parcels for the purchase of development rights or the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements based upon the adopted selection criteria and scoring process. The commission of agriculture shall approve a method to establish the price to be paid for the purchase of development rights or the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements, such as via appraisal, bidding, or a formula-based process and shall establish the maximum price to be paid on a per purchase basis from the lien fund. The director of the department of agriculture, after negotiations with the landowner, shall approve the price to be paid for purchase of development rights or the acquisition of the agricultural conservation easements. Proper releases from mortgage holders and lienholders must be obtained and executed to ensure that all development rights are purchased free and clear of all encumbrances.

(6) The department may purchase the agricultural conservation easement through an installment purchase agreement under terms negotiated by the department.

(7) An agricultural conservation easement shall include appropriate provisions for the protection of the farmland and other unique and critical benefits. An agricultural conservation easement may be terminated if the land, as determined by the commission of agriculture, meets 1 or more of the criteria described in section 36111a(1)(a) to (d). An agricultural conservation easement or portion of an agricultural conservation easement shall not be terminated unless approved by the local governing body and the commission of natural resources and the commission of agriculture. If an agricultural conservation easement is terminated, the current fair market value of the development rights, at the time of termination, shall be paid to the state land use agency. Any payment received by the state land use agency under this part shall be used to acquire agricultural conservation easements on additional farmland under section 36111(10).

(8) Whenever a public entity, authority, or political subdivision exercises the power of eminent domain and condemns land enrolled under this act, the value of the land shall include the value of development rights covered by development rights agreements or agricultural conservation easements. If the development rights have been purchased or agricultural conservation easements have been acquired under section 36111(10), the value of the development rights at the time of condemnation shall be paid to the state land use agency and any payment received by the state land use agency shall be used to acquire agricultural conservation easements on additional land under section 36111(10).

History: Add. 1996, Act 233, Imd. Eff. June 5, 1996;—Am. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June 29, 2000.

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Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36112 Relinquishment of open space development rights easement pursuant to MCL 324.36105.

Sec. 36112. (1) An open space development rights easement pursuant to section 36105 shall be relinquished by the state at the expiration of the term of the easement unless renewed with the consent of the owner of the land. If the owner of the land has complied with the requirements of this part regarding open space development rights easements, the owner is entitled to automatic renewal of the agreement upon written request of the landowner.

(2) An open space development rights easement may be relinquished by the state prior to a termination

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date contained in the instrument as follows:

(a) At any time the state determines that the development of the land is in the public interest and in agreement with the owner of the land.

(b) The owner of the land may submit an application to the local governing body where the original application for an open space development rights easement was submitted requesting that the development rights easement be relinquished. The application shall be made on a form prescribed by the state land use agency. The request for relinquishment shall be processed and shall be subject to the provisions as provided in sections 36104 and 36105 for review and approval.

(3) If the request for relinquishment of the development rights easement is approved, the state land use agency shall prepare an instrument providing for the relinquishment of the open space development rights easement, subject to subsections (4), (5), (6), and (7), and shall record it with the register of deeds of the county in which the land is situated.

(4) At the time a development rights easement is to be relinquished pursuant to subsection (2)(b), the state land use agency shall cause to be prepared and recorded a lien against the property formerly subject to the development rights easement for the total amount of the ad valorem taxes not paid on the development rights during the period it was held by the state, if any. The lien shall provide that interest at the rate of 6% per annum compounded shall be added to the ad valorem taxes not paid from the time the exemption was received until it is paid.

(5) The lien shall become payable to the state by the owner of record at the time the land or any portion of it is sold by the owner of record, or if the land is converted to a use prohibited by the former open space development rights easement.

(6) Upon the termination of the open space development rights easement pursuant to subsection (2)(a), the development rights revert back to the owner without penalty or interest.

(7) Upon the natural termination of the open space development rights easement pursuant to subsection (1), the state land use agency shall cause to be prepared and recorded a lien against the property formerly subject to the open space development rights easement. The amount of the lien shall be the total amount of the last 7 years ad valorem taxes not paid on the development rights during the period it was held by the state, if any. The lien shall be without penalty or interest and shall be payable subject to subsection (5).

(8) A copy of the renewal or relinquishment of an open space development rights easement shall be sent to the local governing body's assessing office.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36113 Relinquishment of open space development rights easement pursuant to MCL 324.36106.

Sec. 36113. (1) An open space development rights easement pursuant to section 36106 shall be relinquished by the local governing body at the expiration of the term of the easement unless renewed with the consent of the owner of the land if the owner of the land has complied with the requirements of this part regarding open space development rights easements, the owner shall be entitled to automatic renewal of the agreement upon written request of the landowner.

(2) An open space development rights easement may be relinquished by the local governing body prior to a termination date contained in the instrument as follows:

(a) At any time the local governing body determines that the development of the land is in the public interest and in agreement with the owner of the land.

(b) The owner of the land may submit an application to the local governing body having jurisdiction requesting that the development rights easement be relinquished. The application shall be made on a form prescribed by the state land use agency. The request for relinquishment shall be processed and shall be subject to the provisions as provided in section 36106 for review and approval.

(3) If the request for relinquishment of the open space development rights easement is approved, the local governing body shall prepare an instrument providing for the relinquishment of the open space development rights easement, subject to subsections (4), (5), (6), and (7), and shall record it with the register of deeds of the county in which the land is situated.

(4) At the time an open space development rights easement is to be relinquished pursuant to subsection (2)(b), the local governing body shall cause to have prepared and recorded a lien against the property formerly subject to the open space development rights easement. The amount of the lien shall be the total amount of the

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ad valorem taxes not paid on the development rights during the period it was held by the local governing body, if any. The lien shall provide that interest at the rate of 6% per annum compounded shall be added to the ad valorem taxes exemption from the time granted until the lien is paid.

(5) The lien shall become payable to the local governing body by the owner of record at the time the land or any portion of it is sold by the owner of record, or if the land is converted to a use prohibited by the former open space development rights easement.

(6) Upon the termination of the open space development rights easement pursuant to subsection (2)(a), the development rights revert back to the owner without penalty or interest and the development rights easement upon the land expire.

(7) Upon the natural termination of the open space development rights easement pursuant to subsection (1), the local governing body shall cause to be prepared and recorded a lien against the property formerly subject to the open space development rights easement. The amount of the lien shall be the total amount of the last 7 years ad valorem taxes not paid on the development rights during the period it was held by the local governing body, if any. The lien shall be without penalty or interest and will be payable subject to subsection (5).

(8) A copy of the renewal or relinquishment of an open space development rights easement shall be sent to the local assessing office.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36114 Injunction; penalty.

Sec. 36114. If the owner or a successor in title of the land upon which a development rights agreement or easement has been recorded pursuant to this part changes the use of the land to a prohibited use or knowingly sells the land for a use other than those permitted in the development rights agreement or easement without first pursuing the provisions in sections 36110(2), 36111, 36112, and 36113, or receiving permission of the state land use agency, he or she may be enjoined by the state acting through the attorney general, or by the local governing body acting through its attorney, and is subject to a civil penalty for actual damages, which in no case shall exceed double the value of the land as established at the time the application for the development rights agreement or easement was approved.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36115 Exchange of information.

Sec. 36115. All departments and agencies of state government shall cooperate with the state land use agency in the exchange of information concerning projects and activities that might jeopardize the preservation of land contemplated by this part. The state land use agency shall periodically advise the departments and agencies of state government of the location and description of land upon which there exists development rights agreements or easements and the departments and agencies shall harmonize their planning and projects consistent with the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36116 Rules.

Sec. 36116. The state land use agency may promulgate rules for the administration of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

324.36117 Repealed. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to report and recommendation for preservation of certain lands.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Farmland and Open Space

Popular name: NREPA

PART 362
AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION FUND

324.36201 Definitions.

Sec. 36201. As used in this part:

(a) "Agricultural conservation easement" means a conveyance, by a written instrument, in which, subject to permitted uses, the owner relinquishes to the public in perpetuity his or her development rights and makes a covenant running with the land not to undertake development.

(b) "Agricultural use" means substantially undeveloped land devoted to the production of plants and animals useful to humans, including forages and sod crops; grains, feed crops, and field crops; dairy and dairy products; poultry and poultry products; livestock, including breeding and grazing of cattle, swine, captive cervidae, and similar animals; berries; herbs; flowers; seeds; grasses; nursery stock; fruits; vegetables; Christmas trees; and other similar uses and activities. Agricultural use includes use in a federal acreage set-aside program, a federal conservation reserve program, or a wetland reserve program. Agricultural use does not include the management and harvesting of a woodlot.

(c) "Board" means the agricultural preservation fund board created in section 36204.

(d) "Commission" means the commission of agriculture and rural development.

(e) "Department" means the department of agriculture and rural development.

(f) "Development" means an activity that materially alters or affects the existing conditions or use of any land in a manner that is inconsistent with an agricultural use.

(g) "Development rights" means an interest in land that includes the right to construct a building or structure, to improve land for development, or to divide a parcel for development purposes.

(h) "Farmland" means 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) A farm of 40 or more acres in 1 ownership, with 51% or more of the land area devoted to an agricultural use.

(*ii*) A farm of 5 acres or more in 1 ownership, but less than 40 acres, with 51% or more of the land area devoted to an agricultural use, that has produced a gross annual income from agriculture of $200.00 per year or more per acre of cleared and tillable land. A farm described in this subparagraph enrolled in a federal acreage set-aside program or a federal conservation reserve program is considered to have produced a gross annual income from agriculture of $200.00 per year or more per acre of cleared and tillable land.

(*iii*) A farm designated by the department as a specialty farm in 1 ownership that has produced a gross annual income of $2,000.00 or more from an agricultural use. Specialty farms include, but are not limited to, greenhouses; equine breeding and grazing; the breeding and grazing of cervidae, pheasants, and other game animals; bees and bee products; mushrooms; aquaculture; and other similar uses and activities.

(*iv*) Parcels of land in 1 ownership that are not contiguous but which constitute an integral part of a farming operation being conducted on land otherwise qualifying as farmland may be included in an application under this part.

(i) "Fund" means the agricultural preservation fund created in section 36202.

(j) "Grant" means a grant for the purchase of an agriculture conservation easement under this part.

(k) "Owner" means a person having a freehold estate in land coupled with possession and enjoyment. If land is subject to a land contract, owner means the vendee in agreement with the vendor.

(*l*) "Permitted use" means any use expressly authorized within an agriculture conservation easement consistent with the farming operation or that does not adversely affect the productivity of the farmland. Storage, retail or wholesale marketing, or processing of agricultural products is a permitted use in a farming operation if more than 50% of the stored, processed, or merchandised products are produced by the farm operator for at least 3 of the immediately preceding 5 years. Permitted use includes oil and gas exploration and extraction, but does not include other mineral development that is inconsistent with an agricultural use.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36202 Agricultural preservation fund; creation; disposition; money remaining in fund; administration; expenditures.

Sec. 36202. (1) The agricultural preservation fund is created within the state treasury.

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(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund, including federal funds, other state revenues, gifts, bequests, and other donations. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund and shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(5) Money in the fund may be expended, upon appropriation, as follows:

(a) Not more than $1,400,000.00 annually for the administrative costs of the department and the board in implementing this part and part 361.

(b) After expenditures for the administrative costs under subdivision (a), money in the fund may be used, upon approval of the board, to provide grants to local units of government pursuant to section 36203.

(c) After expenditures under subdivisions (a) and (b) have been made, if the amount of money remaining in the fund exceeds $5,000,000.00, money in the fund may be used, upon approval of the board, pursuant to part 361 for the purchase of development rights to farmland or the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements.

(6) Expenditures of money in the fund as provided in this part are consistent with the state's interest in preserving farmland and are for an important public purpose.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000;—Am. 2004, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Apr. 21, 2004;—Am. 2013, Act 86, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 265, Eff. Sept. 26, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36203 Purchase of agricultural conservation easements; establishment of grant program; application; eligibility; form; contents; forwarding to board.

Sec. 36203. (1) The department shall establish a grant program to provide grants to eligible local units of government for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements.

(2) A grant application shall be submitted by the local unit of government applying for the grant. A local unit of government is eligible to submit a grant application under this section if both of the following requirements have been met:

(a) The local unit of government has adopted a development rights ordinance providing for a purchase of development rights program pursuant to the county zoning act, 1943 PA 183, MCL 125.201 to 125.240, the township zoning act, 1943 PA 184, MCL 125.271 to 125.310, or the city and village zoning act, 1921 PA 207, MCL 125.581 to 125.600, that contains all of the following:

(*i*) An application procedure.

(*ii*) The criteria for a scoring system for parcel selections within the local unit of government.

(*iii*) A method to establish the price to be paid for development rights, which may include an appraisal, bidding, or formula-based process.

(b) The local unit of government has adopted, within the last 10 years, a comprehensive land use plan that includes a plan for agricultural preservation or the local unit of government is included within a regional plan that was prepared within the last 10 years that includes a plan for agricultural preservation.

(3) An application for a grant shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the department. The grant application shall include at a minimum a list of the parcels proposed for acquisition of agricultural conservation easements, the size and location of each parcel, the amount of local matching funds, and the estimated acquisition value of the agricultural conservation easements.

(4) Upon receipt of grant applications pursuant to subsection (3), the department shall forward those grant applications to the board for consideration under section 36205.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36204 Agricultural preservation fund board; creation; membership; appointment; terms; quorum; compensation; expenses; election of chairperson and vice-chairperson; removal of member; vacancy.

Sec. 36204. (1) The agricultural preservation fund board is created within the department.

(2) The board shall consist of the following members:

(a) The director of the department or his or her designee.

(b) The director of the department of natural resources or his or her designee.

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(c) Five individuals appointed by the governor as follows:

(*i*) Two individuals representing agricultural interests.

(*ii*) One individual representing conservation interests.

(*iii*) One individual representing development interests.

(*iv*) One individual representing the general public.

(d) In addition to the members described in subdivisions (a) to (c), the director of the department may appoint 2 individuals with knowledge and expertise in agriculture or land use, or local government, as nonvoting members.

(3) The members first appointed to the board shall be appointed within 60 days after the effective date of this section.

(4) Members of the board appointed under subsection (2)(c) and (d) shall serve for terms of 4 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later. However, of the members first appointed under subsection (2)(c), 1 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, 2 shall be appointed for terms of 3 years, and 2 shall be appointed for terms of 4 years.

(5) A majority of the members of the board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the board. A majority of the members present and serving are required for official action of the board.

(6) Members of the board shall serve without compensation. However, members of the board may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the board.

(7) The board shall annually elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its members.

(8) The board may remove a member of the board for incompetency, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause.

(9) A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36205 Application; evaluation criteria; priority; determination of grant awards; amount; notification; report to commission; maximum expenditure; portion of acquisition cost to be provided by applicant or another person.

Sec. 36205. (1) An application submitted to the board under section 36203 shall be evaluated according to selection criteria established by the board. The criteria shall place a priority on the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements on farmland that meets 1 or more of the following:

(a) Farmland that has a productive capacity suited for the production of feed, food, and fiber.

(b) Farmland that would complement and is part of a documented, long-range effort or plan for land preservation by the local unit of government in which the farmland is located.

(c) Farmland that is located within an area that complements other land protection efforts by creating a block of farmland that is subject to an agricultural conservation easement under this part or part 361, or a development rights agreement under part 361, or in which development rights have been acquired under part 361.

(d) Farmland in which a greater portion of matching funds or a larger percentage of the agricultural conservation easement value is provided by a local unit of government or sources other than the fund.

(e) Other factors considered important by the board.

(2) After reviewing grant applications for the acquisition of agricultural conservation easements and evaluating them according to the criteria established in subsection (1), the board shall determine which grants should be awarded and the amount of the grants. Upon making its determination, the board shall notify the department and shall submit a report containing this information to the commission.

(3) The board may establish a maximum amount per acre that may be expended with money from the fund for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements.

(4) A grant shall require that a portion of the cost of acquiring an agricultural conservation easement shall be provided by the applicant or another person.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36206 Distribution of grants to local units of government; condition; reviewing permitted

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uses; contribution of development rights; purchase by local unit of government through installment purchase agreement; joint holding by state and local unit of government; delegation of enforcement authority; transfer to property owner; tax credits under MCL 324.36109.

Sec. 36206. (1) After the board determines which grants should be awarded, and the amount of the grants, the department shall distribute the grants to the local units of government awarded the grants. The department shall condition the receipt of a grant upon the department's approval of the agricultural conservation easements being acquired.

(2) In reviewing permitted uses contained within an agricultural conservation easement under subsection (1), the department shall consider all of the following:

(a) Whether the permitted uses adversely affect the productivity of farmland.

(b) Whether the permitted uses materially alter or negatively affect the existing conditions or use of the land.

(c) Whether the permitted uses result in a material alteration of an existing structure to a nonagricultural use.

(d) Whether the permitted uses conform with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.

(3) The department may accept contributions of all or a portion of the development rights to 1 or more parcels of land, including a conservation easement or a historic preservation easement as defined in section 2140, as part of a transaction for the purchase of an agricultural conservation easement.

(4) A local unit of government that purchases an agricultural conservation easement with money from a grant may purchase the agricultural conservation easement through an installment purchase agreement under terms negotiated by the local unit of government.

(5) An agricultural conservation easement acquired under this part shall be held jointly by the state and the local unit of government in which the land subject to the agricultural conservation easement is located. However, the state may delegate enforcement authority of 1 or more agricultural conservation easements to the local units of government in which the agricultural conservation easements are located.

(6) An agricultural conservation easement acquired under this part may be transferred to the owner of the property subject to the agricultural conservation easement if the state and the local unit of government holding the agricultural conservation easement agree to the transfer and the terms of the transfer.

(7) Section 36109 provides for tax credits for an owner of farmland subject to an agricultural conservation easement under this section.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000;—Am. 2002, Act 75, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36207 Rules.

Sec. 36207. The department may promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 2000, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June. 29, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

ENDANGERED SPECIES

PART 365
ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION

324.36501 Definitions.

Sec. 36501. As used in this part:

(a) "Endangered species" means any species of fish, plant life, or wildlife that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range, other than a species of insecta determined by the department or the secretary of the United States department of the interior to constitute a pest whose protection under this part would present an overwhelming and overriding risk to humans.

(b) "Fish or wildlife" means any member of the animal kingdom, including any mammal, fish, amphibian, mollusk, crustacean, arthropod, or other invertebrate, and includes any part, product, egg, or offspring, or the dead body or parts thereof. Fish or wildlife includes migratory birds, nonmigratory birds, or endangered birds for which protection is afforded by treaty or other international agreement.

(c) "Import" means to bring into, introduce into, or attempt to bring into or introduce into any place subject to the jurisdiction of this state.

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(d) "Plant or plant life" means any member of the plant kingdom, including seeds, roots, and other parts of a member of the plant kingdom.

(e) "Species" includes any subspecies of fish, plant life, or wildlife and any other group of fish, plants, or wildlife of the same species or smaller taxa in common spatial arrangement that interbreed or cross-pollinate when mature.

(f) "Take" means, in reference to fish and wildlife, to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct.

(g) "Take" means, in reference to plants, to collect, pick, cut, dig up, or destroy in any manner.

(h) "Threatened species" means any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36502 Duties of department.

Sec. 36502. The department shall perform those acts necessary for the conservation, protection, restoration, and propagation of endangered and threatened species of fish, wildlife, and plants in cooperation with the federal government, pursuant to the endangered species act of 1973, Public Law 93-205, 87 Stat. 884, and with rules promulgated by the secretary of the interior under that act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36503 Investigations; determinations; rule; review.

Sec. 36503. (1) The department shall conduct investigations on fish, plants, and wildlife in order to develop information relating to population, distribution, habitat needs, limiting factors, and other biological and ecological data to determine management measures necessary for their continued ability to sustain themselves successfully. On the basis of these determinations and other available scientific and commercial data, which may include consultation with scientists and others who may have specialized knowledge, learning, or experience, the department shall promulgate a rule listing those species of fish, plants, and wildlife that are determined to be endangered or threatened within the state, pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) The department shall conduct a review of the state list of endangered and threatened species within not more than 2 years after its effective date and every 2 years thereafter, and may amend the list by appropriate additions or deletions pursuant to Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 299.1021 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.36504 Programs; cooperative agreements.

Sec. 36504. (1) The department may establish programs, including acquisition of land or aquatic habitat, as are considered necessary for the management of endangered or threatened species.

(2) In implementing the programs authorized by this section, the department may enter into cooperative agreements with federal and state agencies, political subdivisions of the state, or with private persons for the administration and management of any area or program established under this section or for investigation as outlined in section 36503.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36505 Prohibitions; exceptions.

Sec. 36505. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, a person shall not take, possess, transport, import, export, process, sell, offer for sale, buy, or offer to buy, and a common or contract carrier shall not transport or receive for shipment, any species of fish, plants, or wildlife appearing on the following lists:

(a) The list of fish, plants, and wildlife indigenous to the state determined to be endangered or threatened within the state pursuant to section 36503 or subsection (3).

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(b) The United States list of endangered or threatened native fish and wildlife.

(c) The United States list of endangered or threatened plants.

(d) The United States list of endangered or threatened foreign fish and wildlife.

(2) A species of fish, plant, or wildlife appearing on any of the lists delineated in subsection (1) which enters the state from another state or from a point outside the territorial limits of the United States may enter, be transported, possessed, and sold in accordance with the terms of a federal permit issued pursuant to section 10 of the endangered species act of 1973, 16 USC 1539, or an applicable permit issued under the laws of another state.

(3) The department may, by rule, treat any species as an endangered species or threatened species even though it is not listed pursuant to section 36503, if it finds any of the following:

(a) The species so closely resembles in appearance, at the point in question, a species which is listed pursuant to section 36503 that enforcement personnel would have substantial difficulty in attempting to differentiate between the listed and unlisted species.

(b) The effect of the substantial difficulty in differentiating between a listed and an unlisted species is an additional threat to an endangered or threatened species.

(c) The treatment of an unlisted species will substantially facilitate the enforcement and further the intent of this part.

(4) The department may permit the taking, possession, purchase, sale, transportation, exportation, or shipment of species of fish, plants, or wildlife which appear on the state list of endangered or threatened species compiled pursuant to section 36503 and subsection (3) for scientific, zoological, or educational purposes, for propagation in captivity of such fish, plants, or wildlife to ensure their survival.

(5) Upon good cause shown and where necessary to alleviate damage to property or to protect human health, endangered or threatened species found on the state list compiled pursuant to section 36503 and subsection (3) may be removed, captured, or destroyed, but only as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13. Carnivorous animals found on the state list may be removed, captured, or destroyed by any person in emergency situations involving an immediate threat to human life, but the removal, capture, or destruction shall be reported to the department within 24 hours of the act.

(6) This section does not prohibit any of the following:

(a) The importation of a trophy under a permit issued pursuant to section 10 of the endangered species act of 1973, 16 USC 1539, which is not for resale and which was lawfully taken in a manner permitted by the laws of the state, territory, or country where the trophy was caught, taken, or killed.

(b) The taking of a threatened species when the department has determined that the abundance of the species in the state justifies a controlled harvest not in violation of federal law.

(c) Subject to any permits that may be required by the department, the possession, transfer, transportation, importation, or exportation or the transport or receipt for shipment by a common or contract carrier of a raptor or the captive-bred progeny of a raptor, a raptor egg, or raptor semen acquired in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations which allow raptors, raptor eggs, or raptor semen to be used in falconry or in the captive propagation of raptors for use in falconry.

(d) Subject to any permits that may be required by the department, the selling, offering for sale, buying, or offering to buy a raptor that was captive-bred or semen from a raptor that was captive-bred in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations which allow raptors or raptor semen to be used in falconry or in captive propagation of raptors for use in falconry.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 470, Imd. Eff. Jan. 4, 1999;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36506 Enforcement of part and rules.

Sec. 36506. A law enforcement officer, police officer, sheriff's deputy, or conservation officer shall enforce this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.36507 Violation; penalty.

Sec. 36507. A person who violates this part or who fails to procure any permit required under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $1,000.00 or less than $100.00, or both.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 128, Imd. Eff. Mar. 13, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

CHAPTER 2
MANAGEMENT OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES

SUBCHAPTER 1
WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

PART 401
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

324.40101 Meanings of words and phrases.

Sec. 40101. For purposes of this part, the words and phrases defined in sections 40102 to 40104 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40102 Definitions; A to F.

Sec. 40102. (1) "Animals" means wild birds and wild mammals.

(2) "Bag limit" means the number of animals that may be taken and possessed as determined by the department.

(3) "Bow" means a device for propelling an arrow from a string drawn, held, and released by hand where the force used to hold the string in the drawn position is provided by the archer's muscles.

(4) "Buy" or "sell" means an exchange or attempt or offer to exchange for money, barter, or anything of value.

(5) "Chase" means to follow animals with dogs or other wild or domestic animals trained for that purpose.

(6) "Cormorant damage" means adverse impacts of double-crested cormorants on fish, fish hatchery stock, wildlife, plants, and their habitats and on man-made structures.

(7) "Cormorant depredation order" means the depredation order for double-crested cormorants to protect public resources, 50 CFR 21.48, issued by the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

(8) "Crossbow" means a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire an arrow, bolt, or quarrel by the release of a bow string that is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and has a working safety and a draw weight of 100 pounds or greater.

(9) "Deer or elk feeding" means the depositing, distributing, or tending of feed in an area frequented by wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer or elk. Deer or elk feeding does not include any of the following:

(a) Feeding wild birds or other wildlife if done in such a manner as to exclude wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer and elk from gaining access to the feed.

(b) The scattering of feed solely as the result of normal logging practices or normal agricultural practices.

(c) The storage or use of feed for agricultural purposes if 1 or more of the following apply:

(*i*) The area is occupied by livestock actively consuming the feed on a daily basis.

(*ii*) The feed is covered to deter wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer or elk from gaining access to the feed.

(*iii*) The feed is in a storage facility that is consistent with normal agricultural practices.

(d) Baiting to take game as provided by an order of the commission under section 40113a.

(10) "Disability" means a determinable physical characteristic of an individual that may result from disease, injury, congenital condition of birth, or functional disorder.

(11) "Feed" means a substance composed of grain, mineral, salt, fruit, vegetable, hay, or any other food material or combination of these materials, whether natural or manufactured, that may attract white-tailed deer or elk. Feed does not include any of the following:

(a) Plantings for wildlife.

(b) Standing farm crops under normal agricultural practices.

(c) Agricultural commodities scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural practices.

(12) "Firearm" means any weapon which will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosive. A pneumatic gun, as defined in section 1 of 1990 PA 319, MCL

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123.1101, other than a paintball gun that expels by pneumatic pressure plastic balls filled with paint for the purpose of marking the point of impact, is also considered a firearm for the purpose of this act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998;—Am. 1999, Act 66, Imd. Eff. June 25, 1999;—Am. 2000, Act 347, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2000;—Am. 2007, Act 48, Imd. Eff. Aug. 3, 2007;—Am. 2015, Act 24, Eff. July 1, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40103 Definitions; G to R; "conservation" defined.

Sec. 40103. (1) "Game" means any species of wildlife designated by the legislature or the commission as game under section 40110 and any of the following animals but does not include privately owned cervidae species located on a cervidae livestock facility registered under the privately owned cervidae producers marketing act, 2000 PA 190, MCL 287.951 to 287.969:

(a) Badger.
(b) Bear.
(c) Beaver.
(d) Bobcat.
(e) Brant.
(f) Coot.
(g) Coyote.
(h) Crow.
(i) Deer.
(j) Duck.
(k) Elk.
(*l*) Fisher.
(m) Florida gallinule.
(n) Fox.
(o) Geese.
(p) Hare.
(q) Hungarian partridge.
(r) Marten.
(s) Mink.
(t) Moose.
(u) Muskrat.
(v) Opossum.
(w) Otter.
(x) Pheasant.
(y) Quail.
(z) Rabbit.
(aa) Raccoon.
(bb) Ruffed grouse.
(cc) Sharptailed grouse.
(dd) Skunk.
(ee) Snipe.
(ff) Sora rail.
(gg) Squirrel.
(hh) Virginia rail.
(ii) Weasel.
(jj) Wild turkey.
(kk) Wolf.
(*ll*) Woodchuck.
(mm) Woodcock.

(2) "Interim order of the department" means an order of the department issued under section 40108.

(3) "Kind" means an animal's sex, age, or physical characteristics.

(4) "Normal agricultural practices" means generally accepted agricultural and management practices as defined by the commission of agriculture and rural development.

(5) "Open season" means the dates during which game may be legally taken.

(6) "Parts" means any or all portions of an animal, including the skin, plumage, hide, fur, entire body, or

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egg of an animal.

(7) "Protected" or "protected animal" means an animal or kind of animal that is designated by the department as an animal that shall not be taken.

(8) "Residence" means a permanent building serving as a temporary or permanent home. Residence may include a cottage, cabin, or mobile home, but does not include a structure designed primarily for taking game, a tree blind, a tent, a recreational or other vehicle, or a camper.

(9) "Conservation" means the wise use of natural resources.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998;—Am. 1999, Act 66, Imd. Eff. June 25, 1999;—Am. 2000, Act 191, Eff. June 1, 2001;—Am. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 21, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 281, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2016.

Compiler's note: Act 160 of 2004, which was approved by the governor and filed with the secretary of state on June 18, 2004, provided for the amendment of Act 451 of 1994 by amending Sec. 40103 and adding Sec. 40110a. The amended and added sections were effective June 18, 2004. On March 28, 2005, a petition seeking a referendum on Act 160 of 2004 was filed with the Secretary of State. Const 1963, art 2, sec 9, provides that no law as to which the power of referendum properly has been invoked shall be effective thereafter unless approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the next general election. A referendum on Act 160 of 2004 was presented to the electors at the November 2006 general election as Proposal 06-3, which read as follows:

"PROPOSAL 06-3

"A REFERENDUM ON PUBLIC ACT 160 OF 2004 — AN ACT TO ALLOW THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HUNTING SEASON FOR MOURNING DOVES

"Public Act 160 of 2004 would:

"Authorize the Natural Resources Commission to establish a hunting season for mourning doves.

"Require a mourning dove hunter to have a small game license and a $2.00 mourning dove stamp.

"Stipulate that revenue from the stamp must be split evenly between the Game and Fish Protection Fund and the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.

"Require the Department of Natural Resources to address responsible mourning dove hunting; management practices for the propagation of mourning doves; and participation in mourning dove hunting by youth, the elderly and the disabled in the Department’s annual hunting guide.

"Should this law be approved?

"Yes [ ]

"No [ ]"

Act 160 of 2004 was rejected by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the November 2006 general election.

Enacting section 1 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This act reenacts all or portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108. If any portions of 2012 PA 520 or 2013 PA 21 or 2013 PA 22 or 2013 PA 108 not amended by this act are invalidated pursuant to referendum or any other reason, then any such invalidated portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108 which are otherwise included in this act, shall be deemed to be reenacted pursuant to this act."

Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 2. If any part or parts of this act are found to be in conflict with the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, or federal law, this act shall be implemented to the maximum extent that the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, and federal law permit. Any provision held invalid or inoperative shall be severable from the remaining portions of this act."

Public Act 281 of 2014 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const 1963, art II, § 9. The initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Senate on August 13, 2014 and by the House of Representatives on August 27, 2014. The initiative petition was filed with the Secretary of State on August 27, 2014.

In Keep Michigan Wolves Protected v State of Michigan, an unpublished opinion issued November 22, 2016, (Docket No. 328604), the Michigan Court of Appeals held that 2014 PA 281, which amended sections of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, is unconstitutional as it violates the title-object clause of section 24 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40104 Definitions; T, V.

Sec. 40104. (1) "Take" means to hunt with any weapon, dog, raptor, or other wild or domestic animal trained for that purpose; kill; chase; follow; harass; harm; pursue; shoot; rob; trap; capture; or collect animals, or to attempt to engage in such an activity.

(2) "Transport" means to carry or ship animals within this state or to points outside this state.

(3) "Trap" means taking or attempting to take animals by means of a trap or other device designed to kill or capture animals.

(4) "Vehicle" means every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported, except devices exclusively moved by human power.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40105 Animals as property of state; taking of animals to be regulated.

Sec. 40105. All animals found in this state, whether resident or migratory and whether native or

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introduced, are the property of the people of the state, and the taking of all animals shall be regulated by the department as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40106 Game or protected animal; taking, releasing, transporting, selling, buying, or possessing; construction of section.

Sec. 40106. A person shall not take, release, transport, sell, buy, or have in his or her possession game or any protected animal, whether living or dead, or parts of any game or protected animal, from this state or from outside of this state, except as provided for in this part or by an order of the department or an interim order of the department. This section does not enhance the department's powers to establish an open season for an animal that is not game or give the department the power to designate a species as game.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40107 Management of animals; orders of department; procedures for exercising power; revision of order; filing orders to take place of former 1929 PA 286; filing and effective date of orders.

Sec. 40107. (1) The department shall manage animals in this state. In managing animals, the department may issue orders to do all of the following:

(a) Make recommendations to the legislature regarding animals that should be added or deleted from the category of game.

(b) Determine the kinds of animals that may be taken.

(c) Determine the animals or kinds of animals that are protected.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in section 40110, establish open seasons for taking or possessing game.

(e) Establish lawful methods of taking game.

(f) Establish lawful methods of taking game for persons who have certain disabilities.

(g) Establish bag limits.

(h) Establish geographic areas within the state where certain regulations may apply to the taking of animals.

(i) Determine conditions under which permits may be issued by the department.

(j) Establish fees for the issuing of permits by the department.

(k) Regulate the hours during which animals may be taken.

(*l*) Require that a person involved in a chase of an animal have in his or her possession a valid license that would authorize the taking of the animal being chased.

(m) Establish conditions under which animals taken or possessed outside of this state may be imported into this state.

(n) Regulate the buying and selling of animals and parts of animals.

(o) Establish methods of taking animals that are primarily taken because of the value of their pelts, which methods supplement the lawful methods of taking such animals that exist on October 1, 1988.

(2) In exercising a power under this section, the department shall comply with the following procedures in a manner that assures adequate public notice, opportunity for public comment, and due regard for traditional methods and practices that were lawful prior to October 1, 1988:

(a) An order shall be prepared by the department after comments from department field personnel and interested persons have been solicited and considered.

(b) The order shall be on the department agenda for at least 1 month prior to its consideration.

(c) The department shall provide an opportunity for public comment on the order.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the department prior to issuance of an order shall provide a copy of each order to each member of the senate and the house of representatives standing committees that consider legislation pertaining to conservation, environment, recreation, tourism, and natural resources. The members of the standing committees have 30 days to review and submit comments to the department regarding an order. This subdivision shall not apply to an order that does not alter the substance of a lawful provision that exists in the form of a statute, rule, regulation, or order at the time the order is prepared.

(e) The department shall approve, reject, or modify the order.

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(3) The department may revise an order issued pursuant to this section, and any revision of such an order shall comply with the procedure set forth in subsection (2).

(4) Not later than January 1, 1990, the commission shall issue orders pursuant to subsection (1) and file orders with the secretary of state that the commission considers sufficient to take the place of former 1929 PA 286. The orders filed with the secretary of state pursuant to this subsection shall indicate that the orders become effective upon filing with the secretary of state. Following the effective date of this part, the department shall undertake all of the powers given to the commission in former 1988 PA 256.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40107a Repealed. 2003, Act 242, Eff. Jan. 4, 2009.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to raptors.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40107b Taking of live raptors for use in falconry; order; establishment of season; scope of section.

Sec. 40107b. (1) The department shall issue an order in the manner provided in section 40107(2) establishing a season or seasons for falconers to take live raptors for use in falconry. The order shall designate the numbers of raptors that may be taken and possessed and any other conditions pertaining to the taking and possession of raptors that the department considers advisable.

(2) This section does not, and an order issued under this section shall not, designate any species of raptor as game. This section does not prohibit the department from determining that any species of raptor is a protected animal.

History: Add. 2009, Act 36, Imd. Eff. June 4, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40107c Control and management of double-crested cormorants; administration of program; organization of states; funds.

Sec. 40107c. (1) To reduce cormorant damage, the department shall administer a program to control and manage double-crested cormorants. The department shall administer the program in cooperation with federal agencies and in a manner that complies with the cormorant depredation order.

(2) In consultation with the department of environmental quality, the department shall participate in a federally recognized organization of states, such as the Mississippi flyway council, to coordinate a regional effort to reduce cormorant damage that includes urging the federal government to do both of the following:

(a) Expand state options for double-crested cormorant control by revising the cormorant depredation order.

(b) Seek to amend the migratory bird convention with Mexico to designate the double-crested cormorant as a game species.

(3) The department shall seek funding from the Great Lakes protection fund authorized under part 331 for deposit in the cormorant control fund created in section 40107d.

History: Add. 2007, Act 47, Imd. Eff. Aug. 3, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40107d Control and management of double-crested cormorants; administration of program; organization of states; funds.

Sec. 40107d. (1) The cormorant control fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(5) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only to implement section 40107c.

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History: Add. 2007, Act 49, Imd. Eff. Aug. 3, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40108 Interim orders.

Sec. 40108. The department may modify an order issued under section 40107 by issuing an interim order consistent with federal regulations or when the department determines that animals are at risk of being depleted or extirpated, or the animal is threatening public safety or inflicting damage to horticulture, agriculture, or other property. The department shall publicize an interim order in a manner that ensures that interested persons are provided notice of the proposed interim order, the reasons for the requested modifications, and the proposed effective date of the order. In addition, the department shall provide a copy of an interim order to each member of the senate and the house of representatives standing committees that consider legislation pertaining to conservation, environment, recreation, tourism, and natural resources. An interim order under this section shall be in effect for not longer than 6 months.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40109 Transportation of game; identification of sex and species; tagging; section inapplicable to skins, pelts, and hides.

Sec. 40109. If game is transported, the sex and species of the game shall be readily identifiable unless the game is game that has been cleaned at a hunting preserve and tagged as required by law. If game is transported, it shall be tagged as required by law or a department order authorized under section 40107. This section does not apply to skins, pelts, or hides of game that is lawfully taken and legally possessed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40109a Conduct in another state; prosecution, punishment, or penalty prohibited.

Sec. 40109a. An individual shall not be prosecuted, punished, or penalized by this state for any of the following:

(a) Lawfully taking game in another state.

(b) Lawfully engaging in a hunt in another state.

(c) Possessing game that was lawfully taken in another state or this state if that game is possessed in compliance with this act and with orders issued under this act.

History: Add. 2013, Act 111, Imd. Eff. Sept. 24, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40110 Designation of species as game; establishment of first open season; removal from list; orders; definitions.

Sec. 40110. (1) Only the legislature or the commission may designate a wildlife species as game. Only the legislature or commission may establish the first open season for a game species designated under this section. The legislature retains the sole authority to remove a wildlife species from the list of game species. The commission shall exercise its authority under this subsection by issuing orders consistent with its duty to use principles of sound scientific wildlife management, as expressed in section 40113a. The commission may decline to issue orders authorizing an open season for a game species if doing so would conflict with principles of sound scientific wildlife management. The commission shall not designate any of the following as game under this subsection:

(a) A domestic animal.

(b) Livestock.

(c) Any species added to the game list by a public act that is rejected by a referendum before May 14, 2013.

(2) After the legislature or commission authorizes the establishment of the first open season for game under this section, the department may issue orders pertaining to that animal for each of the purposes listed in section 40107.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Domestic animal" means those species of animals that live under the husbandry of humans.

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(b) "Livestock" includes, but is not limited to, cattle, sheep, new world camelids, goats, bison, privately owned cervids, ratites, swine, equine, poultry, and rabbits. Livestock does not include dogs and cats.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 21, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 281, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2016.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This act reenacts all or portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108. If any portions of 2012 PA 520 or 2013 PA 21 or 2013 PA 22 or 2013 PA 108 not amended by this act are invalidated pursuant to referendum or any other reason, then any such invalidated portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108 which are otherwise included in this act, shall be deemed to be reenacted pursuant to this act."

Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 2. If any part or parts of this act are found to be in conflict with the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, or federal law, this act shall be implemented to the maximum extent that the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, and federal law permit. Any provision held invalid or inoperative shall be severable from the remaining portions of this act."

Public Act 281 of 2014 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const 1963, art II, § 9. The initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Senate on August 13, 2014 and by the House of Representatives on August 27, 2014. The initiative petition was filed with the Secretary of State on August 27, 2014.

In Keep Michigan Wolves Protected v State of Michigan, an unpublished opinion issued November 22, 2016, (Docket No. 328604), the Michigan Court of Appeals held that 2014 PA 281, which amended sections of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, is unconstitutional as it violates the title-object clause of section 24 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40110a Open season for moose.

Sec. 40110a. The legislature hereby authorizes the establishment of the first open season for moose. The commission may issue orders pertaining to moose for each of the purposes listed in section 40113a, including, but not limited to, orders establishing the first open season for moose.

History: Add. 2010, Act 366, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2010.

Compiler's note: Act 160 of 2004, which was approved by the governor and filed with the secretary of state on June 18, 2004, provided for the amendment of Act 451 of 1994 by amending Sec. 40103 and adding Sec. 40110a. The amended and added sections were effective June 18, 2004. On March 28, 2005, a petition seeking a referendum on Act 160 of 2004 was filed with the Secretary of State. Const 1963, art 2, sec 9, provides that no law as to which the power of referendum properly has been invoked shall be effective thereafter unless approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the next general election. A referendum on Act 160 of 2004 was presented to the electors at the November 2006 general election as Proposal 06-3, which read as follows:

"PROPOSAL 06-3

"A REFERENDUM ON PUBLIC ACT 160 OF 2004 — AN ACT TO ALLOW THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HUNTING SEASON FOR MOURNING DOVES

"Public Act 160 of 2004 would:

"Authorize the Natural Resources Commission to establish a hunting season for mourning doves.

"Require a mourning dove hunter to have a small game license and a $2.00 mourning dove stamp.

"Stipulate that revenue from the stamp must be split evenly between the Game and Fish Protection Fund and the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.

"Require the Department of Natural Resources to address responsible mourning dove hunting; management practices for the propagation of mourning doves; and participation in mourning dove hunting by youth, the elderly and the disabled in the Department’s annual hunting guide.

"Should this law be approved?

"Yes [ ]

"No [ ]"

Act 160 of 2004 was rejected by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the November 2006 general election.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40110b Legislative findings and declaration; establishment of first open season for wolf.

Sec. 40110b. (1) The legislature finds and declares that:

(a) The wildlife populations of the state and their habitat are of paramount importance to the citizens of this state.

(b) The sound management of wolf populations in this state is necessary, including the use of hunting as a management tool, to minimize negative human and wolf encounters and to prevent wolves from threatening or harming humans, livestock, and pets.

(2) The legislature hereby authorizes the establishment of the first open season for wolf. The commission may issue orders under section 40113a establishing annual wolf hunting seasons throughout the state.

History: Add. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.40111 Taking animal from in or upon vehicle; transporting or possessing firearm in or upon vehicle; person with disability; transporting or possessing unloaded firearm in or upon vehicle on sporting clays range; individual holding permit to hunt from standing vehicle; possessing and discharging firearm to take game from personal assistive mobility device; transporting or possessing bow or crossbow in or upon vehicle while on public land or highway, road, or street; written permission to hunt or discharge firearm within certain distance of property; definitions.

Sec. 40111. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) or (5), this part, or in a department order authorized under section 40107, an individual shall not take an animal from in or upon a vehicle.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3), (4), or (5), this part, or in a department order authorized under section 40107, an individual shall not transport or possess a firearm in or upon a vehicle, unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed in a case, unloaded and carried in the trunk of a vehicle, or unloaded in a motorized boat.

(3) A person with a disability may transport or possess a firearm in or upon a vehicle, except for a car or truck, on a state licensed game bird hunting preserve if the firearm is unloaded and the vehicle is operated at a speed of not greater than 10 miles per hour. A person with a disability may possess a loaded firearm and may discharge that firearm to take an animal from in or upon a vehicle, except for a car or truck, on a state licensed game bird hunting preserve if the vehicle is not moving. The department may demand proof of eligibility under this subsection. An individual shall possess proof of his or her eligibility under this subsection and furnish the proof upon the request of a peace officer.

(4) An individual may transport or possess an unloaded firearm in or upon a vehicle on a sporting clays range.

(5) An individual holding a valid permit to hunt from a standing vehicle under section 40114 may transport or possess an uncased firearm with a loaded magazine on a personal assistive mobility device if the action is open. An individual holding a valid permit to hunt from a standing vehicle under section 40114 may possess a loaded firearm and may discharge that firearm to take game from a personal assistive mobility device if each of the following applies:

(a) The personal assistive mobility device is not moving.

(b) The individual holds a valid base license under section 43523a, holds any other necessary license under part 435, and complies with all other laws and rules for the taking of game.

(6) An individual may transport or possess a bow or crossbow in or upon a vehicle while that vehicle is operated on public land or on a highway, road, or street in this state if the bow or crossbow is unloaded and uncocked, enclosed in a case, or carried in the trunk of a vehicle.

(7) An individual shall not hunt with a firearm within 150 yards of an occupied building, dwelling, house, residence, or cabin, or any barn or other building used in connection with a farm operation, without obtaining the written permission of the owner, renter, or occupant of the property.

(8) As used in this section:

(a) "Person with a disability" means a disabled person as that term is defined in section 19a of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.19a, and who is in possession of 1 of the following:

(*i*) A certificate of identification or windshield placard issued to a disabled person under section 675 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.675.

(*ii*) A special registration plate issued to a disabled person under section 803d of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803d.

(b) "Personal assistive mobility device" means any device, including, but not limited to, one that is battery-powered, that is designed solely for use by an individual with mobility impairment for locomotion and is considered an extension of the individual.

(c) "Uncocked" means the following:

(*i*) For a bow, that the bow is not in the drawn position.

(*ii*) For a crossbow, that the crossbow is not in the cocked position.

(d) "Unloaded" means the following:

(*i*) For a firearm, that the firearm does not have ammunition in the barrel, chamber, cylinder, clip, or magazine when the barrel, chamber, cylinder, clip, or magazine is part of or attached to the firearm.

(*ii*) For a bow, that an arrow is not nocked.

(*iii*) For a crossbow, that a bolt is not in the flight groove.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 246, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 340, Imd. Eff. Oct. 16, 2012;—Am. 2015, Act 24, Eff. July 1, 2015;—Am. 2015, Act 185, Eff. Jan. 1, 2016;—Am. 2018, Act 272, Eff. Sept. 27, 2018.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40111a Deer and elk feeding; order; definition.

Sec. 40111a. (1) The commission, after consultation with the commission of agriculture and rural development, shall issue in the manner provided in section 40113a an order concerning deer and elk feeding in this state.

(2) As used in this section, "deer and elk feeding" means the depositing, distributing, or tending of feed in an area frequented by wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer and elk to prevent them from starving or for recreational viewing. Deer and elk feeding does not include any of the following:

(a) Baiting to take game as provided by an order of the commission under section 40113a.

(b) The scattering of feed solely as the result of normal logging practices or normal agricultural practices.

(c) The storage or use of feed for agricultural purposes if 1 or more of the following apply:

(*i*) The area is occupied by livestock actively consuming the feed on a daily basis.

(*ii*) The feed is covered to deter wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer and elk from gaining access to the feed or is being used on a daily basis.

(*iii*) The feed is in a storage facility or is stored in a manner that is consistent with normal agricultural practices.

(d) Feeding wild birds or other wildlife if done in such a manner as to exclude wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer and elk from gaining access to the feed.

History: Add. 1999, Act 66, Imd. Eff. June 25, 1999;—Am. 2004, Act 537, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 199, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2009;—Am. 2015, Act 265, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40111c Use of tranquilizer propelled from bow or firearm; use of unmanned vehicle or device; prohibitions.

Sec. 40111c. (1) A person other than the department shall not take game using a tranquilizer propelled from a bow or firearm.

(2) An individual shall not take game or fish using an unmanned vehicle or unmanned device that uses aerodynamic forces to achieve flight or using an unmanned vehicle or unmanned device that operates on the surface of water or underwater.

History: Add. 2008, Act 301, Imd. Eff. Nov. 13, 2008;—Am. 2015, Act 13, Eff. July 13, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40112 Obstructing or interfering in lawful taking of animals or fish; prohibited conduct; petition; injunction; violation as misdemeanor; penalties; section inapplicable to peace officer.

Sec. 40112. (1) An individual shall not obstruct or interfere in the lawful taking of animals or fish by another individual.

(2) An individual violates this section when the individual intentionally or knowingly does any of the following:

(a) Drives or disturbs animals or fish for the purpose of disrupting a lawful taking.

(b) Blocks, impedes, or harasses another individual who is engaged in the process of lawfully taking an animal or fish.

(c) Uses a natural or artificial visual, aural, olfactory, gustatory, or physical stimulus or an unmanned vehicle or unmanned device that uses aerodynamic forces to achieve flight or that operates on the surface of the water or underwater, to affect animal or fish behavior in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an animal or a fish.

(d) Erects barriers to deny ingress or egress to areas where the lawful taking of animals or fish may occur. This subdivision does not apply to an individual who erects barriers to prevent trespassing on his or her property.

(e) Interjects himself or herself into the line of fire of an individual lawfully taking wildlife.

(f) Affects the condition or placement of personal or public property intended for use in the lawful taking of an animal or a fish in order to impair the usefulness of the property or prevent the use of the property.

(g) Enters or remains upon private lands without the permission of the owner or the owner's agent, for the purpose of violating this section.

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(h) Engages in any other act or behavior for the purpose of violating this section.

(3) Upon petition of an aggrieved person or an individual who reasonably may be aggrieved by a violation of this section, a court of competent jurisdiction, upon a showing that an individual was engaged in and threatens to continue to engage in illegal conduct under this section, may enjoin that conduct.

(4) An individual who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. An individual who violates this section a second or subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $2,500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. In addition to the penalties provided for in this subsection, any permit or license issued by the department authorizing the individual to take animals or fish shall be revoked. A prosecution under this section does not preclude prosecution or other action under any other criminal or civil statute.

(5) This section does not apply to a peace officer while the peace officer performs his or her lawful duties.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 316, Eff. July 1, 1996;—Am. 2015, Act 12, Eff. July 13, 2015

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40113 Artificial light.

Sec. 40113. (1) Except as otherwise provided in a department order authorized under section 40107 for a specified animal, a person shall not use an artificial light in taking game or in an area frequented by animals; throw or cast the rays of a spotlight, headlight, or other artificial light in a field, woodland, or forest while having a bow or firearm or other weapon capable of shooting a projectile in the person's possession or under the person's control unless otherwise permitted by law. A licensed hunter may use an artificial light 1 hour before and 1 hour after shooting hours while in possession of any unloaded firearm or bow and traveling afoot to and from the licensed hunter's hunting location.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in a department order authorized under section 40107, a person shall not throw, cast, or cause to be thrown or cast, the rays of an artificial light from December 1 to October 31 between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. for the purpose of locating animals. Except as otherwise permitted by law or an order of the department, from November 1 to November 30, a person shall not throw, cast, or cause to be thrown or cast, the rays of a spotlight, headlight, or other artificial light for the purpose of locating animals. This subsection does not apply to any of the following:

(a) A peace officer while in the performance of the officer's duties.

(b) A person operating an emergency vehicle in an emergency.

(c) An employee of a public or private utility while working in the scope of his or her employment.

(d) A person operating a vehicle with headlights in a lawful manner upon a street, highway, or roadway.

(e) A person using an artificial light to identify a house or mailbox number.

(f) The use of artificial lights used to conduct a census by the department.

(g) A person using an artificial light from November 1 to November 30 on property that is owned by that person or by a member of that person's immediate family.

(3) The operator of a vehicle from which the rays of an artificial light have been cast in a clear attempt to locate game shall immediately stop the vehicle upon the request of a uniformed peace officer or when signaled by a peace officer with a flashing signal light or siren from a marked patrol vehicle.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40113a Legislative findings and declarations; taking of game; issuance of orders; right to hunt, fish, and take game.

Sec. 40113a. (1) The legislature finds and declares that:

(a) The fish and wildlife populations of the state and their habitat are of paramount importance to the citizens of this state.

(b) The conservation of fish and wildlife populations of the state depend upon the wise use and sound scientific management of the state's natural resources.

(c) The sound scientific management of the fish and wildlife populations of the state, including hunting of bear, is declared to be in the public interest.

(d) The sound scientific management of bear populations in this state is necessary to minimize human and bear encounters and to prevent bears from threatening or harming humans, livestock, and pets.

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(2) The commission has the exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game as that term is defined in section 40103 and to regulate sport fishing under part 487 in this state, including, but not limited to, regulating the use of commercial hunting guides or sport fishing guides in taking game and fish. The commission shall, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize principles of sound scientific management in making decisions regarding the taking of game. The commission may take testimony from department personnel, independent experts, and others, and review scientific literature and data, among other sources, in support of its duty to use principles of sound scientific management. The commission shall issue orders regarding the taking of game following a public meeting and an opportunity for public input. Not less than 30 days before issuing an order, the commission shall provide a copy of the order to each of the following:

(a) Each member of each standing committee of the senate or house of representatives that considers legislation pertaining to conservation, the environment, natural resources, recreation, tourism, or agriculture.

(b) The chairperson of the senate appropriations committee and the chairperson of the house of representatives appropriations committee.

(c) The members of the subcommittee of the senate appropriations committee and the subcommittee of the house of representatives appropriations committee that consider the budget of the department of natural resources.

(3) The legislature declares that hunting, fishing, and the taking of game are a valued part of the cultural heritage of this state and should be forever preserved. The legislature further declares that these activities play an important part in the state's economy and in the conservation, preservation, and management of the state's natural resources. Therefore, the legislature declares that the citizens of this state have a right to hunt, fish, and take game, subject to the regulations and restrictions prescribed by subsection (2) and law.

History: Add. 1996, Act 377, Eff. Dec. 5, 1996;—Am. 1997, Act 19, Imd. Eff. June 12, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 21, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 22, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 281, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2016;—Am. 2023, Act 222, Eff. Feb. 20, 2024.

Compiler's note: This section, as added by Act 377 of 1996, was submitted to, and approved by, the electors of the state at the general election held on November 5, 1996.

Enacting section 1 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This act reenacts all or portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108. If any portions of 2012 PA 520 or 2013 PA 21 or 2013 PA 22 or 2013 PA 108 not amended by this act are invalidated pursuant to referendum or any other reason, then any such invalidated portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108 which are otherwise included in this act, shall be deemed to be reenacted pursuant to this act."

Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 2. If any part or parts of this act are found to be in conflict with the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, or federal law, this act shall be implemented to the maximum extent that the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, and federal law permit. Any provision held invalid or inoperative shall be severable from the remaining portions of this act."

Public Act 281 of 2014 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const 1963, art II, § 9. The initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Senate on August 13, 2014 and by the House of Representatives on August 27, 2014. The initiative petition was filed with the Secretary of State on August 27, 2014.

In Keep Michigan Wolves Protected v State of Michigan, an unpublished opinion issued November 22, 2016, (Docket No. 328604), the Michigan Court of Appeals held that 2014 PA 281, which amended sections of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, is unconstitutional as it violates the title-object clause of section 24 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40114 Permits or licenses; issuance to individual who is paraplegic, amputee, or permanently disabled; taking of game with modified bow; permits for additional activities; activities not considered hunting; suspension, revocation, annulment, withdrawal, recall, cancellation, or amendment of permit; disposition of fees; report; sterilization of game; deer management zones; ordinance; "cub bear" defined.

Sec. 40114. (1) The department may issue a permit to an individual who is unable to walk because the individual is a paraplegic or an amputee or because of a disease or injury that has rendered the individual permanently disabled. A permit issued under this subsection authorizes the individual to take game during the open season for that game, including deer of either sex, from or upon a standing vehicle if that individual holds a license to take that game issued under part 435 and complies with all other laws and rules for the taking of game.

(2) The department may issue a permit to an individual who is permanently disabled, who has full use of only 1 arm, and who upon investigation is unable to hold, aim, and shoot a bow. A permit issued under this subsection authorizes the individual to take game during the open season for that game with a bow that has been modified so that the bow may be held, aimed, and shot with 1 arm, if that individual holds a license to take that game issued under part 435 and complies with all other laws and rules for the taking of game.

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(3) The commission may issue an order under section 40113a regulating the taking of game with a modified bow that may be shot with 1 arm. Subsection (2) does not apply on or after the effective date of such an order.

(4) In addition, the department may issue permits authorizing 1 or more of the following:

(a) The taking or possession of animals for the purpose of rehabilitating animals.

(b) The taking of animals to prevent or control damage to crops or feed, disease, or nuisance caused by the animals. The taking of animals to prevent or control damage to crops or feed is subject to the following:

(*i*) Except during an open season for deer, deer may be taken under this subdivision if the department determines that deer have caused damage to emerging, standing, or harvested crops or to feed properly stored in accordance with normal agricultural practices. If the department receives a request for a permit to take deer under this subdivision, the department shall, within 5 business days after receiving the request, determine whether a permit should be issued. If the department determines that a permit should not be issued under this subdivision, the department shall deny the request in writing within 10 business days after receiving the request. In denying the request for a permit, the department shall advise the applicant on other techniques for controlling or preventing damage caused by deer.

(*ii*) A permittee under a deer damage shooting permit may designate not more than 15 authorized shooters to implement the provisions of the permit unless the department authorizes otherwise.

(*iii*) Except during an open season for bear, bear may be taken under this subdivision if the department determines that bear have caused damage to emerging, standing, or harvested crops or to feed properly stored in accordance with normal agricultural practices. If the department receives a request for a permit to take bear under this subdivision, the department shall, within 4 days after receiving the request, respond to the request and evaluate whether a permit should be issued. The department may, within 10 days after responding to the request for a permit, attempt or recommend that the applicant attempt other methods for controlling or preventing damage caused by bear, if the applicant is not required to pay for those methods. Within 10 days after responding to a request for a permit, the department shall grant or deny the request in writing. In denying the request for a permit, the department shall advise the applicant on other techniques for controlling or preventing damage caused by bear. A permittee under a bear damage shooting permit may allow only an individual with a bear hunting license issued under section 43528 for that bear management unit and calendar year to implement the provisions of this subdivision. If an individual takes a bear under this subdivision, that individual shall not take another bear under a bear hunting license issued under section 43528 during that calendar year. An individual implementing this section is subject to the rules and regulations for a bear hunting license issued under section 43528 except that individuals shall not use bait to take a bear under this subdivision. An individual shall not take a cub bear or a female bear accompanied by a cub bear under this subdivision. The department shall not allow more than 5% of the bear hunting licenses issued for a bear management unit to be used to implement the provisions of this subdivision. However, in a bear management unit that offers fewer than 20 licenses, the department may allow 1 of those bear hunting licenses to be used to implement this subdivision. If an individual takes a bear under this subdivision, that individual shall register that bear at a field office of the department within 72 hours after taking the bear.

(c) The collection, transportation, possession, or disposition of animals and parts of animals for scientific purposes.

(d) The public exhibition of animals.

(e) Taxidermy.

(f) The disposition of accidentally or unlawfully taken or injured animals or animals that are unlawfully possessed.

(g) The taking of game with a crossbow by an individual who is permanently or temporarily disabled.

(h) The taking or possession of raptors for the purposes of falconry.

(5) The taking of animals pursuant to a permit issued under subsection (4)(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), or (h) is not considered hunting.

(6) A permit issued under this section may be suspended, revoked, annulled, withdrawn, recalled, canceled, or amended pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. If the holder of a permit is convicted of violating the permit or this section, his or her permit or license may be revoked and any animal and the parts of any animal in his or her possession shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the department.

(7) The department shall forward fees received for permits and licenses issued under this section to the state treasurer to be credited to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

(8) By March 30, 2018, the department shall issue a report in electronic form to each member of the legislature that includes all of the following:

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(a) The number of bear damage shooting permits issued under subsection (4)(b)(*iii*).

(b) The number of bears taken under subsection (4)(b)(*iii*).

(c) Any recommendations for changes to the bear damage shooting permits under subsection (4)(b)(*iii*).

(9) Until April 1, 2022, the department shall not issue a permit authorizing the sterilization of game. The department shall submit, to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary responsibility for natural resources issues, 2 reports on the results of research under any permit authorizing the sterilization of game issued before the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection. A preliminary report shall be submitted by December 31, 2020 and a final report by March 31, 2022. The reports shall include any recommendations for legislation, including whether and how sterilization of deer should be authorized as a manner of taking game.

(10) The commission may establish, in or adjacent to urban areas with a high concentration of deer, special deer management zones for which a higher number of deer kill tags are issued.

(11) The legislative body of a municipality may by ordinance adopt a firearm hunting distance requirement shorter than the 150-yard requirement under section 40111 as part of a deer management plan. The 150-yard requirement under section 40111 does not apply in circumstances addressed by the ordinance.

(12) As used in this section, "cub bear" means a bear that is less than 1 year of age.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 169, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2008;—Am. 2009, Act 109, Imd. Eff. Oct. 1, 2009;—Am. 2010, Act 87, Imd. Eff. May 27, 2010;—Am. 2012, Act 65, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2012;—Am. 2014, Act 407, Eff. Mar. 30, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 356, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017;—Am. 2018, Act 390, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40115 Possession of certain game killed in collision with motor vehicle.

Sec. 40115. (1) Subject to subsections (9) and (10), an individual may possess game, other than badger, bobcat, brant, coot, crow, cub bear, duck, elk, fisher, Florida gallinule, geese, marten, moose, otter, snipe, sora rail, spotted fawn deer, Virginia rail, wild turkey, wolf, and woodcock, that is either killed by, or injured and euthanized as allowed under law following, a collision with a motor vehicle. The driver of the motor vehicle has first priority to take possession of the game.

(2) An individual in possession of deer under subsection (1) shall do 1 of the following:

(a) Obtain a salvage tag under subsection (8).

(b) Promptly notify the department or a local law enforcement agency of his or her intent to maintain possession of the game under subsection (1) by telephone or on the department's website.

(c) If the individual is the driver of the motor vehicle involved in the collision and as a result of that collision is calling 9-1-1 to report the collision, the individual must state his or her intent to maintain possession of the game under subsection (1).

(3) An individual in possession of beaver, coyote, fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, skunk, weasel, or small game under subsection (1) shall prepare a written record with all of the following information:

(a) The date and time the individual took possession of the game.

(b) The location where the possession of the game occurred.

(c) The type of game the individual seeks to possess.

(d) Whether the individual has requested a salvage tag under subsection (8).

(e) The individual's full name, including middle initial, date of birth, mailing address, telephone number, and driver license number.

(f) The intended purpose for obtaining possession of the game, including, but not limited to, human consumption, bait, or other uses.

(4) An individual in possession of bear under subsection (1) shall obtain a salvage tag for that bear under subsection (8).

(5) If an individual notifies 9-1-1, the department, or a local law enforcement agency under subsection (2) of his or her intent to legally maintain possession of the game under subsection (1), that individual shall provide 9-1-1, the department, or the local law enforcement agency with the following information:

(a) The date and time the individual took possession of the game.

(b) The location where the possession of the game occurred.

(c) The type of game the individual seeks to possess. If the game is a deer, identify whether the deer is an antlered deer or antlerless deer. If it is an antlered deer, identify the number of antler points.

(d) Whether the individual has requested a salvage tag under subsection (8).

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(e) The individual's full name, including middle initial, date of birth, mailing address, telephone number, and driver license number.

(f) The intended purpose for obtaining possession of the game, including, but not limited to, human consumption, bait, or other uses.

(6) For beaver, coyote, fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, skunk, weasel, and small game, an individual shall maintain the written record prepared under subsection (3) until the individual obtains a salvage tag under subsection (8) or until the game and its parts are consumed, are composted, or are no longer possessed by any person. The record shall be kept at the location where the game or its parts are kept. The individual shall exhibit the record upon request of a law enforcement officer.

(7) An individual in possession of game under subsection (1) who has obtained a salvage tag under subsection (2), (4), or (8) shall upon the request of a conservation officer or peace officer produce the salvage tag. Immediately following the issuance of a salvage tag, an individual possessing game shall securely attach the salvage tag to the game. The salvage tag shall remain attached until the game is processed, butchered for consumption, or delivered to a business for the purpose of taxidermy or tanning. If the game is used for bait, the salvage tag may be removed, but the individual possessing that game shall produce the salvage tag if requested by a conservation officer or peace officer.

(8) The department shall promptly issue a salvage tag if requested by an individual in possession of game under subsection (1).

(9) The director may immediately suspend all salvage mechanisms for disease-affected areas by issuing an order based on sound science to address disease control. The department shall provide public notice of that order and notify the legislative committees with primary oversight of natural resources before issuing that order. The director shall revoke the suspension after the department verifies the absence of the identified disease in the affected area. The department shall provide public notice of the suspension and of the revocation of the suspension by posting notice on the department's website and at department offices throughout the disease-affected areas.

(10) This section does not apply to an individual who intentionally uses a motor vehicle to kill or injure game.

(11) The department shall annually issue a report in electronic form to each member of the legislature that includes all of the following:

(a) The number of salvage tags issued under subsection (8).

(b) The number of animals reported to the department under subsection (2)(b).

(c) If available, the number of animals reported to local law enforcement agencies or 9-1-1 under subsection (2)(b) and (c).

History: Add. 2014, Act 255, Eff. Sept. 28, 2014.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.40115, which pertained to issuance of permit to person with a disability, was repealed by Act 347 of 2000, Eff. July 1, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40116 Hunter orange or other authorized color; exceptions; noncompliance not as evidence of contributory negligence; review and determination by commission; "hunter orange" and "hunter pink" defined.

Sec. 40116. (1) An individual shall not take game during the established daylight shooting hours from August 15 through April 30 unless the individual wears a cap, hat, vest, jacket, or rain gear of hunter orange or a color authorized by the commission under subsection (4). Hunter orange or a color authorized by the commission under subsection (4) includes camouflage that is not less than 50% hunter orange or a color authorized by the commission under subsection (4). The garments that are hunter orange or a color authorized by the commission under subsection (4) must be the hunter's outermost garment and be visible from all sides of the hunter.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to an individual engaged in the taking of deer with a bow or crossbow during archery deer season, an individual taking bear with a bow or crossbow, an individual engaged in the taking of turkey or migratory birds other than woodcock, an individual engaged in the sport of falconry, or an individual who is stationary and in the act of hunting bobcat, coyote, or fox.

(3) The failure of an individual to comply with this section is not evidence of contributory negligence in a civil action for injury to the individual or for the individual's wrongful death.

(4) The commission shall review and determine whether hunter pink or any additional colors are effective and safe for individuals to wear while hunting. By October 1, 2017, the commission shall issue an order under section 40113a authorizing what additional garment colors may be worn under subsection (1) based on the

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determination made by the commission under this subsection.

(5) As used in this section:

(a) "Hunter orange" means the highly visible color commonly referred to as hunter orange and includes blaze orange, flame orange, and fluorescent blaze orange.

(b) "Hunter pink" means the highly visible color commonly referred to as hunter pink and includes blaze pink, flame pink, and fluorescent blaze pink.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 154, Imd. Eff. Apr. 3, 1996;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2009, Act 65, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2009;—Am. 2016, Act 377, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40117 Possession of parts of animal as prima facie evidence of violation.

Sec. 40117. In a prosecution for a violation of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part, the possession of the parts of any game or protected animal, except when the taking is permitted by this part, is prima facie evidence that the animal was taken in violation of this part by the person possessing the animal.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 347, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40118 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty; additional penalties.

Sec. 40118. (1) An individual who violates this part, an order or interim order issued under this part, or a condition of a permit issued under this part, except for a violation specified in subsections (2) to (19), is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $50.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. In addition, a permit issued by the department under this part must be revoked pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(2) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the possession or taking of any game, except deer, bear, wild turkey, wolf, waterfowl, moose, or elk, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or subsection (19), an individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the possession or taking of deer, bear, wild turkey, or wolf is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned for not more than 90 days, shall be fined not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00, and shall be ordered to pay the costs of prosecution. An individual shall not be punished under this subsection for lawfully removing, capturing, or destroying a wolf under 2008 PA 290, MCL 324.95151 to 324.95155, or 2008 PA 318, MCL 324.95161 to 324.95167.

(4) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the possession or taking of elk is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 180 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $2,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(5) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the possession or taking of moose is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year and a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $5,000.00, and the costs of prosecution.

(6) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the possession or taking of waterfowl is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $250.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the possession or taking of waterfowl a second or subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of $500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(7) An individual sentenced under subsection (3), (14), or (15) shall not secure or possess a license of any kind to hunt during the remainder of the year in which convicted and the next 3 succeeding calendar years. An individual sentenced under subsection (11) shall not secure or possess a license to hunt during the remainder of the year in which convicted and the next succeeding calendar year, or longer in the discretion of the court.

(8) In addition to the penalties provided for violating this part or an order issued under this part, an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of a bear or an antlered white-tailed deer is subject to the following penalties:

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(a) For a first offense, the individual shall not secure or possess a license of any kind to hunt for an additional 2 calendar years after the penalties imposed under subsection (7).

(b) For a second or subsequent offense, the individual shall not secure or possess a license of any kind to hunt for an additional 7 calendar years after the penalties imposed under subsection (7).

(9) In addition to the penalties provided for violating this part or an order issued under this part, an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of a wild turkey shall not secure or possess a license of any kind to hunt for an additional 2 calendar years after the penalties imposed under subsection (7).

(10) An individual sentenced under subsection (4) or (5) is subject to the following penalties:

(a) For a first offense, the individual shall not secure or possess a license of any kind to hunt for the remainder of the year in which convicted and the next 15 succeeding calendar years.

(b) For a second offense, the individual shall not secure or possess a license of any kind to hunt for the remainder of that individual's life.

(11) An individual who violates section 40113(1) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(12) An individual who violates section 40113(2) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $50.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(13) An individual who violates section 40113(3) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(14) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the taking or possession of an animal that has been designated by the department to be a protected animal, other than an animal that appears on a list prepared under section 36505, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(15) An individual who buys or sells game or a protected animal in violation of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both, for the first offense, and is guilty of a felony for each subsequent offense.

(16) An individual who willfully violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part by using an illegally constructed snare or cable restraint is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of $1,000.00 for the first illegally constructed snare or cable restraint and $250.00 for each subsequent illegally constructed snare or cable restraint, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(17) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding the importation of a cervid carcass or parts of a cervid carcass, other than hides, deboned meat, quarters or other parts of a cervid that do not have any part of the spinal column or head attached, finished taxidermy products, cleaned teeth, antlers, or antlers attached to a skullcap cleaned of brain and muscle tissue, from another state or province is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $2,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(18) If an individual is convicted of a violation of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part and it is alleged in the complaint and proved or admitted at trial or ascertained by the court after conviction that the individual had been previously convicted 2 times within the preceding 5 years for a violation of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part, the individual is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 180 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $2,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(19) An individual who violates a provision of this part or an order or interim order issued under this part regarding any of the following is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00:

(a) Attaching that individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a ground blind.

(b) Attaching that individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a tree stand, scaffold, or raised platform.

(c) Supplemental feeding of deer.

(d) Reporting of a deer harvest or retention of a deer harvest confirmation number.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 347, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2000;—Am. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff.

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Dec. 28, 2012;—Am. 2015, Act 188, Eff. Feb. 14, 2016;—Am. 2017, Act 124, Eff. Jan. 10, 2018;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021;—Am. 2022, Act 23, Eff. June 8, 2022;—Am. 2023, Act 55, Imd. Eff. July 12, 2023.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 124 of 2017 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act may be referred to as the "John Kivela amendatory act"."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40119 Reimbursement of state for value of game or protected animal; restitution for illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling antlered white-tailed deer, antlered elk, antlered moose, and turkey with beard; forfeiture; default as civil contempt; additional time for payment; reduction of amount forfeited; revocation of forfeiture; collection of default in payment; disposition of forfeiture damages; "point" defined.

Sec. 40119. (1) In addition to the penalties provided for violating this part or an order issued under this part, and the penalty provided in section 36507, an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of game or protected animals, in whole or in part, shall reimburse the state for the value of the game or protected animal as follows:

(a) Elk, $5,000.00 per animal.

(b) Moose, $5,000.00 per animal.

(c) Bear, $3,500.00 per animal.

(d) Eagle, $1,500.00 per animal.

(e) Hawk or any animal that appears on a list specified in section 36505, $1,500.00 per animal.

(f) Deer, owl, and wild turkey, $1,000.00 per animal.

(g) Waterfowl, $500.00 per animal.

(h) Other game not listed in subdivisions (a) to (g), not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00 per animal.

(i) Other protected animals, $100.00 per animal.

(2) In addition to the restitution value established in subsection (1), an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of an antlered white-tailed deer also shall pay an additional restitution value that is equal to $1,000.00 plus 1 of the following:

(a) For an antlered white-tailed deer with at least 8 but not more than 10 points, $500.00 for each point.

(b) For an antlered white-tailed deer with 11 or more points, $750.00 for each point.

(3) In addition to the restitution value established in subsection (1), an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of an antlered elk shall pay an additional restitution value that is equal to 1 of the following:

(a) For an antlered elk with at least 8 but not more than 10 points, $250.00 for each point.

(b) For an antlered elk with 11 or more points, $500.00 for each point.

(4) In addition to the restitution value established in subsection (1), an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of an antlered moose shall pay an additional restitution value that is equal to $5,000.00.

(5) In addition to the restitution value established in subsection (1), an individual convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling of a turkey with a beard shall pay an additional restitution value of $1,000.00.

(6) The court in which a conviction for a violation described in subsections (1) to (5) is obtained shall order the defendant to forfeit to the state a sum as set forth in subsections (1) to (5). If 2 or more defendants are convicted of the illegal killing, possessing, purchasing, or selling, in whole or in part, of game or protected animals listed in subsections (1) to (5), the forfeiture prescribed shall be declared against them jointly.

(7) If a defendant fails to pay upon conviction the sum ordered by the court to be forfeited, the court shall either impose a sentence and, as a condition of the sentence, require the defendant to satisfy the forfeiture in the amount prescribed and fix the manner and time of payment, or make a written order permitting the defendant to pay the sum to be forfeited in installments at those times and in those amounts that, in the opinion of the court, the defendant is able to pay.

(8) If a defendant defaults in payment of the sum forfeited or of an installment, the court on motion of the department or upon its own motion may require the defendant to show cause why the default should not be treated as a civil contempt, and the court may issue a summons or warrant of arrest for his or her appearance. Unless the defendant shows that the default was not due to an intentional refusal to obey the order of the court or to a failure to make a good-faith effort to obtain the funds required for the payment, the court shall find that the default constitutes a civil contempt.

(9) If it appears that the defendant's default in the payment of the forfeiture does not constitute civil contempt, the court may enter an order allowing the defendant additional time for payment, reducing the

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amount of the forfeiture or of each installment, or revoking the forfeiture or the unpaid portion of the forfeiture, in whole or in part.

(10) A default in the payment of the forfeiture or an installment payment may be collected by any means authorized for the enforcement of a judgment under chapter 60 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.6001 to 600.6098.

(11) A court receiving forfeiture damages shall remit the damages to the county treasurer, who shall deposit the damages with the state treasurer, who shall deposit the damages in the game and fish protection account established in section 2010.

(12) As used in this section, "point" means a projection on the antler of a white-tailed deer or elk that is at least 1 inch long as measured from its tip to the nearest edge of the antler beam.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 175, Eff. Feb. 25, 2014;—Am. 2015, Act 187, Eff. Feb. 14, 2016.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40120 Michigan big game trophy records; official keeper; recognition.

Sec. 40120. The department shall recognize commemorative bucks of Michigan, inc., as the official keeper of Michigan big game trophy records for deer, bear, elk, and turkey.

History: Add. 2006, Act 145, Imd. Eff. May 22, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 403
WILDLIFE PRESERVATION

324.40301 Sale of items signifying interest in wildlife preservation.

Sec. 40301. The department may issue for sale to the public a stamp, decal, medallion, or other item of personal property intended to signify the interest of the purchaser in contributing to wildlife preservation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40302 Use of net proceeds.

Sec. 40302. Net proceeds from the sale of an item authorized by this part shall be used by the department exclusively for wildlife research and habitat improvement for nongame wild animals or designated endangered species or designated plant species.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40303 Rights and privileges; marketing items.

Sec. 40303. The department may attach such rights and privileges to the items sold as will best serve the interests of wildlife preservation and shall market the items without the use of general fund appropriation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 405
WILDLIFE RESTORATION, MANAGEMENT, AND RESEARCH

324.40501 Wildlife restoration, management, and research projects; authority of department to cooperate with federal government; use of hunters' license fees; expenditures for game and fish habitat.

Sec. 40501. The department shall perform such acts as may be necessary to conduct and establish wildlife restoration, management, and research projects and areas in cooperation with the federal government under

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the Pittman-Robertson wildlife restoration act, 16 USC 669 to 669i, and regulations promulgated by the United States secretary of the interior under that act. In compliance with that act, funds accruing to this state from license fees paid by hunters shall not be used for any purpose other than game and fish activities under the administration of the department. The department shall manage land acquired with money received under the Pittman-Robertson wildlife restoration act, 16 USC 669 to 669i, to manage game and fish habitat or to increase recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting opportunities. Expenditures to enhance game and fish habitat must be primarily for the management of game species, but may benefit nongame species.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 416, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 2009;—Am. 2018, Act 238, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 409
HOMING PIGEONS

324.40901 Homing pigeons; prohibited acts.

Sec. 40901. A person shall not at any time of the year or in any manner, hunt, take, pursue, capture, wound, kill, maim, or disfigure the homing pigeons of another person.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40902 Homing pigeons; use of certain devices prohibited.

Sec. 40902. A person shall not at any time make use of any pit, pitfalls, deadfall, scaffold, cage, snarl, trap, net, baited hook, or any similar device, or any drug poison, chemical, or explosive for the purpose of injuring, capturing, or killing a homing pigeon of another person.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.40903 Violation of part as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 40903. A person who violates this part, upon conviction of a first offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $25.00 or more than $100.00 and the cost of prosecution, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 411
PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF FISH, GAME, AND BIRDS

324.41101 Definitions.

Sec. 41101. As used in this part:

(a) "Area" means the whole of the state and the whole or any designated portion of any township or townships or county or counties within the state.

(b) "Waters" means any inland lake, stream, river, pond, or other body of water including the Great Lakes and connecting waters, any part or portion of such waters, and any and all chains, systems, or combinations of such waters, in any township or townships or county or counties, within this state, and in which any species of fish or waterfowl are protected by the laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41102 Regulatory powers of department; exception.

Sec. 41102. (1) The department, in accordance with this part, may regulate the taking or killing of all fish, game and fur-bearing animals, and game birds protected by the laws of this state, and may suspend or abridge the open season provided by law for the taking or killing of such fish, animals, or game birds in any designated waters or area of this state, if in the opinion of the department it is necessary to assist in the

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increased or better protection of the fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds, or any particular kinds or species of fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds, which may in the opinion of the department be threatened from any cause or causes with depletion or extermination in the waters or area. The department may promulgate rules and orders necessary to implement this part after a thorough investigation has been made by the department.

(2) This section does not apply to privately owned cervidae species located on a registered cervidae livestock facility or involved in a registered cervidae livestock operation under the privately owned cervidae producers marketing act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 191, Eff. June 1, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41103 Orders protecting fish, animals, or birds; provisions; duration; notice; newspaper publication; filing; printing order in Michigan fish and game laws; fisheries research; experimental game management areas; notice of availability of annual sports fishing handbook and amendments, corrections, or additions thereto.

Sec. 41103. (1) If the department determines that any fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds of any kind or species are in danger of depletion or extermination and require additional protection in any designated waters or area within the state, the department may issue an order suspending or abridging the open season on fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds, or may regulate their taking or killing in the waters or area as the department considers necessary for the further protection of fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds in those waters or areas. The orders shall clearly specify the manner and condition relative to the taking or killing. The orders shall clearly and distinctly describe and set forth the waters or area affected by each order, and whether the order is applicable to all fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds, or only to certain kinds or species designated in the order, and shall also clearly specify and set forth the length of time during which the order shall remain in effect. However, an order shall not remain in effect for more than 5 years. The public shall be notified of orders changing the rules pertaining to hunting, fishing, or trapping in the annual hunting, fishing, and trapping guides available by licensed agents of the department and field offices of the department or the department may publish the orders at least 21 days but not more than 60 days prior to taking effect, and at least once annually while in force, in at least 1 newspaper in each county, if a newspaper is published in a county, the whole or any portion of which is affected by the order. The first newspaper publication shall appear at least once each week for 3 successive weeks. A copy of the order as printed in the newspaper shall be filed with the clerk of each county. Proof by affidavit of the newspaper publication or other form of publication allowed in this section shall be filed with the department, and a copy of the order, while it is in force and effect, shall be included and printed in the authorized biennial compilation of the Michigan fish and game laws. The original of all orders on file in the Lansing office of the department shall be under the seal of the department and shall bear the signatures of the chairperson and secretary of the commission and shall be countersigned by the department. The department shall establish the seasons, size limits, creel limits, and methods of taking fish in certain designated inland lakes not to exceed 20 in number at any 1 time and in certain designated streams or portions of streams not to exceed 10 in number at any 1 time for the purpose of fisheries research. The department may establish not more than 1 experimental game management area that shall not exceed 40,000 acres in size, 4 experimental game management areas not to exceed 5,000 acres each in size, and 1 experimental game management area that shall include Beaver island in its entirety and the 4 islands that comprise the Little Beaver islands state game area. The department shall establish rules and orders governing the kind of game that may be taken in the areas designated in this subsection and the time, place, and manner or method of the taking.

(2) The department shall publish annually in 1 or more newspapers of general circulation in this state notice of the availability of the annual sports fishing handbook. The published notice shall inform the public of when, where, and how the annual sports fishing handbook may be obtained.

(3) The department shall notify the public of an amendment, correction, or addition to the annual sports fishing handbook in the same manner as provided for newspaper publication in subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41104 Suspended open season; rescission or modification; exception.

Sec. 41104. If the open season during which any species of fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game

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birds may be taken or killed has been suspended or abridged in any waters or area by an order of the department as provided in this part, if that order is still in force, and if it appears to the department that the conditions existing in the waters or area affected by the order no longer require that additional protection for those species, then the department shall cause a thorough investigation to be made of the waters or area and the conditions prevailing in the waters or area. If after the investigation the department is satisfied that because of the increase of the fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds protected by the order in the waters or area, or because of the removal of the cause threatening those species with depletion or extermination, the additional protection afforded by the order is no longer needed, the department may rescind or modify the original order. Notices of the rescinding or modifying of the order shall be published in the same manner as notice of the original order and filed in the same manner in the office of the clerk of each county. This part does not suspend, abridge, or regulate the open seasons established by law for the taking of fish for commercial purposes from the waters of Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie, and the bays of those waters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41105 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 41105. A person who takes or kills any fish, game, fur-bearing animal, or game bird, contrary to an order issued or rule promulgated under this part, or who violates this part, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable for the first offense by imprisonment for not more than 60 days or a fine of not more than $100.00. For each offense that is charged as a second or subsequent offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $50.00 or more than $250.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 413
TRANSGENIC AND NONNATIVE ORGANISMS

324.41301 Definitions; possession of live organism.

Sec. 41301. (1) As used in this part:

(a) "Amphibian" means any frog, toad, or salamander of the class Amphibia.

(b) "Aquatic", except as used in subdivision (q), describes an amphibian, crustacean, fish, mollusk, reptile, wiggler, or aquatic plant.

(c) "Aquatic plant" means a submergent, emergent, obligate wetland, facultative wetland, or floating-leaf plant or a fragment thereof, including a seed or other propagule. Aquatic plant does not include wild rice (*Zizania aquatica* or *Zizania palustris*).

(d) "Crustacean" means freshwater crayfish, shrimp, or prawn of the order Decapoda.

(e) "Genetically engineered" refers to an organism whose genome, chromosomal or extrachromosomal, is modified permanently and heritably, using recombinant nucleic acid techniques, or the progeny of such an organism.

(f) "Introduce", with reference to an organism, means to knowingly and willfully stock, place, plant, release, or allow the release of the organism in this state at any specific location where the organism is not already naturalized.

(g) "Mollusk" means any mollusk of the classes Bivalvia and Gastropoda.

(h) "Native" means indigenous to any location in this state.

(i) "Nonaquatic" describes a bird, insect other than a wiggler, or mammal.

(j) "Nonnative" means not native.

(k) "Prohibited species", subject to section 41302, means any of the following:

(*i*) Any of the following prohibited species of aquatic plant, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species:

(A) African oxygen weed (*Lagarosiphon major*).

(B) Brazilian elodea (*Egeria densa*).

(C) Cylindro (*Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*).

(D) European frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*).

(E) Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*).

(F) Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*, *auriculata*, *biloba*, or *herzogii*).

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(G) Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*).
(H) Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*).
(I) Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*).
(J) Water chestnut (*Trapa natans*).
(K) Yellow floating heart (*Nymphoides peltata*).
(*ii*) Any of the following prohibited species of terrestrial plant, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or a fragment, including a seed or other propagule, of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant:
(A) Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).
(B) Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*).
(*iii*) The following prohibited bird species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or an egg of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant: Eurasian collared dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*).
(*iv*) The following prohibited crustacean species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or an egg of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant: rusty crayfish (*Faxonious resticus*, formerly *Orconectes rusticus*).
(*v*) Any of the following prohibited fish species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or an egg of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant:
(A) Bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*).
(B) Bitterling (*Rhodeus sericeus*).
(C) Black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*).
(D) Eurasian ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus*).
(E) Grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idellus*).
(F) Ide (*Leuciscus idus*).
(G) Japanese weatherfish (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*).
(H) Round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*).
(I) Rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*).
(J) Silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*).
(K) A fish of the snakehead family (family *Channidae*).
(L) Tench (*Tinca tinca*).
(M) Tubenose goby (*Proterorhinus marmoratus*).
(*vi*) Any of the following prohibited insect species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or an egg of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant:
(A) Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*).
(B) Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*).
(*vii*) The following prohibited mammal species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant: nutria (*Myocastor coypus*).
(*viii*) Any of the following prohibited mollusk species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or an egg of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant:
(A) Brown garden snail (*Helix aspersa*).
(B) Carthusian snail (*Monacha cartusiana*).
(C) Giant African snail (*Achatina fulica*).
(D) Girdled snail (*Hygromia cinctella*).
(E) Heath snail (*Xerolenta obvia*).
(F) Wrinkled dune snail (*Candidula intersecta*).
(*l*) "Recombinant nucleic acid techniques" means laboratory techniques through which genetic material is isolated and manipulated in vitro and then inserted into an organism.
(m) "Relevant commission", "relevant department", or "relevant director" means the following:
(*i*) With respect to a species other than a plant or insect, but including a wiggler, the natural resources commission, department of natural resources, or the director of the department of natural resources, respectively.
(*ii*) With respect to a plant species or insect species, other than a wiggler, the commission of agriculture and rural development, the department of agriculture and rural development, or the director of the department of agriculture and rural development, respectively.
(n) "Reptile" means any turtle, snake, or lizard of the class Reptilia.
(o) "Restricted species", subject to section 41302, means any of the following:
(*i*) Any of the following restricted species of aquatic plant, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species:

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(A) Curly leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*).

(B) Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*).

(C) Flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*).

(D) Phragmites or common reed (*Phragmites australis*).

(E) Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), except that cultivars of purple loosestrife developed and recognized to be sterile and approved by the director of the department of agriculture and rural development under section 16a of the insect pest and plant disease act, 1931 PA 189, MCL 286.216a, are not a restricted species.

(*ii*) The following restricted species of terrestrial plant, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or a fragment, including a seed or other propagule, of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant: autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*).

(*iii*) Any of the following restricted mollusk species, including a hybrid or genetically engineered variant of the species or an egg of the species or of a hybrid or genetically engineered variant:

(A) Quagga mussel (*Dreissena bugensis*).

(B) Zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*).

(p) "Watercraft" means any conveyance used or designed for navigation on water, including, but not limited to, any vessel, ship, boat, motor vessel, steam vessel, vessel operated by machinery, motorboat, sailboat, barge, scow, tugboat, and rowboat.

(q) "Wiggler" means an aquatic egg, nymph, or larva of an insect.

(2) For the purposes of this part:

(a) A person is not considered to possess a live organism simply because the organism is present on land or in waters owned by that person unless the person has knowingly introduced that live organism on that land or in those waters.

(b) A person is not considered to possess a live organism if the organism was obtained from the environment and the person only possesses the organism at the specific location at which it was obtained from the environment.

(c) A person is not considered to possess a live organism if the possession is for the purpose of promptly destroying the organism.

History: Add. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 77, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 51, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 358, Imd. Eff. Dec. 9, 2014;—Am. 2014, Act 537, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015;—Am. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41302 Adding or deleting from list of prohibited species or restricted species; consultation; procedure; determination; review; emergency order; order setting conditions for harvesting, possessing, and transporting naturalized organism of aquatic restricted species.

Sec. 41302. (1) The relevant commission may by order add to or delete a species from the list of prohibited species or restricted species under section 41301. Before the natural resources commission issues an order under this subsection, it shall consult with the department of agriculture and rural development. Before the commission of agriculture and rural development issues an order under this subsection, it shall consult with the department of natural resources. After the consultation, and at least 30 days before the relevant commission issues the order, the relevant department shall post a copy of the proposed order on the relevant department's website and shall submit a copy of the proposed order to all of the following:

(a) The legislature.

(b) The standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary responsibility for any of the following:

(*i*) Agricultural issues.

(*ii*) Environmental issues.

(*iii*) Natural resources issues.

(2) The relevant commission shall list a nonaquatic species as a prohibited species or restricted species if the relevant commission determines the following:

(a) For a nonaquatic prohibited species, all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The organism is not native.

(*ii*) The organism is not naturalized in this state or, if naturalized, is not widely distributed in this state.

(*iii*) Based on a risk assessment, any of the following apply:

(A) The organism has the potential to harm human health or to harm natural, agricultural, or silvicultural

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resources.

(B) Effective management or control techniques for the organism are not available.

(b) For a nonaquatic restricted species, all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The organism is not native.

(*ii*) The organism is naturalized and widely distributed in this state.

(*iii*) Based on a risk assessment, any of the following apply:

(A) The organism has the potential to harm human health or to harm natural, agricultural, or silvicultural resources.

(B) Effective management or control techniques for the organism are available.

(3) The relevant commission shall list an aquatic species as a prohibited species or restricted species if the relevant commission determines the following based on a review by the relevant department:

(a) For an aquatic prohibited species, all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The organism is not native or is genetically engineered.

(*ii*) The organism is not naturalized in this state or, if naturalized, is not widely distributed.

(*iii*) Based on a risk assessment, any of the following apply:

(A) The organism has the potential to harm human health or to severely harm natural, agricultural, or silvicultural resources.

(B) Effective management or control techniques for the organism are not available.

(b) For an aquatic restricted species, all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The organism is not native.

(*ii*) The organism is naturalized in this state.

(*iii*) Based on a risk assessment, any of the following apply:

(A) The organism has the potential to harm human health or to harm natural, agricultural, or silvicultural resources.

(B) Effective management or control techniques for the organism are available.

(4) The following apply to a review by the relevant department of an aquatic species for listing as a prohibited species or restricted species under subsection (3):

(a) The relevant department shall review each aquatic animal listed or delisted as injurious wildlife under the Lacey act, 16 USC 3371 to 3378, and each aquatic plant designated or removed from designation as a noxious weed under the plant protection act, title IV of Public Law 106-224, for listing or delisting as a prohibited species or restricted species within 180 days after the change in federal listing or designation.

(b) The relevant department shall review each aquatic species that has the potential to harm human health or natural, agricultural, or silvicultural resources for listing as a prohibited species or restricted species even if the species is not currently on either federal list described in subdivision (a).

(c) The relevant department may review other aquatic species for listing as prohibited or restricted species.

(5) The relevant director may issue an emergency order designating an organism as a prohibited species or restricted species if the organism has the potential to harm human health or to severely harm natural, agriculture, or silvicultural resources. An emergency order is effective for 90 days or a shorter period if specified in the order. The relevant department shall do all of the following:

(a) Post a proposed emergency order on its website and otherwise publicize the proposed emergency order in a manner that ensures that interested persons are provided notice of the proposed emergency order, the reasons for the emergency order, and the proposed effective date of the order.

(b) Provide a copy of the proposed emergency order to each member of the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives that consider legislation pertaining to conservation, the environment, recreation, tourism, or natural resources.

(c) Post the final emergency order on its website.

(6) The relevant department may issue an order setting forth the conditions under which naturalized organisms of an aquatic restricted species may be harvested, possessed, and transported.

History: Add. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 537, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015;—Am. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41302a Repealed. 2018, Act 451, Eff. March 21, 2019.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to a permitted aquatic species list.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.41303 Possession of live prohibited or restricted organism; prohibition; exceptions; notification of location where found.

Sec. 41303. (1) A person shall not knowingly possess a live organism if the organism is a prohibited species or restricted species, except under 1 or more of the following circumstances:

(a) The person intends to present a specimen of the prohibited species or restricted species, for identification or similar purposes, to a person who is a certified applicator or registered applicator under part 83, to a public or private institution of higher education, or to the department of natural resources, the department of agriculture and rural development, or any other state, local, or federal agency with responsibility for the environment, natural resources, or agriculture.

(b) The person has been presented with a specimen of a prohibited species or restricted species for identification or similar purposes under subdivision (a).

(c) The person possesses the prohibited species or restricted species in conjunction with otherwise lawful activity to eradicate or control the prohibited species or restricted species.

(d) The possession is pursuant to a permit issued for education or research purposes by the relevant department under section 41306 or, if the prohibited species or restricted species is a plant species or an insect other than a wiggler, by the United States Department of Agriculture.

(e) The species is an aquatic restricted species and the person possesses the species in compliance with an order under section 41302(6).

(2) A person described in subsection (1)(b) or (c) shall notify the department of natural resources, the department of agriculture and rural development, or the department of environmental quality if the prohibited species or restricted species was found at a location where it was not previously known to be present.

History: Add. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 78, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 537, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015;—Am. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41305 Introduction of prohibited or restricted species, or genetically engineered or nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, or mollusk, or aquatic plant; prohibition; exceptions.

Sec. 41305. A person shall not introduce a prohibited species, a restricted species, a genetically engineered or nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant unless the introduction is authorized by 1 of the following, as applicable:

(a) For a fish, by a permit issued by the department of natural resources under section 48735.

(b) For a plant or an insect other than a wiggler, by a permit issued by the department of agriculture and rural development under section 41306.

(c) For any other species, by a permit issued by the department of natural resources under section 41306.

History: Add. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 79, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 537, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41306 Permit; application; fee; granting or denying; revocation; modification; hearing; administration; enforcement.

Sec. 41306. (1) A person shall apply to the relevant department for a permit that section 41303 or 41305 describes as being issued under this section. The application shall be submitted on a form developed by the relevant department. The application shall be accompanied by a fee based on the cost of administering this part. The relevant department shall either grant an administratively complete application and issue a permit or deny the application.

(2) In determining whether to grant or deny an application for a permit for introduction of a genetically engineered organism required by section 41305, the relevant department shall consider whether any application for a federal permit or approval for the genetically engineered organism has been granted or denied.

(3) The relevant department may revoke or modify a permit it has issued under subsection (1) after providing an opportunity for a hearing under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(4) The relevant department shall administer and enforce sections 41302 to 41310. In addition, any peace officer may enforce the criminal provisions of this part.

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History: Add. 2005, Act 79, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 537, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015;—Am. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41307 Rules.

Sec. 41307. The department shall promulgate rules under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41309 Violation; penalties; suspension or revocation of permit or license; order; liability for damages to natural resources; exceptions.

Sec. 41309. (1) A person who violates section 41303(2) is subject to a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

(2) A person who violates section 41303(1), or a condition of a permit issued under this part, with respect to a restricted species is subject to a civil fine of not more than $5,000.00. A person who violates section 41303(1), or a condition of a permit issued under this part, with respect to a prohibited species is subject to a civil fine of not more than $10,000.00.

(3) A person who violates section 41303(1) knowing the possession is unlawful or who willfully or in a grossly negligent manner violates a condition of a permit issued under this part is guilty as follows:

(a) For a violation involving a restricted species, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned for not more than 1 year and shall be fined not less than $1,000.00 or more than $10,000.00.

(b) For a violation involving a prohibited species that is not an aquatic species, the person is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 2 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $20,000.00.

(c) For a violation involving a prohibited species that is an aquatic species, the person is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 3 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $100,000.00.

(4) A person who, with intent to damage natural, agricultural, or silvicultural resources or human health:

(a) Violates section 41303(1) with respect to a restricted species or possesses a nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 2 years and shall be fined not less than $1,000.00 or more than $250,000.00.

(b) Violates section 41303(1) with respect to a prohibited species or possesses a genetically engineered bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 4 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $500,000.00.

(5) A person who sells or offers to sell a restricted species is subject to a civil fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $10,000.00. A person who sells or offers to sell a prohibited species or who violates section 41303(3) is subject to a civil fine of not less than $2,000.00 or more than $20,000.00.

(6) A person who violates section 41305 is guilty as follows:

(a) For a violation involving a restricted species or a nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned for not more than 6 months and shall be fined not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00.

(b) For a violation involving a prohibited species or a genetically engineered bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned for not more than 1 year and shall be fined not less than $1,000.00 or more than $10,000.00.

(7) A person who violates section 41305 with respect to a restricted species or nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant and who has actual or constructive knowledge of the identity of the restricted species or that the organism, whether a restricted species or other bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, is nonnative is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be imprisoned for not more than 1 year and shall be fined not less than $1,000.00 or more than $10,000.00.

(8) A person who violates section 41305 with respect to a prohibited species that is not an aquatic species or with respect to a genetically engineered bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant and who has actual or constructive knowledge of the identity of the prohibited species or that the bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant is genetically engineered, respectively, is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 2 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $20,000.00.

(9) A person who violates section 41305 with respect to a prohibited species that is an aquatic species and

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who has actual or constructive knowledge of the identity of the prohibited species is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 3 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $100,000.00.

(10) A person who violates section 41305 knowing the introduction is unlawful, is guilty as follows:

(a) For a violation involving a restricted species or nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, the person is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 2 years and shall be fined not less than $1,000.00 or more than $250,000.00.

(b) For a violation involving a prohibited species or a genetically engineered bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, the person is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 4 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $500,000.00.

(11) A person who, with intent to damage natural, agricultural, or silvicultural resources or human health, violates section 41305 is guilty as follows:

(a) For a violation involving a restricted species or nonnative bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, the person is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 3 years and shall be fined not less than $1,000.00 or more than $500,000.00.

(b) For a violation involving a prohibited species or a genetically engineered bird, crustacean, fish, insect, mammal, mollusk, or aquatic plant, the person is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 5 years and shall be fined not less than $2,000.00 or more than $1,000,000.00.

(12) If a person commits a criminal violation of this part or a rule promulgated or permit issued under this part or knowingly commits a violation described in subsection (5) and if the violation involves a prohibited species that is an aquatic species, the court shall order that any permit or license issued to the person under part 473 or 487 be suspended for 1 year, and that the person is not eligible to be issued any permit or license under part 473 or 487 for 1 year. If the remaining term of an existing permit or license under part 473 or 487 is less than 1 year, the court shall order that the permit or license be revoked and that the person is not eligible to be issued any permit or license under part 473 or 487 for 1 year. For a second violation described in this subsection, the court shall order that any permit or license issued to the person under part 473 or 487 be revoked and that the person is permanently ineligible to be issued any permit or license under part 473 or 487. An order under this subsection is self-effectuating. The clerk of the court shall send a copy of the order to the department of natural resources.

(13) In addition to any other civil or criminal sanction imposed under this section, a person who violates this part is liable for any damages to natural resources resulting from the violation, including, but not limited to, costs incurred to prevent or minimize such damages.

(14) This part does not apply to activities authorized under the Michigan aquaculture development act, 1996 PA 199, MCL 286.871 to 286.884.

History: Add. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 76, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009;—Am. 2014, Act 541, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015.

Compiler's note: In subsection (5), the phrase "or who violates section 41303(3)" evidently should have been removed when section 41303(3) was removed by Act 451 of 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41310 Property used in criminal violation subject to seizure and forfeiture.

Sec. 41310. A vehicle, equipment, or other property used in a criminal violation of this part or a permit issued under this part involving a prohibited species that is an aquatic species is subject to seizure and forfeiture as provided in chapter 47 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.4701 to 600.4709.

History: Add. 2014, Act 537, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41311 Invasive species fund; creation; disposition of funds; money remaining in fund; expenditures; purposes.

Sec. 41311. (1) The invasive species fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The department of natural resources and the department of agriculture shall forward to the state treasurer and the state treasurer shall deposit into the fund civil fines collected under section 41309 and permit fees collected under section 41306. The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

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(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department of natural resources and the department of agriculture shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for 1 or more of the following purposes:

(a) The administration of this part, consistent with section 41306(4).

(b) Public education about preventing the introduction of, controlling, or eradicating prohibited species, restricted species, and other nonnative species and genetically engineered aquatic plants, birds, crustaceans, fish, insects, mammals, and mollusks.

History: Add. 2005, Act 80, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41313 Providing information on website; requirements.

Sec. 41313. The department of natural resources and the department of agriculture shall each provide all of the following information on its website:

(a) Information on the requirements of this part applicable to the public.

(b) The penalties for violating the requirements of this part.

(c) A list of prohibited species and restricted species along with a description and a photograph or drawing of each of those species.

(d) Each annual report of the department under section 41323, for not less than 3 years after its issuance.

History: Add. 2005, Act 80, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41321 Repealed. 2009, Act 51, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to the invasive species advisory council.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41323 Duties of department.

Sec. 41323. (1) The department of natural resources shall do all of the following:

(a) By March 1 of each year, submit to the governor and the legislature a report that makes recommendations on all of the following:

(*i*) Additions to or deletions from the classes of genetically engineered or nonnative organisms covered by this part.

(*ii*) The status of various prohibited species and other problematic invasive species in this state, including, but not limited to, a list of infested waterbodies by species.

(*iii*) Preventing the introduction of and controlling or eradicating invasive species or genetically engineered aquatic plants, birds, crustaceans, fish, insects, mammals, or mollusks.

(*iv*) Restoration or remediation of habitats or species damaged by invasive species or genetically engineered organisms.

(*v*) Prioritizing efforts to prevent violations of and otherwise further the purposes of this part.

(*vi*) The specific areas of responsibility for various state departments under this part and the sharing of information on permits under this part among responsible state departments.

(*vii*) Educating citizens about their responsibilities under this part and their role in preventing the introduction of and controlling or eradicating prohibited species, restricted species, invasive species, and genetically engineered aquatic plants, birds, crustaceans, fish, insects, mammals, or mollusks.

(*viii*) Simplifying citizen access to state government for compliance with this part.

(*ix*) Legislation and funding to carry out the recommendations of the department of natural resources and otherwise further the purposes of this part.

(*x*) Other matters that the department of natural resources considers pertinent to the purposes of this part.

(b) Establish criteria for identifying waterbodies infested by prohibited species.

(c) Monitor and promote efforts to rescind the exemption under 40 CFR 122.3(a) for ballast water discharges.

(2) The department of natural resources shall carry out its reporting and other duties under this section in cooperation with the aquatic nuisance species council created under Executive Order No. 2002-21 and the department of agriculture.

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History: Add. 2005, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 52, Eff. Sept. 21, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41325 Watercraft, watercraft equipment, or watercraft trailer with aquatic plant attached; placement in state waters prohibited; transport over land; order to remove aquatic organisms; release of baitfish prohibited; release of fish limited; notice; posting; violation as civil infraction; penalty.

Sec. 41325. (1) A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Place a watercraft, watercraft equipment, or a watercraft trailer in the waters of this state if the watercraft, watercraft equipment, or watercraft trailer has an aquatic plant attached.

(b) Transport any watercraft over land without first doing all of the following:

(*i*) Removing all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells.

(*ii*) Draining all water from any live wells and bilge.

(*iii*) Ensuring that the watercraft, trailer, and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms, including plants.

(2) A law enforcement officer may order the owner or operator of a watercraft, watercraft equipment, watercraft trailer, or any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer to comply with subsection (1)(b). The owner or operator shall obey the order.

(3) A person shall not release baitfish in any waters of this state. A person who collects fish shall not use the fish as bait or cut bait except in the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release.

(4) A person, who catches fish other than baitfish in a lake, stream, Great Lake, or connecting waterway shall only release the fish in the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release.

(5) The department shall prepare a notice that contains a summary of subsections (1) to (4), (6), and (7) and the definition of aquatic plant in section 41301 and shall make copies of the notice available to owners of public boating access sites. The department shall include the notice in relevant department publications and post the notice on its website.

(6) The owner of a public boating access site shall post and maintain the notice described in subsection (5) at the public boating access site.

(7) A person who violates subsection (1), (2), (3), (4), or (6) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

History: Add. 2009, Act 91, Imd. Eff. Sept. 15, 2009;—Am. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Compiler's note: NREPA

324.41329 Sale or possession of nonnative aquatic species without registration prohibited; exceptions; applicability of section.

Sec. 41329. (1) A person shall not sell or offer for sale or possess for the purpose of sale or offering for sale a live, nonnative aquatic species except as authorized by a registration issued by the department of natural resources pursuant to part 13. A registration is nontransferable and expires on December 31 of the year for which issued. A separate registration is required for each place where an activity described in this subsection occurs.

(2) In addition to the exemption provided in section 41309(14), this section and section 41335 do not apply to any of the following:

(a) Activities authorized under part 459.

(b) The sale or offering for sale of aquatic species, other than prohibited species or restricted species, for human consumption.

(c) The 1-time sale or offering for sale of aquatic species if the sale or offering for sale involves not more than 20 organisms of a single species.

History: Add. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.41331 Registration to sell or possess nonnative aquatic species; application; issuance.

Sec. 41331. To register under section 41329, a person shall submit an application to the department of natural resources. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and include the description of the premises where the aquatic species are to be sold or offered for sale, together with any relevant additional information required by the department of natural resources. The department shall issue a registration certificate to a registrant.

History: Add. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41333 Person registered to sell or possess nonnative aquatic species; duties.

Sec. 41333. A registrant under section 41329 shall do all of the following:

(a) Maintain the registration certificate conspicuously posted at the registered location at all times.

(b) Maintain, until submission under subdivision (c), electronic records of all of the following:

(*i*) The species and number of individuals of each aquatic species purchased. This subparagraph does not apply to species that are unable to survive in freshwater or in this state's climate as determined based on guidance developed by the relevant department.

(*ii*) The date of purchase or sale.

(*iii*) Other relevant information as required by the department.

(c) By March 1 each year, beginning in 2020, submit to the department of natural resources a report consolidating the electronic records maintained under subdivision (b) for the prior calendar year. However, the first submission shall cover records maintained since the effective date of the 2018 amendatory act that added this section.

(d) Notify the department if the registrant sells or offers for sale a live aquatic species not previously listed in a submission under subdivision (c). The department shall conduct a risk assessment of the aquatic species and take appropriate action. This subdivision does not apply to species that are unable to survive in freshwater or in this state's climate as determined based on guidance developed by the relevant department.

History: Add. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41335 Trade show for aquatic species; written notice required.

Sec. 41335. Subject to section 41329(2), a person shall not conduct a trade show for selling or trading aquatic species unless the person has given the department not less than 10 days' advance written notice of the time, date, and location of the trade show.

History: Add. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41337 Violation; penalties; suspension or revocation of registration; disposal of aquatic species.

Sec. 41337. (1) A person who violates sections 41329 to 41335 or rules promulgated under this part to implement those sections may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $1,000.00.

(2) A person who violates sections 41329 to 41335 or rules promulgated under this part to implement those sections a second or subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

(3) In addition to the sanctions under subsections (1) or (2), the court may suspend or revoke any registration issued to the person under section 41329.

(4) If a person violates sections 41329 to 41335 or rules promulgated under this part to implement those sections, the department of natural resources may suspend or revoke the person's registration required under section 41329 or refuse to register the person after providing an opportunity for a hearing under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(5) If a registration is suspended or revoked under this section, the aquatic species held under the registration shall be disposed of only in a manner approved by the department of natural resources.

History: Add. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.41341 Inspection of site or facility permitted.

Sec. 41341. The department of natural resources or the department of agriculture and rural development shall have free access at all reasonable hours to any site, including, but not limited to, an aquaculture facility, as defined in section 2 of the Michigan aquaculture development act, 1996 PA 199, MCL 286.872, if there is probable cause to believe that activities subject to the permitting or registration requirements of this part take place and to any trade show described in section 41335 for any of the following purposes:

(a) To inspect and determine if this act is being violated. An inspection shall be conducted under generally recognized practices designed not to jeopardize the health of the aquatic species.

(b) To secure samples or specimens of any aquatic species after paying or offering to pay fair market value for the sample or specimen.

History: Add. 2018, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 21, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 414
AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

324.41401 Definitions.

Sec. 41401. As used in this part:

(a) "Aquatic invasive plant species" means an aquatic plant species, hybrid, or genotype that is not native and whose introduction causes, or is likely to cause, economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

(b) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(c) "Eligible applicant" means a person that meets the requirements under section 41402.

(d) "Eligible project" means a project that meets the requirements under section 41402.

(e) "Fund" means the inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication fund created in section 41403.

(f) "Grant" means an inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control or eradication grant issued through the program.

(g) "Program" means the inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication program established in section 41402.

History: Add. 2018, Act 671, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: Former Part 414, MCL 324.41401-324.41415, which pertained to the Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Council, was repealed by Act 286 of 2011, Eff. Dec. 21, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41402 Inland lakes aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication program; grants; application; requirements.

Sec. 41402. (1) The department shall establish an inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication program. The program shall provide grants to eligible applicants for eligible projects to control or eradicate inland lake aquatic invasive plant species using chemical, physical, or biological methods, or a combination of these methods. A grant may include funding for costs associated with preparation of a vegetation management plan, required monitoring, and any necessary permit fees associated with the eligible project.

(2) An eligible applicant must meet both of the following requirements:

(a) Be a legally constituted lake association or nonprofit organization, property owners association, homeowners association, lake board, or special assessment district.

(b) Have demonstrated that a permit from the department is in effect to conduct the control or eradication activities included in the eligible project.

(3) An eligible project must meet all of the following requirements:

(a) There is public access to the inland lake for all activities associated with the project.

(b) The waterbody has vegetation management goals created by a licensed commercial applicator or lake manager.

(c) All survey, control, eradication, and documentation activities have been completed by a qualified scientist, technician, licensed commercial aquatic applicator, or university representative.

(d) All control or eradication activities use best management practices.

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(e) The project utilizes products approved or authorized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the department, or the department of agriculture and rural development for control or eradication activities.

(4) The department shall issue grants considering the following statewide priorities:

(a) Permit fees associated with an eligible project.

(b) Eligible projects to manage pioneer infestations of inland lake aquatic invasive plant species.

(c) Eligible projects to prevent or control the further spread of inland lake aquatic invasive plant species.

(d) Eligible projects for recurring maintenance control.

(5) If an eligible applicant submits an application for an eligible project, but does not receive a grant because of a lack of available funds, that eligible applicant shall be given special consideration for approval in the following year.

(6) An eligible applicant that wishes to receive a grant shall submit an application to the department containing the information required by the department. Applications for grants shall be submitted by July 1. By September 1, the department shall notify each applicant whether its application has been approved. The department may require an applicant that receives a grant to enter into a grant agreement with the department prior to the issuance of the grant.

History: Add. 2018, Act 671, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: Former Part 414, MCL 324.41401-324.41415, which pertained to the Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Council, was repealed by Act 286 of 2011, Eff. Dec. 21, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41403 Inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication fund; creation; investment, disposition, and expenditure of money.

Sec. 41403. (1) The inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control and eradication fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(5) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for the following:

(a) Inland lake aquatic invasive plant species control or eradication grants.

(b) Grant administration, in an amount not to exceed 3% of annual available funding.

History: Add. 2018, Act 671, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Compiler's note: Former Part 414, MCL 324.41401-324.41415, which pertained to the Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Council, was repealed by Act 286 of 2011, Eff. Dec. 21, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SHOOTING AND HUNTING GROUNDS

PART 415
PUBLIC SHOOTING AND HUNTING GROUNDS

SUBPART 1

324.41501 Saginaw bay; public shooting and hunting ground.

Sec. 41501. All of the lands belonging to the state and being in township 16 north, range 9 east, in Wild Fowl bay, in the county of Huron, in this state, commonly known as the "middle ground," lying between Maison island, in Saginaw bay, and the main land, are set apart and dedicated for a public shooting or hunting ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41502 Saginaw bay; trespassers; prosecution.

Sec. 41502. A person who has located upon or occupied or in the future locates upon or occupies any part

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of the lands described in this subpart, except as provided in this subpart, is a trespasser and may be prosecuted as a trespasser upon the public lands in the manner provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41503 Saginaw bay; hunting.

Sec. 41503. A person may go upon any parts of the lands described in this subpart at any and all times permitted by the game laws of this state for the purpose of hunting or shooting wildfowl or game. However, a person shall not hunt or shoot wildfowl or game on the lands, or any part of the lands, described in this subpart at any season or time or manner that is not permitted by the game laws of this state, and any person violating any game laws of this state by hunting wildfowl or game on any of the lands described in this subpart shall be punished as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41504 Saginaw bay; control; rules; enforcement; violation of subpart; penalty.

Sec. 41504. Public shooting grounds described in this subpart are under the control of the department. The department may make, publish, and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for the care and preservation of the shooting grounds, for the maintenance of good order, and for the protection of property as from time to time are necessary or expedient. If the department makes any rules or regulations pertaining to the management or welfare of the shooting grounds, the department may enforce the rules or regulations and cause a person violating any rule or regulation to be punished for that violation in the manner set forth in this subpart. All rules and regulations made by the department under the authority of this subpart or any other part or act shall be effective within the whole territory referred to in this subpart. A person who violates this subpart or any of the rules and regulations prescribed by the department is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not less than 10 days or more than 60 days, or a fine of not more than $50.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 2

324.41505 Lake Erie submerged lands in Monroe and Wayne counties; public shooting and hunting ground; fishing privileges.

Sec. 41505. All of that part of Lake Erie lying adjacent to the surveyed lands of Monroe and Wayne counties and any submerged lands within the surveyed lines of these counties and connected with Lake Erie and the Detroit river, providing the surveyed lands are owned by the state, are set apart and dedicated for a public shooting or hunting ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the state, for a distance extending 1 mile into Lake Erie, the eastern line of the submerged lands and waters reserved by this subpart being 1 mile distant from the surveyed lines of the east side of Monroe and Wayne counties and parallel to those surveyed lines. This reservation and dedication shall not interfere with or detract from any rights or privileges as to fishing now enjoyed by any person or the public.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41506 Lake Erie submerged lands; trespassers; navigation.

Sec. 41506. A person who has located upon or occupied or in the future locates upon or occupies any part of the submerged lands or lake described in this subpart, except as provided in this subpart, is a trespasser and may be prosecuted as a trespasser upon the public lands in the manner provided by law. However, the waters shall be free for all purposes of navigation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.41507 Lake Erie submerged lands; destruction of submarine vegetation; violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 41507. A person shall not cut or otherwise destroy the rushes and other submarine vegetation growing on the reserve described in this subpart without the consent of the boards of commissioners of Monroe and Wayne counties. A person who willfully cuts or destroys the same, or causes that cutting or destruction to be done, knowingly, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $100.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 3

324.41508 Great Lakes, Kalamazoo, Grand and Muskegon rivers; submerged and swamp lands; public shooting and hunting grounds; boundaries; excluded lands.

Sec. 41508. All of the swamp or submerged lands lying along the borders of Lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan, Superior, and St. Clair, except such parts of the "St. Clair Flats," so-called, as have been, prior to January 1, 1899, actually occupied, built up, cultivated, or improved to the extent of at least $25.00, within the boundaries of the state, and within the limits described in this section, and also all swamp or submerged lands adjoining these lakes, or in the bayous adjoining or emptying into these lakes, and also all swamp or submerged lands contiguous to and lying along the shores of the Kalamazoo river, Grand river, and Muskegon river, which now belong to the state, or to which the state later acquires title, are set apart and dedicated for a public shooting and hunting ground, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the state. This park shall extend to the state line into the respective lakes from the shoreline of the lakes, and the outer boundary of the park shall be the center line of the lakes or the boundary of the state. The park described in this subpart shall include all swamp or submerged lands lying between the shoreline and the outer boundary. The premises described in this subpart do not include any islands in any of the lakes to which the state does not have title, unless the state first acquires title. The park shall also include the swamp or submerged lands owned or acquired by the state that border upon the lakes or in or upon the bayous emptying into the lakes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41509 Public shooting and hunting ground; inclusion of subsequently acquired swamp or submerged lands.

Sec. 41509. (1) If the state acquires title to any swamp or submerged lands within the limits described in section 41508, whether by purchase, escheat, forfeiture, tax bid, or tax title, the lands shall be, by operation of this subpart, included in the park described in this subpart and shall not be offered for sale by the state.

(2) This section does not apply to a conveyance made pursuant to a public act or a conveyance ratified pursuant to section 41510.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41510 Swamp or submerged lands; ratification of certain conveyances; title.

Sec. 41510. All conveyances made before July 1, 1977, by or for and on behalf of the state conveying swamp or submerged lands described in section 41508 or 41509 are ratified and declared to have passed good and sufficient title to the lands conveyed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41511 Land subject to fish and game laws; navigation; private and municipal dockage.

Sec. 41511. The reservation and dedication in section 41508 shall not interfere with or detract from any rights or privileges of fishing now enjoyed by private persons or the public, but the park described in this subpart shall be subject to the fish and game laws of this state in the same manner as though there had been no dedication. The waters in this park shall be free for all purposes of navigation. This subpart shall not interfere

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with the common law right of riparian owners to dockage and wharfage, and shall not interfere in any manner with dock or harbor lines or regulations of any municipality or of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41512 Trespassers; officers to protect possession; operation of statute of limitations.

Sec. 41512. A person who has located upon or occupied or in the future locates upon or occupies any part of the park set aside in section 41508, except as provided in this subpart, is a trespasser against the state, and an action may be brought against the person in the name of the people of the state by the prosecuting attorney or the board of supervisors of any county in which the trespass occurs, and no statute of limitations shall be considered operative against the state so as to bar any suit or proceeding brought by or on behalf of the state regarding the possession of these swamp or submerged lands.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41513 Control by county commissioners; permissible destruction of submarine vegetation.

Sec. 41513. The board of commissioners of each county shall have the care and control of that part of the park described in this subpart within its own boundaries and that part lying opposite and immediately adjoining in the Great Lakes. The respective boards of commissioners, in their discretion, may allow the cutting or destruction of the rushes and submarine vegetation growing in the park in or opposite their respective counties.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41514 Destruction of submarine vegetation; consent required; violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 41514. A person shall not cut or otherwise destroy, or cause the cutting or destruction of, any rushes or other submarine vegetation growing on the park described in this subpart without the consent of the board of commissioners of the county to which that portion of the park is immediately adjoining; and any person who willfully cuts or destroys the same, or causes such cutting or destruction to be done, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00 and costs of prosecution, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41515 Driving ducks away from hunters; violation as misdemeanor; penalty; navigation.

Sec. 41515. A person shall not willfully scare or drive wild ducks or other wild waterfowl, or cause the same to be done, from or away from any person lawfully hunting wild ducks or wild waterfowl within the park described in this subpart, for the purpose of depriving or attempting to deprive the person of any or all of his or her opportunities of shooting or hunting the wild duck or other wild waterfowl. A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00 and costs of prosecution, or both. This subpart does not detract from the right of passage over the waters described in this subpart, in good faith, or in the ordinary course of navigation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 417
GAME BIRD HUNTING PRESERVES

324.41701 “License” defined.

Sec. 41701. As used in this part, "license" means a license issued by the department to operate a game bird hunting preserve.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41702 Game bird hunting preserves; license; fee; duration; Sunday hunting.

Sec. 41702. The department may issue licenses authorizing the establishment and operation of game bird hunting preserves pursuant to part 13. The fee for a license is $105.00 for a preserve of 320 acres or less and $180.00 for a preserve in excess of 320 acres. Unless revoked as provided by law, licenses issued under this section are valid from the date of issuance until June 30 of the third license year. Game bird hunting preserves licensed under this section may allow hunting on Sundays, notwithstanding the provisions of a local ordinance or regulation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41703 Game bird hunting preserves; size; boundary signs.

Sec. 41703. Each game bird hunting preserve shall contain not less than 80 acres or more than 640 acres of land leased or owned by the licensee, except that those preserves whose operations are confined only to ducks may contain a minimum of 50 acres. The exterior boundaries of each preserve shall be clearly defined with signs erected at intervals of 150 feet or less.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41704 Species under game bird hunting preserve license; limitation; propagation, sale, and release of birds; requirements for wild turkeys or wild turkey hybrids.

Sec. 41704. (1) Only artificially propagated wild turkeys and wild turkey hybrids and other artificially propagated species as prescribed by the department may be hunted under a game bird hunting preserve license. A license holder may propagate and sell the prescribed birds, carcasses, or products, in addition to releasing the birds for hunting purposes, by adhering to all requirements, except breeder's license fee requirements of part 427 and orders issued by the department under that part.

(2) Wild turkey or wild turkey hybrids authorized under a license shall have 1 wing pinioned and shall be fenced and released in compliance with orders issued by the department under section 41710.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41705 Licenses; determination by department of percentage of species hunted.

Sec. 41705. The licenses provided for in this part entitle the holders of the licenses and their lessees and licensees to take, by hunting, the percentage of each species released on the premises each year as the department determines.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41706 Tagging of birds; cost; reuse.

Sec. 41706. Except as otherwise provided by an order issued under section 41710, before a game bird shot under authority of a game bird hunting preserve license is consumed on the premises or removed from the property, a stamp-mark, band, tag, or seal as designated by the department shall be affixed to the carcass or to the container holding the carcass. The bands, tags, or seals shall be furnished at reasonable cost to the operator of the game bird hunting preserve by the department. Except as otherwise provided by an order issued under section 41710, a person shall not remove the stamp-mark, band, tag, or seal from the carcass until the carcass is prepared for consumption or from the container until each carcass in the container is prepared for consumption. Such items of identification shall not be reused by any person.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.41707 Species of wild animal or bird permitted to be hunted.

Sec. 41707. A wild animal, or a wild bird of a species other than those permitted to be hunted under authority of a license issued under this part, shall not be hunted or killed on a game bird hunting preserve except in accordance with the laws of this state governing the hunting of that species.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41708 Operator's records; contents; inspection; reports.

Sec. 41708. Each operator of a game bird hunting preserve licensed under this part shall maintain a record of the names, addresses, and hunting license numbers of all persons hunting upon the preserve, together with the date upon which they hunted and the number of each species taken. The operator shall also maintain an accurate record of the total number, by species, of birds propagated, reared, or purchased and, for each release of birds, the date of the release and the number of individuals of each species released. The records shall be open for inspection by the department at any reasonable time. The licensee shall also provide complete and accurate reports when and as required by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41709 License; application; contents.

Sec. 41709. An application for a license under this part shall state the name and address of the applicant, the legal description of the premises to be licensed, the kind of birds to be covered by the license, and other information required by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41710 Open season; duration; orders.

Sec. 41710. (1) By order, the department may establish an open season for game bird hunting preserves that shall be not less than 120 days. The department may issue other orders governing the administration of this part as the department considers expedient.

(2) Orders issued under subsection (1) shall be issued subject to the procedure under section 40107.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41711 License fees; credit to game and fish protection account.

Sec. 41711. All money received from the sale of licenses and tags or seals as provided in this part shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41712 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty; grounds for suspension or revocation of license.

Sec. 41712. (1) A person who violates this part or an order issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00 and the costs of prosecution, or both.

(2) In addition to the penalty provided in this section, a license issued under this part may be suspended or revoked, after a hearing as provided by law, if the license holder fails to comply with the requirements of this part, if a licensee fails to maintain or submit accurate reports and records as required by the department, or if a

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licensee is convicted of a violation of this part. Birds held under a license that is suspended or revoked shall then be disposed of only in a manner approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 419
HUNTING AREA CONTROL

324.41901 Regulation and prohibitions in certain areas; powers of department; area closures; hearings, investigations, studies, and statement of facts; regulations.

Sec. 41901. (1) In addition to all of the department powers, in the interest of public safety and the general welfare, the department may regulate and prohibit hunting, and the discharge of firearms and bow and arrow, as provided in this part, on those areas established under this part where hunting or the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow may or is likely to kill, injure, or disturb persons who can reasonably be expected to be present in the areas or to destroy or damage buildings or personal property situated or customarily situated in the areas or will impair the general safety and welfare. In addition, the department may determine and define the boundaries of the areas. Areas or parts of areas may be closed throughout the year. The department, in furtherance of safety, may designate areas where hunting is permitted only by prescribed methods and weapons that are not inconsistent with law. Whenever the governing body of any political subdivision determines that the safety and well-being of persons or property are endangered by hunters or discharge of firearms or bow and arrows, by resolution it may request the department to recommend closure of the area as may be required to relieve the problem. Upon receipt of a certified resolution, the department shall establish a date for a public hearing in the political subdivision, and the requesting political authority shall arrange for suitable quarters for the hearing. The department shall receive testimony on the nature of the problems resulting from hunting activities and firearms use from all interested parties on the type, extent, and nature of the closure, regulations, or controls desired locally to remedy these problems.

(2) Upon completion of the public hearing, the department shall cause such investigations and studies to be made of the area as it considers appropriate and shall then make a statement of the facts of the situation as found at the hearing and as a result of its investigations. The department shall then prescribe regulations as are necessary to alleviate or correct the problems found.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41902 Submission of findings and recommendations; approval or disapproval of prescribed controls; ordinance; certified copy; repeal of ordinance; enforcement; rules.

Sec. 41902. (1) The department shall submit its findings and recommendations to the governing body of the political subdivision concerned. By majority vote, the governing body shall advise the department by certified resolution that it approves or disapproves the prescribed hunting or firearms controls. If the governing body disapproves the prescribed controls, further action shall not be taken. If the governing body approves the prescribed controls, a local ordinance shall be enacted in accordance with the provisions of law pertaining to the enactment of ordinances, which ordinance shall be identical in all respects to the regulations prescribed by the department. A certified copy of the ordinance shall be forwarded to the department. The governing body of the political subdivision, having established such an ordinance, by majority vote, may repeal the ordinance at any time. The department shall be informed of such action by certified resolution.

(2) State, local, and county law enforcement officers shall enforce ordinances enacted in accordance with this part.

(3) All rules promulgated under this section and section 41901 before March 17, 1986 shall remain in effect unless rescinded pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41903 Closure notice signs; materials, form, placement, maintenance, spacing, publication of notice; rescission of closure.

Sec. 41903. The department shall designate closure notice signs of approved material, overall size,

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number, and letter size and composition of message. At least 4 notices, relatively equally spaced, shall be posted on the boundaries of the closed area. A closure is not effective prior to the erection of closure notices by the petitioning political subdivisions and approval of the same by the department. The petitioning political subdivision shall place and maintain the signs and shall publish a notice of closure for 3 successive weeks, at least once in each week, in a newspaper published in the county in which the area to be closed is located. If no newspaper is published in the county, then the notice shall be published in a newspaper published in an adjoining county. If, in the judgment of the department, closure signs are not maintained so as to adequately give notice of the closure to a careful and prudent person, the closure may be rescinded by service of notice of rescission on the clerk or recording officer of the political subdivision, and in such case the closure shall terminate 30 days after service of notice of rescission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41904 Prohibitions against discharge of firearms; exceptions.

Sec. 41904. Any prohibition against discharge of firearms made under authority of this part does not apply to peace officers or members of any branch of the armed forces in the discharge of their proper duties. The department may authorize the use of firearms to prevent or control the depredations of birds or animals in situations where significant damages are being caused by wildlife.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.41905 Violation of part or rules as misdemeanor.

Sec. 41905. Any person who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 421
DOG TRAINING AREAS

324.42101 Special dog training area; permit; application; fee; size; limitation; additional permits.

Sec. 42101. Upon application of any club or organization having 10 or more members who are citizens of this state, or upon the application of 10 or more citizens of this state, and the payment of a registration fee of $5.00, the department, pursuant to part 13, may issue a permit authorizing the establishment and maintenance by the club, organization, or citizens on land owned by them, or over which they have legal control, of a special dog training area where dogs may be trained at any time during the year. A dog training area shall not be less than 40 acres or more than 240 acres, and permits shall not be issued for more than 6 special dog training areas in any 1 county. In counties having a population of 100,000 or more, the department may issue additional permits as the department considers to be in the public interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42102 Training dogs; conditions; rules; prohibitions.

Sec. 42102. Permit holders may at any time during the year train their own dogs or the dogs of other persons on land described in section 42101 or permit others to do so under conditions that are mutually agreed upon and under rules as may be considered expedient by the department. Hunting or the carrying or possession of firearms other than a pistol or revolver with blank cartridges at any time of year on lands described in section 42101 is unlawful.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42103 Dog training areas; posting boundary lines; notice; contents.

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Sec. 42103. The boundary lines of each such special dog training area described in section 42101 shall be kept plainly and conspicuously posted by the permit holder with legible notices at least 10 inches by 12 inches in size placed not more than 100 yards apart which shall bear the following warning:

Special Dog Training Area
Hunting is Unlawful
This Land is Set Aside under Special Permit
For the Training of Dogs
Entering Hereon for the Purpose of Hunting or
Permitting Dogs to Enter without Proper Authorization
Is Punishable by Fine and/or Imprisonment
.....
(Name and address of permit holder to be printed here)

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42104 Area for field dog trials and dog training on state-owned lands; establishment; closing areas; fee; bond; care and maintenance of areas.

Sec. 42104. The department may establish areas that include the Gladwin, Brighton, Highland, Waterloo, Ionia, Escanaba state forest, and White Cloud areas for field dog trials and dog training on state owned lands or lands under the department's jurisdiction or control and may promulgate rules governing the operation and control of the areas as it considers desirable or expedient. The department may close the areas for any period to the hunting, trapping, or both, of any or all species of wild birds and wild animals or to dog training. The department may establish a fee for the use of the areas established by this section or may require a performance bond to insure cleanup measures and other factors, or may establish and require both a fee and a bond. Fees collected for the use of the areas, subject to annual appropriations by the legislature, shall be used in the care and maintenance of the areas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42105 Dog training areas; boundary fence or poster; mutilation, injury, or destruction prohibited.

Sec. 42105. A person shall not willfully, negligently, or maliciously cut, remove, cover up, deface, or otherwise mutilate, injure, or destroy any special dog training area boundary fence or wire or poster placed in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42106 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 42106. A person who violates this part or any rule promulgated under section 42102 or 42104, upon conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00 and costs of prosecution, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

POSSESSION, SALE, REGULATION OF WILDLIFE

PART 425
FURS, HIDES, AND PELTS

324.42501 Protected game birds or game animals; dealers in furs, hides, plumage, or pelts; license; fees; designation by department; “plumage” defined.

Sec. 42501. (1) A person shall not engage in the business of buying, selling, dealing, or the tanning and dressing of raw furs, hides, or pelts of beaver, otter, fisher, marten, muskrat, mink, skunk, raccoon, opossum, wolf, lynx, bobcat, fox, weasel, coyote, badger, deer, or bear and the plumage, skins, or hides of protected

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game birds or game animals except as authorized by a license issued by the department under part 13. A license application shall be accompanied by a fee as follows:

(a) For any person who engages in the business of buying and selling raw furs, hides, and pelts of fur-bearing animals or the plumage, skins, or hides of protected game birds or game animals, the fee is $10.00.

(b) Each person in the business of manufacturing furs who buys raw pelts is a dealer, and the fee for each individual or agent who buys furs is, for a resident, $10.00 and, for a nonresident, $50.00.

(c) For any person who engages in the business of custom tanning or dressing of raw furs, the fee is $5.00. However, such a license does not authorize that person to buy or sell raw furs.

(2) Any person holding a fur dealer's license under this part is entitled to buy furs, hides, pelts, and the plumage, skins, or hides, and parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals that are legally taken.

(3) The department may designate the plumage and skin of those game birds and game animals that may not be bought or sold if it determines that such a prohibition will best serve the public interest. The plumage and skins, or parts of plumage and skins, of migratory game and nongame birds may be bought and sold only in accordance with federal law or rule.

(4) For the purposes of this part, "plumage" means any part of the feathers, head, wings, or tail of any bird.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2014, Act 160, Imd. Eff. June 11, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42502 Fur dealer's license; forms and blanks; term; revocation.

Sec. 42502. The department may prepare suitable report forms and blanks covering the different kinds of licenses to be issued under this part. All licenses issued under this part are for the calendar year and shall expire on December 31 of each year. Licenses may be revoked at any time by the department for a violation of the law relating to the buying, selling, or dealing in furs, hides, or pelts of fur-bearing animals and the plumage, skins, or hides of protected game birds and game animals. Any fraudulent practice employed in connection with the buying or selling of the furs, hides, or pelts of any of the animals mentioned in this part and the plumage, skins, or hides of protected game birds and game animals, or the failure to make a report required by this part, is sufficient grounds for the revocation of a license issued under this part. Any person whose license has been revoked shall not secure another license except in the discretion of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42503 Shipping permits; contents; label; confiscation.

Sec. 42503. Any dealer who desires to ship or transport out of the state any fur-bearing animals or the raw skins of fur-bearing animals, or parts thereof, or the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals legally taken or killed in the state during the open season, shall first procure a permit from the department. The permit shall state the names of the consignee and consignor, destination and number and kinds of fur-bearing animals, or the raw skins of fur-bearing animals, or parts thereof, or the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals that are to be shipped or transported, and the permit shall be presented to transportation company with consignment. All shippers of fur-bearing animals, or the raw skins of fur-bearing animals, or parts thereof, or the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals are required to label all packages offered for shipment by parcel post, common carrier, or otherwise. The label shall be securely attached to the package, and shall plainly indicate the names and addresses of the consignee and consignor and the complete contents of the package. A person or the agent or employee of any common carrier, association, stage, express, railway, or transportation company shall not transport or receive for transportation or carriage, or sell or offer for sale, any fur-bearing animals legally taken during the open season for that animal, or the raw skins of such a fur-bearing animal, or part thereof, or the plumage, skin, or hide, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals except as specifically provided for by this part. All fur-bearing animals, or the raw skins of fur-bearing animals, or parts thereof, or the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals possessed or that have been shipped or are being transported in violation of this part, shall be confiscated and disposed of as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.42504 Report of pelts in possession on last day of season.

Sec. 42504. Within 10 days after the close of the respective open seasons provided by law for the taking of fur-bearing animals, game birds, and game animals, each person holding a license under this part shall report to the department stating the number and kinds of furs, hides, or pelts of each fur-bearing animal, and the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals in his or her possession on the last day of the open season for each fur-bearing animal, game bird, and game animal. The reports shall be notarized and sent by registered mail.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42505 Monthly reports.

Sec. 42505. On or before the tenth day of every month, each person licensed to do business under this part shall make a report to the department on blanks to be furnished by the department, stating the number and kinds of raw furs, hides, or pelts of fur-bearing animals, or the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals purchased or sold during the preceding month, and the name and address of the person from whom purchased and to whom sold. The report shall be notarized and sent by registered mail.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42506 Money received from sale of licenses; credit to game and fish protection account; use.

Sec. 42506. All money received from the sale of licenses as provided in this part shall be forwarded to the state treasurer and placed to the credit of the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010, and shall be used for the purpose necessary to the protection, propagation, and distribution of game and fur-bearing animals as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 356, Imd. Eff. May 23, 2002;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42507 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 42507. A person or his or her agent or servant who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall forfeit to the state all furs, hides, and pelts of fur-bearing animals and the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds or game animals illegally bought or held, and reimburse the state for illegal furs or illegal plumage, skins, hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals sold. If a fine and costs are imposed, the court shall sentence the offender to imprisonment until the fine and costs are paid, but for a period not exceeding the maximum jail penalty provided for this offense.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 427
BREEDERS AND DEALERS

324.42701 Definitions.

Sec. 42701. As used in this part:

(a) "Game" has the same meaning ascribed to that term in part 401.

(b) "License" means a game breeder's license issued pursuant to this part.

(c) "Stock" means game.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42702 Possession of game for propagation and dealing and selling of game; license; denial; zoning requirements; license nontransferable; validity.

Sec. 42702. (1) The department may, pursuant to part 13, issue licenses to authorize the possession of game for propagation and the dealing in and selling of game.

(2) The department shall deny an application for a new license under subsection (1) if the applicant is not the owner or lessee of the premises to be used for the purposes designated in the license application.

(3) Beginning on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, unless the premises to be used for the purposes designated in the license application are zoned agricultural, the department shall notify in writing the city or the township and, if applicable, village where the premises are located that an application has been filed under this section. The notice shall include a copy of the application. If, within 30 days after the notice is sent, the local unit of government notifies the department that the use designated in the license application would violate a local ordinance that prohibits the captivity of game animals and that does not violate the Michigan right to farm act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.471 to 286.474, the department shall deny the license application.

(4) A license issued under subsection (1) is nontransferable and is valid from July 1 to June 30 of the third license year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 191, Eff. June 1, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2004, Act 537, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2008, Act 569, Imd. Eff. Jan. 16, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42703 License to be valid and current; exemptions.

Sec. 42703. A person shall not maintain in captivity or propagate or sell game, except as otherwise provided by law, unless that person holds a valid and current license issued pursuant to this part. Public zoological parks are not required to secure a license. A license is not required of a person who purchases any carcass, product, or part of game sold from a person licensed pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42704 License fees.

Sec. 42704. The fee for a license shall be established by the department as follows:

(a) If it is practicable to count the applicant's game, the fee shall be $45.00 for the total number of game not exceeding 500, and an additional fee of $15.00 shall be assessed for each additional number of game of 500 or less.

(b) If it is impracticable to count the game, the fee shall be $45.00 for 40 acres or less that is to be used by the applicant for game propagation purposes, and $15.00 for each additional 40 acres or less.

(c) If the fee for an applicant is determined by utilizing a combination of the methods provided in subdivisions (a) and (b), the fee shall be the larger one that can be charged under either subdivision (a) or (b).

(d) The maximum fee for a single license shall not exceed $150.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42705 Rights of licensee.

Sec. 42705. A person who has secured a license may possess, propagate, use, buy, sell, trap, kill, consume, ship, or transport any or all of the stock designated in that license, and offspring, products, carcasses, pelts, or other parts of the stock as provided in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42706 Islands, enclosures, and pens used for propagation purposes; character and location; construction; conditions to issuance of license or approval of enclosure; purchase of deer from state; applicability of subsections (2) and (3); “flush” or “flushed”

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defined.

Sec. 42706. (1) All islands, enclosures, and pens used for propagation purposes shall be of a character and in a location that the department approves as satisfactory to keep in complete and continuous captivity the stock covered by the license, and shall be constructed in a manner to prevent the entrance of wild stock of the same species. However, pinioned or wing-clipped birds may be kept in unroofed enclosures.

(2) After July 1, 1986, the department shall not issue a license to a person, or approve an enclosure or pen capable of enclosing deer, unless the following conditions are met:

(a) The township or city in which the enclosure or pen is to be located has granted authorization for the enclosure or pen to be located within the township or city.

(b) If there are deer within the area to be enclosed, the applicant or license holder flushes that area to eliminate those deer. The applicant or license holder shall submit the proposed method to be used to flush deer from the area to the department for approval.

(3) Any deer that cannot be flushed from the land that is to be enclosed and is covered by a license issued under this part shall be purchased from the state as provided in section 42707.

(4) Subsections (2) and (3) do not apply to a person who has a valid license on July 1, 1986, unless the license holder expands the lands covered by the license.

(5) As used in this section, "flush" or "flushed" means to move or chase from the area that is to be enclosed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42707 Purchase of and title to state-owned game; price.

Sec. 42707. If wild, state owned game animals are present on land that is covered by a license, the applicant may purchase the state owned game from the state and secure title to the game. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the price to be paid for the game shall be fixed by the department, but the price shall not exceed the market value that the game have for breeding purposes. However, the price of deer purchased from the state shall be $250.00 per deer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42708 Game covered by license; manner of taking or killing; requirement for wild turkey or wild turkey hybrids.

Sec. 42708. (1) Game covered by a license may be taken or killed in any manner and at any time, except that game birds covered by a license may not be shot, except by the holder of a license in special situations when the department promulgates rules or the department issues orders permitting the shooting of game birds.

(2) Wild turkey or wild turkey hybrids covered by a license shall have 1 wing pinioned within 14 days of hatching.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42709 Removal of game from premises; identification; seals, bands, and tags; removal of certain fertile eggs prohibited.

Sec. 42709. (1) Game, including the parts or products of game, may be removed from licensed premises only when identified as required by the department. This identification may be by bill of sale, invoice, or seals, tags, bands, or appropriate stamp mark affixed to carcasses and their parts or to wrappers, crates, or other containers. Required tags and seals shall be provided to the license holder by the department at reasonable cost. The use of seals, bands, and tags shall not be required on consignments of game sent to the department or to other state institutions to be used for scientific purposes.

(2) Live game may be removed from licensed premises only by licensed game breeders, shooting preserve operators, or persons holding permits authorizing the possession of the game. Wild turkeys or wild turkey hybrids shall not be removed from licensed premises unless they are pinioned.

(3) Fertile eggs from wild turkeys or wild turkey hybrids shall not be removed from licensed premises.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.42710 Orders; rules.

Sec. 42710. (1) The department may issue orders considered necessary by the department to protect the public interest and to provide for the proper administration of this part. Orders under this part shall be issued according to the procedure for the issuance of orders provided for in part 401.

(2) The department may promulgate rules designating certain game that do not require protection under this part and that may be possessed, propagated, purchased, or sold without a license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42711 Released or escaped game as property of state; permission to release game birds required.

Sec. 42711. (1) Game that are released or that escape from the premises of a person licensed under this part become the property of the state.

(2) Game birds shall not be released without the written permission of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42712 Disposition of money.

Sec. 42712. All money received from the sale of licenses under this part shall be credited to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: NREPA

324.42713 Suspension or revocation of license.

Sec. 42713. (1) After providing an opportunity for a hearing under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, the department may suspend or revoke a license under this part if any of the following apply:

(a) The licensee violates this part.

(b) The licensee fails to provide accurate reports and records within reasonable time limits as designated by the department.

(c) The premises used for the purposes identified in the license are located in a city or village and are zoned residential, the licensed use is a nonconforming use in that zone, and the licensee has been convicted of a crime or held responsible for a civil infraction directly related to the captivity of pheasants on the premises.

(2) If a licensee under this part is convicted of a violation of the game laws of this state, his or her license may be revoked or its renewal denied. In that case, the game held under the license may be disposed of only in a manner approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 569, Imd. Eff. Jan. 16, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.42714 Violation as misdemeanor; penalties.

Sec. 42714. A person who violates this part or an order issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both. A person who is convicted of a second violation of this part or an order issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 23, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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PART 431
FOXES IN CAPTIVITY

324.43101 Foxes in captivity as domestic animals; protection; construction of part.

Sec. 43101. Silver, silver-black, black, and cross foxes, which of their nature, in the absence of efforts for their domestication, were known as wild, which are brought into or born in captivity upon a farm or ranch for the purpose of cultivating or pelting their furs, together with their offspring and increase, are domestic animals for the purpose of any statute or law relating generally to domestic animals, other than dogs and cats or other pets, or relating to farming or to animal husbandry or to the encouragement of agriculture, unless any such statute or law is impossible to apply to such fur-bearing animals. Such fur-bearing animals, together with their offspring and increase, are the subjects of ownership, lien, and all other property rights, in the same manner as purely domestic animals, in whatever situation, location, or condition the fur-bearing animals may be, and regardless of whether they remain in or escape from captivity. Such fur-bearing animals shall receive the same protection of law as, and in the same way and to the same extent are the subject of trespass or larceny as, other personal property. This part shall not be construed to include silver, silver-black, black, and cross foxes within the definition of livestock, or give any person any right to recovery for damage or destruction of the animal under the dog law of 1919, Act No. 339 of the Public Acts of 1919, being sections 287.261 to 287.290 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43102 Brands or tattoo marks; recording; prima facie evidence of ownership.

Sec. 43102. An owner or prospective owner of a fur-bearing animal described in this part which is living in captivity is entitled, by written subscribed statement, to adopt distinctive brands or tattoo marks, not including Arabic numerals and not including brands or tattoo marks already in known use by others, for such fur-bearing animals, and to have the distinctive identifying brands or tattoo marks recorded in his or her name in the office of the commission of agriculture, upon paying a recording fee of $1.00 for each brand or each tattoo mark. All fees received by the department of agriculture under this part shall be retained by the department of agriculture and used to defray the expenses of administering this part. Such statements shall be recorded in a suitable book to be kept in the office of the commission of agriculture. The presence of a recorded brand or recorded tattoo mark upon such a fur-bearing animal is prima facie evidence of the ownership of the animal by the person in whose name the brand or tattoo mark is recorded, subject always to that person's right to make due transfer of title, right or interest in, or lien upon the animal.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43103 Prohibited acts; trespass on premises; killing, trapping, injuring or disturbing fur-bearing animal; consent.

Sec. 43103. Without the permission of the owner of a privately owned fur-bearing animal described in this part, a person shall not enter the enclosure within which the privately owned fur-bearing animal is kept, or trespass on private ground adjoining such an enclosure and knowingly annoy or disturb the animals. A person shall not knowingly and willfully kill, trap, or injure any fur-bearing animal owned by another person without the consent of the owner. However, a duly authorized peace or conservation officer may enter upon such premises in the performance of his or her regular duties.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43104 Violation of part as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 43104. A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 433

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LIMITATION ON ACREAGE FOR PROPAGATION OR SPORTING PURPOSES

324.43301 Limitation on acreage held for sporting purposes.

Sec. 43301. A person shall not acquire, hold, or occupy by purchase, lease, or other evidence of title, possession, or right of occupancy or enclose by fences or other barriers in 1 tract an amount of real estate within this state exceeding 15,000 acres for the purpose of the preservation or propagation of game or fish or for use for yachting, hunting, boating, fishing, rowing, or any other sporting purpose.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43302 Limitation on acreage; location.

Sec. 43302. A person shall not acquire, hold, or occupy in the manner and for the purposes stated in section 43301 any real estate that is located within 2 miles of any other real estate acquired, held, or occupied for any of the uses or purposes mentioned in section 43301.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43303 Violation of part; fine.

Sec. 43303. A person who violates this part is subject to a civil fine of $50.00 for each day that a violation of this part continues. The fine shall be recovered in the manner provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 2
HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

PART 435
HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSING

324.43501 Meanings of words and phrases.

Sec. 43501. For the purposes of this part, the words and phrases defined in sections 43502 to 43508 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43502 Definitions; A to C.

Sec. 43502. (1) "Accompany" means to go along with another individual under circumstances that allow one to come to the immediate aid of the other individual and while staying within a distance from the other individual that permits uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory communication.

(2) "Amphibian" means a frog, toad, salamander, or other member of the class amphibia.

(3) "Apprentice license" means a license issued under section 43520(3).

(4) "Aquatic species" means a fish, reptile, amphibian, mollusk, aquatic insect, or crustacea or part thereof.

(5) "Base license" means a license issued under section 43523a.

(6) "Bow" means a device for propelling an arrow from a string drawn, held, and released by hand if the force used to hold the string in the drawn position is provided by the archer's muscles.

(7) "Crossbow" means a weapon consisting of a bow, with a draw weight of 100 pounds or more, mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire an arrow, bolt, or quarrel by the release of a bow string controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger with a working safety.

(8) "Crustacea" means a freshwater crayfish, shrimp, or prawn of the order decapoda.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 282, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 4, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.43503 Definitions; F.

Sec. 43503. (1) "Fish" means all species of fish.

(2) "Fishing" means the pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, or taking of fish, and includes attempting to pursue, capture, catch, kill, or take fish.

(3) "Firearm" means any weapon which will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosive. A pneumatic gun, as defined in section 1 of 1990 PA 319, MCL 123.1101, other than a paintball gun that expels by pneumatic pressure plastic balls filled with paint for the purpose of marking the point of impact, is also considered a firearm for the purpose of this act.

(4) "Firearm deer season" means any period in which deer may be lawfully hunted with a firearm.

(5) "Fur-bearing animals" includes badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, fox, lynx, marten, mink, muskrat, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, and weasel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012;—Am. 2015, Act 24, Eff. July 1, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43504 Definitions.

Sec. 43504. As used in this part:

(a) "Game" has the meaning given that term in part 401.

(b) "Game and fish protection account" means the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

(c) "Wildlife and fisheries" includes any member of the wild animal kingdom, including any mammal, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, or invertebrate found in this state at any point in its natural life cycle.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43505 Definitions; H to N.

Sec. 43505. (1) "Hunt" and "hunting" mean to pursue, capture, shoot, kill, chase, follow, harass, harm, rob, or trap a wild animal, or to attempt to engage in such an activity.

(2) "Identification" means a driver license issued by Michigan, another state, or a Canadian province as accepted by the department, a state of Michigan identification card issued by the secretary of state, or a sportcard issued by the department.

(3) "License" means a document or a tag, stamp, plastic card, or other device that may include a stamp or a tag that authorizes the licensee to hunt, fish, trap, or possess wild animals or aquatic species and other identification required by the department.

(4) "Minor child" means a person less than 17 years old.

(5) "Nonresident" means or refers to a person who is not a resident.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 282, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43506 Definitions; O to R.

Sec. 43506. (1) "Open season" means the time during which game animals, game birds, fur-bearing animals, and aquatic species may be legally taken or killed. Open season includes both the first and last day of the season or period.

(2) "Reptile" means a turtle, snake, lizard, or any other member of the class reptilia.

(3) "Resident" means or refers to any of the following:

(a) A person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state.

(b) A student who is enrolled in a full-time course at a college or university within this state and who resides in the state during the school year.

(c) A person regularly enlisted or commissioned as an officer in the armed forces of the United States and

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officially stationed in this state.

(d) A person regularly enlisted or commissioned as an officer in the armed forces of the United States who, at the time of enlistment, was a resident of this state and has maintained his or her residence in this state for purposes of obtaining a driver license or voter registration, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2006, Act 282, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43507 Definitions; S.

Sec. 43507. (1) "Senior citizen" means a resident 65 years of age or older.

(2) "Slingshot" means a Y-shaped device with an elastic strip attached between the prongs used for projecting a stone or other object.

(3) "Small game" includes all species of protected game birds and game animals except bear, deer, elk, moose, wild turkey, wolf, and fur-bearing animals.

(4) "Small game season" means that period between September 15 and March 31.

(5) "Sportcard" means a folder, document, plastic card, or other device issued by the department containing the individual's name, address, and vital statistics as required by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43508 Definitions; T to W.

Sec. 43508. (1) "Take" means fishing, hunting, trapping, catching, capturing, killing, or the attempt to engage in such an activity.

(2) "Trap" and "trapping" mean the taking of wild animals by means of a trap.

(3) "Waterfowl" means ducks, geese, gallinules, and mergansers.

(4) "Wild animal" means a mammal, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, or crustacea of a wild nature indigenous to this state or introduced to this state by the department or a species determined by the department to be of public benefit.

(5) "Wiggler" means a mayfly nymph or other aquatic insect nymphs or larvae.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43509 Taking aquatic species; taking or possessing wild animal; license.

Sec. 43509. (1) A person 17 years of age or older shall not take aquatic species, except aquatic insects, in or upon any waters over which this state has jurisdiction or in or upon any lands within the state, or possess aquatic species, except aquatic insects, without having in his or her possession a valid license as provided in this part.

(2) A person shall not take or possess a wild animal without having in his or her possession a valid license as provided in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2010, Act 29, Imd. Eff. Mar. 26, 2010.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43510 Carrying or transporting firearm, slingshot, bow and arrow, crossbow, or trap; license required; exception; applicability to taking of wild animal.

Sec. 43510. (1) Subject to subsection (2), except as provided in section 43513, and except for an individual hunting on a game bird hunting preserve licensed under part 417, an individual shall not carry or transport a firearm, slingshot, bow and arrow, crossbow, or a trap while in any area frequented by wild animals unless that individual has in his or her possession a license as required under this part.

(2) This act or a rule promulgated or order issued by the department or the commission under this act shall not be construed to prohibit an individual from transporting a pistol or carrying a loaded pistol, whether concealed or not, if either of the following applies:

(a) The individual has in his or her possession a license to carry a concealed pistol under 1927 PA 372,

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MCL 28.421 to 28.435.

(b) The individual is authorized under the circumstances to carry a concealed pistol without obtaining a license to carry a concealed pistol under 1927 PA 372, MCL 28.421 to 28.435, as provided for under any of the following:

(*i*) Section 12a of 1927 PA 372, MCL 28.432a.

(*ii*) Section 227, 227a, 231, or 231a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.227, 750.227a, 750.231, and 750.231a.

(3) Subsection (2) does not authorize an individual to take or attempt to take a wild animal except as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 129, Imd. Eff. June 3, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 433, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43511 Deer or elk season; transporting or possessing shotgun or rifle; license required; exception.

Sec. 43511. (1) Subject to subsection (2), and except as provided in section 43513, during the open season for the taking of deer or elk with a firearm, a person shall not transport or possess a shotgun with buckshot, slug load, ball load, or cut shell or a rifle other than a .22 caliber rim fire, unless the person has in his or her possession a license to hunt deer or elk with a firearm.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply during muzzle-loading deer season.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 433, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43512 Repealed. 1998, Act 104, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to possession of valid turkey license in order to carry firearm or bow and arrow.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43513 Carrying, transporting, or possessing firearm, slingshot, bow, or crossbow; hunting license not required; hunting on game bird hunting preserve; carrying or possessing unloaded and uncocked weapon.

Sec. 43513. (1) An individual may carry, transport, or possess a firearm without a hunting license if the firearm is unloaded and either enclosed in a case or carried in a vehicle in a location that is not readily accessible to any occupant of the vehicle. An individual may carry, transport, or possess a slingshot, bow, or crossbow without a hunting license if the slingshot, bow, or crossbow is unloaded and uncocked, enclosed in a case, or carried in a vehicle in a location that is not readily accessible to any occupant of the vehicle.

(2) Regardless of whether the individual has a license or it is open season for the taking of game, an individual may carry, transport, possess, or discharge a firearm, a bow, or a crossbow if all of the following apply:

(a) The individual is not taking or attempting to take game but is engaged in 1 or more of the following activities:

(*i*) Target practice using an identifiable, artificially constructed target or targets.

(*ii*) Practice with silhouettes, plinking, skeet, or trap.

(*iii*) Sighting-in the firearm, bow, or crossbow.

(b) The individual is, or is accompanied by or has the permission of, either of the following:

(*i*) The owner of the property on which the activity under subdivision (a) is taking place.

(*ii*) The lessee of that property for a term of not less than 1 year.

(c) The owner or lessee of the property does not receive remuneration for the activity under subdivision (a).

(3) An individual may carry, transport, or possess a firearm, slingshot, bow, or crossbow without a hunting license if the individual is hunting on a game bird hunting preserve licensed under part 417.

(4) An individual may carry or possess an unloaded weapon at any time if the individual is traveling to or from or participating in a historical reenactment.

(5) As used in this section:

(a) "Uncocked" means the following:

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(*i*) For a bow, that the bow is not in the drawn position.

(*ii*) For a crossbow, that the crossbow is not in the cocked position.

(*iii*) For a slingshot, that the slingshot is not in the drawn position.

(b) "Unloaded" means the following:

(*i*) For a firearm, that the firearm does not have ammunition in the barrel, chamber, cylinder, clip, or magazine when the barrel, chamber, cylinder, clip, or magazine is part of or attached to the firearm.

(*ii*) For a bow, that an arrow is not nocked.

(*iii*) For a crossbow, that a bolt is not in the flight groove.

(*iv*) For a slingshot, that the slingshot does not have ammunition in the projectile pocket.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 129, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999;—Am. 2006, Act 433, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 272, Eff. Sept. 27, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43514 Hunting small game and fishing without license permitted; conditions; exception.

Sec. 43514. (1) Until March 1, 2014, a resident, the resident's spouse, and the resident's children may hunt small game without a license upon the enclosed farmlands upon which they are regularly domiciled, at a time and in a manner permitted by law; except that they shall obtain a waterfowl hunting license for hunting waterfowl and a federal migratory bird hunting stamp as required by law.

(2) A resident, the resident's spouse, and the resident's children may fish without a license in water wholly within the limits of their enclosed farmlands or other enclosed lands upon which they are regularly domiciled, at a time and in a manner permitted by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43515 Permit authorizing developmentally disabled individual or resident of home for aged to fish without license.

Sec. 43515. The department may issue a permit authorizing a developmentally disabled individual or a resident of a home for the aged licensed under article 17 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20101 to 333.22260, to fish without a license if the developmentally disabled individual or the resident of the licensed home for the aged is a member of a group accompanied by 1 or more adults licensed under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 77, Imd. Eff. Mar. 28, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43516 Hunting, fur harvester, or fishing license; carrying license; exhibiting license upon demand; deer license with unused kill tag; exhibiting tag on request; electronic copy; consent to search electronic device not presumed; expanded use of electronic technology; tribal conservation officer; definition.

Sec. 43516. (1) Until March 1, 2018, an individual who has been issued a hunting, fur harvester's, or fishing license shall carry the license and shall exhibit the license upon the demand of a conservation officer, a law enforcement officer, a tribal conservation officer who complies with subsection (6), or the owner or occupant of the land if either or both of the following apply:

(a) The individual is hunting, trapping, or fishing.

(b) Subject to section 43510(2) and except as provided in section 43513, the individual is in possession of a firearm or other hunting or trapping apparatus or fishing apparatus in an area frequented by wild animals or fish, respectively.

(2) Subject to section 43510(2) and except as provided in section 43513, an individual shall not carry or possess afield a shotgun with buckshot, slug loads, or ball loads; a bow and arrow; a muzzle-loading rifle or black powder handgun; or a centerfire handgun or centerfire rifle during firearm deer season unless that individual has a valid deer license, with an unused kill tag, if issued, issued in his or her name. The individual shall exhibit an unused kill tag, if issued, upon the request of a conservation officer, a law enforcement officer, or the owner or occupant of the land.

(3) Beginning March 1, 2018, an individual who has been issued a hunting, fur harvester's, or fishing

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license shall carry the license or, if applicable, an electronic copy of the license and shall exhibit the license or, if applicable, an electronic copy of the license upon the demand of a conservation officer, a law enforcement officer, a tribal conservation officer who complies with subsection (6), or the owner or occupant of the land if either or both of the following apply:

(a) The individual is hunting, trapping, or fishing.

(b) Subject to section 43510(2) and except as provided in section 43513, the individual is in possession of a firearm or other hunting or trapping apparatus or fishing apparatus in an area frequented by wild animals or fish, respectively.

(4) An individual who displays an electronic copy of his or her license using an electronic device as provided in subsection (3) is not presumed to have consented to a search of the electronic device. This state, a law enforcement agency, a tribal conservation officer who complies with subsection (6), an employee of this state or a law enforcement agency, or the owner or occupant of the land is not liable for damage to or loss of an electronic device that occurs as a result of a conservation officer, a tribal conservation officer who complies with subsection (6), a law enforcement officer, or the owner or occupant of the land viewing an electronic copy of a license in the manner provided in this section, regardless of whether the conservation officer, tribal conservation officer who complies with subsection (6), law enforcement officer, or owner or occupant of the land was in possession of the electronic device at the time the damage or loss occurred.

(5) The department shall continue to explore the expanded use of electronic technology to provide additional services that will enhance hunting and fishing experiences for individuals in this state.

(6) A tribal conservation officer under subsection (1), (3), or (4) must be in uniform, display proper credentials, and be on official duty within the ceded territory of the treaty of March 28, 1836, 7 Stat 491.

(7) As used in this section, "tribal conservation officer" means a conservation officer employed by the Great Lakes Indian fish and wildlife commission, the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, or the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 129, Imd. Eff. June 3, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 433, Imd. Eff. Oct. 5, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 36, Eff. June 6, 2016;—Am. 2016, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43517 Hunting by minor child or adult who has a developmental disability; order establishing mentored hunting program.

Sec. 43517. (1) A parent or guardian of a minor child or a guardian of an adult who has a developmental disability shall not permit or allow the minor child or adult who has a developmental disability to hunt game under the authority of a license issued under this part except under 1 of the following conditions:

(a) The minor child hunts only on land upon which a parent or guardian is regularly domiciled or a parent or guardian, or another individual at least 18 years old authorized by a parent or guardian, accompanies the minor child. This subdivision does not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(*i*) The license is an apprentice license.

(*ii*) The minor child is less than 10 years old.

(*iii*) The minor child is an individual who has a developmental disability and is unable to obtain certification of completion of training in hunter safety.

(b) If the license is an apprentice license, a parent or guardian, or another individual at least 21 years old authorized by a parent or guardian, who is licensed to hunt that game under a license other than an apprentice license accompanies the minor child or adult who has a developmental disability.

(c) If the individual is less than 10 years old, the individual hunts only with a mentor in compliance with the mentored hunting program established by the commission under subsection (2).

(d) If the individual is an individual who has a developmental disability and is unable to obtain certification of completion of training in hunter safety, the individual hunts only with a mentor in compliance with the mentored hunting program established by the commission under subsection (2).

(e) If the adult who has a developmental disability has a guardian appointed under chapter 6 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1600 to 330.1644, and is unable to obtain certification of completion of training in hunter safety, the adult hunts only with a mentor in compliance with the mentored hunting program established by the commission under subsection (2).

(2) The commission shall issue an order under section 40113a establishing a mentored hunting program. The order must provide for at least all of the following:

(a) A mentor shall be at least 21 years of age before participating in the mentored hunting program.

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(b) A mentor shall possess a valid license to hunt, other than an apprentice license, before engaging in any mentored hunting program.

(c) An individual shall not be a mentor unless the individual presents proof of previous hunting experience in the form of a previous hunting license, other than an apprentice license, or certification of completion of training in hunter safety issued to the individual by this state, another state, a province of Canada, or another country.

(3) As used in this section, "developmental disability" means that term as defined in section 100a of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1100a.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 282, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2011, Act 109, Eff. Sept. 1, 2011;—Am. 2018, Act 399, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2018;—Am. 2024, Act 96, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43518 "Department" defined; signature requirement for valid license.

Sec. 43518. (1) As used in this section to section 43544, "department" includes a person designated by the department to issue and sell licenses.

(2) A license issued under this part is not valid unless it is signed as required by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43519 License requirements; effect of court order.

Sec. 43519. (1) To obtain any license, an applicant shall provide the department with 1 or more of the following as required by the department:

(a) Proof of residency or a signed affidavit of Michigan residency.

(b) Information required on the license application.

(c) The required license fee.

(d) Proof of identification.

(2) A person shall not obtain or attempt to obtain a license if a court order prohibits the person from obtaining that license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43520 Hunting license; issuance to minor child; requirements; duties of issuing agent; proof of previous hunting experience or certification of completion of training in hunter safety; affidavit; information to be recorded; apprentice license; mentored hunting license; additional licenses; fee; report.

Sec. 43520. (1) Subject to other requirements of this part, the department may issue a hunting license to an adult who has a developmental disability, has a guardian appointed under chapter 6 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1600 to 330.1644, and is unable to obtain certification of completion of training in hunter safety, or to a minor child if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) A parent or guardian of the individual applies for the license on behalf of the individual.

(b) The parent or guardian represents that the requirements of section 43517, as applicable, will be complied with.

(c) The license fee is paid.

(2) An individual born after January 1, 1960 shall not purchase or attempt to purchase a hunting license, unless the individual presents proof of previous hunting experience in the form of a hunting license issued by this state, another state, a province of Canada, or another country or presents a certification of completion of training in hunter safety issued to the individual by this state, another state, a province of Canada, or another country. If an applicant for a hunting license does not have proof of such a previous license or a certification of completion of training in hunter safety, a person authorized to sell hunting licenses may issue a hunting license if the applicant submits a signed affidavit stating that the applicant has completed a course in hunter safety or that the applicant possessed such a hunting license previously. The person selling a hunting license shall record as specified by the department the form of proof of the previous hunting experience or certification of completion of hunter safety training presented by the applicant. This subsection does not apply

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to the issuance of an apprentice license or mentored hunting license. An apprentice license, mentored hunting license, or the equivalent does not satisfy the requirements of this subsection concerning proof of previous hunting experience.

(3) An individual who does not meet the requirements of subsection (2) may obtain an apprentice license for the same price as the corresponding regular license that the individual would otherwise be qualified to obtain. An individual 17 years old or older shall not hunt game under an apprentice license unless another individual at least 21 years old who possesses a license, other than an apprentice license, to hunt that game accompanies that apprentice licensee and does not accompany more than 1 other apprentice licensee. For the purposes of this subsection and section 43517(1)(b), an individual shall not go along with more than 2 apprentice licensees of any age for the purpose of accompanying those apprentice licensees while those apprentice licensees are hunting. If an individual has represented to an apprentice licensee or, if the apprentice licensee is a minor child, to the apprentice licensee's parent or guardian that the individual would accompany the apprentice licensee for the purposes of this subsection, the individual shall not go along with the apprentice licensee while the apprentice licensee is hunting unless the individual actually accompanies the apprentice licensee and possesses a license, other than an apprentice license, to hunt the same game as the apprentice licensee. An individual is not eligible to obtain a specific type of apprentice license, such as a deer license, a base license, or a turkey license, for more than 2 license years. An apprentice license must be distinguished from a license other than an apprentice license by a notation or other means.

(4) Only a minor who is less than 10 years old, a minor child with a developmental disability, or an adult who has a developmental disability and a guardian appointed under chapter 6 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1600 to 330.1644, may obtain a mentored hunting license. A minor who is less than 10 years old, a minor child with a developmental disability, or an adult who has a developmental disability and a guardian appointed under chapter 6 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1600 to 330.1644, shall not hunt game under a mentored hunting license unless that individual complies with all requirements of the mentored hunting program established by the commission under section 43517.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the fee for a mentored hunting license is $7.50. A mentored hunting license is free for an individual with a developmental disability. A mentored hunting license includes all of the privileges conferred by all of the following:

(a) Base license.

(b) Deer license.

(c) All-species fishing license.

(d) Spring wild turkey hunting license and fall wild turkey hunting license.

(e) Fur harvester's license.

(6) An individual who purchases a mentored hunting license may apply for or purchase additional licenses pursuant to current regulations, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Antlerless deer licenses under section 43527a.

(b) A bear hunting license under section 43528.

(c) An elk hunting license under section 43529.

(7) An individual hunting with a license purchased under subsection (6) must comply with all requirements of the mentored hunting program established by the commission under section 43517.

(8) By September 1, 2023 and every 4 years after that date, the department shall submit a report to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary responsibility for conservation and outdoor recreation issues evaluating whether the fee revenue received by the department from mentored hunting licenses under subsection (5) is adequate to administer the mentored hunting program.

(9) As used in this section, "developmental disability" means that term as defined in section 100a of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1100a.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 282, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2011, Act 120, Eff. Sept. 1, 2011;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 4, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 2018;—Am. 2024, Act 96, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43521 Discounting price of license.

Sec. 43521. Notwithstanding any other section of this part, the department may discount the price of a license for the following purposes:

(a) For marketing purposes to increase participation in hunting and fishing activities.

(b) The price of any license or application fee may be discounted or eliminated to achieve a harvest or management objective for that species.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2009, Act 69, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43522 Issuance of sportcard to persons not possessing driver license or other identification; fee.

Sec. 43522. If a person applying for a license or permit under this part does not possess a Michigan driver license or other identification, the department shall issue a sportcard. A person authorized by the department to issue licenses shall charge a $1.00 fee for each sportcard that he or she issues. The authorized person shall forward the required form and the fee collected pursuant to this section to the department. The department shall issue a license and a sportcard provided for in this part if the applicant satisfies the license requirements and pays the license fees.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43522a Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to deferment of license fee increase by director.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43523 Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Eff. Mar. 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to small game license and fees.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43523a Base license; small game; fur-bearing animals; fee; hours void; 7-day limited nonresident small game license; 3-day limited nonresident small game license; development and display of electronic license.

Sec. 43523a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, an individual shall not hunt small game, unless the individual possesses a current base license. A base license authorizes the individual named in the license to hunt for small game, except for animals or birds that require a special license.

(2) If authorized in an order issued under part 401, an individual who possesses a current base license may take specified fur-bearing animals by means other than trapping during the open season for hunting these fur-bearing animals. However, an individual who goes on a bobcat hunt with a licensed hunter is not required to possess a base license if the individual does not carry a firearm, bow, or crossbow and does not own dogs used to chase or locate a bobcat during the hunt.

(3) The fee for a base license is as follows:

(a) Subject to subdivision (b), for a resident, $10.00.

(b) For a resident minor child or nonresident minor child, $5.00.

(c) Subject to subdivision (b), for a nonresident, $150.00.

(4) A base license is void between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise with the exception of coyote hunting.

(5) A nonresident may purchase a limited nonresident small game license entitling that individual to hunt for a 7-day period all species of small game that are available to hunt under a nonresident base license. The fee for a 7-day limited nonresident small game license is $80.00. Except for the purchase of a waterfowl hunting license under section 43525b, the purchase of a 7-day limited nonresident small game license does not entitle the holder to purchase any additional licenses.

(6) Beginning March 1, 2018, a nonresident may purchase a 3-day limited nonresident small game license entitling that individual to hunt for a 3-day period all species of small game that are available to hunt under a nonresident base license. The fee for a 3-day limited nonresident small game license is $50.00. Except for the purchase of a waterfowl hunting license issued under section 43525b, the purchase of a 3-day limited nonresident small game license does not entitle the holder to purchase any additional licenses.

(7) Not later than March 1, 2018, the department shall develop an electronic license that allows an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her base license using an electronic device.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017;—Am. 2018, Act 3, Imd. Eff. Jan. 26, 2018.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43523b Combination hunt and fish license; resident; nonresident; fees.

Sec. 43523b. (1) Beginning March 1, 2014, the fee for a resident combination hunt and fish license is $75.00 and shall include all of the privileges conferred by all of the following:

(a) Resident base license.

(b) Two deer licenses.

(c) All-species fishing license.

(2) Beginning March 1, 2014, the fee for a nonresident combination hunt and fish license is $265.00 and shall include all of the privileges conferred by all of the following:

(a) Nonresident base license.

(b) Two deer licenses.

(c) All-species fishing license.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43524 Wild turkey hunting license; fees; lottery; issuance of license; use of fees; report; purchase of license beginning March 1, 2014; eligibility; application fee; use.

Sec. 43524. (1) An individual shall not hunt wild turkey without a wild turkey hunting license. The fee for a resident wild turkey hunting license is $15.00. The fee for a nonresident wild turkey hunting license is $69.00. Subject to the requirements of section 40113a, the commission may issue an order requiring that all applications for wild turkey hunting licenses, or applications for wild turkey hunting licenses for certain geographic areas, be entered into a lottery designed and run by the department. An individual selected in a lottery, upon meeting the requirements of this part, is authorized to purchase a wild turkey hunting license. The license shall be issued for a specified hunting period and confers upon the holder of the license the right to hunt wild turkeys.

(2) The department may charge a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $4.00 for each application for a wild turkey hunting license that is entered into a lottery under subsection (1).

(3) From fees collected under subsection (1) or (2), the following amounts shall be used for scientific research, biological survey work on wild turkeys, creation and management of wild turkey habitat on state land, national forestland, and private land, annual wild turkey hunter surveys, disease testing for wild turkeys suspected of having a disease and voluntarily submitted to the department of natural resources, and other wild turkey management in this state:

(a)	Resident wild turkey hunting license	$	9.50
(b)	Nonresident wild turkey hunting license	$	50.00
(c)	Senior wild turkey hunting license	$	1.00
(d)	Wild turkey hunting application	amount of application fee, if any, but not more than $ 3.00.	

(4) The department shall, to the extent possible, use the money from subsection (3) to create and manage wild turkey habitat on state forestland, state game areas, national forestland, and private land, where appropriate. The department shall, before January 1 of each year, provide to the standing committees in the senate and house of representatives that primarily consider issues relating to natural resources a report detailing the expenditures for the prior year under subsection (3).

(5) Beginning March 1, 2014, only an individual holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase a wild turkey hunting license, pursuant to current regulations. The fee for a wild turkey hunting license is $15.00.

(6) Beginning March 1, 2014, the department may charge a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $5.00 for each application for a wild turkey hunting license that is entered into a lottery under subsection (1).

(7) Beginning March 1, 2014, from fees collected under subsection (5) or (6), the following amounts shall be used for scientific research, biological survey work on wild turkeys, creation and management of wild turkey habitat on state land, national forestland, and private land, annual wild turkey hunter surveys, disease testing for wild turkeys suspected of having a disease and voluntarily submitted to the department of natural resources, and other wild turkey management in this state:

(a)	Wild turkey hunting license	$	9.50
(b)	Senior wild turkey hunting license	$	1.00

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(c)	Wild turkey hunting application	amount of application fee, if any, but not more than $ 3.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2002, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Mar. 25, 2002;—Am. 2012, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Apr. 11, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43525 Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Eff. Mar. 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to waterfowl hunting license and fees.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43525a Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Eff. Mar. 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to combination deer license.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43525b Waterfowl hunting license; requirements; fee; issuance as stamp; use of fees; electronic display.

Sec. 43525b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, an individual 16 years of age or older shall not hunt waterfowl without a current waterfowl hunting license issued by this state. The annual license requirement is in addition to the requirements for a base license and federal migratory bird hunting stamp. The fee for the waterfowl hunting license is $12.00.

(2) If issued as a stamp, a waterfowl hunting license shall be affixed to the base license of the individual and signed across the face of the stamp by the individual to whom it is issued.

(3) A collector may purchase a waterfowl hunting license, if it is issued as a stamp, without being required to place it on a base license, sign across its face, or provide proof of competency under section 43520(2). However, a license described in this subsection is not valid for hunting waterfowl.

(4) From the fee collected for each waterfowl hunting license, the department shall use the following amounts:

(a) $9.00 shall be used to acquire, restore, or enhance wetlands and other lands to be managed for the benefit of waterfowl. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, not more than 0.25% of the money under this subdivision shall be used to acquire lands. However, if all of the money appropriated from the natural resources trust fund for eco-region acquisition carried over from previous fiscal years is spent, then the 0.25% limitation under this subdivision does not apply. The department shall not acquire land under this subdivision until that acquisition is approved by the joint capital outlay subcommittee.

(b) $1.93 shall be used to operate, maintain, and develop managed waterfowl areas in this state.

(c) The remaining amount shall be retained under section 43541 or used for administration of this part.

(5) Not later than March 1, 2018, the department shall develop an electronic license that allows an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her Michigan waterfowl hunting license using an electronic device.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 462, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

***** *324.43525c THIS SECTION IS REPEALED BY ACT 262 OF 2020 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026* *****

324.43525c Pheasant hunting license; fees; deposit of funds into pheasant subaccount in the game and fish protection account.

Sec. 43525c. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an individual 18 years of age or older shall not hunt pheasants without a current annual pheasant hunting license issued by this state. The annual pheasant hunting license requirement is in addition to the requirements for a base license. The fee for the pheasant hunting license is $25.00. The following individuals are not required to obtain an annual pheasant hunting license under this section:

(a) An individual only hunting pheasants at a game bird hunting preserve licensed under part 417.

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(b) An individual hunting pheasants on private land, except for individuals hunting on land enrolled in the hunting access program.

(c) An individual hunting pheasants on public land in the Upper Peninsula.

(d) An individual who holds a lifetime small game license, lifetime sportsperson's license, or a comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license issued under section 44102.

(2) If issued as a stamp, a pheasant hunting license must be affixed to the base license of the individual and signed across the face of the stamp by the individual to whom it is issued.

(3) A collector may purchase a pheasant hunting license, if it is issued as a stamp, without being required to place it on a base license, sign across its face, or provide proof of competency under section 43520(2). However, a license described in this subsection is not valid for hunting pheasants.

(4) Except as provided in sections 43541 and 43555, the department shall deposit the fee collected for each pheasant hunting license in the pheasant subaccount of the game and fish protection account for the purposes stated in subsection (5).

(5) The pheasant subaccount is created in the game and fish protection account. The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the subaccount. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the subaccount. The state treasurer shall credit to the subaccount interest and earnings from subaccount investments. Money in the subaccount at the close of the fiscal year remains in the subaccount and does not lapse to the game and fish protection account or the general fund. Money in the subaccount on January 1, 2026 is transferred to the game and fish protection account. The department is the administrator of the subaccount for auditing purposes. The department shall expend money from the subaccount, upon appropriation, only for costs associated with the purchase and release of live pheasants on state-owned land suitable for pheasants.

(6) This section is repealed effective January 1, 2026.

History: Add. 2020, Act 262, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021;—Am. 2021, Act 6, Imd. Eff. Apr. 8, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43526 Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Eff. Mar. 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to firearm deer license and fees.

Compiler's note: Act 451

Compiler's note: NREPA

324.43526a Repealed. 2012, Act 241, Eff. Jan. 1, 2017.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to hunters helping landowners program.

324.43526b Electronic copy of kill tag; display using electronic device.

Sec. 43526b. The department may develop an electronic license that allows an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her kill tag under section 43524, 43527a, 43528, 43528a, 43528b, or 43529 using an electronic device.

History: Add. 2016, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43527 Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Eff. Mar. 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to bow and arrow deer license and fees.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43527a Purchase of deer license beginning March 1, 2014; eligibility; application fee; kill tag; second deer license.

Sec. 43527a. (1) Beginning March 1, 2014, only an individual holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase a deer license or an antlerless deer license, pursuant to current regulations. The fee for a deer license or an antlerless deer license is $20.00.

(2) Beginning March 1, 2014, the department shall charge a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $5.00 for each individual who applies for an antlerless deer license.

(3) The department may issue a kill tag with or as part of each deer license. The kill tag shall bear the license number. The kill tag may also include space for other pertinent information required by the department. The kill tag, if issued, is part of the license.

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(4) Where authorized by the department, a resident may purchase a second deer license for the fee assessed under this subsection for the deer license for which that individual is eligible. However, a senior license discount is not available for the purchase of a second deer license. Where authorized by the department, a nonresident may purchase an additional deer license or antlerless deer license under this section for $170.00. The department may issue orders under part 401 designating the kind of deer that may be taken and the geographic area in which any license issued under this section is valid, when advisable in managing deer.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43527b Deer management assistance permits.

Sec. 43527b. The department may issue deer management assistance permits pursuant to current regulations.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43528 Bear hunting license; exception; eligibility beginning March 1, 2014; fees; kill tag; application fee; bear participation license.

Sec. 43528. (1) An individual shall not hunt bear unless the individual possesses a bear hunting license. However, an individual who goes on a bear hunt with a licensed hunter is not required to possess a bear hunting license if the individual does not carry a firearm, bow, or crossbow and does not own dogs used to chase or locate bear during the hunt. Beginning March 1, 2014, only an individual holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase a bear hunting license, pursuant to current regulations.

(2) The fee for a resident bear hunting license is $15.00. The fee for a nonresident bear hunting license is $150.00. Beginning March 1, 2014, the fee for a bear hunting license is $25.00.

(3) The department may issue a kill tag with, or as a part of, a bear hunting license. The kill tag shall bear the license number. The kill tag may also include space for other pertinent information required by the department. The kill tag, if issued, is part of the license.

(4) In addition to the license fees in subsection (2), the department shall charge a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $4.00 for each individual who applies for a bear hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, in addition to the license fees in subsection (2), the department shall charge a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $5.00 for each individual who applies for a bear hunting license.

(5) Beginning March 1, 2014, the following individuals chasing or locating bear with dogs during the open season for that game and who hold a valid base license are eligible for the purchase of a bear participation license for a fee of $15.00:

(a) Any individual possessing a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow.

(b) The owner, when present, of any dog chasing or locating bear.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 103, Imd. Eff. Mar. 5, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2008, Act 347, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2008;—Am. 2009, Act 70, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2009;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43528a Moose hunting license; fees; kill tag.

Sec. 43528a. (1) A resident shall not hunt moose without a moose hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, only a resident holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase a moose hunting license, pursuant to current regulations. The fee for a moose hunting license is $100.00. The department may establish a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $4.00 for each individual who applies for a moose hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, the department may establish a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $5.00 for each individual who applies for a moose hunting license.

(2) The department may issue a kill tag with, or as part of, a moose hunting license. The kill tag shall bear the license number. The kill tag may also include space for other pertinent information required by the department. The kill tag, if issued, is part of the license.

History: Add. 2010, Act 366, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.43528b Wolf hunting license; eligibility beginning March 1, 2014; fee; kill tag.

Sec. 43528b. (1) An individual shall not hunt wolf without a wolf hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, only an individual holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase a wolf hunting license. The fee for a resident wolf hunting license is $100.00. The fee for a nonresident wolf hunting license is $500.00. The department may establish a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $4.00 for each individual who applies for a wolf hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, the department may establish a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $5.00 for each individual who applies for a wolf hunting license.

(2) The department may issue a kill tag with, or as part of, a wolf hunting license. The kill tag shall bear the license number. The kill tag may also include space for other pertinent information required by the department. The kill tag, if issued, is part of the license.

History: Add. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43528c Commercial hunting guide; license requirements; commercial forestland prohibition; revocation; annual report; exhibition of license upon demand; violations; civil fines; definitions.

Sec. 43528c. (1) Beginning March 1, 2024, an individual shall not act as a commercial hunting guide in this state unless that individual possesses both of the following:

(a) A valid license issued under subsection (2).

(b) A valid base license issued under section 43523a.

(2) To obtain a license to act as a commercial hunting guide, an individual shall submit the application fee described in section 43528d and an application to the department. The application must be in a format determined by the department. The department shall only grant a license to an individual if the department determines all of the following:

(a) That the individual holds a valid certification in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation issued by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or a comparable organization approved by the department, and that the individual can provide to the department, upon request, a copy of the certification.

(b) The individual has a valid, lawfully obtained Michigan driver license issued under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, an official state personal identification card issued under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, or a sportcard issued under section 43522.

(c) The individual has not been convicted of any of the following within the past 3 years:

(*i*) A violation of any of the following:

(A) Section 40112.

(B) Section 40118(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (14), (15), (16), or (17).

(C) Section 41105.

(D) Section 44524.

(E) Section 48738(2) or (3).

(F) Section 48739(1), (2), or (3).

(*ii*) Any felony.

(*iii*) A violation of a law of a participating state substantially corresponding to a violation described in subparagraphs (*i*) to (*ii*).

(d) The individual is eligible to purchase a license for the game species for which the individual is acting as a commercial hunting guide. This subdivision does not apply to an individual who is ineligible to obtain a hunting license solely because that individual has previously been issued a hunting license for that species.

(3) An individual shall not act as a commercial hunting guide unless that individual, when acting as a commercial hunting guide, carries a basic first aid kit that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Tourniquet, chest seals, and compression gauze.

(b) CPR mask.

(c) Trauma shears.

(d) Sterile eyewash.

(e) Mylar emergency blanket.

(f) Bandages.

(g) Moleskin.

(h) Tweezers.

(4) An individual shall not act as a commercial hunting guide on commercial forestland.

(5) A license issued under this section is valid for 3 years after the date it is issued. The department may

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revoke a license under this section, after notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, for any of the following reasons:

(a) The department determines that the individual is not eligible to hold a license under this section.

(b) The individual provides false information under this section.

(c) The individual fails to file an annual report under subsection (6), and that report remains unfiled for more than 90 days after the report is due.

(6) A commercial hunting guide shall file an annual report with the department, in a format determined by the department, that contains information related to all of the following:

(a) The counties of this state where the individual acted as a commercial hunting guide.

(b) The species of game for which the individual acted as a commercial hunting guide.

(c) The number of clients that the commercial hunting guide had during the year.

(d) The number of game animals harvested by the clients of the commercial hunting guide.

(e) Any additional information the department requires regarding the biological characteristics of the game animals harvested.

(7) Information submitted in a report under subsection (6) is confidential and is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(8) The department shall annually post on its website all of the following:

(a) The number of applications submitted under subsection (2) in the previous year.

(b) The number of licenses issued under this section in the previous year.

(c) A list of individuals who have valid licenses under this section.

(9) An individual shall carry that individual's commercial hunting guide license and shall exhibit the license upon the demand of a conservation officer, a peace officer, a tribal conservation officer, a park and recreation officer if commercial hunting guiding takes place on property regulated under part 741 or 781, or the owner or occupant of any land where the individual is acting as a commercial hunting guide.

(10) An individual who acts as a commercial hunting guide without a valid license issued under this section or who acts as a commercial hunting guide on commercial forestland is subject to a civil fine of not more than $500.00. An individual who acts as a commercial hunting guide without a valid license issued under this section or who acts as a commercial hunting guide on commercial forestland a second or subsequent time is subject to a civil fine of not more than $1,000.00. A civil fine collected under this subsection must be deposited in the game and fish protection account established in section 2010.

(11) An individual who provides false information to the department under this section is subject to a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(12) As used in this section:

(a) "Commercial hunting guide" means an individual who, for a fee or other consideration of value, provides assistance to another individual in hunting game. Commercial hunting guide does not include any of the following:

(*i*) The owner of private land while providing assistance to another individual in pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take game on that private land.

(*ii*) The owner, employee, or member of a game bird hunting preserve licensed under part 417, or a designee of the owner, employee, or member, while providing assistance to another individual in pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take game birds authorized to be hunted on that game bird hunting preserve.

(*iii*) The owner or employee of a privately owned game ranch while providing assistance to another individual in pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take privately owned game that the individual is permitted to own on the individual's privately owned game ranch. As used in this subparagraph, "privately owned game ranch" includes a cervidae livestock facility registered under the privately owned cervidae producers marketing act, 2000 PA 190, MCL 287.951 to 287.969.

(*iv*) An individual, business, agency, or nonprofit organization issued a permit from the department to provide damage or nuisance animal control services, while providing those damage or nuisance animal control services.

(*v*) An employee or member of an organization conducting a not-for-profit event to recruit, retain, or promote hunting, while providing assistance to another individual in hunting game during that event.

(*vi*) An individual who complies with subsection (2)(c) and who is working under the direct supervision of a licensed commercial hunting guide when a hunting client is present. As used in this subparagraph, "direct supervision" means that visual and vocal contact is constantly maintained between the individual and the licensed commercial hunting guide.

(*vii*) An individual who provides assistance when a hunting client is not present.

(*viii*) An individual who is compensated for providing assistance to an individual with a disability or

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physical limitation. As used in this subparagraph, "individual with a disability or physical limitation" means a disabled person as that term is defined in section 19a of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.19a.

(b) "Consideration of value" means an economic benefit, inducement, right, or profit, including monetary payment accruing to an individual or person. Consideration of value does not include a voluntary sharing of the actual expenses of the guiding activity by monetary contribution or donation of fuel, food, beverages, or other supplies.

(c) "Participating state" means that term as defined in section 1615.

History: Add. 2023, Act 221, Eff. Feb. 20, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43528d Commercial hunting guide license application fees.

Sec. 43528d. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department shall charge a resident applying for a commercial hunting guide license under section 43528c an application fee of $150.00. The department shall charge a nonresident applying for a commercial hunting guide license under section 43528c an application fee of $300.00. Money collected under this section must be deposited in the game and fish protection account established in section 2010.

History: Add. 2023, Act 221, Eff. Feb. 20, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43529 Elk hunting license; eligibility beginning March 1, 2014; fees; kill tag.

Sec. 43529. (1) A resident shall not hunt elk during the elk season without an elk hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, only a resident holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase an elk hunting license, pursuant to current regulations. The fee for an elk hunting license is $100.00. The department may establish a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $4.00 for each individual who applies for an elk hunting license. Beginning March 1, 2014, the department may establish a nonrefundable application fee not to exceed $5.00 for each individual who applies for an elk hunting license.

(2) The department may issue a kill tag with, or as a part of, an elk hunting license. The kill tag shall bear the license number. The kill tag may also include space for other pertinent information required by the department. The kill tag, if issued, is part of the license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43530 Repealed. 2013, Act 108, Eff. Mar. 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to hunting small game on game bird hunting preserves.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43531 Fur harvester's license; exception; fees; conditions to issuance of nonresident fur harvester's license; rights of licensee; eligibility beginning March 1, 2014; validity of license.

Sec. 43531. (1) Except as otherwise provided in section 43523(2) or section 43523a(2), an individual shall not trap or hunt fur-bearing animals unless the individual possesses a fur harvester's license. However, an individual who goes on a bobcat hunt with a licensed hunter is not required to possess a fur harvester's license if the individual does not carry a firearm, bow, or crossbow and does not own dogs used to chase or locate a bobcat during the hunt.

(2) The fee for a resident fur harvester's license is $15.00. The fee for a fur harvester's license for a resident or nonresident minor child 10 years old or older shall be discounted 50% from the cost of the resident fur harvester's license.

(3) Until March 1, 2014, the department may issue a nonresident fur harvester's license to a nonresident of this state if the state, province, or country in which the nonresident applicant resides allows residents of this state to obtain equivalent hunting and trapping privileges in that state, province, or country. The fee for an eligible nonresident fur harvester's license is $150.00. Nonresident fur harvester's licenses shall not be sold or purchased before November 15 of each year.

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(4) An individual who holds a fur harvester's license may hunt fur-bearing animals during the season open to taking fur-bearing animals with firearms and may trap fur-bearing animals during the season open to trapping fur-bearing animals.

(5) Beginning March 1, 2014, only an individual holding a valid base license is eligible to purchase a fur harvester's license, pursuant to current regulations. The fee for a fur harvester's license is $15.00.

(6) Beginning March 1, 2014, for a nonresident holding a valid base license and a valid fur harvester's license, the fur harvester's license is not valid for fur-bearing species for which a bag limit has been established.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2008, Act 347, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2008;—Am. 2009, Act 70, Imd. Eff. July 9, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 120, Eff. Sept. 1, 2011;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43531b Issuance of free tags.

Sec. 43531b. Pursuant to current regulations, the department may issue free tags for survey purposes or for the enforcement of harvest limits.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43532 All-species fishing license; fees; electronic license.

Sec. 43532. (1) An all-species fishing license entitles the licensee to take and possess all aquatic species as prescribed by law.

(2) An individual 17 years of age or older shall not take or possess an aquatic species, except aquatic insects, in the waters over which this state has jurisdiction without an all-species fishing license. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the fee for a resident all-species fishing license is $25.00. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the fee for a nonresident all-species fishing license is $75.00. An individual under 17 years of age may take and possess aquatic species in the waters over which this state has jurisdiction without an all-species fishing license. However, an individual under 17 years of age may obtain an all-species fishing license. The fee for a resident or nonresident who is under 17 years of age for an all-species fishing license is $2.00.

(3) The department shall develop an electronic license that allows an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her all-species fishing license using an electronic device.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2002, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 2002;—Am. 2010, Act 29, Imd. Eff. Mar. 26, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 463, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017;—Am. 2020, Act 271, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43532a Additional charges; deposit.

Sec. 43532a. (1) The department shall charge an additional $1.00 for each of the following licenses:

(a) A base license issued under sections 43523a(3) and 43535(2).

(b) A combination hunt and fish license issued under section 43523b.

(c) Except for those licenses purchased by individuals under 17 years of age, an all-species fishing license issued under sections 43532(2) and 43536(1).

(2) The department shall deposit money generated under this section in the Michigan wildlife management public education subaccount created in section 43532b.

History: Add. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 246, Eff. Mar. 27, 2014;—Am. 2020, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43532b Michigan wildlife management public education subaccount; Michigan wildlife council.

Sec. 43532b. (1) The Michigan wildlife management public education subaccount is created within the game and fish protection account.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the subaccount.

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The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the subaccount. The state treasurer shall credit to the subaccount interest and earnings from subaccount investments.

(3) Money in the subaccount at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the subaccount and shall not lapse to the game and fish protection account or the general fund.

(4) The department shall be the administrator of the subaccount for auditing purposes.

(5) The Michigan wildlife council shall expend money from the subaccount, upon appropriation, only to support the program designed under subsection (18) and to pay the department's administrative costs in implementing this section. Not more than 5% of the annual appropriations from the subaccount shall be spent on the administrative costs of the department in implementing this section.

(6) The Michigan wildlife council is created within the department.

(7) The Michigan wildlife council shall consist of the following 9 members:

(a) The director or his or her designee.

(b) Four individuals who have purchased hunting or fishing licenses in this state on a regular basis, including at least once during each of the last 3 years, at least 1 of whom has purchased a hunting license and at least 1 of whom has purchased a fishing license, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate from a list recommended by statewide sportsmen's organizations.

(c) One individual representing local businesses in this state that are substantially impacted by hunting and fishing, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.

(d) One individual representing agricultural producers in this state, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.

(e) One individual with a media or marketing background, who is not an employee of the department, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.

(f) One individual representing rural areas of this state whose economies are substantially impacted by hunting and fishing, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.

(8) In appointing members under subsection (7), the governor shall make an effort to appoint members from all geographic areas of this state, at least 1 of whom is from the Upper Peninsula.

(9) The members first appointed to the Michigan wildlife council shall be appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this section.

(10) The appointed members of the Michigan wildlife council shall serve for terms of 4 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that of the members first appointed 2 shall serve for 2 years, 3 shall serve for 3 years, and 3 shall serve for 4 years. The appointed members shall not serve more than 2 full terms.

(11) If a vacancy occurs on the Michigan wildlife council, the governor shall make an appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

(12) The governor may remove a member of the Michigan wildlife council for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause.

(13) The first meeting of the Michigan wildlife council shall be called by the director. At the first meeting, the Michigan wildlife council shall adopt bylaws and then elect from among its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the Michigan wildlife council shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson or if requested by a majority of the members serving.

(14) A majority of the members of the Michigan wildlife council constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Michigan wildlife council. A majority of the members serving are required for official action of the Michigan wildlife council.

(15) The business that the Michigan wildlife council may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the Michigan wildlife council held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(16) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the Michigan wildlife council in the performance of an official function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(17) Members of the Michigan wildlife council shall serve without compensation. However, members of the Michigan wildlife council may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the Michigan wildlife council.

(18) The Michigan wildlife council shall do all of the following:

(a) Develop and implement, in conjunction with a third-party marketing or advertising agency, a comprehensive media-based public information program to promote the essential role that sportsmen and sportswomen play in furthering wildlife conservation and to educate the general public about hunting, fishing, and the taking of game. That education shall include, but is not limited to, teaching that hunting, fishing, and

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the taking of game are any of the following:

(*i*) Necessary for the conservation, preservation, and management of this state's natural resources.

(*ii*) A valued and integral part of the cultural heritage of this state and should forever be preserved.

(*iii*) An important part of this state's economy.

(b) Provide a semiannual report to the legislature on the program and expenditures under this section.

(c) Prepare an operational plan no later than 120 days after the first meeting of the Michigan wildlife council and no later than April 30 in subsequent years.

(d) Expend money from the Michigan wildlife management public education subaccount in accordance with the operational plan and in compliance with section 40501, except that all expenditures shall be within the scope of the activities and funding levels authorized in the operational plan.

(19) The Michigan wildlife council may give preference to Michigan-based firms when hiring a third-party marketing or advertising agency under subsection (18).

History: Add. 2013, Act 246, Eff. Mar. 27, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43533 24-hour or 72-hour fishing license; fees; electronic license.

Sec. 43533. (1) A resident or nonresident may purchase a 24-hour fishing license entitling that individual to take, for a designated 24-hour period, and possess all aquatic species as prescribed by law. The fee for a 24-hour fishing license is $10.00 per designated consecutive 24-hour period.

(2) A resident or nonresident may purchase a 72-hour fishing license entitling that individual to take, for a designated 72-hour period, and possess all aquatic species as prescribed by law. The fee for a 72-hour fishing license is $30.00 per designated consecutive 72-hour period.

(3) Not later than March 1, 2018, the department shall develop an electronic license that allows an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her 24-hour or 72-hour fishing license using an electronic device.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 356, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2010, Act 29, Imd. Eff. Mar. 26, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 463, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43534 Free fishing days.

Sec. 43534. (1) The department shall designate a Saturday and the following Sunday during January or February of each year as free winter fishing days. In addition, the department may designate 1 other day or 2 other consecutive days each year as free fishing days.

(2) During free fishing days, a resident or nonresident may fish for all species of fish in waters of this state designated by the department without purchasing a license or permit.

(3) A person who fishes during a free fishing day pursuant to subsection (1) has the same privileges and is subject to the same rules and regulations as the holder of a limited fishing license issued pursuant to section 43533.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 233, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43535 Senior license; discounted fees.

Sec. 43535. (1) Until March 1, 2014, a resident of this state who is 65 years of age or older may obtain a senior small game license, a senior firearm deer license, a senior bow and arrow deer license, a senior bear hunting license, a senior wild turkey hunting license, or a senior fur harvester's license. The fee for each senior license shall be discounted 60% from the fee for the resident license.

(2) Beginning March 1, 2014, a resident of this state who is 65 years of age or older may obtain a senior base license, a senior deer license, a senior wild turkey hunting license, or a senior fur harvester's license. The fee for each senior license shall be discounted 60% from the fee for the resident license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.43536 Senior all-species fishing license; discounted fees; electronic license.

Sec. 43536. (1) A resident of this state who is 65 years of age or older may obtain a senior all-species fishing license. The fee for a senior all-species fishing license is discounted 60% from the fee for a resident all-species fishing license.

(2) Not later than March 1, 2018, the department shall develop an electronic license that allows an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her senior all-species fishing license using an electronic device.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2016, Act 463, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43536a Obtaining license by active member of military; "active member of the military" defined.

Sec. 43536a. (1) Beginning March 1, 2014, an active member of the military may obtain any license under this part for which a lottery is not required at no cost upon presentation to a licensing agent of leave papers, duty papers, military orders, or other evidence acceptable to the department verifying that he or she is stationed outside of this state. The license is valid during the season in which that license would otherwise be valid.

(2) As used in this section, "active member of the military" means either of the following:

(a) An individual described by section 43506(3)(d).

(b) An individual who meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) The individual is a reserve component soldier, sailor, airman, or marine or member of the Michigan national guard and is called to federal active duty.

(*ii*) At the time the individual was called to federal active duty, he or she was a resident of this state.

(*iii*) The individual has maintained his or her residence in this state for the purpose of obtaining a driver license or voter registration, or both.

History: Add. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2003, Act 4, Imd. Eff. Apr. 22, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 545, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2013, Act 21, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 281, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This act reenacts all or portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108. If any portions of 2012 PA 520 or 2013 PA 21 or 2013 PA 22 or 2013 PA 108 not amended by this act are invalidated pursuant to referendum or any other reason, then any such invalidated portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108 which are otherwise included in this act, shall be deemed to be reenacted pursuant to this act."

Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 2. If any part or parts of this act are found to be in conflict with the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, or federal law, this act shall be implemented to the maximum extent that the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, and federal law permit. Any provision held invalid or inoperative shall be severable from the remaining portions of this act."

Public Act 281 of 2014 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const 1963, art II, § 9. The initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Senate on August 13, 2014 and by the House of Representatives on August 27, 2014. The initiative petition was filed with the Secretary of State on August 27, 2014.

In Keep Michigan Wolves Protected v State of Michigan, an unpublished opinion issued November 22, 2016, (Docket No. 328604), the Michigan Court of Appeals held that 2014 PA 281, which amended sections of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, is unconstitutional as it violates the title-object clause of section 24 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43537 Restricted or senior all-species fishing license; eligibility of legally blind; disabled veteran; resident license for which lottery not required; proof of eligibility; processing licenses; appropriations; "disabled veteran" defined.

Sec. 43537. (1) Until March 1, 2014, a resident who is declared legally blind is eligible to purchase a senior restricted or senior all-species fishing license. Beginning March 1, 2014, a resident who is declared legally blind is eligible to purchase a senior all-species fishing license.

(2) A disabled veteran is eligible to obtain any resident license under this part for which a lottery is not required free of charge.

(3) The department may demand proof of eligibility under subsection (1), (2), or (4). The licensee, when taking aquatic species or hunting, shall possess proof of his or her eligibility under subsection (1), (2), or (4), as applicable, and shall furnish the proof upon the request of a peace officer.

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(4) The department shall process licenses issued under this section in the same manner as licenses issued to senior citizens for purposes of receiving appropriations from the legislature under section 43546.

(5) As used in this section, "disabled veteran" means either of the following:

(a) A resident who has been determined by the United States department of veterans affairs to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100% rate, for a disability other than blindness.

(b) A resident rated by the United States department of veterans affairs as individually unemployable.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2007, Act 60, Imd. Eff. Sept. 18, 2007;—Am. 2012, Act 339, Eff. Mar. 1, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43538 Fishing; reciprocity.

Sec. 43538. The department may permit a person licensed under the fishing laws of an adjacent state to fish in the inland lakes and rivers or portions of rivers of this state that constitute a part of the border of this state, if the adjacent state grants similar privileges to a person licensed in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43539 Report by licensee.

Sec. 43539. The department may require each licensed hunter, trapper, and angler to make a report to the department of the number, kinds, and location of game animals, game birds, fur-bearing animals, and fish taken during the respective open season by the licensee. The department shall establish the prescribed manner in which the requested information is reported.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43540 License; application and issuance by mail, on-line computer service, or telephone; fees; delinquent payment.

Sec. 43540. (1) An application for 1 or more licenses issued under this part may be made by mail, on-line computer service, or telephone to the department, or to a person designated by the department, who shall forward the license issued to the applicant to an address as directed by the applicant. An applicant shall satisfy all the requirements of this part for obtaining a license before a license is issued by mail or telephone. The department may charge a fee for an application made by mail, on-line computer service, or telephone in addition to the fee for the license or licenses. Total fees collected by the department under this subsection in any license year shall not exceed the additional cost of providing mail or telephone service in that year.

(2) If a check or draft of a required fee is not paid on its first presentation, the fee is delinquent as of the date the check or draft was tendered. The person tendering the check or draft remains liable for the payment of each fee and any penalty.

(3) The department may revoke a license, duplicate license, application, or permit if the department has determined that a fee prescribed in this part has not been paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice or demand.

(4) If a fee is still delinquent 15 days after the department has given notice to a person who tendered the check or draft, the department shall assess and collect a $15.00 penalty in addition to the license and transaction fee.

(5) The director may refuse to issue additional licenses under this part to a person who is delinquent in payment of fees or penalties provided in subsection (4) at the time the application is submitted.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43540a Sportsmen against hunger program; implementation; duties of department; financial donations; contract with nonprofit organization to administer program; contract requirements; "program" defined.

Sec. 43540a. (1) Subject to subsection (4), by January 1, 2007, the department shall implement a program

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to distribute wild game to people in need. The program shall be known as the sportsmen against hunger program.

(2) Under the program, the department shall do all of the following:

(a) Collect donations of legally taken game that complies with all state and federal game laws, including any requirement that the parts of the game be intact.

(b) Contract for processing the donated game.

(c) Distribute the processed game to food banks, soup kitchens, and other charitable organizations that provide meals or food to people free of charge.

(d) Promote the program through the license distribution system and other means that will further the mission of the program.

(3) Under the program, the department may request financial donations to offset the cost of processing donated game. The financial donations are tax deductible.

(4) The department may contract for the administration of the program by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code, 26 USC 501, if the department determines that it is more efficient to do so. Subject to section 43540c(9), payments under the contract shall be adequate to cover the nonprofit organization's costs in administering the program. Before entering such a contract, the department shall issue a request for proposals. If the request for proposals does not yield a bid that meets the requirements of this section, the department is not required to implement the sportsmen against hunger program.

(5) To qualify to enter a contract under subsection (4), a nonprofit organization must have demonstrated a commitment to the goals of the program and have at least 5 years of experience in providing wild game or other food to people free of charge. The contract shall require that the contracting nonprofit organization do all of the following:

(a) Maintain a license under the charitable organizations and solicitations act, 1975 PA 169, MCL 400.271 to 400.294.

(b) Maintain adequate staff to perform the tasks outlined in the contract.

(c) Annually undergo an independent financial audit and provide the audit information and report to the department.

(6) As used in this section, "program" means the sportsmen against hunger program created under subsection (1).

History: Add. 2005, Act 116, Imd. Eff. Sept. 22, 2005;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43540c Sportsmen against hunger program; donation; creation; disposition of money or other assets; money remaining in fund; expenditure; costs; limitation; "fund" defined.

Sec. 43540c. (1) Subject to subsection (2), when a person applies for a license under this part, the department or the department's agent shall ask whether the person would like to donate $1.00 to the sportsmen against hunger program created by the department under section 43540a and, if so, shall collect the donation with the license fee. A person designated by the department to issue licenses shall not receive a commission under section 43541 for the donation.

(2) Subsection (1) applies to license applications made beginning January 1, 2006.

(3) A donation under subsection (1) is in addition to the license fee.

(4) The department shall transfer donations under subsection (1) to the state treasurer for deposit in the fund.

(5) The sportsmen against hunger fund is created within the state treasury.

(6) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(7) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(8) Money from the fund shall be expended, upon appropriation, only by the department for 1 or more of the following purposes:

(a) The costs of administering the fund, including the costs of collecting donations to the fund.

(b) The administration of the sportsmen against hunger program created under section 43540a, including, if applicable, the costs of any contract with a nonprofit organization to administer the sportsmen against hunger program, as authorized under section 43540a(4).

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(9) The department shall not incur costs described in subsection (8) in excess of the amount of revenue in the fund available to cover such costs.

(10) As used in this section, "fund" means the sportsmen against hunger fund created in subsection (5).

History: Add. 2005, Act 117, Imd. Eff. Sept. 22, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43540d Repealed. 2010, Act 366, Eff. Dec. 22, 2011.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to establishment of moose hunting advisory council.

324.43540e Wolf management advisory council.

Sec. 43540e. (1) The wolf management advisory council is created within the department.

(2) The council shall consist of at least the following members:

(a) The director of the department or his or her designee.

(b) One member representing an organization that promotes conservation in this state appointed by the director or his or her designee.

(c) One member representing organizations that promote hunting or fishing in this state appointed by the director or his or her designee.

(d) One member representing a tribal government appointed by the director or his or her designee.

(e) One member representing agricultural interests appointed by the director or his or her designee.

(f) One member representing an animal advocacy organization appointed by the director or his or her designee.

(3) The council shall meet at least annually.

(4) A majority of the members of the council constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the council. A majority of the members present and serving are required for official action of the council.

(5) The business that the council may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the council held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(6) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the council in the performance of an official function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(7) Members of the council shall serve without compensation. However, members of the council may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the council.

(8) The council shall annually submit to the commission and to the legislature a report that makes nonbinding recommendations as to the proper management of wolves in this state.

History: Add. 2012, Act 520, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43541 Retaining percentage of fees for sportcard, license, duplicate license, application, or permit; additional charges.

Sec. 43541. (1) A person authorized by the department to issue licenses on March 15, 1993, may retain 7.5% of the fees for each sportcard, license, duplicate license, application, or permit that the person sells. A person authorized by the department after March 15, 1993 to issue licenses may retain 5% of the fees for each sportcard, license, duplicate license, application, or permit that the person sells. The department shall consider any additional location established after March 15, 1993 at which licenses are sold as a new authorized agent for purposes of determining the percentage of fees that may be retained for sales at the new location by that authorized agent. Beginning March 1, 2014, any person authorized by the department to issue licenses may retain 7.5% of the fees for each sportcard, license, duplicate license, application, or permit that the person sells.

(2) In addition to the fees authorized under subsection (1), the department may also authorize a person who is authorized to issue licenses to charge and retain a 50-cent transaction fee for collecting migratory bird survey responses.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.43542 Licenses; validity; fee; report.

Sec. 43542. (1) All licenses issued under this part are valid from March 1 through March 31 of the following year or as otherwise provided by order of the commission. The department shall designate the period of validity on the license or permit.

(2) The fee for a multiyear license, permit, or application shall be the annual fee for that license, permit, or application multiplied by the number of years designated by order of the commission.

(3) At least 6 months prior to the commission issuing an order under subsection (1), the department shall report to the legislature how the department will ensure that the money collected for any multiyear licenses or permits is accounted for and allocated to the appropriate fiscal year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2009, Act 34, Imd. Eff. June 4, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43543 Course of instruction in safe handling of firearms; instructors; registration; certificate of competency.

Sec. 43543. The department shall provide for a course of instruction in the safe handling of firearms and shall designate persons, without compensation, to serve as instructors and to award certificates. A person desiring to take the course of instruction shall register with an instructor certified by the department. Upon successful completion of the course, the person shall be issued a certificate of competency.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43544 License, sportcard, or kill tag; loss or destruction; duplicate; certification of loss form; fees.

Sec. 43544. (1) If a license or sportcard issued pursuant to this part or a kill tag is lost or destroyed, a licensee may procure a duplicate from the department. To obtain a duplicate license, sportcard, or kill tag, the licensee shall file a certification of loss form with the department and shall pay the duplicate fee as provided in subsection (2) for each duplicate requested.

(2) If the licensee meets the requirements of subsection (1) and all other requirements of this part for procuring a license or sportcard, or, if required by this part, a kill tag, the department shall verify the purchase of the original and issue to the licensee the duplicates requested and collect the following applicable duplicate fees:

(a) Until March 1, 2014, and except as provided in subdivision (c), $3.00 for each license included in a certification of loss.

(b) Beginning March 1, 2014, the amount the individual would pay for each license included in a certification of loss.

(c) For a duplicate of a kill tag, the fee shall equal the amount that the individual would pay for a license to which the kill tag applies without regard to marketing discounts or multilicense discounts.

(d) For a duplicate of a sportcard, $1.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43545 Repealed. 2016, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 29, 2017.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to prohibition against assessment or collection of license or permit fees.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43546 Senior hunting and fishing licenses; appropriating sum equal to fees not collected; crediting appropriation to game and fish protection account.

Sec. 43546. (1) Before June 1 of each year, the department shall determine the total number of senior hunting and fishing licenses issued and the total fees collected the preceding license year. The department shall determine the total fees that would have been collected if those senior citizens had been required to purchase full-price resident hunting and fishing licenses during the preceding license year. From this total, the department shall subtract the fees collected from the sale of senior hunting and fishing licenses during the

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preceding license year. The difference is the amount that would otherwise be collected.

(2) The legislature shall annually appropriate from the general fund a sum equal to the fees that would otherwise be collected as determined pursuant to subsection (1). The sum appropriated shall be credited to the game and fish protection account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43547 Preparation and issuance of sportcards and licenses; information; equipment; conservation law enforcement stamps; issuance of licenses beginning March 1, 2014.

Sec. 43547. (1) The department shall prepare sportcards, if necessary, and licenses to comply with this part and may authorize persons to issue sportcards and licenses.

(2) A sportcard shall provide the following information as required by the department:

(a) The name of the applicant.

(b) The height and weight of the applicant.

(c) The address of the applicant.

(d) The birth date of the applicant.

(e) The applicant's social security number.

(f) Other information as required by the department.

(3) A license may include the following information:

(a) The date and time of issuance of the license.

(b) The identification code of the person issuing the license.

(c) The form of proof of eligibility to receive a license by the applicant as required.

(d) Other information as required by the department.

(e) The applicant's date of birth.

(4) Until March 1, 2014, the department may require persons authorized to issue licenses under this part to purchase or rent equipment necessary to issue licenses. The purchase or lease charge shall not exceed the actual cost incurred by the department in making the equipment available for purchase or lease. However, notwithstanding the equipment rental or purchase charges otherwise required under this section, if the department requires the use of designated computer equipment to issue licenses, the department shall supply each licensed agent who is entitled to retain 7.5% of the fees received and was authorized on March 15, 1993 to issue licenses with a computer system at no charge to the licensed agent for each location at which that licensed agent sells licenses. A person who is eligible to receive equipment without charge may be required to purchase a service and maintenance contract for that equipment. The cost of the contract shall not be more than $200.00 for the first year of the contract and thereafter the actual cost to the state of maintaining the computer system. Equipment that is supplied without charge to a licensed agent shall be returned to the department at such time as the person is no longer a licensed agent.

(5) Until March 1, 2014, a person who is authorized after March 15, 1993 to issue licenses shall pay the full annual rental or purchase fee for equipment required under subsection (4).

(6) Until March 1, 2014, a person who on March 15, 1993 is authorized to issue licenses who rents the equipment for the issuance of licenses required under subsection (4) shall pay rent or service and maintenance contract cost, as applicable for that equipment not to exceed 50% of the total of the annual amount the person is authorized to retain under section 43541, or the rental charge otherwise determined by the department, whichever is less.

(7) The department may provide persons authorized to issue licenses under this part with conservation law enforcement stamps to enable the purchaser of the stamps to contribute to the wildlife resource protection fund created in section 43555. Conservation law enforcement stamps may be issued by the department in the amounts of $2.00 and $5.00.

(8) Beginning March 1, 2014, the department may require persons authorized to issue licenses under this part to rent equipment necessary for the issuance of licenses. A person who is authorized to issue licenses for less than a full license year shall pay rent of $5.00 per week until the person has been authorized to issue licenses for a full license year. Once a person has been authorized to issue licenses for a full license year, a person shall pay rent of $5.00 per week or $2.50 per week if that person's annual license sales under this part are less than the 5-year average license sales as of the effective date of the amendatory act that added this

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subsection for persons authorized to issue licenses under this part. The weekly rental fee shall be assessed and collected in a form and manner prescribed by the department. Rent shall not exceed 50% of the total of the annual amount the person is authorized to retain under section 43541.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43548 Persons authorized to issue limited fishing licenses without equipment; bond; remittance of money; limitation on fee; fees held in trust.

Sec. 43548. (1) The department may require a person authorized to issue limited fishing licenses without the equipment described in section 43547 to file a bond with the department. The type and amount of the bond shall be determined by the department.

(2) A person issuing a sportcard, license, or permit shall remit to the department money required to be charged for the sale of each license, duplicate license or sportcard, application, or permit by the method and at the frequency prescribed by the department.

(3) A person shall not charge a fee for a sportcard or a license in an amount that is more than the license and transaction fee printed on the sportcard or license by the department.

(4) All fees collected from the sale of sportcards, licenses, duplicate licenses or sportcards, applications, or permits, except for the fees and commissions provided in section 43541(1) and (2), are held in trust for the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43549 Violation of MCL 324.43548; penalties.

Sec. 43549. A person who violates section 43548, in addition to other penalties provided by law, forfeits the right to issue licenses and sportcards and forfeits the right to retain any percentage of the license or sportcard fees not received by the department within 48 hours after the date and time the license or sportcard fees should have been deposited as required by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43550 Format of license.

Sec. 43550. The department shall select the format of the license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43551 Issuance of certain licenses; restriction.

Sec. 43551. The department may restrict the issuance of certain licenses to issuance only by department offices or employees.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43552 Quotas on licenses.

Sec. 43552. The department may establish a quota on the number of each kind of license that may be issued.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43553 Disposition of money received from sale of passbooks and licenses; payments; grants; youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund; annual report; posting measures and metrics on website.

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Sec. 43553. (1) The department shall transmit all money received from the sale of licenses to the state treasurer, together with a statement indicating the amount of money received and the source of the money.

(2) Except as provided in section 43555 and subsection (5), the state treasurer shall credit the money received from the sale of passbooks and licenses to the game and fish protection account.

(3) Except as provided in sections 43524, 43525, 43525b, and 43554 and subsection (4), money credited to the game and fish protection account shall be paid out by the state treasurer pursuant to the accounting laws of this state for the following purposes:

(a) Services rendered by the department, together with the expenses incurred in the enforcement and administration of the wildlife and fisheries laws of the state, including the necessary equipment and apparatus incident to the operation and enforcement of the wildlife and fisheries laws, and the protection, propagation, distribution, and control of wildlife and fish.

(b) The propagation and liberation of wildlife or fish and for their increase at the time, place, and manner as the department considers advisable.

(c) The purchase, lease, and management of lands, together with the necessary equipment for the purpose of propagating and rearing wildlife or fish, and for establishing and maintaining game refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, and public shooting and fishing grounds. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, not more than 0.25% of the money credited to the game and fish protection account shall be used to purchase lands under this subdivision. However, if all of the money appropriated from the natural resources trust fund for eco-region acquisition carried over from previous fiscal years is spent, then the 0.25% limitation under this subdivision does not apply. Land shall not be purchased under this subdivision until that purchase is approved by the joint capital outlay subcommittee.

(d) Conducting investigations and compiling and publishing information relative to the propagation, protection, and conservation of wildlife.

(e) Delivering lectures, developing cooperation, and carrying on appropriate educational activities relating to the conservation of the wildlife of this state.

(4) The department may make direct grants to colleges and universities in this state, out of funds appropriated from the game and fish protection account, to conduct fish or wildlife research or both fish and wildlife research.

(5) The youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund is created as a separate fund in the department of treasury. Until March 1, 2014, the state treasurer shall credit to the youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund the money received from the sale of small game licenses and all-species fishing licenses under sections 43523 and 43532, respectively, to minor children. Beginning March 1, 2014, the state treasurer shall credit to the youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund $1.00 received from the sale of each base license to minor children under section 43523a. Money in the youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(6) Money credited to the youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund shall be paid out by the state treasurer pursuant to the accounting laws of this state for hunting and fishing education and outreach programs for minor children.

(7) The department and any other executive department of the state that receives money from the game and fish protection account or the youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund shall submit an annual report to the legislature showing the amount of money received by the department or other executive department from the game and fish protection account or the youth hunting and fishing education and outreach fund and how that money was spent. An executive department required to submit a report as provided in this subsection shall send a copy of the report to the legislature and to the department.

(8) Not later than November 1, 2013, the department shall complete and post on its website a fisheries division strategic and tactical plan with measures and metrics.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 280, Imd. Eff. July 10, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43554 Deer habitat; improvement; maintenance; management; use of license fee; limitation.

Sec. 43554. One dollar and fifty cents of the license fee for each firearm deer, bow and arrow deer, and

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resident sportsperson's license shall be used for improving and maintaining a habitat for deer and for the acquisition of lands for an effective program of deer habitat management. Beginning March 1, 2014, $1.50 of the license fee for each deer and resident sportsperson's license shall be used for improving and maintaining a habitat for deer and for the acquisition of lands for an effective program of deer habitat management. Except as otherwise provided in this section, not more than 0.25% of the money under this section shall be used to acquire lands. However, if all of the money appropriated from the natural resources trust fund for eco-region acquisition carried over from previous fiscal years is spent, then the 0.25% limitation under this section does not apply. Land shall not be acquired under this section until that acquisition is approved by the joint capital outlay subcommittee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43555 Wildlife resource protection fund; creation; transmission and deposit of additional fee; money credited; expenditures; voluntary contribution; annual report.

Sec. 43555. (1) Thirty-five cents from each license and stamp fee prescribed in this part, except for fees for licenses described in section 43553(5), shall be transmitted to the department for deposit in the wildlife resource protection fund created in this section.

(2) The wildlife resource protection fund is created as a separate fund within the state treasury. The state treasurer shall credit the money received from the department under this section to the wildlife resource protection fund. The money in the wildlife resource protection fund shall be expended by the department for the following purposes:

(a) Rewards for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of poachers and persons who obstruct or interfere in the lawful taking of animals or aquatic species in violation of section 40112 or 48702a, respectively. If a violation of section 40112 or 48702a involved killing a person engaged in lawfully taking an animal or aquatic species, the reward shall be $5,000.00. A person whose lawful taking of an animal or aquatic species is obstructed or interfered in is not eligible to receive a reward under this subdivision.

(b) Hiring conservation officers for the investigation of poaching and the investigation of tips regarding potential poaching.

(c) A promotional and educational campaign to inform the general public on 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) The harm and danger of poaching.

(*ii*) The reward for information that leads to the arrest and prosecution of poachers and persons who obstruct or interfere in the lawful taking of animals or aquatic species in violation of section 40112 or 48702a, respectively.

(*iii*) Other antipoaching programs undertaken by the department.

(*iv*) How to identify and report persons who obstruct or interfere in the lawful taking of animals or aquatic species in violation of section 40112 or 48702a, respectively.

(3) At the time a person purchases a license or stamp under this part, he or she may make a voluntary contribution in any amount to the wildlife resource protection fund to be expended for the purposes provided in subsection (2). A person who wishes to make such a contribution may purchase 1 or more conservation law enforcement stamps from a person authorized to issue licenses and sportcards under this part.

(4) The department shall annually report to the legislature on the expenditures from the wildlife resource protection fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 472, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43556 Hunter access leases on private land; lease payments; control of hunter access by participating landowners; cancellation of lease agreement; forfeiture of lease payments; posting boundaries of leased land; cause of action for injuries; orders.

Sec. 43556. (1) The department may utilize the game and fish protection account for the purpose of acquiring and administering hunter access leases on private land.

(2) The department may determine and provide lease payments in amounts that are related to the benefits the leased land provides for public use if for a designated lease period a participating landowner agrees to allow public access to certain lands for the purpose of hunting. Department field personnel shall inspect the lands and determine their value to the program. Final approval of lease proposals shall be made by the

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department.

(3) Participating landowners have authority to control hunter access according to the terms of the lease agreement, including terms requiring a hunter to obtain verbal or written permission to hunt on the participating landowners' land.

(4) Pursuant to rules adopted under this section, participating landowners may cancel their lease agreement at any time prior to the expiration of the lease. Cancellation of the agreement prior to the expiration of the lease shall result in the forfeiture of all lease payments that have been received by the participating landowner for the year in which cancellation occurs.

(5) Participating landowners shall post, with signs provided by the department, the boundaries of land leased under this section.

(6) A cause of action shall not arise for injuries to persons hunting on lands leased under this section unless the injuries were caused by the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the owner, tenant, or lessee.

(7) The department may issue orders pursuant to part 401 governing the administration and operation of a hunting access program.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43557 License application lists, information, and publications; sale; price; disposition of proceeds.

Sec. 43557. The department may sell, or contract for the sale of, license application lists or information filed with the department pursuant to this part and related publications of the department. The department shall establish the price for the lists, information, and publications, and the proceeds of all sales pursuant to this section shall be credited to the game and fish protection account in the manner prescribed in section 43553.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43558 Prohibited conduct; misdemeanor; penalties; carrying firearm under influence of controlled substance or alcohol; effect of prior conviction; violation of subsection (1)(d) as misdemeanor; violation of 43516(3) penalties.

Sec. 43558. (1) A person is guilty of a misdemeanor if the person does any of the following:

(a) Makes a false statement as to material facts for the purpose of obtaining a license or uses or attempts to use a license obtained by making a false statement.

(b) Affixes to a license a date or time other than the date or time issued.

(c) Issues a license without receiving and remitting the fee to the department.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, without a license, takes or possesses a wild animal, wild bird, or aquatic species, except aquatic insects. This subdivision does not apply to an individual less than 17 years of age who without a license takes or possesses aquatic species.

(e) Sells, loans, or permits in any manner another individual to use the individual's license or uses or attempts to use another individual's license.

(f) Falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits a sportcard or a hunting, fishing, or fur harvester's license or possesses an altered, forged, or counterfeited hunting, fishing, or fur harvester's license.

(g) Uses a tag furnished with a deer license, bear hunting license, elk hunting license, or wild turkey hunting license more than 1 time, or attaches or allows a tag to be attached to a deer, bear, elk, or turkey other than a deer, bear, elk, or turkey lawfully killed by the individual.

(h) Except as provided by law, makes an application for, obtains, or purchases more than 1 license for a hunting, fishing, or trapping season, not including a limited fishing license, second deer license, antlerless deer license, or other license specifically authorized by law, or if the applicant's license has been lost or

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destroyed.

(i) Applies for, obtains, or purchases a license during a time that the individual is ineligible to secure a license.

(j) Knowingly obtains, or attempts to obtain, a resident or a senior license if that individual is not a resident of this state.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (5), a person who violates subsection (1) shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $25.00 or more than $250.00 and the costs of prosecution, or both. In addition, the person shall surrender any license and license tag that was wrongfully obtained.

(3) An individual licensed to carry a firearm under this part is prohibited from doing so while under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or a combination of a controlled substance and alcohol. An individual who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for 90 days or a fine of $500.00, or both.

(4) An applicant for a license under this part who has previously been convicted of a violation of the game and fish laws of this state may be required to file an application with the department together with other information that the department considers expedient. The license may be issued by the department.

(5) An individual who violates subsection (1)(d), upon a showing that the individual was ineligible to secure a license under court order or other lawful authority, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 180 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 and not more than $2,500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(6) An individual who violates section 43516(3) is subject to the following:

(a) For a first offense, is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00.

(b) For a second or subsequent offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor as provided in section 43560.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 2013, Act 108, Imd. Eff. Sept. 17, 2013;—Am. 2022, Act 23, Eff. June 8, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43559 Violation; revocation of license; suspension order; compliance; rescission; failure to answer citation or notice to appear; failure to comply with court order or judgment.

Sec. 43559. (1) If a person is convicted of violating this part, or another law relative to hunting, fishing, or trapping that does not otherwise require the revocation of, or prohibit the securing of, 1 or more licenses, the court may order the revocation of 1 or more of the person's licenses and may by order provide that the person shall not secure 1 or more licenses for not less than the remainder of the year in which convicted and during the next succeeding year, or longer in the discretion of the court.

(2) The department shall comply with a suspension order issued as provided in the support and parenting time enforcement act, 1982 PA 295, MCL 552.601 to 552.650, within 7 days after receipt of the suspension order.

(3) An order rescinding a suspension order issued under the support and parenting time enforcement act, 1982 PA 295, MCL 552.601 to 552.650, is effective upon its entry by the court and purchase by the licensee of a replacement license.

(4) If a person is charged with, or convicted of, a violation of this part, or another law relative to hunting, fishing, or trapping, and the person fails to answer a citation or a notice to appear in court, or for any matter pending, or fails to comply with an order or judgment of the court, the court shall immediately give notice by first-class mail sent to the person's last known address that if the person fails to appear within 7 days after the notice is issued, or fails to comply with the order or judgment of the court within 14 days after the notice is issued, the department shall suspend the person's hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses. If the person fails to appear within the 7-day period, or fails to comply with the order or judgment of the court within the 14-day period, the court shall immediately inform the department. The department shall immediately suspend the person's hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses and notify the person of the suspension by first-class mail sent to the person's last known address.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 95, Eff. Aug. 10, 1998;—Am. 2013, Act 37, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.43560 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty; failure to exhibit license; civil infraction; civil fine.

Sec. 43560. (1) An individual who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part, for which a penalty is not otherwise provided for in this section or this part, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $25.00 or more than $250.00 and the costs of prosecution, or both.

(2) An individual who fails to exhibit a hunting, fur harvester's, or fishing license in violation of section 43516(3) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 15, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43561 Rules.

Sec. 43561. The department may promulgate rules for the administration of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 437
MICHIGAN GAME AND FISH PROTECTION TRUST FUND

324.43701 Definitions.

Sec. 43701. As used in this part:

(a) "Game and fish protection account" means the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

(b) "Gas" means a mixture of hydrocarbons and nonhydrocarbons in a gaseous state which may or may not be associated with oil and includes liquids resulting from the condensation of those hydrocarbons and nonhydrocarbons.

(c) "Mineral" means an inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth, except for oil or gas, and includes rock, metal ores, and mineral water.

(d) "Oil" means natural crude oil or petroleum and other hydrocarbons, regardless of gravity, which are produced at the well in liquid form by ordinary production methods and which are not the result of condensation of gas after it leaves the underground reservoir.

(e) "Trust fund" means the Michigan game and fish protection trust fund established in section 41 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 and provided for in section 43702.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 50, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43702 Michigan game and fish protection trust fund; establishment; composition.

Sec. 43702. In accordance with section 41 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, the Michigan game and fish protection trust fund is established in the state treasury. The trust fund shall consist of all of the following:

(a) All assets of the game and fish protection trust fund immediately prior to the effective date of the amendatory act that added section 2001.

(b) Bonuses, rentals, delayed rentals, royalties, and other revenues collected or reserved by the state under leases or direct sale contracts in effect on or after April 7, 1986, entered into by the state pursuant to section 502, 503, or 33936 or section 12 of former 1909 PA 280, or any other law enacted for leasing for the purpose of permitting extraction or removal of minerals, coal, oil, gas, or other resources from state owned lands, if these bonuses, rentals, delayed rentals, royalties, direct sale proceeds, and other revenues accrue from lands acquired by the state using revenues derived from the game and fish protection account, the game and fish protection trust account created in section 4 of the Kammer recreational land trust fund act of 1976, former 1976 PA 204, federal funds made available to the state under 16 USC 669 to 669i, commonly known as the

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federal aid in wildlife restoration act, or 16 USC 777 to 777*l*, commonly known as the federal aid in fish restoration act, or related state or federal funds.

(c) Gifts, grants, bequests or assets from any source.

(d) Other revenues as authorized by law.

(e) Interest and earnings accruing from assets of the trust fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 50, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43703 Transfer of interest and earnings; manner of maintaining corpus of trust fund; transfer of funds.

Sec. 43703. (1) The state treasurer shall transfer the interest and earnings from the trust fund to the game and fish protection account.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the corpus of the trust fund shall be maintained by the state treasurer in a manner that will provide for future transfers to the game and fish protection account from the trust fund's interest and earnings.

(3) The legislature may annually appropriate and transfer not more than $6,000,000.00 from the corpus of the trust fund to the game and fish protection account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 50, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43704 Investment of trust fund; report on accounting of revenues and expenditures.

Sec. 43704. (1) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the trust fund. The state treasurer shall have the same authority to invest the assets of the trust fund as is granted to an investment fiduciary under the public employee retirement system investment act, 1965 PA 314, MCL 38.1132 to 38.1140*l*.

(2) The department shall annually prepare a report containing an accounting of revenues and expenditures from the trust fund. This report shall identify the interest and earnings of the trust fund from the previous year, the investment performance of the trust fund during the previous year, and the total amount of appropriations from the trust fund during the previous year. This report shall be provided to the senate and house of representatives appropriations committees and the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to natural resources and the environment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 50, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2001;—Am. 2002, Act 56, Eff. Sept. 21, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43705 Joint legislative work group; establishment; purpose; composition; membership; appointment; service; vacancy; first meeting; quorum; compensation; assistance and staff support; report.

Sec. 43705. (1) A joint legislative work group on game and fish program revenue is established.

(2) The work group shall consist of representatives of the house and senate standing committees with primary responsibility for natural resources issues and the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on natural resources. Members shall be appointed on a bipartisan basis by the speaker of the house of representatives and the senate majority leader. The work group shall also include representatives of the natural resources commission and other interested parties.

(3) The members first appointed to the work group shall be appointed within 30 days after the effective date of the 2004 amendatory act that amended this section.

(4) Each member of the work group shall serve at the pleasure of the speaker of the house of representatives or the senate majority leader, whichever appointed the member.

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(5) If a vacancy occurs on the work group, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(6) The first meeting of the work group shall be called by the senate majority leader. At the first meeting, the work group shall elect from among its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the work group shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson or if requested by 2 or more members.

(7) A majority of the members of the work group constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the work group. A majority of the members present and serving are required for official action of the work group.

(8) Members of the work group shall serve without compensation. However, members of the work group may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the work group.

(9) Assistance and staff support to the work group may be provided by the house and senate fiscal agencies.

(10) By December 31, 2004, and annually thereafter, the work group shall issue to the members of the legislature a report on game and fish program revenue. The report shall include, but need not be limited to, tax credit issues and alternative funding options to establish stable sources of long-term financial support for game and fish protection programs.

History: Add. 2001, Act 50, Imd. Eff. July 23, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 311, Imd. Eff. Aug. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 439

MICHIGAN NONGAME FISH AND WILDLIFE TRUST FUND

324.43901 Definitions.

Sec. 43901. As used in this part:

(a) "Nongame fish and wildlife" means fish or wild animals that are unconfined and not ordinarily taken for sport, fur, or food, and the habitat that supports them. However, nongame fish and wildlife includes fish and wild animals designated as game species when located in an area of this state where the taking of that species of fish or wild animal is prohibited.

(b) "Trust fund" means the Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund established in section 42 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 and provided for in section 43902.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43902 Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund; establishment; composition; investment; annual report.

Sec. 43902. (1) In accordance with section 42 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, the Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund is established in the state treasury. The trust fund shall consist of all of the following:

(a) All assets of the nongame fish and wildlife trust fund immediately prior to the effective date of the amendatory act that added section 2001, which money is hereby transferred to the Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund.

(b) All money credited to the trust fund pursuant to section 439 of the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.439, and section 811*l* of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.811*l*.

(c) Gifts, grants, bequests, or assets from any source.

(d) Other revenues as authorized by law.

(e) Interest and earnings accruing from assets of the Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund.

(2) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the trust fund. The state treasurer shall have the same authority to invest the assets of the trust fund as is granted to an investment fiduciary under the public employee retirement system investment act, 1965 PA 314, MCL 38.1132 to 38.1140*l*.

(3) The department shall annually prepare a report containing an accounting of revenues and expenditures from the trust fund. This report shall identify the interest and earnings of the trust fund from the previous year,

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the investment performance of the trust fund during the previous year, and the total amount of appropriations from the trust fund during the previous year. This report shall be provided to the senate and house of representatives appropriations committees and the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to natural resources and the environment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 69, Eff. Mar. 28, 2001;—Am. 2002, Act 55, Eff. Sept. 21, 2002;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43903 Retention of certain money in trust fund on permanent basis; expenditures.

Sec. 43903. (1) The Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund shall maintain a principal balance of not less than $6,000,000.00, which shall be retained in the trust fund on a permanent basis.

(2) The interest and earnings of the trust fund and any money not otherwise retained on a permanent basis under subsection (1) shall be expended for the purposes of implementing the management plan described in section 43904. In implementing the management plan described in section 43904, the department may expend money from the Michigan nongame fish and wildlife trust fund for grants to state colleges and universities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43904 Plan for management of nongame fish and wildlife resources.

Sec. 43904. The department shall develop and implement a long-range plan for the management of Michigan's nongame fish and wildlife resources. The plan shall be reviewed and updated as necessary every 5 years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43905 Duties of department.

Sec. 43905. The department shall do all of the following:

(a) Develop long-range nongame wildlife plans.

(b) Provide information to the public about the value of nongame fish and wildlife and their habitats.

(c) Review and develop proposals for projects to implement the long-range management plan.

(d) Determine the interests and opinions of the public in managing nongame fish and wildlife.

(e) Encourage public involvement by offering projects and activities with which the public can become involved to increase their knowledge and understanding of nongame fish and wildlife resources in this state.

(f) Integrate the nongame fish and wildlife program with other department programs that affect or benefit nongame fish and wildlife or their habitats.

(g) Purchase and develop critical nongame wildlife habitats in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 69, Eff. Mar. 28, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.43906 Determination of projects to be funded; solicitation and approval of proposals.

Sec. 43906. The department shall determine which projects should be funded with money from the trust fund. The department shall solicit and approve proposals from individuals, groups, and institutions for the management of nongame fish and wildlife species. In order for a proposal to be approved, the proposal must comply with the long-range plan once completed and must further the management of nongame fish and wildlife species identified in the plan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.43907 Public information program.

Sec. 43907. The department shall develop and implement a public information program to present the values and benefits of nongame fish and wildlife and their habitats to our society, including the means by which citizens can observe and enjoy nongame fish and wildlife; to inform the public as to how the nongame fish and wildlife fund is being utilized to meet the goals set forth in the plan; and to inform the public on the existence of the nongame fish and wildlife fund and its purpose.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 441
GAME AND FISH LIFETIME LICENSE TRUST FUND

324.44101 Definitions.

Sec. 44101. As used in this part:

(a) "Resident" means either of the following:

(*i*) A person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile within the boundaries of this state with the intention of remaining in this state.

(*ii*) A student who is enrolled in a full-time course of study at a college or university within this state.

(b) "Trust fund" means the game and fish lifetime license trust fund created in section 44104.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44102 Lifetime hunting or fishing licenses; fees; privileges, responsibilities, and duties; validity; comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license.

Sec. 44102. (1) From March 1, 1989 to February 28, 1990, certain lifetime hunting or fishing licenses may be purchased by a resident of this state as provided in this part, for the following fees:

(a) The fee for a lifetime small game license, equivalent to the license available annually pursuant to section 43523, is $220.00.

(b) The fee for a lifetime firearm deer license, equivalent to the license available annually to take 1 deer in a season pursuant to section 43526, is $285.00.

(c) The fee for a lifetime bow and arrow deer license, equivalent to the license available annually to take 1 deer in a season pursuant to section 43527, is $285.00.

(d) The fee for a lifetime sportsperson's license, equivalent to the license available pursuant to section 43521, is $1,000.00.

(e) The fee for a comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license is $1,025.00 and shall include all of the following:

(*i*) Resident small game license.

(*ii*) Resident firearm deer license.

(*iii*) Resident bow and arrow deer license.

(*iv*) Resident fishing license.

(*v*) Resident trout and salmon license.

(*vi*) Resident bear hunting license.

(*vii*) Waterfowl hunting license.

(*viii*) Resident fur harvester's license.

(f) The fee for a lifetime fishing license, equivalent to the resident annual fishing license issued pursuant to section 43532, is $220.00.

(g) The fee for a lifetime trout and salmon license, equivalent to the annual trout and salmon license issued pursuant to section 43532, is $220.00.

(2) A lifetime license issued pursuant to this section shall allow the holder of that license, throughout his or her lifetime, the same privileges, responsibilities, and duties as would the equivalent annual license or stamp issued pursuant to part 435. However, a lifetime license issued under this part does not guarantee the holder of that license the right to take game except in compliance with harvest regulations and license and permit conditions established for that species by the department.

(3) A lifetime license issued to a person who is a resident of this state at the time the license is purchased continues to be valid even if the holder of that license becomes a nonresident.

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(4) A person who holds a lifetime sportsperson license may purchase a comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license for $25.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44103 Submission of application and fee; contents of application; notice of change in name or address; purchase of lifetime license for another person; issuance of certificate; minor child; eligibility of holder of certificate to hunt or fish; review of application; mailing license; denial of application; retention of certain amounts; tender of money and information; report; return of information, unsold license, and money to department; replacement lifetime license; forwarding proceeds to state treasurer.

Sec. 44103. (1) A resident of this state may purchase a lifetime license by submitting a completed application accompanied by the fee required in section 44102 to a person authorized by the department to sell lifetime licenses between March 1, 1989 and February 28, 1990. The application shall provide information required by the department including:

(a) The name of the applicant.

(b) The age of the applicant.

(c) The height, weight, and eye color of the applicant.

(d) The address of the applicant.

(e) If the applicant has a driver license, the driver license number of the applicant.

(f) The social security number of the applicant.

(2) The holder of a lifetime license shall notify the department if he or she has a name or address change.

(3) A person may purchase a lifetime license for another person, and upon receipt of full payment, the department shall issue a certificate entitling the designated person to apply for a license as provided for in this part. If a lifetime license is purchased and a certificate issued in the name of a minor child who is under the lawful age to utilize the license, the completed application shall be submitted at a district or regional office of the department when the child is of lawful age to utilize the license. The holder of a certificate is not eligible to hunt or fish pursuant to the lifetime license until he or she completes the application process and receives a license from the department.

(4) Upon receipt of the completed application from the person authorized to sell lifetime licenses and receipt of the fee, the department shall review the application and mail the lifetime license to the applicant within 7 days. However, if the department determines that the applicant is not eligible for the equivalent license or stamp under part 435, the department shall return the fee to the applicant, minus the amount retained by the person authorized by the department to sell lifetime licenses, with notification of the denial of the application for a lifetime license.

(5) A person authorized by the department to sell lifetime licenses may retain the following amount:

(a) Six dollars from each lifetime fishing license, small game license, and trout and salmon license.

(b) Eight dollars from each lifetime firearm and bow and arrow deer license.

(c) Fifteen dollars from each lifetime sportsperson license and each comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license.

(6) A person authorized to sell lifetime licenses shall, before the twenty-fifth day of each month, tender to the department the money received from the fifteenth day of the preceding month to the fifteenth day of the month in which payment is tendered for the lifetime licenses sold during that period, along with any other relevant information required by the department.

(7) A person authorized to sell lifetime licenses, before March 31, 1990, shall file with the department a complete report of all lifetime licenses sold between March 1, 1989 and February 28, 1990. All information required in subsection (1), unsold lifetime licenses, and remaining money, not previously sent to the department, shall be returned to the department.

(8) If a license issued under this part is lost, damaged, or destroyed, the licensee may apply to the department for a replacement lifetime license by filing an affidavit and meeting the requirements of this part for procuring a lifetime license. However, the fee for a lifetime license shall be waived if the licensee presents the department with the damaged license or the facts presented regarding the destruction or loss of the lifetime license are verified by a police report or other verification approved by the department. The department or a conservation officer may require the holder of a lifetime license to obtain a replacement license from the department if the license is mutilated or illegible.

(9) The department shall forward the proceeds of the sale of lifetime licenses to the state treasurer.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44104 Game and fish lifetime license trust fund; creation; purpose; crediting money received; investment of trust fund.

Sec. 44104. (1) The game and fish lifetime license trust fund is created within the state treasury for the benefit of the people of this state to assist in providing adequate long-term funding for the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

(2) The state treasurer shall credit money received from the sale of lifetime hunting and fishing licenses under this part to the trust fund.

(3) The state treasurer shall invest the trust fund in the same manner as surplus funds are invested.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44105 Maintenance and investment of corpus, interest, and earnings of trust fund; crediting certain amount to game and fish protection account.

Sec. 44105. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) , the corpus of the trust fund and the interest and earnings of the trust fund shall be maintained and invested by the state treasurer as provided in section 44104.

(2) For each lifetime license issued under this part, the state treasurer shall credit annually to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010 from the accumulated interest and earnings of the trust fund, and from the corpus of the trust fund if the accumulated interest and earnings of the trust fund are insufficient, that amount of money that the department would have received had the holder of the lifetime license purchased the equivalent annual license during the license year. For a comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license, the equivalent annual license for purposes of calculations required by this section shall be the annual sportsperson license available pursuant to section 43521.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44106 Violation of MCL 324.44103; penalty.

Sec. 44106. In addition to any other penalty provided by law, a person who violates section 44103 shall forfeit the right to issue lifetime licenses and shall forfeit the right to retain the fee provided in section 44103(5) for lifetime licenses not received by the department within 20 days after the date the fees should have been tendered as provided in section 44103.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 3
FISHERIES

CHARTER AND LIVERY BOATS

PART 445
CHARTER AND LIVERY BOAT SAFETY

324.44501 Definitions.

Sec. 44501. As used in this part:

(a) "Boat livery" means a place of business or any location where a person rents or offers for rent any

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vessel other than a nonmotorized raft to the general public for noncommercial use on the waters of this state. Boat livery does not include a place where a person offers cabins, cottages, motel rooms, hotel rooms, or other similar rental units if vessels are furnished only for the use of persons occupying the units.

(b) "Carrying passengers for hire" or "carry passengers for hire" means the transporting of any individual on a vessel other than a nonmotorized raft for consideration directly or indirectly paid to the owner of the vessel, the owner's agent, the operator of the vessel, or any other person who holds any interest in the vessel.

(c) "Charter boat" means a vessel other than a nonmotorized raft that is rented or offered for rent to carry passengers for hire if the owner or the owner's agent retains possession, command, and control of the vessel.

(d) "Class A vessel" means a vessel, except a sailboat, that carries for hire on navigable waters not more than 6 passengers.

(e) "Class B vessel" means a vessel, except a sailboat, that carries for hire on inland waters not more than 6 passengers.

(f) "Class C vessel" means a vessel, except a sailboat, that carries for hire on inland waters more than 6 passengers.

(g) "Class D vessel" means a vessel that is propelled primarily by a sail or sails and carries for hire on navigable waters not more than 6 passengers or carries passengers for hire on inland waters.

(h) "Class E vessel" means a vessel that carries not more than 6 passengers for hire and meets either of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is utilized primarily as a river-drift boat that is propelled primarily by hand.

(*ii*) Is a vessel that is 18 feet or less in length operated primarily on a river or tributary to the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, or their connecting waterways.

(i) "Equipment" means a system, part, or component of a vessel as originally manufactured, or a system, part, or component manufactured or sold for replacement, repair, or improvement of a system, part, or component of a vessel; an accessory or equipment for, or appurtenance to, a vessel; or a marine safety article, accessory, or equipment intended for use by an individual on board a vessel; but does not include radio equipment.

(j) "Inland waters" means all waters of this state, except navigable waters.

(k) "Livery boat" means a vessel, other than a nonmotorized raft, that is rented or offered for rent by a boat livery or a boat owner or his or her agent if the boat livery or boat owner or his or her agent relinquishes or offers to relinquish complete physical control of the vessel to the renter while retaining legal title to the vessel.

(*l*) "Navigable waters" means those waters of the state over which this state and the United States Coast Guard exercise concurrent jurisdiction, including the Great Lakes and waters connected to the Great Lakes, to the upstream limit of navigation as determined by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(m) "Navigable waters livery boat" means a livery boat other than a nonmotorized canoe or kayak that is more than 20 feet in length and is rented or offered for rent for use on navigable waters.

(n) "Operate", when used with reference to a vessel, means to start any propulsion engine or to physically control the motion, direction, or speed of the vessel.

(o) "Owner", when used in reference to a vessel, means a person who claims lawful possession of the vessel by virtue of legal title or an equitable interest in a vessel that entitles that person to possession of the vessel.

(p) "Passenger" means an individual carried on board a charter boat except any of the following:

(*i*) The owner of the vessel or the owner's agent.

(*ii*) The pilot and members of the crew of the vessel who have not contributed consideration for their transportation either before, during, or after the voyage.

(q) "Peace officer" means a sheriff or sheriff's deputy; village or township marshal; officer of the police department of any city, village, or township; officer of the Michigan state police; or other police officer or law enforcement officer who is trained and licensed or certified under the Michigan commission on law enforcement standards act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.601 to 28.615, and includes the director and conservation officers employed by the department.

(r) "Personal watercraft" means a vessel that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Uses a motor-driven propeller or an internal combustion engine powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion.

(*ii*) Is designed without an open load carrying area that would retain water.

(*iii*) Is designed to be operated by 1 or more individuals positioned on, rather than within, the confines of the hull.

(s) "Pilot's license" means a vessel operator's license issued by the United States Coast Guard or other federal agency, or a license issued by the department to an operator of a charter boat that is operated on inland

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waters.

(t) "Training or instructional purposes" means the teaching of any individual in the handling and navigation of a vessel or the techniques of waterskiing.

(u) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water irrespective of the method of operation or propulsion.

(v) "Waters of the state" means any waters within the territorial limits of this state and includes those waters of the Great Lakes which are under the jurisdiction of this state.

(w) "Waterways account" means the waterways account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2035.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 2012;—Am. 2016, Act 294, Eff. Jan. 2, 2017.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44502 Conditions to renting or leasing charter boat or carrying passengers for hire; possession and display of valid pilot's license; obtaining vessel inspection certificate and pilot's license.

Sec. 44502. (1) A person shall not rent or lease, or offer to rent or lease, a charter boat, and a person shall not carry passengers for hire on a vessel on the waters of this state unless all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) The department has inspected the vessel, if required by this part, and has issued a certificate of inspection that is valid and current for the vessel.

(b) The operator of the vessel is a licensed pilot or is under the direct supervision of a licensed pilot who is on board the vessel.

(c) The person complies with the reporting requirements of section 44508.

(2) The licensed pilot of a charter boat shall possess a valid and current pilot's license issued in his or her name and shall immediately display that license upon demand of any peace officer.

(3) A person shall not operate a charter boat that carries 7 or more passengers on navigable waters without first obtaining a current vessel inspection certificate and a pilot's license from the United States coast guard or other federal agency.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44503 Conditions to advertising or arranging for carrying passenger on charter boat.

Sec. 44503. A person shall not advertise or arrange for the carrying of any passenger on a charter boat unless the charter boat has been issued a valid and current certificate of inspection provided for in section 44502 or operates under a reciprocal agreement pursuant to section 44513.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44504 Rules establishing minimum safety standards for charter boats; vessel ventilation and rail height.

Sec. 44504. (1) The department shall promulgate rules to establish minimum safety standards for charter boats. The safety standards shall be designed to ensure the safety and well-being of persons utilizing a charter boat and shall include all of the following:

(a) Methods for determining that a charter boat is of a structure suitable for carrying passengers and crew and is in a condition to enable it to be navigated safely.

(b) Necessary equipment and operating requirements.

(c) Minimum public liability insurance requirements.

(d) Methods for determination of maximum passenger capacity.

(e) Suitable tests to determine the sufficiency of the charter boat's structure, equipment, and stability.

(2) Except rules addressing vessel ventilation and rail height, rules pertaining to safety standards promulgated under the authority of former Act No. 228 of the Public Acts of 1965 shall remain in effect as

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provided in section 44526. Vessel ventilation and rail height shall be consistent with generally accepted and federally approved manufacturing processes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44505 Public liability insurance; notice of cancellation or expiration.

Sec. 44505. An insurance carrier that issues public liability insurance required by this part or a rule promulgated under this part shall notify the department immediately, in writing, whenever the insurance is canceled or expires and is not renewed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44506 Rules for licensing pilots of charter boats.

Sec. 44506. The department shall promulgate rules for the licensing of pilots of charter boats on inland waters. Rules promulgated under this section shall be designed to ensure that pilots of charter boats have the training and skills necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of charter boat passengers, crew members, and members of the general public.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44507 Inspection of charter boats and equipment; certificate of inspection; number of crew; effect of noncompliance.

Sec. 44507. (1) Except for an inspection under section 44511(2) and except for a class E vessel that is a charter boat, the department shall inspect or arrange for the inspection of every charter boat and its equipment once every 24 months while the charter boat is at dockside and at least once every 72 months while the charter boat is in dry dock to determine if the charter boat and its equipment comply with the rules promulgated under section 44504. In addition, the department may at any time inspect or provide for the inspection of any charter boat if the department has reasonable cause either to believe that a provision of this part has been violated or that an inspection is necessary to ensure the safety of life and property. This subsection shall not apply to a class E vessel that is a charter boat; however, the department may inspect a class E vessel that is a charter boat if necessary to ensure the safety of life and property.

(2) If, after the inspection provided for in section 44502 and payment of the fees prescribed in section 44511, it is found that the charter boat and its equipment complies with this part and the rules promulgated under this part, the department shall issue to the owner of the charter boat a certificate of inspection to be furnished by the department. The certificate of inspection shall:

(a) Contain the maximum passenger, crew, and total person capacity of the charter boat.

(b) Be prominently displayed on the charter boat while the charter boat is operated upon waters of the state.

(c) Expire on May 31 of the second year following the year in which the charter boat was dockside inspected, except that the department may extend the expiration date if conditions exist that prevent the launching or the inspection of the charter boat before the expiration of the certificate of inspection.

(3) The department may determine the number of crew necessary for the safe operation of a charter boat.

(4) If it is determined by the department that a charter boat or its equipment does not comply with this part, or the rules promulgated under this part, or applicable federal law or regulations, a certificate of inspection shall not be issued and any current certificate of inspection may be revoked by the department pursuant to chapter 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.291 to 24.292 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44508 Availability of fish in waters utilized by charter boats; catch activity committee; composition; duties; reports; charter boat operator duties.

Sec. 44508. (1) The department may research the availability of fish in the waters of this state that are utilized by charter boats.

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(2) The department shall form a catch activity committee that is composed of 2 individuals from the department and 2 representatives from the Michigan charter boat association. The catch activity committee shall do all of the following:

(a) Advise on changes to the catch activity report form that pertains to the number, type, and location of fish taken from charter boats in this state.

(b) Advise on research priorities concerning the information gathered pursuant to this section.

(3) The department shall distribute to each charter boat operator in possession of a valid certificate of inspection, information related to any required catch activity report, and each charter boat operator shall complete the required report in the manner prescribed in subsection (5).

(4) The department shall compile an annual report based on information contained in catch activity reports submitted to the department under subsection (5). The annual report must not disclose the identity of a charter boat operator who provides information under subsection (5).

(5) A charter boat operator shall do each of the following:

(a) Maintain on board each charter boat under the operator's control a daily record of all catch activity of that charter boat for the current and previous calendar month.

(b) Make available for inspection the daily catch activity records required to be maintained under this subsection on the request of a peace officer.

(c) Complete a catch activity report for each charter boat under the operator's control. All charter boat operators regulated by this state shall provide the department with twice-monthly catch activity reports, except that all charter boat operators must report more frequently if a consent decree, decree, federal court order, memorandum of understanding, or other legally binding agreement establishes more frequent reporting. The department may issue orders requiring catch activity reports to be submitted twice monthly and specifying the information required, consistent with any consent decree, decree, federal court order, memorandum of understanding, or other legally binding agreement.

(d) The operator of a charter boat that is used for fishing on 2 or more bodies of water within a reporting period shall complete for that charter boat a separate catch activity report for each body of water fished, and shall submit each report to the department in the manner prescribed by this section.

(e) If a charter boat operator in possession of a valid certificate of inspection issued under section 44507 does not submit to the department the required catch activity report within 30 days after being notified that the report is delinquent, the department may revoke the state certificate of inspection issued for that vessel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 239, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44509 Operation of charter boat in violation of terms of certificate of inspection.

Sec. 44509. (1) A person shall not operate a charter boat in violation of the terms of a certificate of inspection.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply when the charter boat is being utilized by the owner of the charter boat exclusively for noncommercial purposes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44510 State pilot's license or renewal; examination; reexamination; revocation; issuance; duration.

Sec. 44510. (1) The department shall examine, or provide for the examination of, all applicants for a state pilot's license or renewal of an existing state pilot's license pursuant to the rules promulgated under section 44506 to ensure that an applicant has the skill, knowledge, and experience necessary to pilot a charter boat. If the department has reasonable cause to believe it necessary, the department may reexamine the holder of a state pilot's license at any time to determine continued compliance with the rules. If it is determined by the department that the holder of the state pilot's license no longer complies with the rules, the department may revoke the license pursuant to chapter 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.291 to 24.292 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) If, after the applicant has successfully completed the examination and paid the fees prescribed in section 44511, the department determines that the applicant is qualified pursuant to the rules promulgated under section 44506, the department shall issue to the applicant a state pilot's license to be furnished by the department.

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(3) A state pilot's license shall be issued for a 3-year period.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44511 Application for charter boat inspection or state pilot's examination; filing; fee; form; furnishing required information; false information; signature as certification of true and correct information; inspection fee schedules for dry dock and dockside inspection; inspection without fee or for reduced fee; examination fee for state pilot's license; forfeiture of application fee; disposition and use of inspection fees.

Sec. 44511. (1) The owner of a charter boat required to be inspected under this part and a person required to be licensed as a state pilot under this part shall file an application with the required fee for the charter boat inspection or the state pilot's examination with the department on a form prescribed and furnished by the department. Persons applying for a certificate of inspection or a state pilot's license shall furnish information reasonably required by the department. A person shall not file an application for charter boat inspection or state pilot's examination that contains false information. A person filing an application shall certify by the person's signature that the information furnished on the application is true and correct.

(2) If a charter boat has never been inspected, the owner shall pay the department an inspection fee for dry dock and dockside inspection according to the following schedule:

(a)	Class A and D vessels	$250.00
(b)	Class B vessels	$120.00
(c)	Class C vessels	$350.00

(3) For each required dry dock or dockside inspection of a charter boat other than an inspection under subsection (2), the owner shall pay the department a fee according to the following schedule:

(a)	Class A and D vessels	
(*i*)	Dockside inspection	$100.00
(*ii*)	Dry dock inspection	$150.00
(b)	Class B vessels	
(*i*)	Dockside inspection	$ 60.00
(*ii*)	Dry dock inspection	$ 60.00
(c)	Class C vessels	
(*i*)	Dockside inspection	$150.00
(*ii*)	Dry dock inspection	$200.00

(4) If the department inspects any charter boat at an interval other than as required by this part, the inspection shall be conducted without an inspection fee for a dockside inspection and for a reduced fee to be determined by the department for a dry dock inspection. If a 24-month dockside inspection and a 72-month dry dock inspection are required in the same year, the owner shall only pay the fee for the dry dock inspection, as provided in subsection (3).

(5) For each examination of a person for a state pilot's license, the applicant shall pay a fee of $30.00 to the department.

(6) The charter boat inspection fee or state pilot's license examination fee shall be forfeited to the department and credited to the marine safety subaccount of the waterways account if the owner of the charter boat or the applicant for a state pilot's license fails to keep an appointment, which has been mutually agreed upon between the owner or the applicant and the department, for an inspection or reinspection of the charter boat or a state pilot's license examination, without notifying the inspecting officer or the department's marine safety section within the department's law enforcement division at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled appointment. Upon the forfeiture of an application fee, the owner of the charter boat or the applicant for a state pilot's license shall submit a new application and the required fee before the department conducts any inspection of the charter boat or conducts any examination of the applicant for a state pilot's license.

(7) The revenue received for inspection fees under this section shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the marine safety subaccount of the waterways account and shall only be used to pay for inspections required by this part, and to maintain the education and enforcement program provided for in section 44513(2). The revenue division of the department of treasury shall annually provide to the department an accurate total of revenue collected and shall annually credit that amount to the marine safety subaccount of the waterways account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

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Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44512 Petition for evidentiary hearing; appeal.

Sec. 44512. (1) A person denied a state pilot's license or the owner of a charter boat for which a certificate of inspection has been denied or revoked may petition the department for an evidentiary hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) A person who owns a charter boat may petition the department for an evidentiary hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, regarding the determination of the maximum passenger, crew, or total person capacity of the charter boat.

(3) A person who is aggrieved by the decision of the department under subsection (1) or (2) may appeal the action of the department in the manner provided in chapter 6 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.301 to 24.306 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44513 Reciprocity; annual operating permit; amount and use of fees; education and enforcement program; printed materials.

Sec. 44513. (1) The department may enter into reciprocal agreements with other states and countries concerning the operation and inspection of charter boats from those states and countries that operate on the waters of this state. Reciprocity shall be granted only if a state or country can establish to the satisfaction of the department that their laws concerning charter boats meet or exceed the laws of this state. A charter boat shall not operate on the waters of this state under a reciprocal agreement pursuant to this section except as authorized under an annual operating permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13. The fee for an annual operating permit is $100.00. The department shall utilize the fees for annual operating permits issued pursuant to this section to provide funds for the education and enforcement program provided for in subsection (2).

(2) The department shall develop an education and enforcement program designed to eliminate the operation of charter and livery boats that have not been inspected as required by this part and to prepare printed materials to provide the public with information regarding the safety features and requirements necessary for the lawful operation of charter and livery boats.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44514 Repealed. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to conditions for operation of boat livery.

324.44515 Rules requiring equipment and minimum safety standards for livery boats.

Sec. 44515. The department shall promulgate rules requiring equipment and minimum safety standards for livery boats that are rented or leased to the public by boat liveries. The rules shall be for the purpose of ensuring the safety of those persons utilizing the facilities of boat liveries and shall include all of the following:

(a) Safe operation standards.

(b) Maximum vessel load capacity.

(c) Maximum horsepower of any motor to be used to propel the vessel.

(d) Required equipment and equipment standards to ensure the safety of the general public.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44516 Boat livery; annual inspection decal, plate, or tab; permit application; inspection fee; inspection by sheriff's department; permit; issuance; display; powers and duties of

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department and conservation officer; items to be furnished by department of natural resources.

Sec. 44516. (1) A boat livery shall not rent a motorized livery boat unless the livery boat has a current annual inspection decal, plate, or tab as provided under section 44518.

(2) Regardless of whether the livery boats are motorized or nonmotorized, a person shall not operate a boat livery except as authorized by a permit issued pursuant to part 13. Subject to subsection (7), the owner of a boat livery shall submit an application for a boat livery permit to the sheriff's department of the county where the boat livery is located. The application for a boat livery permit shall include all of the following:

(a) The boat livery name.

(b) The mailing address of the boat livery.

(c) The location of the boat livery.

(d) The waters of the state on which the boat livery rents vessels.

(e) The number of each of the following available for rent:

(*i*) Motorized livery boats, other than navigable waters livery boats.

(*ii*) Nonmotorized livery boats, other than navigable waters livery boats.

(*iii*) Navigable waters livery boats.

(3) An application for a boat livery permit shall be accompanied by an inspection fee of $100.00 for each navigable waters livery boat that the boat livery rents or offers to rent. A fee collected under this subsection shall be forwarded to the department of treasury to be credited to the marine safety subaccount of the waterways account. An inspection of a navigable waters livery boat shall be a comprehensive dockside inspection.

(4) If the boat livery rents or offers for rent 1 or more motorized livery boats, after the sheriff's department receives an application for a boat livery permit under subsection (3), the county sheriff or a deputy sheriff shall inspect the motorized livery boats and associated equipment to determine if they meet the minimum safety standards established under rules promulgated under this part.

(5) A boat livery permit shall be issued if any of the following apply:

(a) One or more motorized livery boats and their associated equipment pass inspection under subsection (4).

(b) The boat livery rents or offers for rent 1 or more nonmotorized livery boats.

(6) A boat livery owner shall prominently display a boat livery permit issued under subsection (5) on the site of the boat livery. The permit expires on May 31 of the year following the year in which the permit is issued.

(7) The department and a conservation officer shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the county sheriff's department and a sheriff or deputy sheriff under this section and section 44518 under any of the following circumstances:

(a) If the county does not receive state aid under section 80117 to conduct a marine safety program.

(b) If the boat livery rents or offers to rent a navigable waters livery boat.

(8) The department of natural resources shall furnish boat livery permit application forms, blank boat livery permits, registration decals, and inspection decals, plates, or tabs to the sheriff's department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44517 Repealed. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to inspection fees for livery boats.

324.44518 Affixing inspection decal, plate, or tab to motorized livery boat; expiration; fees; information; amount, disposition, and use of fees.

Sec. 44518. (1) The sheriff of the county where a boat livery is located or a deputy sheriff shall affix or cause to be affixed an inspection decal, plate, or tab to each motorized livery boat that passes the inspection under section 44516.

(2) An inspection decal, plate, or tab under subsection (1) expires on May 31 of the year following the year in which the inspection decal, plate, or tab is issued. The inspection decal, plate, or tab shall bear all of the following information:

(a) The maximum number of persons permitted to be carried aboard the motorized livery boat.

(b) The maximum horsepower of a motor permitted to be used on the motorized livery boat.

(c) Any other information that the department may reasonably require.

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(3) A boat livery owner shall pay to the sheriff or deputy sheriff a fee of $2.00 for each decal, plate, or tab affixed under subsection (1) to a motorized livery boat other than a navigable waters livery boat. Fees collected under this subsection shall be forwarded as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), to the treasurer of the county in which the fee is collected to be credited for the purpose of reimbursing the sheriff's department for expenses incurred under this part.

(b) If, pursuant to section 44516(7), a conservation officer performs the inspection, to the department of treasury to be credited to the marine safety subaccount of the waterways account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 2012.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44519 Removing, damaging, or mutilating inspection decal, plate, or tab.

Sec. 44519. A boat livery owner, the designated representative of the boat livery owner, or any other person, except an inspecting officer, shall not remove, damage, or mutilate a valid inspection decal, plate, or tab affixed to a livery boat except that when a livery boat is sold, damaged, destroyed, or removed from rental or leasing service, the boat livery owner or his or her designated representative shall remove the valid inspection decal, plate, or tab and return it to the inspecting officer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44520 Written rental contract required for certain livery boats; relinquishing physical control; responsibility of individual renting livery boat; display of information.

Sec. 44520. (1) The owner of a boat livery shall not rent a livery boat more than 20 feet in length to be used on navigable water except pursuant to a written rental contract between the boat livery owner and the renter.

(2) A boat livery owner or agent of the owner shall not relinquish physical control of any livery boat to the person renting the livery boat or someone in that person's party if any of the following apply:

(a) The equipment required pursuant to rules promulgated under this part is not aboard the livery boat.

(b) The livery boat contains a number of individuals in excess of the maximum number approved for the livery boat and required to be displayed under subsection (4).

(c) The livery boat is equipped with a motor with a horsepower rating in excess of the maximum horsepower approved for the livery boat and indicated on the inspection decal, plate, or tab affixed to the livery boat.

(3) The individual renting a livery boat, or an individual in the renter's party, is not responsible for a violation of a rule described in subsection (2)(a) if the livery boat or equipment was in violation when the owner relinquished possession of the livery boat to the renter or the individual in the renter's party.

(4) A livery boat shall display the maximum number of persons and maximum weight of persons, gear, and other items the livery boat is capable of safely carrying under normal conditions. The information may be displayed on the inspection decal, plate, or tab required for a motorized livery boat; on a manufacturer's plate, decal, plate, or tab; or by other means.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44520a Nonmotorized livery boat; liability for injury or death to user; notice; definitions.

Sec. 44520a. (1) An owner of a nonmotorized livery boat is not liable for an injury to or the death of a user of the nonmotorized livery boat resulting from a risk inherent in the use or operation of a nonmotorized livery boat.

(2) An owner of a nonmotorized livery boat shall display in conspicuous locations a notice specifying that a user of the nonmotorized livery boat accepts the risk inherent in the use or operation of a nonmotorized livery boat.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Owner of a nonmotorized livery boat" means the person who owns the nonmotorized livery boat, the

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boat livery that rents or furnishes the nonmotorized livery boat for use, or an employee or agent of the owner or boat livery.

(b) "Risk inherent in the use or operation of a nonmotorized livery boat" means a danger or condition that is an integral part of the use or operation of a nonmotorized livery boat and is limited to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Wave or other water motion.

(*ii*) Weather conditions.

(*iii*) Contact or maneuvers necessary to avoid contact with another vessel or a manmade object in or near the water.

(*iv*) Contact or maneuvers necessary to avoid contact with rock, sand, vegetation, or other natural objects in or near the water.

(*v*) Malfunction of equipment, except for equipment owned by the owner of a nonmotorized livery boat.

(*vi*) Failure to use or wear a personal flotation device or to have lifesaving equipment available, except if the owner of a nonmotorized livery boat failed to provide the personal flotation device or lifesaving equipment when required by law to do so.

(*vii*) The actions of a vessel operator, except if the owner of a nonmotorized livery boat rented the livery boat to an operator who the owner knew or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known was disqualified by law from operating the livery boat.

(*viii*) Having on board a number of persons or weight of persons, gear, and other items that exceeds the maximum approved for the livery boat, except in any of the following circumstances:

(A) If the owner of a nonmotorized livery boat knowingly relinquished physical control of the livery boat to a user of the nonmotorized livery boat with a number of persons or weight of persons, gear, and other items on board that exceeds the maximum approved for the livery boat or did not properly inform the user of the nonmotorized livery boat of the maximum weight or number of persons approved for the livery boat.

(B) If a nonmotorized livery boat did not display the maximum number of persons or maximum weight of persons, gear, or other items permitted to be carried on board as required under section 44520 when the boat livery owner relinquished physical control of the livery boat to a user of the nonmotorized livery boat.

(c) "User of the nonmotorized livery boat" means an individual who participates in the use or operation of the nonmotorized livery boat regardless of whether the individual rented the nonmotorized livery boat.

History: Add. 2006, Act 183, Imd. Eff. June 12, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44521 Presenting rental contract or lease agreement for examination by peace officer; prohibited conduct by person renting, leasing, or operating livery boat.

Sec. 44521. (1) Any person renting, leasing, or operating a livery boat on navigable waters that is more than 20 feet in length shall present for examination, upon demand of any peace officer, a copy of the rental contract or lease agreement.

(2) A person renting, leasing, or operating a livery boat on waters of the state shall not do any of the following:

(a) Permit the operation of the livery boat without the equipment required by rules promulgated under this part.

(b) Permit the operation of the livery boat if it contains a number of persons in excess of the maximum number approved for the livery boat and indicated on the inspection decal, plate, or tab affixed to the livery boat.

(c) Permit the operation of the livery boat, if it is equipped with a motor with a horsepower rating in excess of the maximum horsepower approved for the livery boat and indicated on the inspection decal, plate, or tab affixed to the livery boat.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44522 Rental of personal watercraft; prohibition; certification required; rental agreement; contents; validity; liability; violation of subsection (1) or (2) as misdemeanor; impoundment.

Sec. 44522. (1) A boat livery shall not rent a personal watercraft to any of the following:

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(a) A person who is under 14 years of age.

(b) A person who does not display to the boat livery owner or the owner's agent, if it is required under part 802, a boating safety certificate that is issued by the department or the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary or an electronic copy, in a format approved by the department of such a boating safety certificate, unless the individual obtains training in the safe use of a personal watercraft from the boat livery before the personal watercraft is rented. The department shall provide to boat liveries guidelines for the training required under this subdivision.

(2) A person who rents a personal watercraft from a boat livery shall not permit an individual to operate the personal watercraft if the individual has not obtained a boating safety certificate as required under part 802.

(3) A boat livery shall provide a copy of the written rental agreement to each individual who rents a personal watercraft from the boat livery and who has obtained the training required under subsection (1). The written rental agreement shall include all of the following information:

(a) The name of the person who rents a personal watercraft from the boat livery.

(b) The date or dates of the rental.

(4) The written rental agreement described under subsection (3) is a valid boating safety certificate under part 802 only for the person named in the certificate on the date or dates of the rental of the personal watercraft.

(5) A person who rents a personal watercraft from a boat livery is liable for any injury resulting from the negligent operation of the personal watercraft, whether the negligence consists of a violation of the statutes of this state, or the failure to observe the ordinary care in operation required by the common law. If the personal watercraft is operated by an individual other than the person who rents the personal watercraft, the person who rents the personal watercraft is not liable under this subsection unless the personal watercraft is being operated with his or her expressed or implied consent. It is rebuttably presumed that the personal watercraft is being operated with the consent of the person if it is operated by his or her son, daughter, spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, or other immediate member of the person's family.

(6) A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both. A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) twice within a 3-year period is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both. A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) 3 or more times within a 5-year period is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $2,000.00, or both.

(7) In addition to any penalty imposed under subsection (6), upon a person's second or subsequent violation of subsection (1), the court may issue an order impounding the personal watercraft that was rented in violation of subsection (1) for not more than 1 year. The cost of storage for an impoundment ordered under this subsection shall be paid by the owner of the personal watercraft.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 262, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999;—Am. 2012, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 400, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44522a Inspection by peace officer.

Sec. 44522a. In addition to inspections conducted for purposes of section 44516 or under section 80166, a peace officer may inspect any livery boat at a boat livery. The peace officer shall give the owner of the boat livery at least 72 hours' advance notice of an inspection under this section and shall conduct the inspection at a reasonable time.

History: Add. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44523 Petition for evidentiary hearing.

Sec. 44523. (1) A boat livery owner denied a permit to operate a boat livery by an inspecting officer designated by the department may petition the department for an evidentiary hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) A boat livery owner may petition the department for an evidentiary hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, regarding the determination by the inspecting officer of the maximum vessel load capacity of a livery boat, the maximum horsepower of any

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motor to be used to propel a livery boat, and any equipment requirements or standards.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44524 Violation as misdemeanor; penalties; failure to submit activity reports; civil infraction; seizure, condemnation, and confiscation of vessel; issuance of appearance ticket.

Sec. 44524. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

(2) A person who fails to submit catch activity reports as required under section 44508(5)(c) and (d) is responsible for a state civil infraction and shall be ordered to pay a civil fine as follows:

(a) For the first violation during a calendar year, $100.00.

(b) For a second or subsequent violation during a calendar year, $200.00.

(3) If a person fails to submit catch activity reports for 2 or more reporting periods, and has been cited by the department for each violation, the department shall not authorize the person to operate a charter boat until the delinquent reports are submitted to the department.

(4) When a vessel is operated in violation of section 44502, 44509, or 44516(1) or (2), the vessel may be seized as evidence, and upon conviction of the owner, the vessel may be condemned and confiscated in the same manner as provided for under part 16.

(5) A peace officer may issue an appearance ticket to any person violating this part or a rule promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 249, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2023, Act 239, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44525 Applicability and construction of part.

Sec. 44525. (1) Except for the reporting requirements of section 44508, this part does not apply to a vessel that is required to be inspected by federal law or regulations for the purposes of carrying passengers for hire and that carries a valid and current certificate of inspection issued pursuant to federal law.

(2) This part does not require a person to secure a state pilot's license if that person has been issued a valid and current federal pilot's license from the United States coast guard or other federal agency.

(3) This part does not apply to a vessel 20 feet or less in length that is used primarily for training or instructional purposes and is not used at any time as a charter boat or a livery boat.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.44526 Effect of rules.

Sec. 44526. Except as otherwise provided in section 44504, rules promulgated pursuant to former Act No. 244 of the Public Acts of 1986 or an act repealed by that former public act remain in effect until replaced by rules promulgated pursuant to former Act No. 244 of the Public Acts of 1986 or this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

AQUATIC SPECIES

PART 451
FISHING FROM INLAND WATERS

324.45101 Inland lakes; fishing prohibited; exception.

Sec. 45101. A person shall not take any fish from any of the inland lakes of this state, within which fish are planted at the expense of the people of this state, if the public is excluded from taking fish from those waters. However, this part does not apply to any small inland lakes covering less than 250 acres in which fish are planted without the written consent of the persons who together own in fee simple the submerged acreage.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45102 Violation of part; penalty.

Sec. 45102. A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or a fine of not less than $10.00 or more than $100.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 453
FISHING WITH HOOK AND LINE

324.45301 Lawful fishing with hook and line.

Sec. 45301. In any of the navigable or meandered waters of this state where fish have been or are propagated, planted, or spread at the expense of the people of this state or the United States, the people have the right to catch fish with hook and line during the seasons and in the waters that are not otherwise prohibited by the laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45302 Fishing rights; action; defense.

Sec. 45302. An action shall not be maintained against a person entering upon the waters for the purpose of fishing, by the owner, lessee, or other person having the right of possession of adjoining lands, except for actual damage done. In such an action, the defendant under a proper notice may dispute at trial the plaintiff's right to either title or possession of the land claimed to have been trespassed upon.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 455
FROGS

324.45501 Repealed. 2018, Act 20, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Compiler's note: Part 455 of the natural resources and environmental protection act is repealed. The heading "FROGS" was not legislatively repealed and remains as a part heading in the act.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45502 Repealed. 2018, Act 20, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45503 Repealed. 2018, Act 20, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45504 Repealed. 2018, Act 20, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 457
MUSSELS

324.45701 Definitions.

Sec. 45701. As used in this part:

(a) "Mussel" means the pearly freshwater mussel, clam, or naiad, and the shells of the pearly freshwater

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mussel, clam, or naiad.

(b) "Crowfoot bar" means a bar of any material bearing a series of hooks designed to catch or adapted for catching mussels by the insertion of the hooks between the shells of mussels.

(c) "Hand rod" means any mechanism of capture that is adapted for picking the mussels singly from the bottom of waters and is operated by the picker holding the hand rod in the hand.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45702 Mussels; registration and license requirements.

Sec. 45702. A person shall not take, catch, or kill mussels by means of any kind of apparatus or in any manner in any of the inland waters of this state without first registering with the department and obtaining a license issued for this purpose in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45703 License; application; form; fee.

Sec. 45703. A person shall not take, catch, or kill mussels in any of the inland waters of this state without applying to the department on a form provided for that purpose by the department. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of $3.00, if the applicant is a resident of this state, and a fee of $50.00, if the applicant is a nonresident of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45704 License; issuance; duration; contents; possession; exhibition.

Sec. 45704. The department shall upon receipt of an application and the proper fee issue a license to take, catch, or kill mussels. All licenses shall begin July 1 and expire on September 30, following issuance. Licenses shall be consecutively numbered as issued, and a record of licenses and their numbers shall be kept by the department. A license shall state whether it is a resident or nonresident license, the address of the licensee, and the amount paid for the license. The license shall also state what waters have been closed to the capture of mussels by the department. Every person while taking, catching, or killing mussels shall have the license required by this section in his or her possession and shall exhibit the license when requested to do so by an authorized officer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45705 Applications and licenses; record; receipts; disposition; "nonresident" defined.

Sec. 45705. The department shall keep a record of all applications and licenses issued and on the first day of each month shall pay to the state treasurer all money received for the sale of licenses issued under this part, and the money shall be credited to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010 and shall be disbursed by the state treasurer for services of the department and for the department's expenses in enforcing this part and the game and fish laws of this state, for propagation, and for biological investigations and such other investigations as may be necessary. For the purposes of this part, a nonresident of this state is a person who has not resided within this state for a period of at least 6 consecutive months immediately prior to the time application is made for a license under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45706 Mussels; number of boats permitted; crowfoot bars; hand rods; prohibited devices; mufflers.

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Sec. 45706. Any person to whom a license has been issued under this part may operate not more than 1 boat, with or without a motor, in taking, catching, or killing mussels. The person may use 1 additional boat, with or without a motor, for the purpose of towing only when an apparatus for taking, catching, or killing mussels is not used or kept on the boat. A person engaged in taking, catching, or killing mussels on the waters shall not possess more than 4 crowfoot bars, shall have not more than 2 of the bars in the water at 1 time, and shall not use or possess a crowfoot bar of greater than 20 feet in length. A person may also use his or her hands or a device known as a hand rod in taking, catching, or removing mussels from the waters. However, a person shall not use to gather mussels a fork, dredge, tongs, or other device that when used digs deeply into the bed of the stream. All boats propelled by an internal combustion engine or motor and used in taking, catching, killing, or conveying mussels taken under this part shall be equipped at all times with a quiet muffler for the exhaust.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45707 Mussels; limitation on catch of certain undersized species.

Sec. 45707. A person shall not take, catch, kill, offer for sale, or possess, in a quantity of more than 1% by weight, mussels of the varieties known either as mucket or pocketbook species of a size less than 3 inches at the greatest dimension. Undersized mussels shall be immediately culled and returned to the water from which they were taken without avoidable injury.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45708 Mussels; closed areas; orders of department; publication; effective date.

Sec. 45708. The department may, for the conservation of the mussel resources of the state, prescribe areas in any part of the state from which mussels shall not be taken for a period specified by the department. A person shall not take, catch, or kill mussels in closed waters. All orders of the department affecting mussels shall be published once a year in a newspaper of general circulation published within each county containing or having on its boundary waters affected by the order. All such orders shall take effect at the time established in the order, but not less than 21 days after the publication of the order. The department may extend the time within which the order takes effect.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45709 Mussels; report to department by license holder; prerequisite to new license.

Sec. 45709. On or before December 31 of the year in which any license was issued, the holder of the license shall make a written report to the department, on a form furnished by the department, under oath if requested to do so, stating the total weight of mussel shells taken, caught, or killed under the license, the names and locations of waters from which the mussels were taken, the weight of shells taken from each water, the amount of money received for shells sold, and any other information required by the department in determining the trend of the industry and available supply of mussels. The department may deny a new license to the holder until the report is made in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45710 Taking mussels for culture or scientific investigation; permit required.

Sec. 45710. A person shall not take from any of the inland waters of this state any kind of mussels in any manner for the purpose of culture or scientific investigation without first obtaining a permit from the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45711 Violation of part; penalty; default.

Sec. 45711. A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less

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than $10.00 or more than $100.00 and costs of prosecution, and in default of the payment of the fine, by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 459

PROPAGATION OF GAME FISH IN PRIVATE WATERS

324.45901 Definitions.

Sec. 45901. As used in this part:

(a) "Game fish" includes all species of fish in the families of salmonidae (trout and salmon), thymallidae (grayling), esocidae (northern pike and muskellunge), serranidae (white bass and striped bass), centrarchidae (bass, bluegill, and crappie), percidae (perch and walleye), acipenseridae (sturgeon), ictaluridae (catfish), and coregonidae (whitefish).

(b) "Genetically engineered" refers to a fish whose genome, chromosomal or extrachromosomal, is modified permanently and heritably, using recombinant nucleic acid techniques.

(c) "Recombinant nucleic acid techniques" means laboratory techniques through which genetic material is isolated and manipulated in vitro and then inserted into an organism.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45902 Game fish; license for propagation for sale.

Sec. 45902. (1) A person shall not propagate, rear, or have in possession for the purpose of offering for sale or selling any kind of game fish except as authorized by a license issued by the department pursuant to part 13. A license is nontransferable and expires on December 31 of the year for which issued. A separate license is required for each place of business where game fish are propagated, reared, or possessed for the purpose of sale or offering for sale.

(2) This part does not apply to the following:

(a) The sale, offering for sale, or possession of dead, fresh, or frozen brook trout, brown trout, or rainbow trout lawfully taken in and exported from another state or country or that have been procured from a licensed dealer within this state.

(b) The propagation, rearing, possession, or sale of game fish pursuant to a registration or permit issued pursuant to the Michigan aquaculture development act, 1996 PA 199, MCL 286.871 to 286.884.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 200, Imd. Eff. May 17, 1996;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45903 Game fish; license; application; contents; fee.

Sec. 45903. Any person owning or having control of private waters in this state who desires a license under this part shall make application for the license to the department, accompanied by a fee of $5.00. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and include the description of the premises where game fish are to be propagated, reared, possessed, or offered for sale, together with additional information as may be required. Upon receipt of the application and fee, the department, if satisfied that this part and the rules promulgated under this part have been complied with, shall issue a license to the applicant.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45904 Game fish; sale; posting of license.

Sec. 45904. A person shall not propagate, rear, or possess, for the purpose of offering for sale or selling, any game fish, except at the location described in his or her license. The license shall be conspicuously posted at the person's place of business at all times.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.45905 Rules; enforcement.

Sec. 45905. The department may promulgate and enforce rules as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this part and to protect the public interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45906 Importation of game fish or viable eggs; prohibition or restriction; rules.

Sec. 45906. (1) A person shall not import into this state any live game fish, including viable eggs of any game fish, except as authorized by a license as provided for in this part issued by the department pursuant to part 13. A license under this subsection does not apply to a genetically engineered variant of a live game fish species unless the genetically engineered variant is specifically identified in the license.

(2) The department may promulgate rules under this part to prohibit or restrict the importation of any species of game fish or other fish if the importation of that species would endanger the public fishery resources of this state. A prohibition or restriction in rules promulgated under this subsection applies to a genetically engineered variant of a fish species identified in the prohibition or restriction unless the prohibition or restriction specifically provides otherwise. A prohibition or restriction in rules promulgated under this subsection may be limited to a genetically engineered fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45907 License fees; crediting game and fish protection account.

Sec. 45907. All money received from the sale of licenses provided for in this part shall be paid over to the state treasurer and shall be credited by the state treasurer to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.45908 Violation of part or rules as misdemeanor; penalty; suspension or revocation of license.

Sec. 45908. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person who violates this part or the rules promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both. In addition to the penalty, any license issued under this part may be revoked.

(2) A person who knowingly violates section 45906 or a rule promulgated under section 45906 with respect to a genetically engineered fish or with respect to any fish species that is not naturalized in this state is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both. In addition, any license issued to the person under this part may be revoked, and the person is liable for damages to natural resources resulting from the violation, including, but not limited to, costs incurred to prevent or minimize such damages.

(3) Any license issued under this part may be suspended or revoked by the department after a hearing, upon reasonable notice, when any of the operations under it fail to comply with the requirements of this part or the rules promulgated under this part. Whenever any license is suspended or revoked, the fish held under the license shall be disposed of only in a manner approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 461
REGULATING FISHING IN NORTHPORT HARBOR

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324.46101 Northport harbor; fishing for perch or smelt prohibited.

Sec. 46101. (1) A person shall not take any of the species of fish known as perch with gill nets, pound nets, trap nets, seines, setlines, or set hooks, or any other device except a hook and line, and no nets of any description for the taking of perch shall be set within 200 feet of any dock in the waters of Northport harbor (known as Northport bay), and within a line beginning at the extreme southern end of lot 3, section 36, town 32 north, range 11 west of Northpoint point at the water's edge; thence on a line southerly across Northport bay to Bellows (Gull) island; thence southerly on a line from Bellows (Gull) island to most northerly point of lot 3, section 25, town 31 north, range 11 west; thence due west to the east shore of lot 1, section 25, town 31 north, range 11 west; thence northerly following the bay shore to the place of beginning. A person shall not set any trap or pound net in that part of Northport harbor north of a line beginning at the extreme southern end of lot 3, section 36, town 32 north, range 11 west of Northport point at the water's edge and extending west to the town line between 31 north and 32 north in the village of Northport.

(2) A person shall not use a bait net in shallow waters along the shores of Northport harbor during the smelt spawning season to obtain smelt for other than a commercial purpose.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46102 Violation of part as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 46102. A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $100.00, or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 463
FISHING LAWS IN ST. JOSEPH RIVER

324.46301 St. Joseph river; applicability of general laws.

Sec. 46301. All general laws relative to fishing on inland lakes are applicable to the waters in that part of the St. Joseph river formerly known as Municipal pond, and now known as Union Lake, Union City, Branch county, Michigan, extending from a point known as Arbogast bridge westward to and including the Riley dam.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 465
FISHING SHANTIES

324.46501 Definitions.

Sec. 46501. As used in this part:

(a) "Fishing shanty" means a fishing house or any other structure or shelter placed on the ice on the waters over which this state has jurisdiction.

(b) "Local unit of government" means a county, city, township, village, or other governmental unit. Local unit of government does not include the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46502 Fishing shanty; affixing identification of owner.

Sec. 46502. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3), a person shall not set, place, erect, cause to be set, placed, or erected, or use a fishing shanty at any time upon the ice in waters over which this state has jurisdiction, unless information identifying the owner as prescribed in this subsection is affixed to each side of the outside of the fishing shanty in legible alphanumeric characters not less than 2 inches in height. The alphanumeric characters must be readily visible and consist of materials that are not soluble in water. The information identifying the owner under this subsection must be 1 of the following:

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(a) The owner's name and address.

(b) The owner's driver license number.

(c) The number of the owner's sportcard issued under section 43522.

(2) Placing the information identifying the owner on a piece of wood, plastic, or other material and affixing that piece of material to the fishing shanty does not satisfy the requirements of this section.

(3) The identification requirement in subsection (1) does not apply to a tent or other temporary shelter if the tent or shelter is removed from the ice at the conclusion of each day's fishing activity.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46503 Repealed. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to removal of fishing shanties erected upon waters within Upper Peninsula.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46504 Repealed. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to removal of fishing shanties erected upon waters within certain counties.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46505 Repealed. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to removal of fishing shanties erected upon waters within certain counties.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46506 Repealed. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to placement of fishing shanties if removed at conclusion of each day's fishing activity.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46507 Fishing shanty; removal; conditions; violation; date for removal.

Sec. 46507. (1) A person who sets, places, erects, or causes to be set, placed, or erected any fishing shanty upon the ice of any water within the jurisdiction of this state shall remove the fishing shanty before ice conditions are unsafe for its removal or before the date set by the department under subsection (2) and on a daily basis following that date. Failure to remove a fishing shanty within the time specified in this section is a violation of this part, and the department or the local unit of government may then authorize the removal and storage or destruction of the fishing shanty.

(2) The department shall set the date by which a fishing shanty must be removed under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46508 Ordinance, rule, or regulation of local unit of government; effect.

Sec. 46508. A local unit of government shall not pass an ordinance, rule, or regulation regulating the placement, use, marking, or removal of a fishing shanty on the ice of any waters over which this state has jurisdiction. An ordinance, rule, or regulation described in this section that is in effect on April 1, 1994 is void. However, if a person fails to remove a fishing shanty within the time specified by the department under section 46507, a local unit of government may remove the fishing shanty from the ice or water and store or destroy the fishing shanty.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 25, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46509 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty; reimbursement to governmental entity; violation of 46502 civil infraction.

Sec. 46509. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who violates this part is guilty of a

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misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and costs of prosecution.

(2) Upon conviction for the violation of this part, the court shall order the defendant to reimburse the governmental entity that removes or provides for the removal of the fishing shanty from the water or ice an amount equal to 3 times the cost of removal.

(3) An individual who violates section 46502 is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 23, Eff. June 8, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 467
MODIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL FISHING LAWS

324.46701 Commercial fishing laws; suspension by department.

Sec. 46701. Notwithstanding any other act or part to the contrary, any statute or law of this state governing commercial fishing may be suspended, abridged, extended, or modified by the department when, in the opinion of the department, that action is necessary for the better protection, preservation, maintenance, and harvesting of the fish. The existing statutes and laws regulating commercial fishing shall remain in full force and effect unless suspended, abridged, extended, or modified by order of the department in the manner provided in this part or by subsequent acts of the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46702 Effective date of order; copy to licensees.

Sec. 46702. The effective date of any order issued by the department under this part shall be not less than 30 days from and after the date of its issuance. Within 10 days after the date of its issuance, a copy of the order shall be sent by first-class mail to all persons of record licensed under part 473.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46703 Violation of order; penalty; revocation of license.

Sec. 46703. A person who violates any order issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor. Each violation is a separate and distinct offense and, in addition to the penalties provided in this part, any license issued under authority of part 473 to any person convicted in any 1 license year of 3 violations of any order or orders promulgated under authority of this part, or of any act or part regulating commercial fishing, shall be automatically revoked and canceled for the remainder of the license year for which issued. The revocation shall prohibit for the balance of the license year the use of any boats, nets, or other gear covered by the license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46704 Construction of part.

Sec. 46704. Nothing in this part confers upon the department the power to alter any provisions of the statutes relating to forfeitures, penalties, or license fees.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 469
TAKING RAINBOW TROUT IN SOO RAPIDS AND ST. MARYS RIVER

324.46901 Soo Rapids and certain connecting waters of St. Marys river; closed seasons on rainbow trout; excepted waters.

Sec. 46901. A person shall not take or attempt to take rainbow trout in the waters of the Soo Rapids, and

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the United States power canal and tailrace, the north and south canals, the locks and the approaches thereto, between the international railway bridge and a line drawn from the ferry dock immediately below the St. Marys falls in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to the ferry dock in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, all being a part of the St. Marys river, Chippewa county, except from June 1 to November 30. This section does not apply to the Michigan northern power canal, which is a part of the connecting waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron for the purpose of regulating fishing in that area.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.46902 Violation of part as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 46902. A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $10.00 or more than $100.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 471
FISHERIES MAINTENANCE

324.47101 Department; fish-breeding duties; property tax exempt; superintendent of fisheries; duties.

Sec. 47101. The department shall select suitable locations within this state at which to establish and maintain fish-breeding establishments for the propagation and cultivation of whitefish, and such other kinds of food fish as the department may direct, for the purpose of stocking such fish and replenishing the supply of the fish in the inland and bordering waters of this state. All property owned or leased by the department shall be exempt from taxation so long as held and used for state purposes under this part. The department shall employ a competent person as superintendent of fisheries, whose duty it shall be to devote his or her entire time to gathering ova, hatching and planting, or distributing fish, and superintending generally the practical operations of the work.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47102 Accounts; records.

Sec. 47102. The department shall keep proper books of accounts and records of its transactions, and also of all operations and experiments in the discharge of the duties under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47103 Duties of department.

Sec. 47103. The department may take or cause to be taken any fish in any manner or at any time, for the purposes connected with the fish culture or with scientific observation. The department shall further discharge any duties required of it by law relating to the fishing interests or to enforce laws relating to the protection of fish and fisheries in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47104 Appropriation; carrying forward unexpended balance.

Sec. 47104. The unexpended balance of any appropriation to implement this part at the end of the year for which the appropriation is made shall be carried forward to the credit of the department, if the department certifies to the state treasurer that the money is needed for the purchase of additional grounds, for making permanent improvements upon any of its property, or for equipment or labor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 356, Imd. Eff. May 23, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.47105 Joint action with other states.

Sec. 47105. In case appropriations by other states contiguous to the waters of this state are made, and a disposition for joint action with this state is expressed, the department, with the approval of the governor, may arrange for and carry into effect joint action for replenishing the supply of food fish in the contiguous waters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 473
COMMERCIAL FISHING

324.47301 Fish in Great Lakes; property of state.

Sec. 47301. All fish of whatever kind found in the waters of Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie, commonly known as the Great Lakes, the bays of the Great Lakes, and the connecting waters between those lakes within the jurisdiction of this state are the property of the state, and taking the fish from those waters is a privilege. All fish in waters described in this section shall be taken, transported, sold, and possessed only in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47301a Obstruction or interference in lawful taking of fish; prohibited conduct; injunction; violation as misdemeanor; penalty; applicability of section to peace officer; definitions.

Sec. 47301a. (1) A person shall not obstruct or interfere in the lawful taking of fish by a person licensed under this part.

(2) A person violates this section when the person intentionally or knowingly does any of the following:

(a) Operates a vessel or a device designed to be used on the water which does not meet the definition of vessel in a manner likely to significantly alter the behavior of aquatic species in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(b) Wades or swims in a manner or at a location likely to cause a significant alteration in the behavior of aquatic species in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(c) Tosses, drops, or throws any stone, rock, or other inert material in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(d) Drives, herds, or disturbs any aquatic species in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(e) Blocks, impedes, or harasses another person who is engaged in the process of lawfully taking fish.

(f) Uses a natural or artificial visual, aural, olfactory, gustatory, or physical stimulus to affect animal behavior in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of fish.

(g) Erects barriers to deny ingress or egress to waters where the lawful taking of fish may occur. This subdivision does not apply to a person who erects barriers to prevent trespassing on his or her property.

(h) Interjects himself or herself into the area where nets or fishing lines are cast by a person lawfully taking fish.

(i) Affects the condition or placement of personal or public property intended for use in the lawful taking of fish in order to impair the usefulness of the property or prevent the use of the property.

(j) Enters or remains upon private lands without the permission of the owner or the owner's agent, for the purpose of violating this section.

(k) Engages in any other act or behavior for the purpose of violating this section.

(3) Upon petition of an aggrieved person or a person who reasonably may be aggrieved by a violation of this section, a court of competent jurisdiction, upon a showing that a person was engaged in and threatens to continue to engage in illegal conduct under this section, may enjoin that conduct.

(4) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days, or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. A person who violates this section a second or subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $10,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. In addition to the penalties provided in this subsection, any

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permit or license issued by the department authorizing the person to take aquatic species shall be revoked. A prosecution under this section does not preclude prosecution or other action under any other criminal or civil statute.

(5) This section does not apply to a peace officer while the peace officer performs his or her lawful duties.

(6) As used in this section:

(a) "Aquatic species" means fish, reptiles, mollusks, crustacea, minnows, wigglers, and amphibians of the class amphibia.

(b) "Take" and "taking" mean to fish for by any lawful method, catch, kill, capture, trap, or shoot any species of fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, wigglers, or crustacea regulated by this part, or to attempt to engage in any such activity.

(c) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

History: Add. 1996, Act 317, Eff. July 1, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47302 Fishing license; limited number to be issued; qualifications; provisions; expiration date; suspension or revocation; renewal; transfer.

Sec. 47302. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this or any other part or act, the department, when in the department's opinion it is necessary for the better protection, preservation, management, harvesting, and utilization of the fisheries in the waters described in section 47301 may limit the number of fishing licenses to be issued under this part and fix and determine the qualifications of persons to whom licenses are issued. In determining the number of licenses that the department issues during any license year, the department shall consider the number of persons holding licenses, the number of licensees needed to harvest the fish known or believed to be harvestable, the capacity of the boats and equipment owned and used by licensees to harvest those fish, and any other facts that may bear upon the allowing of a limited number of licensed persons to engage in commercial fishing in an economical and profitable manner. In determining the qualifications of the licensees, the department shall consider the kind, nature, and condition of the boats and fishing equipment and gear to be used by the applicant, the years of experience the applicant has had in commercial fishing, and the quantity and kinds of fish that the applicant has caught during the previous 5 years, and other facts that may assist the department in determining that the applicant is capable of engaging in commercial fishing in a proper and profitable manner and will comply with the laws applicable to commercial fishing.

(2) In addition to the requirements of this part and rules promulgated under this part, the license issued by the department may contain provisions that do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Establish the amount of fish to be taken by species and kind.

(b) Designate the areas in which the licensee is permitted to fish.

(c) Specify the season when and the depths where the licensee may conduct commercial fishing operations.

(d) Specify the methods and gear that the licensee shall use.

(e) Specify other conditions, terms, and restrictions that are considered necessary in implementing this part, including, but not limited to, the right to inspect the licensee's fishing operations in the waters, on board, or ashore.

(3) All licenses issued by the department pursuant to this part expire on December 31 of the year in which issued.

(4) The department may suspend or revoke any license issued under this part if the licensee fails to fulfill or violates any of the conditions, terms, or restrictions of the license. The department shall afford the licensee a hearing in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Any person whose license has been suspended or revoked is not eligible to apply for or receive a license for the ensuing 2 calendar years following the suspension or revocation.

(5) Any licensee licensed on November 15, 1968 has the right to have his or her license renewed from year to year by the department if the licensee continues to meet the qualifications set forth in this section and the qualifications specified in any rules promulgated under this section regardless of the determination of the number of licenses to be issued under this part. Licenses described in this section are not transferable without the permission of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.47303 Fish and game protection account; receipts; use.

Sec. 47303. The department shall provide financial remuneration to the state for fish taken for commercial purposes by collection from the licensee of not more than 5% of the price received by the licensee. Money received shall be credited to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010 to be used in the development and management of the fisheries resource.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47305 Rules.

Sec. 47305. For the purpose of carrying out this section and sections 47302 and 47303, the department may promulgate rules as may be necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47306 Commercial fishing law; setting of nets or hook lines prohibited; connecting waters.

Sec. 47306. A person shall not place or set any kind of a net or set hook lines or take or attempt to take any kind of fish with a net or set hook lines, except minnow seines as provided in section 47309, in any of the connecting waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron and the connecting waters between Lake Huron and Lake Erie. For the purposes of this part, the connecting waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron are all of that part of the straits of St. Mary in this state, extending from a line drawn from Birch point range front light to the most westerly point of Round island, thence following the shore of Round island to the most northerly point thereof, thence from the most northerly point of said Round island to Point Aux Pins light, Ontario, to a line drawn east and west from the most southerly point of Little Lime island; and the connecting waters of Lake Huron and Lake Erie are all of the St. Clair river and all of lake St. Clair and all of the Detroit river extending from fort Gratiot light in Lake Huron to a point in the lower Detroit river where the center line of Oak street, city of Wyandotte, Wayne county, Michigan, extended due east, would intersect the international boundary line. The boundary line between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron is a line extending due north from old Mackinac point lighthouse across the straits of Mackinac.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47307 Setting of nets or hook lines prohibited; channel at mouth of stream or outlet of inland lake; fishing from docks; spearing through ice.

Sec. 47307. A person shall not set any net, set hook lines, or other device for the purpose of taking or catching fish within 160 rods on either side of the thread of the stream at the mouth of any river or outlet of an inland lake emptying into Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, or Erie, commonly known as the Great Lakes, or the bays of the Great Lakes, navigable for vessels drawing 10 feet or more, leaving an open channel of 1 mile in width for the free passage of fish, extending at right angles from the shoreline as near as may be, 2 miles from shore. However, within the next 1/2 mile on either side of any such rivers or outlets of inland lakes, nets, set hook lines, or other devices shall not be used for the purpose of taking fish that will extend a greater distance than 1 mile from shore. The purpose of the limitations in this section is to leave an open channel of 1 mile in width 1 mile out, and 2 miles in width for the second mile out, for the free passage of fish. No net or other device for taking fish shall be set or used within 40 rods on either side of the thread of the stream at the mouth of any other river or the outlet of any other inland lake leaving an open channel of 80 rods in width for the free passage of fish, extending at right angles with the shoreline as near as may be 2 miles out from shore. For the purpose of this section, the shore commences at the average low-water mark. If the location of the open channel or the average low-water mark is in dispute, this location shall be determined by the department. Except as provided in sections 47311 and 47313, a person may at all times catch any kind of fish in all of the waters named in this part, and from the docks, harbors of refuge, or breakwaters, with a hook and line except

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largemouth black bass, smallmouth black bass, bluegills, sunfish, brook or speckled trout, rainbow and steelhead trout, brown and Loch Leven trout, northern pike, pike-perch, perch, or muskellunge, which shall only be taken or possessed in the manner and at the time specified by the laws of this state protecting those fish. A person may also spear carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, herring, smelt, perch, pike-perch, northern pike, muskellunge, sturgeon, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee white fish, catfish, dogfish, and garpike through the ice in the connecting waters as defined in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47308 Set hook lines, spears, and gill nets; use permitted; marketing prohibited; unused bait.

Sec. 47308. Except as otherwise provided by law, a person may use in the waters of Lakes Michigan, Superior, Huron, and Erie, and the bays of those lakes, within the jurisdiction of this state, set hook lines or spears for the purpose of taking fish; and for the purpose of securing bait for use in baiting said hook lines, a person may use gill nets as provided in section 47309. However, a person shall not market or possess for the purpose of marketing any fish taken in bait nets. All unused bait, fresh or old, shall be taken ashore.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47309 Nets; use; meshes.

Sec. 47309. A person shall not possess on any boat licensed under this part or use in the waters of Lakes Michigan, Superior, Huron, and Erie, and the bays of those lakes, within the jurisdiction of this state, any pound or trap net, gill net, seine, or any fixed, set, or movable net of any kind or description, the meshes of which are different than the following:

(a) Gill nets with meshes of not less than 4-1/2 inches shall be used for the taking of whitefish, lake trout, and yellow pickerel. In Lake Erie, the nets shall have meshes not less than 4-3/4 inches. The nets shall be set not nearer than 20 rods from the shore of the mainland fronting Lake Superior and its bays. The nets shall be set not nearer than 20 rods from the shore of the mainland fronting Lake Michigan southerly from Seven Mile Point, Emmet County, during the months of March, April, and May. There shall be no nets, except gill nets, of any kind with mesh larger than 2-3/4 inches set in the waters of Lake Superior within a radius of 50 miles of the village of Houghton, Michigan, during the period between October 10 and November 4, except by permit from the department for the taking of spawn from trout for the fish hatcheries.

(b) Gill nets with meshes of not less than 2-1/2 inches or more than 2-3/4 inches may be set in water of any depth, and gill nets with meshes of not less than 2-1/2 inches or more than 3 inches may be set in waters not exceeding 100 feet in depth, for the purpose of taking herring, chubs, perch, and pilot fish, commonly called menominees, wherever and whenever they will not take to exceed 10% by weight of other fish, such percentage to be determined by the department, by inspection of the fish taken in the nets. All uninjured fish, except herring, chubs, perch, and pilot fish, shall be returned to the waters from which they were taken with as little injury as possible, by the persons lifting the nets; all sound, undersized, and dead fish found in the nets are the property of the state, and shall not be sold or disposed of, but shall be dressed and brought in and delivered immediately to the department at the fishing port of the person taking the fish. The sound, undersized, and dead fish shall be then disposed of by the department. If more than 10% of fish other than herring, chubs, perch, and pilot fish are taken, then all of the other fish shall be disposed of by the department. An angler may have in his or her possession, not to exceed in quantity the percentage allowed of lake trout, whitefish, yellow pickerel, perch, or suckers, of a weight or length less than established by this part, which are caught in 2-1/2 inch to 2-3/4 inch or 2-1/2 inch to 3 inch mesh gill nets, as provided for in this subsection, but the same may be shipped and disposed of only under the direction of the department. All undersized fish taken over under this section shall be disposed of by the department to state, county, or charitable institutions. Parties handling the fish shall be paid not more than 3 cents per pound for boxing, packing, and icing the fish. The department shall remove or cause to be removed any of the nets if, from the inspection provided in this section, the department determines that the nets are taking more fish of species other than herring, chubs, perch, and pilot fish than allowed by this section.

(c) Gill nets with meshes of not less than 2-1/4 inches or more than 2-3/4 inches may be used to take blue back herring in the waters of Lake Superior and Whitefish Bay, and those waters of the Straits of Mackinac bounded on the Lake Huron end by a line drawn from the southernmost tip of St. Martin Point, Mackinac County, to the westernmost tip of Lime Kiln Point on Bois Blanc Island, thence in a southerly direction to the

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northernmost tip of Point Au Sable in T 38 N, R 2 W, Cheboygan County, and bounded on the Lake Michigan end by a line drawn from the southernmost tip of Seul Choix Point in Schoolcraft County in an easterly direction to the Lansing Shoal Lighthouse, thence to the White Shoal Lighthouse, thence in a southeasterly direction to the westernmost tip of Waugoshance Point in Emmet County, and Green Bay of Lake Michigan, as defined in section 47311, wherever they will not interfere with or take whitefish or lake trout or any other fish protected under the laws of this state.

(d) The department may issue permits to allow the use of gill nets having meshes not less than 1-1/2 inches or more than 1-3/4 inches for taking smelt and alewife for commercial purposes under rules and regulations as the department prescribes.

(e) Gill nets with meshes of not less than 1-1/4 inches or more than 1-3/4 inches may be used to secure bait for use in baiting hook lines, if the nets will not take undersized fish.

(f) Pound nets having meshes not less than 4-1/2 inches in the lifting pot, crib, or pocket and in the heart and tunnel, and having meshes not less than 5 inches in the lead, shall be used for taking whitefish and lake trout. In the pound nets, meshes not more than 3-1/2 inches may be used in 1 side of the pot or in the back, being that part of the pot opposite the tunnel entrance. In fishing with the pound nets, or any other pound nets permitted by this part, the crib or pot and hearts and lead shall extend to or above the surface of the water; the crib or pot and hearts shall be entirely open at the top, the sides or walls of the pot or crib and of the hearts shall be held vertically as near as possible and shall have 5 or more stakes driven into the earth at the bottom of the lake to hold the net in place. A pound net permitted under this part or any part of the webbing of the net shall not be set in water of a depth greater than 80 feet. Pound nets fished through the ice may be held in place by fastening them to the ice without the use of stakes.

(g) Pound nets having meshes not exceeding 3-1/2 inches in the lifting pot or crib and in the tunnel inside the pot or crib, and having meshes not less than 3-1/2 inches in that part of the tunnel outside of the pot or crib and in the heart and lead, may be used for taking all legal fish except whitefish and lake trout. Saginaw Bay shall be considered rough fish grounds, and other similar bays may be designated by the department as rough fish grounds if the catch of whitefish and lake trout taken in pound nets and trap nets during the last 2 preceding years averaged less than 12% of the total catch, on which grounds all legal fish caught in pound nets and trap nets having meshes not exceeding 3-1/2 inches in the lifting pot or crib may be taken and all lake trout and whitefish taken in such nets set in all other waters shall be returned uninjured to the waters. The department may issue permits to allow the use of pound nets having meshes less than 3-1/2 inches in that part of the tunnel outside of the pot or crib and in the heart and lead for the taking of smelt and alewife for commercial purposes, under rules and regulations as the department may prescribe, which may include the waters in which the nets may be fished and the period of time during which they may be used.

(h) Trap nets having meshes not less than 4-1/2 inches in the lifting pot, crib, or pocket and in the heart and tunnel and having meshes not less than 5 inches in the lead shall be used for taking whitefish and lake trout. In such trap nets, meshes not more than 3-1/2 inches may be used in the tunnel inside the pot, in either the front, back, or 1 side of the pot for a distance not exceeding 5 feet from the bottom of the net and in that portion of the bottom of the net connected thereto for a distance not exceeding 5 feet, and in the connecting ends for a depth and width not exceeding 5 feet, for the purpose of shoaling fish. These trap nets shall not be used in any of the waters under the jurisdiction of this state except in Lakes Huron and Erie and then only in such a manner that no trap net or any part of the webbing of the net is set in water of a depth greater than 150 feet. Trap nets having meshes as described in this subsection and with no part of the lifting pot or crib over 15 feet in depth may be used to take whitefish and lake trout in Lakes Superior and Michigan in water of a depth not greater than 150 feet.

(i) Trap nets having meshes not exceeding 3-1/2 inches in the lifting pot or crib and in the tunnel inside the pot or crib and having meshes not less than 3-1/2 inches in that part of the tunnel outside of the pot or crib and in the heart and lead may be used for taking all legal fish except whitefish and lake trout. The depth of no part of the lifting pot or crib shall be greater than 15 feet. No such trap nets and no part of the webbing of the net shall be set in water of a depth greater than 50 feet in Lakes Michigan and Superior, or in water of a depth greater than 150 feet in Lakes Huron and Erie. The department may issue permits to allow the use of trap nets having meshes less than 3-1/2 inches in that part of the tunnel outside the pot or crib and in the heart and lead for the taking of smelt and alewife for commercial purposes, under rules and regulations as the department may prescribe, which may include the waters in which such nets may be fished and the period of time during which they may be used. Trap nets having a lifting pot or crib not exceeding 4 feet in depth may have webbing less than 3-1/2 inches in the 2 sides of inner heart.

(j) Any pound net or trap net with meshes in the lifting pot or crib between 3-1/2 and 4-1/2 inches, or any lifting pot or crib of such nets with meshes between 3-1/2 and 4-1/2 inches, is illegal and shall be seized and confiscated when found in use. Hoop nets, fyke nets, drop nets, and gobbler nets are considered under this

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part to be trap nets.

(k) Seines having wings with meshes of not less than 4 inches, and the pocket or bag, the bag of which shall be not more than 1/4 the length of the seine, having meshes of not less than 2-1/4 inches, may be used to take carp, yellow pickerel, perch, herring, and other rough fish if they do not interfere with or take whitefish or lake trout. All seines in use or set along the shores of the waters listed in section 47301, when unattended, shall have a metal tag securely attached to the seine bearing the commercial fishing license number of the owner or user of the seine. Minnow seines not to exceed 80 feet in length and 8 feet in width may be used in the Great Lakes and connecting waters.

(*l*) The measurement of the mesh of all nets and seines as prescribed in this section shall be by extension measure. The size of the mesh of all nets or netting used in fishing as provided by this part shall be determined by extension measure, and the measurement shall be made of meshes irrespective of where the net or netting is found, whether in the water, on boat, on reel, on dock, or in any other place on land. Extension measure means the distance between the extreme angles of any single mesh, and the measurements shall be taken between and inside the knots. All measurements of the mesh in gill nets or gill netting shall be made with a flexible steel gauge constructed and used as prescribed in this section. All measurements of the mesh of gill nets or gill netting shall be made by inserting in the mesh parallel with the selvage a gauge made of spring steel free from rust, of a length equal to the number of inches prescribed in this section for the mesh measured. The ends of the gauge shall be free of sharp edges or burrs. The gauge shall not be graduated, and any necessary markings shall be placed near the ends of the gauge. The length of the gauge measured parallel with the long edge shall not at any point exceed or be less than the prescribed length by more than 2/1000 of an inch. Its width at any point shall not exceed 9/16 of an inch or be less than 7/16 of an inch. Its thickness shall be such that when it is set vertically on a solid anvil with its upper end loaded with a dead weight between 7-1/2 and 8-1/2 ounces, the gauge shall deflect at its middle 1/10 of its length. The meshes to be gauged shall be at least 3 meshes removed from the selvage or side lines and shall not be stretched or manipulated in any way prior to or after the insertion of the gauge, and the same mesh shall not be gauged more than once. In gauging a mesh, the flexible gauge shall be held only by the ends and bent between thumb and forefinger, the bent rule shall then be inserted in the mesh parallel with the selvage and with the collapsed mesh, and finger pressure shall be released immediately, not gradually. If the gauge does not straighten out completely under its own tension within 2 seconds after its release in the mesh without slipping a knot or breaking the twine, the mesh is unlawful, and if the majority of 10 or more meshes selected at random by the enforcement officer from any part or parts of the gill net or from the entire gill net or from any gill netting being gauged are found to be unlawful, the gill net or gill netting if found in use or in or upon any licensed commercial fishing boat shall be seized and confiscated. If found in possession but not in use, any such gill net or gill netting shall be sealed by the enforcement officer with a suitable seal provided by the department and, when once sealed and for so long as the seal remains intact on the net or netting, may be possessed by the owner until disposed of or destroyed by the owner as provided in this section. The gill net or gill netting shall not be disposed of or destroyed except under direction of a conservation officer and, until that time, shall be available for inspection by the department or any conservation officer. Any person who, without authority from the department, breaks or destroys a seal attached to a gill net or gill netting, or any person who refuses or neglects to produce for inspection any sealed gill net or gill netting, or who disposes of or destroys a sealed gill net or gill netting except under the direction of a conservation officer, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction is subject to the penalty provided for in section 47327. A person shall not use any gill net of a greater measurement than 11 feet in depth in any of the waters of the Great Lakes and the bays of the Great Lakes. In Lake Erie, a gill net shall not be over 36 meshes deep.

(m) Gill nets having meshes not less than 8 inches may be used for taking carp in Wildfowl Bay in Huron County.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 34, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47310 Taking, catching, or attempting to take or catch fish with gill net, pound net, or trap net in certain waters; transfer of fishing licenses; license or permit for chubs; applicability of section.

Sec. 47310. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3), within the jurisdiction of this state the holder of a license or permit issued under this part shall not take, catch, or attempt to take or catch any fish with a gill net, pound net, or trap net in Lake Erie and the connecting waters of Lake Erie and Lake Huron, or in the portions of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron located south of a line extending due east and west of the

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forty-fifth parallel of latitude, or in the rivers and streams which connect with any of the bodies of water described in this subsection from April 15 to September 15.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a license or permit holder who prior to September 15, 1984 holds a license or permit issued under this part to take, catch, or attempt to take or catch any fish with a gill net, pound net, or trap net in those waters described in subsection (1). Fishing licenses described in this subsection are not transferable without the permission of the department.

(3) The department may issue a license or permit that authorizes the holder of the license or permit to take, catch, or attempt to take or catch coregonus, commonly known as chubs, with a gill net, pound net, or trap net as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), in those waters described in subsection (1) that exceed 240 feet in depth.

(b) In those waters of Lake Michigan located south of a line extending due west of the south pier of Grand Haven harbor that exceed 180 feet in depth.

(4) This section does not apply after December 31, 1986.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47311 Closed seasons; setting of nets or hooks; disposition of fish taken during closed season; revocation of license; chilling fish.

Sec. 47311. (1) A person shall not take from any of the waters listed in section 47301 any of the following:

(a) Lake trout, in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan from October 1 to December 10; in Lake Superior from October 5 to November 4.

(b) Whitefish, in Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, and Lake Superior from November 1 to November 30.

(c) Pike-perch (yellow pickerel), northern pike, from April 1 to May 20. In Saginaw Bay, as defined in section 47339, a person shall not take pike-perch from March 5 to April 10. A person may spear pike-perch through the ice during the closed season in Lake Huron and the connecting waters of the Great Lakes for noncommercial use only.

(d) Perch, from April 15 to May 20. In the waters of Lake Michigan only, a person may take perch from April 25 to June 1. In Saginaw Bay, perch of legal size may be taken at any time. A person may take perch with hook and line at any time.

(e) White bass, in Lake Michigan at any time of the year. A person may take white bass with hook and line at any time.

(f) Suckers, from April 15 to May 20. In Saginaw Bay, suckers may be taken at any time. A person may take suckers with hook and line at any time.

(g) Black crappie, also known as calico bass, in Lake Huron from June 1 to August 25. In Lake Erie, Lake Michigan, and Lake Superior, black crappie may not be taken at any time.

(2) In the waters of Green Bay of Lake Michigan within the jurisdiction of this state, which for the purpose of this part are those waters lying inside a line drawn from the most southerly part of Point Detour to the most easterly points of Sumner and Poverty Islands, thence due south to the Michigan-Wisconsin boundary line, thence along the boundary line to the shore, a person shall not from April 15 to May 20 set, place, or use any gill net having meshes less than 4-1/2 inches. The department may issue permits under such rules and regulations as prescribed by the department to allow the use of gill nets having meshes not less than 2-1/4 inches or more than 2-3/4 inches for taking herring from the waters of Green Bay from April 15 to May 20, if the nets will not interfere with or take any other species of fish. The closed seasons established by this section do not apply to Lake Erie and the lower Detroit River, where nets shall not be set and fish of any kind shall not be taken with nets from January 1 to March 10. A person may take carp with seines at any time from these waters.

(3) In every case, the season shall open and close at 12 noon on the dates named in this section.

(4) All live fish on which the season is closed shall be liberated and returned to the water with as little injury as possible, and any sound, dead fish, on which the season is closed, shall be dressed, brought ashore, and delivered immediately to the department at the department's fishing port, which fish shall be disposed of in the same manner as provided for the disposition of undersized fish in section 47309.

(5) A person shall not set nets or hooks for the taking of lake trout or whitefish before the first day of the open season for taking the fish, and the license of any person shall be immediately revoked upon conviction of unlawfully setting nets before the first day of the open season as provided in this part, and revocation shall prohibit the use of boat and gear by that person during the balance of the year for which a license was issued. A person engaged in the taking of fish for commercial purposes from May 15 to September 15 under this part

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shall carry sufficient ice and properly chill the fish at the time and place of their removal from the waters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 34, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47312 Taking fish for fish culture; commercial fishing; closing.

Sec. 47312. The department may authorize the taking of trout, whitefish, and yellow pickerel for the purpose of fish culture at any time during the open or closed seasons provided in this part, when it is determined by test nets set under the direction of the department that at least 20% of the fish taken are females and at least 40% of these females are ripe and ready to spawn. However, when all spawn needed for state and federal hatcheries has been secured, the department may close all commercial fishing during the remainder of the closed season. The department may close all commercial fishing during the closed season on those grounds that are so located as to prevent proper handling of spawn or where it appears that little or no spawn is being taken.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47313 Spawn; handling; violation of part; unlawful taking of trout.

Sec. 47313. All persons engaged in fishing for whitefish, trout, yellow pickerel, or perch in the waters named in this part shall from the beginning of the spawning season for these fish, such time to be determined by test under the direction of the department, until the beginning of the closed season provided by section 47311 and before and after the closed season, strip all ripe fish, both male and female, save all of the spawn, properly impregnate it, and deliver it to the department at its fishing port, and all such persons shall have a sufficient number of people on each boat and all the equipment needed properly to save, handle, impregnate, and deliver such spawn. The saving, handling, impregnating, and delivering of spawn shall be done under the direction of the department and in accordance with such regulations and under such supervision as prescribed by the department. However, the department shall not discriminate against any person engaged in fishing during the closed or open season, having on each boat a sufficient number of people and all the equipment needed properly to save, handle, impregnate, and deliver such spawn at any port or fishing ground when it has been determined that fish are ripe for spawning. This determination shall be made by setting test nets on each fishing ground where spawn will be taken. A person engaged in commercial fishing that fails to properly save, handle, impregnate, and deliver such spawn during any period when spawn are ripe is guilty of a violation of this part. A person shall not take from the waters of the Great Lakes any lake or Mackinaw trout during the closed season established by this part for those fish, except by the use of gill nets, trap nets, and pound nets after tests have been made and the percentage of ripe fish secured as provided for in section 47312.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47314 Spawn; propagation; planting of fry; violation of part.

Sec. 47314. The department shall deliver to designated representatives of the United States bureau of fisheries and to the state fish hatcheries as much of this spawn as may be desired by the bureau and state hatcheries for propagation and planting in the waters of the lakes within the jurisdiction of this state, and the remainder of the spawn shall be properly impregnated and planted upon the spawning beds from which it was taken. The persons so fishing shall plant upon the spawning beds the fry hatched from such proportion of the spawn as may have been taken from the fish caught by the persons when directed to do so by the department. A person refusing or failing to comply with this section is guilty of a violation of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47315 Taking fish for fish culture; powers of department or department's designee; sale; disposition of proceeds.

Sec. 47315. The department, or a designee of the department acting in compliance with a permit issued by the department, may take fish in any manner, in any of the waters mentioned in this part, at any and all seasons of the year, for the purpose of fish culture or scientific investigation; may have and hold ripe and

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unripe fish in order to take spawn from the fish; may sell all of those ripe and unripe fish; and may devote the proceeds of the sales exclusively toward defraying the expenses incurred in taking the fish and fertilizing and planting the spawn from the fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 34, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47316 Shipments; marketing; seizure as illegal.

Sec. 47316. A person shall not ship or transport within this state any fish in packages or containers without plainly and correctly marking each package or container with the name of the consignor and the kinds of fish contained in the package. A railroad company, boat line, express company, motor truck company, aerial freight or express company, or other transportation company or common carrier, or any agent of any such company, or the owner of any boat, airplane, car, truck or other vehicle operated privately or as a common carrier, or the agent or representative of such owners, shall not accept for shipment or transport any package or container of fish unless it is properly marked as prescribed in this section. The presence in any package or container of 10% by weight of any fish that is illegal to ship shall make the entire contents of the package or container subject to seizure as an illegal shipment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47317 Possession of shipment of illegal fish; construction.

Sec. 47317. The possession of any package or shipment of illegal fish offered to any common carrier as described in section 47316 shall be construed to be and shall remain in the consignor until delivered to the consignee. However, if any common carrier as described in section 47316 is not able or refuses or neglects to show from whom the consignment of any shipment of fish was received, the shipment shall be considered to be in possession of the common carrier having the shipment in transit, and they may be proceeded against the same as the original owner.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47318 Repacking after opening; detention of legal shipment prohibited.

Sec. 47318. Any package or car of fish in transit opened by the department, if found to be a lawful shipment under this part, shall be repacked in as good a condition as possible. A package or car of fish legally shipped shall not be detained in transit by or for inspection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47319 Minimum length and weight requirements; unlawful possession and marketing.

Sec. 47319. (1) A person shall not market, possess, transport, or offer for sale at any time in this state, whether caught within or outside of this state, any of the following:

(a) Whitefish, of a length less than 17 inches.

(b) Lake trout, of a weight less than 1-1/2 pounds in the round, and 1-1/4 pounds when dressed.

(c) Ciscowet trout, of a weight less than 1-1/2 pounds in the round.

(d) Perch, of a length less than 8-1/2 inches in the round and filleted perch of a weight less than 1-3/4 ounces; perch with heads and tails off of a length less than 5-1/2 inches.

(e) Suckers, of a length less than 14 inches.

(f) Northern pike, of a length less than 20 inches.

(g) Catfish, of a length less than 17 inches. Catfish of not less than 15 inches in length may be taken from the waters of Lake Erie.

(h) Pike-perch (yellow pickerel), of a length less than 15-1/2 inches in the round and filleted pike-perch (yellow pickerel) of a weight less than 9 ounces. Pike-perch (yellow pickerel) not less than 13 inches in length may be taken from Lake Erie. Pike-perch (yellow pickerel) not less than 13 inches in length taken from the waters of Lake Erie may be sold or offered for sale at a dock or docks along Lake Erie. Any such pike-perch (yellow pickerel) of a length less than 15-1/2 inches shall not be otherwise offered for sale, bartered, or sold within the limits of the state.

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(i) Blue pike, of a length less than 11 inches.
(j) White bass, of a length less than 9 inches.
(k) Sturgeon, of a length less than 42 inches.
(*l*) Black crappie, of a length less than 7 inches.

(2) Imported commercial fish species and game fish if of a size or weight or species not prohibited by the laws of the state or country where caught may be possessed, transported, offered for sale, and marketed in this state, if either of the following conditions are met:

(a) The fish are processed outside the state and sold to consumers in the same package as imported, and each package is labeled as a product of the state or country where the fish were caught.

(b) A chain of satisfactory evidence of importation is maintained through to the retailer who sells to the consumer, in a manner prescribed by the department.

(3) The measurement of the length of a fish within the meaning of this part shall be taken in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the utmost end of the tail fin. For the purpose of this part, a "fish in the round" is a fish that is entirely intact as it was taken out of the water with no part removed by dressing. A "dressed fish" is a fish with the head attached but with the gills and the entire gut or viscera (stomach, liver, intestine, gonads) removed. A "filleted fish" is a fish with the entire head, gut or viscera, gills, bones, scales, and all fins removed. The measurements of length and weight as prescribed in this part apply without any allowance made for the shrinkage of the fish. A person shall not possess on any boat, or on any other conveyance used to reach the nets from shore, any meat grinders or similar devices by the use of which the identification of the species or measurement of the individual fish is impossible. A person shall not bring ashore any fish that is so mutilated that identification and measurement is impossible. A person shall not market, possess, or offer for sale any fish illegally taken from the waters defined by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47320 Undersized fish; return to waters; definition.

Sec. 47320. A person engaged in lifting pound nets, trap nets, or seines in the waters of this state shall not take from the waters of this state any undersized fish, and all undersized fish found in the nets fished in those waters shall be returned to the waters with as little injury as possible by the person or persons lifting the net or nets. For the purpose of this part, undersized fish are fish of a smaller size than established by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47321 Taking of certain fish by commercial fishing devices prohibited; return to waters.

Sec. 47321. A person shall not take or catch with any kind of a net or other device used in commercial fishing in any of the waters mentioned in this part, any of the following:

(a) Largemouth black bass, Huro salmoides.
(b) Smallmouth black bass, Micropterus dolomieu.
(c) White crappie, also known as strawberry bass, Pomoxis annularis.
(d) Bluegill, Lepomis macrochirus.
(e) Common sunfish, Lepomis gibbosus.
(f) Brook or speckled trout, Salvelinus fontinalis.
(g) Rainbow and steelhead trout, Salmo gairdnerii.
(h) Brown and Loch Leven trout, Salmo trutta.
(i) Muskellunge, Esox masquinongy.

(2) In addition to the prohibition in subsection (1), a person shall not sell or offer for sale or possess at any time any of the fish listed in subsection (1) unless otherwise provided by law. Any such fish, whether dead or alive, shall at once be returned to the waters from which taken by the person or persons taking the fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47322 Marking of location of nets and devices.

Sec. 47322. A person shall not set or use nets, set hook lines, or any other continuous device in any of the waters mentioned in this part without marking its location by buoys and identifying the nets or other devices by showing the license number in plain figures upon the bowls of the buoys of the person using the nets, set

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lines, or other devices; the license number to be attached to all gill net buoys; to the stakes at the heart or pot of pound nets; to the lifting buoy of trap nets, where the heart and pot are set below the surface of the water; to a buoy at the point of heart or pot of fyke nets where the cover of the hearts or pots comes to the surface of the water. However, when any of the nets, set hook lines, or other devices are set under the ice, their location shall be marked by a stake extending not less than 4 feet above the ice at each end of the net or nets, set hook lines, or other continuous device and the license number, in legible figures, shall be attached to each stake or to the ends of the net or nets, set hook line, or other device.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47323 Inspection before shipment.

Sec. 47323. Every person taking fish for market in any of the waters mentioned in this part shall bring them to some port or place in this state where they may be inspected before shipping. However, the department may grant permission to take fish to ports or places in other states when the commercial fishing laws of the other states substantially conform to the commercial fishing laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47324 Power of department to take fish for cultural purposes; price; basis.

Sec. 47324. The department may take, for fish cultural purposes only, fish taken by any person fishing in the waters of this state, and when so taken the fish shall be weighed and shall be paid for. The price shall be based on the Chicago, Detroit, and New York markets, or at such other price as may be agreed upon by the person or persons taking the fish and the department, plus the cost of transportation, if any.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47325 Daily report of catch; failure to file; penalty; suspension or denial of license.

Sec. 47325. (1) A person taking fish for the market in any of the waters mentioned in this part shall keep an accurate report of each day's catch in a format determined by the department. The department may issue orders requiring catch activity reports to be submitted twice monthly and specifying the information required, consistent with any consent decree, decree, federal court order, memorandum of understanding, or other legally binding agreement. Catch activity reports must be submitted twice monthly to the department, except that all commercial fishers must report more frequently if a consent decree, decree, federal court order, memorandum of understanding, or other legally binding agreement establishes more frequent reporting.

(2) A person who fails to submit a report required under this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and shall be ordered to pay a civil fine as follows:

(a) For the first violation during a calendar year, $100.00.

(b) For a second or subsequent violation during a calendar year, $200.00.

(3) The license of any person who fails to submit reports for 2 or more reporting periods, and who has been cited by the department for each violation, may be suspended by the department until the delinquent reports are submitted to the department. The boat and nets for which a license is suspended shall not be used for commercial fishing by any person until the suspension has been lifted and the license restored. A person shall not sell or transfer ownership of a license suspended by the department until the suspension has been lifted and the license restored. A person who fails to make the report or reports as described in this section must be denied a new license or a renewal of that person's license until this part has been complied with.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 239, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47326 Report of fish in possession by commercial fishermen; contents; inspection; prohibited possession.

Sec. 47326. Every person licensed to take fish under this part, at the close of the 24-hour period immediately following the close of the respective open seasons provided for by this part, shall report to the department, on forms provided by the department, the kinds of fish and number or weight of fish possessed at

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the close of the 24-hour period. Any subsequent shipment or sale, or both, of such fish shall be reported immediately to the department, on forms furnished by the department, showing the amount and kinds of fish shipped or sold, the date of the shipment or sale, and the name and address of the person or persons to whom the fish were shipped or sold. All fish in possession upon which the season is closed shall be made available for inspection at any reasonable time upon the demand of the department. A person shall not possess or ship, transport, or sell any fish upon which the season is closed and which have not been reported as provided in this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47327 Violation of MCL 324.47301 to 324.47324; penalty.

Sec. 47327. A person who violates sections 47301 to 47324, for the first offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days or a fine of not less than $25.00 or more than $100.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. A person who violates sections 47301 to 47324 a second or a subsequent time, if charged as a second or subsequent offense in the complaint, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $50.00 or more than $100.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021;—Am. 2023, Act 239, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47328 License to use fishing devices; sport trolling; licensing boats for hire; license not required under certain conditions in lake St. Clair.

Sec. 47328. A person shall not use any kind of a boat, tug, or launch, except when used in hook and line fishing, or any kind of net or nets, set hook lines, or commercial trolling rigs for the purpose of taking, catching, killing, or transporting fish in any of the waters bordering on this state, regardless of whether for commercial purposes or for personal use, without first having applied for and been issued a license for that activity, in accordance with this part. A license, except as otherwise provided by law, is not required of persons engaged in sport trolling in these waters, except that the owners of boats operated with either an inboard or outboard motor and offered for hire in sport trolling for lake trout shall obtain a license for each boat. A license, except as otherwise provided by law, is not required of persons engaged in taking fish with set lines in lake St. Clair as provided in section 47302.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47329 Commercial fishing licenses; application; contents; “overall length” defined; fee.

Sec. 47329. (1) A person desiring a license under this part shall submit an application for that license to the department on oath when required on a form provided for that purpose by the department, accompanied by the fee required under this part. The application shall state the name and residence of the applicant, the manner in which he or she proposes to fish, the name or number of the tug, launch, boat, scow, or skiff, the overall length and the gross tonnage of the boat, the value of the boat, the name of the port from which the boat will operate, the number and kind of net or nets and hooks or other gear which he or she intends to use, the value of the buildings and grounds, and such other information as may be required for statistical purposes.

(2) As used in this section, "overall length" means the minimum distance between the extreme outside end of the bow and the stern considering the nearest whole number of feet. The amount of the license fee to be paid shall be based on the overall length of the boat or boats, if a boat is used.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47330 License to use fishing devices; issuance fees.

Sec. 47330. (1) The department, when application is made by any person in accordance with section 47329, shall issue the license provided for in this part upon payment by the applicant, if a resident of this state, of the following fees:

(a) For fishing with set hook lines or nets, with or without a boat not exceeding 16 feet in overall length, or

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a boat used in sport trolling for lake trout for hire, $16.00 per year. Any person using more than a single crew consisting of not more than 4 people in fishing nets or hooks under the ice shall secure a license for each crew member. The department, upon proper application, shall issue with each license to fish nets or set hook lines under the ice 4 identification cards bearing the number of the license and the year for which issued. Each member of a single crew engaged in the setting, lifting, or pulling of nets, set hook lines, or other devices, set under the ice under authority of the license, shall carry the card on his or her person at all times while so engaged and upon demand of any conservation officer shall exhibit the card. Minnow seines and dip nets are exempt from this section.

(b) For each rowboat, sailboat, powerboat, motorboat, steamboat, or scow used in catching, killing, taking, or transporting fish caught with nets, set hook lines, or trolling rigs, $3.00 per foot overall length, and $1.00 per ton additional for each ton over 10 gross tons. A license is not required for a scow used only in transporting nets. Each license for a boat propelled by sail, steam, gas, or other mechanical power entitles the licensee to operate a rowboat not exceeding 16 feet in overall length. Each rowboat shall bear the same identification as the boat for which the license is issued and shall be used only while attending the boat. A resident person shall not pay less than $50.00 or more than $200.00 on any 1 boat in any 1 license year.

(2) For a nonresident of this state, the fee shall be 5 times the fee required of a resident in accordance with the schedule prescribed in this section. A license under section 47329 shall not be issued to a nonresident for fishing in Lake Erie and Lake Huron except at the discretion of the department.

(3) For the purpose of this part, a nonresident is any person who has not actually resided in this state for 3 years immediately prior to the date of application for a license, any person applying for a license for use of nets or a boat registered or of record at a port outside of the state, or any firm, company, copartnership, partnership, association, or corporation in which any of their stock, boats, nets, and fishing equipment has been owned by nonresident persons at any time during the 3 years immediately prior to the date of application for a license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47331 Commercial fishing licenses; form; tag attached to boat; fee; transfer procedure.

Sec. 47331. (1) Upon the payment of the fee provided for in section 47330, the department shall have prepared and shall issue to a person entitled to the same, a printed or written license signed by the department setting forth the date of issuing the license, to whom issued, the date on which it will expire, the name or number, and the kind of boat, tug, or launch, including the number of and kind of net or nets for which the license was issued. The department shall also issue, with the license, a suitable tag bearing the license number and the year for which issued which must be attached to the boat to facilitate identification. The department, upon application and the payment of a fee of $1.00, may do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Permit the transfer of a license to a larger or a smaller boat or to any boat, tug, or launch during a period of time that the licensed boat, tug, or launch is disabled and undergoing repairs.

(b) In case of the sale or the transfer of the title of any licensed boat, transfer the license to the new owner or owners. However, if the sale or transfer is to a nonresident as determined by the preceding sections, then the difference between the fee for a resident license and a nonresident license shall also be paid.

(c) In case of the loss of a vessel by fire, collision, or otherwise, for which a license has been issued, transfer the license to any similar boat to which the licensee may acquire title.

(2) Whenever a license is transferred to a larger boat, the difference between the fee paid for the license and the fee required by this part for that boat shall also be paid. A refund shall not be made when a license is transferred to a smaller boat. However, any boat to which a license has been transferred as provided in this section shall be used in the taking, catching, or killing of fish or in the setting or pulling of nets, set hook lines, or other commercial fishing devices, only within a radius of 50 miles of the port designated in the license as originally issued, and not more than 1 license shall be issued for any 1 boat in any 1 calendar year. The owner of any licensed boat acquired from the estate of a deceased licensee or as a result of bankruptcy proceedings may, in addition to having the license transferred in his or her name, have a port of his or her choice designated in the license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47332 Licenses; expiration date; record of applications and licenses; disposition of fees.

Sec. 47332. All licenses expire on December 31 in the calendar year for which they were issued. The

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department shall keep a record of all applications and licenses. On the first day of each month, the department shall pay over to the state treasurer all money received by the department under this part, and the money shall be credited to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010 and shall be disbursed by the state treasurer for services of the department and the department's expenses in enforcing the commercial fishing laws, for the protection and propagation of fish, and for the purchase of patrol boats and other apparatus to be used for that purpose, and as otherwise provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47333 Wholesale fish market or house; license; fee; label on containers; record; purchase reports; failure to submit reports or records; civil infraction; suspension or denial of license.

Sec. 47333. (1) A person who deals in fish by operating a wholesale fish market or fish house, or who solicits the purchase of or buys fish for wholesale distribution, shall secure a license from the department. Each license expires on December 31, and the fee for the license is $5.00.

(2) A person holding a license under this section shall not transport or cause to be transported, or deliver or receive for transportation, any package or parcel containing any fish or carcass or part of any fish or carcass unless the package or parcel is labeled in plain English on the address side of the package or parcel so as to disclose the name and address of the consignor, the name and address of the consignee, and the number of pounds of each kind of fish contained in the package or parcel.

(3) A person licensed under this section may, at any time, sell, purchase, or barter, or have in the person's possession or under the person's control for the purpose of sale or barter, any commercial fish. However, the person shall comply with section 47319 at all times. A person licensed under this section shall keep a separate record of the purchase of fish in a form as required by the department.

(4) A person licensed under this section shall submit reports of all purchases of fish to the department in a format determined by the department. The department may issue orders requiring purchase reports to be submitted twice monthly and specifying the information required, consistent with any consent decree, decree, federal court order, memorandum of understanding, or other legally binding agreement. Purchase reports must be submitted twice monthly to the department, except that all commercial fish wholesalers must report more frequently if a consent decree, decree, federal court order, memorandum of understanding, or other legally binding agreement establishes more frequent reporting.

(5) A wholesale fish dealer that fails to submit a complete record as required under this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and subject to the following fines:

(a) For the first violation during a license year, $100.00.

(b) For a second or subsequent violation during a license year, $200.00.

(6) If a wholesale fish dealer fails to submit 2 or more records required under this section and has been cited by the department for each violation, the department may suspend the person's wholesale fish dealer license until the delinquent reports are submitted to the department. The department shall send notification of the suspension to the wholesale fish dealer.

(7) The department shall deny a new wholesale fish dealer license or renewal of a wholesale fish dealer license to a person that fails to submit a record required under this section until the record is submitted.

(8) A person shall not falsify any information contained in a record required under this section.

(9) The department shall not issue a wholesale fish dealer license to a person that would occupy the same business location as a wholesale fish dealer whose license is suspended.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 239, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47334 Violation of sections; penalties.

Sec. 47334. Any person who violates sections 47328 to 47333 is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction for the first offense shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or a fine of not less than $25.00 or more than $100.00 and the costs of prosecution, or both. Each violation is a separate and distinct offense. In addition to the penalties provided in this section, the license of any person convicted of

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violating section 47333 may be revoked by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47335 Nets and seines; prohibited use in certain waters of Lake Superior.

Sec. 47335. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, pound nets, trap nets, seines, or other device of any kind except with hook and line and spear in the waters of Lake Superior within a radius of 1/2 mile from the mouth of the Two Hearted river located in T 50 N, R 9 W, Luce county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47336 Grand Traverse bay.

Sec. 47336. A person shall not take or attempt to take fish with seines or nets of any kind in that part of Grand Traverse bay lying southerly of a line drawn due east and west through Mission Point light, Grand Traverse county, said waters being further described as the east arm and the west arm of Grand Traverse bay. A person may take chubs with gill nets in any part of Grand Traverse bay where the depth of water exceeds 300 feet.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47337 Charlevoix bay.

Sec. 47337. A person shall not take or catch, or attempt to take or catch, any species of fish with gill nets, pound nets, trap nets, seines, set hook lines, or any other device whatsoever, except a hook and line and spear as permitted by law, or set any such nets, seines, set hook lines, or devices, in the waters of Lake Michigan within a radius or distance of 2 miles from Charlevoix south pierhead light, located at the mouth of the Pine river in Charlevoix county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47338 Setting or using nets near public docks or piers prohibited; exceptions.

Sec. 47338. A person shall not set or use any kind of a net mentioned in this part, except seines in the taking of noxious fish, within a radius of 1/2 mile of any public dock or pier from which the public is not excluded from fishing with hook and line. However, a person may set nets under the ice for the purpose of taking all fish, except perch, within the 1/2 mile radius of any such dock or pier. Public docks for the purpose of this part include all docks except docks owned by individuals and used exclusively for their own boats. This section does not apply to St. James Harbor, Beaver Island, and Charlevoix county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47339 Saginaw bay.

Sec. 47339. As used in this part, "Saginaw bay" means those waters lying inside of a line drawn from Tawas point lighthouse in Iosco county to a monument which shall be erected by the department on Oak point in Huron county, including the waters of Tawas bay, in which area nets may be set and used as provided by law. However, nets shall not be set or used in any of the following locations:

(a) Within that area between the shoreline and a line drawn from a monument which shall be erected by the department on Fish point in Tuscola county to a monument which shall be erected by the department on the westerly point of Stony island, thence to a monument which shall be erected by the department on the westerly point of North island, thence to a monument which shall be erected by the department on the westerly end of Sand point in Huron county. However, nets may be used in that part of this area lying southerly of the south line of section 21, town 16 north of range 9 east, extending due west. Seines not exceeding 5 feet in depth and 100 rods in length may be used in that part of this area lying northerly of the south line of section 21, town 16 north, range 9 east, extending due west, for the taking of noxious fish.

(b) Within that area enclosed within and bounded by the following lines: beginning at the monument on

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Sand point described in subdivision (a), thence for a distance of 1 mile along a line drawn from that monument to a monument to be erected by the department on the easterly point of Little Charity island, thence 218 degrees along a line to a point where it would intersect a line drawn from the Gravelly point shoal lighthouse to the monument on North island described in subdivision (a), thence southeasterly along the latter line to the monument on North island, thence northeasterly to the point of beginning; the object being to provide a channel approximately 1 mile in width for the free passage of fish.

(c) Within that area of Tawas bay bounded on the south by a line extending from the U.S. fog signal building on Tawas point due west to the mainland.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47340 Marquette Bay.

Sec. 47340. A person shall not drive stakes for fishing purposes, or set, place, or extend any pound, trap, stake, or set net of any kind, or any other device, except hook and line and spear as permitted by law, to take or catch fish in the waters of Marquette Bay, beginning with a line from the Presque Isle breakwater on the S.S.E. period line to east side of section 8 opposite the mouth of the Chocolay river.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47341 Grand Marais harbor.

Sec. 47341. Commencing June 15, 1962, a person shall not place or set any kind of net or set hook lines or take or attempt to take any kind of fish with a net or set hook line in the waters of east bay and west bay, Grand Marais harbor, and in the waters of Lake Superior within 2 miles on either side of the range lights at the entrance to Grand Marais harbor, extending out to 30 fathoms of water, all in Alger county, Michigan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47342 False Presque Isle bay.

Sec. 47342. A person shall not set nets or seines of any kind or description west of a certain line commencing at the 1/4 post between sections 13 and 24 in town 33 north, range 8 east; thence north across the bay of False Presque Isle to 1/4 post between sections 12 and 13 in said town 33 north, range 8 east, in Presque Isle county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47343 Presque Isle harbor.

Sec. 47343. A person shall not take or attempt to take fish with seines, set hook lines, or nets of any kind in the waters of Presque Isle harbor and that portion of Lake Huron within a line drawn between Presque Isle light in section 8, town 34 north, range 8 east, and South Albany Point in section 22, town 34 north, range 8 east, Presque Isle county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47344 Thunder Bay.

Sec. 47344. A person shall not catch or take fish of any kind with a net or other device of any kind, except hook and line and spear as permitted by law, from that part of Thunder Bay in Lake Huron, lying inside, or south and west of a straight line extending from the mouth of Thunder Bay river to the center of Surplur Island; thence south and east to the north and south line between sections 20 and 21 in township 29 north, of range 9 east, in the state of Michigan, where said line intersects the waters of the said lake, excepting therefrom that part of said Thunder Bay in front of sections 2, 11 and 12 in township 29 north, of range 8 east, and sections 34 and 35 in township 30 north, of range 8 east. However, no net or other device of any kind, except hook and line and spear as permitted by law, shall be used by any person to take or catch fish in that part of the waters of said Thunder Bay within 1/2 mile of the mouth in any direction of any stream that

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discharges its waters into that portion of said Thunder Bay.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47345 Whitney bay.

Sec. 47345. A person shall not fish with, use, or set any seines, gill nets, or any form of pound, trap, sweep, or set nets, or any similar device for taking fish in Whitney bay or any waters tributary to that bay in the township of Drummond, county of Chippewa.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47346 Pike Bay and Island Harbor.

Sec. 47346. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, trap nets, pound nets, seines, or other device of any kind, except hook and line, in that part of upper Lake Huron known as Pike Bay and Island Harbor within a line drawn from the most southerly point of section 17, town 41 north, range 5 east, on Drummond Island to the most westerly point of Espanore Island; thence southerly and easterly along the shore to the most southerly point of said Espanore Island; thence due east to the mainland of Drummond Island. However, a person may use spears through the ice of those waters during the months of January and February for taking carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt, northern pike, muskellunge, sturgeon, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee whitefish, catfish, bullheads, herring, perch, pike-perch, shad, dogfish, and garpike.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47347 Straits of Mackinac.

Sec. 47347. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, trap nets, seines, or other device of any kind, except hook and line and spear as permitted by law, in that part of the Straits of Mackinac, within 1 mile from the shoreline, from a point where the section line between sections 22 and 23, town 40 north, of range 4 west intersects the Straits of Mackinac, and running from there easterly to where the west line of the city limits of the city of St. Ignace intersects the Straits of Mackinac, and within 1/2 mile from there easterly and northerly to where the north line of the city of St. Ignace intersects Lake Huron or the Straits of Mackinac.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47348 Les Cheneaux channels.

Sec. 47348. (1) A person shall not fish with seines, gill nets, or any form of trap nets, or in any manner except by hook and line, the channels known as the Les Cheneaux channels, in Mackinac county, or in the entrances to the channels or in the waters adjacent to the channels, within a line drawn as follows: Beginning at the southerly extremity of the point of land on the easterly side of Dudley bay; running thence southwesterly in a straight line to the southeasterly extremity of Beaver Tail Point; thence westerly in a straight line to the southeasterly point of Crow island; thence southwesterly in a straight line to the extreme southeasterly point of Boot island; thence southwesterly in a straight line to Point Fuyards; thence northwesterly in a straight line to the extreme southerly part of St. Martin's Point. However, pound nets of legal mesh and size, for the taking of whitefish and lake trout, may be set and used in any place in the protected waters, except in that portion of Prentice bay lying north of a line drawn from the south end of Scotty's Point to the south end of Whitefish Point and in the channels known as the Les Cheneaux channels, in Mackinac county, or in the entrances to the channels, lying west of the east line of section 34, in town 42 north, range 1 east, said line running north and south. Gill nets of not more than 150 feet in length and of the size mesh established in section 47309 for taking herring and menominees may be legally used and set in the protected waters, at any place or places where nets for the taking of whitefish and lake trout are permitted by this part, during the months of January, February, and March of each year, for the purpose of taking herring and menominees for commercial purposes. A person may use spears through the ice of such waters during the months of January and February for taking carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt,

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northern pike, muskellunge, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee whitefish, catfish, bullheads, herring, perch, pike-perch, shad, dogfish, and garpike. If perch, black bass, northern pike, or pike-perch are taken in any of the nets described in this section used for the taking of whitefish and lake trout, menominee, or herring, as permitted by this part, they shall be immediately released and placed back in the water.

(2) A person shall not take more than 50 perch by hook and line and spear from waters described in this section, in any 1 day, and the sale of any perch, black bass, northern pike, or pike-perch caught or taken from those protected waters by hook and line and spear, is unlawful.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47349 Fishing in certain water of upper Lake Huron with fishing devices; prohibition; exceptions; spearing through ice for certain fish; open season.

Sec. 47349. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, pound nets, trap nets, seines, or other device of any kind, except a hook and line, in those waters of upper Lake Huron within the following boundaries: Beginning at a point where the north line of town 41 north intersects the shore of the mainland south of the village of Detour, in Chippewa county; thence due east to Drummond Island; thence northerly and easterly along the shore of Drummond Island to a point where the section line between sections 23 and 24, town 43 north, range 6 east, on Poe Point, meets the waters edge; thence northwesterly to a point on the international boundary line where it intersects a line drawn due north from the most westerly end of Chippewa Point; thence due north to the international boundary line; thence westerly along said international boundary line to a point where it intersects a line drawn due east through the most southerly point of Little Lime Island; thence due west from said point to the mainland; thence following the shore of the mainland southeasterly to the point of beginning. However, nets with meshes not less than 4-1/2 inches and set hook lines may be used from December 15 to April 1 of each year in these waters except in that portion of Potagannissing Bay lying southerly of a line drawn from the most northerly part of Dix Point on section 19, town 42 north, range 5 east, to Chippewa Point on section 30, town 43 north, range 6 east, on Drummond Island, Chippewa county, where no device for taking fish other than a hook and line shall be used at any time. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, pound nets, trap nets, seines, or other device of any kind, except a hook and line, in the waters on the south side of Drummond Island lying north of a line beginning at the most southerly part of Cream City Point on section 22, town 41 north, range 5 east, thence easterly to Traverse Point, thence easterly to Scammon Point, thence southeasterly to the most southerly part of Long Point on section 29, town 41 north, range 7 east. A person may use spears through the ice of such waters during the months of January and February for taking carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt, northern pike, muskellunge, sturgeon, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee whitefish, catfish, bullheads, herring, perch, pike-perch, shad, dogfish, and garpike.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47350 Little Traverse bay.

Sec. 47350. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, trap nets, seines, or other device of any kind, except hook and line and spear as permitted by law, and except the dipping of minnows, as defined in section 48728, by hand net and the taking of minnows by glass trap, in that part of Little Traverse bay on Lake Michigan, lying east of the line common to sections 9 and 10, township 34 north, of range 6 west, extended northerly across the bay to meet the line common to sections 9 and 10, township 35 north, of range 6 west, all in Emmet county. Minnows may be taken or caught from the waters above-described by use of a seine, hand net, or glass trap except seines may not be used within 100 feet of any public dock from which the public is not excluded from fishing with hook and line.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47351 Little Bay de Noquette.

Sec. 47351. A person shall not fish with, use, or set any seines, gill nets, or any form of pound, trap, sweep, or set nets, or any like device, or use any spear, night line, or set line for taking fish in any of the waters of this state known as Little Bay de Noquette, which means those waters of Little Bay de Noquette and tributaries north from a line drawn from the extreme end of Saunders' Point on the west shore to the extreme

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end of Squaw Point on the east shore. However, a person may from December 15 to April 1 of each year take suckers in any of the waters described in this section by means of pound nets, if the pound nets are lifted only under the supervision of representatives of the department. A person may use spears through the ice of such waters during the months of January and February for taking carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt, northern pike, muskellunge, sturgeon, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee whitefish, catfish, bullheads, herring, perch, pike-perch, shad, dogfish, and garpike.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47352 Garden bay.

Sec. 47352. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind with gill nets, pound nets, trap nets, seines, or other device of any kind, except hook and line and spear as permitted by law, in the waters of Garden Bay on Lake Michigan within a radius of 1-1/4 miles from the mouth of Garden Creek, Delta county. However, nets as used in Big Bay De Noc for taking smelt may be used also in Garden Bay to take smelt if they do not take or injure any other species of fish.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47353 Little Bay de Noquette, Big Bay de Noquette, and Green Bay.

Sec. 47353. A person shall not in the waters of this state known as Little Bay de Noquette and Big Bay de Noquette, and that part of Green Bay lying north of a line drawn from the point where the south boundary of Delta county (being the south line of township 37 north) meets the west shore of Green Bay, thence easterly to the most southerly point of St. Martin Island, thence northeasterly through the most southeasterly point of Poverty Island to the most southeasterly point of Summer Island (also called Big Summer Island), thence northerly along the shore of Summer Island to the most easterly point thereof, thence northerly to the navigation buoy off the south end of Point Detour:

(a) Fish, set, use, or maintain in the water any pound net designed for the impounding of fish, unless the pound net is held in place solely by 10 or more stakes driven firmly into the ground beneath the water.

(b) Fish, set, use, or maintain any pound net in water having a depth greater than 50 feet.

(c) Fish, set, or have in the water any trap net, hoop net, fyke net, drop net, or gobbler net at any time from April 15 to May 20.

(d) Fish, set, use, maintain, or permit to remain in the water any net of any description, except minnow seines, between July 1 and September 10, in whole or in part within any of the areas described as follows:

(*i*) In Big Bay de Noquette north of a line from the southernmost tip of Porcupine Point to the westernmost tip of Valentine Point.

(*ii*) In Little Bay de Noquette between the westerly shore and a line drawn from the extreme end of Saunders Point to the extreme end of Squaw Point and thence to the mouth of the channel into the Gladstone yacht harbor.

(*iii*) In Little Bay de Noquette and Green Bay between the westerly shore and a line drawn from the most easterly point on Portage Point 1 and 1/2 miles south, thence in a general southerly direction parallel to the westerly shoreline and 1 and 1/2 miles out from shore to a point where the township line between town 37 n and 38 n, r 23 w intersect, thence west to the shore.

(e) Subdivisions (a) and (b) do not apply to or restrict the fishing, setting, use, or maintenance of pound nets otherwise lawfully used for the taking of smelt or herring during the winter months under the ice.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47354 Keweenaw bay.

Sec. 47354. A person shall not take, catch, or attempt to take or catch any fish with seines, gill nets, or any form of pound or trap nets or in any manner except by the use of hook and line and spear as permitted by law in the waters of L'Anse bay, which are defined as follows: South of an east and west line beginning at the meander corner between sections 25 and 36, township 51 north, range 33 west, and extending west to the meander corner between section 27 and section 34, township 51 north, range 33 west. In the remaining waters of Lake Superior inside of a line extending from Manitou light on Manitou island, Keweenaw county, to the Huron island light on west Huron island and thence to the mouth of the Huron river in township 52 north,

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range 29 west, Marquette county, excluding Huron bay as defined in section 47356, from January 1 to October 31 in each year a person shall not set or use in waters between 120 feet in depth and 300 feet in depth any gill net with meshes less than 4-1/2 inches, except for taking herring when the net is floated so that the lower line of the net is not more than 42 feet below the surface of the water, and for the taking of bait for set hook lines in accordance with section 47309.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47355 Portage Lake ship canal.

Sec. 47355. A person shall not take, catch, or attempt to take or catch any fish with seines, gill nets, or any form of pound nets or trap nets or in any manner except by the use of hook and line in those waters of Houghton county, commencing at the northerly entrance to Portage Lake and extending through Portage Lake ship canal and within 1/2 mile in all directions from the canal entrance inside of the breakwaters. However, a person may use spears through the ice of such waters during the months of January and February for taking carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt, nothern pike, muskellunge, sturgeon, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee whitefish, catfish, bullheads, herring, perch, pike-perch, shad, dogfish, and garpike.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47356 Huron bay.

Sec. 47356. A person shall not take, catch, or attempt to take or catch any fish with seines, gill nets, or any form of pound or trap nets or in any manner except by the use of hook and line in the waters of Huron bay, which within this part mean: South of an east and west line beginning at the meander corner between sections 14 and 23, township 52 north, range 31 west, and running west to the meander corner between sections 15 and 22, township 52 north, range 31 west, Baraga county. A person may use spears through the ice of those waters during the months of January, February, and March for taking carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt, northern pike, muskellunge, sturgeon, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or menominee whitefish, catfish, bullheads, herring, perch, pike-perch, shad, dogfish, and garpike.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47357 Duncan Bay.

Sec. 47357. A person shall not use any kind of a net, set hook line, or other device for the purpose of taking or catching fish in the waters of Duncan Bay, Lake Huron, which as used in this part mean all those waters of Duncan Bay, Lake Huron, lying south of a line drawn west from Cheboygan Point lighthouse on Lighthouse Point to a point where the easterly boundary line of Beaugrand township meets the westerly boundary line of the corporate limits of the city of Cheboygan extended due north would intersect the waters of Lake Huron. However, a person may take or catch fish in these closed waters with hook and line or spears in accordance with the laws of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47358 Munising and Murray bays.

Sec. 47358. A person shall not take or catch fish of any kind in any manner except with hook and line and spear as permitted by law in any of the waters of Munising and Murray bays of Lake Superior which as used in this part mean those waters of Munising and Murray bays of Lake Superior lying westerly of a line drawn from Sand Point in section number 19, town 47 north, range 18 west, to the eastern end of the eighth line dividing lots 1 and 2 in the northeast quarter of section number 24, town 47 north, range 19 west, and easterly of a line drawn from the southern end of the quarter line between lots 2 and 3 of section number 22, town 47 north, range 19 west, to the northern end of the quarter line between lots number 2 and 3 in section number 27, town 47 north, range 19 west, and fish so taken shall not be bought or sold.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47359 Bait; taking with nets.

Sec. 47359. The taking of minnows as defined in section 48728 and other small fish for bait with nets not otherwise prohibited by law is not a violation of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47360 Construction of part.

Sec. 47360. Nothing contained in this part authorizes the taking, selling, or transporting of fish, the use of illegal nets, or the setting of nets at a place or places or at times otherwise forbidden by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47361 Violation of MCL 324.47335 to 324.47360; penalty; suspension or revocation of permit or license; issuance or reinstatement.

Sec. 47361. (1) A person who violates sections 47335 to 47360 is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or a fine of not less than $10.00 or more than $100.00 and costs of prosecution, or both. The license of any person convicted of 3 violations of this part or other acts or parts regulating commercial fishing in any 1 license year shall be automatically revoked and canceled for the balance of the license year for which issued, and such a revocation prohibits the use of boats, nets, or other gear by any person during the balance of the year for which the license was issued.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), if any permit or license under this part is ordered to be suspended or revoked under section 41309 and if the department maintains a database of suspensions or revocations of permits or licenses under this part, the department shall not issue a permit or license under this part to the person for the period provided in the order.

(3) If a permit or license under this part is ordered to be suspended under section 41309, the suspension remains in effect until all of the following occur:

(a) The suspension period set forth in the court order has elapsed.

(b) The person pays the department a reinstatement fee of $125.00.

(4) Unless a person's permit or license is otherwise suspended, revoked, or denied, the permit or license is immediately reinstated on satisfaction of the requirements of subsection (3).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 541, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47362 Part 479 not repealed.

Sec. 47362. This part shall not be construed to repeal part 479.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 475
FISH HATCHERIES FOR RESTOCKING THE GREAT LAKES

324.47501 Fish hatcheries to restock Great Lakes; establishment; plan.

Sec. 47501. The department may plan the establishment of fish hatcheries for the propagation and cultivation of pickerel, trout, and whitefish for restocking the Great Lakes that border this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 477
FISH RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

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324.47701 Fish restoration; cooperation with federal government; funds accruing from license fees; use.

Sec. 47701. The department may perform acts as may be necessary to the establishment and management of fish restoration, management, and research projects and areas in cooperation with the federal government as defined in chapter 658, 64 Stat. 430, 16 U.S.C. 777 to 777e, 777f to 777i, and 777k to 777 *l*, commonly known as the federal aid in fish restoration act, and with rules and regulations promulgated by the United States secretary of the interior under that act; and in compliance with that act, funds accruing to the state from license fees paid by anglers shall not be used for any purpose other than fish and game activities under the administration of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 479
FISHERIES CONTAMINATION

324.47901 Refuse from fish catch; disposal.

Sec. 47901. All fish, offal, or filth accruing from the catching and curing of fish shall be burned or buried at least 10 rods away from the beach or shore of any stream, pond, or lake.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47902 Nonresident fishing license; fee; forfeiture; disposition of money accrued.

Sec. 47902. The county board of commissioners of each county, or a majority of the county board of commissioners, shall grant, on the application of a nonresident person, a written 1-year license, for each pound or trap net used, upon payment of $50.00. A person who violates this part shall forfeit the sum of $100.00, and all costs of suit. The county board of commissioners, or a majority of the county board of commissioners, shall enforce this part, and all money accruing from fishing licenses and forfeitures shall be paid to the county treasurer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47903 Dumping into waters prohibited; molesting of nets.

Sec. 47903. A person shall not put into any stream, pond, or lake any sand, coal, cinders, ashes, log slabs, decayed wood, bark, sawdust, or filth. A boat owner, a captain of any boat or vessel, or any other person shall not run into or molest any pond net, trap net, or other stationary net or fixture set in any lake for fishing purposes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47904 Violation of part; penalty.

Sec. 47904. A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both, and the person shall be liable civilly for damages done in an action in any court having jurisdiction.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.47905 Prohibited acts; penalty; civil liability.

Sec. 47905. A person shall not willfully cut, tear, untie, remove, or in any manner injure, damage, molest, or destroy any net, rope, line, stake, anchor, or other property belonging to, in use, or to be used in any pond net or trap net or other net or nets and fixtures thereto belonging, lawfully set and used for the purpose of taking fish from any of the lakes or streams in this state or in any of the lakes or waters bordering upon this state. A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $500.00, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both, and the person is liable civilly for all damages

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done willfully to the property to the legal owners or occupants of the property, to be recovered in an action of trespass in any court having jurisdiction in the county where the property is located.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 483
PASSAGE OF FISH OVER DAMS

324.48301 Free passage of fish; rules; fish ladders.

Sec. 48301. The department shall prescribe rules and regulations to provide for the free passage and uninterrupted passage of fish over or through dams now in existence or that are or may be erected over rivers, streams, or creeks. The department may abrogate the provisions of this part that require the erection of fish ladders if the department determines that the height of the dam or the condition of the river or stream makes the installation of the ladders impracticable or unnecessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48302 Inspector of dams; duties; plan; contents; copies.

Sec. 48302. The department is the inspector of dams across rivers, streams, and creeks of this state and shall prepare a draft of a general plan that the department determines will best permit the free passage of large and small fish up and down a stream at the dam. Each plan shall set forth details and specifications for material and construction and connection with the dam that will enable the owner of the dam to properly construct and place the means designated. The department shall furnish a copy of the plans and specifications to each owner or occupant of a dam, on request.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48303 Order to provide free passage of fish; compliance; kind and manner.

Sec. 48303. Any person owning or using any dam that exists or may be constructed across any river, stream, or creek in this state, if ordered by the department, shall, within 90 days after the issuance of the order, erect and maintain in good repair sufficient and permanent means to admit the free and uninterrupted passage of fish over or through the dam. The means providing for the free passage of fish shall be of a kind and shall be placed in a manner prescribed by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48304 Prosecutions; mandamus.

Sec. 48304. The department shall prosecute in the name of the people of the state in all cases where this part is violated, and the prosecuting attorney of the county in which a prosecution is commenced under this part shall aid in the prosecution when requested to do so by the department. The attorney general may institute mandamus proceedings in the circuit court for Ingham county to compel any person to comply with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48305 Violations of part; separate offenses.

Sec. 48305. If any person owning, using, or employing the use of any dam across any of the rivers, streams, or creeks of this state refuses or fails to erect and maintain in proper repair the means or equipment ordered by the department, that person is guilty of a violation of this part, and every period of 30 days during which any person owning or using a dam fails to erect or maintain in proper repair the means or equipment for the free passage of fish renders that person guilty of a distinct and separate offense of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.48306 Construction of passageways for fish by department; expenses; payment; tax assessment.

Sec. 48306. If the owner or user of any dam refuses or fails to construct and maintain the means or equipment for the free passage of fish when ordered by the department, the department may cause the same to be constructed over or through the dam at the place in the dam that will cause the least injury to the water power, and the expense of the construction of the means for the free passage of fish shall be certified by the department to the county board of commissioners of the county in which the dam is located, and the expense shall be audited by the county board of commissioners and shall be paid from the general fund of the county. The county board of commissioners of any county, upon auditing and allowing the expense, shall order, by resolution, the supervisor of the township or ward in which the dam is situated to spread the expense upon the assessment roll of the township or ward as a tax against the property to which the dam is appurtenant and against the owners of the property to be collected in the same manner as other township taxes and paid over to the county treasurer or returned as delinquent in accordance with law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48307 Passage of fish through and over dams; apparatus obstructing rivers, streams, or creeks prohibited; violation; authority of department.

Sec. 48307. Except as authorized by law, a person shall not obstruct the channel or course of any river, stream, or creek in this state by placing or causing to be placed in that river, stream, or creek any net, wire, screen, or any other apparatus or material of any kind that will prevent the free passage of fish up and down the river, stream, or creek. A person who violates this section is guilty of a violation of this part. The department may in the public interest authorize the placing of screens in any river, stream, creek, or in the inlet or outlet of any lake.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 485
SPEARING OF FISH IN HOUGHTON LAKE PROHIBITED

324.48501 Repealed. 2012, Act 301, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2012.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to prohibition against spear fishing in Houghton lake, Roscommon county.

PART 487
SPORT FISHING

SUBPART I
DEFINITIONS

324.48701 Definitions.

Sec. 48701. As used in this part:

(a) "Amphibian" means any frog, toad, or salamander of the class amphibia.

(b) "Crustacea" means any freshwater crayfish, shrimp, or prawn of the order decapoda.

(c) "Dip net" means a square net that is constructed from a piece of webbing of heavy twine, hung on heavy cord or frame so as to be without sides or walls, and suspended from the corners and attached in such a manner that when the net is lifted no part is more than 4 feet below the plane formed by the imaginary lines connecting the corners from which the net is suspended. As used in fishing, it shall be lowered and raised vertically as nearly as possible.

(d) "Game fish" includes all of the following:

(*i*) Lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush).

(*ii*) Brook trout (Salvelinus fontinalis).

(*iii*) Brown trout (Salmo trutta).

(*iv*) Rainbow or steelhead trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss).

(*v*) Atlantic landlocked salmon (Salmo salar sebago).

(*vi*) Grayling (Thymallus arcticus).

(*vii*) Largemouth bass (Micropterus salmoides).

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(*viii*) Smallmouth bass (Micropterus dolomieu).

(*ix*) Bluegill (Lepomis macrochirus).

(*x*) Pumpkinseed or common sunfish (Lepomis gibbosus).

(*xi*) Black crappie and white crappie, also known as calico bass and strawberry bass (Pomoxis nigromaculatus and Pomoxis annularis).

(*xii*) Yellow perch (Perca flavescens).

(*xiii*) Walleye (Sander vitreous).

(*xiv*) Northern pike (Esox lucius).

(*xv*) Muskellunge (Esox masquinongy).

(*xvi*) Lake sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens).

(*xvii*) Splake (Salvelinus namaycush x Salvelinus fontinalis).

(*xviii*) Coho salmon (Oncorhynchus kisutch).

(*xix*) Chinook (King) salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha).

(*xx*) Pink salmon (Oncorhynchus gorbuscha).

(e) "Genetically engineered" refers to a fish whose genome, chromosomal or extrachromosomal, is modified permanently and heritably, using recombinant nucleic acid techniques.

(f) "Hand net" means a mesh bag of webbing or wire suspended from a circular, oval, or rectangular frame attached to a handle.

(g) "Inland waters of this state" means the waters within the jurisdiction of the state except Saginaw river, Lakes Michigan, Superior, Huron, and Erie, and the bays and the connecting waters. The connecting waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron are that part of the Straits of St. Mary in this state extending from a line drawn from Birch Point Range front light to the most westerly point of Round Island, thence following the shore of Round Island to the most northerly point thereof, thence from the most northerly point of Round Island to Point Aux Pins light, Ontario, to a line drawn due east and west from the most southerly point of Little Lime Island. The connecting waters of Lake Huron and Lake Erie are all of the St. Clair river, all of Lake St. Clair, and all of the Detroit river extending from Fort Gratiot light in Lake Huron to a line extending due east and west of the most southerly point of Celeron Island in the Detroit river.

(h) "Mollusks" means any mollusk of the classes bivalvia and gastropoda.

(i) "Nongame fish" includes all kinds of fish except game fish.

(j) "Nonresident" means a person who is not a resident.

(k) "Nontrout streams" means all streams or portions of streams other than trout streams.

(*l*) "Open season" means the time during which fish may be legally taken or killed and includes both the first and last day of the season or period designated by this part.

(m) "Recombinant nucleic acid techniques" means laboratory techniques through which genetic material is isolated and manipulated in vitro and then inserted into an organism.

(n) "Reptiles" means any turtle, snake, or lizard of the class reptilia.

(o) "Resident" means either of the following:

(*i*) A person who resides in a settled or permanent home or domicile with the intention of remaining in this state.

(*ii*) A student who is enrolled in a full-time course at a college or university within this state.

(p) "Trout lake" means a lake designated by the department in which brook trout, brown trout, or rainbow trout are the predominating species of game fish. The department may designate certain trout lakes in which certain species of fish are not desired and in which it is unlawful to use live fish of any kind for bait.

(q) "Trout stream" means any stream or portion of a stream that contains a significant population of any species of trout or salmon as determined by the department. The department shall designate not more than 212 miles of trout streams in which only lures or baits as the department prescribes may be used in fishing, and the department may prescribe the size and number of fish that may be taken from those trout streams. The department shall not restrict children under 12 years old from taking a minimum of 1 fish, except for lake sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens), in any trout stream. Any trout stream in a county that includes a city with a population of 750,000 or more shall be so designated. In addition, the department shall issue an order adopting criteria for determining which trout streams should be so designated. Before the department issues the order, the department shall submit the proposed order to the commission. The commission shall receive public comment on the proposed order. The department shall consider any guidance provided by the commission on the proposed order and may make changes to the proposed order based on that guidance.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 434, Imd. Eff. June 10, 2002;—Am. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2008, Act 291, Imd. Eff. Oct. 6, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.48702 Fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans as property of state; exception; registration under Michigan aquaculture development act.

Sec. 48702. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), all fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans found in this state are the property of the state and may only be taken at times and in a manner as provided in this part.

(2) Fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, crustaceans, and any other aquaculture species propagated, reared, produced, or possessed pursuant to a registration or permit issued under the Michigan aquaculture development act are not the property of the state and may be taken, produced, purchased, acquired, lawfully exported or imported, or possessed only in compliance with that act.

(3) The department shall consider a registration under the Michigan aquaculture development act as equivalent to a game fish breeders license for purposes of obtaining a planting permit under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 200, Imd. Eff. May 17, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48702a Definitions; obstruction or interference in lawful taking of aquatic species; prohibited conduct.

Sec. 48702a. (1) As used in this section and section 48702b:

(a) "Aquatic species" means fish, reptiles, mollusks, crustacea, minnows, wigglers, and amphibians of the class amphibia.

(b) "Take" and "taking" mean to fish for by any lawful method, catch, kill, capture, trap, or shoot any species of fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, wigglers, or crustacea, regulated by this part, or to attempt to engage in any such activity.

(c) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

(2) A person shall not obstruct or interfere in the lawful taking of aquatic species by another person.

(3) A person violates this section when the person intentionally or knowingly does any of the following:

(a) Operates a vessel or a device designed to be used on the water which does not meet the definition of a vessel in a manner likely to significantly alter the behavior of aquatic species in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(b) Wades or swims in a manner or at a location likely to cause a significant alteration in the behavior of aquatic species in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(c) Tosses, drops, or throws any stone, rock, or other inert material in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(d) Drives, herds, or disturbs any aquatic species in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(e) Blocks, impedes, or harasses another person who is engaged in the process of lawfully taking an aquatic species.

(f) Uses a natural or artificial visual, aural, olfactory, gustatory, or physical stimulus to affect aquatic species behavior in order to hinder or prevent the lawful taking of an aquatic species.

(g) Erects barriers to deny ingress or egress to areas where the lawful taking of aquatic species may occur. This subdivision does not apply to a person who erects barriers to prevent trespassing on his or her property.

(h) Interjects himself or herself into the area where nets, fishing lines, or traps may be placed by a person lawfully taking aquatic species.

(i) Affects the condition or placement of personal or public property intended for use in the lawful taking of an aquatic species in order to impair the usefulness of the property or prevent the use of the property.

(j) Enters or remains upon private lands without the permission of the owner or the owner's agent, for the purpose of violating this section.

(k) Engages in any other act or behavior for the purpose of violating this section.

History: Add. 1996, Act 315, Eff. July 1, 1996.

Compiler's note: Enacting Section 3 of Act 315 of 1996 , which provided:
"Section 3. This amendatory act shall not take effect unless Senate Bill No. 964 of the 88th Legislature is enacted into law."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48702b Violation of MCL 324.48702a.

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Sec. 48702b. (1) Upon petition of an aggrieved person or a person who reasonably may be aggrieved by a violation of section 48702a , a court of competent jurisdiction, upon a showing that a person was engaged in and threatens to continue to engage in illegal conduct under section 48702a, may enjoin that conduct.

(2) A person who violates section 48702a is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days, or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. A person who violates section 48702a a second or subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $2,500.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. In addition to the penalties provided for in this subsection, any permit or license issued by the department authorizing the person to take aqunatic species shall be revoked. A prosecution under this subsection does not preclude prosecution or other action under any other criminal or civil statute.

(3) Section 48702a does not apply to a peace officer while the peace officer performs his or her lawful duties.

History: Add. 1996, Act 318, Eff. July 1, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART II
FISHING DEVICES

324.48703 Fishing means or device; lines; hooks; tip-up or similar device; spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow; order to regulate nets.

Sec. 48703. (1) An individual shall not take, catch, or kill or attempt to take, catch, or kill a fish in the waters of this state with a grab hook, snag hook, or gaff hook, by the use of a set or night line or a net or firearm or an explosive substance or combination of substances that have a tendency to kill or stupefy fish, or by any other means or device other than a single line or a single rod and line while held in the hand or under immediate control, and with a hook or hooks attached, baited with a natural or artificial bait while being used for still fishing, ice fishing, casting, or trolling for fish, which is a means of the fish taking the bait or hook in the mouth. An individual shall not use more than 3 single lines or 3 single rods and lines, or a single line and a single rod and line, and shall not attach more than 6 hooks on all lines. The commission may decrease the number of rods per angler. However, the commission shall not reduce the number of rods per angler to less than 2. For the purposes of this part, a hook is a single, double, or treble pointed hook. A hook, single, double, or treble pointed, attached to a manufactured artificial bait is counted as 1 hook. The commission may designate waters where a treble hook and an artificial bait or lure having more than 1 single pointed hook must not be used during the periods the commission designates.

(2) An individual shall not set or use a tip-up or other similar device for the purpose of taking fish through the ice unless the name and address of the individual owning the tip-up or other similar device is marked in legible English on the tip-up or other similar device or securely fastened to it by a plate or tag.

(3) The commission may issue an order to regulate the taking of fish with a spear, bow and arrow, or crossbow in the waters of this state.

(4) The commission may issue an order to regulate the taking of fish with nets in the waters of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 291, Imd. Eff. Oct. 6, 2008;—Am. 2012, Act 245, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 471, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48703a Sport fishing; regulation by commission; issuance of orders; providing copy of order to legislature; appropriation.

Sec. 48703a. (1) The legislature finds and declares that aquatic invasive species, including Asian carp, represent a significant threat to the state's fisheries, aquatic resources, outdoor recreation and tourism economies, and public safety.

(2) The commission has the exclusive authority to regulate sport fishing under this part. The commission shall, to the greatest extent practicable, utilize principles of sound scientific management in making decisions regarding the regulation of sport fishing under this part. The commission may take testimony from department personnel, independent experts, and others, and review scientific literature and data, among other sources, in support of the commission's duty to use principles of sound scientific management. The commission shall issue orders regarding the regulation of sport fishing under this part following a public meeting and an opportunity for public input. Not less than 30 days before issuing an order, the commission shall provide a

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copy of the order to each of the following:

(a) Each member of each standing committee of the senate or house of representatives that considers legislation pertaining to conservation, the environment, natural resources, recreation, tourism, or agriculture.

(b) The chairperson of the senate appropriations committee and the chairperson of the house of representatives appropriations committee.

(c) The members of the subcommittee of the senate appropriations committee and the subcommittee of the house of representatives appropriations committee that consider the budget of the department of natural resources.

(3) For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, there is appropriated for the department the sum of $1,000,000.00 to implement management practices necessary for rapid response, prevention, control, or elimination of aquatic invasive species, including Asian carp. Any portion of the amount under this section that is not expended in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 shall not lapse to the general fund but shall be carried forward in a work project account that is in compliance with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

History: Add. 2013, Act 21, Imd. Eff. May 8, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 281, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2015, Act 12, Eff. July 13, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2016.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This act reenacts all or portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108. If any portions of 2012 PA 520 or 2013 PA 21 or 2013 PA 22 or 2013 PA 108 not amended by this act are invalidated pursuant to referendum or any other reason, then any such invalidated portions of 2012 PA 520, 2013 PA 21, 2013 PA 22 and 2013 PA 108 which are otherwise included in this act, shall be deemed to be reenacted pursuant to this act."

Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2014 provides:

"Enacting section 2. If any part or parts of this act are found to be in conflict with the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, or federal law, this act shall be implemented to the maximum extent that the state constitution of 1963, the United States constitution, and federal law permit. Any provision held invalid or inoperative shall be severable from the remaining portions of this act."

Public Act 281 of 2014 was proposed by initiative petition pursuant to Const 1963, art II, § 9. The initiative petition was approved by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Senate on August 13, 2014 and by the House of Representatives on August 27, 2014. The initiative petition was filed with the Secretary of State on August 27, 2014.

In Keep Michigan Wolves Protected v State of Michigan, an unpublished opinion issued November 22, 2016, (Docket No. 328604), the Michigan Court of Appeals held that 2014 PA 281, which amended sections of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106, is unconstitutional as it violates the title-object clause of section 24 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48704 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to restrictions on taking cisco with a gill net.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48705 Reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans; manner and times of taking; fishing license; taking for commercial purposes prohibited; taking for scientific or educational purposes; permit required.

Sec. 48705. (1) Reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans may only be taken in a manner and during those times prescribed by the commission. An individual taking, trapping, catching, or fishing for reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, or crustaceans for his or her personal use shall have a valid fishing license issued under part 435.

(2) An individual shall not take, trap, catch, or fish for reptiles or amphibians for commercial purposes.

(3) The department may issue permits under part 13 to take amphibians and reptiles at any season of the year for scientific or educational purposes. The department may revoke a permit issued under this subsection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 36, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2018;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48706 Seines or nets; prohibited use near dams; definition.

Sec. 48706. Except as otherwise provided by law, a person shall not fish with any kind of seines or nets within a radius of 100 feet of or from any dam, frighten or hinder fish from the free passage up or down a fish chute or ladder, or place any obstruction or device in or across any race, stream, or river in this state in a manner that obstructs the free passage of fish up and down the race, stream, or river. For the purpose of this

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part, a dam is an artificial barrier or obstruction placed in a river or stream in this state which changes the natural elevation of the water level more than 2 feet.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48707 Lamprey control weir; prohibited waters for fishing.

Sec. 48707. A person shall not fish within a distance of 100 feet upstream or downstream from a lamprey control weir installed by the department or the United States fish and wildlife service and designated by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48708 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to restrictions on smelt nets.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48709 Dam or barrier; destruction or interference prohibited.

Sec. 48709. A person shall not destroy or attempt to destroy, or interfere with in any manner, any artificial dam or barrier placed in a trout stream under the direction of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48710 Applicability of part to gaff, landing net, person propagating fish, or fish caught by device.

Sec. 48710. This part does not prohibit the use of a gaff, except on or along trout streams, or a landing net to assist in landing fish already caught by a lawful device. This part does not apply to an individual engaged in the business of propagating fish under part 459 or to fish caught by a device for which a lawful permit or license is obtained from the department under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 36, Imd. Eff. Feb. 21, 2018;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48711 Possession of fishing devices; prohibition; confiscation; exceptions; evidence; certain controls not affected.

Sec. 48711. An individual shall not have in his or her possession any net, set lines, jack or other artificial light of any kind, dynamite, giant powder, or other explosive substance or combination of substances, hook and line, or any other contrivance or device to be used for the purpose of taking fish in violation of this part or any other act or part. Any such property, contrivance, or device found in the possession of an individual or found in a boat, boathouse, or any other place on any of the waters of this state or along the shores of the waters of this state must be confiscated and disposed of in the manner provided by law. An individual shall not have a gaff in his or her possession on or along any trout stream in this state or use, except from June 1 to Labor Day, on any trout stream a single hook of any kind that is more than 3/8 inches between the point of the hook and the shank. This section does not prohibit the use or possession of minnow seines, minnow traps, or dip nets as provided in section 48730 or the use and possession of seines, nets, spears, or artificial lights for the use of which a lawful permit or license has been issued by the department. Commercial anglers who have licenses to take fish in the Great Lakes may have in their possession nets or hook lines for that purpose only. In prosecutions for the violations of this section, and in proceedings for the confiscation of the property described in this section, the possession of any such property, contrivance, or device or, when not found in possession of any individual, the presence of any such property in a boat, boathouse, or any other place on the waters of this state or along the shores of the waters of this state is prima facie evidence that the property is owned, possessed, or used for the purpose of violating this part. The possession of any such property, contrivance, or device on the waters of this state that are closed to all fishing during the closed season on or along those waters is prima facie evidence that the property is owned, possessed, or used for the purpose of

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violating this part. This act or any other act does not apply to the department in its program in fisheries management or in the control of aquatic vegetation by individuals under permit issued by the department when, in the opinion of the department, that control is not inimical to the public interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48712 Fishing in propagating beds prohibited; exception.

Sec. 48712. An individual shall not catch any fish or attempt to catch any fish in any manner in any lake, stream, or pond or portion of any lake, stream, or pond that is used by the state or federal government for the propagation of fish, except in the portion or portions of the lake, stream, or pond designated by the commission as open to fishing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48713 Fishing to remove eggs prohibited.

Sec. 48713. A person shall not catch any game or nongame fish in any manner in any lake, stream, or pond or in the Great Lakes for the purpose of removing its eggs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48714 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to a commercial fishing guide.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48714a Sport fishing guide; license requirements; commercial forestland prohibition; revocation; monthly reports; failure to file penalties; exhibition of license upon demand; violations; civil fines; definitions.

Sec. 48714a. (1) Beginning March 1, 2024, an individual shall not act as a sport fishing guide on an inland lake or stream, as that term is defined in section 30101, unless that individual possesses both of the following:

(a) A valid license issued under subsection (2).

(b) A valid fishing license.

(2) To obtain a license to act as a sport fishing guide, an individual shall submit the application fee described in section 48714b and an application to the department. The application must be in a format determined by the department. The department shall grant a license to an individual only if the department determines all of the following:

(a) That the individual holds a valid certification in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation issued by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or a comparable organization as approved by the department, and that the individual can provide to the department, upon request, a copy of the certification.

(b) The individual has a valid, lawfully obtained Michigan driver license issued under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, an official state personal identification card issued under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, or a sportcard issued under section 43522.

(c) The individual has not been convicted of any of the following within the past 3 years:

(*i*) A violation of any of the following:

(A) Section 40112.

(B) Section 40118(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (14), (15), (16), or (17).

(C) Section 41105.

(D) Section 44524.

(E) Section 48738(2) or (3).

(F) Section 48739(1), (2), or (3).

(*ii*) Any felony.

(*iii*) A violation of a law of a participating state substantially corresponding to a violation described in subparagraphs (*i*) to (*ii*).

(d) The individual is eligible to purchase a license for the fish species for which the individual is acting as

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a sport fishing guide.

(e) Unless the individual indicates in writing to the department that sport fishing guiding activities will occur without the use of a watercraft, the individual has either a valid state pilot's license issued by the department under section 44510 or a valid captain's license issued by the United States Coast Guard.

(3) An individual shall not act as a sport fishing guide unless that individual, when acting as a sport fishing guide, carries a basic first aid kit that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Tourniquet, chest seals, and compression gauze.

(b) CPR mask.

(c) Trauma shears.

(d) Sterile eyewash.

(e) Mylar emergency blanket.

(f) Bandages.

(g) Moleskin.

(h) Tweezers.

(4) An individual shall not act as a sport fishing guide on commercial forestland.

(5) A license issued under this section is valid for 3 years after the date it is issued. The department shall allow an individual to obtain a public boating access entry pass required under section 78105(3) with any sport fishing guide license issued under this section for each year that the sport fishing guide license is valid. The department may revoke a license under this section, after notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, for either of the following reasons:

(a) The department determines that an individual is not eligible to hold a license under this section.

(b) The individual provides false information under this section.

(6) A sport fishing guide shall file monthly reports to the department, in a format determined by the department, that contain information related to all of the following:

(a) The species of fish for which the individual acted as a sport fishing guide.

(b) The number of clients that the sport fishing guide had for each fishing trip and the number of hours fished for each fishing trip.

(c) The number of fish caught and released and the number of fish harvested by the clients of the sport fishing guide.

(d) The bodies of water where the individual acted as a sport fishing guide.

(e) Any additional information the department requires regarding the fishing activity or biological characteristics of the fish caught and released or harvested.

(f) For any month that the guide did not act as a sport fishing guide, a report stating that the individual did not act as a sport fishing guide during that month.

(7) If an individual fails to file a monthly report under subsection (6) and that report remains unfiled for more than 90 days after the date it is due, the individual is subject to the following:

(a) For a first violation, a $100.00 civil fine.

(b) For a second violation, a $200.00 civil fine.

(c) For a third violation, a $500.00 civil fine.

(d) For a fourth violation, after notice and an opportunity for hearing in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, a revocation of the individual's license under this section.

(8) Information submitted in reports under subsection (6) is confidential and is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(9) The department shall annually post on its website all of the following:

(a) The number of applications submitted under subsection (2) in the previous year.

(b) The number of licenses issued under this section in the previous year.

(c) A list of individuals who have valid licenses under this section.

(10) An individual shall carry that individual's sport fishing guide license and shall exhibit the license upon the demand of a conservation officer, a peace officer, a tribal conservation officer, a park and recreation officer if sport fishing guiding takes place on property regulated under part 741 or 781, or the owner or occupant of any land where the individual is acting as a sport fishing guide.

(11) An individual who acts as a sport fishing guide without a valid license issued under this section or who acts as a sport fishing guide on commercial forestland is subject to a civil fine of not more than $500.00. An individual who acts as a sport fishing guide without a valid license issued under this section or who acts as a sport fishing guide on commercial forestland a second or subsequent time is subject to a civil fine of not more than $1,000.00. A civil fine collected under this subsection or subsection (7) must be deposited in the

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game and fish protection account established in section 2010.

(12) An individual who provides false information to the department under this section is subject to a civil fine of not more than $500.00 and the costs of prosecution.

(13) As used in this section:

(a) "Consideration" means an economic benefit, inducement, right, or profit, including monetary payment accruing to an individual or person. Consideration does not include a voluntary sharing of the actual expenses of the guiding activity, by monetary contribution or donation of fuel, food, beverage, or other supplies.

(b) "Participating state" means that term as defined in section 1615.

(c) "Sport fishing guide" means an individual who, for a fee or other consideration, provides assistance to another individual in pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take fish. Sport fishing guide does not include any of the following:

(*i*) An employee or member of an organization conducting a not-for-profit activity to recruit, retain, or promote fishing, while providing assistance to another individual in taking fish during that activity.

(*ii*) The owner of private land while providing assistance to another individual in pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take fish on that private land.

(*iii*) An individual who complies with subsection (2)(c) and who is working under the direct supervision of a licensed sport fishing guide. As used in this subparagraph, "direct supervision" means that visual and vocal contact is constantly maintained between the individual and the licensed sport fishing guide.

History: Add. 2023, Act 220, Eff. Feb. 20, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48714b Application fee for sport fishing guide license; public boating access entry pass fee.

Sec. 48714b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department shall charge a resident applying for a sport fishing guide license under section 48714a an application fee of $150.00. The department shall charge a nonresident applying for a sport fishing guide license under section 48714a an application fee of $300.00. The operator of a charter boat licensed under part 445 is not required to pay an application fee under this section. Money collected under this section must be deposited in the game and fish protection account established in section 2010.

(2) If an individual elects to obtain a public boating access entry pass with the sport fishing guide license under section 48714a, the department shall charge that individual a $300.00 fee. Money collected for a public boating access entry pass under this section must be deposited in the waterways account established in section 2035.

History: Add. 2023, Act 220, Eff. Feb. 20, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART III
OPEN SEASONS

324.48715-324.48720 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed sections pertained to and open and closed seasons based on location and fish species.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48721 Possession limits of fish.

Sec. 48721. (1) The commission shall issue an order under part 411 establishing possession limits of fish consistent with this section. An individual shall not possess more than the daily possession limit or aggregate daily possession limit, as applicable, of fish at the place where the fish were taken or in route from that place to either of the following:

(a) His or her automobile or other principal means of land transportation.

(b) His or her residence or temporary place of lodging.

(2) In addition to 1 day's possession limit of fish, an individual may possess an additional 2 days' possession limit of fish that are processed by any of the following methods:

(a) Canning in a sealed container.

(b) Curing by smoking or drying.

(c) Freezing in a solid state.

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(3) An individual's processed fish aboard a vessel, on the water or at dockside, are considered to be in the individual's possession for the purposes of subsection (2).

(4) An individual shall not possess a fish illegally taken.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 30, Eff. Apr. 1, 2011;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48722 Game fish; carried as open hand baggage; transportation.

Sec. 48722. A resident or nonresident who holds an unexpired fishing license issued in his or her name may carry as open hand baggage not more than 1 day's legal catch of fish. However, any person holding an unexpired fishing license may obtain only 1 permit from the department authorizing that person to ship 1 day's legal catch of any species of game fish or combination of species. The catch of 2 or more licensed anglers may be combined in a single package. However, the permit of each angler whose catch is combined in the package shall be attached to the package.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48723 Purchase, sale, transportation or possession of certain fish prohibited; exceptions.

Sec. 48723. A person shall not purchase, buy, or sell, attempt to purchase, buy, or sell, transport to any point outside of this state at any time, or possess during the periods in which the taking or catching of the fish is prohibited, any species of fish taken on a sport fishing license or any species of fish taken without a commercial fishing license. Any lawfully taken fish may be possessed for 60 days after the close of the respective open seasons. A person possessing a nonresident fishing license may take from this state a day's legal catch of fish in accordance with his or her license. This section does not apply to or conflict with the possession, sale, or transportation of fish taken legally under the commercial fishing laws and regulations of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48724 “Fish cleaning station” defined; license to purchase, sell, or exchange anything of value for raw or unprocessed salmon eggs; prohibited conduct; compliance with requirements; selling or buying chemically treated salmon eggs; violation; order; injunctive relief.

Sec. 48724. (1) As used in this section, "fish cleaning station" means an operation or location used to clean salmon for sport fishers.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3)(c), a person shall not purchase, sell, or otherwise exchange anything of value for raw or unprocessed salmon eggs unless the person is licensed pursuant to section 47333 and the sale, purchase, or exchange of the raw or unprocessed salmon eggs is made with another person who is also licensed pursuant to section 47333.

(3) A person who operates or is the agent of an operator of a fish cleaning station shall not do any of the following:

(a) Accept raw or unprocessed salmon eggs except from whole salmon, known as salmon in the round, or eggs salvaged from salmon cleaned at the station.

(b) Operate a fish cleaning station that sells raw or unprocessed salmon eggs without a current and valid permit issued by the department.

(c) Buy, barter, or otherwise exchange anything of value for raw or unprocessed salmon eggs. This subdivision does not prohibit the operator of a fish cleaning station or his or her agents from exchanging the service of cleaning salmon in exchange for the eggs in the salmons' carcasses or from charging a fee for cleaning salmon.

(d) Buy or sell salmon carcasses taken by a person licensed under part 435.

(4) A person issued a permit to operate a fish cleaning station shall comply with all of the following requirements:

(a) Raw or unprocessed salmon eggs may only be collected and stored at the location of the fish cleaning

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station specified in the permit.

(b) The fish cleaning station shall be licensed in accordance with the food processing act of 1977, Act No. 328 of the Public Acts of 1978, being sections 289.801 to 289.810 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and operated in compliance with the Michigan food law of 1968, Act No. 39 of the Public Acts of 1968, being sections 289.701 to 289.727 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, only when the salmon eggs or salmon, or both, are sold or given to another person for human consumption.

(c) Disposal of offal and unwanted salmon carcasses shall be in a manner approved by the local health department.

(d) A permit holder shall accept from sport fishers all salmon carcasses that are brought to the station and shall hold and dispose of them and their offal only in a manner approved by the local health department.

(e) As a condition of his or her permit, a permit holder whose fish cleaning station is located on state owned land shall provide free access to the fish cleaning station facilities to anglers who wish to use the facilities to clean their own salmon catch.

(5) This section shall not be construed to prohibit the selling or buying of chemically treated salmon eggs in the form of spawn sacks or spawn bags.

(6) If the department finds that a person is in violation of this section or a permit issued under this section, the department may issue an order requiring the person to comply with the permit. In addition to the penalties provided for in this part, the department or its agent, the attorney general, or a person may seek injunctive relief for a violation of this section or a permit issued under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48725 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48726 Repealed. 2008, Act 291, Imd. Eff. Oct. 6, 2008.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to adoption of orders relating to harvesting of salmon and trout.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48727 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to snagging fish and management of fisheries on Pere Marquette river.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART IV
MINNOWS

324.48728 Definitions.

Sec. 48728. As used in this part:

(a) "Commercial purposes" means offering for sale, selling, giving, or furnishing to others.

(b) "Crayfish" means any arthropod of the decapoda family.

(c) "Minnows" means chubs, shiners, suckers, when of a size ordinarily used for bait in hook and line fishing, dace, stonerollers, muddlers, and mudminnows.

(d) "Wigglers" means Mayfly nymphs or any other aquatic insect nymphs or larvae.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48729 Prohibited conduct; exception for charter fishing guide.

Sec. 48729. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), a person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Take or possess minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes from any of the waters over which this state has jurisdiction; import minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes from outside of this state; or transport minnows, wigglers, or crayfish without having first procured a license as provided in section 48732. A license, except a license to fish in the waters of this state as provided in part 435, is not

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required of persons taking minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for their individual use for bait. A person shall not set or use minnow traps for the taking of minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for any purpose unless the name and address of the user is on the trap.

(b) Export out of this state any minnows, wigglers, or crayfish, dead or alive, taken either in or outside of this state unless that person holds a permit issued under this subdivision. The department, upon receipt of a payment of $500.00, may issue a permit, revocable by the department with reason, under any regulations the department prescribes, to any person licensed as provided for in section 48732, enabling that person to transport outside of this state minnows, wigglers, or crayfish. A person holding a permit as provided in this subdivision shall provide a monthly report in a manner and format determined by the department that includes, but is not limited to, the quantity of exported minnows, wigglers, or crayfish by species that were taken from waters over which this state has jurisdiction. Imported wholesale minnows, wigglers, and crayfish must be held separately from any minnows, wigglers, or crayfish taken from waters over which this state has jurisdiction. A person holding a permit as provided in this subdivision and transporting wholesale minnows, wigglers, or crayfish shall produce documentation that contains the origin of the shipment, registration or permit copies, documentation demonstrating the shipment's destination, and any other proof required by the department, upon demand of the director or a law enforcement officer. The department may revoke a permit issued under this subdivision upon good cause. A permit issued under this subdivision expires on December 31 following the date the license is issued unless the license is revoked before that date.

(c) Use or attempt to use live goldfish or carp for bait in fishing.

(d) Offer for sale or use lamprey for bait in fishing.

(e) Take, possess, or transport minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes from any of the waters over which this state has jurisdiction unless the taker is a resident of this state and holds a permit or license as required by law.

(2) A person who operates as a charter fishing guide on either the Great Lakes or the inland waters of this state may transport and possess minnows, wigglers, and crayfish for exclusive use by their clients as bait while on a fishing trip without an additional permit or license if that person has purchased the minnows, wigglers, or crayfish from a wholesale or retail outlet that holds a permit or license as provided in section 48732 to take, possess, or transport minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes. A person who operates as a charter fishing guide that purchases and provides live minnows, wigglers, or crayfish to their clients, must retain a receipt showing the quantity purchased and the wholesale or retail establishment the minnows, wigglers, or crayfish were purchased from and must possess and present that receipt upon request of a peace officer until the minnows, wigglers, or crayfish are no longer in possession of that person. A person who operates as a charter fishing guide may not sell or furnish minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for any other purpose outside the context described in this subsection without having first procured a license as provided in section 48732.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 337, Imd. Eff. Oct. 16, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 643, Eff. Mar. 28, 2019;—Am. 2022, Act 30, Imd. Eff. Mar. 15, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48730 Powers of department.

Sec. 48730. (1) The department may designate the lakes and streams and parts of lakes and streams from which minnows, wigglers, and crayfish may be taken for commercial purposes and make rules, regulations, and restrictions for taking, possessing, and transporting minnows, wigglers, and crayfish.

(2) A person shall not take or attempt to take minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes from any waters of the state not designated by the department or violate any of the rules, regulations, or restrictions established pursuant to this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48731 Minnow seines; glass or wire traps; hand nets; hook and line; dip nets.

Sec. 48731. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, minnow seines of not more than 125 feet in length and 16 feet in width may be used in the Great Lakes and their connecting waterways and in the inland lakes, streams, and rivers of this state. Minnows may only be taken from trout streams during open season with glass or wire traps. Minnow seines shall not be used in trout streams at any time.

(2) Hand nets not exceeding 8 feet square without sides or walls, minnow traps not exceeding 2 feet in length, minnow seines not exceeding 12 feet in length and 4 feet in width, and hook and line may be used for

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taking minnows for personal use in any of the waters designated by the department, as provided in section 48730. However, a person shall not take minnows in trout streams with hand or dip nets.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART V
LICENSES AND PERMITS

324.48732 "Place of business" defined; limited retail minnow dealer's license; wholesale minnow dealer's license; minnow catcher's license; fees; prohibited imports; separate licenses; size of crew; identification cards; license application forms; display of placard and license number; display of license or identification card on demand; inspection of records and equipment; revocation or expiration of license.

Sec. 48732. (1) As used in this section, "place of business" means a single location designated in a license application.

(2) The department, upon receipt of a fee of $25.00, may issue a limited retail minnow dealer's license to entitle the licensee to operate 1 place of business and 1 motor vehicle and to buy, transport, and retail minnows, wigglers, and crayfish.

(3) The department, upon receipt of a fee of $100.00, may issue to a resident a wholesale minnow dealer's license to entitle the licensee to operate 1 place of business, to transport, using up to 3 motor vehicles, and to sell at wholesale to licensed minnow dealers minnows, wigglers, and crayfish.

(4) The department, upon receipt of a fee of $50.00, may issue to the holder of a limited retail minnow dealer's license or a wholesale minnow dealer's license a minnow catcher's license to permit the taking, collecting, transporting, and possessing of live or fresh minnows, wigglers, or crayfish to be used for commercial purposes in accordance with this part. Each minnow catcher's license entitles the licensee to operate up to 3 crews consisting of not more than 4 persons and 4 motor vehicles for the purpose of taking, collecting, and transporting live or fresh minnows, wigglers, or crayfish.

(5) The department, upon receipt of a fee of $500.00, may issue to a nonresident of the state a wholesale minnow dealer's license to entitle the licensee to operate 1 place of business, to transport, using up to 3 motor vehicles, and to sell at wholesale to licensed minnow dealers minnows, wigglers, and crayfish.

(6) Crayfish shall not be imported for commercial purposes from outside of this state without a special permit from the department. Minnows and wigglers not native to the waters of this state shall not be imported from outside of this state.

(7) The holder of a license issued pursuant to this section who possesses minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes at more than 1 place of business shall obtain a separate license for each place of business. The holder of a license issued pursuant to this section may use more than 3 crews not to exceed 4 crew members in taking, collecting, and transporting minnows, wigglers, and crayfish, or use additional motor vehicles in collecting and transporting minnows, wigglers, or crayfish, for a fee of $15.00 for each additional crew of not more than 4 persons and for each additional motor vehicle.

(8) With each minnow catcher's license issued under this section, the department shall issue 12 identification cards bearing the number of the license and the year for which the license is issued. Each member of a crew engaged in taking, collecting, and transporting minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes shall carry an identification card at all times while taking, collecting, or transporting minnows, wigglers, or crayfish. The department shall supply license application forms which shall state the name and address of the licensee and the lakes and streams and parts of lakes and streams from which minnows, wigglers, or crayfish may be taken. A person to whom a limited retail or wholesale minnow dealer's license has been issued under this part shall prominently display at the place of business designated in that license a placard to be furnished by the department which will contain the words "Licensed Minnow Dealer" and the license number and the year for which the license was issued. Any person to whom such a license has been issued under this section shall permanently display the license number in 4-inch block letters on each side of the tanks on the motor vehicle or on the front doors of the motor vehicle and on the back of the motor vehicle.

(9) Upon demand of a conservation officer or any other peace officer, a person found taking, collecting, possessing, or transporting any live or fresh minnows, wigglers, or crayfish for commercial purposes shall display a license or identification card provided for in this section. The records, seines, nets, minnow traps, transporting equipment, and other equipment of every kind utilized in the handling of minnows, wigglers, and crayfish and the tanks and ponds where minnows, wigglers, and crayfish are held shall be open to inspection

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at any reasonable time by a conservation officer or any other peace officer.

(10) All licenses issued pursuant to this section are revocable upon just cause and, if not revoked, expire on December 31 following the date of issuance. Any person whose license has been revoked shall not be issued a commercial minnow, wiggler, and crayfish license within a period of 1 year from the date of revocation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48733 Repealed. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to the designation of certain waters for spear fishing.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48734 Permit to remove fish from waters or donate fish taken during fishing tournament; exception for game fish; issuance.

Sec. 48734. (1) The department may issue permits for the removal of fish, except for game fish, from all the waters over which this state has jurisdiction to manage fish and sell or authorize the sale of those fish to pay the expense of the removal on terms that are in the best advantage of this state.

(2) The department may issue a permit to a person that has registered with the department as a fishing tournament or event authorizing that any fish taken under a sport fishing license, except for game fish, during a registered tournament may be donated, not for pecuniary profit, to a person. Fish donated under this subsection are not subject to section 48723 and the person accepting the donated fish may process, utilize, and sell any fish or fish product resulting from the donation.

(3) The person taking the fish or accepting the donated fish must retain a copy of the permit with the fish for transport and final disposition. The department shall incorporate regulations and restrictions in the permits as the department considers advisable, including the authorized method of take. Any person taking fish under a permit issued under this section shall conform to all the regulations and restrictions specified in the permit and any reporting standards established by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48735 Permit to take fish for fish culture or scientific investigation; exception; permit to possess live game fish in ponds, pools, and aquariums; taking fish to obtain spawn or for protection from ecological damage or imbalance; taking fish not required to maintain fishery resources; supervision; sale or transfer of fish; importing or bringing fish or eggs from outside state; permit to plant spawn, fry, or fish in public waters; exhibiting permits.

Sec. 48735. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person shall not take from any of the inland waters of this state any fish in any manner for the purpose of fish culture or scientific investigation without first obtaining a permit from the department, except that a person who is operating a private fish pond may take fish from his or her own pond for the purpose of propagation, scientific investigation, or sale under part 459.

(2) The department may issue permits to possess live game fish in public or private ponds, pools, or aquariums under rules and regulations as the department prescribes. This subsection is subject to subsection (5).

(3) The department may cause to be taken from the inland waters of this state any species of fish for the purpose of obtaining spawn for fish culture or scientific investigation or for the protection of the inland waters from ecological damage or imbalance. In addition, the department may cause to be taken from the inland waters of this state species of fish that are not required to maintain the fishery resources of the inland waters. All fish taken under this subsection shall be taken under the supervision of a deputy of the department appointed for that purpose and in a manner consistent with the regulations of the department of agriculture and rural development, and the fish may be sold or transferred by the department.

(4) A person shall not import or bring any live game fish, including viable eggs of any game fish, from outside of this state except under a permit from the department or under part 459 and the rules promulgated under that part. A person shall not plant any spawn, fry, or fish of any kind in any of the public waters of this state or any other waters under the jurisdiction of this state without first obtaining a permit from the department that states the species, number, and approximate size or age of the spawn, fry, or fish to be planted and the name and location of the waters where the spawn, fry, or fish shall be planted. A permit is not

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required to plant spawn, fry, or fish furnished by the federal or state government. This subsection is subject to subsection (5).

(5) A permit under subsection (2) or (4) does not include a genetically engineered variant of a fish species identified in the permit unless the genetically engineered variant is specifically identified in the permit. A permit under subsection (2) or (4) may be limited to a genetically engineered fish.

(6) A permittee under this section shall exhibit the permit upon the request of any law enforcement officer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48736 Removal of caddis fly larvae or other insect larvae from trout streams; prohibition; exception.

Sec. 48736. Except as provided in this section, a person shall not take or remove or attempt to take or remove any caddis fly larvae or other insect larvae or insects of any kind from any trout stream of this state. The department may designate trout streams or portions of trout streams from which caddis fly larvae or other insect larvae or insects may be taken for commercial purposes by persons licensed in accordance with section 48732. This section does not prohibit the taking of any caddis fly larvae or other insect larvae or insects from any trout stream of the state for personal use in fishing the stream from which taken.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48737 Sale of licenses and stamps; disposition of proceeds.

Sec. 48737. All money collected from the sale of licenses and stamps as provided in this part shall be paid over to the state treasurer by the department and held to the credit of the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010, and shall be used for the purposes necessary to the protection, propagation, and distribution of fish and game and as otherwise provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48738 Violations as misdemeanors; violation as felony; violation as civil infraction; penalties; suspension or revocation of permit or license; issuance or reinstatement.

Sec. 48738. (1) An individual who violates this part or rules or orders issued to implement this part, if a penalty is not otherwise provided for that violation in this section, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

(2) An individual who uses dynamite, nitroglycerin, any other explosive substance, lime, electricity, or poison for the purpose of taking or killing fish, who uses nets not authorized by law for taking game fish, or who buys or sells game fish or any part of game fish is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $250.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both.

(3) An individual who takes or possesses sturgeon in violation of this part or rules or orders issued to implement this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 180 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $2,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

(4) An individual who knowingly violates section 48735(2) or (4), or a rule or permit issued under section 48735(2) or (4), with respect to a genetically engineered variant of a fish species is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than $250,000.00, or both. In addition, the individual is liable for any damages to the natural resources resulting from the violation, including, but not limited to, costs incurred to prevent or minimize the damages.

(5) An individual who does either of the following is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00:

(a) Fails to attach the individual's name and address to tip-ups in violation of section 48703(2).

(b) Fishes with more than the authorized number of lines in violation of section 48703(1).

(6) If an individual is convicted of a violation of this part or a rule promulgated or order issued under this

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part and it is alleged in the complaint and proved or admitted at trial or ascertained by the court at the time of sentencing that the individual has been previously convicted 3 or more times of a violation of this part within the 5 years immediately preceding the last violation of this part, the individual is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution. This subsection does not apply to the following violations:

(a) Failing to possess or display a valid fishing license issued under part 435.

(b) Taking or possessing an overlimit of bluegill, sunfish, crappie, perch, or nongame fish.

(c) Taking or possessing not more than 5 undersized fish.

(d) Fishing with more than the authorized number of lines.

(e) Failing to attach the individual's name and address to tip-ups or minnow traps.

(f) Fishing with lines not under immediate control.

(7) In addition to the penalties provided in this section, a fishing license issued to an individual sentenced under subsection (2), (3), (4), or (6) must be revoked, and the individual must not be issued a license during the remainder of the year in which convicted or during the next 3 succeeding license years.

(8) Subject to subsection (9), if any permit or license under this part is ordered to be suspended or revoked under section 41309 and if the department maintains a database of suspensions or revocations of permits or licenses under this part, the department shall not issue a permit or license under this part to the individual for the period provided in the order.

(9) If a permit or license under this part is ordered to be suspended under section 41309, the suspension remains in effect until both of the following occur:

(a) The suspension period set forth in the court order has elapsed.

(b) The individual pays the department a reinstatement fee of $125.00.

(10) Unless an individual's permit or license is otherwise suspended, revoked, or denied, the permit or license is immediately reinstated on satisfaction of the requirements of subsection (9).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 270, Eff. Mar. 30, 2004;—Am. 2014, Act 541, Eff. Apr. 15, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021;—Am. 2022, Act 14, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.48739 Violation of part as misdemeanor; possession or sale of multipointed hook with weight permanently attached as misdemeanor; penalties.

Sec. 48739. (1) A person who snags fish in violation of this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $250.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and costs of prosecution.

(2) A person who is convicted of a second violation of snagging fish in violation of this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, and costs of prosecution. In addition, the court shall suspend a sports fishing license issued to a person sentenced under this subsection for not less than 2 years and order that the person shall not secure a fishing license during that 2-year period.

(3) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of snagging fish in violation of this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $2,000.00, or both, and costs of prosecution. In addition, the court shall suspend a sports fishing license issued to a person sentenced under this subsection for not less than 3 years and order that the person shall not secure a fishing license during that 3-year period.

(4) A person who possesses or sells in this state any multipointed hook with a weight permanently attached is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $300.00, or both, and costs of prosecution.

(5) A person who is convicted of a second violation of subsection (4) is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $300.00 or more than $500.00, or both, and costs of prosecution.

(6) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of subsection (4) is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, and costs of prosecution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.48740 Additional penalties; forfeitures; probation; default; disposition of forfeitures.

Sec. 48740. (1) In addition to the penalties provided in this part, a person convicted of taking game fish during a closed season; taking or possessing game fish in excess of lawful limits; taking game fish or nongame fish by use of an unlawful device; or buying or selling game fish, nongame fish, or any parts of game or nongame fish taken by use of an unlawful device shall forfeit to the state for the fish unlawfully taken or possessed as follows:

(a) For each game fish other than sturgeon, of an individual weight of 1 pound or more, $10.00 for each pound or fraction of a pound of fish illegally taken or possessed.

(b) For each game fish other than sturgeon, of an individual weight of less than 1 pound, $10.00 for each fish illegally taken or possessed.

(c) For sturgeon, $1,500.00 for each fish illegally taken or possessed.

(d) For each nongame fish, $5.00 for each pound or fraction of a pound of fish illegally taken or possessed.

(2) In every conviction for a violation described in subsection (1), the court before which the conviction is obtained shall order the defendant to forfeit to the state the sums provided in subsection (1). If 2 or more defendants are convicted of the illegal taking or possession of the fish, the forfeiture shall be declared against them jointly and severally.

(3) If a defendant fails to pay the sums forfeited for a violation of subsection (1), upon conviction, the court shall either impose a sentence of probation, and as a condition of sentence require the defendant to satisfy the forfeiture in the amount prescribed and fix the manner and time of payment, or make a written order permitting the defendant to pay the forfeited sums in installments at the times and in the amounts as the court determines the defendant is able to pay.

(4) A default in the payment of forfeiture or an installment of the forfeiture may be collected by any means authorized for the enforcement of a judgment under chapter 60 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.6001 to 600.6098.

(5) All courts collecting forfeitures as provided in this section shall promptly remit the forfeiture to the county treasurer, who shall transmit it to the state treasurer to be credited to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 489
WHAISKA BAY

324.48901 Whaiska Bay; fishing devices prohibited.

Sec. 48901. A person shall not place or set any kind of net or set hook lines or take or attempt to take any kind of fish with a net or set hook lines, except minnow seines, as provided in section 47309, in the connecting waters between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, said waters known as the Whaiska Bay, and also including all waters lying southerly to a line drawn from the most southeasterly point of lot 1, section 32, township 47 north, range 2 west, state of Michigan, and extending easterly to the most westerly point of Round Island.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 491
RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS WITH ADJOINING STATES

324.49101 Reciprocal agreements with adjoining states to cover taking of fish.

Sec. 49101. In order to provide uniform fishing regulations in any river or any of the Great Lakes forming a common boundary with an adjoining state and any inland lake or lakes bisected by a common boundary with an adjoining state, the department may enter into a reciprocal agreement with the authorized representatives of any adjoining state to establish the minimum size of fish that may be taken, the number that may be taken in any 1 day, the seasons when fish may be taken, and the methods by which fish may be taken from waters described in this section. Any such agreement shall clearly set forth the waters to be included and

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the period during which the agreement shall be in effect.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.49102 Fishing; reciprocal agreements; publication.

Sec. 49102. Any order issued under this part supersedes all other laws and regulations governing fishing in the waters that in any way conflict. The regulations contained in any such order shall be included in the annual digest of fishing laws, rules, and regulations published and distributed annually by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.49103 Violation of regulations as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 49103. A person who violates any regulation made under a reciprocal agreement entered into under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00 and costs of prosecution, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 4
FORESTS

THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

PART 501
FOREST IMPROVEMENTS

SUBPART 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS

324.50101 Meanings of words and phrases.

Sec. 50101. As used in this part, the words and phrases defined in sections 50102 to 50105 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50102 Definitions; A to D.

Sec. 50102. (1) "Agency of this state" means a board, bureau, commission, department, or other division of the executive branch of government of this state.

(2) "Board" means the board of directors of the forest improvement district.

(3) "Bond" means a bond, note, or any other instrument issued to evidence indebtedness.

(4) "Cost-share payment" means a payment made by a forest improvement district pursuant to section 50145 to a member who owns or occupies forest land.

(5) "County with high unemployment" means a county with an annual unemployment rate, as reported by the Michigan employment security commission, higher than the mean annual unemployment rate of this state.

(6) "District" or "forest improvement district" means a governmental subdivision of the state established under section 50123.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50103 Definitions; F to P.

Sec. 50103. (1) "Fish and wildlife habitat improvements" means measures designed to protect, maintain, or enhance fish and wildlife habitats.

(2) "Follow-up work" means forest practices to promote the survival of seeds or seedlings planted or the protection or enhancement of other work previously undertaken under this part.

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(3) "Forest improvement project" or "project" means each of the following:

(a) Production, processing, handling, storage, marketing, or transportation of forest resources, conducted in carrying out the purposes of this part, including sawmills, hardboard mills, power stations, warehouses, air and water pollution control equipment, and solid waste disposal facilities.

(b) Forest practice or follow-up work.

(c) Study, planning, or other work intended to improve forest lands or forest resources or to demonstrate means of improving forest lands or forest resources.

(4) "Forest land" means a tract of land or the timber rights in that land owned or occupied by a member, which land is at least 10% occupied by forest tree species with a growth potential of 50 cubic feet per acre per year and consists of 40 acres or more. Forest land includes land from which forest tree species have been removed and have not been restocked, but does not include land converted to uses other than the growing of forest tree species or land currently zoned for uses incompatible with forest practices.

(5) "Forest management plan" means a forest and land management plan submitted to a district pursuant to subpart 5.

(6) "Forest practice" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) The preparation of management plans for forest land.

(b) The improvement of forest tree species.

(c) Reforestation.

(d) The harvesting of forest tree species.

(e) Road construction associated with the improvement or harvesting of forest tree species or reforestation.

(f) Use of chemicals or fertilizers for the purpose of growing or managing forest tree species.

(g) The management of slashings resulting from other forest practices.

(h) Any other actions intended to improve forest land or forest resources.

(7) "Forest resources" means those products, uses, and values associated with forest land, including recreation and aesthetics, fish, forage, soil, timber, watershed, wilderness, and wildlife.

(8) "Gross territorial boundary" means the jurisdictional limit of the area of the district within which landowners are eligible for membership in the district.

(9) "Proposed gross territorial boundary" means the proposed jurisdictional limit of the area of the district within which owners or occupiers of land are eligible for membership in the district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50104 Definitions; H to P.

Sec. 50104. (1) "Harvest" means the point at which timber that has been cut, severed, or removed for purposes of sale or use is first measured in the ordinary course of business as determined by reference to common practice in the timber industry.

(2) "Land occupier" or "occupier of land" means a person who is in possession of forest land whether as a lessee or tenant, or otherwise.

(3) "Landowner" or "owner of land" means a person who holds an ownership interest in forest land and is a voluntary member in the district.

(4) "Member" means a person who is a voluntary participant in a district and who owns or occupies forest land within the gross territorial boundaries of a district.

(5) "Notice of a hearing" means notice as required by the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(6) "Project costs" means the sum total of all reasonable or necessary costs incurred for carrying out the acquisition, construction, or undertaking of a forest improvement project under this part. Project costs include the following costs: studies and surveys; plans, specifications, and architectural and engineering services; legal, marketing, or other special services; financing, acquisition, demolition, construction, equipment, and site development of new and rehabilitated buildings; rehabilitation, reconstruction, repair, or remodeling of existing buildings; interest and carrying charges during construction and before full earnings are achieved, and operating expenses before full earnings are achieved or for a period of 1 year after the completion of construction, whichever occurs first; and a reasonable reserve for payment of principal and interest on bonds of a district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.50105 Definitions; R to U.

Sec. 50105. (1) "Reforestation" means planting of tree seedlings, cuttings, or seed.

(2) "Small business entity" means a business enterprise with $500,000.00 or less average annual gross revenue during its last 3 tax years.

(3) "Stumpage value" of timber means values determined from log grade value tables adopted or used by the department.

(4) "Timber" means wood growth, mature or immature, growing or dead, standing or down. Timber does not include any of the following:

(a) Christmas trees and associated greens.

(b) Material harvested from an individual's own land and used on that land for the construction of fences or buildings or for other personal use.

(c) Fuel wood harvested for use in individual homes.

(5) "Timber owner" means a person who holds an ownership interest in forest tree species on forest land. An ownership interest includes a license or other right to timber on state lands.

(6) "Timber volume agreement" means that portion of the difference between the allowable cut volume and a projected future need volume which can be committed to a person.

(7) "Unit of proper measurement" means a unit of measurement commonly used in the timber industry for measuring timber and harvested timber products.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50106 Purpose.

Sec. 50106. (1) The purpose of this part is to stimulate improved management and utilization of forest land and forest resources within this state as recommended by Jaakko Poyry and company, Helsinki, Finland, in Michigan's timber resource development project. Economic and community development opportunities based on the forest resource will be enhanced by ensuring adequate future high-quality timber supplies, increased employment opportunities, a diversified economy, and other economic benefits and the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of a productive and stable forest resource system for the public benefit of present and future generations.

(2) The primary purpose of this part is to demonstrate and improve the timber productivity of forest land within this state. Consistent with this purpose, the objective is to effect a utilization of waste material and determine the commercial feasibility of that waste material, as well as to improve all forest resources, such as fish and wildlife habitat and soil resources, so that the overall effect is to improve the total forest resource system.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50107 Liberal construction.

Sec. 50107. This part, being necessary to secure the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience of the citizens of the state, shall be liberally construed to effect the public policy and purposes declared in this subpart.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 2
FOREST RESTORATION PILOT PROJECT

324.50108 Forest restoration pilot project; purpose; sources of funding; allocation of funds.

Sec. 50108. (1) The department may fund a forest restoration pilot project or any other district created under this part to implement this part. The forest restoration pilot project may consist of the establishment and funding of the forest improvement district formed under this part.

(2) The department may fund the pilot project or any other district created pursuant to this part from funds appropriated annually by the legislature and from the following sources:

(a) General fund of the state.

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(b) Grants from the federal government.

(c) Grants or gifts from private persons.

(d) Any other permissible source.

(3) When allocating available funds among proposed pilot projects, the department shall consider those projects that in its judgment will produce the greatest public benefit, giving consideration to all of the following factors:

(a) The need to demonstrate the potential commercial benefits of forest practices that can be recognized by the establishment of a forest improvement district.

(b) The need to demonstrate the potential benefits to long-term production, maintenance, and enhancement of the total forest resource system.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50109 Expenses.

Sec. 50109. A district board of directors shall determine the annual expenses of the district and shall submit an itemized list of the expenses to the department. The department shall include those expenses in its annual budget request to the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50110 Repealed. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to definitions.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50111 Western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district; establishment; petition; selection of lands by committee; employment of forester; activation of working forests; factors in determining and allocating funds.

Sec. 50111. (1) A forest restoration pilot project organized as a forest improvement district with a gross territorial boundary encompassing the western 6 counties of the Upper Peninsula of this state with its headquarters and industrial site in or near the village of Baraga shall be established as a governmental subdivision of the state when a petition signed by 25 or more landowners of a total combined acreage of more than 55,000 acres within the gross territorial boundary is filed with the department. The name of the district shall be the "western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district". The petition shall set forth those requirements prescribed by section 50124(1)(a), (b), and (e). The district forester of the department may sign the petition and include in the petition forest lands under the jurisdiction of the department to establish 1 working forest within each district. In the western Upper Peninsula pilot project district, at least 25% of the lands shall be composed of nonindustrial private timber owners of at least 40-acre tracts and not more than 640-acre tracts. Not more than 15,000 acres in each district may be owned by 1 timber owner. One timber owner shall not have a majority ownership in more than 1 working forest in a district. One timber owner of more than 7,500 acres shall not vote for a director from more than 1 working forest.

(2) The pilot project district shall give preference to land well stocked predominantly with hardwood trees and may include other broadleaf trees having approximately 6 inches or more diameter breast height and having above average future market values to expedite marketability from the restructuring of the land.

(3) The selection of land composing each working forest in the pilot project district shall be made from the written applications received from the timber owners on application forms prescribed by a committee composed of 7 members, 3 of whom shall be the 3 directors of forest restoration, inc., and 4 of whom shall be members of the public appointed by these 3 directors. Not less than 4 members of the committee shall be graduate foresters who have had at least 5 years' experience supervising logging operations. The committee shall select the land and may employ a full-time forester.

(4) When the selection of land is made and the working forests identified, the committee shall establish a sequence for the activation of the working forests in the pilot project district when, and as, a substantial use for or marketing of waste wood becomes available, if more than 4 working forests are identified. When the working forests are to be activated, the forest management plans of the members shall be approved, and the members of each activated working forest then shall elect a director of the district.

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(5) The department or any other state agency shall remit to the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district funds appropriated for such purposes by the legislature.

(6) The funds otherwise appropriated for the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district shall be determined and allocated to produce the greatest public benefit based on the following factors:

(a) The potential economic benefits of forest practices which can be recognized by the establishment of the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district.

(b) The potential benefits to long-term production, maintenance, and enhancement of the total forest resource system.

(c) The potential benefits from a large-volume use of waste wood as a primary fuel for electric generating plants or as raw material for processing and manufacturing plants.

(d) The potential increased employment produced by the adoption of forest practices.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50112 Repealed. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to the board of directors of western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50113 Report.

Sec. 50113. During the years of operation of the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district, a detailed report of the operation and impact of the district shall be submitted by the board of the district to the departments and the legislature for an analysis and evaluation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50114 Notices; contents; certification.

Sec. 50114. Within 30 days after receipt of the certificate from the secretary of state pursuant to section 50127, the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district board shall record a notice pursuant to this part setting forth the names and addresses of the member landowners and the legal description of each member's forest lands in the office of the register of deeds for each county in which the land is situated. When forest lands are added or withdrawn, a like notice shall be recorded within 30 days thereafter, and copies of all notices shall be served upon the appropriate local taxing authorities. The notices shall be certified under oath.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50115 Mandate for public benefit; standards for conduct of forest practices.

Sec. 50115. For the public benefit, the board shall mandate the continuous growing, improvement, and harvesting of forest trees to protect and maintain the forest soil, air, water resources, wildlife, and aquatic habitat within the district. The board of the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district shall establish minimum standards for the conduct of forest practices on forest land within the district. These standards shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide for the improvement and harvesting of forest trees in a manner that will increase the productivity of the forest land, reduce soil and debris entering streams, and protect wildlife and fish habitat.

(b) Provide for road construction that will ensure the maintenance of forest productivity and water quality during construction and maintenance.

(c) Provide for reforestation that will maintain the growing and harvesting of desirable forest tree species by describing the conditions under which reforestation will be required, specifying the minimum and maximum number of trees per acre and the maximum period of time allowed after harvesting for reforestation, and requiring stabilization of soils that have become exposed as a result of harvesting. An acreage exemption from reforestation may be established, except that, on the land exempted, within 1 year after harvesting, some form of vegetative cover shall be required sufficient to provide continuing soil productivity and stabilization.

(d) Provide for management of slashings resulting from the harvesting, management, or improvement of forest tree species so as to protect reproduction and residual stands, to reduce the risk from fire, insects, and

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disease, to optimize the conditions for future regeneration of forest trees, and to maintain water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

(e) Coordinate the notification requirement of this subpart and all other submission requirements imposed upon members so as to minimize the requirements for submission of information.

(f) Require having specific forest fire fighting equipment readily available.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50116 Changes in forest management plan; approval; appeal; determination; service of changes on members; effective date of changes.

Sec. 50116. (1) A member who has submitted and obtained approval of the member's forest management plan and desires to effect a change in the plan shall set forth the proposed change in writing and obtain the written approval of the supervisory forester of the working forest in which the member's lands are located.

(2) If the supervisory forester does not grant the approval, the member may appeal the denial to the forestry director, if any, or to the board, and the forestry director's and the board's determination shall be final.

(3) Changes in forestry management plans determined by the board shall be set forth in writing and served upon the members and shall take effect 30 days after the service is made.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50117 Security for repayment of bonds.

Sec. 50117. The security for the repayment of bonds issued by the district may be a pledge or mortgage on all lands owned by the district and all of the district's installations, buildings, and equipment, tools, furniture, fixtures, or other personal property owned by the district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50118 Approved reserve fund; establishment; purpose; payments into fund; resolution as to use of money; limitations.

Sec. 50118. (1) The western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district shall establish 1 or more special debt service reserve funds to secure its bonds, referred to in this part as approved reserve funds. The district shall pay into an approved reserve fund the money appropriated and made available by the state for the purpose of the fund. The money held in an approved reserve fund and the income on that money shall be used as required by the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and creating the fund for their repayment.

(2) An approved reserve fund requirement in the resolution of the board authorizing the bonds with respect to which the fund is established shall not exceed the maximum amount of principal and interest maturing and becoming due in any succeeding calendar year on the bonds secured in whole or in part by the fund. The district shall not issue bonds secured in whole or in part by an approved reserve fund if, upon the issuance of the bonds, the amount in the fund would be less than the requirement for the fund, unless the district at the time of issuance of the bonds deposits in the fund from the proceeds of the bonds to be issued, or from other sources, an amount which, together with the amount then in the fund, is not less than the approved reserve fund requirement for the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50119 Applicability of part.

Sec. 50119. Except where expressly modified by this subpart, this part applies to the western Upper Peninsula forest restoration pilot project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 3

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324.50120 Duties of department generally; applicability of provisions to western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district.

Sec. 50120. (1) The department shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide the technical assistance of the department to the board of directors of a forest improvement district and to agencies of the state and persons with respect to the development of forest practices guidelines, the development and implementation of forest management plans, and other matters as to which the department has special expertise.

(b) Secure the cooperation and assistance of the United States or an agency of the United States, and an agency of this state, or any combination of federal and state agencies, in the work of a district, and formulate policies and procedures as necessary to facilitate the extension of aid from an agency of the United States or an agency of this state to the district.

(c) Keep the board of each forest improvement district informed of the activities and experience of all other districts organized under this part and facilitate an interchange of advice, experience, and cooperation between them.

(d) Pay all the expenses for the serving of notice, the conduct of hearings, and elections held during the district formation procedures pursuant to subpart 4. The department shall make all determinations as to eligibility of persons to vote. A determination made by the department is final without a right of appeal. A referendum or election shall be conducted by a district except for the first board of directors election. The department shall supervise the conduct of any referendum or election required by this part. A referendum or election shall be conducted in a manner so as to preserve the purity of the ballot and to prevent fraud and corruption.

(e) Oversee the issuance of bonds by a district under this part and, if the department determines that the forest improvement project to be funded from the proceeds of the bonds is economically feasible and desirable, that the terms and conditions of the bond issuance, including the required reserve fund level, as specified in the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds, are appropriate and acceptable, and that the bond issuance promotes the policy and purposes declared in this part and should be approved and supported by the department, then the department shall officially approve the bond issuance and designate the reserve fund established in connection with the bond issuance as an approved reserve fund.

(f) Receive the certification submitted by a district pursuant to section 50158 concerning the amounts necessary to restore approved reserve funds to amounts equal to their reserve fund requirements, review that certification and the financial affairs of the district to determine the accuracy of the amounts required, and certify, before April 2 of each year, to the governor and the budget director the amount, if any, necessary to restore an approved reserve fund to an amount equal to the approved reserve fund requirement of the fund. The governor and the budget director shall include in the annual budget the amount certified by the department.

(g) Disseminate information throughout the state concerning the activities and programs of the forest improvement districts and encourage the formation of these districts in areas where their organization is desirable.

(h) Monitor financings by districts under this part and determine, for recommendation to the legislature, what additional steps, which may include a recommendation to the legislature for the issuance of faith and credit bonds for a vote of the people, may be necessary in order to accomplish the policies and purposes declared in this part.

(2) Subsection (1)(c), (d), (e), (g), and (h) do not apply to the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district until 5 years after the district is established and activated.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50121 Rules, guidelines, and publications.

Sec. 50121. The department shall promulgate rules, adopt guidelines, and issue publications under the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, as may be necessary to implement and administer this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.50122 Primary consideration in promulgating rules and disposing of timber and other products; timber volume agreement; forest improvement program.

Sec. 50122. (1) The department, in promulgating its rules and in disposing of the timber and other products from state forest land, shall give primary consideration to the purposes for the creation of a forest improvement district.

(2) In order to accomplish the purposes of this part, the department may enter into a timber volume agreement with a district, or with a person specified by a district, which commits a portion of the timber from state land within a district to the use of that district or person.

(3) A forest improvement program is created. The program may be financed by annual appropriations made by the legislature. The program shall be used solely for the purpose of grants to districts for the purposes of this part and shall be administered by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 4

FOREST IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

324.50123 Establishment authorized; powers generally.

Sec. 50123. A forest improvement district may be established pursuant to this part, and when established has the powers conferred by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50124 Petitions.

Sec. 50124. (1) A district may be established by filing a petition, signed by 10 or more owners of forest land who control a total combined acreage of not less than 50,000 acres lying within the limits of the gross territorial boundary proposed to be organized into a district, with the department asking that a district be organized in the territory described in the petition. The petition shall state all of the following:

(a) The proposed name of the district.

(b) A legal description of the forest land proposed to be organized as the district, including the proposed gross territorial boundary of the district.

(c) A tentative implementation schedule for the forest practices functions and services the district will perform.

(d) An analysis that demonstrates the economic and administrative feasibility of a district within the defined boundaries.

(e) A request that the boundaries for the district be established.

(2) If more than 1 petition is filed covering parts of the same territory, the department shall determine which of the districts shall encompass that territory.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50125 Creation of district; hearing; notice; determination; defining boundaries of district; actual notice.

Sec. 50125. (1) Within 30 days after a petition has been filed, the department shall give notice of a proposed hearing upon the question of the desirability, necessity, and feasibility of the creation of the district, upon the question of the appropriate boundaries to be assigned to the district, and upon all other relevant issues.

(2) If it appears at the hearing that it may be desirable to include territory outside of the area within which notice of the hearing was given, the hearing shall be adjourned and notice of the further hearing shall be given to forest owners or occupiers of land throughout the entire area considered for inclusion in the district, and a further hearing held. The gross territorial boundary of a district shall not include an area included within the gross territorial boundary of another district.

(3) If the department concludes after a 30-day grace period following the hearing, upon the facts presented and upon other relevant information available, that need for a district exists, it shall make and record that

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determination, and shall define, by metes and bounds or by plat maps, the forest land of the district. The gross territorial boundary of the district shall be defined by metes and bounds or by plat maps.

(4) In making its determination and in defining the boundaries of a district, the department shall consider the forest tree species in the proposed district, the condition of the forest land, the prevailing forest practices, the benefits forests may receive from being included within the district, the relation of the proposed area to other districts already organized or proposed for organization, and other physical, geographical, and economic factors considered relevant.

(5) In making a determination as to district boundaries, if the department determines that the forest improvement projects will impact upon the property value of nonparticipating landowners, the department shall provide actual notice of hearings as provided for in this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50126 Operation of district; feasibility.

Sec. 50126. (1) If the department makes and records a determination that the need for a district exists and defines its boundaries, the department shall then consider the question of whether the operation of a district within those boundaries is administratively and economically feasible.

(2) If the department determines that the operation of a district is feasible, it shall record that determination and shall proceed with the organization of that district.

(3) If the department determines the operation of a district is not feasible, it shall record the reasons for its determination and deny the petition. After 6 months have expired from the date of the denial of a petition by the department, subsequent petitions covering the same or substantially the same territory may be filed and a new hearing and determination made.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50127 Board of directors; appointment and qualifications of directors; presentation and contents of application; certification statement; examination and recordation of application and statement; issuance and contents of certification.

Sec. 50127. (1) If the operation of a district is determined to be feasible, the department shall appoint 2 directors who, with the 3 directors elected as provided in sections 50131 and 50132, constitute the first board of directors of the district. The directors appointed shall be persons who are by training and experience qualified to perform the functions which are required of them by this part.

(2) The board shall present the secretary of state with an application that states all of the following:

(a) That a petition for the creation of a district was filed with the department pursuant to this part; that the proceedings specified in this part were taken pursuant to the petition; and that the application is being filed in order to complete the organization of the district and that they are the directors.

(b) The name and official residence of each of the directors, together with a certification evidencing their right to office.

(c) The term of office of each of the directors.

(d) The proposed name of the district.

(e) The location of the principal office of the district.

(f) The date the district is to come into existence under this part. The application shall be subscribed and sworn to by each of the directors before an officer authorized by the laws of the state to take and certify oaths.

(3) The application shall be accompanied by a statement by the department that certifies all of the following:

(a) That a petition was filed, notice given, and a hearing held as required.

(b) That the department determined there is a need for a district to function in the proposed territory and defined its boundaries.

(c) That the department subsequently determined that the operation of the proposed district is administratively and economically feasible.

(4) The secretary of state shall examine the application and statement and shall receive and record them in an appropriate book of record and shall issue a certificate to the board specifying the date of creation and the gross territorial boundary of the district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50128 District as governmental subdivision and public body corporate and politic.

Sec. 50128. The district shall constitute a governmental subdivision of the state and a public body corporate and politic on the date specified in the directors' application or on the date the application and statement are filed and recorded, whichever is later.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50129 Petition for discontinuance; filing; form; notice.

Sec. 50129. A petition for discontinuance of membership in, for deletion of member forest land within, and for including additional territory within an existing district shall be filed with the board. The board shall prescribe the form for the petition. The board annually shall notify the department of any changes in membership or land ownership status changes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50130 Petitions for change of boundary line; filing; contents; hearing; determination; application for certificate evidencing change of boundary; statement; effect of filing; issuance and contents of certificate.

Sec. 50130. (1) Petitions signed by a majority of the members of each of the boards of adjoining districts may be filed with the department asking that the boundary line between the districts be changed. These petitions shall identify the existing boundary line between the districts and the proposed new gross territorial boundary.

(2) Within 30 days after a petition has been filed, the department shall hold a public hearing upon the question of the proposed boundary change. All members of the affected districts, and all other interested persons, may attend the hearing and be heard.

(3) After the hearing, the department shall determine, upon the facts presented at the hearing and upon other relevant information, whether the operation of the districts within the proposed new gross territorial boundaries would be administratively and economically feasible. If the department determines the operation of the districts within the proposed new boundaries will be feasible, it shall record that determination and notify the boards of the districts of its determination.

(4) The boards of the affected districts shall present an application to the secretary of state, signed by them, for a certificate evidencing the change of boundary. The application shall be accompanied by a statement of the department certifying that the boundary between the districts has been changed pursuant to the procedures prescribed and identifying the new gross territorial boundary lines. When the application and statement are filed, the change of boundary is effective and the date of filing shall be identified on the certificate which the secretary of state shall issue to the boards of the affected districts.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50131 Board of directors as governing body of district; officers; election and appointment of directors; terms; eligibility to vote; vacancy; annual meeting; fiscal year; quorum; concurrence of majority for determination; expenses; delegation of powers and duties; recall petition; notice; recall election; cessation of term; furnishing commission with documents and other information; surety bonds; records; audit; representatives of local legislative body.

Sec. 50131. (1) The governing body of a district shall be the board of directors which shall consist of 5 persons. The board may elect a chairperson and other officers which it considers necessary or convenient for implementing this part. The term of office of a director shall be 3 years except for the first board. The board of directors of the western Upper Peninsula forest improvement district shall be determined pursuant to subpart 2.

(2) The first board shall consist of 3 directors elected as provided in section 50132 and the 2 directors appointed by the department. The directors shall take office on the date specified by the secretary of state as

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the beginning of a district's existence or as soon as appointed, whichever is later. The term of office of the director first appointed shall be 1 year, the second director shall be appointed for 2 years, and the directors first elected at the time of the referendum shall serve as follows: the director receiving the highest number of votes shall serve for 3 years, the director receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve for 2 years, and the director receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve for 1 year. Thereafter, as the terms of the directors of the first board expire, the department shall appoint a director to the board if the state land encompassed by the district's gross territorial boundary is greater than 5% of the forest land which comprises the district and a timber volume agreement has been made. The other positions on the board shall be filled by elections at the annual meeting of the members of a district. If the state land encompassed by a district's gross territorial boundary is 5% or less of the forest land which comprises the district, all of the positions on the board shall be filled by those elections.

(3) All members who own forest land within a district, except for state lands, shall be eligible to vote for 1 or more candidates for the board, according to the amount of forest land owned within the district pursuant to the following schedule:

(a) An owner of less than 100 acres may cast 3 votes.

(b) An owner of at least 100 acres but less than 500 acres may cast 4 votes.

(c) An owner of at least 500 acres but less than 1,000 acres may cast 5 votes.

(d) An owner of at least 1,000 acres but less than 5,000 acres may cast 6 votes.

(e) An owner of at least 5,000 acres but less than 10,000 acres may cast 7 votes.

(f) An owner of at least 10,000 acres but less than 20,000 acres may cast 8 votes.

(g) An owner of at least 20,000 acres but less than 50,000 acres may cast 9 votes.

(h) An owner of 50,000 acres or more may cast 10 votes.

(4) A vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the board and a director appointed shall serve until the next annual meeting when a director shall be elected to finish the unexpired term. The annual meeting shall be held within 30 days after the close of the fiscal year of a district. The fiscal year of a district shall be the same as the fiscal year of this state.

(5) A majority of the directors constitutes a quorum, and the concurrence of a majority of the directors in any matter within their power shall be required for the board's determination. A quorum shall consist of 3 members of the board at least 2 of whom shall be elected members. A director shall not receive compensation for services rendered, but is entitled to expenses, including traveling expenses, necessarily incurred in the discharge of duties performed as a director. The directors may delegate to their chairperson, to 1 or more directors, or to 1 or more agents or employees, power and duties as they consider proper.

(6) A petition may be filed with the department for an election to recall 1 or more directors if the petition is signed by members within a district whose forest land comprises 20% or more of the forest land within the district. Within 30 days after a petition has been filed, the board shall give notice in the manner provided by the Michigan election law, Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, of the holding of a recall election. The recall election shall be held within 45 days after the filing of a petition. All members who own forest land within the boundaries of a district, except for state land, are eligible to vote in the recall election pursuant to the schedule in subsection (3). A 2/3 majority of the votes cast is required to recall a director. The term of a director who is recalled shall cease on the date the results of the election are published by the department.

(7) A board shall furnish the department with copies of ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, contracts, forms, and other documents it adopts or employs, and with other information concerning its activities as the department requires in the performance of its duties under this part.

(8) A board shall require the execution of surety bonds for each employee or officer who is entrusted with funds or property; shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate record of each proceeding and each resolution, regulation, or order issued or adopted; and shall provide for an annual audit of the accounts of receipts and disbursements.

(9) The board shall invite the legislative body of each local unit of government or county located within, partially within, or near the territory comprising a district to designate a representative to advise and consult with the board on all questions which may affect the property or other interests of that local unit of government or county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50132 Nominating petition; filing; signatures; notice; eligibility to vote.

Sec. 50132. (1) A candidate for the first board of directors shall file nominating petitions with the

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department at or before the hearing on the need for a district. A candidate shall be a member of the proposed district. A nominating petition shall not be accepted by the department unless it is subscribed by 6 or more members of a proposed district. A member may sign more than 1 nominating petition. The department shall give notice of the initial election of 3 directors. Notice shall be posted at the business office of each governmental unit in the proposed district, published in each newspaper of record distributed in the proposed district, mailed to each individual elected governmental official within the proposed district and mailed to any individual requesting written notification of the initial election. The 3 candidates who receive the largest number of the votes cast shall be the elected directors for a district.

(2) All members within a district are eligible to vote for 1 or more candidates for the first board of directors, according to the amount of forest land owned within a proposed district, pursuant to the schedule in section 50131(3).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50133 Consolidation into single district; petition; notice; hearing; determination; order; board of consolidated district; certificate of organization; powers and duties; property, agreements, and obligations of consolidated district.

Sec. 50133. (1) Two or more districts may petition the department for consolidation into a single district. The department shall not act on the petition unless it is signed by a majority of the board of each of the districts involved. Within 30 days after receipt of a petition, the department shall give notice of a hearing on the proposed consolidation. Notice shall be given to all members in the area proposed to be included in the consolidated district.

(2) Based on the facts presented at the hearing and other relevant facts, the department shall determine if consolidation is desirable. If the department determines that consolidation is desirable, it shall issue an order which states that the districts are to be consolidated on a date specified, the name of the consolidated district, and its gross territorial boundaries.

(3) The board of the consolidated district shall consist of the chairperson of the board of each of those districts consolidated, who shall serve for a term of 2 years, and 3 other members appointed by the department, who shall serve for a term of 1 year. Thereafter, directors shall be elected or appointed as provided in section 50131.

(4) Upon receipt of the order of consolidation, the secretary of state shall issue a certificate of proper organization to the directors of the consolidated district. The consolidated district shall have the same powers and duties as other districts organized under this part.

(5) The assets, liabilities, records, documents, writings, or other property of the districts consolidated shall become the property of the consolidated district. All agreements made by, and obligations of the districts consolidated shall be binding upon and enforceable by the consolidated district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50134 Discontinuance of district; petition; public hearings; notice of referendum; eligibility to vote; publishing results of referendum; determination; certificate of determination; payment of debt and disposition of property; application for discontinuance; issuance and recordation of certificate of dissolution; contracts, bonds, or other obligations; limitation on petition for discontinuance.

Sec. 50134. (1) The members within a district, whose total lands compose 25% or more of the private forest land which comprise the district, may file a petition with the department requesting that the district be discontinued. The petition shall identify the provisions to be taken for the payment of outstanding debt and the disposition of district property.

(2) The department may conduct public hearings to assist it in its consideration of the petition. Within 60 days after a petition has been filed, the board shall give notice for the holding of a referendum upon the issue of the discontinuance of a district. All members of the district shall be eligible to vote in the referendum pursuant to the schedule in section 50131(3).

(3) The board shall publish the results of the referendum. If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of discontinuing a district, the department shall determine that the district will be discontinued. Even if a majority of the votes cast are not in favor of discontinuing a district, the department may determine that the

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district not continue in existence. If the department determines that the district shall continue, it shall record that determination and deny the petition. If the department determines that a district shall be discontinued, it shall record its determination and certify its decision to the board of the district. In making its determination, the department shall consider the economic and administrative feasibility of the continuation of a district, the extent of outstanding debt of the district, the attitudes of the members within the district, the number of members eligible to vote in the referendum who voted, the proportion of the votes cast in favor of the discontinuance of the district to the total number of votes cast, and other economic and social factors which may be relevant to the determination.

(4) Upon receipt from the department of a certification of a determination that a district shall be discontinued, the board shall proceed to terminate the affairs of the district. The board shall provide for the payment of all outstanding debt and for the disposition of district property to the state. The board shall thereafter file an application with the secretary of state for the discontinuance of the district. The application shall identify the action taken to provide for the payment of all outstanding debt and for the disposition of district property. The secretary of state shall issue a certificate of dissolution to the board of the district which specifies the effective date of discontinuance and shall record the certificate in the appropriate book of record.

(5) Each contract, bond, or other obligation to which a district is a party shall remain in force and effect for the period provided in the contract, bond, or other indebtedness. If a district is discontinued, the department shall be substituted for the district as a party to each contract entered into by the district, except the department is not responsible for any coupon or bond issued by a district under this part. The department is entitled to all benefits and subject to all responsibilities under each contract for which it is substituted as a party and has the same right to perform, to require performance, to sue and be sued, and to modify or terminate the contract by mutual consent or otherwise, as the board of a district would have had.

(6) The department shall not entertain a petition for the discontinuance of a district, or make determination pursuant to a petition under this section, more often than once every 2 years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50135 Additional powers of district.

Sec. 50135. In addition to those powers granted elsewhere in this part, a district has all of the following powers, which are subject to federal and state environmental laws:

(a) To obtain real property for purposes of industrial site development within the gross territorial boundary of a district, a municipality located within the gross territorial boundary may take private property under the uniform condemnation procedures act, Act No. 87 of the Public Acts of 1980, being sections 213.51 to 213.77 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for the purpose of transfer to the district and may transfer the property to the district for use in an industrial site. The taking, transfer, and use shall be considered necessary for public purposes and for the benefit of the public. For the purposes of this section, "industrial site development" means the location of industrial plant facilities for production, processing, handling, storage, marketing, manufacturing, or directly related transportation facilities of forest resources. Each district shall have only 1 industrial site not to exceed 150 acres.

(b) To act as the marketing agent for the members or an association of the members within a district after obtaining their consent, in order to facilitate cooperation among the members to increase their bargaining power, including the power to make commitments of private timber in a manner, volume, and for periods prescribed by the board.

(c) To conduct business operations with the powers provided in section 261 of the business corporation act, Act No. 284 of the Public Acts of 1972, being section 450.1261 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(d) To conduct and publish the results of surveys, investigations, and support research by research institutions relating to the need and nature of forest practices within a district.

(e) To develop comprehensive management plans for forest practices within the district which specify the procedures, performances, and resources necessary or desirable for the effectuation of the plans. If the state land encompassed by a district's gross territorial boundary is greater than 5% of the total forest land area, the department and the district administrators shall cooperate in the development of comprehensive management plans. The plans shall be published so as to bring them to the attention of the members within a district.

(f) To conduct projects to demonstrate the means and methods of forest practices within a district on forest land owned or controlled by the state or an agency of the state, with the cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction, and on any other forest land within a district upon obtaining the consent of the owner or the necessary rights or interest in the land.

(g) To carry out and to assist members in carrying out forest practices within a district.

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(h) To obtain options upon and to acquire, by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest, devise, or otherwise, property, real or personal, or rights or interests in real or personal property; to maintain, administer, and improve property acquired; to receive income from the property and to expend that income in implementing this part; and to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of its property or interests.

(i) To make available to members within a district, on terms the board shall prescribe, foresters, forest managers, forest practice and harvesting machinery and equipment, seeds, and seedlings and other material, equipment, or personnel, as will be of assistance in carrying out forest practices.

(j) To construct, improve, operate, and maintain sawmills, hardboard mills, and other structures or facilities as may be necessary or convenient to carry out this part, and to cooperate with owners of existing structures and facilities.

(k) To assume by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and to administer, a forest improvement project undertaken within the boundaries of a district by the United States or an agency of the United States, or an agency of the state; to manage, as agent of the United States or an agency of the United States, or an agency of the state, a forest improvement project within its boundaries; to act as agent for the United States, or an agency of the United States, or for an agency of the state, in connection with the acquisition of real or personal property for, or in the construction, operation, or administration of, a forest improvement project within its boundaries; to accept donations, gifts, and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from the United States or an agency of the United States, from an agency of the state, or from any other source, and to use or expend that money or those services, materials, or other contributions in carrying on its operations subject to policies and procedures as adopted by the department; and to accept money, gifts, and donations from any source.

(*l*) To cooperate with industrial and trade development agencies in efforts to promote the expansion of industrial and manufacturing activities utilizing wood products.

(m) To sue and be sued in the name of the district; to have a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed; to have perpetual succession unless discontinued as provided in this part; to make and execute contracts and other instruments, necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; and to promulgate rules consistent with this part and the rules of the department in order to carry into effect the policy and purposes of this part.

(n) To extend benefits to members as considered desirable by the board and to require contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise of members of forest land as a condition of extending benefits under this part.

(o) To defray all or part of the project costs of a forest improvement project, borrow money, and issue bonds as provided in this part. A bond or coupon issued under this part shall not be a general obligation of, or constitute a debt of the state or a political subdivision of the state, other than the issuing district.

(p) To enter into lease, lease-purchase, installment sale, loan, or other agreements with a person to provide for the acquisition, construction, equipping, improving, or financing of a forest improvement project.

(q) To mortgage any of the following in favor of the holders of the bonds issued in conjunction with a project:

(*i*) The project.

(*ii*) The industrial site of the district.

(*iii*) Any building, equipment, or other personal property situated on the site.

(*iv*) District owned forest land.

(*v*) Member owned forest land, with the member's consent.

(r) To sell and convey any district owned property, including without limitation the sale and conveyance of the industrial site and its facilities subject to a mortgage, for a price and at a time the board determines. A sale or conveyance shall not be made in a manner as to impair the rights or interests of the holders of bonds.

(s) To employ a district manager, foresters, architects, attorneys, accountants, construction and financial experts, and other employees and agents as are necessary to implement this part.

(t) To receive and accept from a public or private agency loans or grants for or in aid of a project or portion of a project undertaken, and receive and accept a loan, grant, aid, or contribution from any source of money, property, labor, or any other thing of value, to be held, used, and applied only for the purposes for which the loan, grant, aid, or contribution is made.

(u) To issue bonds for purposes of funding a forest improvement district or forest practices.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50136 Repealed. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to cooperation between state agency and district board.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50137 Expenses of district; sources of payment; allocation of funds.

Sec. 50137. (1) The expenses of a district may be paid from 1 or more of the following:

(a) An appropriation by the legislature.

(b) The revenues of the district's facilities and operations.

(c) The proceeds of the service fees authorized by this part.

(d) The proceeds of sales of state timber within the district except for the redemption of the bonds in case of default.

(e) Federal grants or from gifts or grants from private persons.

(f) The proceeds from the sale of the bonds of the district.

(g) Any other funds available to the district.

(2) When allocating available funds among proposed districts, the department shall consider the proposed district or districts which in its judgment will produce the greatest public benefit, giving consideration to all of the following factors:

(a) The need for and potential commercial benefits of forest improvement if the district is formed within the proposed gross territorial boundaries.

(b) The need for and potential benefits to long-term production, maintenance, and enhancement of the total forest resource system.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50138 Cooperative exercise of powers.

Sec. 50138. The boards of any 2 or more districts may cooperate in the exercise of powers conferred in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50139 Report.

Sec. 50139. During the years of operation of a district, a detailed report of the operation and impact of the district shall be submitted by the board of the district to the departments and the legislature for analysis and evaluation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 5
FOREST PRACTICES

324.50140 Conduct of forest practices; minimum standards.

Sec. 50140. For the public benefit, the board shall mandate the continuous growing, improvement, and harvesting of forest tree species so as to protect and maintain the forest soil, air, water resources, wildlife, and aquatic habitat within a district. The board of a district shall establish minimum standards for the conduct of forest practices on forest land within a district. These standards shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide for the improvement and harvesting of forest tree species in a manner that will increase the productivity of the forest land, reduce soil and debris entering streams, and protect wildlife and fish habitat.

(b) Provide for road construction that will ensure the maintenance of forest productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat during construction and maintenance.

(c) Provide for reforestation that will maintain the growing and harvesting of desirable forest tree species by describing the conditions under which reforestation will be required, specifying the minimum and maximum number of trees per acre and the maximum period of time allowed after harvesting for reforestation, and requiring stabilization of soils which have become exposed as a result of harvesting. An acreage exemption from reforestation may be established, except that on the land exempted, within 1 year after harvesting, some form of vegetative cover shall be required sufficient to provide continuing soil productivity and stabilization.

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(d) Provide for management of slashings resulting from the harvesting, management, or improvement of forest tree species so as to protect reproduction and residual stands, to reduce the risk from fire, insects, and disease, to optimize the conditions for future regeneration of forest tree species, and to maintain air and water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

(e) Coordinate the notification requirement of this subpart, the application requirement of section 50148, and all other submission requirements imposed upon members so as to minimize the requirements for submission of information.

(f) Provide for public uses of member forest land within the district, consistent with the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50141 Notification of compliance with forest practice rules; forest management plan; forms; contents of notification; notice of change in information; validity of notification.

Sec. 50141. (1) A member shall notify the district of compliance with the forest practice rules by submitting a forest management plan on forms prescribed and provided by the board. The notification shall include the name and address of the member, the legal description of the area in which the forest management plan is to be implemented, the specific forest practices to be conducted during the plan, and other information the board considers necessary.

(2) The member shall notify the board of each subsequent change in the information provided in the notification within 30 days after the change.

(3) The notification shall be valid for not more than 5 years after the date of original notification.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50142 Violation of district forest practice rule; notice; order; hearing.

Sec. 50142. (1) If the board determines that a district forest practice rule was violated, it shall notify the member of the violation within 10 days after its determination. The notice shall specify the nature of the violation charged and identify the damage or unsatisfactory condition that has occurred as a result of the violation.

(2) When a notice of violation is served, the board:

(a) Shall issue and serve an order directing that further violations cease.

(b) May issue and serve an order directing the member to make reasonable efforts to repair the damage or correct the unsatisfactory condition.

(3) If the member requests a hearing within 10 days after the issuance of an order affecting the member's forest land, the board shall hold a hearing on its order within 30 days after the receipt of the request.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50143 Noncompliance with order directing repair of damage or correction of unsatisfactory condition; estimate of cost; notice of estimate; review; determination of expenditure; appearance of member; itemized certified statement of expenditures; expenditures as lien; certification and filing of notice of lien; legal action; error or mistake in notice of lien; termination of lien.

Sec. 50143. (1) If an order directs the repair of damage or correction of an unsatisfactory condition and if the member fails to comply, the board shall estimate the cost to repair the damage or the unsatisfactory condition and shall notify the member in writing of the amount of the estimate. Upon written agreement with the member to pay the cost, the district may have the damage repaired or the unsatisfactory condition corrected.

(2) If the member does not agree to pay the cost within 30 days after being notified, the board shall review the matter and determine whether the district shall repair the damage or correct the unsatisfactory condition, and shall approve the amount to be expended. The expenditure approved may include reasonable administrative costs directly associated with repairing the damage or correcting the unsatisfactory condition. The member shall be afforded the opportunity to appear before the board to present the facts pertaining to the

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alleged violation and the proposed expenditure.

(3) The board shall keep a complete account of expenditures incurred in repairing damage or correcting an unsatisfactory condition. Not more than 90 days after the completion of the work, the board shall prepare an itemized statement and deliver a copy to the member. An itemized certified statement of the expenditures incurred by the district shall be accepted as prima facie evidence of the expenditures in a proceeding authorized by this subpart.

(4) Upon the initiation of the forest practice work, the expenditures of a district shall become a lien upon a member's forest land located within the district. A written notice of the lien, containing a statement of the demand, an itemization of expenditures incurred, the date incurred and where incurred, and the names of the parties against whom the lien is attached, shall be certified under oath by the district and filed in the office of the register of deeds in each county where the real and personal property of the member is located, if considered necessary to recover the expenditures incurred by the district. This written notice shall be filed within 6 months but not sooner than 30 days after the date of delivery of the itemized statement referred to in subsection (3). The prosecuting attorney of a county in which a lien is filed shall bring legal action on behalf of a district to recover the debt. An error or mistake in the notice of lien of the description of real or personal property does not affect the validity of the lien, if the real or personal property can be identified by the description.

(5) A lien provided for in this section shall terminate 5 years after the date of filing of the notice of the lien unless legal action is instituted before that time.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50144 Conversion of forest land to other use; procedures and criteria.

Sec. 50144. This subpart does not prevent forest land from being converted to any other use. A board shall establish the procedures and criteria for excluding land being converted or to be converted from the requirements of this subpart. The procedures and criteria shall conform with zoning ordinances and land use plans of any other political subdivision within which forest land of a district is located.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 6
COST-SHARING AND LOANS FOR FOREST PRACTICES

324.50145 Agreements to share cost of forest practices; schedule of cost share percentages.

Sec. 50145. (1) A district may enter into agreements to share the cost of implementing forest practices on member forest land within the district. A district may pay not more than 90% of the lesser of either of the following:

(a) The member's actual cost per acre to accomplish the work.

(b) The prevailing per acre cost for the forest practice as determined by the board.

(2) The board shall prepare a schedule of cost share percentages applicable to forest practices undertaken under this section. The schedule shall set forth the percentage amount which the member shall contribute for various categories of forest practices. The department shall provide technical assistance to a board in the preparation of a schedule. A member's cost share contributions may be made in the form of material, services, or equipment as well as funds.

(3) The scheduled percentage contribution for members owning less than 500 acres may be less than for members owning 500 acres or more. The schedule may also provide for a reduced percentage contribution by a member if 1 or more of the following apply:

(a) The forest practices would provide relatively more employment opportunities than other proposed practices.

(b) The forest practices would increase recreational opportunities for the public.

(c) Forest land conservation measures or fish or wildlife habitat improvements are included in the project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50146 Loans to members; purpose; term; interest; security; recordation of mortgage or

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deed of trust; repayment before maturity date; damage as grounds for release of obligation.

Sec. 50146. (1) A district may make loans to a member for 1 or more of the following reasons:

(a) To cover all or part of the member's cost share contribution required under section 50145.

(b) To cover all or a part of the cost of forest practices, up to 100% of the lesser of either of the following:

(*i*) The actual cost per acre to accomplish the work.

(*ii*) The prevailing cost per acre.

(2) A loan made under this section may be made for a term of not more than 20 years and shall bear interest at the average annual rate being earned by the state on money deposited in the investment account of the general fund of this state. A loan shall be secured by a mortgage or deed of trust upon the parcel of land or the timber rights on the parcel of land upon which the forest practices were conducted. The board shall record the mortgage or deed of trust in the office of the register of deeds in each county in which the real property subject to the loan is located.

(3) An interest penalty shall not be charged to a member who repays a loan made under this section before its maturity date.

(4) The board may release a member's obligation to repay all or part of the principal and interest due under loans made under this section if the board finds that the parcel of land or the timber rights on the parcel of land securing the loan and upon which the forest practices were conducted have been substantially damaged by fire, flood, insects, disease, or other natural causes and the damage was not caused by the negligence or willful act of the member.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50147 Annual incentive payments to members; purpose; application of income from sale of timber; term; interest; limitation; security; recordation of mortgage or deed of trust; effect of voluntary withdrawal of member; damage as grounds for release of obligation.

Sec. 50147. (1) A district may make annual incentive payments to members to cover forest practice costs only, but not to cover ad valorem property taxes or the member's share of commercial forest act taxes levied pursuant to part 511. This payment is made in anticipation of future timber receipts, and the total principal and interest obligation shall not exceed 90% of the future expected market value of the timber as estimated in the management plan. Income received from the sale of timber covered by this agreement between the district and a member shall be applied to the outstanding obligation.

(2) An annual incentive payment made under this section may be made for a term of not more than 40 years and shall bear interest at the average annual rate being earned by the state on money deposited in the investment account of the general fund of this state. An annual payment shall not exceed $50,000.00 to any 1 member. A payment shall be secured by a mortgage or deed of trust upon the parcel of land or timber, or both, upon which the payment was based. The board shall record the mortgage or deed of trust in the office of the register of deeds in each county in which the real property subject to the loan is located.

(3) A voluntary withdrawal of a member within a district will require full repayment of the obligation plus interest at the current commercial rate.

(4) The board may release a member's obligation to repay all or part of the principal and interest due under payments made under this section if the board finds that the parcel of land or the timber rights on the parcel of land securing the payment and upon which the forest practices were conducted have been substantially damaged by fire, flood, insects, disease, or other natural causes and the damage was not caused by the negligence or willful act of the member.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50148 Cost-share payments, loans, or annual incentive payments; eligibility; conditions; guidelines.

Sec. 50148. (1) The following conditions shall be met for a member to be eligible for cost-share payments, a loan, or an annual incentive payment:

(a) The member shall make application for financial assistance for forest practices to each federal program specified by the board. The board shall not make any determination as to whether and how much assistance a member will receive until the application is approved or disapproved by the governmental agency

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administering the federal program.

(b) The member shall submit an application for financial assistance in a form prescribed by the board.

(c) Before receiving assistance under this subpart, the member shall agree not to develop the land for a use incompatible with timber production within 10 years after the receipt of a cost-sharing payment agreement pursuant to section 50145, the making of a loan under section 50146, or the receipt of an annual incentive payment under section 50147. A district shall record the agreement in the office of the register of deeds in each county in which the forest land is located. Once recorded, the contract shall be binding upon each person to whom the parcel of land is sold, assigned, devised, or otherwise transferred by agreement or operation of law.

(d) The member shall submit a forest management plan for approval by the board. This plan shall also fulfill the notification requirements of subpart 5. If the proposed forest practices include preparation of a management plan, the plan need not be completed at the time of application. Assistance under this subpart for other forest practices on forest land within the same ownership shall not be made until the management plan has been approved.

(2) The board shall prepare guidelines specifying the factors to be considered and information which should be included in management plans submitted pursuant to this subpart and subpart 5.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50149 Applications for financial assistance; selection of programs; factors; preferences; criteria for evaluation and approval.

Sec. 50149. (1) When allocating available funds among applicants for assistance pursuant to this subpart, the board shall select those programs of forest practices which in its judgment produce the greatest public benefit, giving consideration to the following factors:

(a) The need for and potential commercial benefits if the practices are undertaken.

(b) The financial resources of the applicant.

(c) The need for and potential benefits to long-term production, maintenance, and enhancement of the total forest resource system.

(2) The board shall give preference to applications covering forest land that has been substantially damaged by fire, flood, insects, disease, or other natural causes within 36 months before submission of an application under this subpart.

(3) The board shall also give preference to applications with respect to which 1 or more of the following factors is present:

(a) The forest management plan involves reforesting forest land with a more commercially valuable forest tree species than it previously produced.

(b) The forest management plan would provide relatively more employment opportunities than other proposed plans.

(c) The forest land is located in a county with high unemployment.

(d) A small business entity will carry out the proposed plan.

(e) The forest management plan or other actions of the member would increase recreational opportunities for the public.

(4) The board shall establish the criteria for evaluation and approval of applications for financial assistance.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50150 Cost-share payments, loans, or annual incentive payments; federal payments or other assistance; limitation.

Sec. 50150. Cost-share payments, loans, or annual incentive payments under this subpart may be made for forest practices that are also the subject of payments or other assistance provided under federal law. Payments or loans may be made to satisfy member cost shares or to repay loans received under federal programs. Combined state and federal payments and loans, and required member cost-share contributions, shall not together exceed the amount of the actual cost or the prevailing cost per acre of the forest practices as determined by the board, whichever is less.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50151 Cost-share payments, loans, or annual incentive payments; refund; interest; payments as lien on forest land; filing lien; legal action.

Sec. 50151. (1) All cost-share payments, loans, or annual incentive payments advanced to a member under this subpart shall be refunded to the district if either of the following applies:

(a) The member files an application for rezoning pursuant to local zoning laws permitting use of the land in a manner incompatible with timber production within 10 years after the date an agreement covering the land was signed under section 50148.

(b) The board finds that a member has not complied with the forest management plan required under section 50148.

(2) The refund shall bear interest from the date of occurrence of an activity described in subsection (1) until repayment, at the average annual rate being earned by the state on money deposited in the investment account of the general fund of this state.

(3) If the member fails to refund the payments or loans within 30 days after written demand by the district, the amount of the payments, together with interest due, shall become a lien upon the forest land upon which the forest practices were conducted as of the date of the event specified in subsection (1). The board shall file the lien in the office of the register of deeds in each county in which the forest land is located. The district may request the prosecuting attorney of a county in which a lien is filed to bring legal action on behalf of the district to recover the debt.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50152 Severance and service fees generally.

Sec. 50152. In order to provide a source of funds for the cost-share payments, loans, annual incentive payments, and other services authorized to be offered to members within a district, a district may charge a severance fee pursuant to the procedure described in section 50153 and collect fees for services provided to those members. The fees shall be deposited in a district forest management fund to be established by the board.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50153 Schedule of fees for services; establishment; uniform severance fee.

Sec. 50153. (1) The board may establish a schedule of fees for the services provided directly to members within a district.

(2) After a referendum in which a majority of the members in a district approve the charging of a severance fee, the district may charge the fee, if a member harvests timber from forest land in the district. The issue of the charging of a severance fee may be placed before the members at the time of the formation of a district. The severance fee shall be uniform throughout a district and shall not exceed 10% of the stumpage value of the timber harvested.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50154 Severance and service fees; collection and disposition; responsibility for payment of severance fee; stumpage values and units of measurement; remittance; reports; records.

Sec. 50154. (1) The board shall develop the necessary administrative procedures to collect the fees and shall deposit the revenue collected in the district forest management fund.

(2) The person responsible for payment of the severance fee is the timber owner before harvest. The department shall provide technical assistance to a district to develop appropriate methods of establishing stumpage values and units of proper measurement.

(3) The fees shall be remitted to a district, by check or money order, with reports as may be required by the board.

(4) The timber owner, for a period of 3 years, shall maintain and make available to the board the records

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the board may require to verify proper reporting and payment of the severance fee and service fees due a district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50155 Collection of fees; enforcement.

Sec. 50155. The board shall enforce collection of the fees pursuant to the procedure contained in section 50143.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 7
BOND ISSUANCE PROVISIONS

324.50156 Resolution authorizing bonds; provisions.

Sec. 50156. A resolution authorizing bonds to be issued under the power granted in section 50135 may contain provisions, which shall be part of the contract with the holders of the bonds, as to:

(a) The use and disposition of the payments received under the agreement, including the creation and maintenance of reserves.

(b) The issuance of other or additional bonds of equal standing with bonds of a district already issued.

(c) The insurance to be carried on the forest improvement project and the use and disposition of insurance money.

(d) The terms and conditions upon which the holder of the bonds, or a portion of the bonds, or a trustee of the bonds, shall be entitled to the appointment of a receiver by a court which has jurisdiction in those proceedings, who may enter and take possession of the forest improvement project and lease and maintain it, prescribe rentals, and collect, receive, and apply all income and revenues thereafter arising in the same manner and to the same extent as a district may do under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50157 Resolution authorizing bonds; principal, interest, payment, and security; full faith and credit; trustees.

Sec. 50157. (1) The bonds shall be payable and secured as set forth in the resolution authorizing the issuance. The resolution may provide that the principal of and interest on any bonds issued shall be payable and secured by 1 or more of the following:

(a) The net revenues derived from a forest improvement project.

(b) Amounts derived from the disposition of projects and other property mortgaged or otherwise pledged as security for payment of the bonds.

(c) Gifts or grants by any person.

(d) Federal funds.

(e) Loan repayments.

(f) An assignment of a percentage of gross revenues received by the district.

(g) Any other source approved by the board.

(2) District debt may also be secured by the full faith and credit of the district but shall not be general obligations of the state of Michigan. The resolution may also provide for the appointment of 1 or more trustees for bondholders. A trustee may be a person domiciled or located within or outside the state and may be given appropriate powers.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50158 Special debt service reserve fund; creation; purpose; sources and use of money; transfer of income or interest; limitation on approved reserve fund requirement; limitation on issuance of bonds.

Sec. 50158. (1) A district, with the approval of the department, may create and establish 1 or more special

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debt service reserve funds, to secure its bonds, referred to in this part as approved reserve funds. A district shall pay into an approved reserve fund the money appropriated and made available by the state for the purpose of the fund; proceeds of the sale of bonds, to the extent provided in the resolution of the district authorizing the issuance of bonds; and other money made available for the purpose of a fund from any other source. The money held in an approved reserve fund shall be used as required by the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and creating the fund. Income or interest earned by, or increment to an approved reserve fund due to the investment of money in the fund may be transferred by a district to other funds or accounts of the district to the extent the transfer does not reduce the amount of an approved reserve fund below the required level for a fund, as specified in the bond authorizing resolution.

(2) An approved reserve fund requirement in the resolution of the board authorizing the bonds with respect to which the fund is established, shall not exceed the maximum amount of principal and interest maturing and becoming due in any succeeding calendar year on the bonds secured in whole or part by the fund. A district shall not issue bonds secured in whole or in part by an approved reserve fund if, upon the issuance of the bonds, the amount in the fund would be less than the requirement for the fund, unless the district at the time of issuance of the bonds, deposits in the fund from the proceeds of the bonds to be issued, or from other sources, an amount which, together with the amount then in the fund, shall be not less than the approved reserve fund requirement for the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50159 Statement of liability on face of bond.

Sec. 50159. The state shall not be liable on bonds of a district, and the bonds shall not be a debt of the state. The bonds shall contain on their face a statement to that effect.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50160 Applicability of part and resolution; enforcement of duties; recital in bond as evidence of validity; publication and effective date of resolution.

Sec. 50160. (1) This part, and the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds under this part shall remain applicable until the principal and interest on bonds issued by a district have been fully paid or provided for. The duties of a district and its board under this part and the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds under this part shall be enforceable by a bondholder by mandamus or other appropriate action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) The resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds shall provide that the bonds shall contain a recital that they are issued under this part, which recital shall be conclusive evidence of their validity and of the regularity of their issuance.

(3) A resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds under this part is not effective until publication at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the area comprised by a district or, if such a newspaper does not exist, within the nearest city or county having a newspaper of general circulation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50161 Refunding bonds.

Sec. 50161. A district may issue its bonds to refund in whole or part, at any time, bonds previously issued by the district under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50162 Adoption of bonds by resolution of majority of board; bonds subject to revised municipal finance act.

Sec. 50162. The bonds of a district shall be authorized by resolution adopted by a majority of the board. The bonds are subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 222, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2002.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50163 Pledge and lien of pledge valid and binding; recordation not required.

Sec. 50163. A pledge made by a district shall be valid and binding from the time the pledge is made. The money or property pledged and thereafter received by a district is immediately subject to the lien of the pledge without physical delivery or a further act. The lien of a pledge is valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise against a district, irrespective of whether the parties have notice of the claim. Neither the resolution nor any other instrument by which a pledge is created need be recorded.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50164 Liability on bonds.

Sec. 50164. Neither the members of the board of a district nor a person executing the bonds is personally liable on the bonds or subject to personal liability or accountability by reason of the board's issuance or the person's execution of the bonds.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50165 Pledge and agreement of state not to impair rights and remedies of bondholders; bonds as negotiable instruments; bonds as securities; investment in bonds.

Sec. 50165. (1) The state pledges and agrees with the holders of bonds issued under this part that the state will not limit or alter the rights vested in a district to fulfill the terms of agreements made with the holders of bonds or in any way impair the rights and remedies of the holders until the bonds, together with the interest on the bonds, with interest on any unpaid installments of interest and all costs and expenses in connection with an action or proceeding by or on behalf of the holders, are fully met and discharged. A district shall include this pledge and agreement of the state in each agreement with the holders of the bonds.

(2) The bonds authorized to be issued by this part are negotiable instruments within the meaning of and for all the purposes of the uniform commercial code, Act No. 174 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 440.1101 to 440.11102 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, subject only to the provisions of the bonds for registration.

(3) The bonds of a district are securities in which each public officer or body of the state and each political subdivision of the state; each insurance company and association and any other person carrying on an insurance business; each bank, trust company, savings bank and savings association, savings and loan association, or investment company; each administrator, guardian, executor, trustee, or other fiduciary; and any other person who is authorized to invest in bonds or other obligations of the state, may properly and legally invest funds, including capital, which are either owned or controlled by the person or other entity.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50166 Exemption from taxation.

Sec. 50166. The state covenants with the purchasers and all subsequent holders and transferees of bonds issued under this part, in consideration of the acceptance of and payment for the bonds, that the bonds issued under this part and the income from those bonds and all its fees, charges, gifts, grants, revenues, receipts, and other money received or to be received, pledged to pay or secure the payment of the bonds at all times are exempt from state or local income taxation provided by the laws of the state, except for estate, inheritance, and gift taxes and taxes on transfers.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 503
STATE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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324.50301 Duties of departments of agriculture and rural development and natural resources.

Sec. 50301. The departments of agriculture and rural development and natural resources shall jointly do all of the following:

(a) Advise the legislature and the governor on forest management and development and other matters relevant to the development of the forest products industry in this state.

(b) Develop a forestry development plan to improve the state's business climate for forestry, assure a stable timber supply, and coordinate public and private forestry activities.

(c) Identify the needs of the forest products industry.

(d) Promote and encourage the expansion of the forest products industry in this state.

(e) Promote and encourage the retention and expansion of existing forest products companies in this state and attract new forest products companies to locate in this state.

(f) Perform other functions the departments consider necessary for the development of the forest products industry in this state.

(g) Promote and encourage the use of this state's value-added forest products in Michigan, in other states, and internationally.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 47, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50302 Annual report.

Sec. 50302. The departments of agriculture and rural development and natural resources, jointly, shall annually report to the governor and the legislature on their activities to promote the development of the forest products industry in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 47, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 505
MICHIGAN FOREST FINANCE AUTHORITY

324.50501 Purpose of part.

Sec. 50501. The purpose of this part and of the authority created by this part is to preserve existing jobs, create new jobs, and alleviate and prevent unemployment through the retention, promotion, and development of forestry and forest industries and to protect the health and vigor of forest resources by doing all of the following:

(a) Funding practices prescribed and approved by the department that intensify management of certain highly productive portions of this state's forest system.

(b) Implementing a system of forest management that is investment-oriented, economically efficient, and environmentally sound.

(c) Implementing a system of forest management that is consistent with principles of sustainable forestry and with part 525.

(d) Promoting a stable and continuing supply of timber for future economic expansion.

(e) Providing dependable funding of scheduled forest management operations and practices.

(f) Promoting effective investment of revenues from timber sales for high future returns.

(g) Facilitating timely performance of forest management operations and practices.

(h) Earning additional revenues for forest management from timber sales.

(i) Establishing new stands of trees.

(j) Providing for reforestation, forest protection, and timber stand improvement.

(k) Providing an additional funding source for the purposes described in this section from indebtedness secured with revenues generated from future sale of timber harvested from state tax reverted lands, from lands in the state forest system from which revenues derived from the sale of timber were previously deposited in the forest management fund created in former 1945 PA 268, and from other lands as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 124, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2020, Act 287, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.50502 Definitions.

Sec. 50502. As used in this part:

(a) "Authority" means the Michigan forest finance authority created in section 50503.

(b) "Board" means the board of directors of the Michigan forest finance authority, except where the context clearly requires a different definition.

(c) "Bonds" means bonds of the authority issued as provided in this part.

(d) "Forest management operations and practices" means activities related to the harvesting, reforestation, and other forest management, including, but not limited to, road access for silviculture activity and forest thinning, pest control, disease control, fertilization, forest protection, and wildlife management, that are consistent with principles of sustainable forestry.

(e) "Notes" means notes of the authority issued as provided in this part, including commercial paper.

(f) "State forester" means an employee of the department who has a 4-year degree in forest management from an accredited college or university and experience in forest management and who is designated as the state forester by the director.

(g) "Sustainable forestry" means that term as defined in section 52501.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 124, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2020, Act 287, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50503 Michigan forest finance authority; creation; exercise of powers, duties, and functions; handling of funds.

Sec. 50503. The Michigan forest finance authority is created as a body corporate within the department of natural resources and shall be administered under the supervision of the department but shall exercise its prescribed statutory power, duties, and functions independently of the department. The budgeting, procurement, and related functions of the authority shall be performed under the direction and supervision of the department. Funds of the authority shall be handled in the same manner and subject to the same provisions of law applicable to state funds or in a manner specified in a resolution of the authority authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of Michigan forest finance authority from department of natural resources to department of natural resources and environment, see E.R.O. No. 2009-31, compiled at MCL 324.99919.

For transfer of powers and duties of Michigan forest finance authority, and of its board of directors, relating to borrowing money and issuing bonds or notes, to Michigan finance authority, see E.R.O. No. 2010-2, compiled at MCL 12.194.

For transfer of certain other powers and duties of Michigan forest finance authority to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2010-2, compiled at MCL 12.194.

For transfer of Michigan forest finance authority from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50504 Board of directors; appointment; terms; oath; vacancy; persons subject to MCL 15.321 to 15.330; discharge of duties; policies and procedures; conducting business at public meetings; notice; quorum; actions of board; representative as voting member; chairperson.

Sec. 50504. (1) The authority shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the director, the state treasurer, the director of the department of labor and economic growth, and 6 residents of the state, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate as follows:

(a) One individual shall represent the forest products industry within the state.

(b) One individual shall be a commercial logging contractor.

(c) One individual shall be an owner of nonindustrial, private forestland.

(d) One individual shall be from the wood products manufacturing industry.

(e) One individual shall represent hunters, anglers, and other outdoor recreation interests.

(f) One individual from a college or university in the state with knowledge and expertise in forest management.

(2) The 6 resident directors appointed under subsection (1)(a) to (f) shall serve terms of 3 years. In appointing the initial 6 resident members of the board, the governor shall designate 2 to serve for 3 years, 2 to serve for 2 years, and 2 to serve for 1 year.

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(3) Upon appointment to the board under subsection (1), and upon the taking and filing of the constitutional oath of office, a member of the board shall enter the office and exercise the duties of the office.

(4) Regardless of the cause of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall fill a vacancy in the office of a member of the board by appointment with the advice and consent of the senate. A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term of the office. A member of the board shall hold office until a successor has been appointed and has qualified.

(5) Members of the board and officers and employees of the authority are subject to 1968 PA 317, MCL 15.321 to 15.330. A member of the board or an officer, employee, or agent of the authority shall discharge the duties of his or her position in a nonpartisan manner, with good faith, and with that degree of diligence, care, and skill that an ordinarily prudent person would exercise under similar circumstances in a like position. In discharging his or her duties, a member of the board or an officer, employee, or agent of the authority, when acting in good faith, may rely upon the opinion of counsel for the authority, upon the report of an independent appraiser selected with reasonable care by the board, or upon financial statements of the authority represented to the member of the board, officer, employee, or agent to be correct by the officer of the authority having charge of its books or account, or stated in a written report by the auditor general or a certified public accountant or the firm of the accountants fairly to reflect the financial condition of the authority.

(6) The board shall organize and make its own policies and procedures. The board shall conduct all business at public meetings held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting shall be given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Five members of the board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. An action of the board requires a concurring vote by 5 members of the board. A state officer who is a member of the board may designate a representative from his or her department to serve instead of that state officer as a voting member of the board for 1 or more meetings. The state treasurer shall serve as chairperson of the board.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 124, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of Michigan forest finance authority, and of its board of directors, relating to borrowing money and issuing bonds or notes, to Michigan finance authority, see E.R.O. No. 2010-2, compiled at MCL 12.194.

For transfer of certain other powers and duties of Michigan forest finance authority to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2010-2, compiled at MCL 12.194.

For transfer of position of director of department of natural resources and environment as member of board of directors of Michigan forest finance authority to director of department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50505 Election of chairperson and vice-chairperson; state forester as executive director; qualifications, duties, and compensation of employees; delegation of powers or duties; rights and interests of authority; annual report; audits; records.

Sec. 50505. (1) The authority shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its members. The state forester shall serve as the executive director of the authority. The authority may employ legal and technical experts and other officers, agents, or employees, permanent or temporary, paid from the funds of the authority. The authority shall determine the qualifications, duties, and compensation of those it employs, but an employee shall not be paid a higher salary than the director. The authority may delegate to 1 or more members, officers, agents, or employees any powers or duties it considers proper.

(2) The authority shall contract with the department for the purpose of maintaining and improving the rights and interests of the authority.

(3) The authority shall annually file a written report on its activities of the last year with the legislature. This report shall be submitted not later than 270 days following the end of the fiscal year. This report shall specify the amount and source of revenues received, the status of investments made, and a description of the forest management practices undertaken by the department with proceeds of bonds sold under this part.

(4) The accounts of the authority shall be subject to annual audits by the state auditor general or a certified public accountant appointed by the auditor general. Records shall be maintained according to generally accepted auditing principles.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For abolishment of position of executive director of Michigan forest finance authority, see E.R.O. No. 2010-2, compiled at MCL 12.194.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.50506 Powers of board.

Sec. 50506. Except as otherwise provided in this part, the board may do all things necessary or convenient to implement the purposes, objectives, and provisions of this part, and the purposes, objectives, and powers delegated to the board by other laws or executive orders, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Adopt an official seal and bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and alter the seal or bylaws at its pleasure.

(b) Sue and be sued in its own name and plead and be impleaded.

(c) Borrow money and issue negotiable revenue bonds and notes pursuant to this part.

(d) Enter into contracts and other instruments necessary, incidental, or convenient to the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers.

(e) With the prior consent of the department, solicit and accept gifts, grants, loans, and other aid from any person, or the federal, state, or local government or any agency of the federal, state, or local government, or participate in any other way in a federal, state, or local government program.

(f) Acquire standing timber, timber cutting rights, and the state's interest in contracts granting cutting rights, on state tax reverted lands, on lands in the state forest system from which revenues derived from the sale of timber were previously deposited in the forest management fund created in former 1945 PA 268, and on other lands as provided by law, to be used for any of the purposes provided in this part subject to the restrictions of section 50509. However, the state shall not convey to the authority fee title to any state forest lands.

(g) Procure insurance against loss in connection with the property, assets, or activities of the authority.

(h) Invest money of the authority, at the board's discretion, in instruments, obligations, securities, or property determined proper by the board, and name and use depositories for its money.

(i) Contract for goods and services and engage personnel as necessary and engage the services of private consultants, managers, legal counsel, and auditors for rendering professional financial assistance and advice payable out of any money of the authority, subject to the restrictions of section 50507.

(j) Indemnify and procure insurance indemnifying members of the board from personal loss or accountability from liability asserted by a person on bonds or notes of the authority, or from any personal liability or accountability by reason of the issuance of the bonds or notes, or by reason of any other action taken or the failure to act by the authority.

(k) Do all other things necessary or convenient to achieve the objectives and purposes of the authority, this part, rules promulgated under this part, or other laws that relate to the purposes and responsibilities of the authority.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 124, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50507 Financing forest management operations and practices; application of funds; interim procedure; annual list of activities and practices; projection of probable default; contracts for cutting and sale of timber; forest development fund; audit.

Sec. 50507. (1) The authority shall finance only forest management operations and practices consistent with part 525 that follow the guidelines, rules, and objectives prescribed by the department.

(2) Funds managed by the authority shall be applied in a manner consistent with part 525 and the land management planning policies of the department on lands that have been identified for forest management practices. In the absence of an approved state forest management plan covering a candidate area, the department shall use an interim procedure to ensure that all forest values have been considered in selecting sites for investment with funds of the authority. The department shall annually submit a list of activities and practices funded from revenue generated under this part for the board's review and determination of consistency with this part.

(3) The executive director of the authority shall notify the department if the authority projects a probable default on any bonds or notes issued by the authority. Within 1 year after receipt of the notification, or less than 1 year if the notification indicates a shorter time period is necessary to avoid a default, the department shall identify and convey to the authority sufficient timber on tax reverted lands to enable the authority to avoid the projected default and to provide for timely payment of principal of and interest on the authority's bonds or notes. The authority may only issue contracts for the cutting and sale of timber that has been conveyed to the authority under this section to avoid a default on any bonds or notes issued by the authority. The determination of the board as to the need to cut and sell timber is conclusive. Contracts for the cutting and sale of timber shall be consistent with part 525 and with the guidelines, rules, and objectives prescribed

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by the department.

(4) The authority shall establish a fund designated as the "forest development fund". Revenue as provided under section 53519 and any money on hand or received in the future from bond proceeds and from contracts for the cutting and sale of timber on tax reverted lands shall be deposited in the forest development fund. In addition, this fund may receive revenues from any other source. The authority shall use money in the forest development fund only for 1 or more of the following, subject to subsection (5):

(a) To provide for the payment of principal of and interest on any bonds or notes issued by the authority.

(b) For forest management operations and practices.

(c) To obtain and maintain certification of sustainable forestry standards in the state forest under section 52505.

(d) For the administration and enforcement of part 535. Revenue deposited in the forest development fund as provided under section 53519 shall be used only as provided in this subdivision.

(e) For the administration of the forest development fund.

(5) Money in the forest development fund shall not be used for payments in lieu of taxes under section 2154.

(6) The auditor general shall audit the expenditures of the forest development fund at least once every 3 years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 124, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2016, Act 248, Eff. Sept. 22, 2016;—Am. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018;—Am. 2020, Act 287, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50508 Department as agent for authority; conveyance of state's interest in contracts granting timber cutting rights; deposit of money received; conveyance of title to timber.

Sec. 50508. (1) Except as provided in section 50507(3), the department shall act as the agent for the authority in contracting for the cutting and sale of timber or other forest management operations and practices undertaken by the authority.

(2) The state's interest in all existing and future contracts granting timber cutting rights on state tax reverted lands are conveyed to the authority to be used for any of the purposes of this part subject to the restrictions of this part. The money received by the state from existing or future contracts for the cutting and sale of timber on state tax reverted lands, on lands in the state forest system from which revenues derived from the sale of timber were previously deposited in the forest management fund created in former 1945 PA 268, and on other lands as provided by law shall be deposited in the forest development fund and utilized as provided in section 50507(4).

(3) In order to provide for additional security for indebtedness of the authority, the department may convey to the authority title to timber on all or any portion of tax reverted lands, on lands in the state forest system from which revenues derived from the sale of timber were previously deposited in the forest management fund created in former 1945 PA 268, and on other lands as provided by law. The form of conveyance shall be approved by the attorney general and by resolution of the state administrative board. If the authority receives title to any timber, it may release and reconvey timber on state tax reverted lands, on lands in the state forest system from which revenues derived from the sale of timber were previously deposited in the forest management fund created in former 1945 PA 268, and on other lands as provided by law if requested by the department, and the reconveyance from the authority to the department will not cause the authority to default on any obligation or covenant contained in any resolution of the authority authorizing issuance of bonds or notes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 124, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50509 Bonds and notes generally; expenses; expenditures.

Sec. 50509. (1) The authority may authorize and issue its bonds or notes payable solely from the revenues or funds available to the authority. Bonds and notes of the authority are not a debt or liability of the state and do not create or constitute any indebtedness, liability, or obligations of the state or constitute a pledge of the faith and credit of the state. All authority bonds and notes shall be payable solely from revenues or funds pledged or available for their payment as authorized in this part. Each bond and note shall contain on its face a statement to the effect that the authority is obligated to pay the principal of and the interest on the bond or note only from revenues or funds of the authority pledged for the payment of principal and interest and that

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the state is not obligated to pay that principal or interest and that neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the state is pledged to the payment of the principal of or the interest on the bond or note.

(2) All expenses incurred in carrying out this part shall be payable solely from revenues or funds provided or to be provided under this part. This part does not authorize the authority to incur any indebtedness or liability on behalf of or payable by the state.

(3) Any revenues or funds available to the authority that are not necessary to pay principal of or interest on any outstanding bonds or notes of the authority or which are not required to be deposited in a fund created to secure the bonds or notes of the authority or required to provide for the funding of any other matters required by a resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes of the authority shall be expended to fund forest management programs in a manner prescribed by the department. Any money derived from the proceeds of bonds or notes shall be expended by the authority in the manner prescribed in the part and the resolution authorizing such indebtedness.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50510 Bonds or notes; purposes; payment; requirements; signature of board member or office of authority; sale of bonds or notes; applicability of other laws; interest rate agreement.

Sec. 50510. (1) The authority may issue from time to time bonds or notes in principal amounts the authority considers necessary to provide funds for any purpose, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) The payment, funding, or refunding of the principal of, interest on, or redemption premiums on bonds or notes issued by the authority whether the bonds or notes or interest to be funded or refunded have or have not become due.

(b) The establishment or increase of reserves to secure or to pay authority bonds or notes or interest on those bonds or notes.

(c) The payment of interest on the bonds or notes for a period as the authority determines.

(d) The payment of all other costs or expenses of the authority incident to and necessary or convenient to carry out its corporate purposes and powers.

(2) The bonds or notes of the authority shall not be a general obligation of the authority but shall be payable solely from the revenues or funds, or both, pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds or notes as provided in the resolution authorizing the bond or note.

(3) The bonds or notes of the authority:

(a) Shall be authorized by resolution of the authority.

(b) Shall bear the date or dates of issuance.

(c) May be issued as either tax-exempt bonds or notes or taxable bonds or notes for federal income tax purposes.

(d) Shall be serial bonds, term bonds, or term and serial bonds.

(e) Shall mature at such time or times not exceeding 30 years from the date of issuance.

(f) May provide for sinking fund payments.

(g) May provide for redemption at the option of the authority for any reason or reasons.

(h) May provide for redemption at the option of the bondholder for any reason or reasons.

(i) Shall bear interest at a fixed or variable rate or rates of interest per annum or at no interest.

(j) Shall be registered bonds, coupon bonds, or both.

(k) May contain a conversion feature.

(*l*) May be transferable.

(m) Shall be in the form, denomination or denominations, and with the other provisions and terms as is determined necessary or beneficial by the authority.

(4) If a member of the board or any officer of the authority whose signature or facsimile of his or her signature appears on the note, bond, or coupon ceases to be a member or officer before the delivery of that note or bond, the signature shall continue to be valid and sufficient for all purposes, as if the member or officer had remained in office until the delivery.

(5) Bonds or notes of the authority may be sold at a public or private sale at the time or times, at the price or prices, and at a discount as the authority determines. Bonds and notes of the authority are not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. The bond or note of the authority is not required to be filed under the uniform securities act, 1964 PA 265, MCL 451.501 to 451.818, or the

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uniform securities act (2002), 2008 PA 551, MCL 451.2101 to 451.2703.

(6) The issuance of bonds and notes under this section is subject to the agency financing reporting act, 2002 PA 470, MCL 129.171 to 129.177.

(7) For the purpose of more effectively managing its debt service, the authority may enter into an interest rate exchange or swap, hedge, or similar agreement with respect to its bonds or notes on the terms and payable from the sources and with the security, if any, as determined by a resolution of the authority.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 387, Imd. Eff. May 30, 2002;—Am. 2009, Act 98, Imd. Eff. Sept. 24, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50511 Refunding bonds or notes.

Sec. 50511. (1) The authority may provide for the issuance of bonds or notes in the amounts the authority considers necessary for the purpose of refunding bonds or notes of the authority then outstanding, including the payment of any redemption premium and interest accrued or to accrue to the earliest or subsequent date of redemption, purchase, or maturity of these bonds or notes. The proceeds of bonds or notes issued for the purpose of refunding outstanding bonds or notes may be applied by the authority to the purchase or retirement at maturity or redemption of outstanding bonds or notes either on the earliest or subsequent redemption date, and pending such applications, may be placed in escrow to be applied to the purchase or retirement at maturity or redemption on the date or dates determined by the authority. Pending such application and subject to agreements with noteholders or bondholders, the escrowed proceeds may be invested and reinvested in the manner the authority determines, maturing at the date or times as appropriate to assure the prompt payment of the principal, interest, and redemption premium, if any, on the outstanding bonds or notes to be refunded. After the terms of the escrow have been fully satisfied and carried out, the balance of the proceeds and interest, income, and profits, if any, earned or realized on the investment of the proceeds shall be returned to the authority for use by the authority in any lawful manner.

(2) In the resolution authorizing bonds or notes to refund bonds or notes, the authority may provide that the bonds or notes to be refunded shall be considered paid when there has been deposited in escrow, money or investment obligations that would provide payments of principal and interest adequate to pay the principal and interest on the bonds to be refunded, as that principal and interest becomes due whether by maturity or prior redemption and that, upon the deposit of the money or investment obligations, the obligations of the authority to the holders of the bonds or notes to be refunded shall be terminated except as to the rights to the money or investment obligations deposited in trust.

(3) The authority shall not have outstanding at any time bonds or notes in an aggregate principal amount exceeding $20,000,000.00 excluding bonds or notes issued to refund outstanding bonds or notes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50512 Security to assure timely payment of bond or note.

Sec. 50512. (1) The authority may authorize and approve an insurance contract, an agreement for a line of credit, a letter of credit, a commitment to purchase notes or bonds, an agreement to remarket bonds or notes, and any other transaction to provide security to assure timely payment of a bond or note.

(2) The authority may authorize payment from the proceeds of the notes or bonds, or other funds available, of the cost of issuance including, but not limited to, fees for placement, charges for insurance, letters of credit, lines of credit, remarketing agreements, reimbursement agreements, or purchase or sales agreements or commitments, or agreements to provide security to assure timely payment of notes or bonds.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50513 Bonds or notes; authority of board member, executive director, or other officer of authority.

Sec. 50513. Within limitations that shall be contained in the issuance or authorization resolution of the authority, the authority may authorize a member of the board, the executive director, or other officer of the authority to do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Sell and deliver, and receive payment for notes or bonds.

(b) Refund notes or bonds by the delivery of new notes or bonds whether or not the notes or bonds to be

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refunded have matured or are subject to redemption.

(c) Deliver notes or bonds, partly to refund notes or bonds and partly for any other authorized purpose.

(d) Buy notes or bonds so issued and resell those notes or bonds.

(e) Approve interest rates or methods for fixing interest rates, prices, discounts, maturities, principal amounts, denominations, dates of issuance, interest payment dates, redemption rights at the option of the authority or the holder, the place of delivery and payment, and other matters and procedures necessary to complete the transactions authorized.

(f) Direct the investment of any and all funds of the authority.

(g) Approve the terms of a contract, including, but not limited to, a contract for the sale or cutting of timber, and execute and deliver the contract subject to the restrictions of this part.

(h) Approve terms of any insurance contract, agreement for a line of credit, a letter of credit, a commitment to purchase notes or bonds, an agreement to remarket bonds or notes, an agreement to manage payment, revenue, or interest rate exposure, or any other transaction to provide security to assure timely payment of a bond or note.

(i) Perform any power, duty, function, or responsibility of the authority.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50514 Resolution authorizing bonds or notes; provisions.

Sec. 50514. A resolution authorizing bonds or notes may provide for all of the following that shall be part of the contract with the holders of the bonds or notes:

(a) A pledge to any payment or purpose all or any part of authority revenues or assets to which its right then exists or may later come to exist, and of money derived from the revenues or assets, and of the proceeds of bonds or notes or of an issue of bonds or notes, subject to any existing agreements with bondholders or noteholders. The authority shall not mortgage or grant a security interest in or otherwise pledge its ownership rights in standing timber. This subdivision does not prohibit the authority from pledging any revenues derived from the sale of timber or any contracts for the cutting of timber.

(b) A pledge of a loan, grant, or contribution from the federal or state government.

(c) The establishment and setting aside of reserves or sinking funds and the regulation and disposition of reserves or sinking funds subject to this part.

(d) Authority for and limitations on the issuance of additional bonds or notes for the purposes provided for in the resolution and the terms upon which additional notes or bonds may be issued and secured.

(e) The procedure, if any, by which the terms of a contract with noteholders or bondholders may be amended or abrogated, the number of noteholders or bondholders who are required to consent to the amendment or abrogation, and the manner in which the consent may be given.

(f) A contract with the bondholders as to the custody, collection, securing, investment, and payment of any money of the authority. Money of the authority and deposits of money may be secured in the manner determined by the authority. Banks and trust companies may give security for such deposits.

(g) Vest in a trustee, or a secured party, such property, income, revenues, receipts, rights, remedies, powers, and duties in trust or otherwise as the authority determines necessary or appropriate to adequately secure and protect noteholders and bondholders or to limit or abrogate the right of the holders of bonds or notes of the authority to appoint a trustee under this part or to limit the rights, powers, and duties of the trustee.

(h) Provide to a trustee or the noteholders or bondholders remedies that may be exercised if the authority fails or refuses to comply with this part or defaults in an agreement made with the holders of an issue of bonds or notes, which may include any of the following:

(*i*) By mandamus or other suit, action, or proceeding at law or in equity, to enforce the rights of the bondholders or noteholders, and require the authority to carry out any other agreements with the holders of those notes or bonds and to perform the authority's duties under this part.

(*ii*) Bring suit upon the notes or bonds.

(*iii*) By action or suit, require the authority to account as if it were the trustee of an express trust for the holders of the notes or bonds.

(*iv*) By action or suit in equity, enjoin any acts or things that may be unlawful or in violation of the rights of the holders of the notes or bonds.

(*v*) Declare the notes or bonds due and payable and, if all defaults shall be made good, then, as permitted by such resolution, annul that declaration and its consequences.

(i) Any other matters of like or different character that in any way affect the security of protection of the

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bonds or notes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50515 Pledge.

Sec. 50515. A pledge made by the authority shall be valid and binding from the time the pledge is made. The money or property pledged and then received by the authority immediately is subject to the lien of the pledge without a physical delivery or further act. The lien of a pledge is valid and binding as against parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise against the authority, and is valid and binding as against the transfers of the money or property pledged, irrespective of whether parties have notice. Neither the resolution, the trust agreement, nor any other instrument by which a pledge is created need be recorded in order to establish and perfect a lien or security interest in the property so pledged.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50516 Personal liability on bonds or notes.

Sec. 50516. Neither the members of the authority nor any person executing bonds or notes issued under this part or any person executing any agreement on behalf of the authority is liable personally on the bonds or notes by reason of their issuance.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50517 Purchasing, holding, canceling, or reselling bonds or notes.

Sec. 50517. The authority may purchase bonds or notes of the authority out of funds or money of the authority available for that purpose. The authority may hold, cancel, or resell authority bonds or notes subject to or in accordance with an agreement with holders of authority bonds or notes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50518 Rights and remedies.

Sec. 50518. The state pledges to and agrees with the holders of bonds or notes issued under this part that the state shall not limit or restrict the rights vested in the authority by this part to fulfill the terms of an agreement made with the holders of authority bonds or notes, or in any way impair the rights or remedies of the holders of the bonds or notes of the authority until the bonds and notes, together with interest on the bonds or notes and interest on any unpaid installments of interest, and all costs and expenses in connection with an action or proceedings by or on behalf of those holders are fully met, paid, and discharged.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50519 Bonds or notes as legal investments; security.

Sec. 50519. Notwithstanding any restriction contained in any other law, the state and a public officer, local unit of government, or agency of the state or a local unit of government; a bank, trust company, savings bank and institution, savings and loan association, investment company, or other person carrying on a banking business; an insurance company, insurance association, or other person carrying on an insurance business; or an executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, or other fiduciary may legally invest funds belonging to them or within their control in bonds or notes issued under this part, and authority bonds or notes shall be authorized security for public deposits.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50520 Property and income of authority; exemption from taxes and special assessments; bonds or notes exempt from taxation.

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Sec. 50520. Property of the authority is public property devoted to an essential public and governmental function and purpose. Income of the authority is considered to be for a public purpose. The property of the authority and its income and operation are exempt from all taxes and special assessments of the state or a political subdivision of the state. Bonds or notes issued by the authority, and the interest on and income from those bonds and notes, are exempt from all taxation of the state or a political subdivision of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50521 Liberal construction; broad interpretation.

Sec. 50521. This part shall be construed liberally to effectuate the legislative intent and the purposes as complete and independent authority for the performance of each and every act and thing authorized by this part, and all powers granted shall be broadly interpreted to effectuate the intent and purposes and not as a limitation of powers.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50522 Rules.

Sec. 50522. The authority may promulgate rules as necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 507
FOREST MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

324.50701 Conveyance by department of leasehold interest in state-owned property to certain counties; designation of forest lands to be leased; maximum term of leasehold interest; renewal; recreational use of property during leasehold.

Sec. 50701. (1) In a county in which more than 50% of the land is owned by the state and in which the county annual average unemployment rate exceeds the state annual average unemployment rate, as determined by the Michigan employment security commission, due to reductions in staff at a state facility located in the county, the department is authorized to convey a leasehold interest, without monetary consideration, to the county in not more than 1% of the state owned property located in the county and under the control of the department. The county forestry committee created pursuant to section 50703, in cooperation with the department, shall designate the specific sections of property to be leased. The property designated pursuant to this subsection shall not include forest lands located in state parks or lands useful for forest preserves, game areas, and recreational purposes, including wilderness areas, quiet areas, or other special use areas. The property designated pursuant to this subsection shall consist of forest lands previously designated by the department for timber production and suitable for use in the forest management demonstration program established pursuant to this part.

(2) The term of a leasehold interest authorized by this part shall not exceed 15 years, but the leasehold interest shall be renewable for an additional 15 years if the primary objectives of the forest management demonstration program established pursuant to this part are met, as determined by the department.

(3) During the term of the leasehold interest authorized by this part, the leased property shall be open to the public for hunting, fishing, and other recreational uses as considered appropriate by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50702 Use of leased property; purposes; use and disposition of proceeds; implementation of forest management demonstration program.

Sec. 50702. (1) The property leased pursuant to this part shall be used by the county only for the following purposes:

(a) To establish a forest management demonstration program to produce forest products for the purpose of economic development in the county.

(b) To make forest land available to the local school districts for educational purposes.

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(2) The proceeds from the forest management demonstration program shall be used exclusively for economic development in the county and, if the county has established an economic development corporation under the economic development corporations act, Act No. 338 of the Public Acts of 1974, being sections 125.1601 to 125.1636 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, shall be deposited in the fund of the county established pursuant to section 27 of Act No. 338 of the Public Acts of 1974, being section 125.1627 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. If the county economic development corporation is dissolved, the proceeds from the forest management demonstration program shall be transferred to and deposited in the general fund of the county. If the county has not established an economic development corporation, the proceeds from the forest management demonstration project shall be deposited in the general fund of the county. The forest management demonstration program shall be implemented by the county forestry committee created pursuant to section 50703. In implementing the forest management demonstration program, the county forestry committee shall cooperate with the department in all matters pertaining to forest management.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50703 County forestry committee; creation; appointment, qualifications, and terms of members; approval of committee actions; vacancy.

Sec. 50703. A county forestry committee is created for purposes of this part and shall consist of 5 members who shall be appointed by the county board of commissioners. Two members of the county forestry committee shall be foresters registered under part 535, 1 member shall be a member of the county economic development corporation, 1 member shall be a member of the county board of commissioners, and 1 member shall be a resident of the county who is not a county official or employee. If the county has not established an economic development corporation under the economic development corporations act, 1974 PA 338, MCL 125.1601 to 125.1636, 2 members shall be residents of the county who are not county officials or employees. The members of the county forestry committee shall be appointed for a term of 4 years, except that of the first appointments, 2 shall be for a term of 4 years, 1 shall be for a term of 3 years, 1 shall be for a term of 2 years, and 1 shall be for a term of 1 year. All actions of the county forestry committee shall be approved by the county board of commissioners. A vacancy on the county forestry committee shall be filled by the county board of commissioners for the remainder of the unexpired term.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50704 Instrument conveying leasehold interest; approval by attorney general.

Sec. 50704. An instrument conveying a leasehold interest in real property authorized by this part shall be approved by the attorney general.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50705 Conveyance to provide for use of property; termination of lease.

Sec. 50705. The conveyance authorized by this part shall provide that the property be used exclusively for the purposes set forth in section 50702(1), and that termination of either or both of those purposes or the use of the property for any other purpose constitutes grounds for termination of the lease.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.50706 Submission of forest management plan.

Sec. 50706. Within 30 days after the execution of a lease authorized by this part, the county forestry committee shall submit to the department for approval a forest management plan prepared by a forester registered under part 535.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.50707 Conveyance of leasehold.

Sec. 50707. A leasehold interest authorized by this part shall be conveyed by the department by October 8, 1982.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

TAX INCENTIVES

PART 511
COMMERCIAL FORESTS

324.51101 Definitions.

Sec. 51101. As used in this part:

(a) "Ad valorem general property tax" means taxes levied under the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.155.

(b) "Commercial forest" or "commercial forestland" means forestland that is determined to be a commercial forest under section 51104.

(c) "Declassify" or "declassification" means the removal of the commercial forest designation pursuant to section 51116.

(d) "Forestland" means a tract of land that may include nonproductive land that is intermixed with productive land that is an integral part of a managed forest and that meets all the following:

(*i*) Does not have material natural resources other than those resources suitable for forest growth or the potential for forest growth.

(*ii*) Is not used for agricultural, mineral extraction except as provided in section 51113, grazing, industrial, developed recreational, residential, resort, commercial, or developmental purposes.

(*iii*) The owner agrees to develop, maintain, and actively manage the land as a commercial forest through planting, natural reproduction, or other silvicultural practices.

(e) "Forest management plan" means a written plan prepared and signed by a registered forester or a natural resources professional that prescribes measures to optimize production, utilization, and regeneration of forest resources. The forest management plan shall include schedules and timetables for the various silvicultural practices used on commercial forestlands, including, but not limited to, timber harvesting and regeneration.

(f) "Fund" means the commercial forest fund created under section 51112.

(g) "Natural resources professional" means a person who is acknowledged by the department as having the education, knowledge, experience, and skills to identify, schedule, and implement appropriate forest management practices needed to achieve the purposes of this part on land subject to or to be subject to this part.

(h) "Owner" means a person who holds title to the surface estate of forestland subject to this part. However, if land is purchased on a land contract, the owner includes the person who holds the land contract vendee's interest and does not include the person who holds the land contract vendor's interest.

(i) "Personal use" means use for any noncommercial purpose.

(j) "Registered forester" means a person registered under part 535.

(k) "Silvicultural practices" means the management and manipulation of forest vegetation for the protection, growth, and enhancement of forest products.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 383, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006;—Am. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51102 Commercial forest; scope and authority of department; rules.

Sec. 51102. The department shall establish and maintain commercial forests and may promulgate and enforce rules as necessary to accomplish the purpose of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 48, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51103 Commercial forest; application for classification; "contiguous" defined;

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requirements for eligibility; application form; postmark or delivery date; providing certain information and fee to department; brochure; notification; certification that forest management plan prepared and in effect; violation; exemption from disclosure.

Sec. 51103. (1) The owner of at least 40 contiguous acres or a survey unit consisting of 1/4 of 1/4 of a section of forestland located within this state may apply to the department to have that forestland classified as a commercial forest under this part. For purposes of this subsection, "contiguous" means land that touches at any point. Even if portions of commercial forestland are contiguous only at a point, the privilege of hunting and fishing as provided in section 51113 shall not be denied for any portion of the land. The existence of a public or private road, a railroad, or a utility right-of-way that separates any part of the land does not make the land noncontiguous.

(2) To be eligible for classification as a commercial forest, forestland shall be capable of all of the following:

(a) Producing not less than 20 cubic feet per acre per year of forest growth upon maturity.

(b) Producing tree species that have economic or commercial value.

(c) Producing a commercial stand of timber within a reasonable period of time.

(3) An application for classification as commercial forest shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the department. The application shall be postmarked or delivered not later than April 1 to be eligible for classification as commercial forest for the following tax year. In addition to any information that the department may reasonably require by rule, the applicant shall provide all of the following to the department:

(a) A nonrefundable application fee in the amount of $1.00 per acre or fraction of an acre, but not less than $200.00 and not more than $1,000.00. The department shall remit the application fee to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

(b) A legal description and the amount of acreage considered for classification as a commercial forest.

(c) A statement certifying that a forest management plan covering the forestland has been prepared and is in effect.

(d) A statement certifying that the owner of the forestland owns the timber rights to the timber standing on the forestland.

(4) The department shall prepare and distribute to any person desiring to apply for classification of forestland as commercial forest under this part a brochure that lists and explains, in simple, nontechnical terms, all of the following:

(a) The application, hearing, determination, declassification, and prosecution process.

(b) The requirements of the forest management plan.

(5) Not later than 3 months after the effective date of the 2013 amendatory act that amended this section, the department shall notify each county and township and all owners of forestland that is classified as commercial forest under this part, who are on record with the department, of the amendments to this part that were enacted in 2013.

(6) After an owner certifies to the department that a forest management plan has been prepared and is in effect, a violation of that forest management plan is a violation of this part.

(7) A forest management plan that has been submitted to the department or the local tax collecting unit is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 383, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 48, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51104 Forestland; evaluation; hearing; notice; conduct; approval; record.

Sec. 51104. (1) Upon receipt of the application, the forest management plan certification, the timber rights certification, and the application fee described in section 51103, the department shall evaluate the forestland offered and fix a date for a public hearing upon the eligibility of the forestland for determination as a commercial forest. The hearing shall be held in the county where the land is located not later than November 1 following receipt of the application. Applications offering lands in the same county may be heard on the same day and at the same place. The department shall publish a notice of hearing and a list of the legal descriptions of lands being considered for determination as commercial forests in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the land is located. The notice of hearing shall be published at least 20 days before the date of the hearing. At the time of publication, the department shall provide a copy of the notice of hearing and a list of descriptions of land in each township to be considered for determination as a commercial forest to each township supervisor in whose township the lands are located. Any person who wishes may

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testify as to eligibility for determination as a commercial forest of any of the described lands. The hearing shall be conducted by the department.

(2) After the hearing, if the department determines that the applicant and forestland meet the requirements of this part and determines that all valid taxes assessed against that forestland have been paid, the department shall approve the application. Upon approval of the application, the department shall immediately record a listing certificate in the register of deeds office in the county in which the land is located with the department approval endorsed on the listing certificate and forward a copy of the listing certificate to the applicant and to the township supervisor of the township in which the land is located.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51105 Commercial forests not subject to ad valorem general property tax; specific tax; removal from land descriptions list; separate roll; collection; return and sale for nonpayment of taxes; valuation prohibited; lands not considered in connection with equalization distribution of sums collected; distribution; commercial forestland located in renaissance zone.

Sec. 51105. (1) Commercial forests are not subject to the ad valorem general property tax after the date the township supervisor is notified by the department that the land is a commercial forest, except taxes as previously levied. Except as otherwise provided in part 512 and as provided in subsection (5), commercial forests are subject to an annual specific tax as follows:

(a) Until December 31, 2006, $1.10 per acre.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2011, $1.20 per acre.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2012 and every 5 years after that date, the amount of the annual specific tax under this section shall be increased by 5 cents per acre.

(2) The supervisor of the township shall remove from the list of land descriptions assessed and taxed under the ad valorem general property tax the land descriptions certified to him or her by the department as being commercial forests and shall enter those land descriptions on a roll separate from lands assessed and taxed by the ad valorem general property tax and shall spread against these commercial forests the specific tax provided by this section.

(3) The township treasurer shall collect the specific tax at the same time and in the same manner as ad valorem general property taxes are collected and this tax is subject to the same collection charges levied for the collection of ad valorem property taxes. Commercial forests are subject to return and sale for nonpayment of taxes in the same manner, at the same time, and under the same penalties as lands returned and sold for nonpayment of taxes levied under the ad valorem general property tax laws. A valuation shall not be determined for descriptions listed as commercial forests and these lands shall not be considered by the county board of commissioners or by the state board of equalization in connection with county or state equalization for ad valorem property taxation purposes.

(4) Except as provided in section 51109(2), all sums collected pursuant to this section shall be distributed by the township treasurer in the same proportions to the various funds as the ad valorem general property tax is allocated in the township.

(5) Commercial forestland located in a renaissance zone under the Michigan renaissance zone act, 1996 PA 376, MCL 125.2681 to 125.2696, is exempt from the annual specific tax levied under this section to the extent and for the duration provided pursuant to that act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 451, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 1996;—Am. 2006, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51106 Acreage as commercial forestlands; certifying to state treasurer; payment to county treasurer; distribution of remaining funds; payment in full required.

Sec. 51106. (1) By November 1 of each year, the department shall certify to the state treasurer the number of acres that are commercial forestlands in each county. By December 1 of each year, the state treasurer shall transmit to the treasurer of each county in which these commercial forests are located a warrant on the state treasurer for an amount equal to $1.30 per acre of commercial forest in the county. Beginning January 1, 2022 and every 5 years after that date, the amount of the annual payment under this section shall be increased by 5 cents per acre.

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(2) From the payments received under subsection (1), the county treasurer of each county shall distribute an amount equal to 25 cents per acre for each acre of commercial forest in the county in the same proportions between the various funds as the ad valorem general property tax is distributed by the township treasurers in each township. Except as provided by section 51109(2), the county treasurer of each county shall distribute the remainder of the funds received under this section in the same manner and in the same proportion as the ad valorem general property tax is distributed.

(3) This state shall make payment in full to each county under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 604, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 239, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51107 Repealed. 2006, Act 383, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to adjustment of annual specific tax and state payment computed by using state equalized value per acre of timber cutover lands.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51108 Withdrawal of forestland as commercial forest; application; fee; penalty; calculation; publication on website; withdrawal not subject to penalty; granting application without payment of fee or penalty; forestland acquired by federally recognized Indian tribe; disposition; distribution; notice to applicant, township assessor, and register of deeds; filing list of withdrawn lands; interdepartmental cooperation; definitions.

Sec. 51108. (1) An owner of a commercial forest may withdraw his or her forestland, in whole or in part, from the classification as commercial forest under this part upon application to the department and payment of the withdrawal application fee and penalty, as provided in this section.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by this section, upon application to the department to withdraw forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part, the applicant shall forward to the department a withdrawal application fee in the amount of $1.00 per acre with a minimum withdrawal application fee of $200.00 per application and a maximum withdrawal application fee of $1,000.00 per application.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an application to withdraw forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part shall be granted upon the payment of a penalty to the treasurer of the township in which the forestland is located. The withdrawal penalty shall be calculated in the following manner:

(a) Multiply the number of acres of forestland withdrawn from the classification as commercial forest under this part by 1 of the following:

(*i*) For 2007, 1/2 of the valuation per acre for the county in which the forestland is located.

(*ii*) Beginning in 2008, and for each subsequent year, the number described in subparagraph (*i*) adjusted annually by the inflation rate for each year after 2007.

(b) Multiply the product of the calculation in subdivision (a) by the average millage rate levied by all townships, excluding villages, in the county in which the forestland is located.

(c) Multiply the product of the calculation in subdivision (b) by the number of years, to a maximum of 7 years, in which the forestland withdrawn from the classification as commercial forest under this part has been classified as commercial forest under this part.

(d) Multiply the product of the calculation in subdivision (c) by the following:

(*i*) 0.2, if the forestland is located in Luce County.

(*ii*) 0.3, if the forestland is located in Grand Traverse, Manistee, Ottawa, or Wexford County.

(*iii*) 0.4, if the forestland is located in Charlevoix, Chippewa, Emmet, Gladwin, Leelanau, Midland, Oscoda, or Tuscola County.

(*iv*) 0.5, if the forestland is located in Cheboygan, Delta, Mackinac, Oceana, Otsego, or Schoolcraft County.

(*v*) 0.6, if the forestland is located in Alcona, Alger, Allegan, Alpena, Arenac, Barry, Bay, Benzie, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Clare, Clinton, Crawford, Dickinson, Eaton, Genesee, Gogebic, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Houghton, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Iosco, Iron, Isabella, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Marquette, Mecosta, Monroe, Montcalm, Montmorency, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Ogemaw, Osceola, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Saginaw, St. Clair, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Van Buren, Washtenaw, or Wayne County.

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(*vi*) 0.7, if the forestland is located in Antrim, Baraga, Mason, or Menominee County.

(*vii*) 0.8, if the forestland is located in Keweenaw, Lake, Missaukee, or Ontonagon County.

(4) The department shall publish all of the following on its website:

(a) The calculation described in subsection (3)(a)(*i*) for each county.

(b) The adjusted value and the inflation rate described in subsection (3)(a)(*ii*) for each county.

(c) The average millage rate described in subsection (3)(b) for each county.

(5) Until September 1, 2021, the owner of forestland located within a township and classified as commercial forest under this part not later than September 1, 2016 may withdraw not more than 160 acres of that forestland without a withdrawal penalty, subject to the following:

(a) The owner of the former commercial forestland must have continuously owned that former commercial forestland since not later than September 1, 2016.

(b) The former commercial forestland shall be made subject to the transitional qualified forest property specific tax act, as transitional qualified forest property under that act, as a result of all of the following:

(*i*) The owner of the forestland withdraws his or her forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part as provided in this section.

(*ii*) The former commercial forestland is exempt from the collection of general ad valorem property taxes under section 7vv of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7vv.

(*iii*) The owner of the former commercial forestland submits, and obtains approval of, an application for a determination that the forestland is transitional qualified forest property under the transitional qualified forest property specific tax act. The owner shall submit to the department a copy of the executed transitional qualified forest property affidavit by November 1 of the year in which the land is withdrawn from this part.

(c) Any of the owner's remaining forestland within that township that previously qualified as commercial forest under this part must continue to qualify as commercial forest under this part or, subject to the penalty provided under subsection (3), must be withdrawn under this part.

(6) An application to withdraw forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part that meets 1 or more of the following requirements shall be granted without payment of the withdrawal application fee or penalty under this section:

(a) Forestland that has been donated to a public body for public use prior to withdrawal.

(b) Forestland that has been exchanged for property belonging to a public body if the property received is classified as a commercial forest as determined by the department.

(c) Forestland that has been condemned for public use.

(7) An application to withdraw forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part that meets all of the following requirements shall be granted without payment of the withdrawal application fee or penalty under this section:

(a) Evidence is submitted to the department that the land met the legal requirements to be exempt from ad valorem property tax on tax day for the tax year in which the list application was submitted and approved and that the land would have met the legal requirements to be exempt from ad valorem property tax on tax day for each year that the land was classified as commercial forest under this part, if the land had not been classified as commercial forest under this part. As used in this subdivision, "tax day" means that term as provided in section 2 of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.2.

(b) The application is submitted to the department by the same landowner that owned the land on tax day for the tax year in which the application was submitted and that submitted the application for determination under section 51103.

(c) The landowner reimburses the state treasurer for the specific tax that was paid by the state treasurer to the county treasurer, as provided in section 51106(1), for each tax year the land was classified as commercial forest under this part.

(8) The department may withdraw forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part if the forestland has been acquired by a federally recognized Indian tribe and the associated property taxes are subsequently preempted under federal law. A withdrawal under this subsection is not subject to the withdrawal application fee or penalty under this section.

(9) The department shall remit the withdrawal application fee paid pursuant to subsection (2) to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund. The penalty received by the township treasurer under subsection (3) shall be distributed by the township treasurer in the same proportions to the various funds as the ad valorem general property tax is allocated in the township, except as provided by section 51109(2).

(10) If an application to withdraw forestland from classification as commercial forest under this part is granted, the department shall immediately notify the applicant, the assessor of the township, and the register of deeds of the county in which the lands are located of the action and shall file with those officials a list of the lands withdrawn.

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(11) Not later than 30 days after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this sentence, the department of natural resources and the department of agriculture and rural development shall establish in writing a basis of interdepartmental cooperation when an owner of forestland seeks to withdraw that forestland from the classification as commercial forest without penalty under subsection (5).

(12) As used in this section:

(a) "Inflation rate" means the lesser of 1.05 or the inflation rate as defined in section 34d of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.34d.

(b) "Valuation" means the market value as determined by the state tax commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 299, Imd. Eff. Oct. 8, 2008;—Am. 2012, Act 248, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 48, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 146, Imd. Eff. June 4, 2014;—Am. 2016, Act 262, Imd. Eff. June 28, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51109 Determining proportion for disbursement of revenues and attribution of revenues; number of mills levied for local school operating purposes; distribution of revenues; "revenues" defined.

Sec. 51109. (1) For revenues disbursed after June 30, 1994, to determine the proportion for the disbursement of revenues under this part and for attribution of revenues under subsection (2)(b) for revenues collected under this part, the number of mills levied for local school district operating purposes to be used in the calculation shall equal the number of mills for local school district operating purposes levied in 1993 minus the number of mills levied under the state education tax act, Act No. 331 of the Public Acts of 1993, being sections 211.901 to 211.906 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for the year for which the disbursement is calculated.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (b), for revenues disbursed after June 30, 1994, the revenues collected under this part shall be distributed as follows:

(a) In the case of intermediate school districts receiving state aid under sections 56, 62, and 81 of the state school aid act of 1979, Act No. 94 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 388.1656 , 388.1662, and 388.1681 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, all or a portion of the amount that would otherwise be disbursed to these intermediate school districts from the following revenue sources, as determined under a formula prescribed by the department of management and budget on the basis of the tax rate utilized to compute the amount of state aid for the intermediate school district, shall be paid instead to the state treasury to the credit of the state school aid fund established by section 11 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963:

(*i*) Revenues from that portion of the levy of a specific tax over 15 cents per acre pursuant to section 51105.

(*ii*) Revenues from that portion of state payments in excess of 25 cents per acre which are made pursuant to section 51106.

(*iii*) Revenues from remitted withdrawal penalties and fees imposed pursuant to section 51108.

(*iv*) Revenues from declassification penalties and fees pursuant to section 51116 .

(*v*) Revenues from remitted stumpage or yield tax collections made under former Act No. 94 of the Public Acts of 1925.

(b) For revenues disbursed after June 30, 1994, the amount that would otherwise be disbursed to a local school district for school operating purposes shall be paid instead to the state treasury and credited to the state school aid fund established by section 11 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (2)(a), as used in this section "revenues" means all of the following:

(a) The specific tax levied pursuant to section 51105.

(b) State payments made pursuant to section 51106.

(c) Withdrawal penalties and fees imposed pursuant to section 51108.

(d) Declassification penalties and fees pursuant to section 51116.

(e) Revenue from remitted stumpage or yield tax collections made under former Act No. 94 of the Public Acts of 1925.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51110 Cutting, harvesting, or removing forest products prohibited; exceptions.

Sec. 51110. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person shall not cut, harvest, or remove forest

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products from a commercial forest.

(2) The owner of a commercial forest is entitled to cut or remove merchantable forest products on his or her commercial forest without withdrawing it or affecting its status as a commercial forest and without payment of a fee or penalty if the owner complies with all of the following:

(a) After an owner certifies to the department that a forest management plan has been prepared and is in effect under section 51103 and cuts, harvests, or removes forest products in compliance with his or her forest management plan.

(b) All other requirements of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51111 Report to department.

Sec. 51111. The owner shall report to the department prior to the cutting, harvesting, or removal of forest products from the commercial forest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51112 Commercial forest fund.

Sec. 51112. (1) The commercial forest fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer shall deposit the money collected from the following sources into the fund:

(a) The application fee and forest management plan fee pursuant to section 51103.

(b) The withdrawal application fee pursuant to section 51108.

(c) The fee described in section 51116(1)(a).

(d) An amount equal to 10 cents for each acre of land enrolled under this part as certified by the department, to be appropriated each fiscal year from the general fund.

(e) Any restitution ordered by a court payable to this state for a violation of this part.

(3) In addition to the revenues described in subsection (2), the state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(4) Money in the fund appropriated from the general fund shall remain in the fund at the close of the fiscal year and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(5) The department shall expend the money from the fund, upon appropriation, for enforcement, administration, and monitoring of compliance with part 512 and this part and rules promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 383, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51113 Prohibited use of forestland by owner; exception; denying or inhibiting access for public hunting or fishing; exploration for minerals; removal of commercial mineral deposits, sand and gravel, and oil and gas; exploration for wind energy development.

Sec. 51113. (1) Except as provided in this section, the owner of forestland that is classified as commercial forest shall not use that land in a manner that is prejudicial to its development as a commercial forest, use the land for agricultural, mineral extraction except as provided in this section, wind energy development except as provided in this section, grazing, industrial, developed recreational, residential, resort, commercial, or developmental purposes, or deny the general public the privilege of hunting and fishing on commercial forestland unless the land is closed to hunting or fishing, or both, by order of the department or by an act of the legislature. If the department determines that the owner of commercial forestland has taken an action that has the effect of denying or inhibiting access to the commercial forestland for public hunting and fishing, except as specifically provided in this part, the department may require withdrawal of the forestland as commercial forest under this part unless the owner corrects that action and allows access to the commercial forestland for public hunting and fishing. If there is not access to a parcel of commercial forestland and the lack of access is not the consequence of an action taken by the owner of commercial forestland, the forestland may remain as commercial forestland if all of the following apply:

(a) There is not a transfer of title for the parcel of commercial forestland, other than as a part of a larger

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sale of 10,000 or more acres.

(b) The landowner has not taken an action following acquisition of the commercial forestland that has the effect of denying or inhibiting access to the commercial forestland to the public for hunting and fishing.

(c) The commercial forestland is otherwise in compliance with this part.

(2) Exploration for minerals shall be permitted on forestland that is classified as commercial forest under this part. Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4), before the removal of any commercial mineral deposits, the owner shall withdraw the portion of the commercial forestland directly affected by the removal pursuant to section 51108. The withdrawal of commercial forestland due to mineral removal as provided in this section and section 51108 does not require the remaining portion of the commercial forestland to be withdrawn due to insufficient acreage of the remaining commercial forestland.

(3) Upon application to and approval by the department, sand and gravel may be removed from the commercial forestland without affecting the land's classification as a commercial forest. The department shall approve an application to remove sand and gravel deposits only if the removal site is not greater than 5 acres, excluding access to the removal site, and the sand and gravel are to be utilized by 1 or more of the following:

(a) The owner of a commercial forestland for personal use if the owner of the commercial forestland is also the owner of the sand and gravel deposits.

(b) The owner of the sand and gravel deposits for his or her personal use or for sale to the owner of the commercial forestland for personal use, if the owner of the commercial forestland is not also the owner of the sand and gravel deposits.

(c) For sale to this state, a local unit of government, a federal government agency, or a county road commission, for governmental use, or a contractor or other agent undertaking construction, maintenance, or a project for 1 of these governmental entities.

(4) Upon application to and approval by the department, deposits of oil and gas may be removed from the commercial forestland without affecting the land's classification as a commercial forest.

(5) The exploration for wind energy development is permitted on forestland classified as commercial forest under this part pursuant to this subsection. Upon application to and approval by the department, meteorological towers may be erected and wind energy exploration or development leases, easements, or license agreements may be entered into without affecting the land's classification as commercial forest. A landowner may be paid compensation for these leases, easements, and license agreements. Before any wind turbines are erected for the purpose of generating electricity for commercial purposes, the owner shall withdraw the portion of the commercial forest directly affected as follows:

(a) The actual physical footprint of each wind turbine, associated buildings, and adjacent areas that will be permanently removed from forest production shall be removed from the classification as commercial forest.

(b) Forestland under a wind energy development lease, easement, or license agreement where forest production will continue may continue to be classified as commercial forest.

(c) Forestland containing road and utility rights-of-way may continue to be classified as commercial forest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 383, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006;—Am. 2013, Act 48, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51114 Applications, statements, and reports under oath; forms.

Sec. 51114. All applications, statements, reports, and information required by the department in the administration of this part shall be on forms prescribed by the department and shall be under oath.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51115 Transfer of title; effect; withdrawal; document; notification.

Sec. 51115. (1) The transfer of title of forestland classified as commercial forest under this part does not affect that forestland's classification as a commercial forest if the forestland continues to meet all of the eligibility requirements under this part. If the purchaser desires to withdraw his or her forestland from the classification as commercial forest under this part, the purchaser shall withdraw that forestland pursuant to section 51108. If the forestland's eligibility to be classified as commercial forest is affected by the transfer of title, the department shall determine which forestlands may remain classified as commercial forest under this part and which forestlands must be withdrawn or declassified.

(2) A document that transfers any interest in commercial forestlands shall state on the face of the document that "this property is subject to part 511, the commercial forest part of the natural resources and environmental

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protection act". Failure to comply with this subsection does not affect the classification of the land as commercial forestland.

(3) Not later than 30 days after the county equalization office receives notice of a transfer of title or the transfer of any interest in a land contract concerning the commercial forestland, the county equalization office shall notify the department in writing of the transfer or ownership change.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 48, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51116 Removal of designation; declassification; notice; recording; fee.

Sec. 51116. If, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the department determines that a commercial forest was used in violation of this part, that the owner failed to pay the specific tax pursuant to section 51105, that the owner failed to report to the department pursuant to section 51111, that minerals were removed in violation of section 51113, or, after an owner certifies to the department that a forest management plan has been prepared and is in effect, that the owner failed to plant, harvest, or remove forest products in compliance with the owner's forest management plan, then the department shall remove the commercial forest designation for the commercial forest, serve a notice of declassification of the lands upon the owner, and record a copy of the declassification in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the lands are located. Upon declassification, the land is subject to the ad valorem general property tax. Within 30 days after the service of the declassification notice on the owner, the owner shall pay both of the following:

(a) A fee equal to the withdrawal application fee described in section 51108 to the department for deposit into the fund.

(b) An amount equal to the penalty described in section 51108 to the township treasurer of the township in which the land is located to be distributed, except as provided in section 51109(2), in the same proportions to the various funds as the ad valorem general property tax is allocated in the township.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 382, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51118 Applicability of changes in part; withdrawal; fees.

Sec. 51118. (1) Except as provided in this section, changes in the terms, fees, taxes, or other provisions of this part apply to all forestlands that are commercial forests when the changes take effect.

(2) An owner, without penalty or payment of the withdrawal application fee pursuant to section 51108, may withdraw commercial forestland from the operation of this part if any change in the terms, fees, taxes, or other provisions of this part materially increases the burden on the owner. However, if an owner elects to withdraw his or her commercial forestlands under this subsection, the owner shall pay a fee for each acre withdrawn equal to the product of the current average ad valorem property tax per acre on timber cutover real property within the township in which the commercial forestland is located, as determined by the township assessor, multiplied by 5. If the township in which the commercial forestland is located does not contain any real property classified as timber cutover real property under the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being sections 211.1 to 211.157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, then 1 of the following applies:

(a) If there is timber cutover real property located within the county in which the commercial forestland is located, the per acre average of the ad valorem property tax for all timber cutover real property located in the county in which the commercial forestland is located shall be used in calculating the penalty under this subsection.

(b) If there is no timber cutover real property located within the county in which the commercial forestland is located, the per acre average of the ad valorem property tax for all timber cutover real property in townships contiguous to the county in which the commercial forestland is located shall be used in calculating the penalty under this subsection.

(3) The fee described in subsection (2) shall not exceed $100,000.00. The owner shall pay the fee described in subsection (2) before withdrawal.

(4) The owner may not withdraw commercial forestland under this section unless he or she makes application to do so within 1 year after the changes take effect. If an owner elects to withdraw commercial forestlands under this section, he or she shall withdraw all the commercial forestlands owned by him or her at the time of withdrawal.

(5) If an application to withdraw commercial forestlands under subsection (2) is initiated by an owner or

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by the department before changes in terms, fees, taxes, or other provisions of this part or former Act No. 94 of the Public Acts of 1925 become effective, the owner shall pay the stumpage fees, other fees, taxes, and penalties, if any, in the same manner and at the same rates as were in effect when the application was filed.

(6) The department shall remit the fees paid pursuant to this section to the township treasurer. Except as provided in section 51109(2), all fees remitted to the township treasurer under this section shall be distributed by the township treasurer in the same proportions to the various funds as the ad valorem general property tax is allocated in the township.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51119 Representatives of department; right of entry on commercial forestlands; access to books and papers.

Sec. 51119. A duly authorized representative of the department may at any time go upon commercial forestlands to ascertain the validity of any report made pursuant to this part or otherwise determine compliance with this part. The duly authorized representative of the department may examine or cause to be examined any books, papers, records, or memorandum bearing upon the amounts of timber products cut from the commercial forestland or the owner's forest management plan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51120 Violation of part; penalty.

Sec. 51120. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

(2) A person who harvests, cuts, or removes forest products having a value of more than $2,500.00 in violation of this part is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 3 years or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both.

(3) Upon conviction for a violation of this part, the court may declassify all or a portion of the commercial forest pursuant to section 51116.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 512
SUSTAINABLE FOREST CONSERVATION EASEMENT TAX INCENTIVES

324.51201 Owner of commercial forestland subject to sustainable forest conservation easement; specific tax; application for sustainable forest conservation easement tax incentives; form; information; cutting or removing forest products; violation; penalty; definitions.

Sec. 51201. (1) Notwithstanding section 51105, an owner of commercial forestland that is subject to a sustainable forest conservation easement is subject to an annual specific tax equal to the annual specific tax levied under section 51105 less 15 cents per acre. The specific tax described in this section shall be administered, collected, and distributed in the same manner as the specific tax levied in section 51105.

(2) An application for sustainable forest conservation easement tax incentives described in this part shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the department. The application shall be postmarked or delivered to the department not later than April 1 to be eligible for approval for the following tax year. In addition to any information that the department may reasonably require by rule, the applicant shall provide all of the following to the department:

(a) A nonrefundable application fee in the amount of $2.00 per acre or fraction of an acre, but not less than $200.00 and not more than $1,000.00. The department shall remit the application fee to the state treasurer for deposit into the commercial forest fund under section 51112.

(b) A copy of the conservation easement covering the forestland.

(3) The owner of commercial forestlands subject to a sustainable forest conservation easement is entitled to cut or remove forest products on his or her commercial forestlands if the owner complies with part 511 and the requirements of the sustainable forest conservation easement.

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(4) If commercial forestland subject to a sustainable forest conservation easement is used in violation of this part or the sustainable forest conservation easement, the owner in addition to any other penalties provided by law shall pay a penalty, per acre, for each year in which the violation occurs equal to the difference between the specific tax paid under this part and the specific tax that would otherwise be paid under part 511. The specific tax collected under this part shall be paid to the township treasurer in which the commercial forestland is located. The penalty shall be distributed by the township treasurer in the same manner as the specific tax is distributed.

(5) As used in this part:

(a) "Commercial forestland" means commercial forestland that is enrolled under part 511.

(b) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(c) "Forestland" means that term as defined in part 511.

(d) "Sustainable forest conservation easement" means a conservation easement described in section 2140 on commercial forestland that is approved by the department and meets all of the following:

(*i*) Is an easement granted in perpetuity to this state, a political subdivision of this state, or a charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code, 26 USC 501, that also meets the requirements of section 170(h)(3) of the internal revenue code, 26 USC 170.

(*ii*) Covers commercial forestland of 40 or more acres in size.

(*iii*) Provides that the forestland subject to the conservation easement or the manager of the forestland subject to the conservation easement is and continues to be certified under a sustainable forestry certification program that uses independent third party auditors and that is recognized by the department.

(*iv*) Provides that the forestland subject to the conservation easement provides for the nonmotorized recreational use of the forestland by members of the public.

History: Add. 2006, Act 381, Imd. Eff. Sept. 27, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 513
PRIVATE FORESTRY

324.51301 Definitions.

Sec. 51301. As used in this part:

(a) "Conservation district" means that term as it is defined in section 9301.

(b) "Demonstration project" means a forest improvement project designed to illustrate the implementation and impact of alternate forest practices.

(c) "Commission" means the commission of agriculture and rural development.

(d) "Department" means the department of agriculture and rural development.

(e) "Director" means the director of the department or his or her designee.

(f) "Follow-up work" means forest practices to promote the survival of seeds or seedlings or the protection or enhancement of other work previously undertaken under this part.

(g) "Forest improvement project" means any of the following:

(*i*) Production, processing, handling, storage, marketing, or transportation of forest resources, including sawmills, hardboard mills, power stations, warehouses, air and water pollution control equipment, and solid waste disposal facilities.

(*ii*) Forest practice or follow-up work.

(*iii*) Study, planning, or other work intended to improve forestlands or forest resources or to demonstrate means of improving forestlands or forest resources.

(h) "Forest management plan" means that term as it is defined in section 7jj of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7jj[1].

(i) "Forest practice" means that term as it is defined in section 7jj of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7jj[1].

(j) "Forest resources" means those products, uses, and values associated with forestland, including recreation and aesthetics, fish, forage, soil, timber, watershed, wilderness, and wildlife.

(k) "Forestland" means a tract of land that may include nonproductive land that is intermixed with productive land that is an integral part of a managed forest and the owner of which agrees to develop, maintain, and actively manage the land as a private forest through planting, natural reproduction, or other silvicultural practices. Forestland includes land from which forest tree species have been removed and have not been restocked, but does not include land converted to uses other than the growing of forest tree species or land currently zoned for uses incompatible with forest practices.

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(*l*) "Fund" means the private forestland enhancement fund created in section 51305.

(m) "Harvest" means that term as it is defined in section 7jj of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7jj[1].

(n) "Landowner" means a person who holds an ownership interest in nonindustrial private forestland.

(o) "Nonindustrial private forestland" means a privately owned tract of land consisting of 20 or more acres, or the timber rights in the land if the timber rights have been severed, that has the productive capacity to grow on average not less than 20 cubic feet per acre per year and that meets either of the following conditions:

(*i*) For a tract of land that contains less than 40 acres, at least 80% of the land is occupied by forest tree species.

(*ii*) For a tract of land that contains 40 or more acres, at least 50% of the land is occupied by forest tree species.

(p) "Qualified forester" means that term as it is defined in section 7jj of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7jj[1].

(q) "Technical assistance" means direct on-site assistance provided to individuals.

(r) "Timber" means wood growth, mature or immature, growing or dead, standing or down. Timber does not include any of the following:

(*i*) Christmas trees and associated greens.

(*ii*) Material harvested from an individual's own land and used on that land for the construction of fences or buildings or for other personal use.

(s) "Timber owner" means a person who holds an ownership interest in species of forest trees on forestland. An ownership interest includes a license or other right to harvest timber on state lands.

History: Add. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.51301, which pertained to designation of tract of land as private forest reservation, was repealed by Act 378 of 2006, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51302 Management and utilization of private forestland and private forest resources; purpose and intent of part.

Sec. 51302. (1) This part is intended to stimulate improved management and utilization of private forestland and private forest resources within this state. Economic and community development opportunities based on the private forest resource will be enhanced by ensuring adequate future high-quality timber supplies, increased employment opportunities, a diversified economy, and other economic benefits and the conservation, maintenance, and enhancement of a productive and stable forest resource system for the public benefit of present and future generations.

(2) The primary purpose of this part is to assist private landowners in understanding the value of forest resources and the potential threats to forest resources and to provide management guidance.

(3) The department may enter into cooperative agreements with the federal agencies that have been given authority by act of congress for the management of forestlands to assist landowners in management of their nonindustrial private forestlands.

History: Add. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.51302, which pertained to number of trees planted on acre of land as subject to part, was repealed by Act 378 of 2006, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51303 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to number of forest trees planted on tract of private forest reservation to assure spacing of 6 feet by 6 feet.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51304 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to receipt of benefit if landowner permits cattle, horses, hogs, or goats to pasture upon private forest reservation.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.51305 Private forestland enhancement fund.

Sec. 51305. (1) The private forestland enhancement fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund, including general fund/general purpose appropriations, gifts, grants, and bequests. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(5) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for 1 or more of the following purposes:

(a) Direct assistance.

(b) Indirect assistance.

(c) Administrative costs.

(6) The department shall establish criteria and procedures for approving proposed expenditures from the fund.

(7) The department of treasury shall, before November 1 of each year, notify the department of the balance in the fund at the close of the preceding fiscal year.

(8) As used in this section:

(a) "Administrative costs" includes, but is not limited to, costs incurred in administering the qualified forest program developed in section 7jj of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7jj[1].

(b) "Direct assistance" includes, but is not limited to, programs that will provide for any of the following:

(*i*) Programs devoted to nonindustrial private forestland to encourage the judicious management of forestlands to maximize economic and ecological value.

(*ii*) Incentive and cost-share programs to assist landowners.

(*iii*) Programs that enhance investment of private and federal funds in sustainable forest management.

(*iv*) Other programs established pursuant to this part.

(c) "Indirect assistance" includes, but is not limited to, programs that will provide for any of the following:

(*i*) Public education and demonstration programs on sustainable management of private forestland for increasing value for wildlife habitat or timber management, or both.

(*ii*) Educational programs.

(*iii*) Technical assistance programs.

(*iv*) The promotion of on-site evaluation systems and management practices.

History: Add. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.51305, which pertained to stocking forest trees under rules of department, was repealed by Act 378 of 2006, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51306 List of qualified foresters; preparation; maintenance; registration; removal; publication on department's website.

Sec. 51306. (1) The department shall prepare and maintain a list of qualified foresters in the state.

(2) An individual who wishes to be included on the list of qualified foresters shall submit a registration to the department on a form prepared by the department. The registration form shall include all of the following:

(a) The category of qualified forester for which the individual meets the necessary requirements.

(b) The continuing education required for the individual to maintain his or her status as a qualified forester, including the date on which the continuing education is required to be completed.

(c) A place for an individual to certify with his or her signature that he or she meets the requirements of a qualified forester and is current with any continuing education that is required.

(d) A place to designate whether the individual is submitting a new registration or a renewal of registration.

(3) An individual may update his or her registration at any time by submitting a renewal of registration.

(4) An individual who no longer meets the requirements to be considered a qualified forester shall notify the department in writing, and the department shall remove the individual from the list of qualified foresters.

(5) The department shall publish the list of qualified foresters on the department's website.

History: Add. 2013, Act 45, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2013.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.51306, which pertained to complete restocking of private forest reservation with forest trees, was repealed by Act 378 of 2006, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51307 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to varieties of forest trees.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51308 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to record of private forest reservations to be kept by county treasurer.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51309 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to record of private forest reservations to be kept by township supervisor or assessor.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51310 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to form of application and contract to be filed with county treasurer and form of notice by the treasurer to supervisor or assessing officer.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51311 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to examination of private forest reservations by supervisor or assessor when real estate is assessed for taxation.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51312 Repealed. 2006, Act 378, Eff. Sept. 1, 2007.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to taxes levied and fees collected after 1993.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

FOREST FIRES

PART 515
PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF FOREST FIRES

324.51501 Definitions.

Sec. 51501. As used in this part:

(a) "All hazard incident" means an incident, whether natural or human-caused, that requires an organized response by a public, private, or governmental entity to protect life, public health or safety, or other values or to minimize any disruption of governmental, social, or economic services. One or more kinds of incident, such as fire, flood, mass casualty, search, rescue, or evacuation, may occur simultaneously as part of an all hazard incident.

(b) "Certified prescribed burn manager" means an individual who has successfully completed the certification program of the department under section 51513 and possesses a valid certification number.

(c) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(d) "Domestic purposes" refers to burning that is any of the following:

(*i*) A fire within the curtilage of a dwelling where the material being burned has been properly placed in a debris burner constructed of metal or masonry, with a metal covering device with openings no larger than 3/4 of an inch.

(*ii*) A campfire.

(*iii*) Any fire within a building.

(e) "Extinguished", in reference to prescribed burning, means that there is no longer any spreading flame.

(f) "Forest land", subject to subdivision (f), means any of the following:

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(*i*) Timber land, potential timber-producing land, or cutover or burned timber land.

(*ii*) Wetland.

(*iii*) Prairie or other land dominated by grasses or forbes.

(g) "Forest land" does not include land devoted to agriculture.

(h) "Flammable material" means any substance that will burn, including, but not limited to, refuse, debris, waste forest material, brush, stumps, logs, rubbish, fallen timber, grass, stubble, leaves, fallow land, slash, crops, or crop residue.

(i) "Prescribed burn" or "prescribed burning" means the burning, in compliance with a prescription and to meet planned fire or land management objectives, of a continuous cover of fuels.

(j) "Prescription" means a written plan establishing the criteria necessary for starting, controlling, and extinguishing a burn.

(k) "Primary public safety answering point" means that term as defined in section 102 of the emergency 9-1-1 service enabling act, 1986 PA 32, MCL 484.1102.

(*l*) "Wetland" means land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, wetland vegetation or aquatic life, and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2017, Act 60, Eff. Sept. 26, 2017;—Am. 2018, Act 80, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Compiler's note: In subdivision (f), the reference to “subject to subdivision (f)” evidently should read “subject to subdivision (g).”

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51502 Department of natural resources; authority; appointment of assistants.

Sec. 51502. The department shall have charge of the prevention and suppression of forest fires and shall appoint assistants as needed to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51503 Burning permits; conditions.

Sec. 51503. (1) At any time the ground is not snow-covered, a person shall not burn any flammable material on or adjacent to forest land, except for domestic purposes, without a permit from the department.

(2) The department shall set the times of day and, consistent with this part, the conditions under which burning for other than domestic purposes on or adjacent to forest land is permitted.

(3) Any person doing any burning on or adjacent to forest land for other than domestic purposes, prior to such burning operations, and at all times while the burning continues, shall take such action in and around the area in which the burning is done so as to prevent the spread of fire as may be required by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51503b Prescribed burning; liability; requirements.

Sec. 51503b. (1) Prescribed burning does not constitute a public or private nuisance when conducted in compliance with this part, part 55, and rules promulgated to implement this part or part 55.

(2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), a property owner or his or her agent conducting prescribed burning is not liable for damage or injury caused by the fire or resulting smoke.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) apply to a prescribed burn only if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The landowner or his or her designee has specifically consented to the prescribed burn.

(b) The requirements of section 51503 are met.

(c) There are adequate firebreaks at the burn site and sufficient personnel and firefighting equipment for the control of the fire.

(d) A certified prescribed burn manager is present on site with a copy of the prescription, from ignition of the prescribed burn to its completion.

(e) The damage or injury does not result from the fire escaping the boundary of the area authorized in the permit under section 51503.

(f) The property owner or his or her agent is not grossly negligent.

(4) Subsection (2) does not affect liability for injury to or death of a person engaged in the prescribed

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burning.

History: Add. 2004, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51503c Prescribed burn; notice of location; record of attempts to notify; contents of notice; violation.

Sec. 51503c. (1) Before conducting a prescribed burn, the department shall attempt to notify by telephone and electronic mail the township supervisor and the primary public safety answering point of each township where the prescribed burn is to take place. The department shall maintain a record of the notification attempts. The notice shall include all of the following:

(a) The location, expected date, and estimated number of acres of the prescribed burn.

(b) The name, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the person in charge of the prescribed burn.

(2) A violation of this section is not subject to section 51512.

History: Add. 2017, Act 60, Eff. Sept. 26, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51504 Acts prohibited.

Sec. 51504. A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Dispose of a lighted match, cigarette, cigar, ashes or other flaming or glowing substances, or any other substance or thing that is likely to ignite a forest, brush, grass, or woods fire; or throw or drop from a moving vehicle any such object or substance.

(b) Set fire to, or cause or procure the setting on fire of, any flammable material on or adjacent to forest land without taking reasonable precautions both before and while lighting the fire and at all times after the lighting of the fire to prevent the escape of the fire; or leave the fire before it is extinguished.

(c) Set a backfire or cause a backfire to be set, except under the direct supervision of an established fire control agency or unless it can be established that the setting of the backfire is necessary for the purpose of saving life or valuable property.

(d) Destroy, break down, mutilate, or remove any fire control sign or poster erected by an established fire control agency in the administration of its lawful duties and authorities.

(e) Use or operate on or adjacent to forest land, a welding torch, tar pot, or other device that may cause a fire, without clearing flammable material surrounding the operation or without taking other reasonable precautions necessary to ensure against the starting and spreading of fire.

(f) Operate or cause to be operated any engine, other machinery, or powered vehicle not equipped with spark arresters or other suitable devices to prevent the escape of fire or sparks.

(g) Discharge or cause to be discharged a gun firing incendiary or tracer bullets or tracer charge onto or across any forest land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51505 Refuse disposal facilities; devices; conditions; rules.

Sec. 51505. Any person maintaining or operating a refuse disposal facility shall provide devices and conditions that will promote the safe operation and guard against the escape of fire. The department may promulgate rules for the implementation of this section. This part does not give the department the authority to allow burning of garbage at refuse disposal facilities contrary to part 115.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51506 Violation of part causing forest or grass fire; violation of MCL 324.51503c; liability; other right of action for damages.

Sec. 51506. (1) Except as provided in section 51503b, a person who, in violating this part, causes a forest or grass fire is liable for all damages resulting from that fire, including the cost of any governmental unit fighting the fire. This subsection does not apply to a violation by the department of section 51503c.

(2) If the department violates section 51503c, the department is liable for any costs incurred by a township

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as a result of the prescribed burn.

(3) Except as provided in section 51503b, this part does not affect any other right of action for damages.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2017, Act 60, Eff. Sept. 26, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51507 Extreme fire hazard conditions; proclamation by governor as to use of fire; prohibited acts.

Sec. 51507. (1) Whenever the governor finds that conditions of extreme fire hazard exist and that it is necessary in the public interest and for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, he or she may forbid, by proclamation, the use of fire by any person entering forest lands or lands adjacent to forest lands in parts of the state as he or she considers the public interest requires. The proclamation shall be in full force and effect 24 hours after notice is given by the governor.

(2) During periods described in subsection (1), and in such areas as the governor proclaims, a person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Build a campfire of any nature, except within containers at authorized campgrounds or places of habitation.

(b) Smoke a pipe, cigarette, or cigar, except at places of habitation, authorized improved campgrounds, or in any automobile or truck.

(c) Burn or cause to be burned any flammable material unless he or she first obtains a permit, in writing, to do so as provided in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51508 Repealed. 2015, Act 210, Eff. Mar. 14, 2016.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to persons subject to call to assistance in emergency.

324.51509 Fire suppression expenses; liability; determination; collection of claim; actions.

Sec. 51509. (1) Except as provided in section 51503b, a person who sets fire on any land and negligently allows the fire to escape and become a forest or grass fire is liable for all expenses incurred by the state in the suppression of the fire.

(2) The department shall certify, in writing, to the person the claim of the state under subsection (1) and shall list the items of expense incurred in the suppression of the fire. The claim shall be paid within 60 days and, if not paid within that time, the department may bring suit against the person in a court of competent jurisdiction in the county of the residence of the defendant or of any defendant if there is more than 1, for the collection of the claim at any time within 2 years after the fire. If the amount of the claim is cognizable by a circuit court, the department may file the suit in the circuit court of Ingham county, or in the circuit court of the county of the residence of the defendant or any defendant if there is more than 1.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51510 Prohibited acts; exception.

Sec. 51510. (1) A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Willfully, maliciously, or wantonly set fire or cause or procure to be set on fire any forest land, lands adjacent to forest land, or flammable material on such forest land.

(b) Willfully, maliciously, or wantonly set, throw, or place any device, instrument, paraphernalia, or substance in or adjacent to any forest land with intent to set fire to the land or which in the natural course of events would result in fire being set to the forest land.

(2) This section does not apply to a prescribed burn conducted in compliance with section 51503b.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51511 Department of natural resources officer, employee, or agent; right of entry.

Sec. 51511. Any duly authorized officer, employee, or agent of the department, in the performance of his

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or her duty, may enter upon or enter into any premises on or in which he or she has reasonable cause to believe a violation of this part is occurring. For purposes of this section, premises shall not include buildings or dwellings.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51512 Violation of part or rule; penalty.

Sec. 51512. Any person who violates this part or any rule promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person convicted of violating section 51510 is guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be imprisoned for not more than 10 years or fined not more than $10,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51513 Administration of part; rules; investigations; surveys; construction of part as to other law enforcement agencies and local ordinances and regulations.

Sec. 51513. (1) The department shall administer this part and shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this part. The department shall adopt rules governing prescribed burning and for certifying and decertifying prescribed burn managers based on their past experience, training, certification by another state, and record of compliance with section 51503b. The department shall submit the proposed rules for public hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, within 6 months after the effective date of the 2004 amendatory act that amended this section.

(2) The department may make, conduct, or participate in investigations and surveys designed to establish the cause of or responsibility for a particular forest fire or forest fire conditions generally.

(3) This part does not limit or otherwise impair the jurisdiction or powers of any other department, agency, or officer of this state to investigate, apprehend, and prosecute violators of this part. This part does not preempt local ordinances or local regulations that are as restrictive or more restrictive than this part, except to the extent the ordinances or regulations conflict with the exemption from liability for, or otherwise apply to either of the following:

(a) Prescribed burns conducted in compliance with section 51503b.

(b) Prescribed burns conducted by a federal agency or state agency on land that the agency is authorized to manage.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 529, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51514 Forest fire and other hazard incidents; control; interstate and federal assistance agreements; employee training considered as work inside state; compensation and benefits.

Sec. 51514. The department may enter into agreements with other states, territories of the United States, the federal government, Canada, or provinces of Canada to provide assistance and to accept assistance in the control of forest fires and all hazard incidents, including the training of personnel. Any employee of the department assigned to fire control duties and all hazard incidents or training programs outside this state shall be considered the same as working inside this state for purposes of compensation and any other employee benefits.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 80, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 517
PREVENTION OF FOREST FIRES

324.51701 Legislation, rules, or policies creating conditions promoting, fostering, or leading to forest fires.

Sec. 51701. The state or a department, bureau, board, commission, or other agency of the state or a political subdivision of the state shall not enact, adopt, promulgate, enforce, or practice any law, rule, policy,

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or concept that creates or tends to create a condition that promotes, fosters, or leads or may tend to promote, foster, or lead to the beginning or spreading of a forest fire that could jeopardize the public trust in the forests of the state or any private land contiguous to the forests of the state, except as may be required for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare, or as prescribed for forest management or wildlife management programs under the authority of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51702 Inconsistent acts or rules repealed.

Sec. 51702. To the extent authorized by law, all acts and parts of acts or rules promulgated pursuant to acts or parts that are inconsistent with this part are repealed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 519
SLASH DISPOSAL

324.51901 Forest cutting, slash, and debris; disposal methods, specifications, and elimination; approval by department.

Sec. 51901. Any person who cuts any forest growth within any public road or highway, or on land bordering on any public road or highway in this state, shall dispose of all cutting, slash, and debris resulting from the cutting, and dead stubs and windfalls from the area cut over so that inflammable material does not constitute a fire hazard within the limits of the road or highway or within 50 feet of the edge of the cleared portion of the limits of the road or highway. The method of disposal, the disposal specifications, and the elimination of fire hazards shall be approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51902 Forest cutting, slash, and debris; public utilities; responsibility for disposal.

Sec. 51902. All cuttings of forest growth, slash, and debris resulting from the construction and maintenance of any railroad, that is a common carrier, telephone, telegraph, power, oil and gas line, or other public utility shall be disposed of by the person either directly or indirectly responsible for creating the cuttings, slash, and debris, in a manner approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51903 Forest cutting, slash, and debris; time for disposal; burning permit required.

Sec. 51903. All cuttings of forest growth, slash, and debris referred to in sections 51901 and 51902 shall be disposed of within 30 days after cutting the same in the manner prescribed by the department. The disposal shall not be injurious to or endanger public or private property. Any burning of cuttings of forest growth, slash, and debris shall be done only under permit and at a time when forest and grass lands are not endangered by the fire.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51904 Forest cutting, slash, and debris; noncompliance; disposal by department; statement of expenditures; reimbursement; neglect or refusal to pay amount; action; money collected; disposition.

Sec. 51904. If cuttings of forest growth, slash, and debris are not disposed of as provided under section 51903, the department shall notify, by registered mail, the person responsible for the cuttings of the requirements imposed for the removal or elimination of fire hazards. If the responsible party or parties fail to comply with the provisions in the notification, the department may remove or eliminate the fire hazards, and the department is not liable in any action or trespass for that action. The department shall pay for the disposal

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or elimination of fire hazards resulting from cuttings of forest growth, slash, and debris from the forest fire control appropriation, and the department shall keep an accurate account of the expenditures incurred by it in implementing this part. The department shall present a full and complete statement of its expenditures, verified by oath, requiring the person to pay to the state the amount set forth. If the offender refuses or neglects to pay that amount within 30 days after the notice and demand, the department may bring suit against the person in a court of competent jurisdiction in the county where the forest growth cuttings, slash, and debris were not disposed of as required by the department, or in the county of the residence of the defendant or of any defendant if there is more than 1. All money collected as result of action under this section shall be paid to the state treasurer and credited to the forest fire control appropriation from which the expenditures were made.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51905 Violation of part; penalty; civil liability.

Sec. 51905. Any person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both. If through the violation of this part any damage or injury is suffered by the owner of any property, the person who is guilty of the violation is liable in an action for damages to be recovered in an action of trespass on the case for the benefit of the owner who suffered the damage.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.51906 Rules, regulations, and specifications.

Sec. 51906. All rules, regulations, and specifications prescribed under this part shall be prescribed in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

PART 525
SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY ON STATE FORESTLANDS

324.52501 Definitions.

Sec. 52501. As used in this part:

(a) "Breast height" means 4.5 feet from highest ground at the base of the tree.

(b) "Certification" means a process where an independent third party organization assesses and evaluates forest management practices according to the standards of a certification program resulting in an issuance of a certificate of compliance or conformity.

(c) "Certification program" means a program that develops specific standards that measure whether forest management practices are consistent with principles of sustainable forestry.

(d) "Conservation" means the wise use of natural resources.

(e) "Diameter class specifications" means a classification of trees based on the diameter at breast height.

(f) "Plan" means the forestry development, conservation, and recreation management plan for state forests as provided for in section 52503.

(g) "Reforestation" means adequate stocking of forestland is assured by natural seeding, sprouting, suckering, or by planting seeds or seedlings.

(h) "Residual basal area" means the sum of the cross-sectional area of trees 4 inches or greater in diameter measured at breast height left standing within a stand after a harvest.

(i) "State forest" means state land owned or controlled by the department that is designated as state forest by the director.

(j) "Sustainable forestry" means forestry practices that are designed to meet present and future needs by employing a land stewardship ethic that integrates the reforestation, managing, growing, nurturing, and harvesting of trees for useful products with the conservation of soil, air and water quality, wildlife and fish

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habitat, and visual qualities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52502 Management of state forest; manner; duties of department.

Sec. 52502. (1) The department shall manage the state forest in a manner that is consistent with principles of sustainable forestry.

(2) In fulfilling the requirements of subsection (1), the department shall do all of the following:

(a) Manage forests with consideration of their economic, social, and environmental values by doing all of the following:

(*i*) Broadening the implementation of sustainable forestry by employing an array of economically, environmentally, and socially sound practices in the conservation of forests, using the best scientific information available.

(*ii*) Promoting the efficient utilization of forest resources.

(*iii*) Broadening the practice of sustainable forestry by cooperating with forestland owners, wood producers, and consulting foresters.

(*iv*) Where appropriate, promoting working forests for the production of forest products and ecological value.

(*v*) Actively managing for enhanced wildlife habitat.

(b) Conserve and protect forestland by doing all of the following:

(*i*) Ensuring long-term forest productivity and conservation of forest resources through prompt reforestation, soil conservation, afforestation, and other measures.

(*ii*) Protecting the water quality in streams, lakes, and other water bodies in a manner consistent with the department's best management practices for water quality.

(*iii*) Managing the quality and distribution of wildlife habitats, contributing to the conservation of biological diversity, implementing stand and landscape-level measures that promote habitat diversity and the conservation of forest plants and animals, including aquatic flora and fauna and unique ecosystems, while giving due consideration to loss of economic values.

(*iv*) Managing forests to mitigate or minimize impacts from wildfire, pests, diseases, and other damaging agents.

(*v*) Managing areas of ecologic, geologic, cultural, or historic significance in a manner that recognizes their special qualities.

(*vi*) Managing activities in high conservation value forests by maintaining or enhancing the attributes that define those forests, while giving due consideration to loss of economic values.

(c) Communicate to the public by doing all of the following:

(*i*) Publicly reporting the department's progress in fulfilling its commitment to sustainable forestry.

(*ii*) Informing the public of the positive aspects of managed forests.

(*iii*) Providing opportunities for persons to participate in the commitment to sustainable forestry.

(*iv*) Preparing, implementing, and keeping current a management plan that clearly states the long-term objectives of management and the means of achieving those objectives.

(d) Promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry and monitor, measure, and report performance in achieving sustainable forestry.

(e) Consider the local community surrounding state forestland by doing both of the following:

(*i*) Requiring that forest management plans and operations comply with applicable federal and state laws.

(*ii*) Requiring that forest management operations maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.

History: Add. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2018, Act 238, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52503 Forestry development, conservation, and recreation management plan.

Sec. 52503. (1) The department shall adopt a forestry development, conservation, and recreation management plan for state-owned lands owned or controlled by the department. Parks and recreation areas, state game areas, and other wildlife areas on these lands shall be managed according to their primary purpose. Subject to subsection (2)(g), the department may update the plan as the department considers necessary or appropriate. The plan and any plan updates shall be consistent with section 52502 and shall be designed to

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ensure a stable, long-term, sustainable timber supply from the state forest as a whole.

(2) The plan and any plan updates shall include all of the following:

(a) An identification of the interests of local communities, outdoor recreation interests, the tourism industry, and the forest products industry.

(b) Methods to promote and encourage the use of the state forest for outdoor recreation, tourism, and the forest products industry.

(c) A landscape management plan for the state forest incorporating biodiversity conservation goals, indicators, and measures.

(d) Standards for sustainable forestry consistent with section 52502.

(e) An identification of environmentally sensitive areas.

(f) An identification of the need for forest treatments to maintain and sustain healthy, vigorous forest vegetation and quality habitat for wildlife and environmentally sensitive species.

(g) Yearly harvest objectives for all state forest land by forest region for a 10-year period. At least every 5 years, the department shall review the yearly harvest objectives. At least once every 10 years, the department shall update the yearly harvest objectives for all state forest land for a 10-year period. The department shall post and maintain the current yearly harvest objectives on the department's website. The harvest objectives for each forest region shall not exceed the sustainable yields. In setting harvest objectives, the department may consider physical, biological, environmental, and recreational objectives.

(3) Beginning October 1, 2018 and each year thereafter, the department shall prepare for sale a minimum of 90% of the yearly statewide harvest objective.

History: Add. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2018, Act 238, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52504 Harvest and sale of timber; deposit of proceeds into forest development fund; report.

Sec. 52504. (1) The department shall harvest timber from the state forest and other state owned lands owned or controlled by the department in compliance with the plan and any plan updates.

(2) Unless otherwise dedicated by law, proceeds from the sale of timber from the state forest and other state owned lands owned or controlled by the department shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the forest development fund established pursuant to section 50507.

(3) Not later than December 31 of each year, the department shall submit a report, to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over forestry issues, that includes all of the following:

(a) The total number of acres in the state forest that have been identified by the department as having site conditions that restrain timber sales.

(b) The site conditions applicable to acreage identified under subdivision (a).

(c) The total number of acres identified under subdivision (a) in the previous year's report that are not identified under subdivision (a) in the current report and have been made available for timber sale.

(d) The locations where the acres identified under subdivision (a) and acres as identified under subdivision (c) are located.

(e) A statement of what the department intends to do to remove the particular site conditions identified under subdivision (b).

History: Add. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 500, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52505 Third-party certification that forestry standards satisfied; report.

Sec. 52505. (1) The department shall seek and maintain third-party certification that the management of the state forest and other state owned lands owned or controlled by the department satisfies the sustainable forestry standards of at least 1 credible nonprofit, nongovernmental certification program and this part.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2006, the department shall ensure that the state forest is certified as provided for in subsection (1).

(3) Beginning the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, the department shall commence a review and study to determine the appropriateness of certifying parks and recreation areas, state game areas, and other wildlife areas on state owned lands owned or controlled by the department. Not later than 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, the department shall report

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and recommend to the legislature the appropriateness and feasibility of certifying those lands.

History: Add. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52506 Report.

Sec. 52506. By January 1 of each year, the department shall prepare and submit to the natural resources commission, the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over forestry issues, and the senate and house appropriations committees a report that details the following from the previous state fiscal year:

(a) The number of harvestable acres in the state forest, as determined from information in the state forest management plan under section 52503.

(b) The number of acres of the state forest that were harvested and the number of cords of wood that were harvested from the state forest.

(c) The number of acres of state-owned lands owned or controlled by the department other than state forest that were harvested and the number of cords of wood that were harvested from those lands.

(d) Efforts by the department to promote recreational opportunities in the state forest.

(e) Information on the public's utilization of the recreational opportunities offered by the state forest.

(f) Efforts by the department to promote wildlife habitat in the state forest.

(g) The status of the plan and whether the department recommends any changes in the plan.

(h) The status of certification efforts required in section 52505 and a definitive statement of whether the department is maintaining certification of the entire state forest.

History: Add. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004;—Am. 2018, Act 238, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52511 Repealed. 2004, Act 123, Eff. Dec. 31, 2011.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to establishment and design of forest pilot project areas and contracts for management of each area.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 527
MUNICIPAL FORESTS

324.52701 Definitions.

Sec. 52701. As used in this part:

(a) "Forestry commission" means a forestry commission appointed by a municipality pursuant to this part.

(b) "Legislative body" means any board of supervisors, township board, city or village legislative body, or school district board.

(c) "Municipality" means a county, township, city, village, or school district.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52702 Municipality; right to acquire and use lands for forestry.

Sec. 52702. Any municipality may acquire by purchase, gift, or devise, or may provide land already in its possession, and use the land for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both, either within or outside of the territorial limits of the municipality, and may carry on forestry or recreational activities, or both, on the land. However, the use of the land for forestry is the highest priority objective of the land and use of the land for recreational activities shall not interfere with its use for forestry. Any municipality may also receive and expend or hold in trust gifts of money or personalty for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 488, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52703 Municipal forestry commission; members; appointment; terms; vacancies.

Sec. 52703. The legislative body of any municipality desiring to proceed under this part may appoint a

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forestry commission for the municipality to consist of 3 members, only 1 of whom shall be a member of the legislative body making the appointment. The members of a forestry commission shall hold office for a term of 4 years and until their successors are appointed and have qualified, except that when first appointed 1 shall be appointed for a term of 4 years, 1 for a term of 3 years, and 1 for a term of 2 years. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the legislative body at any regular session.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52704 Forestry commission; powers and duties.

Sec. 52704. A forestry commission shall supervise and manage all land of the municipality devoted to forestry and provide labor on forest land by foresters and others as may be necessary for the proper care and maintenance of the land as a forest producing area, to make reasonable rules and regulations concerning the land, and to expend money as may be appropriated or received for this purpose.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52705 Forestry commission; report; contents; filing.

Sec. 52705. Every forestry commission shall annually at a time to be designated by the legislative body make a report to the legislative body showing the activities of the forestry commission and embracing a detailed statement of its receipts and expenditures during the preceding year. The forestry commission shall also file a copy of the report with the board of supervisors if it is not a county commission and a copy with the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52706 Authority to sell state lands to municipalities for forestry; reversion; relinquishing reversionary interest; re-acquisition; definitions; use of term "this section."

Sec. 52706. (1) The department, the department of treasury, or a state officer having charge of state land, may sell homestead, tax, swamp, or primary school land to a public agency for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both, at a price set by the department, the department of treasury, or the state officer. However, the amount of land sold shall not exceed the amount that may be necessary for the public agency, and any land that is sold shall be suitable for and used for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both, unless conveyed as provided in this section. Land sold to a public agency under this section or section 6 of former 1931 PA 217 shall be used only for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both, if the land is prime land. When the prime land is no longer used for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both, the land shall revert to this state.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (6), the department shall relinquish a reversionary interest in municipal forestland, conveyed to a public agency under this section or section 6 of former 1931 PA 217 before October 12, 2004, within 90 days after the department receives, on a form prescribed by the department, a written request for relinquishment from the public agency that owns the municipal forestland subject to the reversionary interest. The department shall relinquish its reversionary interest by an instrument approved by the department of attorney general and recorded by the department with the register of deeds of the county where the municipal forestland is located. The instrument shall include provisions implementing subsections (3) through (8). The department may charge the public agency an amount equal to the charge for recording the release.

(3) A public agency to which a reversionary interest was relinquished under subsection (2) shall not convey the municipal forestland formerly subject to the reversionary interest unless the conveyance is approved by the department.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), a public agency to which a reversionary interest was relinquished under subsection (2) and any public agency that is a successor in interest shall not convey the municipal forestland formerly subject to the reversionary interest, or any part thereof, unless the conveyance is to a public agency for $1.00 or to a public agency or any other person for fair market value. If the conveyance is to a public agency for $1.00, the deed shall recite "MCL 324.52706 requires an accounting and specifies how proceeds are to be distributed when the property is subsequently conveyed for fair market value.". If the conveyance is to a public agency or any other person for fair market value, the public agency conveying the property shall have an accounting taken, shall retain 50% of the proceeds, and shall submit the remaining 50% of the

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proceeds to the department of treasury for deposit as follows:

(a) The first $18,000,000.00 in total proceeds from all such conveyances shall be deposited in the general fund.

(b) Any proceeds in excess of $18,000,000.00 shall be deposited in the fire protection fund created in section 732a of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.732a.

(5) Once the municipal forestland or part thereof formerly subject to a reversionary interest is conveyed for fair market value and an accounting is taken and the proceeds are distributed as provided under subsection (4), subsection (4) does not apply to subsequent conveyances of that municipal forestland or part thereof, respectively.

(6) Subsection (2) does not apply to prime land.

(7) A public agency to which a reversionary interest is relinquished under subsection (2) shall not convey the municipal forestland formerly subject to the reversionary interest to a third person unless the public agency has conducted a public hearing on the proposed conveyance. The public agency may conduct a second public hearing on the proposed conveyance if the public agency determines that a second public hearing may be necessary. Notice of a public hearing under this subsection shall be published at least twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties where the municipal forestland is located, not more than 28 or less than 7 days before the hearing. The notice shall describe where the municipal forestland is located, specify the approximate size of the municipal forestland, describe its current use, and identify the person to whom the municipal forestland is proposed to be sold, if known. The public agency shall provide a copy of the notice to the director of the department not less than 7 days before the hearing.

(8) The requirements of subsection (7) do not relieve the public agency of any notice, hearing, or other requirements imposed by any other law.

(9) If municipal forestland was conveyed to a public agency under this section or section 6 of former 1931 PA 217 and the municipal forestland is subsequently conveyed by the public agency to the department, then, for purposes of subparts 13 and 14 of part 21, the municipal forestland shall not be considered to have been reacquired by the department on or after January 1, 1933 for natural resource purposes unless the municipal forestland was originally acquired by the department on or after January 1, 1933 for natural resource purposes.

(10) As used in this section:

(a) "Basal area" means the sum of the cross-sectional area of trees 4 inches or greater in diameter measured at 4.5 feet from the highest ground at the base of each tree.

(b) "Municipal forestland" means homestead, tax, swamp, or primary school land sold to a public agency under this section or section 6 of former 1931 PA 217 for a forestry or recreational purpose, or both.

(c) "Prime land" means municipal forestland that meets 1 or more of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is within a boundary of a program administered by the department.

(*ii*) Provides access to a public body of water.

(*iii*) Is not less than 121 acres in size and, at any time during the preceding 10 years, had a basal area of not less than 90 square feet per acre.

(d) "Public agency" means a school district, public educational institution, governmental unit of this state or agency of this state, or a municipality.

(e) "Recreational purpose" includes any motorized or nonmotorized recreational activity.

(11) The use in this section of the phrase "this section or section 6 of former 1931 PA 217" does not imply that the term "this section" as used elsewhere in this act does not include the relevant section as it existed in former law codified in this act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 356, Imd. Eff. May 23, 2002;—Am. 2004, Act 377, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 179, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 488, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52707 Forestry commissions and department of natural resources; cooperation.

Sec. 52707. A forestry commission and the department shall cooperate with each other in all matters pertaining to the establishment and maintenance of public forests. The department may inspect municipal forests as often as it considers necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52708 Municipality; appropriation for forestry; limitation.

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Sec. 52708. The legislative body of any county, city, or village or the electors of any township or school district in which a forestry commission has been appointed may appropriate money to be used by the forestry commission to carry out the purposes of this part. However, if the legislative body desires to spend an amount in excess of 1/10 mill per dollar assessed valuation or in excess of $5,000.00, or both, in any 1 year for the purposes of this part, the sum shall not be appropriated unless the electors of the county, city, or village agree to the expenditure at any general or special election by a 3/5 vote.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52709 Forestry funds; accounting.

Sec. 52709. A separate account of all revenue and expense of all funds appropriated or invested, or both, to the forestry commission shall be kept by the financial officer of the municipality and the funds may be expended upon the warrant of 2 members of the forestry commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52710 Special forestry fund; creation; payments in lieu of property taxes.

Sec. 52710. Any income from forest land shall be paid into the general fund of the municipality and may be set up in a special forestry fund by the municipality. A forestry commission and the townships and school districts in which its municipal forest lies by agreement shall determine a formula under which the forestry commission shall make payments to the townships and school districts in lieu of general property taxes which would otherwise be levied against the land and forests comprising the municipal forest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 529
CHRISTMAS TREES, BOUGHS, PLANTS, AND OTHER TREES

324.52901 Removal of certain plants; “plant” defined; bill of sale or other evidence of title required.

Sec. 52901. (1) A person shall not cut, remove, or transport, without having in possession a bill of sale from the owner or other evidence of title on a form prescribed by and available from the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction, any of the following:

(a)	Christmas trees.	
(b)	Evergreen boughs.	
(c)	Any other trees, shrubs, or vines.	
(d)	Trailing arbutus	Epigaea.
(e)	Bird's foot violet	Viola pedata.
(f)	Climbing bittersweet	Celastrus scandens.
(g)	Club mosses	Lycopodiaceae.
(h)	Flowering dogwood	Cornus florida.
(i)	All Michigan holly	Ilex sp. and nemopanthus sp.
(j)	North American lotus	Nelumbo sp.
(k)	Pipsissewa	Chimaphila umbellata.
(*l*)	All native orchids	Orchidaceae.
(m)	Trilliums	Trillium sp.
(n)	Gentians	Eustoma sp.
(o)	Parts of any plant listed in this subsection.	

(2) As used in this part, "plant" means a tree, bough, shrub, vine, or other native plant, or a part of a tree, bough, shrub, vine, or other native plant, listed in subsection (1).

(3) A person shall produce a bill of sale for a plant listed in subsection (1) or other evidence of title upon demand of a law enforcement officer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.52902 Transportation of plants.

Sec. 52902. A person shall not transport within this state any plant in either of the following circumstances:

(a) If the plant has been removed from property owned by the person, unless he or she has in possession a current tax receipt or deed with respect to the property or a copy of the receipt or deed.

(b) If the plant has been removed from property not owned by the person, unless either of the following has been met:

(*i*) Each plant bears a tag placed on the plant by and identifying the person and his or her address and stating from whom the plant was acquired.

(*ii*) The person has in his or her possession a bill of sale or other evidence of title acquisition in a form prescribed by and available from the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction. The person shall display the bill of sale or other evidence of title upon demand of a law enforcement officer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52903 Sale of plants; bill of sale or other evidence of title required; records of transactions.

Sec. 52903. A person shall not sell or offer for sale any plant without having in his or her possession the evidence of title prescribed by section 52902 or without furnishing the purchaser with a bill of sale or other evidence of title acquisition in a form prescribed by the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction. Vendors shall maintain and keep records of their transactions for the period of time that the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction prescribes by rule or regulation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52904 Trees, shrubs, vines or plants; shipment; evidence of title.

Sec. 52904. A common carrier shall not accept for shipment any of the trees, boughs, shrubs, vines, or plants listed in section 52901 unless the consignor whose name and address is recorded at the time of consignment exhibits the evidence of title prescribed by section 52902.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52905 Law enforcement officers; inspection; impoundment of plants or equipment; failure to exhibit bill of sale or other evidence of title.

Sec. 52905. A law enforcement officer having probable cause to believe that this part is being violated, including authorized employees of the department of agriculture or the department, may make inspections to determine whether this part has been violated, including the right to stop any vehicle that is transporting a plant at any time, to inspect and make copies of bills of sale or other evidence of title prescribed by the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction, to arrest persons found to have any plants in possession in violation of this part and to impound any plants or equipment used to remove or transport the plants. Pursuant to court order, any plants or equipment impounded pursuant to this section shall be permanently seized and disposed of as required under sections 1603 and 1604. Failure to exhibit a bill of sale or other evidence of title prescribed by the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction is prima facie evidence that a bill of sale or other evidence of title does not exist.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52906 Construction of part.

Sec. 52906. Nothing in this part shall be construed to interfere with the insect pest and plant disease act,

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Act No. 189 of the Public Acts of 1931, being sections 286.201 to 286.226 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52907 Enforcement of part; rules.

Sec. 52907. The director of agriculture and the department, in cooperation with law enforcement agencies, shall enforce this part. The director of agriculture, after consultation with the department, shall promulgate rules as he or she considers necessary for the enforcement of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52908 Violation of part; penalties; determination of total value; prior convictions; prohibition; additional penalties.

Sec. 52908. (1) A person who violates this part is guilty of a crime as follows:

(a) If the damages are less than $200.00, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or 3 times the aggregate value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(b) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $2,000.00 or 3 times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(*i*) The value of the property involved is $200.00 or more but less than $1,000.00.

(*ii*) The person violates subdivision (a) and has 1 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this part.

(c) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than $10,000.00 or 3 times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(*i*) The value of the property involved is $1,000.00 or more but less than $20,000.00.

(*ii*) The person violates subdivision (b)(*i*) and has 1 or more prior convictions for violating or attempting to violate this part. For purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subdivision (a) or (b)(*ii*).

(d) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than $15,000.00 or 3 times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(*i*) The property involved has a value of $20,000.00 or more.

(*ii*) The person violates subdivision (c)(*i*) and has 2 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this part. For purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subdivision (a) or (b)(*ii*).

(2) The values of property damaged in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to determine the total value of property damaged.

(3) If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an enhanced sentence based upon the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting attorney shall include on the complaint and information a statement listing the prior conviction or convictions. The existence of the defendant's prior conviction or convictions shall be determined by the court, without a jury, at sentencing or at a separate hearing for that purpose before sentencing. The existence of a prior conviction may be established by any evidence relevant for that purpose, including, but not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

(a) A copy of the judgment of conviction.

(b) A transcript of a prior trial, plea-taking, or sentencing.

(c) Information contained in a presentence report.

(d) The defendant's statement.

(4) If the sentence for a conviction under this section is enhanced by 1 or more prior convictions, those prior convictions shall not be used to further enhance the sentence for the conviction pursuant to section 10, 11, or 12 of chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.10, 769.11, and 769.12.

(5) A person who forges a bill of sale or other evidence of title prescribed by the department or the department of agriculture or the federal agency that has jurisdiction is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both.

(6) In addition to the penalties provided for in this section, a person who violates this part by illegally

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removing or cutting a plant is liable in a civil action filed by the state or the property owner for up to 3 times the fair market value of the damage caused by the unlawful act or $100.00, whichever is greater, and for court costs and attorney fees. Damages collected under this subsection shall be paid to the owner of the lands from which the plants were illegally removed or, if removed from state owned lands, to the state treasurer, who shall credit the deposit to the fund that was used to purchase the land on which the violation occurred.

(7) A person who violates this part by not having in his or her possession a current tax receipt or deed with respect to property, or a copy of the receipt or deed, indicating that the person owned the land from which the plants were taken shall not be prosecuted under this part for that violation if he or she subsequently produces a current tax receipt or deed showing that person's ownership of the property from which the plants were taken.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 155, Eff. Jan. 1, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.52909 Christmas trees; transportation during December.

Sec. 52909. This part does not apply to the sale of or the transportation by any 1 person of not more than 2 Christmas trees between November 30 and December 31 of the same year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 535.
REGISTERED FORESTERS

324.53501 Definitions.

Sec. 53501. As used in this part:

(a) "Board" means the board of foresters created in section 53505(1).

(b) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(c) "Forest development fund" means the forest development fund created in section 50507.

(d) "Forester" means an individual who, by reason of his or her knowledge of the natural sciences, mathematics, and the principles of forestry, acquired by forestry education and practical experience, is qualified to engage in the practice of professional forestry.

(e) "Practice of professional forestry" means the science, art, and practice of creating, managing, using, planning and researching, and conserving forests and associated resources for human benefit and in a sustainable manner to meet desired goals, needs, and values.

(f) "Registered forester" means a forester registered under section 53509.

(g) "SAF" means Society of American Foresters.

(h) "State forester" means that term as defined in section 50502.

(i) "Violations committee" means the violations committee appointed under section 53505.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53503 Forester program evaluation; review; ceasing administration of part; conditions.

Sec. 53503. (1) The department shall timely review each registered forester program evaluation provided under section 53507.

(2) The department may cease administering this part if either of the following applies:

(a) The revenue available from registered forester fees under section 53509 is not sufficient to administer this part.

(b) The department and the board agree to separate and cease operations under this part.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53505 Board of foresters; creation; membership; qualifications; appointment; terms; vacancy; meetings; quorum; compliance with open meetings act; writings subject to freedom of information act; expenses; violations committee.

Sec. 53505. (1) The board of foresters is an independent self-directed body appointed by the state forester and created within the department.

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(2) To be eligible to serve on the board, an individual must be a citizen of the United States and a full-time resident of this state and must have at least 10 years of professional forestry experience. The board shall consist of not fewer than 5 or more than 7 of the following individuals, who shall be appointed by the state forester from and nominated by the group represented:

(a) An individual representing the Association of Consulting Foresters.

(b) An individual representing the Society of American Foresters.

(c) An individual representing the forestry program faculty of a university whose forestry program is accredited by the SAF.

(d) An individual representing state agencies that have forestry staff.

(e) An individual representing forest products advocacy or the forest products industry, including logging.

(f) An individual representing private forest landowners.

(g) An individual representing a municipal, urban, or community forestry field.

(3) The members first appointed to the board shall be appointed within 60 days after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this part.

(4) Members of the board shall serve for terms of 4 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that, of the members first appointed, 3 shall serve for 2 years.

(5) If a vacancy occurs on the board, the state forester shall make an appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. The state forester may remove a member of the board for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause.

(6) The state forester shall call the first meeting of the board. At the first meeting, the board shall elect from among its members a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and other officers as it considers appropriate. Officers of the board shall serve for terms of 2 years. After the first meeting, the board shall meet once annually in person and once annually by conference call or video conference, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson or if requested by 2 or more members.

(7) Five or more members of the board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the board. A majority of the members present and serving are required for official action of the board.

(8) Business that the board may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the board held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. The secretary of the board shall record all proceedings of the board.

(9) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the board in the performance of an official function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(10) Members of the board shall serve without compensation. However, members of the board may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the board.

(11) For the purposes of section 53517, the chairperson of the board shall appoint a violations committee consisting of 3 members of the board. Members of the violations committee shall serve on the committee for terms of 2 years.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53507 Duties of board; power to call witnesses and receive evidence.

Sec. 53507. (1) The board shall do all of the following:

(a) Adopt bylaws.

(b) Comply with section 53515.

(c) Make available a list of registered foresters. The department shall post the list on its website.

(d) Make an annual report to the state forester on proceedings, applications, renewals, complaints, and hearings under this part.

(e) On a biennial basis, provide the department an evaluation of the registered forester program, including both of the following:

(*i*) The number of registered foresters, economic data, and other relevant program data.

(*ii*) The sufficiency of the fee under section 53509 to operate a fiscally sound program. The department may recommend to the legislature changes in the fee.

(2) The board may call witnesses and receive evidence in hearings under this part.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.53509 Registration as forester; application; submission; contents; denial or approval; validity; duties of individual.

Sec. 53509. (1) To be registered as a forester, an individual shall submit an application to the board on a form provided by the department. The application shall include all of the following:

(a) The name, address, telephone number, and electronic mail address of the applicant.

(b) Information demonstrating that the individual meets 1 or more of the following educational requirements:

(*i*) An associate's degree in forestry from an SAF-accredited university program or board-approved program, plus 4 years of experience under the guidance of a registered forester, an SAF-certified forester, or a member of the Association of Consulting Foresters.

(*ii*) A bachelor's degree in forestry from an SAF-accredited university program or a board-approved program, plus 2 years of forestry experience as described in subparagraph (*i*).

(*iii*) A bachelor's degree in a natural resource field from an SAF-accredited university program or a board-approved program, plus 2 years of forestry experience described in subparagraph (*i*).

(*iv*) A graduate degree in forestry from an SAF-accredited university program or a board-approved program, plus 2 years of forestry experience described in subparagraph (*i*).

(c) References or endorsements from 3 registered foresters.

(d) Verification of successful completion of any continuing education required by the board.

(e) Other relevant information required by the board.

(2) The board shall grant or deny registration within 30 days after a complete application is filed and notify the applicant of its determination in writing. If an application is denied, the notification shall include the reasons for the denial. If the application is approved, the department shall issue a registration certificate and certification number to the applicant. The registration is valid for 2 years.

(3) To maintain registration as a forester, an individual shall do all of the following:

(a) Pay the department a fee of $200.00 for the registration period. The first payment shall be made not more than 30 days after the application for registration is granted under subsection (2).

(b) Successfully complete not fewer than 24 hours of continuing education every 2 years as approved by the board.

(c) Demonstrate completion of continuing education requirements under subdivision (b) as a condition for registration renewal by submitting evidence of fulfillment to the board within 60 days of a request to do so.

(d) Maintain good standing with the board by complying with section 53515.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53511 Automatic registration of members of affiliated professional organizations; forester registered or licensed in another state or country.

Sec. 53511. (1) The board shall determine whether members of affiliated professional organizations within and outside of this state are eligible for automatic registration under this part.

(2) The board shall register an applicant who is a registered or licensed forester in another state or country if the board considers the requirements of the state or country to be equivalent to the requirements for registration in this state.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53513 Use of "registered forester" as title.

Sec. 53513. An individual shall not use the title "registered forester" unless he or she is registered under this part.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53515 Registered forester; requirements.

Sec. 53515. A registered forester shall comply with all of the following:

(a) In his or her professional capacity, perform the following general forestry activities as necessary for the

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practice of sustainable forest management and silviculture:

(*i*) Forest management planning.

(*ii*) Forest stand improvement.

(*iii*) Forest mensuration, inventory, forest products appraisal, and timber sale administration.

(*iv*) Reconnaissance and mapping of forest and watershed lands; investigation of wildland soils; delineation and mapping of forestlands and forest management boundaries, not including the establishment of property corners or boundaries.

(*v*) Preparation and utilization of GIS/GPS maps, equipment, and software to assist in forest management planning, planting, harvesting, and protection. GIS/GPS maps created for forest management purposes are not official survey maps.

(*vi*) Forest economics.

(*vii*) Forest utilization, renewable energy production, and forest product development.

(*viii*) Forest protection and restoration.

(*ix*) Forest regeneration, reforestation, and afforestation.

(*x*) Forest nursery production.

(*xi*) Application of best management practices.

(*xii*) Addressing legal and social aspects of forestry and forestlands.

(*xiii*) Preparation of forest management related contracts, litigation reports, timber trespass investigation, and testimony.

(*xiv*) Development, maintenance, conservation, and protection of wildlife habitat and forest range resources.

(*xv*) Forest recreation and environmental studies.

(*xvi*) The development of access for protection and management of the resource.

(*xvii*) Adaptation of forests and forest practices related to climate change.

(*xviii*) Urban forestry and arboriculture.

(*xix*) Utility forestry and utility vegetation management.

(*xx*) Teaching collegiate-level forestry courses or forestry outreach based on sound scientific principles or conducting scientific research in forestry at an SAF-accredited university or a board-approved program.

(*xxi*) Forest research and monitoring.

(b) Fully disclose personal or financial interests in any forestry project undertaken by the registered forester if there is a potential conflict of interest.

(c) Not accept compensation or expenses from more than 1 client or employer for the same service, unless the parties involved are informed and consent.

(d) Not make exaggerated, false, misleading, or deceptive written or verbal statements, including, but not limited to, statements on the value of individual trees, timber, or timberlands, in the conduct of professional practice.

(e) Clearly and accurately represent his or her qualifications, the extent of the forestry services offered, and the basis for charges for those services.

(f) Not offer or make bribes or unlawful inducements to those responsible for letting forestry contracts.

(g) Not interfere with competitive bidding for forestry projects, including making false representations or misleading statements about bidders, prospective bidders, or competitors.

(h) Not issue a forestry plan, map, specification, or report prepared by that registered forester or under his or her actual supervision unless it is endorsed with the registered forester's name and certificate of registration number.

(i) Not endorse a forestry plan, specification, estimate, or map unless prepared by that registered forester or under his or her actual supervision.

(j) Provide forestry services in a manner that will ensure the public health, safety, and welfare and if, in his or her professional judgment, any of these are endangered, notify the client or employer and give appropriate recommendations or instructions.

(k) If a client or employer fails or refuses to follow recommendations or instructions under subdivision (j), notify the responsible governmental department or agency of the threat to public health, safety, or welfare.

(*l*) Not violate or conceal violations of this part and not knowingly permit others to do so.

(m) Report violations of this part to the board.

(n) Not conspire or collude to restrain trade through price arrangement with other registered foresters or forestry firms and not engage in price-fixing activities.

(o) Not take forestry project funds under false pretenses and not abandon a forestry project without notifying the client or employer.

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History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53517 Violation of MCL 324.53515 or order; complaint; determination by violations committee; notification; investigation; proposed order; objection; review; final order; revocation or suspension.

Sec. 53517. (1) A person may submit to the chairperson of the board a complaint about a violation of section 53515 or of an order under this section. The department shall maintain on its website a complaint form that can be completed and submitted to the chairperson of the board online or printed and completed. The department shall also make complaint forms available at customer service centers. Unless the complaint form is submitted online, the complainant shall submit the form by mailing it to the chairperson of the board.

(2) If the chairperson of the board receives a completed complaint form, the chairperson shall, within 30 days, submit the complaint to the members of the violations committee. Within 30 days after receiving the complaint from the chairperson, the violations committee shall determine if there is sufficient reason to believe that a violation has occurred.

(3) If the violations committee determines that there is not sufficient reason to believe that a violation has occurred, the violations committee shall, within 30 days after its determination, notify the complainant in writing of its determination and the reasons for its determination. No further action shall be taken on that complaint.

(4) If the violations committee determines that there is sufficient information to believe that a violation has occurred, the violations committee shall, within 30 days after its determination, notify, by United States mail, the registered forester who is the subject of the complaint of all of the following:

(a) The allegations in the complaint.

(b) That the registered forester may respond to the allegations in writing.

(c) That the response must be received within 60 days after the date the notice was mailed.

(5) The board shall consider the allegations of the complaint and any written response to the allegations timely received from the registered forester and may further investigate the complaint. Within 30 days after the deadline under subsection (4) for a response from the registered forester, the board shall do 1 of the following:

(a) Dismiss the complaint and notify the complainant and registered forester in writing.

(b) Issue a letter of caution to the registered forester and provide a copy to the complainant.

(c) Issue to the registered forester a proposed order that, together with preliminary findings, includes proposed sanctions under subsection (8), a proposed negotiated resolution, or a proposed consent agreement and provide a copy to the complainant.

(6) If the board issues a proposed order under subsection (5), the registered forester shall within 30 days submit to the board 1 of the following, in writing:

(a) A statement accepting the proposed order, at which point the board shall issue the order as a final order. Failure of the registered forester to timely respond shall be considered to be acceptance of the proposed order.

(b) A statement objecting to the proposed order and providing reasons for the objection.

(7) If the registered forester objects to the proposed order, the board shall review the objections and issue to the registered forester a final order, amending the preliminary findings as necessary, within 90 days after issuance of the proposed order and shall provide a copy of the final order to the complainant.

(8) The board may permanently revoke or temporarily suspend registered forester status for a violation of section 53515 or an order issued under this section.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.53519 Revenue; fees; disposition.

Sec. 53519. (1) Revenue from registered forester fees under section 53509 shall be deposited in the forest development fund.

(2) The state treasurer shall promptly transfer to the forest development fund the fund balance from registered forester fees in the licensing and regulation fund created in section 3 of the state license fee act, 1979 PA 152, MCL 338.2203.

History: Add. 2018, Act 116, Eff. July 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

CHAPTER 3
MANAGEMENT OF NONRENEWABLE RESOURCES

SUBCHAPTER 1
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DIVISION

PART 601
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

324.60101 Definitions.

Sec. 60101. As used in this part:

(a) "Governing institution" means the state university within which the Michigan geological survey is established or continued under section 60102.

(b) "State geologist" means the chief of the office of oil, gas, and minerals, or a successor office, of the department of environmental quality.

(c) "State university" means a state university described in section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60102 Michigan geological survey; establishment within western Michigan university; duties of governing institution; transfer and establishment within another state university; conditions; order; agreement.

Sec. 60102. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Michigan geological survey is established within western Michigan university and shall continue as an entity within a governing institution. The governing institution shall do both of the following:

(a) Oversee the operations of the Michigan geological survey.

(b) Appoint a director to supervise and carry out the duties of the Michigan geological survey.

(2) If western Michigan university, or a successor governing institution under this subsection, ceases to have an academic program that is primarily engaged in the study of geology or geosciences or substantially fails to fulfill the duties of the Michigan geological survey under this part in an adequate manner, or if the governing institution notifies the state geologist that it does not desire the Michigan geological survey to remain as an entity within that governing institution, the director of the department of environmental quality shall issue an order to transfer the Michigan geological survey to and establish it within another state university that has an academic program that is primarily engaged in the study of geology or geosciences. Before issuing an order under this subsection, the director of the department of environmental quality shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide public notice, including notice to the legislature, and an opportunity for public comment.

(b) Consider the recommendations of the state geologist.

(3) The Michigan geological survey may enter into an agreement with any state university to perform designated duties described in sections 60104 to 60106. Subject to the terms of the agreement, the state university entering into the agreement with the Michigan geological survey, or a department or office of that state university, may directly receive money or other assets to implement the agreement in the same manner as the Michigan geological survey under section 60108.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60103 Repealed. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to establishment of salaries of geological survey employees.

324.60104 Michigan geological survey; scope.

Sec. 60104. The Michigan geological survey shall continue to make a thorough geological survey of this state, which may include a determination of the succession and arrangement, thickness, and position of all strata and rocks; their mineral character and contents and their economical uses; an investigation of soils and subsoils and the determination of their character and agricultural adaptation; and the investigation of all

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deposits of brines, coal, marl, clay, gypsum, lime, petroleum, natural gas, metals and metallic ores, building stone, marble, gritstone, materials for mortar and cement, mineral paint, and all other geological productions or features in this state capable of being converted to the uses of humans.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60105 Michigan geological survey; collection and conservation of cores, samples, and specimens.

Sec. 60105. The Michigan geological survey shall provide for the collection and conservation of cores, samples, and specimens for the illustration of every division of the geology and mineralogy of this state, to the extent that facilities and funds are available to do so.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60106 Annual report; contents.

Sec. 60106. The Michigan geological survey shall prepare and submit to the state geologist an annual report of progress and other reports, documents, and maps as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60107 Notes, compilations, specimens, diagrams, and illustrations as state property.

Sec. 60107. All notes, memoranda, compilations, collections, specimens, diagrams, and illustrations that are made in the operation of the Michigan geological survey are the property of this state and shall be under the control of the governing institution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60108 Michigan geological survey; receipt of money and assets.

Sec. 60108. The Michigan geological survey may receive money or other assets to implement this part from any of the following:

(a) Funds appropriated by the legislature.

(b) Federal, state, municipal, or private grants.

(c) Any other source approved by the governing institution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 167, Imd. Eff. Oct. 11, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 603
SOIL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY

324.60301 Soil and economic survey; duty of department.

Sec. 60301. The department shall conduct a soil and economic survey of all lands in the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60302 Soil and economic survey; purpose; direction and control; assistants; compensation; reimbursement.

Sec. 60302. The soil and economic survey provided for in this part shall be conducted by counties; and the order in which the soil and economic survey is conducted shall be determined by the department. The purpose of the work is to procure and make available for public use information and data as to the character of the lands surveyed; their adaptability to agricultural purposes or similar uses; the various crops, if any, that may be profitably raised on those lands; and such other matters as are considered desirable and advantageous. The

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details of the work shall be under the direction and control of the department, which shall employ assistants as the department considers necessary. The compensation of these persons shall be established by the department, and paid as provided in this part. The employees of the department may be reimbursed only for money actually and necessarily expended in the performance of their duties under this part, such reimbursement to be made out of the fund created by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60303 Soil and economic survey; completion; report; copies; printing.

Sec. 60303. Upon completion of the soil and economic survey in any county, the department shall cause a full and detailed report of the soil and economic survey to be made. The department shall cause as many copies of the report to be printed as the department determines are necessary. The expense of the printing shall be paid out of the general fund in the same way that other state printing is, by law, required to be paid for.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60304 Soil and economic survey; report; contents; maps; distribution.

Sec. 60304. The report required under section 60303 to be made upon the soil and economic survey in each county, subject to this part, shall set forth such information and data as will fulfill the general purpose defined in section 60302. However, the report shall not state or represent the money value of land surveyed. Insofar as is possible and expedient, the land surveyed shall be classified as to its agricultural adaptability and general character and as to the uses to which it may be put. Maps shall be prepared and incorporated in the report as may be considered necessary for public information and convenience. A copy of the report shall be sent to every public library in the state, and the remainder of the copies shall be kept for distribution, subject to the rules and regulations pertaining to the report that the department may, from time to time, adopt.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60305 Soil and economic survey; payment of expenses; claim or account; statement of unexpended funds.

Sec. 60305. Payments shall be made out of the fund created by this part only on the warrant of the state treasurer. However, payments shall not be made until the department has approved the claim or account and has certified the correctness of the claim or account. At the request of the department, the state treasurer shall furnish a statement at any time as to the amount of money remaining in the fund to be expended for the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60306 Cooperation with other agencies; effect.

Sec. 60306. In implementing the work contemplated in this part, the department may cooperate with the various counties of the state, with development bureaus, with any department, officer, bureau, or institution established and maintained by the United States government, and with any other institution, board, society, or association, either within or outside of this state. An agreement for cooperation shall not change or modify, in any way, the purpose of this part, as defined in section 60302.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60307 Right of entry on private property by department.

Sec. 60307. For the purposes of performing their respective duties under this part and carrying on the work of the soil and economic survey, the department and its employees may enter onto and be on private property. That property shall, however, not be injured or damaged in any way.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60308 Annual appropriation; carrying forward unexpended funds; disposition; reduction through federal aid.

Sec. 60308. Any portion of the annual appropriation provided for in this part that remains unexpended at the close of any fiscal year shall be carried forward into the next fiscal year, to the credit of the department, for the purposes provided under this part, and is subject to expenditure accordingly, it being the intention to make the entire amount appropriated available for the purposes of this part. Any sum remaining in the appropriation on the completion of the soil and economic survey provided for in this part, and after the making of the final report required in this part, is and shall remain a part of the general fund of the state and subject to the incidents pertaining to the general fund. However, if the federal government or any department of the federal government renders aid to this state for the general purposes covered by this part, the appropriation made pursuant to this part shall be reduced by the same amount, which amount shall revert to the general fund of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60309 Reports to legislature; contents.

Sec. 60309. The department shall prepare and submit to each legislature a report covering the work of the preceding 2 years. The report shall indicate specifically the lands that have been surveyed, the general progress and condition of the work, the expenditures that have been made, and the cooperative agreements, if any, that have been entered into. On the completion of the work, a detailed financial report shall be made to the legislature, together with the recommendations and suggestions that the department considers necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 605
AERIAL PHOTOS, SURVEYS, AND MAPS

324.60501 Aerial photographs and ground control surveys for preparation of base maps; cooperative agreements.

Sec. 60501. The department, on behalf of the state, may confer with the director of the United States geological survey or his or her representatives and accept the cooperation of the federal government with this state in making aerial photographs and necessary ground control surveys of those portions of the state as may be mutually agreed upon by the cooperating governments, for the preparation of (utility) base maps of those portions of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60502 Preparation of base maps; authority of department to contract with federal government; contents; right of entry on private lands.

Sec. 60502. The department may, on behalf of the state, contract with the United States government for the aerial photographing and mapping, scale of photographs and maps, determining the method, form, and execution of maps, and all other details of the work necessary to prepare base maps of those portions of the state as may be agreed upon. The state shall receive negatives of all aerial photographs and copies of all base maps prepared. The maps shall be prepared so as to show the location of roads, railroads, streams, canals, lakes, rivers, timbered areas, and all other natural and artificial features capable of being mapped by the methods to be mutually agreed upon by the geological surveys of the state and the federal government. The state shall not contract to pay more than the amounts paid by the federal government for these purposes. For the purpose of making these surveys, persons employed in making the surveys may enter at reasonable times upon all parts of all lands within the boundaries of this state, but this part does not authorize any unnecessary interference with private rights or the performance of any act not necessary for the preparation of the base maps.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60503 Preparation of base maps; payment of expenses.

Sec. 60503. The amounts authorized to be paid under this part shall first be certified to be correct by the department and shall be paid out of the state treasury upon warrant of the state treasurer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 607
STATE SOIL SURVEY

324.60701 Definitions.

Sec. 60701. As used in this part:

(a) "Soil survey" means the identification and description of kinds of soil, the plotting of boundaries on aerial photographs between kinds of soils, and the description and evaluation of their importance and response under various uses and management practices.

(b) "Soil scientist" means a person who meets the qualification standards of the GS-470 soil scientist series established by the United States civil service commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60702 Inventory of soil resources of state; 10-year program; minimum acres for soil surveys; conducting soil surveys on proportional basis.

Sec. 60702. (1) The department of agriculture shall provide an inventory of the soil resources of the state by a 10-year program for the acceleration of the soil survey on nonfederal lands. Soil surveys will be made on a minimum of 3,000,000 acres over the 10 years following December 14, 1977 under former Act No. 268 of the Public Acts of 1977.

(2) Soil surveys shall be conducted on a proportional basis of not more than 2 counties in the Lower Peninsula being surveyed for each county in the Upper Peninsula until all counties in the Upper Peninsula have been surveyed. If the soil surveys cannot be conducted on a proportional basis due to the lack of funding from any of the counties, then the department of agriculture shall establish an alternative proportional basis to promote the conducting of the surveys in the time period established in subsection (1).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60703 Authority of department of agriculture.

Sec. 60703. The department of agriculture shall implement this part by employing, subject to civil service rules, and equipping soil scientists, within appropriations for that purpose, to make soil surveys through cooperative arrangements with the United States department of agriculture soil conservation service and the Michigan agricultural experiment station. The soil survey shall be conducted under national standards and guidelines for naming, classifying, and interpreting soils and for publishing soil surveys in the United States department of agriculture series. The department of agriculture shall also, in conjunction with the department, design and implement standards and guidelines for use in primarily forested areas. The standards and guidelines may include the additional soil characteristics which must be measured to determine forest growth and continued protection, and the modification of soil body grouping methods to allow interpretation and inventory of soils for forest management purposes. Michigan technological university, Ford forestry center shall provide technical backup with respect to soil survey in forestry areas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60704 Department of agriculture; budget requests; appropriations.

Sec. 60704. The department of agriculture shall make yearly budget requests and the legislature shall annually appropriate funds to implement this part.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 609
RESOURCE INVENTORY

324.60901 Definitions.

Sec. 60901. As used in this part:

(a) "Classification system" means a mechanism to identify the current use of land and any structures on the land.

(b) "Data management system" means a mechanism which relies on a computer to manipulate, store, and retrieve information collected and updated during a resource inventory.

(c) "Inventory" means the land resource and current use inventory.

(d) "Regional planning commission" means a regional planning commission designated by the governor pursuant to executive directive to carry out planning in a multicounty region of the state.

(e) "Technical assistance" means the aid that the department shall provide to municipalities, counties, and other interested groups and individuals, on the use of the land resource and current use inventory and related information for planning and resource management decisions.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60902 Project design study; land resource and current use inventory; technical assistance program; recommendations.

Sec. 60902. (1) The department shall make or have made a project design study. The study shall determine the appropriate operational criteria, computer software and hardware, staffing, available information resources, data updating methodology, most economical inventory resources, location of data management operations, linkages with other data management systems in the state, data geographic base configuration, data delivery system, and other information necessary to complete the inventory and development of a data management system.

(2) The department shall make or have made a land resource and current use inventory, as provided in sections 60904 and 60905, of all land, public or private, in this state. The land resource and current use inventory shall, if appropriate, rely on any other information and surveys.

(3) The department shall create a technical assistance program for the purpose of providing services to municipalities and counties as provided in section 60903.

(4) The department shall prepare recommendations regarding means to address problems or issues indicated by the inventory.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60903 Technical assistance program; creation and purpose; utilizing programs of regional planning commissions; scope of technical assistance.

Sec. 60903. (1) The department shall create a technical assistance program designed to help municipalities and counties effectively use the inventory. The technical assistance program shall, when feasible, utilize the technical assistance programs of regional planning commissions. The technical assistance shall include all of the following:

(a) The publication and distribution of the inventory as applicable to each municipality and county in the state.

(b) The preparation and distribution of land resource management manuals to assist municipalities and counties, planning and resource management entities, and other federal, state, and local agencies in updating their planning and resource management programs to incorporate the inventory. Land resource management manuals may also be prepared to assist municipalities and counties in solving problems that confront their planning resource management programs.

(c) The conducting of workshops, in conjunction with local government associations, regarding the inventory.

(d) The provision of a team of experts on the inventory to assist in problem solving by municipalities and

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counties.

(e) The provision of an inventory information center and library function that municipalities and counties may utilize in their own programs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60904 Land resource portion of inventory; format; scope of inventory; option to purchase or exchange wetland; exemption from property taxes.

Sec. 60904. (1) The land resource portion of the inventory shall be completed in a format that may be readily integrated into the data management system, and shall provide a base of information to analyze the existing and future productivity of the state's natural resources and provide information to assist in the analysis of the timing, location, and intensity of future development in the state. The format should also include information that will be readily usable and available to assist local governmental units in their land use planning. The inventory may include any of the following:

(a) Geological features, including groundwater features such as depth to groundwater, groundwater recharge zones, and potable aquifers.

(b) Land area with characteristics that pose problems to development, such as an area subject to reasonably predictable hazardous natural phenomenon, which may include flooding, high-risk erosion, or subsidence.

(c) Land area with characteristics that make it suited for agricultural use.

(d) Land area with characteristics that make it suited for silvicultural use.

(e) Metallic and nonmetallic mineral deposits.

(f) Hydrological features, including lakes, rivers and creeks, impoundments, drainage basins, and wetlands.

(g) Land area of wildlife habitat, including each significant breeding area or area used by migratory wildlife.

(h) Topographic contours.

(2) If the department designates an area as wetland, the state may negotiate and contract for an option to purchase or exchange the wetland in order to protect the wetland. The option to purchase or exchange the wetland shall be valid for 5 years. After an option to purchase is negotiated, a person may apply for and receive consideration for an exemption from property taxes levied pursuant to the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being sections 211.1 to 211.157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, for the duration of the option to purchase.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60905 Current use portion of inventory; classification system; scope.

Sec. 60905. The current use portion of the inventory shall be completed using a consistent classification system that can be readily integrated into the data management system, and shall provide the base to analyze the existing use and cover in the state. The current use inventory may include any of the following:

(a) Substantially undeveloped land devoted to the production of plants and animals useful to humanity, including forages and sod crops; grain and feed crops; dairy and dairy products; livestock, including the breeding and grazing of those animals; fruits of all kinds; vegetables; and other similar uses and activities.

(b) Land used in the production of fiber and other woodland products or that supports trees that are protective of water resources, soils, recreation, or wildlife habitat.

(c) Land that is being mined, drilled, or excavated for metallic and nonmetallic mineral, rock, stone, gravel, clay, soil, or other earth, petroleum, or natural gas resources.

(d) A site, structure, district, or archaeological landmark that is officially included in the national register of historic places or designated as a historic site pursuant to state or federal law.

(e) Urban and developed land, including residential, commercial, industrial, transportation, communication, utilities, and open space uses and including recreational land.

(f) Land owned on behalf of the public, including land managed by federal, state, or local government or school districts.

(g) Land enrolled in part 361.

(h) Land enrolled in part 511.

(i) Land designated for tax abatements, restricted use, or specific use under a public act of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60906 Conducting current use portion of inventory; preparation and contents of criteria; circulation of criteria; notice of intent to perform work; assistance, data, and information.

Sec. 60906. (1) The current use portion of the inventory may be conducted by municipalities, counties, or regional planning commissions as provided in subsection (4). A municipality, county, or regional planning commission conducting a portion of the current use inventory shall conduct that portion on a scale, level of detail, format, and classification system prepared by the department.

(2) By December 27, 1980, the department shall prepare criteria for municipality, county, and regional planning commission participation in the current use inventory process. The criteria shall specify the scale, level of detail, format, and classification system to be used in the current use portion of the inventory and shall contain forms and information on the financial reimbursement provisions provided in section 60907.

(3) The criteria prepared under subsection (2) shall be circulated by the department to local government associations and to a municipality, county, or regional planning commission, upon request. By March 27, 1982, a municipality with an established planning commission may submit to the department and to the county board of commissioners of the county in which the municipality is primarily located a notice of intent to perform or cause to be performed the work necessary to complete the current use portion of the inventory. By June 27, 1982, a county with an established planning commission may submit to the department a notice of intent to perform or cause to be performed the work necessary to complete the current use portion of the inventory for each area for which a municipality is not performing the work necessary to complete the current use portion of the inventory. By September 27, 1982, a regional planning commission may submit a notice of intent to the department to perform the work necessary to complete the current use inventory for each area not covered by a municipality or county notice of intent. For each area not covered by a notice of intent under this subsection, the department shall make or cause to be made the current use portion of the inventory.

(4) A municipality, county, or regional planning commission engaged in the preparation of the current use portion of the inventory may make use of assistance, data, and information made available to it by public or private organizations.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60907 Reimbursement for preparation of current use portion of inventory; certification; prorating amount.

Sec. 60907. The state shall reimburse each municipality, county, or regional planning commission engaged in the preparation of the current use portion of the inventory for 75% of the expenditures certified by the department. Certification shall be based upon conformance to the format, scale, and classification system provisions of the contract between the municipality, county, or regional planning commission and the department. If the amount appropriated during any fiscal year is not sufficient to provide the 75% reimbursement, the director of the department of management and budget shall prorate an amount among the eligible municipalities, counties, and regional planning commissions.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60908 Review and updating of land resource and current use portions of inventory.

Sec. 60908. (1) The land resource portion of the inventory shall be reviewed and updated when necessary, but not less than once every 10 years.

(2) The current use portion of the inventory shall be reviewed and updated when necessary, but not less than once each 5 years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60909 Fees for generating products or rendering services.

Sec. 60909. The department may charge fees for generating products or rendering services based on the information in the inventory. The fees shall not exceed the costs to the department of generating the products or rendering the services. The amount of money expended by the department for generating products or

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rendering services in a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount appropriated for that fiscal year or the amount of the fees actually received during that fiscal year, whichever is less.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.60910 Controlling or curtailing development of private property; prohibitions.

Sec. 60910. (1) This part shall not be construed to permit the state, the department, or a person to exercise control over private property or to curtail development of private property.

(2) This part shall not:

(a) Constitute a state land use plan.

(b) Be used by any state agency to control the existing and future productivity of the state's natural resources or the timing, location, or intensity of future development in the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 2
REGULATION OF OIL AND GAS WELLS

PART 610
UNIFIED SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE OIL OR GAS OWNERSHIP

324.61001 Definitions.

Sec. 61001. As used in this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(b) "Severed oil and gas rights" means those subsurface oil and gas rights held by the department on land in which the department does not own the surface rights to the land.

History: Add. 1998, Act 117, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61002 Inventory and categorization of land; contract.

Sec. 61002. (1) Within 4 years after the effective date of this section, the department shall complete an inventory of all land under the jurisdiction of the department and shall categorize the land as follows:

(a) All land in which the department owns both the surface rights and the oil and gas rights.

(b) All land in which the department owns the surface rights but not the oil and gas rights.

(c) All land in which the department owns the oil and gas rights but not the surface rights.

(2) The department may contract for the completion of the inventory under subsection (1).

History: Add. 1998, Act 117, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61003 Divestiture of severed oil and gas rights; reuniting oil and gas rights with surface rights; deed restriction; reversion of subsurface rights.

Sec. 61003. (1) The department shall implement procedures in compliance with this part that allow the department, after consultation with the natural resources trust fund board and approval of the natural resources commission, to divest itself of severed oil and gas rights and reunite the oil and gas rights with the surface rights. The department is not required to divest itself of oil and gas rights to land that is in production or is leased or permitted for production, or to land which the department determines has unusual or sensitive environmental features that should be reserved by the state and maintained in an undeveloped state, or to land which the department may consider offering for exchange to consolidate inholdings within management areas.

(2) When the department transfers oil and gas rights under this part, the department shall include a deed restriction that restricts the oil and gas rights from being severed from the surface rights in the future. If the landowner severs the subsurface rights from the surface rights, the subsurface rights revert to this state.

History: Add. 1998, Act 117, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.61004 Divestiture of severed oil and gas rights; basis; priority; plan for attaching monetary value; offer to sell or transfer severed rights to surface owner; notice; duration of designated price; petition; disposition of money received.

Sec. 61004. (1) The department may divest itself of severed oil and gas rights on a county-by-county basis. The department may prioritize counties in the order in which it intends to offer divestiture sales or transfers pursuant to this part.

(2) Prior to divesting itself of severed oil and gas rights, the department shall develop a plan for attaching a monetary value to those rights based upon current market conditions. This plan may include requiring the purchasing party to pay all costs associated with completing the transaction including a proportional share of the costs of completing the inventory. Additionally, the department may trade severed oil and gas rights for other land or rights in land if such a trade is in the best interest of the state. At the time the department transfers oil and gas rights for land held by a local unit of government, and for parcels of land smaller than 5 acres in size, the department shall transfer the oil and gas rights only for the cost of processing the transaction.

(3) In each county in which the department offers to sell or transfer severed oil and gas rights to the surface owner. The department shall publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the oil and gas rights are located and provide notification to the local taxing authority of this state's offer to sell severed oil and gas rights to surface owners. A price designated by the department for the purchase of oil and gas rights shall be valid for a minimum of 90 days. A landowner who desires to accept the department's offer to sell or transfer the severed oil and gas rights shall provide the department with a copy of a recorded deed showing the person's ownership of the land. A person who attempts to purchase oil and gas rights from the department who is not the surface owner forfeits any money given to the department.

(4) After the 90-day period described in subsection (3), the surface owner or a subsequent surface owner may petition the department for sale of the severed oil and gas rights at a price agreeable to the department.

(5) All money received by the department for the sale or transfer of oil or gas rights pursuant to this part shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the Michigan natural resources trust fund established in part 19.

History: Add. 1998, Act 117, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 615
SUPERVISOR OF WELLS

324.61501 Definitions.

Sec. 61501. Unless the context requires a different meaning, the words defined in this section have the following meanings when used in this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(b) "Field" means an underground reservoir or reservoirs containing oil or gas, or both. Field also includes the same general surface area that is underlaid or appears to be underlaid by at least 1 pool. Field and pool have the same meaning if only 1 underground reservoir is involved. However, field, unlike pool, may relate to 2 or more pools.

(c) "Fund" means the oil and gas regulatory fund created in section 61525b.

(d) "Gas" means a mixture of hydrocarbons and varying quantities of nonhydrocarbons in a gaseous state which may or may not be associated with oil, and includes those liquids resulting from condensation.

(e) "Illegal container" means a receptacle that contains illegal oil or gas or illegal products.

(f) "Illegal conveyance" means a conveyance by or through which illegal oil or gas or illegal products are being transported.

(g) "Illegal oil or gas" means oil or gas that has been produced by an owner or producer in violation of this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or an order of the supervisor issued under this part.

(h) "Illegal product" means a product of oil or gas or any part of a product of oil or gas that was knowingly processed or derived in whole or in part from illegal oil or gas.

(i) "Market demand" means the actual demand for oil or gas from any particular pool or field for current requirements for current consumption and use within or outside the state, together with the demand for such amounts as are necessary for building up or maintaining reasonable storage reserves of oil or gas or the products of oil or gas.

(j) "Oil" means natural crude oil or petroleum and other hydrocarbons, regardless of gravity, that are

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produced at the well in liquid form by ordinary production methods and that are not the result of condensation of gas after it leaves the underground reservoir.

(k) "Owner" means the person who has the right to drill a well into a pool, to produce from a pool, and to receive and distribute the value of the production from the pool for himself or herself either individually or in combination with others.

(*l*) "Pool" means an underground reservoir containing a common accumulation of oil or gas, or both. Pool includes a productive zone of a general structure that is completely separated from any other zone in the structure, or is declared to be a pool by the supervisor of wells.

(m) "Producer" means the operator, whether owner or not, of a well or wells capable of producing oil or gas or both in paying quantities.

(n) "Product" means any commodity or thing made or manufactured from oil or gas, and all derivatives of oil or gas, including refined crude oil, crude tops, topped crude, processed crude petroleum, residue treated crude oil, residuum, gas oil, naphtha, distillate, gasoline, casing-head gasoline, natural gas gasoline, kerosene, benzine, wash oil, waste oil, lubricating oil, and blends or mixtures of oil or gas or any derivatives of oil or gas whether enumerated or not.

(o) "Supervisor" or "supervisor of wells" means the department.

(p) "Tender" means a permit or certificate of clearance, approved and issued or registered under the authority of the supervisor, for the transportation of oil or gas or products.

(q) "Waste" in addition to its ordinary meaning includes all of the following:

(*i*) "Underground waste", as those words are generally understood in the oil business, and including all of the following:

(A) The inefficient, excessive, or improper use or dissipation of the reservoir energy, including gas energy and water drive, of any pool, and the locating, spacing, drilling, equipping, operating, or producing of a well or wells in a manner to reduce or tend to reduce the total quantity of oil or gas ultimately recoverable from any pool.

(B) Unreasonable damage to underground fresh or mineral waters, natural brines, or other mineral deposits from operations for the discovery, development, and production and handling of oil or gas.

(*ii*) "Surface waste", as those words are generally understood in the oil business, and including all of the following:

(A) The unnecessary or excessive surface loss or destruction without beneficial use, however caused, of gas, oil, or other product, but including the loss or destruction, without beneficial use, resulting from evaporation, seepage, leakage, or fire, especially a loss or destruction incident to or resulting from the manner of spacing, equipping, operating, or producing a well or wells, or incident to or resulting from inefficient storage or handling of oil.

(B) The unnecessary damage to or destruction of the surface; soils; animal, fish, or aquatic life; property; or other environmental values from or by oil and gas operations.

(C) The unnecessary endangerment of public health, safety, or welfare from or by oil and gas operations.

(D) The drilling of unnecessary wells.

(*iii*) "Market waste", which includes the production of oil or gas in any field or pool in excess of the market demand as defined in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 115, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998;—Am. 1998, Act 252, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1998;—Am. 1998, Act 303, Imd. Eff. July 28, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61502 Construction of part.

Sec. 61502. It has long been the declared policy of this state to foster conservation of natural resources so that our citizens may continue to enjoy the fruits and profits of those resources. Failure to adopt such a policy in the pioneer days of the state permitted the unwarranted slaughter and removal of magnificent timber abounding in the state, which resulted in an immeasurable loss and waste. In an effort to replace some of this loss, millions of dollars have been spent in reforestation, which could have been saved had the original timber been removed under proper conditions. In past years extensive deposits of oil and gas have been discovered that have added greatly to the natural wealth of the state and if properly conserved can bring added prosperity for many years in the future to our farmers and landowners, as well as to those engaged in the exploration and development of this great natural resource. The interests of the people demand that exploitation and waste of oil and gas be prevented so that the history of the loss of timber may not be repeated. It is accordingly the

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declared policy of the state to protect the interests of its citizens and landowners from unwarranted waste of gas and oil and to foster the development of the industry along the most favorable conditions and with a view to the ultimate recovery of the maximum production of these natural products. To that end, this part is to be construed liberally to give effect to sound policies of conservation and the prevention of waste and exploitation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61503 Supervisor of wells; assistants; commission as appeal board; hearing; compensation and expenses; office.

Sec. 61503. (1) The supervisor of wells shall designate suitable assistants as are required to implement this part.

(2) The commission shall act as an appeal board regarding the issuance, denial, suspension, revocation, annulment, withdrawal, recall, cancellation, or amendment of a permit under this part. When a producer or owner considers an order, action, inaction, or procedure as proposed, initiated, or made by the supervisor to be burdensome, inequitable, unreasonable, or unwarranted, the producer or owner may appeal to the commission or the court for relief from the order, action, inaction, or procedure as provided in this act. The chairperson of the commission shall set a date and place to hear the appeal, which may be at a regular meeting of the commission or a special meeting of the commission called for that purpose.

(3) The supervisor and employees, in addition to their salaries, shall receive their reasonable expenses while away from their homes traveling on business connected with their duties. A member of the commission shall not receive compensation for discharging duties under this part; however, a member is entitled to reasonable expenses while traveling in the performance of a duty imposed by this part. Salaries and expenses authorized in this part shall be paid out of the state treasury in the same manner as the salaries and expenses of other officers and employees of the department are paid.

(4) The department of management and budget shall furnish suitable offices for the use of the supervisor and his or her employees.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61503a Gas lease; duties of lessee; monthly revenue statements and payments; initiation; deferment.

Sec. 61503a. (1) Beginning 12 months after the effective date of this section, a person who has entered into a gas lease as a lessee prior to or after the effective date of this section shall do all of the following:

(a) Starting after production begins, for a well that begins continuous gas production after the effective date of this section, or starting on the effective date of this section for a well that began continuous gas production on or before the effective date of this section, provide the lessor who has an interest in the leased property with monthly revenue statements written in plain English that provide all of the following:

(*i*) Under the heading "unit price", the price received by the lessee per 1,000 cubic feet or 1,000,000 BTUs of gas sold. The lessee shall pay to the lessor his or her proper share of the gross proceeds or value, as provided in the lease.

(*ii*) A statement of the deductions taken from the lessor's royalty, and the purpose of those deductions. The statement of the deductions shall be itemized, except that a lessee may group deductions under general categories if the lessee states that a separate itemized statement of the deductions will be furnished upon written request and states the address to which a written request for an itemized statement should be directed. This section does not prohibit a lessee from making deductions on an estimated basis for a calendar year or other 12-month accounting period if this is disclosed in the monthly revenue statement or the separate itemized statement. If an estimate is used, the lessee shall determine the actual amount and make any necessary adjustments within 180 days after the end of the calendar year or other 12-month accounting period. However, if any costs have not been finally determined, the lessee may reserve an amount which the lessee considers in good faith to be adequate to cover the costs that have not been finally determined and shall make any necessary adjustments when the actual costs have been finally determined.

(b) Starting at the end of the calendar year or other 12-month accounting period after production begins for

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a well that begins continuous production after the effective date of this section, or starting at the end of the calendar year or other 12-month accounting period when this section becomes effective for a well that began continuous production on or before the effective date of this section, prepare an annual accounting of gas sales from the leased property and any deductions taken from the lessor's royalty during the calendar year or other 12-month accounting period. The lessee shall complete the accounting within 180 days after the end of the calendar year or other 12-month accounting period. However, if any costs have not been finally determined, the lessee may account for these on the basis of a reserve which the lessee considers in good faith to be adequate to cover the costs that have not been finally determined, and shall prepare a supplemental accounting when the actual costs have been finally determined. The lessee shall notify the lessor of the availability of the accounting within 180 days after the end of the calendar year or other 12-month accounting period, and shall furnish a copy of the accounting upon request of the lessor within 30 days of receipt of the request. The notification as to the availability of the accounting may be made on a monthly revenue statement and need not be a separate document.

(2) Subject to section 61503b(4), the monthly revenue statements and payments under subsection (1)(a) shall be initiated promptly after the determination of the divisions of interest of the parties entitled to share in the production, unless a valid agreement between the lessee and the lessor provides otherwise. However, if the entitlement of the lessor to receive payment is in question because of lack of good and marketable record title or because of any circumstance that may expose the lessee to the risk of multiple liability or liability to a third party if the payment is made, the lessee may defer payment to that lessor until the title or other circumstance has been resolved, unless a valid agreement between the lessee and the lessor provides otherwise. If the mailing address of the lessor, or place where payment should be made, is unknown, payment may be deferred until the lessee receives that information. If the total amount of the royalties is less than $50.00 at the end of any month, payment may be deferred until the total amount reaches at least $50.00, unless a valid agreement between the lessor and the lessee provides otherwise.

History: Add. 1998, Act 127, Eff. Mar. 28, 2000.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of 1998 PA 127, which provided that 1998 PA 127 would not take effect unless House Bill No. 4259 of the 89th Legislature was enacted into law, was repealed by Enacting section 1 of 1999 PA 246.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61503b Postproduction costs.

Sec. 61503b. (1) A person who enters into a gas lease as a lessee after March 28, 2000 shall not deduct from the lessor's royalty any portion of postproduction costs unless the lease explicitly allows for the deduction of postproduction costs. If a lease explicitly provides for the deduction of postproduction costs, the lessee may only deduct postproduction costs for the following items, unless the lease explicitly and specifically provides for the deduction of other items:

(a) The reasonable costs of removal of carbon dioxide (CO_2), hydrogen sulfide (H_2S), molecular nitrogen (N_2), or other constituents, except water, the removal of which will enhance the value of the gas for the benefit of the lessor and lessee.

(b) Transportation costs after the point of entry into any of the following:

(*i*) An independent, nonaffiliated, third-party-owned pipeline system.

(*ii*) A pipeline system owned by a gas distribution company or any subsidiary of the gas distribution company, which is regulated by the Michigan public service commission.

(*iii*) An affiliated pipeline system, if the rates charged by the pipeline system have been approved by the Michigan public service commission, or if the rates charged are reasonable, as compared to independent pipeline systems, based on the pipeline system's location, distance, cost of service, and other pertinent factors.

(2) A lessee shall not charge postproduction costs incurred on gas produced from 1 drilling unit, pooled or communitized area, or unit area against a lessor's royalty for gas produced from another drilling unit, pooled or communitized area, or unit area. As used in this subsection, "unit area" means the formation or formations that are unitized and surface acreage that is a part of the unitized lands, as described in either of the following:

(a) The plan for unit operations that is the subject of the supervisor's order as provided in section 61706.

(b) An applicable agreement providing for unit operations.

(3) If a person who has entered into a gas lease as a lessee prior to or after March 28, 2000 charges the lessor for any portion of postproduction costs, the lessee shall notify the lessor in writing of the availability of the following information and if the lessor requests in writing to receive this information, the lessee shall provide the lessor, in writing, a specific itemized explanation of all postproduction costs to be assessed.

(4) A division order or other document that includes provisions that stipulate how production proceeds are

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distributed, received by the lessor from the lessee, shall not alter or define the terms of a lease unless voluntarily and explicitly agreed to by both parties in a signed document or documents in which the parties expressly indicate their intention to amend the lease. A lessee shall not precondition the payment of royalties upon the lessor signing a division order or other document that stipulates how production proceeds are distributed, except as provided in this subsection. As a condition for the payment of royalties under a lease other than a lease granted by the state of Michigan, a lessee or other payor shall be entitled to receive a signed division order from the payee containing only the following provisions, unless other provisions have been voluntarily and explicitly agreed to by both parties in a signed document or documents in which the parties expressly indicate their intention to waive the provisions of this subsection:

(a) The effective date of the division order.

(b) A description of the property from which the oil or gas is being produced and the type of production.

(c) The fractional or decimal interest in production, or both, claimed by the payee, the type of interest, the certification of title to the share of production claimed, and, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, an agreement to notify the payor at least 1 month in advance of the effective date of any change in the interest in production owned by the payee and an agreement to indemnify the payor and reimburse the payor for payments made if the payee does not have merchantable title to the production sold.

(d) The authorization to suspend payment to the payee for production until the resolution of any title dispute or adverse claim asserted regarding the interest in production claimed by the payee.

(e) The name, address, and taxpayer identification number of the payee.

(f) A statement that the division order does not amend any lease or operating agreement between the interest owner and the lessee or operator or any other contracts for the purchase of oil or gas.

History: Add. 1999, Act 246, Eff. Mar. 28, 2000;—Am. 2000, Act 441, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61503c Violation of MCL 324.61503a or MCL 324.61503b; penalty; injunction or damages; separate offenses; recovery of postproduction costs and attorney fees; notice.

Sec. 61503c. (1) Notwithstanding section 61522, a person who knowingly violates section 61503a or 61503b is responsible for the payment of a civil fine of not more than $1,000.00. A default in the payment of a civil fine or costs ordered under this section or an installment of the fine or costs may be remedied by any means authorized under the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.101 to 600.9948.

(2) The attorney general or the lessor of a gas lease with respect to his or her lease may bring an action in circuit court for injunctive relief or damages, or both, against a person who violates section 61503a or 61503b.

(3) If a person who has entered into a gas lease as a lessee violates section 61503a or 61503b, each day the violation continues constitutes a separate offense only for 5 days; thereafter, each day the violation continues does not constitute a separate offense. If a person who has entered into a gas lease as a lessee violates section 61503a or 61503b and such a violation affects more than 1 lessor having an interest in the same well, pooled unit, or unitized area, the violation as to all lessors constitutes only 1 offense.

(4) If a court finds that a lessee deducted postproduction costs from a lessor's royalty contrary to section 61503b(1), the lessor may recover as damages the amount of postproduction costs deducted contrary to section 61503b(1) and may also recover reasonable attorney fees incurred in bringing the action unless the lessee endeavored to cure the alleged violation pursuant to subsection (5) prior to the bringing of the action. In addition, a lessee who prevails in litigation under this subsection may recover reasonable attorney fees incurred in defending an action under this subsection, if the court finds that the position taken by the lessor in the litigation was frivolous.

(5) A person shall not bring an action under this section unless the person has first given the lessee written notice of the alleged violation of section 61503a or 61503b, with reasonably comprehensive details, and allowed a period of at least 30 days for the lessee to cure the alleged violation.

History: Add. 1999, Act 247, Eff. Mar. 28, 2000;—Am. 2000, Act 441, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61504 Waste prohibited.

Sec. 61504. A person shall not commit waste in the exploration for or in the development, production,

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handling, or use of oil or gas, or in the handling of any product of oil or gas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61505 Supervisor of wells; jurisdiction; authority; enforcement of part.

Sec. 61505. The supervisor has jurisdiction and authority over the administration and enforcement of this part and all matters relating to the prevention of waste and to the conservation of oil and gas in this state. The supervisor also has jurisdiction and control of and over all persons and things necessary or proper to enforce effectively this part and all matters relating to the prevention of waste and the conservation of oil and gas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61505a Drilling permit for well beneath lake bottomlands for exploration or production of oil or gas; condition.

Sec. 61505a. Notwithstanding any other provision of this part or the rules promulgated under this part, beginning on the effective date of this section, the supervisor shall not issue a permit for drilling, or authorize the drilling of, a well beneath the lake bottomlands of the Great Lakes, the connected bays or harbors of the Great Lakes, or the connecting waterways as defined in section 32301, for the exploration or production of oil or gas unless the applicant holds a lease that was in effect prior to the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section that allows the well to be drilled.

History: Add. 2002, Act 148, Imd. Eff. Apr. 5, 2002.

Compiler's note: Enrolled House Bill No. 5118 was not signed by the Governor, but, having been presented to him at 3:44 p.m. on March 22, 2002, and not having been returned by him to the House of Representatives within the 14 days prescribed by Const 1963, art IV, sec 33, became law (2002 PA 148) on April 5, 2002, the Legislature having continued in session.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61506 Supervisor of wells; powers and duties generally.

Sec. 61506. The supervisor shall prevent the waste prohibited by this part. To that end, acting directly or through his or her authorized representatives, the supervisor is specifically empowered to do all of the following:

(a) To promulgate and enforce rules, issue orders and instructions necessary to enforce the rules, and do whatever may be necessary with respect to the subject matter stated in this part to implement this part, whether or not indicated, specified, or enumerated in this or any other section of this part.

(b) To collect data to make inspections, studies, and investigations; to examine properties, leases, papers, books, and records as necessary to the purposes of this part; to examine, check, and test and gauge oil and gas wells and tanks, plants, refineries, and all means and modes of transportation and equipment; to hold hearings; and to provide for the keeping of records and making of reports, and for the checking of the accuracy of the records and reports.

(c) To require the locating, drilling, deepening, redrilling or reopening, casing, sealing, operating, and plugging of wells drilled for oil and gas or for secondary recovery projects, or wells for the disposal of salt water, brine, or other oil field wastes, to be done in such manner and by such means as to prevent the escape of oil or gas out of 1 stratum into another, or of water or brines into oil or gas strata; to prevent pollution of, damage to, or destruction of fresh water supplies, including inland lakes and streams and the Great Lakes and connecting waters, and valuable brines by oil, gas, or other waters, to prevent the escape of oil, gas, or water into workable coal or other mineral deposits; to require the disposal of salt water and brines and oily wastes produced incidental to oil and gas operations in a manner and by methods and means so that unnecessary damage or danger to or destruction of surface or underground resources, to neighboring properties or rights, or to life does not result.

(d) To require reports and maps showing locations of all wells subject to this part, and the keeping and filing of logs, well samples, and drilling, testing, and operating records or reports. All well data and samples furnished to the supervisor as required in this part, upon written request of the owner of the well, shall be held confidential for 90 days after the completion of drilling and shall not be open to public inspection except by

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written consent of the owner.

(e) To prevent the drowning by water of any stratum or part of the stratum capable of producing oil or gas, or both oil and gas, and to prevent the premature and irregular encroachment of water, or any other kind of water encroachment, that reduces or tends to reduce the total ultimate recovery of oil or gas, or both oil or gas, from any pool.

(f) To prevent fires or explosions.

(g) To prevent blow-outs, seepage, and caving in the sense that the conditions indicated by such terms are generally understood in the oil business.

(h) To regulate the mechanical, physical, and chemical treatment of wells.

(i) To regulate the secondary recovery methods of oil and gas, including pulling or creating a vacuum and the introduction of gas, air, water, and other substances into the producing formations.

(j) To fix the spacing of wells and to regulate the production from the wells.

(k) To require the operation of wells with efficient gas-oil ratios and to establish the ratios.

(*l*) To require by written notice or citation immediate suspension of any operation or practice and the prompt correction of any condition found to exist that causes or results or threatens to cause or result in waste.

(m) To require, either generally or in or from particular areas, certificates of clearance or tenders in connection with the transportation of oil, gas, or any product of oil or gas.

(n) To require identification of the ownership of oil and gas producing leases, properties, and wells.

(o) To promulgate rules or issue orders for the classifications of wells as oil wells or gas wells; or wells drilled, or to be drilled, for secondary recovery projects, or for the disposal of salt water, brine, or other oil or gas field wastes; or for the development of reservoirs for the storage of liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons, or for other means of development, extraction, or production of hydrocarbons.

(p) To require the filing of an adequate surety, security, or cash bonds of owners, producers, operators, or their authorized representatives in such reasonable form, condition, term, and amount as will ensure compliance with this part and with the rules promulgated or orders issued under this part and to provide for the release of the surety, security, or cash bonds.

(q) To require the immediate suspension of drilling or other well operations if there exists a threat to public health or safety.

(r) To require a person applying for a permit to drill and operate any well regulated by this part to file a complete and accurate written application on a form prescribed by the supervisor.

(s) To require the posting of safety signs and the installation of fences, gates, or other safety measures if there exists a threat to public health, safety, or property.

(t) To prevent regular or recurring nuisance noise or regular or recurring nuisance odor in the exploration for or development, production or handling of oil and gas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 303, Imd. Eff. July 28, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

Administrative rules: R 324.101 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.61506a Notice of violation.

Sec. 61506a. Upon completion of an inspection under this part, the supervisor shall notify the owner or operator of the well of any violation of this or any other part of this act that is identified during the inspection.

History: Add. 1998, Act 252, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61506b Conditions prohibiting issuance of permit or authorization to drill oil or gas well; waiver; exception.

Sec. 61506b. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3), beginning on the effective date of this section, the supervisor shall not issue a permit for or authorize the drilling of an oil or gas well if both of the following apply:

(a) The well is located within 450 feet of a residential building.

(b) The residential building is located in a city or township with a population of 70,000 or more.

(2) The supervisor may grant a waiver from the requirement of subsection (1)(a) if the clerk of the city, village, or township in which the proposed well is located has been notified of the application for a permit for

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the proposed well and if either of the following conditions is met:

(a) The owner or owners of all residential buildings located within 450 feet of the proposed well give written consent.

(b) The supervisor determines, pursuant to a public hearing held before the waiver is granted, that the proposed well location will not cause waste and there is no reasonable alternative for the location of the well that will allow the oil and gas rights holder to develop the oil and gas.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to a well utilized for the injection, withdrawal, and observation of the storage of natural gas pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 303, Imd. Eff. July 28, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61506c Toll-free telephone number; maintenance; use.

Sec. 61506c. The department shall maintain a toll-free telephone number that a person or a representative of a local unit of government may call in order to receive information on department standards, safety requirements and educational information related to oil and gas exploration, drilling, permitting, hydrogen sulfide management, pooling, and other topics related to the extraction of oil and gas.

History: Add. 1998, Act 392, Imd. Eff. Dec. 17, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61507 Prevention of waste; procedure; hearing; rules; orders.

Sec. 61507. Upon the initiative of the supervisor or upon verified complaint of any person interested in the subject matter alleging that waste is taking place or is reasonably imminent, the supervisor shall call a hearing to determine whether or not waste is taking place or is reasonably imminent, and what action should be taken to prevent that waste. If the supervisor determines it appropriate, the supervisor shall hold a hearing and shall promptly make findings and recommendations. The supervisor shall consider those findings and recommendations and shall promulgate rules or issue orders as he or she considers necessary to prevent waste which he or she finds to exist or to be reasonably imminent.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61508 Rules of order or procedure in hearings or other proceedings; entering in book; copy of rule or order as evidence; availability of writings to public.

Sec. 61508. (1) The supervisor shall prescribe rules of order or procedure in hearings or other proceedings before the supervisor under this part. Rules promulgated or orders issued by the supervisor shall be entered in full in a book to be kept for that purpose by the supervisor. A copy of a rule or order, certified by the supervisor, shall be received in evidence in the courts of this state with the same effect as the original.

(2) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the supervisor in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61509 Hearings; subpoena; witnesses and production of books; incriminating testimony.

Sec. 61509. The supervisor may compel by subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, records, or articles necessary in any proceeding before the supervisor or the commission. A person shall not be excused from obeying a subpoena issued in a hearing or proceeding brought under this part on the ground or for the reason that the testimony or evidence, documentary or otherwise, may tend to incriminate or subject that person to a penalty or forfeiture. However, this section does not require a person to produce books, papers, or records or to testify in response to any inquiry that is not pertinent to a question

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lawfully before the supervisor, commission, or court for determination under this part. Incriminating evidence, documentary or otherwise, shall not be used against a witness who testifies as required in this section in a prosecution or action for forfeiture. A person who testifies as required in this section is not exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury in so testifying.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61510 Failure to comply with subpoena; refusal to testify; attachment; contempt; fees and mileage of witnesses.

Sec. 61510. (1) If a person fails or refuses to comply with a subpoena issued by the supervisor, or if a witness refuses to testify as to any matters regarding which he or she may be lawfully interrogated, any circuit court in this state, or any circuit court judge, on application of the supervisor, may issue an attachment for the person and compel that person to comply with the subpoena and to attend a hearing before the supervisor and produce documents, and testify upon matters, as may be lawfully required, and the court or judge has the power to punish that person for contempt in the same manner as if the person had disobeyed the subpoena of the court or refused to testify in that court.

(2) A witness summoned by subpoena or by written request of the supervisor and attending a hearing called by the supervisor is entitled to the same fees and mileage as are or may be provided by law for attending the circuit court in a civil matter or proceeding. The fees and mileage of witnesses subpoenaed at the instance of the supervisor shall be paid out of the general funds of the state treasury upon proper voucher approved by the supervisor. The fees and mileage of witnesses subpoenaed at the instance of any other interested party shall be paid by that party.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61511 False swearing as perjury; penalty.

Sec. 61511. If a person who is required to give an oath under this part, or by any rule promulgated or order issued by the supervisor, willfully swears falsely in regard to any matter or thing respecting which the oath is required, or willfully makes any false affidavit required or authorized by this part, or by any rule promulgated or order issued by the supervisor, that person is guilty of perjury, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or less than 6 months.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61512 Allocation or distribution of allowable production in well, field, or pool; basis.

Sec. 61512. If, to prevent waste, the supervisor limits the amount of oil or gas to be produced from any well, pool, or field in this state, the supervisor shall allocate or distribute the allowable production in the field or pool. The supervisor shall make such a determination or distribution in the field or pool on a reasonable basis, giving, if reasonable, under all circumstances, to each small well of settled production in the pool or field an allowable production that will prevent a general or premature abandonment of the wells in the pool or field.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61513 Proration or distribution of allowable production among wells; basis; drilling unit; unnecessary wells; pooling of properties; location of well; exceptions; minimum allowable production; allowable production pursuant to rules or orders.

Sec. 61513. (1) When, to prevent waste, the total allowable production for any oil or gas field or pool in the state is fixed in an amount less than that which the field or pool could produce if no restriction were

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imposed, the supervisor shall prorate or distribute on a reasonable basis the allowable production among the producing wells in the field or pool, to prevent or minimize reasonably avoidable drainage from each developed area which is not equalized by counter drainage. The rules or orders of the supervisor, so far as it is practicable to do so, shall afford the owner of each property in a pool the opportunity to produce his or her just and equitable share of the oil or gas in the pool, being an amount, so far as can be practicably determined and obtained without waste, and without reducing the bottom hole pressure materially below the average for the pool, substantially in the proportion that the quantity of the recoverable oil or gas under the property bears to the total recoverable oil or gas in the pool, and for this purpose to use his or her just and equitable share of the reservoir energy. A well in a pool producing from an average depth of 1,000 feet or less, on the basis of a full drilling unit as may be established under this section, shall be given a base allowable production of at least 100 barrels of oil per well per week; for a well in a pool producing from an average depth greater than 1,000 feet, the base allowable production shall be increased 10 barrels per well per week for each addition 100 feet of depth greater than 1,000 feet, if the allowable production is or can be made without surface or underground waste.

(2) To prevent the drilling of unnecessary wells, the supervisor may establish a drilling unit for each pool. A drilling unit, as described in this subsection, is the maximum area that may be efficiently and economically drained by 1 well. A drilling unit constitutes a developed area if a well is located on the drilling unit that is capable of producing the economically recoverable oil or gas under the unit. Each well permitted to be drilled upon any drilling unit shall be located in the approximate center of the drilling unit, or at such other location on the drilling unit as may be necessary to conform to a uniform well spacing pattern as adopted and promulgated by the supervisor after due notice and public hearing, as provided in this part.

(3) The drilling of unnecessary wells is hereby declared waste because unnecessary wells create fire and other hazards conducive to waste, and unnecessarily increase the production cost of oil and gas to the operator, and therefore also unnecessarily increase the cost of the products to the ultimate consumer.

(4) The pooling of properties or parts of properties is permitted, and, if not agreed upon, the supervisor may require pooling of properties or parts of properties in any case when and to the extent that the smallness or shape of a separately owned tract or tracts would, under the enforcement of a uniform spacing plan or proration or drilling unit, otherwise deprive or tend to deprive the owner of such a tract of the opportunity to recover or receive his or her just and equitable share of the oil or gas and gas energy in the pool. The owner of any tract that is smaller than the drilling unit established for the field shall not be deprived of the right to drill on and produce from that tract, if the drilling and production can be done without waste. In this case, the allowable production from that tract, as compared with the allowable production if that tract were a full unit, shall be in the ratio of the area of the tract to the area of a full unit, except as a smaller ratio may be required to maintain average bottom hole pressures in the pool, to reduce the production of salt water, or to reduce an excessive gas-oil ratio. All orders requiring pooling described in this subsection shall be upon terms and conditions that are just and reasonable, and will afford to the owner of each tract in the pooling plan the opportunity to recover or receive his or her just and equitable share of the oil or gas and gas energy in the pool as provided in this subsection, and without unnecessary expense, and will prevent or minimize reasonably avoidable drainage from each developed tract that is not equalized by counter drainage. The portion of the production allocated to the owner of each tract included in a drilling unit formed by voluntary agreement or by a pooling order shall be considered as if it had been produced from the tract by a well drilled on the tract.

(5) Each well permitted to be drilled upon a drilling unit or tract shall be drilled at a location that conforms to the uniform well spacing pattern, except as may be reasonably necessary where after notice and hearing the supervisor finds any of the following:

(a) That the unit is partly outside the pool or that, for some other reason, a well at the location would be unproductive.

(b) That the owner or owners of a tract or tracts covering that part of the drilling unit or tract on which the well would be located if it conformed to the uniform well spacing pattern refuses to permit drilling at the regular location.

(c) That topographical or other conditions are such as to make drilling at the regular location unduly burdensome or imminently threatening to water or other natural resources, to property, or to life.

(6) If an exception under subsection (5) is granted, the supervisor shall take such action as will offset any advantage that the person securing the exception may have over other producers in the pool by reason of the drilling of the well as an exception, and so that drainage from the developed areas to the tract with respect to the exception granted will be prevented or minimized and the producer of the well drilled as an exception will be allowed to produce no more than his or her just and equitable share of the oil or gas in the pool as the share is set forth in this part, and to that end the rules and orders of the supervisor shall be such as will prevent or minimize reasonably avoidable drainage from each developed area that is not equalized by counter drainage

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and will give to each producer the opportunity to use his or her just and equitable share of the reservoir energy.

(7) Minimum allowable production for some wells and pools may be advisable from time to time, especially with respect to wells and pools already drilled on May 3, 1939, when former Act No. 61 of the Public Acts of 1939 took effect, so that the production will repay reasonable lifting costs and thus prevent premature abandonment of wells and resulting wastes.

(8) After the effective date of any rule promulgated or order issued by the supervisor as provided in this part establishing the allowable production, a person shall not produce more than the allowable production applicable to that person, his or her wells, leases, or properties, and the allowable production shall be produced pursuant to the applicable rules or orders.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61513a Pooling of properties not required.

Sec. 61513a. The supervisor shall not require the pooling of state owned properties or parts of properties under section 61513 if the state provides for the orderly development of state owned hydrocarbon resources through an oil and gas leasing program and the supervisor determines the owner of each tract is afforded the opportunity to recover and receive his or her just and equitable share of the hydrocarbon resources in the pool.

History: Add. 1998, Act 303, Imd. Eff. July 28, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61514 Certificates of clearance or tenders; issuance.

Sec. 61514. The supervisor may issue certificates of clearance or tenders if required to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61515 Handling or disposition of illegal oil or gas; penalty.

Sec. 61515. A person shall not sell, purchase, acquire, transport, refine, process, or otherwise handle or dispose of any illegal oil or gas or any illegal product of oil or gas. A penalty or forfeiture shall not be imposed as a result of an act described in this section until certificates of clearance or tenders are required by the supervisor as provided in section 61514.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61516 Rule or order; public hearings required; emergency rules or orders without public hearing; requirements for public hearings held pertaining to pooling of properties.

Sec. 61516. (1) A rule or order shall not be made, promulgated, put into effect, revoked, changed, renewed, or extended, except emergency orders, unless public hearings are held. Except as provided in subsection (2), public hearings shall be held at such time, place, and manner and upon such notice, not less than 10 days, as shall be prescribed by general order and rules adopted in conformity with this part. The supervisor may promulgate emergency rules or issue orders without a public hearing as may be necessary to implement this part. The emergency rules and orders shall remain in force and effect for no longer than 21 days, except as otherwise provided for rules under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(2) A public hearing held pursuant to this section pertaining to the pooling of properties or parts of properties under section 61513(4) shall be held at a place as determined by this subsection. At the time that the supervisor provides for notice of the public hearing, the supervisor shall provide notice of the right to request a change in location of the public hearing. A public hearing shall be held in the county in which the oil and gas rights are located if the majority of the owners of oil or gas rights that are subject to being pooled

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file with the supervisor a written request to hold the hearing in that county.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 115, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61517 Actions against department or commission; jurisdiction of Ingham county circuit court; injunction or restraining order; actions pertaining to pooling of properties.

Sec. 61517. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the circuit court of Ingham county has exclusive jurisdiction over all suits brought against the department, the supervisor, or any agent or employee of the department or supervisor, by or on account of any matter or thing arising under this part. A temporary restraining order or injunction shall not be granted in any suit described in this section except after due notice and for good cause shown.

(2) A suit brought against the supervisor pertaining to an order of the supervisor requiring the pooling of properties or parts of properties under section 61513(4) may be brought in the circuit court for the county in which the oil or gas rights are located or in the circuit court of Ingham county. A suit brought in the circuit court of Ingham county against the supervisor pertaining to an order of the supervisor requiring the pooling of properties or parts of properties under section 61513(4) may be removed to the circuit court for the county in which the oil or gas rights are located upon petition by a majority of the owners of the oil and gas rights who are subject to the order. Additionally, if all of the owners of the oil and gas interests being pooled reside in a county in Michigan other than the county in which the oil and gas rights are located, the suit may be brought in, or removed to, the circuit court for the county in which the owners reside. A petition for removal under this subsection shall be filed within 28 days after filing and service of the complaint in circuit court.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 115, Imd. Eff. June 9, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61518 Enforcement of part and rules; representation by attorney general; complaint; proceedings; powers of supervisor; exception.

Sec. 61518. (1) The supervisor may proceed at law or for the enforcement of this part and a rule promulgated under this part or for the prevention of the violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part, and the attorney general shall represent the supervisor in an action brought under this part. The supervisor or an assistant appointed by the supervisor may file a complaint and cause proceedings to be commenced against a person for a violation of this part without the sanction of the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the proceeding is commenced. The supervisor or an assistant of the supervisor may appear for the people in a court of competent jurisdiction in a case for a violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part, and prosecute the violation in the same manner and with the same authority as the prosecuting attorney of a county in which the proceeding is commenced, and may sign vouchers for the payment of fees and do all other things required in the same manner and with the same authority as the prosecuting attorney.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a violation of this part that is subject to the penalty prescribed pursuant to section 61522(3) or (4).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61519 Failure of owner or operator to obtain permit or to construct, operate, maintain, case, plug, or repair well; notice of determination; liability; claims.

Sec. 61519. If the supervisor determines that the owner or operator of a well subject to this part has failed or neglected to properly obtain a permit, construct, operate, maintain, case, plug, or repair the well in accordance with this part or the rules promulgated under this part, the supervisor shall give notice of this determination, in writing, to the owner and operator and to the surety executing the bond filed with the supervisor by the owner or operator in connection with the issuance of the permit authorizing the drilling of a well. This notice of determination may be served upon the owner or operator and surety in person or by registered mail. If the owner or operator cannot be found in the state, the mailing of the notice of determination to the owner or operator at his or her last known post office address by registered mail

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constitutes service of the notice of determination. If the owner or operator, or surety, fails or neglects to properly case, plug, or repair the well described in the notice of determination within 30 days of the date of service or mailing of the notice, the supervisor may enter into and upon any private or public property on which the well is located and upon and across any private or public property necessary to reach the well, and case, plug, or repair the well, and the owner or operator and surety are jointly and severally liable for all expenses incurred by the supervisor. The supervisor, acting for and in behalf of the state, shall certify in writing to the owner or operator and surety the claim of the state in the same manner provided in this section for the service of the notice of determination, and shall list thereon the items of expense incurred in casing, plugging, or repairing the well. The claim shall be paid by the owner or operator, or surety, within 30 days, and if not paid within that time the supervisor, acting for and in behalf of the state, may bring suit against the owner or operator, or surety, jointly or severally, for the collection of the claim in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county of Ingham.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61520 Abandoning well without properly plugging; violation of part or rule; penalty; liability of owner; "owner" and "operator" defined.

Sec. 61520. (1) A person who abandons a well without properly plugging the well as provided in this part or the rules promulgated under this part, or, except as provided in section 61522(3) or (4), who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part, whether as principal, agent, servant, or employee, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $1,000.00 and costs of prosecution, or both. This section does not impose liability upon the owner of land upon which a well is located, unless the property owner is the owner or part owner of the well.

(2) The words "owner" and "operator", as used in this section and section 61519 mean a person who, by the terms of this part and the rules promulgated under this part, is responsible for the plugging of a well.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61521 Unlawful acts; penalties.

Sec. 61521. (1) A person who, for the purpose of evading this part or of evading a rule promulgated or an order issued under this part, intentionally makes or causes to be made false entry or statement of fact in a report required by this part or by a rule promulgated or an order issued under this part, or who, for that purpose, makes or causes to be made false entry in an account, record, or memorandum kept by a person in connection with this part, or of a rule promulgated or an order issued under this part; or who, for that purpose, omits to make, or causes to be omitted, full, true, and correct entries in the accounts, records, or memoranda, of all facts and transactions pertaining to the interest or activities in the petroleum industry of that person as may be required by the supervisor under authority given in this part or by any rule promulgated or any order issued under this part; is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or a fine of not more than $3,000.00, or both.

(2) A person who for the purpose of evading this part or a rule promulgated or an order issued under this part removes from the jurisdiction of the state, or mutilates, alters, or by other means falsifies a book, record, or other paper pertaining to transactions regulated by this part is subject to the penalties prescribed in the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61522 Violations of part, rule, or order; penalties.

Sec. 61522. (1) Unless a penalty is otherwise provided for in this part, a person who violates this part or a rule or order promulgated or issued under this part is subject to a penalty of not more than $1,000.00. Each day the violation continues constitutes a separate offense. The penalty shall be recovered by an action brought

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by the supervisor.

(2) A person aiding in the violation of this part or a rule or order promulgated or issued under this part is subject to the same penalties as are prescribed in this section for the person who committed the violation.

(3) If the supervisor arbitrarily and capriciously violates section 61508(2), the supervisor is subject to the penalties prescribed in the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61523 Confiscation of illegal oil or gas, oil or gas products, conveyances, and containers; notice; seizure; sale; intervention.

Sec. 61523. All illegal oil or gas, products derived from illegal oil or gas, conveyances used in the transportation of illegal oil or gas or oil or gas products, and containers used in their storage, except railroad tank cars and pipelines, are subject to confiscation, and the supervisor may seize such illegal oil or gas, oil or gas products, conveyances, and containers. The supervisor shall immediately upon such seizure institute a proceeding in rem to confiscate the oil or gas, oil or gas products, conveyances, and containers in the circuit court of the county in which the seizure was made or in the circuit court of Ingham county. Upon commencement of these proceedings, notice shall be given to all known interested persons in the manner as directed by the court. The court, upon finding that the oil or gas, oil or gas products, conveyances, or containers seized are illegal, shall order those items to be sold under the terms and conditions as it directs. Any person claiming an interest in any oil or gas, oil or gas product, conveyance, or container that is seized has the right to intervene in the proceedings, and the rights of that person shall be determined by the court as justice may require.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61524 Fee for monitoring, surveillance, enforcement, and administration of part.

Sec. 61524. (1) For the purposes of monitoring, surveillance, enforcement, and administration of this part, a fee not in excess of 1%, based upon the gross cash market value, is levied upon oil and gas produced in this state. The fee shall be collected by the revenue division of the department of treasury in the same manner, at the same time, and subject to the provisions of the tax levied by 1929 PA 48, MCL 205.301 to 205.317.

(2) The fee shall be computed as follows:

(a) The director of the department of management and budget, on or before November 1, shall certify to the department of treasury the amount appropriated for the fiscal year for the purposes of monitoring, surveillance, enforcement, and administration of this part.

(b) The department shall estimate the total production and gross cash market value of all oil and gas that will be produced in this state during the fiscal year ending September 30, and shall certify its estimate to the department of treasury on or before November 1.

(c) Within 30 days after the effective date of the 1998 amendments to this section and on or before December 1 of each succeeding year, the department of treasury shall determine the fee as follows:

(*i*) If the fund balance is less than $7,000,000.00 as of the end of the fiscal year immediately prior to November 1, the fee shall be 1% of the gross cash market value of oil and gas produced, or an amount calculated to cause the fund to accumulate to $7,000,000.00 at the end of the current fiscal year, whichever is less.

(*ii*) If the fund balance is equal to or exceeds $7,000,000.00 as of the end of the fiscal year immediately prior to November 1, the fee shall be the ratio, to the nearest 1/100 of 1%, that the appropriation bears to the total gross cash market value of the oil and gas that will be produced in this state as estimated by the department as provided in subdivision (b).

(*iii*) Any money accumulated in the fund in excess of $7,000,000.00 as of the end of the fiscal year shall be deducted from the following year's appropriation in determining an amount to be certified by the director of the department of management and budget to the department of treasury for computing the annual fee provided for in this section.

(d) The percentage determined pursuant to subdivision (c) shall not exceed 1% and shall be the fee

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beginning the first of the following month and will continue to be the fee for the next 12 months and until a different fee is determined. However, the fee shall be 1% beginning the first day of the second month after the effective date of the 1998 amendments to this section and will continue to be the fee for the remainder of that calendar year.

(3) The proceeds of the fee provided for in this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 252, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61525 Permit to drill well; application; bond; posting; fee; issuance; disposition of fees; availability of information pertaining to applications; information provided to city, village, or township.

Sec. 61525. (1) A person shall not drill or begin the drilling of any well for oil or gas, for secondary recovery, or a well for the disposal of salt water, or brine produced in association with oil or gas operations or other oil field wastes, or wells for the development of reservoirs for the storage of liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons, except as authorized by a permit to drill and operate the well issued by the supervisor of wells pursuant to part 13 and unless the person files with the supervisor a bond as provided in section 61506. The permittee shall post the permit in a conspicuous place at the location of the well as provided in the rules and requirements or orders issued or promulgated by the supervisor. An application for a permit shall be accompanied by a fee of $300.00. A permit to drill and operate shall not be issued to an owner or his or her authorized representative who does not comply with the rules and requirements or orders issued or promulgated by the supervisor. A permit shall not be issued to an owner or his or her authorized representative who has not complied with or is in violation of this part or any of the rules, requirements, or orders issued or promulgated by the supervisor or the department.

(2) The supervisor shall forward all fees received under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the fund.

(3) The supervisor shall make available to any person, upon request, not less often than weekly, the following information pertaining to applications for permits to drill and operate:

(a) Name and address of the applicant.

(b) Location of proposed well.

(c) Well name and number.

(d) Proposed depth of the well.

(e) Proposed formation.

(f) Surface owner.

(g) Whether hydrogen sulfide gas is expected.

(4) The supervisor shall provide the information under subsection (3) to the county in which an oil or gas well is proposed to be located and to the city, village, or township in which the oil or gas well is proposed to be located if that city, village, or township has a population of 70,000 or more. A city, village, township, or county in which an oil or gas well is proposed to be located may provide written comments and recommendations to the supervisor pertaining to applications for permits to drill and operate. The supervisor shall consider all such comments and recommendations in reviewing the application.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 252, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1998;—Am. 1998, Act 303, Imd. Eff. July 28, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61525a Annual well regulatory fee; report.

Sec. 61525a. The owner or operator of a well used for injection, withdrawal, or observation related to the storage of natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas that has been used for its permitted purpose at any time during the calendar year immediately prior to the time the fee is due is subject to a $20.00 annual well regulatory fee. The owner or operator of a well described in this section shall file an annual report by January 31 of each year stating the number of wells used for injection, withdrawal, or observation related to the storage of natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas that has been utilized for its permitted purpose during the previous calendar year. The report shall include a list of wells identified by permit number, permit name, and

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gas storage field name on a form provided by the supervisor, or such other form which may be acceptable to the supervisor. The annual well regulatory fee described in this section is due not more than 30 days after the supervisor sends notice to the owner or operator of the amount due. The supervisor shall forward all fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund.

History: Add. 1998, Act 252, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61525b Oil and gas regulatory fund; creation; disposition of money or other assets; lapse; expenditures; annual report.

Sec. 61525b. (1) The oil and gas regulatory fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for monitoring, surveillance, enforcement, and administration of this part.

(5) The department shall annually submit a report to the legislature that itemizes the expenditure of money in the fund. The report shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:

(a) The amount of money received and the amount of money expended.

(b) The number of full-time equivalent positions funded with money in the fund.

(c) The number of on-site inspections conducted by the department in implementing this part.

(d) The number of violations identified in enforcing this part, their locations, and a description of the nature of the violations.

History: Add. 1998, Act 252, Imd. Eff. July 10, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61526 Part cumulative; conflicting provisions repealed; exception.

Sec. 61526. This part is cumulative of all existing laws on the subject matter, but, in case of conflict, this part shall control and shall repeal the conflicting provisions, except for the authority given the public service commission in sections 7 and 8 of Act No. 9 of the Public Acts of 1929, being sections 483.107 and 483.108 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, as authorized by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

324.61527 Applicability of part.

Sec. 61527. This part does not apply to drill holes for the exploration for and the extraction of iron, copper, or brine; to water wells; to mine and quarry drill and blast holes; to coal test holes; or to seismograph or other geophysical exploration test holes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Supervisor of Wells

PART 616
ORPHAN WELL FUND

324.61601 Definitions.

Sec. 61601. As used in this part:

(a) "Abandoned oil or gas well" means an oil or gas well that has not been plugged promptly after having been drilled as a dry hole or has not been used for its intended purpose during 12 consecutive months, unless

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the supervisor has authorized it to remain idle.

(b) "Fund" means the orphan well fund created in section 61602.

(c) "Oil or gas well" means a well drilled pursuant to part 615, or its predecessor acts, or a well drilled prior to the effective dates of part 615 or its predecessor acts as determined by the supervisor, for oil or gas exploration or development or storage, or associated production or disposal activities.

(d) "Operator" means the person authorized by contract or agreement by the owner to drill, operate, maintain, or plug a well. Operator does not include the operator of a natural gas storage field within the boundary of the natural gas storage field unless the natural gas storage field operator has either drilled, plugged, or replugged the well in question or has utilized the well for the injection or withdrawal of natural gas into or from the natural gas storage field.

(e) "Owner" means the person who has the right to drill a well into a pool, to produce from a pool, and to receive and distribute the value of the production from the pool for himself or herself either individually or in combination with others.

(f) "Response activity" has the same meaning as in part 201.

(g) "Site restoration" means the filling and leveling of all cellars, pits, and excavations; the removal or elimination of all debris; the elimination of conditions that may create a fire or pollution hazard; the minimization of erosion; and the restoration of the well site as nearly as practicable to the original land contour or to a condition approved by the supervisor after consulting with the surface owner of the land and with the operator of a natural gas storage field if the well site is within the boundary of a natural gas storage field.

(h) "Supervisor" means the supervisor of wells as provided by part 615 or his or her designee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61602 Orphan well fund; creation; disposition of assets.

Sec. 61602. (1) The orphan well fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61603 Expenditures from fund; consultation with operator.

Sec. 61603. (1) The supervisor shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for the following purposes:

(a) For plugging of abandoned or improperly closed oil or gas wells or response activity or site restoration at oil or gas wells for which no owner or operator is known, for which all owners or operators are insolvent, or at which the supervisor determines there exists an imminent threat to the public health and safety.

(b) For the reasonable cost of the supervisor for internal administration in connection with the activities included in subdivision (a).

(2) The supervisor shall consult with the operator of a natural gas storage field prior to plugging any abandoned or improperly closed oil or gas wells within the boundary of the storage field operator's natural gas storage field.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61604 List to be submitted to legislature; annual appropriation from fund for listed projects.

Sec. 61604. (1) By January 1 of each year, the supervisor shall prepare and submit to the legislature a list of the oil or gas wells that should be plugged and those at which response activities or site restoration should be performed with money in the fund. The list shall be compiled in order of priority. The list shall be accompanied by estimates of total project costs for the proposed plugging, response activity, site restoration, internal administration, and potential emergency contingencies. Additionally, the supervisor shall include

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with the list a statement of the criteria used in listing and assigning the priority of these proposed actions.

(2) The legislature shall annually appropriate money from the fund for projects on the list prepared under subsection (1) and for sites where there exists an imminent threat to public health and safety. Except for sites where there exists an imminent threat to public health and safety, projects shall be funded in the order of their priority on the list.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61605 Action by attorney general against well owner or operator; recovery of money expended.

Sec. 61605. Following the expenditure of money from the fund pursuant to section 61603(1)(a), the attorney general may bring an action against a person who was the owner or operator of the well at the time that the condition arose requiring expenditure of money from the fund, to recover from that owner or operator the amount of money expended from the fund for which the owner or operator is liable. Money recovered under this section shall be deposited into the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61606 Sale of equipment.

Sec. 61606. The supervisor may sell the well pipe and any other equipment related to an abandoned or improperly closed well as to which there is an expenditure of money from the fund. The proceeds of sale shall be credited to the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61607 Report to legislature of expenditures.

Sec. 61607. By December 31 of each year, the supervisor shall prepare and submit to the legislature a report that details expenditures from the fund for the preceding fiscal year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 617
UNITIZATION

324.61701 Definitions.

Sec. 61701. As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Field" means an underground reservoir or reservoirs containing oil or gas, or both. Field also includes the same general surface area that is underlaid or appears to be underlaid by at least 1 pool. Field and pool have the same meaning if only 1 underground reservoir is involved. However, field, unlike pool, may relate to 2 or more pools.

(b) "Lessee" means lessees under oil and gas leases and also the owners of unleased lands or mineral rights having the right to develop them for oil and gas.

(c) "Oil and gas" means oil and gas as such in combination one with the other and also means oil, gas, casinghead gas, casinghead gasoline, gas distillate, or other hydrocarbons, or any combination or combinations of these substances, which may be found in or produced from a common source of supply of oil, gas, oil and gas, or gas distillate.

(d) "Pool" or "common source of supply" means a natural underground reservoir containing or appearing to contain a common accumulation of oil and gas. Each productive zone of a general structure that is completely separate from any other zone in the structure, or that may for the purposes of this part be declared by the supervisor to be completely separate, is included in the term pool or common source of supply. Any reference to a separately owned tract, although in general terms broad enough to include the surface and all underlying common sources of supply of oil and gas, shall have reference thereto only in relation to the common source of supply or portion thereof included within the unit area of a particular unit.

(e) "Supervisor" or "supervisor of wells" means the department as provided in part 615.

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(f) "Unit area" means the formation or formations that are unitized and surface acreage that is a part of the unitized lands, as described in the plan for unit operations that is the subject of the supervisor's order as provided in section 61706.

(g) "Unit expense" means any and all cost, expense, or indebtedness incurred by the unit in the establishment of its organization or incurred in the conduct and management of its affairs or the operations conducted by it.

(h) "Unit production" means all indigenous oil and gas produced and saved from a unit area after the effective date of the order of the supervisor creating the unit, regardless of the well or tract within the unit area from which that oil and gas is produced.

(i) "Waste", in addition to its ordinary meaning, means physical waste as that term is generally understood in the oil and gas industry. Waste includes all of the following:

(*i*) The inefficient, excessive, or improper use or dissipation of reservoir energy and the locating, spacing, drilling, equipping, operating, producing, or plugging of any oil and gas well or wells in a manner that results or tends to result in reducing the quantity of oil and gas ultimately recoverable from any pool in the state under good oil and gas field practice.

(*ii*) The inefficient production of oil and gas in a manner that causes or tends to cause unnecessary or excessive surface loss or destruction of oil and gas.

(*iii*) The locating, spacing, drilling, equipping, operating, producing, or plugging of a well or wells in a manner that causes or tends to cause unnecessary or excessive loss or destruction of oil and gas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61702 Supervisor of wells; general duties; fees.

Sec. 61702. Subject to the limitations of this part, the supervisor shall make and enforce such orders, rules, and regulations and do such things as may be necessary or proper to carry out and effectuate the purposes of this part, including adoption of a schedule of fees to be paid upon the filing of petitions, amendments to petitions, and other instruments in connection with petitions that bear reasonable relation to the cost of examining, inspectional, and supervisory services required under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61703 Petition; filing; contents.

Sec. 61703. Any interested lessee may file a verified petition with the supervisor requesting an order for the unit operation of a pool, pools, or parts of 1 or more pools. The petition shall contain all of the following:

(a) A description of the proposed unit area containing the pool, pools, or parts of 1 or more pools to be operated.

(b) The names of all persons owning or having an interest in oil and gas in the proposed unit area and the names of all surface owners in the proposed unit area, as disclosed by the records in the office of the register of deeds for the county in which the unit area is situated, and their addresses, if known. If the address of any person is unknown, the petition shall state that information.

(c) A statement of the type of the operations contemplated in order to comply with this part.

(d) A recommended plan of unitization applicable to the proposed unit area which the petitioner considers fair, reasonable, and equitable.

(e) A verified statement indicating in detail what action the petitioner has taken to contact and obtain the approval of all persons of record owning or having an interest in oil and gas in the proposed unit area who have not approved the proposed plan of unitization. If the question of whether the plan for unit operations has been approved as provided for in section 61706 is to be considered at a supplemental hearing pursuant to section 61707, this verified statement need not be part of the petition and may be filed separately prior to the supplemental hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2016, Act 316, Imd. Eff. Nov. 3, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61704 Notice to interested persons; contents; notice of protest; order.

Sec. 61704. (1) Upon the filing of a petition as provided in section 61703, the petitioner shall give notice to interested persons as set forth in section 61727. A person protesting the petition shall have 15 days after the

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completion of the publication of notice as provided in section 61726 to provide the supervisor with written notice of protest and the reason or reasons for the protest.

(2) The notice to interested persons required by subsection (1) shall set forth the procedure required to file a protest and the name, address, and phone number of a representative of the petitioner who is available to discuss the petition, and shall state that the supervisor may issue an order approving the petition without a hearing if no protests are received in the time period provided in subsection (1). The notice to all mineral owners who have not approved the plan of unitization shall include a copy of the petition provided for in section 61703, except that the petitioner may omit from the notice those parts of the petition referred to in section 61703(b) and (e).

(3) If no protests are filed, the supervisor may issue an order as provided in subsection (4) without holding a hearing.

(4) The supervisor shall issue an order providing for the unit operation of a unit area if he or she finds all of the following:

(a) That the unitization requested is reasonably necessary to substantially increase the ultimate recovery of oil and gas from the unit area.

(b) That the type of operations contemplated by the plan are feasible, will prevent waste, and will protect correlative rights.

(c) That the estimated additional cost of conducting such operations will not exceed the value of the additional oil and gas so recovered.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61705 Order for unit operations; terms and conditions; plan for operations.

Sec. 61705. The order of the supervisor shall be upon terms and conditions that are fair, reasonable, and equitable and shall prescribe a plan for unit operations that includes all of the following:

(a) A description of the unit area.

(b) A statement in reasonable detail of the operations contemplated.

(c) An allocation to the separately owned tracts in the unit area of all the oil and gas that is produced from the unit area and is saved, excepting that production that is used in the conduct of operations on the unit area or unavoidably lost. A separately owned tract's fair, reasonable, and equitable share of production shall be measured by the value of the tract for oil and gas purposes and its contributing value to the unit in relation to like values of all tracts in the unit.

(d) The manner in which the unit and the further development and operation of the unit area shall or may be financed and the basis, terms, and conditions on which the cost and expense shall be apportioned among and assessed against the tracts and interests made chargeable therewith, including a detailed accounting procedure governing all charges and credits incident to the operations.

(e) Provisions for carrying or otherwise financing a person who elects to be carried or otherwise financed, allowing a reasonable interest and service charge payable out of the person's share of production.

(f) The procedure and basis upon which wells, equipment, and other properties of the several lessees within the unit area are to be taken over and used for unit operations, including the method of arriving at the compensation therefor.

(g) Provisions for supervision and conduct of the unit operations, in respect to which each person shall have a vote with a value corresponding to the percentage of the costs of unit operations chargeable against the interest of the person.

(h) The time when the plan of unitization becomes effective and when unit operations commence.

(i) The time when, conditions under which, and method by which the unit shall be dissolved and its affairs wound up.

(j) Additional provisions that are found to be appropriate for carrying on the unit operations and for the protection and adjustment of correlative rights.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61706 Effective date of order; finding.

Sec. 61706. An order of the supervisor providing for unit operations shall not be declared or become effective until the supervisor makes a finding, either in the order providing for unit operations or in a supplemental order as provided in section 61707, that the plan for unit operations has been approved in

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writing in 1 of the following ways:

(a) By those persons who under the supervisor's order will be required to pay at least 51% of the costs of unit operation, and also by those persons who under the supervisor's order will be entitled to at least 51% of the production from the unit area or the proceeds of that production that will be credited to interests that are free of cost, including, but not limited to, royalties, overriding royalties, and production payments.

(b) By those persons who under the supervisor's order will be entitled to at least 75% of all production from the unit area or the proceeds of that production, provided that among those persons there must be persons who under the supervisor's order will be entitled to at least 50% of the production from the unit area or the proceeds of that production that will be credited to interests that are free of cost, including, but not limited to, royalties, overriding royalties, and production payments.

(c) By those persons who under the supervisor's order will be entitled to at least 65% of all production from the unit area or the proceeds of that production.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2016, Act 316, Imd. Eff. Nov. 3, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61707 Supplemental hearings and orders; ineffective order; time.

Sec. 61707. If a finding is not made as set forth in section 61706 at the time the order for unit operations is made, the supervisor on the supervisor's motion or the motion of any interested person after notice shall hold supplemental hearings to determine if the plan for unit operations has been approved. If the written approval is found, then the supervisor shall make a supplemental order declaring the plan effective and setting forth the date for the commencement of unit operations. If the written approval is not found within a period of 6 months from the date on which the order providing for unit operations is made, the order shall be ineffective and shall be revoked by the supervisor unless for good cause shown the supervisor extends the time for an additional period not to exceed 1 year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61708 Amendment of orders; approval; limitations.

Sec. 61708. An order providing for unit operations may be amended by an order made by the supervisor in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as an original order for unit operations. If an amendment affects only the rights and interests of those persons responsible for the payment of the costs of unit operations, only 75% of these persons shall be required to effectuate amendment. If an amendment in whole or in part changes the percentage of allocation of cost, then the consent of all these persons is required. An amendment shall not change the percentage for the allocation of oil and gas as established for any separately owned tract without the consent of all persons entitled to receive the allocation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61709 Signed writings; admissible as evidence.

Sec. 61709. Writings containing signatures that are witnessed and acknowledged in a form acceptable for recording under the laws of this state shall be admissible under this part and shall be considered prima facie evidence in fulfillment of requirements of this part that call for written approval.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61710 Unit area embracing previously established area.

Sec. 61710. The supervisor by order may provide for the unit operation of a unit area that embraces a unit area established by a previous order. The order in providing for the allocation of unit production first shall treat the unit area previously established as a single tract, and the portion of the unit production so allocated thereto shall then be allocated among the separately owned tracts included in the previously established unit area in the same proportions as those specified in the previous order.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.61711 Unit area less than whole pool.

Sec. 61711. An order may provide for a unit area less than the whole of a pool if the unit area is of such size or shape as may be reasonably adaptable to unit operation and if the conduct of that unit area will not have a substantially adverse effect upon other portions of the pool, whether unitized or not.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61712 Operations upon unit area considered operation on separate tracts.

Sec. 61712. All operations, including, but not limited to, the commencement, drilling, or operation of a well upon any portion of the unit area, shall be considered for all purposes the conduct of those operations upon each separately owned tract itself, and the portion of the unit production allocated to a separately owned tract shall be considered for all purposes to have been actually produced from the tract by a well drilled on that tract.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61713 Lease obligations; effect on unit operation.

Sec. 61713. Operations conducted pursuant to an order of the supervisor for unit operations constitute a fulfillment of all the express and implied obligations of each lease or contract covering lands in the unit area to the extent that compliance with the obligations cannot be had because of the order of the supervisor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61714 Order for unit operation not to affect title; property; acquisition.

Sec. 61714. Except to the extent that the parties specifically agree otherwise, an order for unit operations shall not be construed to result in a transfer of all or any part of the title of any person to the oil and gas rights in any tract in the unit area. All property, whether real or personal, that may be acquired in the conduct of unit operations shall be acquired for the account of the persons to whom its cost is allocated, and in that proportion subject to any lien the unit may have thereon to secure payment of unit expense.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61715 Unit; legal powers; operator of unit; powers.

Sec. 61715. Each unit created under this part, if the plan provides, shall, through its operator, be capable of suing, being sued, and contracting as such in its own right. The operator of the unit, on behalf and for the account of all owners of interest within the unit area, without profit to the unit, may supervise, manage, and conduct further development and operations for the production of oil and gas from the unit area under the authority and limitations of the order creating it.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61716 Operation of well without authority prohibited.

Sec. 61716. After the effective date of the order of the supervisor creating a unit, the operation of any well within the unit area except by authority of and pursuant to the order of the supervisor is unlawful and prohibited.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61717 Property rights as amended or modified.

Sec. 61717. Property rights, leases, contracts, and all other rights and obligations shall be regarded as

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amended and modified to the extent necessary to conform to the provisions and requirements of this part and to any valid and applicable plan of unitization or order of the supervisor made pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61718 Lien for costs; responsibility for costs; subrogation.

Sec. 61718. Subject to reasonable limitations as set out in the plan of unitization, the unit shall have a first and prior lien for costs incurred pursuant to the plan of unitization upon the leasehold estate and other oil and gas rights, exclusive of a 1/8 share of gross production that is attributable to a lessor's royalty interest, in and to each separately owned tract, and the interest of the owners thereof in and to the unit production and equipment in possession of the unit, in the form and manner as provided in Act No. 146 of the Public Acts of 1937, being sections 570.251 to 570.266 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The interest of the person who by lease, contract, or otherwise is responsible for the cost of developing and operating a given portion of the unit area in the absence of unitization is primarily responsible for costs as allocated by the plan of unitization, and resort may be had to the entire 7/8 of gross production, including, but not limited to, overriding royalties, oil and gas payments, and royalty interests in excess of 1/8 of gross production but which would not otherwise be responsible for allocated costs, only if the person primarily responsible fails to pay the allocated costs pursuant to the unit plan. Persons whose allowable share of production is made secondarily responsible under this section to the extent that their interest is foreclosed are subrogated to all of the rights of the unit to the interest or interests primarily responsible.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61719 Lessee's obligation; liability.

Sec. 61719. The obligation or liability of each lessee in the several separately owned tracts for the payment of unit expense at all times is several and not joint or collective and a lessee of the oil or gas rights in the separately owned tract is not chargeable with, obligated, or liable, directly or indirectly, for more than the amount apportioned, assessed, or otherwise charged to his or her interest in the separately owned tract pursuant to the plan of unitization.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61720 Allocation of unit production.

Sec. 61720. The portion of the unit production allocated to any tract and the proceeds from the sale of that unit production are the property and income of the several persons to whom or to whose credit the same are allocated or payable under the order for unit operations.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61721 Division order or contract not affected by unit order.

Sec. 61721. A division order or other contract relating to the sale or purchase of production from a separately owned tract shall not be terminated by the order for unit operations, but shall remain in force and apply to oil and gas allocated to the tract until terminated pursuant to the provisions of the division order or contract.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61722 Unit production or proceeds not income of unit; unit as administrative agent only.

Sec. 61722. The unit production, proceeds from the sale of the unit production, or other receipts shall not be treated, regarded, or taxed as income or profits of the unit; but instead all receipts shall be the income of the several persons to whom or to whose credit the receipts are payable under the plan of unitization. To the extent the unit may receive or disburse the receipts, it shall do so only as a common administrative agent of the person to whom the receipts are payable.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61723 Agreements in restraint of trade prohibited.

Sec. 61723. An agreement between or among lessees or other owners of oil and gas rights in oil and gas properties entered into pursuant to this part, or with a view to or for the purpose of bringing about the unitized development or operation of the properties, shall not violate any of the statutes of this state prohibiting monopolies or acts, arrangements, contracts, combinations, or conspiracies in restraint of trade or commerce.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61724 Consent to or participation in plan or program of unitization by governmental subdivision or agency.

Sec. 61724. The department or other proper board or officer of the state having the control and management of state land and the proper board or officer of any political, municipal, or other subdivision or agency of the state, on behalf of the state or of the political, municipal, or other subdivision or agency of the state, with respect to land or oil and gas rights subject to the control and management of that respective board, body, or officer, may consent to or participate in any plan or program of unitization initiated or adopted under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61725 Rules, regulations, or orders; public hearings; notice.

Sec. 61725. Except as provided in section 61704, rules, regulations, or orders shall not be made, promulgated, put into effect, revoked, changed, renewed, or extended, unless public hearings are held thereon. Public hearings shall be held at such time, place, and manner and upon notice, not less than 20 days, as provided for in this part or by rules promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61726 Hearings; jurisdictional requirements of notice.

Sec. 61726. Jurisdictional requirements of notice of time, place, and issues involved for all hearings required by this part, except proceedings for criminal or civil enforcement of this part, are satisfied by:

(a) Publication once each week for 2 weeks consecutively in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the unit area or any portion of the unit area is located if the date of last publication is at least 20 days prior to the date set for the hearing.

(b) Publication at least 20 days prior to the date set for the hearing in a trade journal, periodical, or newsletter or paper, or commercially available scout report, in general circulation in exploratory and developmental branches of the oil and gas industry in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61727 Service of notice; filing receipts; filing undelivered notices; filing affidavit of service.

Sec. 61727. (1) Service of the notice described in section 61704(2), which is provided as a matter of public policy and not as a requirement of jurisdiction, before the date of the first publication of notice provided for in section 61726 by personal service or by certified mail, with return receipts requested, shall be provided to the last known address of the following interested persons:

(a) The last owner of record of the oil and gas mineral interests underlying the lands or areas directly affected by the proposed action, and of the surface owners.

(b) The last owner of record of the oil and gas mineral interests underlying the lands or areas immediately adjacent to, and contiguous to, the lands or areas directly affected by the proposed action, and of the surface owners.

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(c) The last owner of record of oil and gas leases from 1 or more owners described in subdivision (a) or (b).

(2) Receipts returned following delivery by certified mail shall be filed with the supervisor on or before the date of the hearing, or before the supervisor's order is issued if there is no hearing.

(3) Undelivered notices that are returned to the petitioner shall be filed with the supervisor on or before the date of the hearing, or before the supervisor's order is issued if there is no hearing.

(4) If notice is given by personal service, an affidavit of service shall be filed with the supervisor on or before the date of the hearing, or before the supervisor's order is issued if there is no hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61728 Compliance with MCL 24.201 to 24.328; persons authorized to conduct hearings and other actions.

Sec. 61728. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this part, all proceedings under this part, including the filing of petitions, the giving of notices, the conduct of hearings, and other action taken by the supervisor or the supervisor's agents shall be pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. All hearings and other actions in connection with the hearings may be conducted by the supervisor, or by the supervisor's deputy or by any authorized representative duly designated by the supervisor, and all acts of his or her deputy or authorized representative have the same force and effect as if done by the supervisor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61729 Appellant to comply with order, rule, or regulation; bond.

Sec. 61729. During the pendency of the appeal, the appealing party shall obey the order, rule, or regulation appealed unless the interests sought to be protected by the order, rule, or regulation can be adequately protected by a bond, in which case the supervisor may accept a bond in the amount and on the conditions he or she may prescribe in lieu of immediate performance of the order, rule, or regulation by the appealing party.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61730 Judicial review.

Sec. 61730. The action of the supervisor shall be final with respect to jurisdiction for an appeal before any regulatory agency of this state, but any person may seek relief before the commission or in the courts as provided under the laws of the state, and the taking of an appeal as provided in this part is not a prerequisite to seeking relief in the courts. The place of initiation of proceedings for review shall be limited to the circuit court of the county of Ingham, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction of all suits brought against the supervisor or any agent or employee of the supervisor, on account of any matter arising under this part. A temporary restraining order or injunction shall not be granted in any such suit except after due notice and upon a showing of irreparable harm by the appealing party.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61731 Subpoena of witnesses and documentary evidence; incriminating evidence; perjury.

Sec. 61731. The supervisor may compel by subpoena the attendance of witnesses or the production of books, papers, records, or articles necessary in any proceeding before the supervisor. A person shall not be excused from obeying any subpoena for the reason that the testimony or evidence, documentary or otherwise, may tend to incriminate him or her or subject him or her to a penalty or forfeiture. Nothing in this part shall be construed as requiring any person to produce anything or to testify in response to inquiry not pertinent to some question lawfully before the supervisor or any court for determination within the purposes of this part. Any incriminating evidence, documentary or otherwise, shall not thereafter be used against the witness in a prosecution or action for forfeiture. A person testifying is not exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury in so testifying.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61732 Failure or refusal to comply with subpoena; refusal to testify or answer; penalty.

Sec. 61732. In case of failure or refusal on the part of any person to comply with any subpoena issued by the supervisor, or the refusal of any witness to testify or answer as to any matters regarding which he or she may be lawfully interrogated, any circuit court in this state or any circuit court judge on application of the supervisor may issue an attachment for the person and compel him or her to comply with such subpoena and to attend before the supervisor or any court and produce such documents and give his or her testimony upon such matters as may be lawfully required, and the court or judge may punish for contempt as in case of disobedience of a like subpoena issued by or from such court or a refusal to testify before that court.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61733 Fees and travel expense of witnesses.

Sec. 61733. Any witness summoned by subpoena or by written request of the supervisor and attending any hearing called by the supervisor is entitled to the same fees and travel expense as provided by law for attending the circuit court in any civil matter or proceeding. The fees and travel expense of witnesses subpoenaed at the instance of the supervisor shall be paid by the persons filing the petition.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61734 Witnesses; false swearing or affidavit; penalty.

Sec. 61734. If any person of whom an oath is required under this part, or by any rule, regulation, or order of the supervisor, willfully swears falsely in regard to any matter or thing respecting which the oath is required, or willfully makes any false affidavit required or authorized by this part, or by any rule, regulation, or order of the supervisor, the person is guilty of perjury.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61735 Enforcement of part.

Sec. 61735. The supervisor may bring proceedings for the enforcement of this part and all rules and regulations promulgated under this part or for the prevention of the violation thereof, and the attorney general shall represent the supervisor in all actions brought under this part. The circuit court of Ingham county shall have concurrent jurisdiction over such matters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61736 Violation of part; penalty.

Sec. 61736. A person who violates this part or any rule, regulation, or order promulgated under this part is subject to a penalty of not more than $1,000.00, and each day a violation continues after notice by the supervisor constitutes a separate offense. The penalty shall be recovered by suit brought by the supervisor. Any penalty assessed under this section shall be credited to the general fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61737 Violation of part; aiding or abetting; penalty.

Sec. 61737. A person aiding or abetting in the violation of this part, or any rule, regulation, or order made under this part, is subject to the same penalties as are prescribed in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.61738 Orders of supervisor; recording; notice.

Sec. 61738. A certified copy of any order of the supervisor issued under this part is entitled to be recorded in the office of the register of deeds for the counties where all or any portion of the unit area is located, and such recordation shall constitute notice to all persons in interest, their heirs, successors, and assigns.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 619
DRILLING IN THE PIGEON RIVER STATE FOREST

324.61901 Legislative findings.

Sec. 61901. (1) The legislature finds that it is in the public interest to encourage and promote safe, effective, efficient, and environmentally prudent extraction of hydrocarbon resources in the Pigeon river country state forest; and that economic benefits to the state will result from the exploration for the production of energy resources due to the taxation of production of hydrocarbon deposits and the payment of royalties to the state from production of hydrocarbon deposits, which royalties among other things enable the state to acquire and develop property for the enjoyment of the outdoor recreationists of the state.

(2) The legislature further finds that wise use of our natural resources essential for future energy needs requires that energy resource development must occur in harmony with environmental standards; and that the development of new industry and the expansion of existing industry to obtain the optimum safe production of the state's energy resources is an important concern to the economic stability of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61902 Pigeon river country state forest as valuable public resource; production of oil and gas in public interest; amended stipulation and consent order as hydrocarbon development plan.

Sec. 61902. The Pigeon river country state forest as dedicated by the commission on December 7, 1973, is a valuable public resource. It is in the public interest to produce oil and gas as quickly as possible to minimize the duration of activities associated with hydrocarbon development in the Pigeon river country state forest. To expedite the development of oil and gas resources on certain lands presently under lease but undeveloped as of March 31, 1981 and for which the amended stipulation and consent order has been adopted and approved by the commission on November 24, 1980, and in consideration of the protracted nature of the controversy, the legislature finds that this amended stipulation and consent order constitutes an appropriate hydrocarbon development plan for the purposes and within the intent expressed in section 61901.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61903 Hydrocarbon activities not in violation of law.

Sec. 61903. The hydrocarbon activities within the Pigeon river country state forest authorized by the plan referred to in section 61902 can be carried out without violation of law under terms of the amended stipulation and consent order referred to in section 61902.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.61904 Implementation of hydrocarbon development plan.

Sec. 61904. In light of the legislative findings in section 61901, the declaration of public interest in section 61902, and the determination that hydrocarbons can be developed in concert with law in section 61903, the department shall implement the approved hydrocarbon development plan for the Pigeon river country state forest not later than January 1, 1981.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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PART 621
INTERSTATE OIL AND GAS COMPACT

324.62101 Interstate compact for conservation of oil and gas; extension agreements; withdrawal.

Sec. 62101. So that the state of Michigan can cooperate with other states in fostering and encouraging the production of oil and gas without waste, the governor of the state of Michigan is hereby authorized and empowered, for and in the name of the state of Michigan, now a member of the interstate oil and gas compact commission, to execute agreements for the extension of the interstate compact to conserve oil and gas, originally executed at Dallas, Texas, on the sixteenth day of February 1935, and now deposited with the department of state of the United States, and which expires by its terms on September 1, 1947. The governor is further authorized and empowered to execute any necessary agreements for the further extension of the expiration date of said interstate compact to conserve oil and gas, and to determine if and when it shall be for the best interest of the state of Michigan to withdraw from the compact upon 60 days' notice as provided by its terms. In the event he or she shall determine that the state should withdraw, he or she shall have full power and authority to give notice and take any and all steps necessary and proper to effect the withdrawal of the state of Michigan from the compact.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62102 Interstate oil and gas compact; agreement.

Sec. 62102. The interstate compact to conserve oil and gas referred to in the above section, and which it is hereby proposed to extend by agreement reads as follows:

"AN INTERSTATE COMPACT TO CONSERVE OIL AND GAS"

"ARTICLE I.

This agreement may become effective within any compacting state at any time as prescribed by that state, and shall become effective within those states ratifying it whenever any 3 of the states of Texas, Oklahoma, California, Kansas, and New Mexico have ratified and congress has given its consent. Any oil-producing state may become a party hereto as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE II.

The purpose of this compact is to conserve oil and gas by the prevention of physical waste thereof from any cause.

ARTICLE III.

Each state bound hereby agrees that within a reasonable time it will enact laws, or if laws have been enacted, then it agrees to continue the same in force, to accomplish within reasonable limits the prevention of:

(a) The operation of any oil well with an inefficient gas-oil ratio.

(b) The drowning with water of any stratum capable of producing oil or gas, or both oil and gas in paying quantities.

(c) The avoidable escape into the open air or the wasteful burning of gas from a natural gas well.

(d) The creation of unnecessary fire hazards.

(e) The drilling, equipping, locating, spacing, or operating of a well or wells so as to bring about physical waste of oil or gas or loss in the ultimate recovery thereof.

(f) The inefficient, excessive, or improper use of the reservoir energy in producing any well.

The enumeration of the foregoing subjects shall not limit the scope of the authority of any state.

ARTICLE IV.

Each state bound hereby agrees that it will, within a reasonable time, enact statutes, or if such statutes have been enacted, then that it will continue the same in force, providing in effect that oil produced in violation of its valid oil and/or gas conservation statutes or any valid rule, order, or regulation promulgated thereunder, shall be denied access to commerce; and providing for stringent penalties for the waste of either oil or gas.

ARTICLE V.

It is not the purpose of this compact to authorize the states joining herein to limit the production of oil or gas for the purpose of stabilizing or fixing the price thereof, or create or perpetuate monopoly, or to promote regimentation, but is limited to the purpose of conserving oil and gas and preventing the avoidable waste thereof within reasonable limitations.

ARTICLE VI.

Each state joining herein shall appoint 1 representative to a commission hereby constituted and designated

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as the interstate oil compact commission, the duty of which said commission shall be to make inquiry and ascertain from time to time such methods, practices, circumstances, and conditions as may be disclosed for bringing about conservation and the prevention of physical waste of oil and gas, and at such intervals as said commission deems beneficial, it shall report its findings and recommendations to the several states for adoption or rejection.

The commission shall have power to recommend the coordination of the exercise of the police powers of the several states within their several jurisdictions to promote the maximum ultimate recovery from the petroleum reserves of said states and to recommend measures for the maximum ultimate recovery of oil and gas. Said commission shall organize and adopt suitable rules and regulations for the conduct of its business.

No action shall be taken by the commission except: (1) By the affirmative votes of the majority of the whole number of the compacting states, represented at any meeting, and (2) by a concurring vote of majority in interest of the compacting states at said meeting, such interest to be determined as follows: Such vote of each state shall be in the decimal proportion fixed by the ratio of its daily average production during the preceding calendar half-year to the daily average production of the compacting states during said period.

ARTICLE VII.

No state by joining herein shall become financially obligated to any other state, nor shall the breach of the terms hereof by any state subject such state to financial responsibility to the other states joining herein.

ARTICLE VIII.

This compact shall expire September 1, 1947, but any state joining herein may, upon 60 days' notice, withdraw herefrom.

The representatives of the signatory states have signed this agreement in a single original which shall be deposited in the archives of the department of state of the United States, and a duly certified copy shall be forwarded to the governor of each of the signatory states.

This compact shall become effective when ratified and approved as provided in Article I. Any oil-producing state may become a party hereto by affixing its signature to a counterpart to be similarly deposited, certified, and ratified.

Done in the city of Dallas, Texas, this sixteenth day of February, 1935.

(Originally signed by the representatives of the following states: Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Illinois, Michigan, California, Arkansas, and Kansas.)"

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62103 Interstate oil and gas compact commission; governor as representative of state; powers and duties; assistant representatives.

Sec. 62103. The governor shall be the official representative of the state of Michigan on "the interstate oil and gas compact commission," provided for in the compact to conserve oil and gas, and shall exercise and perform for the state of Michigan all the powers and duties as a member of "the interstate oil and gas compact commission": However, he or she may appoint assistant representatives who shall act in his or her stead as the official representatives of the state of Michigan as a member of the commission. The assistant representatives shall take the oath of office prescribed by the constitution, which shall be filed with the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 3
MINERAL WELLS

PART 625
MINERAL WELLS

324.62501 Definitions.

Sec. 62501. As used in this part:

(a) "Artificial brine" means mineralized water formed by dissolving rock salt or other readily soluble rocks or minerals.

(b) "Brine well" means a well drilled or converted for the purpose of producing natural or artificial brine.

(c) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(d) "Disposal well" means a well drilled or converted for subsurface disposal of waste products or

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processed brine and its related surface facilities.

(e) "Exploratory purposes" means test well drilling for the specific purpose of discovering or outlining an orebody or mineable mineral resource.

(f) "Fund" means the mineral well regulatory fund created in section 62509b.

(g) "Mineral well" means any well subject to this part.

(h) "Natural brine" means naturally occurring mineralized water other than potable or fresh water.

(i) "Operator" means the person, whether owner or not, supervising or responsible for the drilling, operating, repairing, abandoning, or plugging of wells subject to this part.

(j) "Owner" means the person who has the right to drill, convert, or operate any well subject to this part.

(k) "Pollution" means damage or injury from the loss, escape, or unapproved disposal of any substance at any well subject to this part.

(*l*) "Storage well" means a well drilled into a subsurface formation to develop an underground storage cavity for subsequent use in storage operations. Storage well does not include a storage well drilled pursuant to part 615.

(m) "Supervisor of mineral wells" means the state geologist.

(n) "Surface waste" means damage to, injury to, or destruction of surface waters, soils, animal, fish, and aquatic life, or surface property from unnecessary seepage or loss incidental to or resulting from drilling, equipping, or operating a well or wells subject to this part.

(o) "Test well" means a well, core hole, core test, observation well, or other well drilled from the surface to determine the presence of a mineral, mineral resource, ore, or rock unit, or to obtain geological or geophysical information or other subsurface data related to mineral exploration and extraction. Test well does not include holes drilled in the operation of a quarry, open pit, or underground mine, or any wells not related to mineral exploration or extraction.

(p) "Underground storage cavity" means a cavity formed by dissolving rock salt or other readily soluble rock or mineral, by nuclear explosion, or by any other method for the purpose of storage or disposal.

(q) "Underground waste" means damage or injury to potable water, mineralized water, or other subsurface resources.

(r) "Waste product" means waste or by-product resulting from municipal or industrial operations or waste from any trade, manufacture, business, or private pursuit that could cause pollution and for which underground disposal may be feasible or practical.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 467, Imd. Eff. Jan. 4, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62502 Waste prohibited.

Sec. 62502. A person shall not cause surface or underground waste in the drilling, development, production, operation, or plugging of wells subject to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62503 Supervisor of mineral wells; appointment of assistants; salaries; expenses.

Sec. 62503. The supervisor of mineral wells shall appoint, with the approval of the department, assistants as necessary to implement this part. The supervisor of mineral wells and assistants, in addition to salaries, shall receive reasonable traveling expenses while on business connected with their duties pursuant to standard travel regulations of the department of management and budget.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62504 Appeal board; persons entitled to appeal; hearing; right to be heard.

Sec. 62504. The commission shall act as an appeal board regarding the issuance, denial, suspension, revocation, annulment, withdrawal, recall, cancellation, or amendment of a permit under this part. If an owner or operator considers an order made by the supervisor of mineral wells to be unduly burdensome, inequitable, or unwarranted, the owner or operator may appeal to the commission or the court for relief as provided in this act, and shall give notice to the supervisor of mineral wells. The chairperson of the commission shall set a date and place to hear the appeal, which may be at any regular meeting or at any special meeting of the commission duly called for that purpose. The supervisor of mineral wells or any person interested in the

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matter has the right to be heard at such hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62505 Administration and enforcement of part; jurisdiction of supervisor.

Sec. 62505. The supervisor of mineral wells shall have jurisdiction over the administration and enforcement of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62506 Prevention of waste; rules; waste; enforcement.

Sec. 62506. The supervisor of mineral wells shall prevent the wastes defined in and prohibited by this part. Acting directly or through his or her deputy or authorized representative, and following public hearing, the supervisor of mineral wells shall promulgate rules subject to the approval of the department and issue orders and instructions necessary to enforce these rules.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62506a Definitions; drilling multisource commercial hazardous waste disposal well; construction permit required; construction of section.

Sec. 62506a. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Hazardous waste", "storage facility", and "treatment facility" have the meanings ascribed to these terms in part 111.

(b) "Multisource commercial hazardous waste disposal well" means a disposal well that receives hazardous waste that is generated by more than 1 person. Multisource commercial hazardous waste disposal well does not include a disposal well that receives hazardous waste generated from a subsidiary of the person that owns or operates a hazardous waste disposal well.

(c) "Person" includes a governmental entity.

(2) Prior to the drilling of a multisource commercial hazardous waste disposal well or the conversion of a well to a multisource commercial hazardous waste disposal well, a person shall have obtained a construction permit for an on-site treatment facility and storage facility under section 11118.

(3) Nothing in the amendatory act that added this section shall be construed to abrogate common law.

History: Add. 1996, Act 168, Eff. May 3, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62507 Emergency orders; issuance; duration.

Sec. 62507. The supervisor of mineral wells, acting directly or through his or her deputy or authorized representative, may issue emergency orders without a public hearing to implement this part. Emergency orders remain in force and effect for not more than 21 days.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62508 Supervisor of mineral wells; powers.

Sec. 62508. The supervisor of mineral wells, acting directly or through his or her deputy or authorized representative, may do any of the following:

(a) Make inspections and provide for the keeping of records and checking on the accuracy thereof.

(b) Require the locating, drilling, deepening, reworking, reopening, casing, sealing, injecting, mechanical and chemical treating, and plugging of wells subject to this part to be accomplished in a manner that is designed to prevent surface and underground waste.

(c) Designate after public hearing those areas of the state in which there is no known or potential danger of surface or underground waste from test well drilling and in which permits to drill test wells are not required.

(d) Require on all wells the keeping and filing of logs containing data that are appropriate to the purposes of this part. Logs on brine and test wells shall be held confidential for 10 years after completion and shall not

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be open to public inspection during that time except by written consent of the owner or operator. Logs for test wells drilled for exploratory purposes shall be held confidential until released by the owner or operator. The logs on all brine and test wells for exploratory purposes shall be opened to public inspection when the owner is no longer an active mineral producer, mineral lease holder, or owner of mineral lands in this state.

(e) Require on storage and waste disposal wells, when specified by the supervisor of mineral wells, the keeping and filing of drillers' logs and sample logs, the running and filing of electrical and radioactivity logs, and the keeping and filing of drill cuttings, cores, water samples, pilot injection test records, operating records, and other reports.

(f) Release to the department or the commission, for meetings and hearings, only data described in this section that are necessary to the administration of this part in the prevention or correction of surface or underground waste.

(g) Order through written notice the immediate suspension or prompt correction of any operation, condition, or practice found to exist that is causing, resulting in, or threatening to cause or result in surface or underground waste.

(h) Require the filing of an adequate surety or security bond and provide for the release of that surety or security bond.

(i) Qualify persons for blanket permits.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62509 Drilling or conversion permits; application; bond; permit not required; blanket permit; confidentiality of information, records, logs, and reports; fees.

Sec. 62509. (1) A person shall not drill or begin the drilling of any brine, storage, or waste disposal well, or convert any well for these uses, and except as authorized by a permit issued by the supervisor of mineral wells pursuant to part 13 and rules promulgated by the supervisor of mineral wells, and unless the person files with the supervisor of mineral wells an approved surety or security bond. The application shall be accompanied by a survey of the well site. The department shall conduct an investigation and inspection before the supervisor of mineral wells issues a permit. A permit shall not be issued to any owner or his or her authorized representative who does not comply with the rules of the supervisor of mineral wells or who is in violation of this part or any rule of the supervisor of mineral wells. Upon completion of the drilling or converting of a well for storage or waste disposal and after necessary testing by the owner to determine that the well can be used for these purposes and in a manner that will not cause surface or underground waste, the supervisor of mineral wells, upon receipt of appropriate evidence, shall approve and regulate the use of the well for storage or waste disposal. These operations shall be pursuant to part 31. The supervisor of mineral wells may schedule a public hearing to consider the need or advisability of permitting the drilling or operating of a storage or waste disposal well, or converting a well for these uses, if the public safety or other interests are involved.

(2) A person shall not drill a test well 50 feet or greater in depth into the bedrock or below the deepest freshwater strata, except as provided in section 62508(c), except as authorized by a permit issued by the supervisor of mineral wells pursuant to part 13 and rules promulgated by the supervisor of mineral wells, and unless the person files with the supervisor of mineral wells an approved surety or security bond. The application shall be accompanied by the fee provided in subsection (6). The department shall conduct an investigation and inspection before the supervisor of mineral wells issues a permit. A permit shall not be issued to any owner or his or her authorized representative who does not comply with the rules of the supervisor of mineral wells or who is in violation of this part or any rule of the supervisor of mineral wells. A test well that penetrates below the deepest freshwater stratum or is greater than 250 feet in depth is subject to an individual test well permit. A test well that does not penetrate below the deepest freshwater stratum and is 250 feet or less in depth is subject to a blanket test well permit. This subsection does not apply to a test well regulated under part 111 or part 115, or a water well regulated under part 127 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.12701 to 333.12771.

(3) A permit is not required to drill a test well in those areas of the state where rocks of Precambrian age directly underlie unconsolidated surface deposits or in those areas that have been designated pursuant to section 62508(c). However, within 2 years after completion of the drilling of the well, the owner shall advise the supervisor of mineral wells of the location of the well and file with the supervisor of mineral wells the log required under section 62508(d). The provisions of this part pertaining to the prevention and correction of surface and underground waste have the same application to these test wells as to other wells defined in this part.

(4) Upon request, the supervisor of mineral wells may issue to qualified persons a blanket permit to drill

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within a county test wells which will not penetrate below the deepest freshwater stratum and are 250 feet or less in depth.

(5) All information and records pertaining to the application for and issuance of permits for wells subject to this part shall be held confidential in the same manner as provided for logs and reports on these wells.

(6) A permit application submitted under this section shall be accompanied by the following permit application fee:

(a) Disposal well for disposal of waste products other than processed brine	$	2,500.00.
(b) Disposal well for disposal of processed brine	$	500.00.
(c) Storage well	$	500.00.
(d) Natural brine production well	$	500.00.
(e) Artificial brine production well	$	500.00.
(f) Individual test well under subsection (2)	$	500.00.
(g) Blanket permit for test wells drilled pursuant to subsection (4):		
(*i*) 1 to 24 wells	$	75.00.
(*ii*) 25 to 49 wells	$	150.00.
(*iii*) 50 to 75 wells	$	300.00.
(*iv*) 75 to 200 wells	$	600.00.

(7) The supervisor of mineral wells shall deposit all permit application fees collected under this section into the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 467, Imd. Eff. Jan. 4, 1999;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62509a Mineral well regulatory fee.

Sec. 62509a. (1) The owner or operator of a well regulated under this part is subject to the following annual mineral well regulatory fee. The fee shall apply to any mineral well that is usable for its permitted purpose, or has not been properly plugged in accordance with the requirements of this part and rules promulgated under this part, at the time the fee is due:

(a)	For a disposal well for disposal of waste products other than processed brine	$	2,500.00
(b)	For a disposal well for disposal or processed brine	$	500.00
(c)	For a storage well	$	500.00
(d)	For a natural brine production well	$	500.00
(e)	For an artificial brine production well	$	500.00
(f)	For an individual test well	$	500.00
(g)	For a blanket permit for test wells:		
(*i*)	1 to 24 wells	$	75.00
(*ii*)	25 to 49 wells	$	150.00
(*iii*)	50 to 75 wells	$	300.00
(*iv*)	75 to 200 wells	$	600.00

(2) Mineral well regulatory fees shall be submitted to the department in the manner required by the department along with any documentation required by the department.

(3) The department shall forward all mineral well regulatory fees collected under this section to the state treasury for deposit in the fund.

History: Add. 1998, Act 467, Imd. Eff. Jan. 4, 1999.

Compiler's note: In subsection (1)(b), the phrase "For a disposal well for disposal or processed brine" should evidently read "For a disposal well for disposal of processed brine."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62509b Mineral well regulatory fund.

Sec. 62509b. (1) The mineral well regulatory fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The

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state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only to implement and enforce this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 467, Imd. Eff. Jan. 4, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62510 Enforcement of part and rules; jurisdiction of court; representation by attorney general.

Sec. 62510. The supervisor of mineral wells may bring proceedings for the enforcement of this part and rules promulgated under this part in the circuit court of Ingham county or in the circuit court of the county in which a violation is alleged to have occurred. The attorney general shall represent the supervisor of mineral wells in all actions brought under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62511 Suits against supervisor, commission, agent or employee; jurisdiction of Ingham county circuit court.

Sec. 62511. The circuit court of Ingham county has exclusive jurisdiction of all suits brought against the supervisor of mineral wells or commission, or their agents or employees, by or on account of any matter or thing arising under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62512 Hearing; notice of time, place, and issues; service in form of notice by registered mail; responsibility for publication of notice and payment.

Sec. 62512. (1) The jurisdictional requirement of notice of time, place, and issues involved in a hearing required by this part shall be given in the manner prescribed by the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and by publication once each week for 2 weeks consecutively in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where a specific matter of concern is located, with the last date of publication at least 3 days before the date set for hearing.

(2) If a list of interested persons is a part of the petition for hearing, or if the name of an interested person is on record with the supervisor of mineral wells, service in the form of notice by registered mail shall be made by the petitioner to the interested person.

(3) The publishing of a notice of hearing and payment for the publishing are the responsibility of the petitioner. The supervisor of mineral wells is responsible for the publishing and payment for the publishing on a hearing initiated by the supervisor of mineral wells.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62513 Persons authorized to conduct hearings and investigations; acts by supervisor's deputy or representative; effect.

Sec. 62513. All hearings and other actions pertaining to these hearings or investigations may be conducted by the supervisor of mineral wells or the supervisor's deputy or authorized representative, and all acts of the deputy or authorized representative have the same force and effect as if done by the supervisor of mineral wells.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62514 Supervisor of mineral wells; power to summon witnesses, administer oaths,

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require production of documents; noncompliance; contempt.

Sec. 62514. (1) The supervisor of mineral wells may summon witnesses, administer oaths, and, when necessary to carry out the provisions of this part, require the production of appropriate records, books, and documents.

(2) Upon failure or refusal of any person to comply with a subpoena issued by the supervisor of mineral wells, or upon the refusal of any witness to testify as to any matter on which he or she may be interrogated as being pertinent to the hearing or investigation, the person or witness may be subject to a court order compelling him or her to comply with such subpoena, and to appear before the supervisor of mineral wells and produce the records, books, and documents for examination and to testify. The court may punish for contempt or for refusal to testify.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62515 Failure to case, seal, operate, repair, or plug wells; notice; expense of repair or correction; collection.

Sec. 62515. Whenever the supervisor of mineral wells or the supervisor's deputy or authorized representative determines that an owner or operator has failed or neglected to case, seal, operate, repair, or plug a well pursuant to this part or the rules promulgated or orders issued under this part, notice of the determination shall be given to the owner or operator and to the surety executing the bond filed by the owner or operator. If the owner or operator, or surety, fails to correct the specified conditions pursuant to the rule or order of the supervisor of mineral wells within 60 days after service of notice, the supervisor of mineral wells may enter into or upon any private or public property on which the well is located, and across any private or public property to reach the well, and repair or correct the specified condition, and the owner, operator, and surety are jointly and severally liable for all expenses incurred. The supervisor of mineral wells shall certify to the owner, operator, and surety the claim of the state, listing in the claim the items of expense in making the repair or correction. The claims shall be paid by the owner or operator, or surety, within 30 days, and if not paid within that time, the supervisor of mineral wells may bring suit in the circuit court of Ingham county against the owner, operator, and surety, jointly and severally, for the collection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62516 Prohibited acts.

Sec. 62516. A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Willfully violate any provision of this part or any rule or order of the supervisor of mineral wells.

(b) Drill or convert any well subject to this part without first obtaining a permit or operate a storage or waste disposal well without approval as provided in this part.

(c) Do any of the following for the purpose of evading or violating this part or any rule promulgated or order issued under this part:

(*i*) Make false entry or statement in any required report or record.

(*ii*) Omit or cause to be omitted from any required report or record full, true, and correct entries as required by this part.

(*iii*) Remove from this state or destroy, mutilate, alter, or falsify any report or record required by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62517 Violations; penalties.

Sec. 62517. A person who violates this part is subject to a fine of not more than $1,000.00, and each day that the violation continues constitutes a separate offense. The penalty shall be recovered by suit brought by the supervisor of mineral wells. A person aiding in a violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part is subject to the same penalties as prescribed in this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.62518 Construction of part.

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Sec. 62518. This part does not apply to wells drilled under the authority of part 41 or part 615. This part does not supersede or contravene any of the provisions of part 81.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 4
MINERAL MINING

PART 631
FERROUS MINERAL MINING

324.63101 Definitions.

Sec. 63101. As used in this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(b) "Ferrous mineral" or "mineral" means ferrous ore or material mined for its ferrous content.

(c) "Ferrous mineral operator" or "operator" means a person who owns or leases the plant and equipment utilized in a mining area and is engaged in the business of mining ferrous minerals or preparing to engage in mining operations.

(d) "Ferrous product" means a commercially salable ferrous mineral in its final marketable form or state.

(e) "Life of the mine" means the period of time from issuance of a permit under this part through the completion of reclamation as required by this part.

(f) "Mining area" or "area subjected to mining" means land from which material is removed in connection with the production or extraction of ferrous minerals by surface or open pit mining methods, on which material from that mining is deposited, on which beneficiating or treatment plants and auxiliary facilities are located, or on which the water reservoirs used in the mining operation are located, and includes auxiliary land that is used for these purposes.

(g) "Mining operation" means a ferrous mineral mining operation.

(h) "Stockpile" means material, including, but not limited to, surface overburden, rock, or lean ore, that in the process of ferrous mineral mining and beneficiation or treatment has been removed from the earth and stored on the surface. However, stockpile does not include materials that are being treated in the production of mineral products and the mineral product that has been produced by that operation.

(i) "Supervisor of reclamation" means the department.

(j) "Surface or open pit mining" means the mining of more than 10,000 tons of a ferrous mineral or disturbing more than 1 acre of land a year in the regular operation of a business either by removing the overburden lying above a natural deposit of a ferrous mineral and mining directly from the natural deposit exposed or by mining directly from a deposit lying exposed in the ferrous mineral's natural state. Surface or open pit mining includes all ferrous mineral mining below the water table or which will upon cessation of mining result in creating a body of water of any size. Surface or open pit mining does not include excavation or grading preliminary to a construction project.

(k) "Tailings basin" means land on which is deposited, by hydraulic or other means, the material that is separated from the mineral product in the beneficiation or treatment of ferrous minerals including any surrounding dikes constructed to contain the material.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 149, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63102 Repealed. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to a study and survey conducted by supervisor of reclamation.

324.63103 Mining operations; rules.

Sec. 63103. The department may promulgate rules pertaining to mining operations conducted subsequent to their effective date, subject to any rights existing pursuant to any permit, license, lease, or other valid existing authorization issued by a governmental entity and to applicable mine safety laws or rules, for the following purposes:

(a) The sloping, terracing, or other practical treatment of stockpiles and tailings basins where erosion is occurring or is likely to occur that results or may result in injury or damage to fish and wildlife or the

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pollution of public waters or that is causing or might cause injury to the property or person of others.

(b) The vegetation or other practical treatment of tailings basins and stockpiles upon becoming permanently inactive if substantial natural vegetation is not expected within 5 years and if research reveals that vegetation can reasonably be accomplished within practical limitations.

(c) The stabilization of the surface overburden banks of open pits in rock and the entire bank of open pits in unconsolidated materials upon their abandonment.

(d) The cleanup of mining areas and the removal of debris from those areas on termination of the mining operation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63103a Mining of ferrous minerals; permit required.

Sec. 63103a. A ferrous mineral operator shall not engage in the mining of ferrous minerals except as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13. The department shall not issue a permit unless the applicant has submitted to the department, in addition to the permit application, a mining and reclamation plan for the proposed ferrous mining activity as prescribed by section 63103b.

History: Add. 1997, Act 149, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63103b Mining and reclamation plan.

Sec. 63103b. The mining and reclamation plan submitted under section 63103a shall include all of the following for the total project:

(a) The method and direction of mining.

(b) Surface overburden stripping plans.

(c) The depth of grade level over the entire site from which the ferrous mineral will be removed.

(d) Provisions for grading, revegetation, and stabilization that will minimize soil erosion, sedimentation, and public safety concerns.

(e) The location of buildings, equipment, stockpiles, roads, or other features necessary to the mining activity and provisions for their removal and restoration of the area at the project termination.

(f) The interim use or uses of reclaimed areas before the cessation of the entire mining operation.

(g) Maps and other supporting documents required by the department.

(h) Fencing or other techniques to minimize trespass or unauthorized access to the mining activity.

(i) If required by the department when mining activity below the water table is proposed, a hydrogeological survey of the surrounding area.

(j) If threatened or endangered species are identified, an indication of how the threatened or endangered species will be protected or, if not protected, what mitigation measures will be performed.

(k) If the proposed mining activity includes beneficiation or treatment of the ferrous ore or material mined for its ferrous content, the application documents shall include specific plans depicting the beneficiation and treatment methods and techniques, and manufacturer's material safety data sheets on all chemicals or other additives that are not natural to the site, that will be utilized in the process. The operator shall obtain all applicable state and federal permits before beginning the beneficiation process.

History: Add. 1997, Act 149, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1997;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63103c Ferrous mineral mining permit.

Sec. 63103c. (1) A ferrous mineral mining permit issued by the department is valid for the life of the mine. However, the department may revoke a ferrous mineral mining permit under the following conditions:

(a) The permittee has not commenced construction of plant facilities or conducted actual mining and reclamation activities covered by the permit within 3 years after the date of issuance of the permit.

(b) The permittee requests the revocation of the ferrous mineral mining permit and the department determines the mining activity has not polluted, impaired, or destroyed the air, water, or other natural resources or the public trust in those resources, as provided in part 17.

(c) The permittee fails to submit the annual report of production as required by section 63103d(2).

(d) The department finds that the permittee is not in compliance with this part, the rules promulgated under

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this part, or the ferrous mineral permit and there exists an imminent threat to the health and safety of the public.

(2) The department may order immediate suspension of any or all activities at a ferrous mineral mining operation, including the removal of ferrous product from the site, if the department finds there exists an emergency endangering the public health and safety or an imminent threat to the natural resources of the state.

(3) An order suspending operations shall be in effect until the operation is in compliance and protection of the public health and safety is ensured or the threat to the natural resources has been eliminated, but not more than 10 days. To extend the suspension beyond 10 days, the department shall issue an emergency order to continue the suspension of operations and shall schedule a hearing as provided by the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The total duration of the suspension of operations shall not be more than 30 days.

(4) A ferrous mineral mining permit may be transferred with approval of the department. The person seeking to acquire the permit shall submit a request for transfer of the permit to the department on forms provided by the department. The person acquiring the permit shall accept the conditions of the existing permit and adhere to the requirements set forth on the approved mining and reclamation plan. Pending the transfer of the existing permit, the person seeking to acquire the permit shall not operate the mine.

(5) A ferrous mineral mining permit shall not be transferred to a person who has been determined by the department to be in violation of any of the following, until the person acquiring the permit has corrected the violation or the department has accepted a compliance schedule and a written agreement has been reached to correct the violations:

(a) This part.

(b) The rules promulgated under this part.

(c) Permit conditions.

(d) An order of the department.

(6) If the permittee of a ferrous mineral mining operation is under notice because of unsatisfactory conditions at the mining site involved in the transfer, then the permit for the mining operation shall not be transferred to a person until the permittee has completed the necessary corrective actions or the person acquiring the permit has entered into a written agreement to correct all of the unsatisfactory conditions.

(7) A ferrous mineral mining permit may be amended upon submission to the department of a request by the permittee. Upon receipt of the request to amend an existing ferrous mineral permit, the department shall determine if the request constitutes a significant change from the conditions of the approved permit. If the department determines the request is a significant change from the conditions of the approved permit, the department may submit the request for amendment to the same review process as provided in part 13. If a request to amend the permit is denied, the reasons for denial shall be stated in a written report to the permittee. If the department determines the request for amendment does not constitute a significant change from the conditions of the approved permit, the department shall approve the amendment and notify the permittee.

History: Add. 1997, Act 149, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63103d Ferrous mineral surveillance fee; annual report of production.

Sec. 63103d. (1) For purposes of surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of this part, a ferrous mineral operator shall be assessed a ferrous mineral surveillance fee on the ferrous product produced for the calendar year reported as described in subsection (2). The fee shall be assessed upon ferrous product and shall not be more than 1 cent per metric ton. Funds collected by the assessment of the ferrous mineral surveillance fee shall not exceed the actual costs to the department of implementing the sections of this part that pertain to ferrous mineral mining. Surveillance fees collected under this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the ferrous mineral surveillance fund created in section 63103e.

(2) A ferrous mineral operator shall file an annual report of production on or before February 15 of each year. The report shall contain the annual production of ferrous product from each ferrous mineral mine.

(3) The ferrous mineral surveillance fee described in subsection (1) is due 30 days after the department sends written notice to the ferrous mineral operator of the amount due.

(4) Failure to submit an annual report of production in compliance with rules promulgated by the department constitutes grounds for revocation of a permit.

(5) A penalty equal to 10% of the amount due, or $1,000.00, whichever is greater, shall be assessed against the ferrous mineral operator for a fee that is not paid when due. An unpaid fee and penalty constitute a debt

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and the basis of a judgment against the operator. Penalties paid pursuant to this section shall be used for the implementation, administration, and enforcement of this part.

(6) Records upon which the annual report of production is based shall be preserved for 3 years and are subject to audit by the department.

History: Add. 1997, Act 149, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1997;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63103e Ferrous mineral surveillance fund.

Sec. 63103e. (1) The ferrous mineral surveillance fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the ferrous mineral surveillance fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the ferrous mineral surveillance fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the ferrous mineral surveillance fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the ferrous mineral surveillance fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the ferrous mineral surveillance fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall expend money from the ferrous mineral surveillance fund, upon appropriation, only for surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement under this part and for computing the surveillance fee under section 63103d.

History: Add. 1997, Act 149, Imd. Eff. Dec. 2, 1997;—Am. 2011, Act 214, Imd. Eff. Nov. 8, 2011.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63104 Mining operations; variance or modification from rules.

Sec. 63104. The supervisor of reclamation, on application by the landowner or operator, may modify or permit variance from the rules promulgated under this part if the supervisor of reclamation determines that the modification or variance is not contrary to the public interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63105 Supervisor of reclamation; administration of part and rules; powers.

Sec. 63105. The supervisor of reclamation shall administer and enforce this part and the rules promulgated under this part. The supervisor of reclamation may do any of the following:

(a) Consult with and obtain the assistance of the other divisions of the department.

(b) Enter on the mining areas in connection with any investigation and inspection without liability to the operator or landowner if reasonable prior notice of the intention to do so has been given to the operator or landowner.

(c) Conduct research or enter into contracts related to mining areas and the reclamation of mining areas as may be necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63106 Plan maps; filing by operator; form; annual changes; long-range plans.

Sec. 63106. For the purpose of information and to assist the supervisor of reclamation in proper enforcement of rules promulgated under this part, an operator shall file with the supervisor of reclamation a plan map in the form determined by the supervisor of reclamation showing all existing mining areas or areas subjected to mining by the operator. Annually thereafter, on or before March 15, the operator shall file a plan map in similar form showing any changes made during the preceding calendar year and the mining area that the operator anticipates will be subjected to mining during the current calendar year. The supervisor of reclamation periodically shall ascertain the long-range land environment plans of the operator.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63107 Performance bond, security, or assurance of operator.

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Sec. 63107. The supervisor of reclamation, if he or she has reasonable doubts as to an operator's financial ability to comply with the rules promulgated under this part as to actions to be taken after completion of mining operations or any phase of mining operations, may require an operator to furnish a performance bond or other security or assurance satisfactory to the supervisor of reclamation. The supervisor of reclamation may postpone furnishing of the bond, security, or assurance depending upon the life of the mining operation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63108 Injunctive relief to prevent violation of rules.

Sec. 63108. At the request of the supervisor of reclamation, the attorney general may institute an action in a circuit court of the county in which the mining operation affected is conducted for a restraining order or injunction or other appropriate remedy to prevent or preclude a violation of the terms and conditions of any rule promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63110 Scope of part.

Sec. 63110. This part does not apply to activities subject to part 632.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: NREPA

PART 632
NONFERROUS METALLIC MINERAL MINING

324.63201 Definitions.

Sec. 63201. As used in this part:

(a) "Administratively complete" describes an application for a mining permit under this part that contains all of the documents and information required under this part and any rules promulgated under this part.

(b) "Affected area" means an area outside of the mining area where the land surface, surface water, groundwater, or air resources are determined through an environmental impact assessment to be potentially affected by mining operations within the proposed mining area.

(c) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(d) "Emergency management coordinator" means that term as defined in section 2 of the emergency management act, 1976 PA 390, MCL 30.402.

(e) "Fund" means the nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance fund created in section 63217.

(f) "Metallic product" means a commercially salable mineral produced primarily for its nonferrous metallic mineral content in its final marketable form or state.

(g) "Mining", except as provided in subdivision (h), means the excavation or removal of more than 10,000 tons of earth material in a calendar year or disturbing more than 1 acre of land in a calendar year in the regular operation of a business for the purpose of extracting a nonferrous metallic mineral or minerals by 1 or both of the following:

(*i*) Removing the overburden lying above natural deposits of a mineral and excavating directly from the natural deposits thus exposed or by excavating directly from deposits lying exposed in their natural state.

(*ii*) Excavating from below the surface of the ground by means of shafts, tunnels, or other subsurface openings.

(h) Mining does not include an operation that is subject to part 634.

(i) "Mining area" means an area of land from which earth material is removed in connection with nonferrous metallic mineral mining, the lands on which material from that mining is stored or deposited, the lands on which beneficiating or treatment plants and auxiliary facilities are located, the lands on which the water reservoirs used in the nonferrous metallic mineral mining process are located, and auxiliary lands that are used in connection with the mining.

(j) "Mining permit" means a permit issued under this part for conducting nonferrous metallic mineral mining and reclamation operations.

(k) "Nonferrous metallic mineral" means any ore or material to be excavated from the natural deposits on or in the earth for its metallic content, but not primarily for its iron or iron mineral content, to be used for commercial or industrial purposes.

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(*l*) "Nonferrous metallic mineral operator" or "operator" means a permittee or other person who is engaged in, or who is preparing to engage in, mining operations for nonferrous metallic minerals, whether individually or jointly, or through agents, employees, or contractors.

(m) "Permittee" means a person who holds a mining permit.

(n) "Postclosure monitoring period" means a period following closure of a nonferrous metallic mineral mine during which the permittee is required to conduct monitoring of groundwater and surface water.

(o) "Stockpile" means material, including, but not limited to, surface overburden, rock, or lean ore, that in the process of mining and beneficiation or treatment has been removed from the earth and stored on the surface. Stockpile does not include materials that are being treated in the production of metallic products and the metallic product that has been produced by that operation.

(p) "Tailings basin" means land on which is deposited, by hydraulic or other means, the material that is separated from the metallic product in the beneficiation or treatment of minerals and includes any surrounding dikes constructed to contain the material.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004;—Am. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63202 Legislative findings.

Sec. 63202. The legislature finds that:

(a) It is the policy of this state to foster the conservation and development of the state's natural resources.

(b) Discoveries of nonferrous metallic sulfide deposits have resulted in intensive exploration activities and may lead to the development of 1 or more mines.

(c) Nonferrous metallic sulfide deposits are different from the iron oxide ore deposits currently being mined in Michigan in that the sulfide minerals may react, when exposed to air and water, to form acid rock drainage. If the mineral products and waste materials associated with nonferrous metallic sulfide mining operations are not properly managed and controlled, they can cause significant damage to the environment, impact human health, and degrade the quality of life of the impacted community.

(d) The special concerns surrounding nonferrous metallic mineral mining warrant additional regulatory measures beyond those applied to the current iron mining operations.

(e) Nonferrous metallic mineral mining may be an important contributor to Michigan's economic vitality. The economic benefits of nonferrous metallic mineral mining shall occur only under conditions that assure that the environment, natural resources, and public health and welfare are adequately protected.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63203 Nonferrous metallic mineral mining; administration and enforcement; rules; regulation or control by local units of government.

Sec. 63203. (1) The department shall administer and enforce this part in order to regulate nonferrous metallic mineral mining. In addition to other powers granted to it, the department may promulgate rules it considers necessary to carry out its duties under this part, including standards for construction, operation, closure, postclosure monitoring, reclamation, and remediation of a nonferrous metallic mineral mine. However, the department shall not promulgate any additional rules under this part after February 15, 2006.

(2) The department may do either of the following:

(a) Enter at all reasonable times in or upon a mining area for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the operation of a mining area. However, an investigation or inspection under this subsection shall comply with the United States constitution, the state constitution of 1963, and this section.

(b) Conduct research or enter into contracts related to mining areas and the reclamation of mining areas as may be necessary to implement this part.

(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), a local unit of government shall not regulate or control mining or reclamation activities that are subject to this part, including construction, operation, closure, postclosure monitoring, reclamation, and remediation activities, and does not have jurisdiction concerning the issuance of permits for those activities.

(4) A local unit of government may enact, maintain, and enforce ordinances, regulations, or resolutions affecting mining operations if the ordinances, regulations, or resolutions do not duplicate, contradict, or conflict with this part. In addition, a local unit of government may enact, maintain, and enforce ordinances, regulations, or resolutions regulating the hours at which mining operations may take place and routes used by

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vehicles in connection with mining operations. However, such ordinances, regulations, or resolutions shall be reasonable in accommodating customary nonferrous metallic mineral mining operations.

(5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not prohibit a local unit of government from conducting water quality monitoring.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 299, Imd. Eff. Dec. 21, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63205 Mining permit; application procedure.

Sec. 63205. (1) A person shall not engage in the mining of nonferrous metallic minerals except as authorized in a mining permit issued by the department.

(2) An application for a mining permit shall be submitted to the department in a format to be developed by the department. The application shall be accompanied by all of the following:

(a) A permit application fee of $5,000.00. The department shall forward all permit application fees received under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the fund.

(b) An environmental impact assessment for the proposed mining operation that describes the natural and human-made features, including, but not limited to, flora, fauna, hydrology, geology, and geochemistry, and baseline conditions in the proposed mining area and the affected area that may be impacted by the mining, and the potential impacts on those features from the proposed mining operation. The environmental impact assessment shall define the affected area and shall address feasible and prudent alternatives.

(c) A mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan for the proposed mining operation, including beneficiation operations, that will reasonably minimize the actual and potential adverse impacts on natural resources, the environment, and public health and safety within the mining area and the affected area. The plan shall address the unique issues associated with nonferrous metallic mining and shall include all of the following:

(*i*) A description of materials, methods, and techniques that will be utilized.

(*ii*) Information that demonstrates that all methods, materials, and techniques proposed to be utilized are capable of accomplishing their stated objectives in protecting the environment and public health, except that such information may not be required for methods, materials, and techniques that are widely used in mining or other industries and are generally accepted as effective. The required information may consist of results of actual testing, modeling, documentation by credible independent testing and certification organizations, or documented applications in similar uses and settings.

(*iii*) Plans and schedules for interim and final reclamation of the mining area following cessation of mining operations.

(*iv*) A description of the geochemistry of the ore, waste rock, overburden, peripheral rock, and tailings, including characterization of leachability and reactivity.

(*v*) Provisions for the prevention, control, and monitoring of acid-forming waste products and other waste products from the mining process so as to prevent leaching into groundwater or runoff into surface water.

(d) A contingency plan that includes an assessment of the risk to the environment or public health and safety associated with potential significant incidents or failures and describes the operator's notification and response plans. When the application is submitted to the department, the applicant shall provide a copy of the contingency plan to each emergency management coordinator having jurisdiction over the affected area.

(e) Financial assurance as described in section 63211.

(f) A list of other state and federal permits that are anticipated to be required.

(3) The applicant has the burden of establishing that the terms and conditions set forth in the permit application; mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan; and environmental impact assessment will result in a mining operation that reasonably minimizes actual or potential adverse impacts on air, water, and other natural resources and meets the requirements of this act.

(4) Effective 14 days after the department receives an application for a mining permit, the application shall be considered to be administratively complete unless the department proceeds as provided under subsection (5).

(5) If, before the expiration of the 14-day period under subsection (4), the department notifies the applicant that the application is not administratively complete, specifying the information necessary to make the application administratively complete, or notifies the applicant that the fee required to accompany the application has not been paid, specifying the amount due, the running of the 14-day period under subsection (4) is tolled until the applicant submits to the department the specified information or fee amount due. The notice shall be given in writing or electronically.

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(6) Within 42 days after an application for a mining permit is determined to be administratively complete, the department shall hold a public meeting on the application. The department shall give notice of the public meeting not less than 14 or more than 28 days before the date of the public meeting. The notice shall specify the time and place of the public meeting, which shall be held in the county where the proposed mining operation is located, and shall include information on how to review a copy of the application. The notice shall be given in writing to the city, village, or township and the county where the proposed mining operation is to be located and to all affected federally recognized Indian tribes in this state. The notice shall also be given by publication in a newspaper of local distribution in the area where the proposed mining operation is to be located.

(7) The department shall accept written public comment on the permit application for 28 days following the public meeting under subsection (6). Within 28 days after the expiration of the public comment period, the department shall reach a proposed decision to grant or deny a mining permit and shall establish a time and place for a public hearing on the proposed decision. The department shall give notice of the public hearing not less than 14 or more than 28 days before the date of the public hearing. The notice shall be given in writing to the city, village, or township and the county where the proposed mining operation is to be located and to all affected federally recognized Indian tribes in this state. The notice shall also be given by publication in a newspaper of local distribution in the area where the proposed mining operation is to be located. The notice shall contain all of the following:

(a) A summary of the permit application.

(b) Information on how to review a complete copy of the application. The application shall be made available at a public location in the area.

(c) A listing of other permits and hearings that are pending or anticipated under this act with respect to the proposed mining operation.

(d) The time and place of the public hearing, which shall be held in the area where the proposed mining operation is located.

(8) The department shall accept written public comment on the proposed decision to grant or deny a mining permit for 28 days following the public hearing. At the expiration of the public comment period, the department shall issue a report summarizing all comments received and providing the department's response to the comments.

(9) Within 28 days after the expiration of the public comment period under subsection (8), the department shall grant or deny the mining permit application in writing. A determination that an application is administratively complete does not preclude the department from requiring additional information from the applicant. The 28-day period under this subsection shall be tolled until such time as the applicant submits the requested information. If a mining permit is denied, the reasons shall be stated in a written report to the applicant.

(10) A mining permit shall not be issued or transferred to a person if the department has determined that person to be in violation of this part, rules promulgated under this part, the permit, or an order of the department under this part, unless the person has corrected the violation or the person has agreed in writing to correct the violation pursuant to a compliance schedule approved by the department.

(11) Subject to subsection (10), the department shall approve a mining permit if it determines both of the following:

(a) The permit application meets the requirements of this part.

(b) The proposed mining operation will not pollute, impair, or destroy the air, water, or other natural resources or the public trust in those resources, in accordance with part 17 of this act. In making this determination, the department shall take into account the extent to which other permit determinations afford protection to natural resources. For the purposes of this subsection, excavation and removal of nonferrous metallic minerals and of associated overburden and waste rock, in and of itself, does not constitute pollution, impairment, or destruction of those natural resources.

(12) The department shall deny a mining permit if it determines the requirements of subsection (11) have not been met.

(13) Terms and conditions that are set forth in the permit application and the mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan and that are approved by the department shall be incorporated in and become a part of the mining permit.

(14) A mining permit is not effective until all other permits required under this act for the proposed mining operation are obtained.

(15) If a person submits an application for a mining permit and 1 or more other permits under this act with respect to a particular mining operation, the department may process the applications in a coordinated fashion to the extent feasible given procedural requirements applicable to individual permits. The coordinated permit

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process may include consolidating public hearings under this part with public hearings required under other parts of this act. Any notice of a consolidated public hearing shall state clearly which permits are to be considered at the public hearing. An applicant may waive any required timelines under subsections (4) to (9) to facilitate the coordination.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63207 Mining permit; duration; termination; revocation; transfer; amendment; exceptions.

Sec. 63207. (1) A mining permit issued by the department remains in effect until terminated or revoked by the department.

(2) The department may terminate a mining permit under 1 or more of the following conditions:

(a) The permittee has not commenced construction of plant facilities or conducted actual mining activities covered by the mining permit within 2 years after the effective date of the mining permit.

(b) The permittee has completed final reclamation of the mining area and requests the termination of the mining permit and the department determines all of the following:

(*i*) The mining operation has not polluted, impaired, or destroyed the air, water, or other natural resources or the public trust in those resources by activities conducted within the scope of the permit.

(*ii*) The permittee has otherwise fulfilled all conditions determined to be necessary by the department to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and the environment.

(*iii*) The requirements for the postclosure monitoring period have been satisfied.

(3) The department may revoke a mining permit pursuant to section 63221.

(4) A permittee shall not transfer a mining permit to a new operator unless all of the following occur:

(a) The person acquiring the mining permit submits to the department on forms provided by the department a request for transfer of the mining permit and provides the financial assurance required under section 63211.

(b) The person acquiring the mining permit accepts the conditions of the existing mining permit and adheres to the requirements set forth in this part.

(c) If the department determines that the permittee is in violation of this part or rules promulgated under this part at the mining site involved in the transfer, the permittee has completed the necessary corrective actions or the person acquiring the mining permit has entered into a written consent agreement to correct all of the violations.

(d) The department, after providing public notice of the proposed transfer, approves the transfer.

(5) Pending the transfer of an existing mining permit under subsection (4), the proposed transferee shall not operate the mine.

(6) A mining permit shall be amended as follows:

(a) A mining permit amendment shall be initiated as provided in either of the following:

(*i*) The permittee submits to the department a request to amend the mining permit to address anticipated changes in the mining operation, including, if applicable, amendments to the environmental impact assessment and to the mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan.

(*ii*) The department requires a mining permit to be amended after determining that the terms and conditions of the mining permit are not providing the intended reasonable protection of the environment, natural resources, or public health and safety.

(b) Within 30 days after receiving a request to amend a mining permit under subdivision (a)(*i*), or upon a determination by the department under subdivision (a)(*ii*) that an amendment is necessary, the department shall determine whether the proposed amendment constitutes a significant change from the conditions of the approved mining permit. In making that determination, the department shall consider whether the change will result in environmental impacts that are materially increased or different from those addressed in the approved mining permit conditions, the mining permit application, or any additional information forming the basis of the approved mining permit conditions.

(c) If the department determines under subdivision (b) that the request constitutes a significant change from the conditions of the approved mining permit, the department shall in its sole discretion do 1 of the following:

(*i*) Submit the request for amendment to the same review process as provided for a new permit application in section 63205(4) to (9).

(*ii*) Within 42 days after the determination that the amendment request constitutes a significant change from the conditions of the approved mining permit, hold a public meeting on the request. The department shall give notice of the public meeting in the same manner provided for in section 63205(6). The department

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shall accept written public comment on the request for 28 days after the public meeting. Within 14 days after the expiration of the public comment period, the department shall grant or deny the request in writing.

(d) If the department determines under subdivision (b) that the request for amendment does not constitute a significant change from the conditions of the approved mining permit, the department shall provide written notice of the determination to the city, village, or township and the county where the proposed mining operation is to be located and to all affected federally recognized Indian tribes in this state. The department shall also give notice of the determination by publication in a newspaper of local distribution in the area where the proposed mining operation is to be located. The department shall approve the amendment within 14 days after publication of the notice and shall notify the permittee of the approval.

(7) A permittee may submit to the department a written request to relocate, reconfigure, or modify shafts, tunnels, or other subsurface openings or surface facilities, buildings, or equipment, other than a tailings basin or a stockpile, without obtaining an amendment to the permit under subsection (6). Within 30 days after receiving the request, the department shall grant or deny the request and notify the permittee in writing of the department's determination. Subject to subsection (6)(a)(*ii*), the department shall grant the request if all of the following apply:

(a) Any proposed relocation, reconfiguration, or modification of shafts, tunnels, or other subsurface openings will not result in subsidence or other adverse environmental impacts. The permittee's request shall include information demonstrating that the requirements of this subdivision, if applicable, are met.

(b) Any proposed relocation, reconfiguration, or modification of surface facilities, buildings, or equipment, other than a tailings basin or a stockpile, will take place within the permitted mining area.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004;—Am. 2018, Act 162, Eff. Aug. 21, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63209 Duties of permittee.

Sec. 63209. (1) A permittee shall comply with all other applicable permit standards under this act.

(2) A permittee shall conduct reclamation activities at a mining area in accordance with the approved mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan.

(3) If mining operations are suspended for a continuous period exceeding 90 days, the permittee shall take actions to maintain, monitor, and secure the mining area and shall conduct any interim sloping or stabilizing of surfaces necessary to protect the environment, natural resources, or public health and safety in accordance with the permit.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), a permittee shall begin final reclamation of a mining area within 3 years of the date of cessation of mining operations and shall complete reclamation within the time set forth in the mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan approved by the department.

(5) Upon written request of a permittee, the department may approve an extension of time to begin or complete final reclamation.

(6) A permittee shall conduct groundwater and surface water monitoring in accordance with the provisions of the permit during mining operations and during the postclosure monitoring period. The postclosure monitoring period shall be 20 years following cessation of mining, subject to the following conditions:

(a) The permittee shall provide to the department a written request to terminate the postclosure monitoring not less than 18 months before the proposed termination date and shall provide the department with technical data and information demonstrating the basis for the termination. The department shall extend the postclosure monitoring period in increments of up to 20 years unless the department determines, approximately 1 year before the end of a postclosure monitoring period or postclosure incremental monitoring period, that there is no significant potential for water contamination resulting from the mining operation.

(b) The department may shorten the postclosure monitoring period at any time upon determining that there is no significant potential for water contamination resulting from the mining operation.

(7) The department may extend or shorten the postclosure monitoring period under subsection (6) only after public notice and opportunity for a public hearing under section 63219(2).

(8) Both the mining area and the affected area shall be reclaimed and remediated to achieve a self-sustaining ecosystem appropriate for the region that does not require perpetual care following closure and with the goal that the affected area shall be returned to the ecological conditions that approximate premining conditions subject to changes caused by nonmining activities or other natural events. Any portion of the mining area owned by the applicant may be used for any legal purposes.

(9) Compliance with the provisions of this part does not relieve a person of the obligation to comply with all other applicable tribal, state, federal, or local statutes, regulations, or ordinances.

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History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63211 Financial assurance.

Sec. 63211. (1) An operator shall maintain financial assurance during mining operations until the department determines that all reclamation has been completed and for a postclosure monitoring period as determined under section 63209(6) and (7), except that financial assurance shall be released immediately upon termination of a mining permit under section 63207(2)(a).

(2) The financial assurance required under subsection (1) shall apply to all mining and reclamation operations subject to the mining permit and be sufficient to cover the cost to administer, and to hire a third party to implement, reclamation under the mining, reclamation, and environmental protection plan as well as necessary environmental protection measures, including remediation of any contamination of the air, surface water, or groundwater that is in violation of the mining permit. The financial assurance shall consist of a conformance bond, escrow, cash, certificate of deposit, irrevocable letter of credit, or other equivalent security, or any combination thereof, covering at least 75% of the total required amount. Financial assurance for the balance of the required total amount, if any, shall consist of a statement of financial responsibility.

(3) Every 3 years, or as the department considers necessary, a permittee shall update the statement of financial responsibility required under subsection (2) and shall adjust the conformance bond, escrow, cash, certificate of deposit, irrevocable letter of credit, or other security, as applicable, to assure that the financial assurance is sufficient for the purposes of subsection (2).

(4) The financial assurance mechanism required by this section may be satisfied in whole or in part by financial assurance provisions required by other parts of this act if those provisions address the remediation activities required under this part.

(5) Failure to provide financial assurance under this section constitutes grounds for the department to order immediate suspension of activities at a mining operation, including the removal of metallic product from the site, pursuant to section 63221.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63213 Mining and reclamation report.

Sec. 63213. (1) A permittee shall file with the department a mining and reclamation report on or before March 15 of each year, during the period the mine is operating and during the postclosure monitoring period. The mining and reclamation report shall contain all of the following:

(a) A description of the status of mining and reclamation operations.

(b) An update of the contingency plan. The permittee shall provide a copy of the update to the emergency management coordinator.

(c) A report of monitoring results for the preceding calendar year.

(d) A report of the total tons of material mined from the mining area, and the amount of metallic product by weight, produced from the nonferrous metallic mineral mine for the preceding calendar year.

(e) A list of the reports required under subsection (2) for the preceding calendar year.

(2) A permittee shall promptly notify the department and each emergency management coordinator having jurisdiction over the affected area of any incident, act of nature, or exceedance of a permit standard or condition at a mining operation that has created, or may create, a threat to the environment, natural resources, or public health and safety.

(3) Records upon which the mining and reclamation reports are based shall be preserved by the permittee for 3 years and made available to the department upon request.

(4) Records upon which incident reports under subsection (2) are based shall be preserved by the permittee for 3 years or until the end of the postclosure monitoring period, whichever is later.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63215 Surveillance fee.

Sec. 63215. (1) For purposes of surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of this part, the department shall assess a permittee a nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance fee of not more than 5 cents per ton of material mined from the mining area as reported under section 63213(1)(d), but not less than $5,000.00,

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for each calendar year the mine is in operation and during the postclosure monitoring period. Surveillance fees collected under this section shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance fund created in section 63217. The surveillance fee rate shall be calculated each year as follows:

(a) The department shall determine the total tons of material mined from mining areas in this state in the prior calendar year.

(b) The department shall calculate the adjusted appropriation by deducting any unexpended money in the fund at the close of the prior fiscal year from the amount appropriated for the current fiscal year for surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of this part.

(c) The fee rate shall be the ratio, to the nearest 1/100 of 1%, of the adjusted appropriation to the total tons of material mined.

(2) The nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance fee described in subsection (1) is due by 30 days after the department sends written notice to the permittee of the amount due.

(3) A penalty equal to 10% of the amount due, or $1,000.00, whichever is greater, shall be assessed against the permittee for a metallic mineral surveillance fee that is not paid when due. The department may file an action in the circuit court for Ingham county to collect the unpaid fee and penalty. The unpaid fee and penalty shall constitute a debt and become the basis of a judgment against the permittee.

(4) Penalties paid pursuant to this section shall be used for the implementation, administration, and enforcement of this part.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63217 Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance fund.

Sec. 63217. (1) The nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Unexpended money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and be carried over to the succeeding fiscal year.

(4) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement under this part.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63219 Contested case hearing.

Sec. 63219. (1) A person who is aggrieved by an order, action, or inaction of the department or by the issuance, denial, revocation, or amendment of a mining permit under this part may file a petition with the department requesting a contested case hearing, under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. A petition filed more than 60 days after an order, action, or inaction of the department or an action on a mining permit may be rejected as being untimely.

(2) Any hearing under this part shall be held pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The department shall provide notice of the hearing and shall mail copies of the notice to the person requesting the hearing and to the city, village, or township and the county where the proposed mining operation is to be located and to all affected federally recognized Indian tribes in this state. The department shall publish notice of the hearing in a newspaper of local distribution in the area of the mining operation at least 10 days before the hearing.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63221 Violations.

Sec. 63221. (1) If the department determines that an operator has violated this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or a mining permit issued under this part, the department shall require the operator to correct the violation.

(2) If the department determines that a violation under subsection (1) is causing or resulting in an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or safety, environment, or natural resources, the department

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shall take action necessary to abate or eliminate the endangerment. Such action may include 1 or more of the following:

(a) Revoking the mining permit.

(b) Issuing an order to the operator requiring immediate suspension of activities at the mining operation, including the removal of metallic product from the site.

(c) Issuing an order to the operator to undertake such other response actions as may be necessary to abate or eliminate the endangerment.

(3) Before taking action under this section to suspend operations or revoke a mining permit, or to otherwise prevent the continuation of mining operations, the department shall give written notice, in person or by mail, to the operator. Subject to subsection (4), the department shall provide the operator an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing.

(4) If the department finds that emergency action is required to protect the public health, safety, or welfare, or to protect the environment, the department may issue an emergency order without a public hearing to require an operator to suspend operations or to take other corrective actions. An emergency order shall remain in force and effect for not more than 21 days.

(5) If the operator or surety fails or neglects to correct the violation or take corrective actions as specified under an order of the department, the department may, after giving written notice to the operator and surety, enter in or upon the mining area and upon and across any private or public property necessary to reach the mining area and take whatever action is necessary to curtail and remediate any damage to the environment and public health resulting from the violation, and the operator and surety are jointly and severally liable for all expenses incurred by the department. The claim shall be paid by the operator or surety within 30 days, and, if the claim is not paid within that time, the department may bring suit against the operator or surety, jointly or severally, for the collection of the claim in any court of competent jurisdiction. This part does not limit the department's authority to take whatever response activities it determines necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and the environment.

(6) The revocation of a mining permit or suspension of activities under subsection (2) does not relieve a permittee of the responsibility to complete reclamation, maintain financial assurance required under section 63211, and undertake all appropriate measures to protect the environment, natural resources, and public health and safety.

(7) If the department receives an allegation of improper action under or a violation of this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or a condition of a permit issued under this part, and the person making the allegation provides evidence or corroboration sufficient to support the allegation, as determined by the department, the department shall do all of the following:

(a) Make a record of the allegation.

(b) Conduct an inspection of the mining operation to investigate the allegation not more than 5 business days after receipt of the complaint or allegation. If the complaint or allegation is of a highly serious nature, as determined by the department, the mining operation shall be inspected as quickly as possible. However, an investigation or inspection under this subsection shall comply with the United States constitution, the state constitution of 1963, and this section.

(c) Not more than 15 business days after completing an investigation of the allegation, make a written report of the allegation and the results of the investigation to the operator and the person who made the allegation.

(8) The department shall comply with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, in its actions under this section.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63223 Civil action; commencement; jurisdiction; relief; fine; violation as felony; penalties; lien.

Sec. 63223. (1) The department may request the attorney general to commence a civil action for appropriate relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction, for a violation of this part or a provision of a permit or order issued or rule promulgated under this part. An action under this subsection may be brought in the circuit court for the county of Ingham or for the county in which the defendant is located, resides, or is doing business. The court has jurisdiction to restrain the violation and to require compliance. In addition to any other relief granted under this subsection, the court may impose a civil fine of not less than $2,500.00, and the court may award reasonable attorney fees and costs to the prevailing party. The maximum fine imposed by the court shall be not more than $25,000.00 per day of violation.

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(2) Upon a finding by the court that an operator has violated this part or a provision of a permit or order issued or rule promulgated under this part, and that the violation poses or posed a substantial endangerment to the public health, safety, or welfare, the court shall impose, in addition to the sanctions set forth in subsection (1), a fine of not less than $500,000.00 and not more than $5,000,000.00.

(3) The attorney general may file a civil suit in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover, in addition to a fine, the full value of the injuries done to the natural resources of this state and the costs of surveillance and enforcement by the state resulting from the violation.

(4) A person who on or after February 1, 2005 intentionally makes a false statement, representation, or certification in an application for or form pertaining to a permit under this part or in a notice or report required by the terms and conditions of a permit issued under this part is guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned for not more than 2 years and shall be fined not less than $2,500.00 or more than $25,000.00 for each violation. If the conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction of the person under this subsection, the court shall impose a fine of not less than $25,000.00 per day and not more than $50,000.00 per day of violation. With the exception of the issuance of criminal complaints, issuance of warrants, and the holding of an arraignment, the circuit court for the county in which the violation occurred has exclusive jurisdiction. Knowledge possessed by a person other than the defendant under this subsection may be attributable to the defendant if the defendant took affirmative steps to shield himself or herself from the relevant information.

(5) Upon a finding by the court that the actions taken by a criminal defendant on or after February 1, 2005 pose or posed a substantial endangerment to the public health, safety, or welfare, the court shall impose, in addition to the penalties set forth in subsection (2), a sentence of 5 years' imprisonment and a fine of not less than $1,000,000.00.

(6) To find a defendant civilly or criminally liable for substantial endangerment under subsection (2) or (5), the court shall determine that the defendant knowingly or recklessly acted in such a manner as to cause a danger of death or serious bodily injury and that either of the following occurred:

(a) The defendant had an actual awareness, belief, or understanding that his or her conduct would cause a substantial danger of death or serious bodily injury.

(b) The defendant acted in gross disregard of the standard of care that any reasonable person should observe in similar circumstances.

(7) A civil fine or other civil award imposed under this section is payable to this state and shall be credited to the general fund. The fine constitutes a lien on any property, of any nature or kind, owned by the defendant.

(8) A lien under subsection (7) is effective and has priority over all other liens and encumbrances except those filed or recorded prior to the date of judgment only if notice of the lien is filed or recorded as required by state or federal law.

(9) A lien filed or recorded pursuant to subsection (8) shall be terminated according to the procedures required by state or federal law within 14 days after the fine or other award ordered to be paid is paid.

(10) If a violation of this part also constitutes a violation of another part of this act, a court may apply a civil fine or penalty for the violation, and each day of continued violation, in accordance with and subject to the penalty limits of the other part.

History: Add. 2004, Act 449, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 633
MINING AUTHORIZATION, MULTIPLE OWNERS

324.63301 Definitions.

Sec. 63301. The following words and terms as used in this part have the meaning ascribed to them in this section:

(a) "Mineral", when employed in a conveyance, includes every inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth for profit whether it is solid, as rock, fire clay, the various metals, and coal, or fluid, as mineral waters. Mineral does not include oil or gas.

(b) "Person" means any natural person, corporation, association, partnership, receiver, trustee, judiciary or common law trust, guardian, executor, administrator, or fiduciary of any kind.

(c) "Royalty interest" means that share of the product or profit that the owner of the land or mineral rights in the land reserves or is entitled to, whether under a lease or under this part, in consideration of permitting the development of the mineral rights. Royalty interest does not include oil or gas or interests in oil or gas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.63302 Exploration of certain lands for mining purposes.

Sec. 63302. Whenever lands or mineral rights in lands in this state are owned by tenants in common, joint owners, co-tenants, or co-parceners, whether title is derived by purchase, devise, descent, or otherwise, or whether or not any or all of the owners are minors, the tenants in common, joint owners, co-tenants, or co-parceners who hold not less than 3/4 interest in the title to the lands or mineral rights in the lands may explore, drill, mine, develop, and operate the lands for mining purposes, except for oil and gas, and may remove and transport the minerals or mineral products from the lands or store the minerals or mineral products on the lands and sell and dispose of the minerals and mineral products in the manner provided for in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63303 Decree of court to lease land; complaint.

Sec. 63303. The owner or owners of not less than 3/4 in interest desiring to lease land or the mineral rights in the land for mining purposes, except for oil and gas, or desiring to explore, drill, develop, or operate the land for minerals or mineral products and to remove the minerals or mineral products from the land, may file a complaint in a circuit court for the county in which the land or a part of the land is located, to obtain a decree of the court authorizing the owner or owners to lease the land or the mineral rights or to explore, drill, mine, develop, and operate the land for mining purposes, except for oil and gas, and remove and transport minerals or mineral products from the land or store the minerals or mineral products on the land of all owners of the land. The complaint shall set forth the relevant facts and the interests of all persons to the extent these are known to the plaintiffs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63304 Decree of court; distribution of proceeds.

Sec. 63304. If the court finds that the material assertions of the complaint are true and that the plaintiffs do own the required interest in the land or mineral rights as joint tenants, tenants in common, co-tenants, or co-parceners, or that the required proportion in interest of such owners consent to the granting of the relief prayed in the complaint, the court shall enter a decree authorizing the plaintiffs to lease for exploring, drilling, mining, and operating the land for mining purposes, except for oil and gas, and to remove the minerals or mineral products from the land and sell or dispose of the minerals or mineral products so as to realize the full value of the minerals or mineral products for the benefit of all entitled parties. The defendants and minority interest holders, whether owner of fee or royalty interests or their lessees, shall participate in their proportionate share of the proceeds derived from the sale of minerals or mineral products produced from the land. If the court finds that a lease of a royalty interest should be granted, the terms and conditions of the lease shall be fixed by the court in its decree, but the royalty payable to the royalty interest shall not be less than 1/10 of the minerals or mineral products or the value of the minerals or mineral products as produced and severed from the land at the point of production. The court shall provide by decree for the disposition by the plaintiffs of the proportionate part of the proceeds from the sale of the defendants' portion of the minerals or mineral products produced and shall provide for the payment and distribution of the proceeds to the defendants as their respective interests may appear, after deduction of the proportionate costs of the proceedings and those other expenses incurred by the plaintiffs that are approved by the court.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63305 Deposit with clerk of court when defendant is unknown.

Sec. 63305. If the whereabouts of any of the defendants is unknown, the court may require the plaintiffs to deposit those defendants' share of the net proceeds from minerals or mineral products with the clerk of the court, to be held for the defendants, as the court may direct.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.63306 Suits by lessees.

Sec. 63306. If a person or persons holding not less than a 3/4 interest in the land has or have executed a mineral lease or leases to any person, the lessee or lessees may institute and maintain or defend any suit provided for by this part, either in the name of the lessee or in the name of his or her lessor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 634
SMALL NATIVE COPPER MINES

324.63401 Definitions.

Sec. 63401. As used in this part:

(a) "Administratively complete" refers to an application for a mining permit under this part that includes the fee and all of the documents and other information required under this part and any rules promulgated under this part.

(b) "Conformance bond" means a surety bond that has been executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, cash, a certificate of deposit, a letter of credit, or other security filed by a person and accepted by the department to ensure compliance with this part or rules promulgated under this part.

(c) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(d) "Fund" means the small native copper mine surveillance fund created in section 63415.

(e) "Life of the mine" means the period from initiation of mining activities through the completion of reclamation.

(f) "Mine" or "mining" means an operation to excavate or remove earth material that generates not less than 10,000 tons and not more than 75,000 tons of waste rock in a calendar year or disturbs not less than 1 acre and not more than 10 acres of land in a calendar year in the regular operation of a business for the primary purpose of extracting native copper by 1 or both of the following:

(*i*) Removing the overburden lying above natural deposits of native copper and excavating directly from the natural deposits thus exposed or by excavating directly from deposits lying exposed in their natural state.

(*ii*) Excavating from below the surface of the ground by means of shafts, tunnels, or other subsurface openings.

(g) "Mining activity" means any of the following activities within a mining area for the purpose of, or associated with, mining:

(*i*) Clearing and grading of land.

(*ii*) Drilling and blasting.

(*iii*) Excavation of earth materials to access or remove ore.

(*iv*) Crushing, grinding, or separation activities.

(*v*) Reclamation.

(*vi*) Transportation of overburden, waste rock, ore, and tailings within the mining area.

(*vii*) Storage, relocation, and disposal of overburden, waste rock, ore, and tailings within a mining area, including backfilling of mined areas.

(*viii*) Construction of water impoundment and drainage features.

(*ix*) Construction of haul roads.

(*x*) Construction of utilities or extension of existing utilities.

(*xi*) Withdrawal, transportation, and discharge of water in connection with mining.

(h) "Mining area" means all of the following:

(*i*) Land from which material is removed by surface or open pit mining methods.

(*ii*) Land on which adits, shafts, or other openings between the land surface and underground mine workings are located.

(*iii*) Land on which material from mining is deposited.

(*iv*) Land on which crushing, grinding, or separation facilities are located.

(*v*) Land on which water reservoirs used in connection with mining are located.

(i) "Mining permit" or "permit" means a permit issued under section 63405 for conducting mining activities.

(j) "Native copper" means copper in its elemental form.

(k) "Operator" means a person that is engaged in or preparing to engage in mining activities, whether individually or jointly, or through agents, employees, or contractors, and that has overall responsibility for the

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mining activities.

(*l*) "Permittee" means a person that holds a mining permit.

(m) "Waste rock" means earth material that is excavated during mining, from which the economically recoverable native copper has been separated, and that is stored on the surface for 1 year or more. Waste rock does not include earth material from excavation or grading done in preparation for commencement of mining.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63403 Enforcement and administration of part; rules; inspection and investigation by department; regulation by local governmental unit; restrictions.

Sec. 63403. (1) The department shall administer and enforce this part. In addition to other powers granted to it, the department may promulgate rules it considers necessary to carry out its duties under this part.

(2) The department may enter at any reasonable time in or upon a mining area for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to mining activities.

(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), a local unit of government shall not regulate or control mining or reclamation activities that are subject to this part, including construction, operation, closure, postclosure monitoring, reclamation, and remediation activities, and does not have jurisdiction concerning the issuance of permits for those activities.

(4) A local unit of government may enact, maintain, and enforce ordinances or regulations affecting mining if the ordinances or regulations do not duplicate, contradict, or conflict with this part and are reasonable in accommodating customary mining activities.

(5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not prohibit a local unit of government from conducting water quality monitoring.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63405 Mining permit; application.

Sec. 63405. (1) A person shall not engage in mining activities except as authorized by a mining permit issued by the department. A separate mining permit is required for each mine.

(2) An application for a mining permit shall be submitted by the operator to the department on a form prescribed by the department. The application shall include all of the following:

(a) A permit application fee of $5,000.00. The department shall forward the permit application fee to the state treasurer for deposit in the fund.

(b) Provisions for a conformance bond as described in section 63409.

(c) A mining and reclamation plan as described in subsection (3) that addresses mining activities proposed in the application.

(3) The mining and reclamation plan required in subsection (2) shall include all of the following:

(a) A map or maps showing the locations and dimensions of the following:

(*i*) Proposed adits, shafts, underground mine workings, and surface pits.

(*ii*) Proposed overburden, waste rock, and ore stockpiles.

(*iii*) Any crushing, grinding, or separation equipment that will be utilized.

(b) A description of the mining methods that will be utilized.

(c) Plans and descriptions of measures that will minimize soil erosion and sedimentation during mining activities.

(d) A map and description of fencing or other techniques to minimize public safety hazards.

(e) Plans and schedules for reclamation of the mining area following cessation of mining activities. The plans and schedules shall address mining activities proposed in the application and provide for grading, revegetation, and stabilization that will do all of the following:

(*i*) Minimize soil erosion and sedimentation.

(*ii*) Protect public safety.

(*iii*) Establish conditions that promote future beneficial use and do not require perpetual care.

(f) Plans and schedules for baseline water quality sampling, which must be conducted before mining commences. Samples shall be collected from the existing water supply wells available for sampling and located within 1,320 feet of the proposed mining area. However, samples are not required from more than 3 such water supply wells. In addition, samples shall be collected from the nearest surface water body located within 1,320 feet of the proposed mining area, if any. The samples shall be analyzed for pH, copper, and

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nitrate using laboratory methods approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(4) Within 7 days after receiving an application for a mining permit, the department shall give notice in writing to the county and municipality where the mine is proposed to be located of the specific location of the proposed mine. Within 14 days after receiving an application for a mining permit, the department shall publish notice of the application in a newspaper of local distribution in the area of the proposed mine and shall post a copy of the application on its website.

(5) Subject to subsection (6), effective 14 days after the department receives an application for a mining permit, the application shall be considered to be administratively complete.

(6) If, before the date indicated by subsection (5), the department notifies the applicant that the application is not administratively complete, specifying the information or fee necessary to make the application administratively complete, the running of the 14-day period under subsection (5) is tolled until the applicant submits to the department the specified information or fee.

(7) Subject to subsection (8), the department shall grant or deny a mining permit within 45 days after an application is considered or determined to be administratively complete under subsection (5) or (6). If a mining permit is denied, the reasons shall be stated in a written report to the applicant.

(8) If the department determines that information in the application is insufficient to determine whether a permit may be granted, the department may request additional information or clarification from the applicant. The 45-day period under subsection (7) is tolled until the applicant submits the requested information.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63407 Mining permit; validity; revocation; termination; transfer; amendment.

Sec. 63407. (1) A mining permit is valid for the life of the mine. However, the department may revoke a permit if the permittee has not commenced mining activities covered by the permit within 3 years after the date of issuance of the permit.

(2) The department may terminate a mining permit upon request of the permittee if the department determines that the permittee has complied with all applicable provisions of this part.

(3) A mining permit may be transferred with approval of the department. The person seeking to acquire the permit shall submit a request for transfer of the permit to the department on forms provided by the department. The person acquiring the permit shall accept the conditions of the existing permit and adhere to the requirements set forth in the approved mining and reclamation plan and provide a conformance bond as set forth in section 63409. Pending the transfer of the existing permit, the person seeking to acquire the permit shall not operate the mine.

(4) A mining permit shall not be transferred to a person who has been determined by the department to be in violation of this part, rules promulgated under this part, or a condition of a permit issued under this part, until the person acquiring the permit has corrected the violation or the department has accepted a compliance schedule and the person that will acquire the permit has entered into a written consent agreement to correct the violation.

(5) If the permittee has been notified by the department of a violation of this part, rules promulgated under this part, or a condition of the permit issued under this part at the mining area involved in the transfer, the mining permit shall not be transferred to a person until the permittee has corrected the violation or the person that will acquire the permit has entered into a written consent agreement to correct the violation.

(6) A mining permit may be amended upon submission to the department of a request by the permittee. The department shall determine whether the requested amendment constitutes a significant change to the mining and reclamation plan. If the department determines that the requested amendment constitutes a significant change, the department shall submit the request for amendment to the same review process as provided for a new permit application in section 63405(4) to (8). If the department determines that the requested amendment does not constitute a significant change, the department shall approve the request within 14 days after receiving the request.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63409 Conformance bond; amount; duration; violation.

Sec. 63409. (1) For each mine, an operator shall maintain a conformance bond in the amount of $50,000.00 during mining activities and until the department determines that all reclamation has been completed in compliance with the mining permit.

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(2) If an operator violates subsection (1), the department may order immediate suspension of mining activities, including the removal of native copper from the site.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63411 Mine operator; compliance with applicable requirements; duties upon suspension of mining activities; beginning and completing final reclamation of mining area; time period; extension; compliance with other applicable state or federal statutes or regulations.

Sec. 63411. (1) An operator shall comply with all other applicable requirements of this act.

(2) An operator shall conduct mining activities at a mining area in conformance with the approved mining and reclamation plan.

(3) If mining activities are suspended for a continuous period exceeding 240 days, the operator shall maintain, monitor, and secure the mining area and shall conduct any interim sloping or stabilizing of surfaces necessary to protect the environment, natural resources, or public health and safety in accordance with the mining permit.

(4) Subject to subsection (5), an operator shall begin final reclamation of a mining area within 3 years after the date of cessation of other mining activities and shall complete reclamation within the time set forth in the mining and reclamation plan approved by the department under section 63405.

(5) Upon written request of the operator, the department may approve an extension of time to begin or complete final reclamation.

(6) Compliance with this part does not relieve a person of the responsibility to comply with all other applicable state or federal statutes or regulations.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63413 Fees and penalties.

Sec. 63413. (1) For purposes of surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of this part, an operator shall pay the department by February 15 of each year an operating fee of $5,000.00 for each mine where mining activities were ongoing as of December 31 of the previous year. The fee is due each year until the mining activities cease and the department has released the conformance bond.

(2) The department shall assess a penalty equal to 2% of the amount due against the operator for each month or part of a month during which an operating fee has not been paid after the due date.

(3) The department shall forward all annual operating fees and penalties collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit in the fund.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63415 Small native copper mine surveillance fund; creation; deposit of money or other assets; investment; interest and earnings; money remaining at close of fiscal year; expenditures.

Sec. 63415. (1) The small native copper mine surveillance fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement under this part.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63417 Failing or neglecting to perform reclamation in conformance with part or rules;

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notice of determination; service; reclamation to be conducted by department; liability for expenses of department; claim; order to immediately suspend mining activities; findings; duration; extension; action by attorney general.

Sec. 63417. (1) If the department determines that an operator has failed or neglected to perform reclamation in conformance with this part or rules promulgated under this part, the department shall give notice of this determination, in writing, to the operator and to the surety executing the conformance bond under section 63409. The notice of determination shall be served upon the operator and surety in person or by registered mail. If the operator or surety fails or neglects to properly commence the required reclamation within 90 days after the date of personal service or mailing of the notice or fails to proceed with reclamation at a rate that will conclude the reclamation within the period specified in the mining and reclamation plan, the department may enter into and upon any private or public property on which the mining area is located and upon and across any private or public property necessary to reach the mining area and conduct necessary reclamation, and the operator and surety are jointly and severally liable for all expenses incurred by the department. The department shall certify to the operator and surety the claim of this state in writing, listing the items of expense incurred in reclamation. The claim shall be paid by the operator or surety within 30 days. If the claim is not paid within that time, the department may bring suit against the operator or surety, jointly or severally, for the collection of the claim in any court of competent jurisdiction in Ingham County.

(2) The department may order immediate suspension of any mining activities if the department finds that there exists an emergency endangering the public health and safety or an imminent threat to the natural resources of this state.

(3) An order suspending mining activities under subsection (2) shall be in effect until the endangerment to the public health and safety or the threat to the natural resources has been eliminated, but not more than 10 days. To extend the suspension beyond 10 days, the department shall issue an emergency order to continue the suspension of mining activities and shall schedule a hearing as provided by the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The total duration of the suspension of activities shall not be more than 30 days.

(4) At the request of the department, the attorney general may institute an action in a circuit court of the county in which the mining area is located for a restraining order or injunction or other appropriate remedy to prevent or preclude a violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63418 Mining of earth material having significant acid-forming or leachable characteristics; exception.

Sec. 63418. Mining of earth material that has significant acid-forming or leachable characteristics is not subject to this part.

History: Add. 2017, Act 40, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 635
SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND COAL MINE RECLAMATION

SUBPART 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS

324.63501 Meanings of words and phrases defined in MCL 324.63502 and 324.63503.

Sec. 63501. For the purposes of this part, the words and phrases defined in sections 63502 and 63503 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63502 Definitions; A to O.

Sec. 63502. (1) "Agricultural land" includes any of the following as determined by the department of natural resources under this part or part 609 with the concurrence of the department of agriculture and rural development and the United States Department of Agriculture:

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(a) Prime farmland, which is land that is determined to have the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, and fiber crops and is also available for these uses, including cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forestland, or other land, but not urban built-up land or water. Prime farmland has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to acceptable farming methods. In general, prime farmland has an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. Prime farmland is permeable to water and air. Prime farmland is not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time, and it either does not flood frequently or is protected from flooding.

(b) Unique farmland, which is land other than prime farmland that is determined to have value for the production of specific high-value food and fiber crops. Unique farmland has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high quality or high yields or both high quality and high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. Unique farmland includes those areas containing organic soils producing vegetables and specialty crops; high-lying and relatively frost-free fruit sites; and areas of high water table acid soils especially suited to highbush blueberry culture as well as the areas in the Upper Peninsula copper country that are producing strawberries.

(c) Other farmland, which is land other than prime farmland and unique farmland that is determined to have a combination of soils, location, and management characteristics that is producing or can produce in or for a region food, feed, forage, and fiber crops and is land on which agriculture represents the greatest current economic return from the land. Other farmland includes beef cow-calf operations that occur on generally fine-textured, somewhat poorly drained soils well-suited to forage production and grazing. Other farmland includes cropland areas that by their location are especially suited for the production of disease-free seed crops or that offer special opportunities for integrated best management programs.

(2) "Applicant" means a person applying for a permit from the department to conduct surface coal mining activities or underground coal mining activities pursuant to this part.

(3) "Approximate original contour" means that surface configuration achieved by the backfilling and grading of the mined area so that the reclaimed area, including any terracing or access roads, closely resembles the general surface configuration of the land prior to mining and blends into and complements the drainage pattern of the surrounding terrain, with all highwalls and spoil piles eliminated.

(4) "Coal" means all forms of coal including lignite. Coal does not include clay, stone, sand, gravel, metalliferous and nonmetalliferous ores, and any other solid material or substance of commercial value excavated in solid form from natural deposits on or in the earth, exclusive of coal, and those minerals that occur naturally in liquid or gaseous form.

(5) "Coal exploration operation" means the substantial disturbance of the surface or subsurface for the purpose of or related to determining the location, quantity, or quality of a coal deposit.

(6) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(7) "Eligible land and water" means all land that was mined for coal or was affected by that mining, wastebanks, coal processing, or other coal mining processing, and abandoned or left in an inadequate reclamation status under the standards provided in subparts 3 and 4 prior to August 3, 1977, and for which there is not a continuing reclamation responsibility under state or federal law.

(8) "Historic resource" means a district, site, building, structure, or object of historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance that meets any of the following requirements:

(a) Is designated as a national historic landmark pursuant to the historic sites, buildings, and antiquities act, 54 USC 102303, 102304, 320101 to 320104, and 320106.

(b) Is listed on the national register of historic places pursuant to the national historic preservation act, 54 USC 300101, 300301 to 300305, 300307 to 300311, 300313 to 300320, 302101 to 302108, 302301 to 302304, 302501 to 302505, 302701 to 302706, 302901 to 302910, 303101 to 303103, 303901 to 303903, 304101 to 304112, 305501 to 305505, 306101 to 306114, 306121, 306122, 306131, and 307101 to 307108, or the state register of historic sites pursuant to the Governor John B. Swainson Michigan historical markers act, 1955 PA 10, MCL 399.151 to 399.160.

(c) Is recognized under a locally established historic district created pursuant to the local historic districts act, 1970 PA 169, MCL 399.201 to 399.215.

(d) Is eligible for listing, designation, or recognition under subdivisions (a) to (c).

(9) "Imminent danger to the health and safety of the public" means the existence of any condition or practice, or any violation of a permit or other requirement of this part in a surface coal mining and reclamation operation, which condition, practice, or violation could reasonably be expected to cause

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substantial physical harm to persons outside the permit area before the condition, practice, or violation can be abated. A reasonable expectation of death or serious injury before abatement exists if a reasonable person, subjected to the same conditions or practices giving rise to the peril, would not expose himself or herself to the danger during the time necessary for abatement.

(10) "Local unit of government" means a county, city, township, or village; a board, commission, or authority of a county, city, township, or village; or a soil conservation district.

(11) "Operator" means a person engaged in coal mining who removes or intends to remove more than 250 tons of coal from the earth by coal mining within 12 consecutive calendar months in any 1 location.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001;—Am. 2017, Act 186, Eff. Feb. 19, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63503 Definitions; P to U.

Sec. 63503. (1) "Permit" means a permit issued by the department to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

(2) "Permit area" means the area of land indicated on the approved map submitted by the operator with the operator's application, which area of land is covered by the operator's bond required by section 63529 and is readily identifiable by appropriate markers on the site.

(3) "Permittee" means a person holding a permit to conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations or underground mining activities pursuant to this part.

(4) "Reclamation plan" means a plan submitted by an applicant which provides a plan for reclamation of the proposed surface coal mining operations pursuant to section 63518.

(5) "Soil conservation district" means a soil conservation district established and operating pursuant to part 93.

(6) "Surface coal mining and reclamation operations" means surface mining operations and all activities necessary and incident to the reclamation of those operations conducted in this state after August 3, 1977.

(7) "Surface coal mining operations" means:

(a) Activities conducted in this state on the surface of any land in connection with a surface coal mine or subject to the requirements of section 63532 incident to an underground coal mine. These activities include excavation for the purpose of obtaining coal including such common methods as contour, strip, auger, mountaintop removal, box cut, open pit, and area and any other areas impacted by the surface coal mining operation mining, the use of explosives and blasting, and in situ distillation or retorting, leaching or other chemical or physical processing, and the cleaning, concentrating, or other processing or preparation, loading of coal at or near the mine site.

(b) The areas on which activities described in subdivision (a) occur or where those activities disturb the natural land surface, including adjacent land the use of which is incidental to those activities; all land affected by the construction of new roads or the improvement or use of existing roads to gain access to the site of those activities and for haulage; and excavations, workings, impoundments, dams, ventilation shafts, entryways, refuse banks, dumps, stockpiles, overburden piles, spoil banks, culm banks, tailings, holes or depressions, repair areas, storage areas, processing areas, shipping areas, and other areas on which are sited structures or facilities; or other property or materials on the surface, resulting from or incident to those activities.

(8) "Surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977" means Public Law 95-87, 91 Stat. 445.

(9) "Title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977" means title IV of Public Law 95-87, 30 U.S.C. 1231 to 1243.

(10) "Unwarranted failure to comply" means the failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of any violation of his or her permit or any requirement of this part due to indifference, lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care or the failure to abate any violation of his or her permit or this part due to indifference, lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63504 Assumption by state of exclusive jurisdiction over regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations in state; purpose of part.

Sec. 63504. Pursuant to the authority granted in section 503 of title V of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, Public Law 95-87, 30 U.S.C. 1253, that allows a state to assume and retain exclusive jurisdiction over the regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations within that state by

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obtaining approval of a state program that has the capability of implementing and enforcing the provisions and purposes of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, this state wishes to assume exclusive jurisdiction over the regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations in this state. It is the purpose of this part to provide a state plan to implement and enforce the purposes provided in section 102 of title I of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, Public Law 95-87, 30 U.S.C. 1202.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63505 Exclusive jurisdiction of department over surface coal mining and reclamation operations in state; construction of part.

Sec. 63505. The department has exclusive jurisdiction over all surface coal mining and reclamation operations in this state. This part shall not be construed as preempting a zoning ordinance enacted by a local unit of government or impairing a land use plan adopted pursuant to a law of this state by a local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63506 Powers of department.

Sec. 63506. To implement this part, the department has the following powers:

(a) To promulgate and enforce rules pertaining to surface coal mining and reclamation operations consistent with the general intent and purposes of this part.

(b) To issue permits pursuant to this part.

(c) To conduct hearings pursuant to this part and the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(d) To issue orders requiring an operator to take actions that are necessary to comply with this part and with rules promulgated under this part.

(e) To issue orders modifying previous orders.

(f) To issue a final order revoking the permit of an operator who has failed to comply with an order of the department requiring the operator to take action required by this part or rules promulgated under this part.

(g) To order the immediate cessation of an ongoing surface mining operation or part of an ongoing surface mining operation if the department finds that the operation or part of the operation creates an imminent danger to the health and safety of the public, or is causing or can reasonably be expected to cause significant imminent harm to land, air, or water resources, and to take other action or make changes in a permit that are reasonably necessary to avoid or alleviate these conditions.

(h) To enter on and inspect a surface mining operation that is subject to this part to assure compliance with this part.

(i) To conduct, encourage, request, and participate in studies, surveys, investigations, research, experiments, training, and demonstrations by contract, grant, or otherwise.

(j) To prepare and require permittees to prepare reports.

(k) To accept, receive, and administer grants pursuant to section 407(e) of title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977 and accept, receive, and administer grants, gifts, loans, or other funds made available from any other source for the purposes of this part.

(*l*) To take those steps necessary to ensure that the state may participate to the fullest extent practicable in the abandoned land program provided in title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977.

(m) To take those actions necessary to establish exclusive jurisdiction over surface coal mining and reclamation in this state under the provisions of this part and the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, including, in the event the federal administrative agency disapproves this state's program as submitted, making recommendations for remedial legislation to clarify, alter, or amend the program to meet the terms of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977.

(n) To enter into contracts with other state agencies that have pertinent expertise to obtain the professional and technical services necessary to implement this part.

(o) To establish a process, in order to avoid duplication, for coordinating the review and issuance of permits for surface coal mining and reclamation operations with any other federal or state permit process applicable to the proposed operations.

(p) To enter into cooperative agreements with the secretary of the United States department of the interior for the regulation of surface coal mining operations on federal land in accordance with the surface mining

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control and reclamation act of 1977.

(q) To perform any other duties and acts required by and provided for in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63507 Rules.

Sec. 63507. (1) The department shall promulgate rules pertaining to surface coal mining and reclamation operations that are required by this part.

(2) A rule promulgated or a permit issued by the department may differ in its terms and provisions as to particular permit conditions, types of coal being extracted, particular areas of the state, or any other conditions that appear relevant and necessary if the action taken is consistent with attainment of the general intent and purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63508 Information submitted to department, other state agency, or local unit of government as public record; confidential information; rules.

Sec. 63508. Except when confidentiality is provided in this part, information submitted to the department, other state agency, or local unit of government pursuant to this part shall be a public record as provided in the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Information that pertains only to the analysis of the chemical and physical properties of coal, excepting information regarding such mineral or elemental content that is potentially toxic in the environment, or information that pertains to the exact location of archeological sites shall be kept confidential and is not a public record. The department shall promulgate rules establishing a procedure to determine whether information that pertains only to the analysis of the chemical and physical properties of the coal shall be kept confidential.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 2
ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION

324.63509 Participation in abandoned mines reclamation fund established by title IV of surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977; authorization; action; procedures.

Sec. 63509. The department is authorized to take all action necessary to ensure participation to the fullest extent practicable in the abandoned mines reclamation fund established by title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, and to function as the state's agency for that participation relative to coal mining. Pursuant to this part and title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, the department shall establish procedures for the designation of the land and water eligible for reclamation or abatement expenditures; for the submission of reclamation plans, annual projects, and applications to the appropriate authorities pursuant to the terms of this part and title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977; and for the administration of all money received for abandoned mine reclamation or related purposes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63510 State abandoned mine reclamation fund; creation; administration; investment of money; use of interest and earnings; money deposited in fund; carrying over remaining money; expenditures.

Sec. 63510. (1) The state abandoned mine reclamation fund is created in the state treasury and shall be administered by the department. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of money in the fund. The interest and earnings of the fund shall be used exclusively for the purposes specified in subsection (4).

(2) The following money shall be deposited in the fund:

(a) All funds from the application fees imposed under subpart 3, the inspection and reclamation fees

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imposed under subpart 9, and the civil fines imposed under subpart 8.

(b) All funds made available to the department for the purposes specified in subsection (4) pursuant to title IV of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977.

(c) All funds which may be donated to the department for the purposes specified in subsection (4) by any person.

(3) Any money remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall be carried over in the fund to the next and succeeding fiscal years and shall only be used for the purposes specified in subsection (4).

(4) Expenditure of money from the state abandoned mine reclamation fund shall be made as follows:

(a) Money that is deposited in the fund under subsection (2)(b) shall reflect the following priorities in the order stated:

(*i*) The protection of public health, safety, general welfare, and property from extreme danger of adverse effects of coal mining practices.

(*ii*) The protection of public health, safety, and general welfare from adverse effects of coal mining practices.

(*iii*) The restoration of land and water resources and the environment previously degraded by adverse effects of coal mining practices including measures for the conservation and development of soil; water, excluding channelization; woodland, fish, and wildlife; recreation resources; and agricultural productivity.

(*iv*) Research and demonstration projects relating to the development of surface mining reclamation and water quality control program methods and techniques.

(*v*) The protection, repair, replacement, construction, or enhancement of public facilities such as utilities, roads, recreation, and conservation facilities adversely affected by coal mining practices.

(*vi*) The development of publicly owned land adversely affected by coal mining practices including land acquired as provided in this part for recreation and historic purposes, conservation, and reclamation purposes and open space benefits.

(b) Money that is deposited in the fund under subsection (2)(a) or (c) for any of the expenditures authorized in subdivision (a) and for any other purpose of this part including the cost of administering this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63511 Entry on private property by department; purposes; conditions; notice; money expended and benefits accruing to property chargeable against land; mitigating or offsetting claim in action by owner for damages; acquisition by department of land adversely affected by past coal mining practices; sale or transfer of acquired land suitable for development; rules; grant; public hearings.

Sec. 63511. (1) The department may, in the manner provided in this section, enter on private property for the purposes of conducting an investigation, inspection, study, or exploratory work to determine the existence of adverse effects of past coal mining practices and to determine the feasibility of restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of those adverse effects.

(2) The department may enter on property as provided in subsection (3) if all of the following conditions exist:

(a) The land or water resources on the property have been adversely affected by past coal mining practices.

(b) The adverse effects to land or water resources on the property are at a stage where, in the public interest, action should be taken to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of past coal mining practices.

(c) The department gives notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the record owner or owners of the property requesting permission to enter on the property.

(d) The owners of the land or water resources where entry must be made to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of past coal mining practices are not known, or readily identifiable; or the owners of the property will not give permission, after receiving notice under subdivision (c), for the state or local unit of government to enter on the property to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of past coal mining practices.

(3) After giving notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the record owner or owners of the property; posting notice on the property; and advertising for 4 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the property is located, the department may enter on property adversely affected by the past coal mining practices and any other property necessary to have access to the property to

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take those actions necessary or expedient to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects. The money expended to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects and the benefits accruing to the property entered on is chargeable against the land and shall mitigate or offset any claim in an action brought by the owner of any interest in the property for damages by virtue of the entry. This subsection is not intended to create new rights of action or eliminate existing immunities.

(4) The department may acquire land by purchase, donation, or condemnation that is adversely affected by past coal mining practices if the department determines that acquisition of the land is in the public interest, is necessary to successful reclamation, and either subdivision (a) or (b) applies:

(a) The acquired land, after restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past coal mining practices, will serve recreation and historic purposes, conservation and reclamation purposes, or provide open space benefits; and permanent facilities such as a treatment plant or a relocated stream channel will be constructed on the land for the restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past coal mining practices.

(b) Acquisition of coal refuse disposal sites and all coal refuse on the acquired land will serve the purposes of this section or is desirable to meet emergency situations and prevent recurrences of the adverse effects of past coal mining practices.

(5) The price paid for land acquired pursuant to this section shall reflect the market value of the land taking into consideration its current use and its condition as adversely affected by past coal mining practices.

(6) If land acquired pursuant to this section is considered suitable for agricultural, industrial, commercial, residential, or recreational development, the state may sell or transfer the land pursuant to rules promulgated by the department and procedures provided by law to ensure that the land is put to proper use consistent with the land use plans of local units of government. If a grant accepted pursuant to section 63506(k) is involved in the acquisition of the land to be sold, the land may be sold only when authorized by the secretary of the United States department of the interior. The department shall hold a public hearing in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, in the county or counties of the state in which land acquired pursuant to this section is located. The hearings shall afford local citizens and local units of government an opportunity to participate in the decision concerning the use or disposition of the land after restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past coal mining practices.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63512 Itemizing money expended to complete project; filing statement of account and appraisal with county clerk; filing of lis pendens with statement of account and appraisal as lien on land; priority; amount; lien not to be filed against certain property; petition for hearing concerning amount of lien; appeal.

Sec. 63512. (1) Within 6 months after the completion of a project to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of past mining practices on privately owned property, the department shall itemize the money expended to complete the project and shall file an account of the money expended with the clerk of the county in which the property is located, together with a notarized appraisal by an independent appraiser of the value of the land before the restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past mining practices if the money so expended will result in a significant increase in property value. The filing of lis pendens with a copy of the statement of account and the appraisal constitutes a lien on the land second in priority only to a lien for delinquent property taxes placed on the property pursuant to section 40 of the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being section 211.40 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The lien shall not exceed the amount of the increase in the market value of the land as a result of the restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past mining practices. A lien shall not be filed against the property of a person who was a record owner of the surface rights in the property prior to May 2, 1977, and who did not consent to, participate in, or exercise control over the mining operation that necessitated the restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of the adverse effects of past mining practices.

(2) An affected landowner may petition the department within 60 days of the filing of the lien for a hearing concerning the amount of the lien. That hearing and any appeal shall be conducted under chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.271 to 24.287 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63513 Expenditures from state abandoned mine reclamation fund for emergency restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of adverse effects; conditions; entry on land where emergency exists as exercise of police power; warrant; action for damages; intent of subsection (2).

Sec. 63513. (1) The department may expend money from the state abandoned mine reclamation fund created by section 63510 for the emergency restoration, reclamation, abatement, control, or prevention of adverse effects of coal mining practices on eligible land, if the department finds that all the following conditions exist:

(a) An emergency exists constituting a danger to the public health, safety, or general welfare.

(b) No other person, state agency, or local unit of government has commenced actions or operations on the eligible land to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of past coal mining practices.

(2) The department may enter on any land where the emergency exists and any other land necessary to have access to the land where the emergency exists to take those actions necessary or expedient to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects of coal mining practices and to do all things necessary or expedient to protect the public health, safety, or general welfare, if the department has obtained a warrant authorizing that entry. Entry pursuant to this subsection is an exercise of the police power and not an act of condemnation or trespass. If the owner of any interest in the property brings an action for damages because of an entry made pursuant to this subsection, the money expended to restore, reclaim, abate, control, or prevent the adverse effects and the benefits accruing to the property entered on is chargeable against the land and shall mitigate or offset any claim in that action. This subsection does not create new rights of action or eliminate existing immunities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 3
PERMITS

324.63514 Conduct of surface coal mining operation without permit.

Sec. 63514. A person shall not conduct a surface coal mining operation in this state except as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63515 Term of permits; continuation of plan by successor in interest; termination of permit; extensions of time to commence operations; conditions.

Sec. 63515. (1) Permits issued pursuant to this part are for a term not to exceed 3 years, except that if the applicant demonstrates that a specified longer term is reasonably needed to allow the applicant to obtain necessary financing for equipment and to open the operation, and if the application is full and complete for the specified longer term, the department may grant a permit for that longer term. A successor in interest to a permittee who applies for a new permit within 30 days of succeeding to that interest and who is able to obtain the same bond coverage pursuant to subpart 5 as the original permittee may continue the surface coal mining and reclamation plan of the original permittee until the successor's application is granted or denied.

(2) A permit shall terminate if the permittee has not commenced the surface coal mining operation covered by the permit within 2 years after commencement of the period for which the permit is issued. However, upon application by the permittee, the department may grant reasonable extensions of time, not to exceed 6 months each, to commence a surface coal mining operation if the permittee demonstrates either of the following:

(a) The extension is necessary because the commencement of the operation has been enjoined by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) The extension is necessary because of conditions beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the permittee.

For a coal lease issued under chapter 85, 41 Stat. 437, 30 U.S.C. 181 to 184, 185 to 188, 189 to 191, 192, 193, 195, 201, 202 to 203, 205 to 208-2, 209, 211 to 214, 223, 224 to 226, 226-2 to 226-3, 228 to 229a, 241, 251, and 261 to 263, commonly known as the mineral lands leasing act of 1920, the department shall not

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grant extensions of time that extend beyond the period allowed for diligent development under section 7 of chapter 85, 41 Stat. 439, commonly known as the mineral lands leasing act of 1920, 30 U.S.C. 207.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63516 Permit application; contents; submission of certificate of public liability insurance policy to department; policy provisions; maintenance of policy in full force and effect.

Sec. 63516. (1) The permit application shall be submitted to the department and shall contain all of the following:

(a) The names and addresses of the following persons:

(*i*) The applicant.

(*ii*) All legal owners of record of the property, surface or mineral, to be mined.

(*iii*) The holders of record of any leasehold interest in the property to be mined.

(*iv*) The purchasers of record under a land contract of the property to be mined.

(*v*) The operator if the operator is a person other than the applicant.

(*vi*) If the applicant is a partnership, corporation, association, or other business entity, the following where applicable: the names and addresses of every officer, partner, director, or person performing a function similar to a director, of the applicant; the name and address of any person owning of record 10% or more of any class of voting stock of the applicant; and a list of all names under which the applicant, partner, or principal shareholder previously operated a surface mining operation within the United States within the 5-year period preceding the date of submission of the application.

(b) The names and addresses of the owners of record of all surface and subsurface areas adjacent to the permit area.

(c) A statement of any current or previous surface coal mining permits held by the applicant including permit identification, and any pending application.

(d) Information concerning ownership and management of the applicant or operator required by the department by rule.

(e) A statement of whether the applicant or any subsidiary, affiliate, or other person controlled by or under common control with the applicant has ever held a federal, state, or local mining permit which in the 5-year period prior to the date of submission of the application has been suspended or revoked or whether that person has had a mining bond or similar security deposited in lieu of bond forfeited and, if so, a brief explanation of the facts involved.

(f) A copy of an advertisement to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the proposed site for 4 consecutive weeks, that indicates the ownership and a description of the location and boundaries of the proposed site sufficiently so that the proposed operation may be readily located, and a statement that the application is available for public inspection at the office of the county clerk of each county in which the proposed permit area is located.

(g) A description of the type and method of coal mining operation that exists or is proposed, the engineering techniques proposed or used, and the equipment used or proposed to be used in the mining operation.

(h) The anticipated or actual starting and termination dates of each phase of the mining operation and the number of acres of land to be affected by each phase of the mining operation.

(i) An accurate map or plan, to scale determined by the department by rule, filed by the applicant with the department clearly showing the land to be affected as of the date of the application, the area of land within the permit area on which the applicant has the legal right to enter and commence surface mining operations, and those documents on which the applicant bases his or her legal right to enter and commence surface mining operations on the area affected, and whether that right is the subject of pending court litigation.

(j) Identification of the watershed and location of the surface streams, tributaries, groundwaters, and county and intercounty drains into which surface, pit drainage, or other waters from the mining operation will be discharged.

(k) A determination of the probable hydrologic consequences of the mining and reclamation operation, if any, both on and off the mine site, with respect to the hydrologic regime; quantity and quality of water in surface and groundwater systems, including the dissolved and suspended solids under seasonal flow conditions; and the collection of sufficient data for the mine site and surrounding areas so that an assessment can be made by the department of the probable cumulative impacts of all anticipated mining in the area on the hydrology of the area and particularly on water availability. However, the determination of hydrologic consequences is not required until existing hydrologic information regarding the general area prior to mining

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is made available from the appropriate federal or state agency, except that the permit shall not be approved until the information is available and is incorporated into the permit application.

(*l*) The climatological factors that are peculiar to the locality of the land to be affected, including the average seasonal precipitation, average direction and velocity of prevailing winds, and seasonal temperature ranges.

(m) A statement of the result of test borings or core samplings from the proposed permit area, including logs of the drill holes; the thickness of the coal seam found, and an analysis of the chemical properties of the coal; the sulfur content of any coal seam; a chemical analysis of any potentially acid or toxic-forming sections of the overburden; and a chemical analysis of the stratum lying immediately underneath the coal to be mined. The provisions of this subdivision may be waived by the department with respect to any particular application by a written determination by the department that the information is unnecessary.

(n) A soil survey made or obtained according to standards established by the department of agriculture in order to confirm the exact location of agricultural land, if any, within the proposed permit area. The soil survey shall include the exact location of agricultural land enrolled under part 361.

(o) Accurate maps to scale determined by the department by rule clearly showing both of the following:

(*i*) The land to be affected as of the date of application.

(*ii*) All types of information set forth on topographical maps of the United States geological survey of a scale of 1:24,000 or 1:25,000 or larger, including all human-made features and significant known archeological sites existing on the date of application.

The map or plan shall, among other things specified by the department, show all boundaries of the land to be affected, the boundary lines and names of present owners of record of all surface areas adjacent to the permit area, and the location of all buildings within 1,000 feet of the permit area.

(p) Cross-section maps or plans of the land to be affected to a scale determined by the department by rule, including the actual area to be mined, prepared by or under the direction of and certified by a qualified registered professional engineer, or professional geologist with assistance from experts in related fields such as land surveying and landscape architecture, showing pertinent elevation and location of test borings or core samplings and depicting the following information: the nature and depth of the various strata of overburden; the location of subsurface water, if encountered, and its quality; the nature and thickness of any coal or rider seam above the coal seam to be mined; the nature of the stratum immediately beneath the coal seam to be mined; all mineral crop lines and the strike and dip of the coal to be mined, within the area of land to be affected; existing or previous surface mining limits; the location and extent of any underground mines, including mine openings to the surface; the location of aquifers; the estimated elevation of the water table; the location of spoil, waste, or refuse areas and topsoil preservation areas; the location of all impoundments for waste or erosion control; any settling or water treatment facility; constructed or natural drainways and the location of any discharges to any surface body of water on the area of land to be affected or adjacent thereto; profiles at appropriate cross-sections of the anticipated final surface configuration that will be achieved pursuant to the operator's proposed reclamation plan; and other information required by the department by rule that is consistent with the purposes of this part.

(q) A reclamation plan that meets the requirements of this part and the requirements of the zoning ordinances enacted by a local unit of government.

(r) A determination of the impact on historic preservation concerns including all of the following:

(*i*) A statement of available information on whether the proposed permit area is within an area designated unsuitable for surface mining activities due to the potential effect of mining on historic resources or whether the area is under study for a designation of unsuitability in an administrative proceeding.

(*ii*) A description of the historic resources located within the proposed permit area and adjacent areas. The description shall be based on available information, including data in the possession of state and local archeological, historical, and cultural preservation agencies.

(*iii*) A map showing the boundaries of each historic resource within the permit area and adjacent areas.

(*iv*) An evaluation of the potential adverse effect that the proposed surface mining operation will have on historic resources within the proposed permit area and adjacent areas.

(*v*) A statement indicating whether there are feasible and prudent alternatives to the potential adverse effects on historic resources.

(*vi*) A statement of the measures proposed to prevent, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects upon historic resources located within the proposed permit area, including a proposal for recording or salvaging the resources if adverse effects cannot be avoided.

The determination required by this subdivision shall include the name, address, and employment position of each person that the applicant consulted in collecting information on historic resources.

(s) An agricultural impact statement that includes all the following:

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(*i*) The location and boundaries of the proposed mining operation.

(*ii*) The number of acres to be affected by the proposed mining operation.

(*iii*) The nature and type of agricultural operations to be affected by the proposed mining operation.

(*iv*) The nature and extent of the effect of the proposed mining operation on the agricultural operations, including the number and types of buildings and other facilities that will be affected by the mining operation.

(*v*) The anticipated future effect of the proposed mining operation on adjacent agricultural land that will not be immediately affected by the proposed mining operation.

(*vi*) The anticipated amount of time, in years and months, during which the area affected by the proposed mining operation will be unsuitable for normal agricultural production.

(*vii*) The anticipated amount of time, in years and months, required to restore the area affected by the proposed mining operation to the level of productivity it had before it was affected by the mining operation.

(*viii*) The impact of the proposed mining operation on agriculture generally.

(t) Other data and maps as the department may require by rule that are consistent with the purposes of this part.

(2) An applicant for a surface mining and reclamation permit shall submit to the department as part of its application a certificate issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in this state certifying that the applicant has a public liability insurance policy in force for the surface mining and reclamation operations for which the permit is sought. The policy shall provide for personal injury and property damage protection consistent with the standards established in section 63528 in an amount adequate to compensate any persons damaged as a result of surface coal mining and reclamation operations, including the use of explosives, and entitled to compensation under the applicable provisions of state law. The policy shall be maintained in full force and effect during the terms of the permit or any renewal, including the length of all reclamation operations.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63517 Renewal of permit.

Sec. 63517. (1) A permit issued pursuant to this part includes the right of successive renewal on expiration with respect to areas within the boundaries of the existing permit. The permittee may apply for renewal and except as provided in subsection (2) the renewal shall be issued.

(2) A permit shall not be renewed if, after a hearing conducted pursuant to section 63523, it is established and the department makes written findings that any of the following conditions exist:

(a) The terms and conditions of the existing permit are not being satisfactorily met by the permittee.

(b) The present surface coal mining and reclamation operation is not in compliance with the environmental protection standards of this part and the approved state plan or federal program pursuant to the surface coal mining and reclamation act of 1977.

(c) The renewal requested substantially jeopardizes the operator's continuing responsibility for reclamation established under this part on existing permit areas.

(d) The operator has not provided evidence that the performance bond in effect for the operation or any additional bond the department might require pursuant to section 63529 will continue in full force and effect for the renewal requested in the application.

(e) Additional revised or updated information required by the department by rule has not been provided by the permittee.

(3) Before the renewal of a permit, the department shall provide notice to the appropriate persons, local units of government, and interested parties.

(4) If an application for renewal of an existing permit includes a proposal to extend the mining operation beyond the boundaries authorized in the existing permit, the portion of the application that addresses new land areas is subject to the full standards applicable to a new application under this part.

(5) A permit renewal shall be for a term not to exceed the period of the existing permit established by this part. Application for permit renewal shall be made at least 120 days before the expiration of the existing permit.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63518 Reclamation plan; contents.

Sec. 63518. The reclamation plan required to be submitted pursuant to this part as part of a permit

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application shall include details necessary to demonstrate that reclamation required by this part can be accomplished, and shall include all of the following:

(a) Identification of land subject to the surface coal mining operation over the estimated life of that operation and the size, sequence, and timing of any subareas for which it is anticipated that individual permits for surface coal mining will be sought.

(b) The condition of the land to be covered by the permit prior to any surface coal mining, including:

(*i*) The uses existing at the time of the application and, if the land has a history of previous mining, the uses that preceded any mining.

(*ii*) The capability of the land, prior to any surface coal mining, to support a variety of uses, giving consideration to soil and foundation characteristics, topography, and vegetative cover and, if applicable, a soil survey prepared pursuant to section 63516(1)(n).

(*iii*) The productivity of the land prior to mining, based on the average yield of food, fiber, forage, or wood products consistent with productivity of similar lands in this state under best management practices.

(c) The use proposed to be made of the land following reclamation, including a discussion of the utility and capacity of the reclaimed land to support a variety of alternative uses and the relationship of those uses to applicable land use policies and plans. However, if the use made of the land before mining is agricultural and the use proposed to be made of the land following reclamation is other than that agricultural use, the permit shall not be approved by the department without the approval of the legislative body of each local unit of government in which land to be reclaimed is located.

(d) A detailed description of how the proposed postmining land use is to be achieved and the necessary support activities that may be needed to achieve that use.

(e) The engineering techniques proposed to be used in mining and reclamation and a description of the major equipment to be used. A plan for the control of surface water drainage and of water accumulation; a plan, if appropriate, for backfilling, soil stabilization and compacting, grading, and appropriate revegetation; and a plan for soil reconstruction, replacement, and stabilization, pursuant to the performance standards in section 63527(2)(g) for food, forage, and forest land identified in that section, and an estimate of the cost per acre of the reclamation, including a statement as to how the permittee plans to comply with each of the requirements set out in that section.

(f) The actions to be taken to maximize the utilization and conservation of the solid fuel resource being recovered so that mining and any activities related to mining of the land in the future can be minimized.

(g) An estimated timetable for the accomplishment of each major step in the reclamation plan.

(h) The actions to be taken to make the surface mining and reclamation operations consistent with surface owner plans and applicable land use plans and programs of local units of government.

(i) The actions to be taken to comply with applicable air and water quality laws of this state or the United States, rules and regulations of this state or the United States, or local ordinances and with applicable health and safety standards.

(j) The action to be taken to develop the reclamation plan in a manner consistent with local physical, environmental, and climatological conditions.

(k) The results of test borings that the applicant has made at the proposed permit area or other equivalent information and data in a form satisfactory to the department, including the location of subsurface water, and an analysis of those chemical properties of the coal and overburden that can be expected to have an adverse effect on the environment.

(*l*) An itemized list of land, interests in land, or options on those interests held by the applicant or pending bids by the applicant on interests in land adjacent to the proposed permit area.

(m) A detailed description of the actions to be taken during the mining and reclamation process to assure the protection of all of the following:

(*i*) The quality of surface and groundwater systems, both on-site and off-site, from adverse effects of the mining and reclamation process and the rights of present users to that water.

(*ii*) The quantity of surface and groundwater systems, both on-site and off-site, from adverse effects of the mining and reclamation process or to provide alternative sources of water where the protection of quantity cannot be assured.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63519 Blasting plan; submission by permit applicant.

Sec. 63519. Each applicant for a surface coal mining and reclamation permit shall submit to the department as a part of its application a blasting plan that outlines the procedures and standards by which the operator will

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meet the requirements of section 63527(2)(o).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63520 Filing copy of application with county and township clerks; exception; information obtained by department available to public with county clerk; confidentiality.

Sec. 63520. (1) An applicant for a surface coal mining and reclamation permit shall file a copy of the application with the county clerk of each county in which the mining is proposed to occur and with the township clerk of each township in which the mining is proposed to occur, except for that information in the application pertaining to the coal seam.

(2) Except when confidentiality is provided for in this part, a record, report, inspection materials, or other information obtained by the department shall be available to the public with the county clerk of each county in which the mining is proposed to occur. The department shall transmit a record, report, inspection material, or other information to each county clerk within 10 days after it is received by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63521 Application fee.

Sec. 63521. An application for a surface coal mining and reclamation permit shall be accompanied by an initial application fee. The initial application fee is $100.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63522 Determination of probable hydrologic consequences and statement of boring or sampling results; performance; cost.

Sec. 63522. If the department finds that the probable total annual production at all locations of a surface coal mining operator will not exceed 100,000 tons, the determination of probable hydrologic consequences and statement of the results of test borings or core samplings required by section 63516, on the written request of the operator, shall be performed by a qualified governmental agency or private consultant designated by the department, and the cost of the preparation of the determination and statement shall be assumed by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63523 Application for permit or renewal; advertisement of ownership, location, and boundaries of land affected; notification of local units of government; written comments; notice to department of history, arts, and libraries; determination; filing objections to proposed application for permit; request for hearing; action by department.

Sec. 63523. (1) When an application for a surface coal mining and reclamation permit or renewal of an existing permit is submitted, the applicant's advertisement of ownership, location, and boundaries of the land to be affected shall be placed in a local newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the proposed surface coal mining operation for 4 consecutive weeks. The department shall notify local units of government in the vicinity of the proposed mining and reclamation area of the operator's intention to conduct a surface mining operation indicating the application's number and the county courthouse or township office in which a copy of the proposed surface coal mining and reclamation plan may be inspected. A local unit of government may submit written comments within a period established by the department on the mining applications with respect to the effect of the operation proposed by the applicant on the environment that is within its area of responsibility. The comments shall immediately be transmitted to the applicant by the department and shall be made available to the public at the same location as the mining application.

(2) In addition to the notice required in subsection (1), the department shall notify the department of history, arts, and libraries of the operator's intention to conduct a surface mining operation and shall provide the department of history, arts, and libraries with a copy of the permit application. Based on the information required pursuant to section 63516(1)(r), the department of history, arts, and libraries shall determine whether

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or not the proposed surface mining operation will adversely affect a historic resource. The department of history, arts, and libraries may file written objection to the proposed surface mining operation pursuant to subsection (3).

(3) A person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the operation proposed in the application and any federal or state government agency or local unit of government is entitled to file written objections to the proposed initial or revised application for a permit for surface coal mining and reclamation operation with the department not later than 30 days after the last publication of the notice required by subsection (1). Those objections shall immediately be transmitted to the applicant by the department and shall be made available to the public.

(4) Within 45 days after the last publication of the notice provided in subsection (1), the applicant or any person with an interest that is or may be adversely affected may request a hearing on the application. The hearing shall be held within 30 days after the expiration of the time allowed for submitting the request.

(5) An action taken by the department with respect to a permit application shall be conducted pursuant to chapters 4 and 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.292.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of department of history, arts, and libraries or the Michigan historical center relating to the identification, certification, and preservation of historical sites to the Michigan state housing development authority, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of powers and duties of the state historic preservation office relating to the identification, certification, and preservation of historical sites from the Michigan state housing development authority to the Michigan strategic fund, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63524 Application for permit or revision of permit; notice; burden; requirements for approval; filing schedule listing notices of violations; issuance of permit; mining on agricultural land; consultation; finding.

Sec. 63524. (1) The applicant for a permit or revision of a permit has the burden of establishing that his or her application is in compliance with all the requirements of this part. Within 3 days after the granting of a permit, but before the permit is issued, the department shall notify the county clerk in each county in which the land to be affected is located that a permit has been issued and shall describe the location of the land.

(2) An application for a permit or revision of a permit shall not be approved unless the department finds, in writing, that all the following requirements have been met:

(a) The application is accurate and complete and complies with all of the requirements of this part.

(b) The applicant has demonstrated that reclamation as required by this part can be accomplished under the reclamation plan contained in the application.

(c) An assessment of the probable cumulative impact of all anticipated surface coal mining inside and outside the permit area on the hydrologic balance, including quantitative and qualitative analyses, has been made by the department, and the proposed operation has been designed to prevent material damage to the hydrologic balance inside and outside the permit area.

(d) The area proposed to be mined is not included within an area designated unsuitable for surface coal mining pursuant to this part and is not within an area under study for this designation in an administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this part, unless in the area as to which an administrative proceeding has commenced, the applicant demonstrates that, prior to January 1, 1977, the applicant has made substantial legal and financial commitments in relation to the operation for which the applicant is applying for a permit.

(e) If the ownership of the coal has been severed from the private surface estate, the applicant has submitted to the department either the written consent of the surface owner to the extraction of coal by surface mining methods or a conveyance that expressly grants or reserves the right to extract the coal by surface mining methods. However, if the conveyance does not expressly grant the right to extract coal by surface mining methods, the surface-subsurface legal relationship shall be determined in accordance with state law, except that this part does not authorize the department to adjudicate property rights disputes.

(f) If the department of history, arts, and libraries determines that the proposed surface mining operation will adversely affect a historic resource, the application is approved jointly by the department, by the federal, state, or local agency with jurisdiction over the historic resource, and by the department of history, arts, and libraries.

(3) The applicant shall file, with the application, a schedule listing all notices of violations of this part or other law of this state and any law, rule, or regulation of the United States or of any department or agency in the United States pertaining to air or water environmental protection incurred by the applicant in connection

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with a surface coal mining operation during the 3-year period prior to the date of application. The schedule shall include the final resolution of notice of the violation. If the schedule or other information available to the department indicates that a surface coal mining operation owned or controlled by the applicant is currently in violation of this part or other laws referred to in this subsection, the permit shall not be issued until the applicant submits affidavits that the violation has been corrected or is in the process of being corrected to the satisfaction of the department or the agency that has jurisdiction over the violation or that the notice of violation is being contested by the applicant. A permit shall not be issued to an applicant after a finding by the department, after opportunity for hearing, that the applicant, or the operator specified in the application, controls or has controlled mining operations with a demonstrated pattern of violations of this part of such nature and duration with such resulting pollution, impairment, or destruction to the environment as to indicate an intent not to comply with this part.

(4) If the area proposed to be mined contains agricultural land, the department shall consult with the director of the department of agriculture and the secretary of the United States department of agriculture and shall not grant a permit to mine on agricultural land unless the department finds in writing that the operator has the technological capability to restore the mined area and any other areas impacted by the surface coal mining operation within a reasonable time to equivalent or higher levels of yield as nonmined agricultural land in the surrounding area under equivalent levels of management, and also finds that the applicant can meet the soil reconstruction standards of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of department of history, arts, and libraries or the Michigan historical center relating to the identification, certification, and preservation of historical sites to the Michigan state housing development authority, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of powers and duties of the state historic preservation office relating to the identification, certification, and preservation of historical sites from the Michigan state housing development authority to the Michigan strategic fund, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63525 Application for revision of permit; standards; transfer, assignment, or sale of rights; review of outstanding permits; revision or modification of permit provisions; conducting action regarding permit pursuant to MCL 24.271 to 24.292.

Sec. 63525. (1) During the term of a permit, the permittee may submit to the department an application for a revision of the permit, including a revised reclamation plan. An application for a revision of a permit shall not be approved unless the department finds that reclamation as required by this part can be accomplished under the revised reclamation plan. An application for a revision is subject to part 13, except that the department shall establish standards for a determination of the scale or extent of a revision request for which all permit application information requirements and procedures shall apply.

(2) A transfer, assignment, or sale of the rights granted under a permit issued pursuant to this part shall not be made without the written approval of the department.

(3) The department shall, within a time limit prescribed by rule, review outstanding permits. The department may require revision or modification of the permit provisions during the terms of the permit based on a change in technology or a change in circumstances.

(4) All action taken by the department under this section regarding the granting, modification, denial, or revision of a permit shall be conducted pursuant to chapters 4 and 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.292.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of department of history, arts, and libraries or the Michigan historical center relating to the identification, certification, and preservation of historical sites to the Michigan state housing development authority, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of powers and duties of the state historic preservation office relating to the identification, certification, and preservation of historical sites from the Michigan state housing development authority to the Michigan strategic fund, see E.R.O. No. 2019-3, compiled at MCL 125.1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63526 Construction of subpart.

Sec. 63526. This subpart does not exempt a permittee from obtaining any other permit, license, or permission to engage in any activity regulated by this part that is required by any other law of this state, any

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rule promulgated under a law of this state, or a zoning ordinance enacted by a local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 4
ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

324.63527 Performance standards.

Sec. 63527. (1) A permit issued under this part to conduct surface coal mining operations shall require that the operations meet the performance standards provided in subsection (2).

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this part, all surface coal mining and reclamation operations shall require the operator to do all of the following:

(a) Conduct surface coal mining operations in a manner that maximizes the utilization and conservation of the solid fuel resource being recovered to prevent reaffecting the land in the future through subsequent surface coal mining.

(b) Restore the land affected to a condition capable of supporting the uses that it was capable of supporting prior to any mining, or higher or better uses if priority is given to restoration of agricultural land to agricultural uses, if that use does not present an actual or probable hazard to public health or safety or pose an actual or probable threat of water diminution or pollution, and if the declared proposed land use in the permit application following reclamation is not inconsistent with applicable land use policies and plans, does not involve unreasonable delay in implementation, and is and is not in violation of a law of this state or the United States or a local ordinance.

(c) Backfill; compact, where advisable to ensure stability or to prevent leaching of toxic materials; and grade in order to restore the approximate original contour of the land with all highwalls, spoil piles, and depressions eliminated, unless small depressions are needed in order to retain moisture to assist revegetation or as otherwise authorized pursuant to this part. However, for surface coal mining that is carried out at the same location over a substantial period of time where the operation transects the coal deposit and the thickness of the coal deposits is large relative to the volume of the overburden and if the operator demonstrates that the overburden and other spoil and waste materials at a particular point in the permit area or otherwise available from the entire permit area is insufficient, giving due consideration to volumetric expansion to restore the approximate original contour, the operator, at a minimum, shall backfill, grade, and compact using all available overburden and other spoil and waste materials to attain the lowest practicable grade but not more than the angle of repose, to provide adequate drainage, and to cover all acid-forming and other toxic materials, in order to achieve an ecologically sound land use compatible with the surrounding region. In addition, in surface coal mining, where the volume of overburden is large relative to the thickness of the coal deposit and if the operator demonstrates that due to volumetric expansion the amount of overburden and other spoil and waste materials removed in the course of the mining operation is more than sufficient to restore the approximate original contour, the operator shall, after restoring the approximate contour, backfill, grade, and compact the excess overburden and other spoil and waste materials to attain the lowest grade but not more than the angle of repose and to cover all acid-forming and other toxic materials, in order to achieve an ecologically sound land use compatible with the surrounding region. In all cases, the overburden or spoil shall be shaped and graded to prevent slides, erosion, and water pollution and shall be revegetated in accordance with a plan for revegetation developed in cooperation with each soil conservation district affected by the surface coal mining operation and the requirements of this part.

(d) Stabilize and protect all surface areas, including spoil piles, affected by the surface coal mining and reclamation operation and effectively control erosion and attendant air and water pollution.

(e) Remove the topsoil from the land in a separate layer and replace it on the backfill area. Except that, if the topsoil is not utilized immediately, the operator shall be required to segregate it in a separate pile from other spoil and, when the topsoil is not replaced on a backfill area within a time short enough to avoid deterioration of the topsoil, maintain a successful cover by quick-growing plant or other means so that the topsoil is preserved from wind and water erosion, remains free of any contamination by other acid or toxic materials, and is in a usable condition for sustaining vegetation when restored during reclamation. However, if topsoil is of insufficient quantity or of poor quality for sustaining vegetation requirements imposed in this subpart and subpart 3, or if other strata can be shown to be more suitable for vegetation requirements imposed in this subpart and subpart 3, then the operator shall remove, segregate, and preserve in a like manner the other strata that are best able to support vegetation.

(f) Restore the topsoil or the available subsoil that is best able to support vegetation.

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(g) If agricultural land is to be mined and reclaimed, the specifications for soil removal, storage, replacement, and reconstruction shall be established by the department of agriculture in consultation with the secretary of the United States department of agriculture, and the operator is, at a minimum, required to do all of the following:

(*i*) Segregate the A horizon of the natural soil, except where it can be shown that other available soil materials will create a final soil having a greater productive capacity. If the A horizon of the natural soil is not utilized immediately, it shall be stockpiled separately from other spoil and provided protection from wind and water erosion or contamination by other acid or toxic material.

(*ii*) Segregate the B horizon of the natural soil, or underlying C horizons or other strata, or a combination of those horizons or other strata that are shown to be both texturally and chemically suitable for plant growth and that can be shown to be equally or more favorable for plant growth than the B horizon, in sufficient quantities to create in the regraded final soil a root zone of comparable depth and quality to that which existed in the natural soil. If the B and C horizons of the natural soil are not utilized immediately, they shall be stockpiled separately from other spoil and provided protection from wind and water erosion or contamination by other acid or toxic material.

(*iii*) Replace and regrade the root zone material described in subparagraph (*ii*) with proper compaction and uniform depth over the regraded spoil material.

(*iv*) Redistribute and grade in a uniform manner the surface soil horizon described in subparagraph (*i*).

(h) Create, if authorized in the approved mining and reclamation plan and permit, permanent impoundments of water on mining sites as part of reclamation activities but only when all of the following are adequately demonstrated:

(*i*) The size of the impoundment is adequate for its intended purposes.

(*ii*) The impoundment dam construction will be designed to achieve necessary stability with an adequate margin of safety compatible with that of structures constructed under the watershed protection and flood prevention act, chapter 656, 68 Stat. 666.

(*iii*) The quality of impounded water will be suitable on a permanent basis for its intended use, and discharges from the impoundment will not degrade the water quality in the receiving stream below water quality standards established pursuant to applicable federal and state law.

(*iv*) The level of water will be stable.

(*v*) Final grading will provide safety and access for proposed water users.

(*vi*) The water impoundments will not result in the diminution of the quality or quantity of water utilized by adjacent or surrounding landowners for agricultural, industrial, recreational, or domestic uses.

(*vii*) The impoundment is consistent with the laws of this state or the United States; rules and regulations of this state or the United States; or local ordinance.

(i) Conduct an augering operation associated with surface mining in a manner to maximize recoverability of coal reserves remaining after the operation and reclamation are complete, and seal all auger holes with an impervious and noncombustible material in order to prevent drainage, except where the department determines that the resulting impoundment of water in the auger holes may create a hazard to the environment or the public health or safety. The department may prohibit augering under standards established by rule if necessary to maximize the utilization, recoverability, or conservation of solid fuel resources or to protect against adverse water quality impacts.

(j) Minimize disturbances to the prevailing hydrologic balance at the mine site and in associated off-site areas and to the quality and quantity of water in surface and groundwater systems both during and after surface coal mining operations and during reclamation by:

(*i*) Avoiding acid or other toxic mine drainage by preventing or removing water from contact with toxic-producing deposits; treating drainage to reduce toxic content that adversely affects downstream water on being released to water courses; or casing, sealing, or otherwise managing bore holes, shafts, and wells and keeping acid or other toxic drainage from entering surface water and groundwater.

(*ii*) Conducting surface coal mining operations to prevent, to the extent possible using technology currently available, additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area, except that contributions shall not be in excess of requirements set by applicable state or federal law.

(*iii*) Constructing any siltation structures pursuant to subparagraph (*ii*) prior to commencement of surface coal mining operations. A siltation structure shall be certified by a qualified registered engineer and shall be constructed as designed and approved in the reclamation plan.

(*iv*) Cleaning out and removing temporary or large settling ponds or other siltation structures from drainways after disturbed areas are revegetated and stabilized and depositing the silt and debris at a site in a manner approved by the department.

(*v*) Restoring recharge capacity of the mined area to approximate premining conditions.

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(*vi*) Avoiding channel deepening or enlargement in operations requiring the discharge of water from mines.

(*vii*) Other actions as the department may prescribe.

(k) Stabilize all waste piles in designated areas with respect to surface disposal of mine wastes, tailings, coal processing wastes, and other wastes in areas other than the mine working or excavation through construction in compacted layers including the use of incombustible and impervious materials, if necessary, and assure that the final contour of the waste pile will be compatible with natural surroundings and that the site can and will be stabilized and revegetated according to this part.

(*l*) Refrain from surface coal mining within 500 feet of an active or abandoned underground mine to prevent breakthroughs and to protect the health and safety of miners and other persons. However, the department shall allow an operator to mine near, through, or partially through an abandoned underground mine or closer than 500 feet of an active underground mine if the nature, timing, and sequencing of specific surface mine activities with specific underground mine activities are jointly approved by the federal and state agencies and local units of government concerned with surface mine regulation and the health and safety of underground miners, and the operations will result in improved resource recovery, abatement of water pollution, or elimination of hazards to the health and safety of the public.

(m) Design, locate, construct, operate, maintain, enlarge, modify, and remove or abandon, in accordance with the standards and criteria developed pursuant to rules promulgated by the department, all existing and new coal mine waste piles, consisting of mine wastes, tailings, coal processing wastes, or other liquid and solid wastes, and used either temporarily or permanently as a dam or embankment.

(n) Ensure that all debris, acid-forming materials, toxic materials, or materials constituting a fire hazard are treated, buried, compacted, or otherwise disposed of to prevent contamination of surface water or groundwater and that contingency plans are developed to prevent sustained combustion of those materials.

(o) Ensure that explosives are used only in accordance with existing state and federal law and the rules promulgated by the department. Rules promulgated by the department shall require the permittee to do all of the following:

(*i*) Publish the schedule of the planned blasting in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity, mailing a copy of the proposed blasting schedule to every resident living within 1/2 mile of the proposed blasting site, and providing daily notice in the vicinity prior to any blasting.

(*ii*) Maintain for a period of at least 3 years and make available for public inspection on request during normal business hours a log detailing the location of the blasts, the pattern and depth of the drill holes, the amount of explosives used per hole, and the order and length of delay in the blasts.

(*iii*) Limit the type of explosives and detonating equipment and the size, timing, and frequency of blasts based upon the physical conditions of the site to prevent injury to persons, damage to public and private property outside the permit area, adverse impacts on any underground mine, and change in the course, channel, or availability of ground or surface water outside the permit area.

(*iv*) Have all blasting operations conducted pursuant to this part conducted by trained and competent individuals certified by the department.

(*v*) Require the applicant or permittee to conduct a preblasting survey of a structure or dwelling upon the request of a resident or owner of a structure or dwelling within 1/2 mile of the permit area and to submit the survey to the department and a copy of the survey to the resident or owner making the request. The area covered by the survey shall be determined by the department and the survey shall include provisions and shall be conducted pursuant to standards established by rules promulgated by the department.

(p) Ensure that all reclamation efforts proceed in an environmentally sound manner and as contemporaneously as practicable with the surface coal mining operations. However, if the applicant proposes to combine surface mining operations with underground mining operations to assure maximum practical recovery of the coal resources, the department may grant a variance for specific areas within the reclamation plan from the requirement that reclamation efforts proceed as contemporaneously as practicable to permit underground mining operations prior to reclamation if all the following conditions are met:

(*i*) The department finds in writing that:

(A) The applicant has presented, as part of the permit application, specific, feasible plans for the proposed underground mining operations.

(B) The proposed underground mining operations are necessary or desirable to assure maximum practical recovery of the coal resource and will avoid multiple disturbance of the surface.

(C) The plan for the underground mining operations conforms to requirements for underground mining in the jurisdiction and permits necessary for the underground mining operations have been issued by the appropriate authority.

(D) The areas proposed for the variance have been shown by the applicant to be necessary for implementing the proposed underground mining operations.

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(E) Significant adverse environmental damage, either on site or off site, will not result from the delay in completion of reclamation as required by this part.

(F) Provisions for the off-site storage of spoil will comply with subdivision (v).

(*ii*) The department has promulgated specific rules to govern the granting of the variances in accordance with this subsection.

(*iii*) The variance granted will be reviewed annually by the department.

(*iv*) The liability under the bond filed by the applicant with the department pursuant to section 63529(2) is for the duration of the underground mining operations and until the requirements of sections 63527(2) and 63528 have been fully complied with.

(q) Ensure that the construction, maintenance, and postmining conditions of access roads into and across the site of operations will control or prevent erosion, siltation, pollution of water, and damage to fish or wildlife, the habitat of fish or wildlife, or public or private property.

(r) Refrain from the construction of roads or other access ways up a stream bed or drainage channel or in such proximity to the channel as to significantly alter or degrade the normal flow of water.

(s) Establish on regraded areas and all other land affected, in cooperation with each soil conservation district affected by the surface coal mining operation, a diverse, effective, and permanent vegetative cover of the same seasonal variety native to the area of land to be affected and capable of self-regeneration and plant succession at least equal in the extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the area. However, introduced species may be used in the revegetation process where desirable and necessary to achieve the approved postmining land use plan.

(t) Assume the responsibility for successful revegetation as required by subdivision (s) for a period of 5 years after the last year of augmented seeding, fertilizing, irrigation, or other work in order to assure compliance with subdivision (s). However, in those areas or regions of the state where the annual average precipitation is 26 inches or less, the operator's assumption of responsibility and liability will extend for a period of 10 years after the last year of augmented seeding, fertilizing, irrigation, or other work. If the department approves long-term intensive agricultural postmining land use, the applicable 5- or 10-year period of responsibility for revegetation commences at the date of initial planting for the long-term intensive agricultural postmining land use, except that if the department issues a written finding approving a long-term intensive agricultural postmining land use as part of the mining and reclamation plan, the department may grant exception to the provisions of subdivision (s).

(u) Protect off-site areas from slides or damage occurring during the surface coal mining and reclamation operations, and not deposit spoil material or locate any part of the operations or waste accumulations outside the permit area.

(v) Place all excess spoil material resulting from coal surface mining and reclamation activities in such a manner that:

(*i*) Spoil is transported and placed in a controlled manner in position for concurrent compaction and in such a way as to assure mass stability and to prevent mass movement.

(*ii*) The areas of disposal are within the bonded permit areas and all organic matter is removed immediately prior to spoil placement.

(*iii*) Appropriate surface and internal drainage systems and diversion ditches are used to prevent spoil erosion and movement.

(*iv*) The disposal area does not contain springs, natural watercourses, or wet weather seeps unless lateral drains are constructed from the wet areas to the main underdrains to prevent filtration of the water into the spoil pile.

(*v*) If placed on a slope, the spoil is placed on the most moderate slope and is placed, where possible, on or above a natural terrace, bench, or berm, if the placement provides additional stability and prevents mass movement.

(*vi*) If the toe of the spoil rests on a downslope, a rock toe buttress of sufficient size to prevent mass movement is constructed.

(*vii*) The final configuration is compatible with the natural drainage pattern and surroundings and suitable for intended uses.

(*viii*) Design of the spoil disposal area is certified by a qualified registered professional engineer in conformance with professional standards.

(*ix*) All other provisions of this part are met.

(w) Meet other criteria necessary to achieve reclamation in accordance with the purposes of this part, taking into consideration the physical, climatological, and other characteristics of the site.

(x) To the extent possible, using the best technology currently available, minimize disturbance and adverse impacts of the operation on fish, wildlife, and related environmental values and, if practicable, achieve

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enhancement of those resources.

(y) Provide for an undisturbed natural barrier to be retained in place as a barrier to slides and erosion beginning at the elevation of the lowest coal seam to be mined and extending from the outslope for the distance the department determines necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 5
BONDING

324.63528 Certificate of public liability insurance; maintenance of policy in full force and effect; rules.

Sec. 63528. (1) An applicant for a permit shall submit to the department, as part of each permit application, a certificate that the applicant has a public liability insurance policy in force for the surface coal mining and reclamation operation for which the permit is sought. The policy shall be maintained in full force and effect during the terms of the permit or any renewal, including all reclamation operations.

(2) The department shall promulgate rules establishing standards for adequate public liability insurance coverage consistent with section 63516(2).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63529 Performance bond; form, coverage, and amount; liability; execution by applicant and corporate surety; election to deposit cash or assets as security; acceptance of bond without separate surety; adjustment of bond or deposit amount and terms of acceptance; rules.

Sec. 63529. (1) After a surface coal mining and reclamation permit application has been approved, but before the permit is issued, the applicant shall file with the department, on a form prescribed and furnished by the department, a bond for performance payable to the state and conditioned on faithful performance of all requirements of this part and the permit. The bond shall cover that area of land within the permit area on which the applicant will initiate and conduct surface coal mining and reclamation operations within the initial term of the permit. Before succeeding increments of surface coal mining and reclamation operations are initiated and conducted within the permit area, the permittee shall provide an additional bond or bonds to cover those increments. The amount of the bond required for each bonded area shall be determined by the department and shall reflect the reclamation requirements of the approved permit and the probable difficulty of the reclamation, giving consideration to such factors as topography, geology of the site, hydrology, and revegetation potential. The amount of the bond shall be sufficient to assure the completion of the reclamation plan if the reclamation had to be performed by the department in the event of forfeiture, and the bond for the entire area under 1 permit shall not be less than $10,000.00.

(2) Liability under the bond is for the duration of the surface coal mining and reclamation operation and for a period coincident with applicant's responsibility for revegetation. Except as provided in subsection (3), the bond shall be executed by the applicant and a corporate surety licensed to do business in this state.

(3) The applicant may elect to deposit cash or the following types of assets as security for the performance of the applicant's obligation under the bond:

(a) Obligations or securities of, or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by, the United States or any of the agencies of the United States, or for which the full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to provide for the payment of principal and interest.

(b) Obligations of a state of the United States, or an agency or authority of a state for which the full faith and credit of the state is pledged to provide payment of principal and interest.

(c) Obligations of this state or an agency or authority of this state for which specific revenues are pledged to provide payment of principal and interest.

(d) Negotiable certificates of deposit of a state or national bank.

(4) The cash deposit or market value of the assets shall be equal to or greater than the amount of the bond required for the bonded area.

(5) The department may accept the bond of the applicant without separate surety if the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department the existence of a suitable agent to receive service of process and a history of financial solvency and continuous operation sufficient for authorization to bond the

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amount.

(6) The amount of the bond or deposit required and the terms of each acceptance of the applicant's bond shall be adjusted by the department from time to time as affected land acreages are increased or decreased or where the cost of future reclamation changes.

(7) The department shall promulgate rules establishing standards for adequate bond coverage consistent with this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63530 Total or partial release of performance bond or deposit; application; notice; publication; contents; inspection and evaluation of reclamation work; notification of decision; reclamation schedule; disapproval of application; notifying county clerk of filed application; written objections; public hearings; notice.

Sec. 63530. (1) The permittee may file a request with the department for the release of all or part of a performance bond or deposit. Within 30 days after submission of an application for bond or deposit release to the department, the permittee shall submit a copy of the notice to be published by the department for 4 consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the surface coal mining operation. The notice is part of the bond release application and shall contain a notification of the precise location of the land affected, the number of acres, the permit and the date approved, the amount of the bond filed and the portion sought to be released, and the type and appropriate dates of reclamation work performed, and a description of the results achieved as they relate to the permittee's reclamation plan. In addition, as part of any bond release application, the applicant shall submit copies of letters that the applicant has sent to adjacent property owners and local units of government notifying them of the application to seek release from the bond.

(2) Within 30 days after the applicant complies with subsection (1), the department shall conduct an inspection and evaluation of the reclamation work involved. The evaluation shall consider, among other things, the degree of difficulty to complete any remaining reclamation, whether pollution of surface and subsurface water is occurring, the probability of continuance of future occurrence of the pollution, and the estimated cost of abating the pollution. The department shall notify the permittee, in writing, of its decision to release or not to release all or part of the performance bond or deposit based on the criteria in subsection (3) within 60 days from the filing of the request, if a public hearing is not held, and, if a public hearing is held, within 30 days after the hearing.

(3) The department may release the bond or deposit in whole or in part if the reclamation covered by the bond or deposit or portion of the reclamation has been accomplished as required by this part according to the following schedule:

(a) If the permittee completes the backfilling, regrading, and drainage control of a bonded area in accordance with the reclamation plan, the release of 60% of the bond or collateral for the applicable permit area.

(b) If revegetation has been established on the regraded mined lands in accordance with the reclamation plan, the department may release an additional portion of the bond or deposit. In determining the amount of the bond or deposit to be released after successful revegetation has been established, the department shall retain the amount of the bond or deposit that is sufficient for a third party to establish revegetation and for the period specified for permittee responsibility in section 63527(2)(t). No part of the bond or deposit shall be released under this subdivision if the land to which the release would be applicable is contributing suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area in excess of the requirements of section 63527(2)(j) or until soil productivity for agricultural land has returned to equivalent levels of yield as nonmined land of the same soil type in the surrounding area under equivalent management practices as determined from the soil survey performed pursuant to section 63516(1)(n). If a silt dam is to be retained as a permanent impoundment pursuant to section 63527(2)(h), the portion of bond may be released under this subdivision if provisions for sound future maintenance have been made with the department.

(c) If the permittee has successfully completed all surface coal mining and reclamation activities, the release of the remaining portion of the bond, but not before the expiration of the period specified for permittee responsibility in section 63527(2)(t). However, at least 25% of the bond or deposit shall be retained by the department until all reclamation requirements of this part are fully met.

(4) If the department disapproves the application for release of the bond or deposit or a portion of the bond or deposit, it shall notify the permittee, in writing, stating the reasons for disapproval, recommending

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corrective actions necessary to secure the release, and allowing opportunity for a public hearing.

(5) When an application for total or partial bond or deposit release is filed with the department, the department shall notify the county clerk of each county in which the surface coal mining operation is located by certified mail within 10 days after the application for the release of all or a portion of the bond or deposit is filed.

(6) A person with a legal interest or other interest that might be adversely affected by release of the bond or deposit or a federal or state agency or local unit of government is entitled to file written objections to the proposed release from bond or deposit with the department within 30 days after the last publication of the notice provided in subsection (1). If written objections are filed, the department shall conduct a public hearing on the objections and inform all the interested parties of the time and place of the hearing and hold the hearing in the locality of the surface coal mining operation within 30 days. Notice of the date, time, and location of the public hearings shall be published by the department in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality for 2 consecutive weeks.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63531 Coal exploration operations; rules; notice of intent to explore; violation of section or rules; penalties; maximum amount of coal removable pursuant to exploration permit.

Sec. 63531. (1) Coal exploration operations that significantly disturb the natural land surface shall be conducted in accordance with rules promulgated by the department. The rules shall include, at a minimum, the requirement that prior to conducting the exploration a person must file with the department notice of intent to explore. The notice of the intent to explore shall include a description of the exploration area; the period of proposed exploration; provisions for reclamation in accordance with the performance standards in section 63527 of all lands disturbed in exploration, including excavations, roads, and drill holes; and the removal of necessary facilities and equipment.

(2) A person who conducts any coal exploration operations that substantially disturb the natural land surface in violation of this section or the rules promulgated under this section is subject to the penalties provided in section 63537.

(3) An operator shall not remove more than 250 tons of coal pursuant to an exploration permit without the specific written approval of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 6
UNDERGROUND MINING

324.63532 Surface effects of underground mining; rules.

Sec. 63532. The department shall promulgate rules applicable to the surface effects of underground mining that are consistent with the requirements of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, and regulations adopted pursuant to that act by the secretary of interior of the United States relative to coal mining.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63533 Permit requirements; suspension of underground coal mining; imminent danger; applicability of subparts 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 to surface operations and surface impacts incident to underground coal mine; modifications; rules.

Sec. 63533. (1) A permit issued pursuant to this part relating to underground coal mining shall require the operator to do all of the following:

(a) Adopt measures consistent with technology currently available to prevent subsidence causing material damage to the extent technologically and economically feasible; maximize mine stability; and maintain the value and reasonably foreseeable use of such surface lands, except in those instances where the mining technology used requires planned subsidence in a predictable and controlled manner. This subsection does not prohibit the standard method of room and pillar mining.

(b) Seal all portals, entryways, drifts, shafts, or other openings between the surface and underground mine

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working when no longer needed for the conduct of the mining operations.

(c) Fill or seal exploratory holes no longer necessary for mining, maximizing to the extent technologically and economically feasible return of mine and processing waste, tailings, and any other waste incident to the mining operation, to the mine workings or excavations.

(d) With respect to surface disposal of mine wastes, tailings, coal processing wastes, and other wastes in areas other than the mine workings or excavations, stabilize all waste piles created by the permittee from current operations through construction in compacted layers, including the use of incombustible and impervious materials if necessary; assure that the leachate will not degrade surface or groundwaters below water quality standards established pursuant to applicable federal and state law; and assure that the final contour of the waste accumulation will be compatible with natural surroundings and that the site is stabilized and revegetated according to this section.

(e) Design, locate, construct, operate, maintain, enlarge, modify, and remove or abandon all existing and new coal mine waste piles consisting of mine wastes, tailings, coal processing wastes, or other liquid and solid wastes and used either temporarily or permanently as dams or embankments.

(f) Establish, on regraded areas and all other lands affected, a diverse and permanent vegetative cover that is capable of self-regeneration and plant succession and that is at least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the area.

(g) Protect off-site areas from damages that may result from underground mining operations.

(h) Eliminate fire hazards and eliminate conditions that constitute a hazard to health and safety of the public.

(i) Minimize the disturbances of the prevailing hydrologic balance at the mine site and in associated off-site areas and to the quantity of water in surface groundwater systems both during and after coal mining operations and during reclamation by meeting both of the following requirements:

(*i*) Avoiding acid or other toxic mine drainage by such measures as the following:

(A) Preventing or removing water from contact with toxic producing deposits.

(B) Treating drainage to reduce toxic content that adversely affects downstream water upon being released to watercourses.

(C) Casing, sealing, or otherwise managing boreholes, shafts, and wells to keep acid or other toxic drainage from entering surface and groundwaters.

(*ii*) Conducting surface coal mining operations so as to prevent, to the extent possible using technology currently available, additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area, but in no event shall such contributions be in excess of requirements set by applicable state or federal law; and avoiding channel deepening or enlargement in operations requiring the discharge of water from mines.

(j) With respect to other surface impacts not specified in this subsection, including the construction of new roads or the improvement or use of existing roads to gain access to the site of such activities and for haulage, repair areas, storage areas, processing areas, shipping areas, and other areas upon which are sited structures, facilities, or other property or materials on the surface, resulting from or incident to such activities, operate in accordance with the standards established under section 63527 for those effects that result from surface coal mining operations, except that the department shall make modifications in the requirements imposed by this subdivision as are necessary to accommodate the distinct difference between surface and underground coal mining.

(k) To the extent possible using technology currently available, minimize disturbances and adverse impacts of the operation on fish, wildlife, and related environmental values, and achieve enhancement of those resources where practicable.

(*l*) Locate openings for all new drift mines working acid-producing or iron-producing coal seams in such a manner as to prevent a gravity discharge of water from the mine.

(2) To protect the stability of the land, the department shall suspend underground coal mining under urbanized areas, cities, towns, and communities and adjacent to industrial or commercial buildings, major impoundments, or permanent streams if the department finds imminent danger to inhabitants of the urbanized areas, cities, towns, and communities.

(3) Subparts 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 are applicable to surface operations and surface impacts incident to an underground coal mine with such modifications to the permit application requirements, permit approval or denial procedures, and bond requirements as are necessary to accommodate the distinct difference between surface and underground coal mining. The department shall promulgate rules to make those modifications.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 7
INSPECTIONS AND MONITORING

324.63534 Conducting inspections and requiring monitoring and reporting of surface coal mining and reclamation operations; taking necessary actions to administer part and meet program requirements; right of entry and access to records; notice and report of violation; removal or disturbance of strata serving as aquifer; specifications; rules; inspection requirements.

Sec. 63534. (1) The department shall conduct inspections and require monitoring and reporting of surface coal mining and reclamation operations, and shall take all actions necessary to administer, enforce, and evaluate the administration of this part and to meet the state program requirements of the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, and for those purposes, the department or an authorized representative of the department, without advance notice and on presentation of appropriate credentials, has a right of entry to any surface coal mining and reclamation operation or any premises in which any records required to be maintained are located, and may at reasonable times, without delay, have access to and copy any records and inspect any monitoring equipment and method of operation required under this part or the rules promulgated under this part.

(2) Each inspector, on detection of each alleged violation of any requirement of this part, shall give written notice to the operator of the violation and shall report the violation, in writing, to the department. The notice of violation shall include a warning that the violation may result in a fine or penalty under subpart 8.

(3) If a surface coal mining and reclamation operation removes or disturbs strata that serve as an aquifer that significantly ensures the hydrologic balance of water use either on or off the mining site, the department shall specify:

(a) Monitoring sites to record the quantity and quality of surface drainage above and below the mine site as well as in the potential zone of influence.

(b) Monitoring sites to record level, amount, and samples of groundwater and aquifers that are affected or potentially affected by the mining and also directly below the lowermost, deepest coal seam to be mined.

(c) Records of well logs and boreholes data to be maintained.

(d) Monitoring sites to record precipitation.

(4) The department shall promulgate rules that provide for informing the operator of an alleged violation detected by an inspector and for making public all inspection and monitoring reports and other records and reports required to be kept pursuant to this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

(5) Inspections by the department shall comply with all of the following requirements:

(a) Occur on an irregular basis averaging not less than 1 partial inspection per month and 1 complete inspection per calendar quarter for the surface coal mining and reclamation operation covered by each permit.

(b) Occur without prior notice to the permittee or agents or employees of the permittee except for necessary on-site meetings with the permittee.

(c) Include the filing of inspection reports adequate to enforce the requirements of and to carry out the terms and purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63535 Sign.

Sec. 63535. Each permittee shall conspicuously maintain at the entrances or visible areas of access to the surface coal mining and reclamation operations a clearly visible sign that sets forth the name, business address, and phone number of the permittee and the permit number of the surface coal mining and reclamation operations.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63536 Information obtained under article available to public with county clerk.

Sec. 63536. Copies of any records, reports, inspection materials, or information obtained under this subpart by the department shall be made available to the public with the county clerk of each county in the area of mining within 10 days after they are received by the department so that they are conveniently available to

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residents in the areas of mining.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 8
FINES AND PENALTIES

324.63537 Fines and imprisonment.

Sec. 63537. (1) The department may impose an administrative fine against a permittee or other person who violates a permit condition or a provision of this part. If the department issues a cease and desist order with respect to a violation, an administrative fine shall be assessed. An administrative fine shall not exceed $5,000.00 for each violation, except that each day a violation continues may be considered a separate violation. In determining the amount of the administrative fine, the department shall consider the permittee's history of previous violations at the particular surface coal mining operation; the seriousness of the violation, including any pollution, impairment, or destruction to the environment and any hazard to the health or safety of the public; whether the permittee or person was indifferent or lacked diligence or reasonable care; and the demonstrated good faith of the permittee or person charged in attempting to achieve compliance after notification of the violation.

(2) An administrative fine shall be assessed only after the person charged with a violation described under subsection (1) has been given an opportunity for a public hearing. A hearing conducted under this section shall be conducted pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(3) The department shall inform the permittee and any other person charged within 30 days after the issuance of a notice or order charging that a violation of this part has occurred of the proposed amount of the administrative fine. The person charged with the violation then has 30 days to pay the proposed fine in full or, if the person wishes to contest either the amount of the fine or the fact of the violation, forward the proposed amount to the department for placement in an escrow account. If, through administrative or judicial review of the proposed fine, it is determined that a violation did not occur or that the amount of the fine should be reduced, the department, within 30 days, shall remit the appropriate amount to the person with interest at 12% per year. Failure to forward the money to the department within 30 days after the issuance of the notice or order will result in a waiver of all legal rights to contest the violation or the amount of the fine.

(4) An administrative fine imposed under this part may be recovered in a civil action brought by the attorney general at the request of the department.

(5) A person who willfully and knowingly violates a condition of a permit issued pursuant to this part or fails or refuses to comply with an order issued under this part, or an order incorporated in a final decision issued by the department under this part, except an order incorporated in a decision issued under subsection (2) or section 63541, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both.

(6) A permittee or person who fails to correct a violation for which a notice or order has been issued under subsection (1) within the period permitted for its correction, which period shall not end until the entry of a final order by the department, in the case of any review proceedings initiated by the permittee in which the department orders the suspension of the abatement requirements of the notice or order after determining that the permittee will suffer irreparable loss or damage from the application of those requirements, or until the entry of an order of the court, in the case of any review proceedings initiated by the permittee in which the court orders the suspension of an abatement requirement of the citation, shall be assessed a civil fine of not less than $750.00 for each day during which the failure or violation continues.

(7) If a corporate permittee or person violates a condition of a permit issued pursuant to a state program under section 63524 or fails or refuses to comply with any order issued under section 63539, or any order incorporated in a final decision issued by the department under this part, except an order incorporated in a decision issued under subsection (2), then a director, officer, or agent of the corporation who willfully and knowingly authorized, ordered, or carried out the violation, failure, or refusal is subject to the same fines and imprisonment that may be imposed on a person under subsections (1) and (5).

(8) A person who knowingly makes a false statement, representation, or certification, or who knowingly fails to make a statement, representation, or certification in an application, record, report, or other document filed or required to be maintained pursuant to a state program or this part or any order of decision issued by the department under this part, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63538 Commencement of civil action; notice of intent to commence civil action; rule; notice of violation; effect of action by state; intervention by department or federal regulatory agency; costs of litigation; filing of security if temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction sought; construction of section.

Sec. 63538. (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3), a person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected by an operation not in compliance with a permit or this part may commence a civil action in circuit court or federal district court, whichever has jurisdiction, on his or her own behalf to compel compliance against any of the following:

(a) The department or other state agency if there is alleged a failure of the department or other state agency to perform any act or duty under this part that is not discretionary with the department or other state regulatory authority.

(b) Any governmental instrumentality or agency of the United States that is alleged to be in violation of this part or of any rule, order, or permit issued pursuant to this part or any other person who is alleged to be in violation of any rule, order, or permit issued pursuant to this part.

(2) An action shall not be commenced under subsection (1)(a) until 20 days after the person intending to bring the action has given notice in writing of the intent to commence a civil action to the department or other state regulatory authority in the manner as the department shall by rule prescribe, except that the action may be brought immediately after the notification if the violation or order complained of constitutes an imminent threat to the health or safety of the plaintiff or would immediately affect a legal interest of the plaintiff.

(3) An action shall not be commenced under subsection (1)(b) until 20 days after the person intending to bring the action has given notice in writing of the violation to the department and to any alleged violator. However, if this state has commenced and is diligently prosecuting a civil action in a court of this state or the United States to require compliance with the provisions of this part, or any rule, order, or permit issued pursuant to this part, an action shall not be commenced pursuant to subsection (1)(b). In a civil action brought under this section, the department or federal regulatory agency, if not a party, may intervene as a matter of right.

(4) The circuit court, in an action brought pursuant to this section, may award costs of litigation, including attorney and expert witness fees to a party. The court may, if a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction is sought, require the filing of a bond or equivalent security.

(5) This section shall not be construed to restrict any right that a person or class of persons has under any statute or common law to seek enforcement of this part and the rules promulgated under this part, or to seek any other relief, including relief against the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63539 Notices and orders; application for review; investigation; public hearing; findings of fact; written decision; temporary relief from notice or order; conditions; requirements; suspension or revocation of permit; order to show cause; costs and expenses; civil action instituted by attorney general; certified mail.

Sec. 63539. (1) If the department determines, on the basis of an inspection, that a condition exists or practices exist or that a person or permittee is in violation of a requirement of this part or a permit condition required by this part and that this condition, practice, or violation also creates an imminent danger to the health or safety of the public or is causing or can reasonably be expected to cause pollution, impairment, or destruction to land, air, or water resources, the department shall immediately order a cessation of surface coal mining operations or the portion of surface coal mining operations relevant to the condition, practice, or violation. The cessation order shall remain in effect until the department determines that the condition, practice, or violation has been abated, or until modified, vacated, or terminated by the department pursuant to subsection (8). If the department finds that the ordered cessation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations, or any portion of those operations, will not completely abate the imminent danger to health or safety of the public or the pollution, impairment, or destruction to land, air, or water resources, the department shall, in addition to the cessation order, impose affirmative obligations on the operator requiring the operator to take those actions the department considers necessary to abate the imminent danger or the pollution,

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impairment, or destruction.

(2) If the department determines, on the basis of an inspection, that a permittee is in violation of a requirement of this part or a permit condition required by this part, but the violation does not create an imminent danger to the health or safety of the public or is not causing or reasonably expected to cause pollution, impairment, or destruction to land, air, or water resources, the department shall issue a notice to the permittee setting a reasonable time not to exceed 90 days for the abatement of the violation. If, on expiration of the period of time as originally set or subsequently extended for good cause shown, and on written finding of the department, the department finds that the violation has not been abated, it shall immediately order a cessation of surface coal mining operations or the portion of surface coal mining operations relevant to the violation. The cessation order shall remain in effect until the department determines that the violation has been abated or until modified, vacated, or terminated by the department under subsection (9). In the order of cessation issued by the department under this subsection, the department shall specify the steps necessary to abate the violation in the most expeditious manner possible, and shall include the necessary measures in the order.

(3) A permittee issued notice or order by the department pursuant to subsections (1) and (2), or any person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the notice or order or by any modification, vacation, or termination of the notice or order, may apply to the department for review of the notice or order within 30 days of issuance of the notice or order or within 30 days of its modification, vacation, or termination. On receipt of the application, the department shall conduct an investigation. The investigation shall provide an opportunity for a public hearing, at the request of the applicant or the person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected, to enable the applicant or the person to present information relating to the issuance and continuance of the notice or order or the modification, vacation, or termination of the notice or order. The filing of an application for review under this subsection shall not operate as a stay of any order or notice. A hearing conducted under this subsection shall be conducted pursuant to chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.271 to 24.287 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(4) On receiving the report of the investigation, the department shall make findings of fact and shall issue a written decision incorporating in the decision an order vacating, affirming, modifying, or terminating the notice or order or the modification, vacation, or termination of the notice or order complained of and incorporate its findings therein. If the application for review concerns an order for cessation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations issued pursuant to subsection (1) or (2), the department shall issue the written decision within 30 days of the receipt of the application for review unless temporary relief has been granted by the department under subsection (5).

(5) Pending completion of the investigation and hearing required by this section, the applicant may file with the department a written request that the department grant temporary relief from any notice or order issued under this section, together with a detailed statement giving reasons for granting the relief. The department shall issue an order or decision granting or denying the relief, except that if the applicant requests relief from an order for cessation of coal mining and reclamation operations issued under subsection (3) or (4), the order or decision on the request shall be issued within 5 days of its receipt. The department may grant the relief, under conditions it may prescribe, if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) A hearing has been held in the locality of the permit area on the request for temporary relief in which interested parties were given an opportunity to be heard.

(b) The applicant shows that there is a substantial likelihood that the findings of the department will be favorable to the applicant.

(c) The relief will not adversely affect the health or safety of the public or cause significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air, or water resources.

(6) Following the issuance of an order to show cause as to why a permit should not be suspended or revoked under this section, the department shall hold a public hearing after giving written notice of the time, place, and date of the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to chapters 4 and 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.271 to 24.292 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. If the department revokes the permit, the permittee shall immediately cease surface coal mining operations on the permit area and shall complete reclamation within a period specified by the department, or the department shall declare as forfeited the performance bonds for the operation.

(7) If an order is issued under this section, or as a result of any administrative proceeding under this part, at the request of any person, a sum equal to the aggregate amount of all costs and expenses, including attorney fees, as determined by the department to have been reasonably incurred by the person for or in connection with his or her participation in the proceedings, may be assessed against either party as the department

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considers proper, or as the court, for costs and attorneys' fees resulting from judicial review, considers proper.

(8) If the department has reason to believe, on the basis of an inspection, that a pattern of violations of any requirements of this part or any permit conditions required by this part exists or has existed, and if the department or its authorized representative also finds that these violations are caused by the unwarranted failure of the permittee to comply with requirements of this part or any permit conditions, or that the violations are willfully caused by the permittee, the department shall issue an order to the permittee to show cause as to why the permit should not be suspended or revoked. The order shall set a time and place for a public hearing, to be conducted pursuant to chapters 4 and 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, and the department shall inform all interested parties of the hearing. If the permittee fails to show cause why the permit should not be suspended or revoked, the department shall promptly suspend or revoke the permit.

(9) Notices and orders issued pursuant to this section shall set forth with reasonable specificity the nature of the violation and the remedial action required, the period of time established for abatement, and a reasonable description of the portion of the surface coal mining and reclamation operation to which the notice or order applies. Each notice or order issued under this section shall be given promptly to the permittee or an agent of the permittee by the department. A notice or order issued pursuant to this section may be modified, vacated, or terminated by the department. A notice or order issued pursuant to this section that requires cessation of mining by the operator shall expire within 30 days of actual notice to the operator unless a public hearing is held at the site or within a reasonable proximity to the site so that any viewings of the site can be conducted during the course of the public hearing.

(10) The department may request the attorney general to institute a civil action for relief, including a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other appropriate order, if the permittee does any of the following:

(a) Violates or fails or refuses to comply with an order or decision issued by the department under this part.

(b) Interferes with, hinders, or delays the department or its authorized representative in carrying out the provisions of this section.

(c) Refuses to admit to the mine an authorized representative of the department, if the authorized representative presented the documents required by this part for proper entry.

(d) Refuses to permit inspection of the mine by an authorized representative of the department, if the authorized representative presented the documents required by this part for proper entry.

(e) Refuses to furnish information or a report requested by the department under the department's rules.

(f) Refuses to permit access to and copying of records the department determines reasonably necessary to carry out this part.

(11) All notices or orders required by this subpart shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63540 Financial interest of department employee in coal mining operation prohibited; violation; penalty.

Sec. 63540. An employee of the department performing any function or duty under this part shall not have a direct or indirect financial interest in an underground or surface coal mining operation. A person who knowingly violates this subsection shall, on conviction, be punished by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not more than $2,500.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63541 Prohibited acts; violation; penalty.

Sec. 63541. Except as permitted by a law of this state or the United States, a person shall not willfully resist, prevent, impede, or interfere with the department or any of its agents in the performance of duties pursuant to this part. A person who violates this section shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not more than $5,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.63542 Inspection and reclamation fee; amount; rule; quarterly reports; contents; notice of fee due; payment and disposition of fees.

Sec. 63542. (1) For the purposes of inspections and monitoring, and the administration and enforcement of this part, an operator is assessed an inspection and reclamation fee of not more than 25 cents per ton of coal mined, as determined by the department. The department shall establish, by rule, criteria for determining the amount of the inspection and reclamation fee. In making the determination of the amount of the inspection and reclamation fee, the department shall take into account funds made available to the department pursuant to the surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977, and funds from any other source for the purposes specified in this subsection. The total inspection and reclamation fees assessed annually shall not exceed the total amount appropriated to the department for the purposes specified in this subsection.

(2) An operator shall file quarterly reports with the department on a calendar year basis. The report shall include all of the following:

(a) The location of the mining operation and the areas mined during the quarter.

(b) A description of the progress of restoration and reclamation activities of the operator for the preceding quarter.

(c) The number of tons of coal mined during the quarter.

(3) Based on the information reported pursuant to subsection (2)(c), the department shall send the operator written notice of the amount of the fee due for the quarter. The operator shall pay the fee to the department within 30 days after receipt of the notice.

(4) The department shall deposit the inspection and reclamation fee in the state abandoned mine reclamation fund created by section 63510.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63543 Failure to submit quarterly report as grounds for revocation of permit; penalty; unpaid fee and penalty as debt; confidentiality of fee and reports; disclosure.

Sec. 63543. (1) Failure to submit a quarterly report constitutes grounds for revocation of a permit. An action taken by the department under this subsection shall be conducted pursuant to chapters 4 and 5 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.271 to 24.292 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) A penalty equal to 12% of the amount due, or $1,000.00, whichever is greater, shall be assessed against the operator for a fee not properly or promptly paid pursuant to section 63542. An unpaid fee and penalty shall constitute a debt and become the basis of a civil action against the operator to compel the payment of the debt.

(3) The inspection and reclamation fee and quarterly reports required by this subpart shall be confidential and shall not be subject to the disclosure requirements of the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, except that disclosure may be made with the written consent of the operator filing the fee and report or pursuant to a court order.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63544 Prohibited acts; penalty.

Sec. 63544. Any person, corporate officer, agent, or director, on behalf of an operator, who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification, or knowingly fails to make any statement, representation, or certification regarding a report required in this subpart, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBPART 10
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

324.63545 Designating areas unsuitable for surface coal mining; rules; determination;

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petition by interested person; public hearing; written decision; statement; certain surface coal mining operation prohibited; consultation.

Sec. 63545. (1) The department shall promulgate rules establishing a process for designating areas unsuitable for surface coal mining. The rules shall include all of the following:

(a) Surface coal mining land review.

(b) Development of a data base and an inventory system that will permit proper evaluation of the capacity of different land areas of the state to support and permit reclamation of surface coal mining operations.

(c) Development, by rule, of a method for implementing land use planning decisions concerning surface coal mining operations.

(d) Development, by rule, of proper notice provisions and opportunity for public participation, including a public hearing, prior to making any designation or redesignation pursuant to this section.

(e) Procedures for determining whether an area proposed for surface coal mining contains historic resources. These rules shall be developed with the concurrence of the department of history, arts, and libraries and the department of natural resources.

(2) On a petition submitted pursuant to subsection (3), the department shall designate an area as unsuitable for all or certain types of surface coal mining operations if the department determines that reclamation pursuant to the requirements of this part is not technologically and economically feasible. A surface area may be designated unsuitable for certain types of surface coal mining operations if those operations do any of the following:

(a) Are incompatible with existing state or local land use plans or programs.

(b) Affect fragile land or historic resources resulting in significant damage to important historic, cultural, scientific, and aesthetic values and natural systems.

(c) Affect renewable resource land, including aquifers and aquifer recharge areas, resulting in a substantial loss or reduction of long-range productivity of water supply or of food or fiber products.

(d) Affect natural hazard land, including areas subject to frequent flooding and areas of unstable geology, substantially endangering life and property.

(e) Affect agricultural land by diminishing the productivity of the land after reclamation to less than the productivity before the site was mined.

(f) Adversely affect an agricultural operation, including planting, harvesting, transportation, processing, or other activity included in the agricultural impact statement required by section 63516(1)(s).

(3) Determinations of the unsuitability of land for surface coal mining shall be integrated with present and future land use planning and regulation processes at the federal, state, and local levels. The requirements of this section do not apply to land on which surface coal mining operations were being conducted on August 3, 1977, or under a permit issued pursuant to former 1982 PA 303, or where substantial legal and financial commitments in the operation or proposed operation were in existence prior to January 4, 1977.

(4) A person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected has the right to petition the department to have an area designated as unsuitable for surface coal mining operations or to have that designation terminated. The petition shall contain allegations of facts with supporting evidence. Within 30 days after receipt of the petition, the department shall hold a public hearing in the locality of the affected area. After a person having an interest that is or may be adversely affected has filed a petition and before the hearing, any person may intervene by filing allegations of facts with supporting evidence that would tend to establish the allegations. Within 60 days after the hearing, the department shall issue and furnish to the petitioner and any other party to the hearing a written decision with reasons for the decision. In the event that all the parties stipulate agreement prior to the requested hearing and withdraw their request, the hearing need not be held.

(5) Before designating land areas as unsuitable for surface coal mining operations, the department shall prepare a detailed statement on the potential coal resources of the area, the demand for coal resources, and the impact of the designation on the environment, the economy, and the supply of coal.

(6) After October 12, 1982, and subject to valid existing rights, surface coal mining operations, except those that existed on August 3, 1977, shall not be permitted that do any of the following:

(a) Adversely affect a publicly owned park or historic resource unless approved jointly by the department and the federal, state, or local agency with jurisdiction over the park or historic resource and by the department of history, arts, and libraries.

(b) Are within 100 feet of the outside right-of-way line of a public road, except where mine access roads or haulage roads join the right-of-way lines and except that the department may permit these roads to be relocated or the area affected to lie within 100 feet of the public road, if, after public notice and opportunity for public hearing in the locality, a written finding is made that the interests of the public and the landowners affected by the relocation will be protected.

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(c) Are within 300 feet of an occupied dwelling, unless waived by the owner of the dwelling, or within 300 feet of any public building, school, church, community, or institutional building, or public park, or within 300 feet of a cemetery.

(7) The department shall designate areas protected by part 351 as unsuitable for surface coal mining.

(8) In administering this section, the department shall consult with the department of natural resources.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63546 Government agency, unit, or instrumentality proposed to engage in surface coal mining operations; compliance with part.

Sec. 63546. An agency, unit, or instrumentality of federal, state, or local government, including any publicly owned utility or publicly owned corporation of federal, state, or local government, that proposes to engage in surface coal mining operations that are subject to the requirements of this part shall comply with all provisions of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63547 Part inapplicable to certain activities.

Sec. 63547. This part does not apply to any of the following:

(a) The extraction of coal as an incidental part of federal, state, or local government financed highway or other construction under rules established by the department.

(b) The extraction of coal incidental to the extraction of other minerals if the amount of coal does not exceed 50 tons or 16-2/3% of the total tonnage of other minerals removed annually for purposes of commercial use or sale, whichever is less.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63548 Departures from environmental protection performance standards; authorization.

Sec. 63548. To encourage advances in mining and reclamation practices and to allow postmining land use for industrial, commercial, residential, or public use, including recreational facilities, the department may, with approval by the secretary of the United States department of the interior, authorize departures in individual cases and on an experimental basis from the environmental protection performance standards of this part. These departures may be authorized if the experimental practices are potentially at least as environmentally protective, during and after mining operations, as those required by this part; if the mining operations approved for particular land use or other purposes are not larger or more numerous than necessary to determine the effectiveness and economic feasibility of the experimental practices; and if the experimental practices do not reduce the protection afforded public health and safety below that provided by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63549 Right to enforce or protect interest in natural resource affected by operation; replacement of water supply.

Sec. 63549. (1) This part shall not be construed as affecting the right of any person to enforce or protect, under applicable law, his or her interest in water or any other natural resource affected by a surface coal mining operation.

(2) The operator of a surface coal mining operation shall replace the water supply of an owner of an interest in real property who obtains all or part of his or her supply of water for domestic, agricultural, industrial, or other legitimate use from an underground or surface source where the supply has been affected by contamination, diminution, or interruption proximately resulting from the surface coal mine operation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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PART 637
SAND DUNE MINING

324.63701 Definitions.

Sec. 63701. As used in this part:

(a) "Active cell-unit" means a cell-unit set forth in the approved progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan provided for in section 63706(1), in which vegetation and topsoil have been removed in preparation for sand dune mining or sand removal has been initiated after the date of issuance of the sand dune mining permit. Vegetation removal does not preclude the removal of marketable forest products from a cell-unit, if the removal maintains the ground cover and topsoil within the cell-unit in stable condition.

(b) "Administratively complete" means an application for a sand dune mining permit that is determined by the department to satisfy all of the conditions of this part and rules promulgated under this part.

(c) "Barrier dune" means the first landward sand dune formation along the shoreline of a Great Lake or a sand dune formation designated by the department.

(d) "Beneficiation" means to process sand for any of the following purposes, but does not include the drying process:

(*i*) Regulating the grain size of the desired product.

(*ii*) Removing unwanted constituents.

(*iii*) Improving the quality and purity of the desired product.

(e) "Cell-unit" means a subunit of the total sand dune mining project as determined in size and location by the operator. A cell-unit shall not exceed 10 acres in size for sand dune mining operations that commence operation after March 31, 1977 or for the expansion of sand dune mining operations that existed before March 31, 1977. A cell-unit shall not exceed 30 acres in size for operations that existed before March 31, 1977.

(f) "Conformance bond" means a surety bond that is executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, cash, certificates of deposit, letters of credit, or other securities that are filed by an operator to ensure compliance with this part, rules promulgated under this part, or conditions of a sand dune mining permit.

(g) "Environmental elements" means the biological, physical, and chemical characteristics of the environment, including but not limited to the following:

(*i*) Watersheds.

(*ii*) Water bodies.

(*iii*) Forests.

(*iv*) Existing areas maintained for public recreation.

(*v*) Shorelands.

(*vi*) Habitat areas.

(h) "Great Lakes" means any of the Great Lakes that have a shoreline within this state.

(i) "Interim cell-unit status" means a cell-unit as set forth in an approved progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan provided for in section 63706(1), in which all sand dune mining and reclamation within the cell-unit has been completed, but the vegetation has not sustained itself through 1 full growing season. A cell-unit placed in interim cell-unit status is required to retain the conformance bond provided in section 63712 until reclassification by the department as provided in section 63712(5). Each sand dune mining activity shall be limited to no more than 3 cell-units in interim cell-unit status at any 1 time.

(j) "Operator" means an owner or lessee of mineral rights or any other person engaged in or preparing to engage in sand dune mining activities with respect to mineral rights within a sand dune area.

(k) "Sand dune area" means that area designated by the department that includes those geomorphic features composed primarily of sand, whether windblown or of other origin and that lies within 2 miles of the ordinary high-water mark on a Great Lake as defined in section 32502, and includes critical dune areas as defined in part 353.

(*l*) "Sand dune mining" means the removal of sand from sand dune areas for commercial or industrial purposes, or both. The removal of sand from sand dune areas in volumes of less than 3,000 tons is not sand dune mining if the removal is a 1-time occurrence and the reason the sand is removed is not for the direct use for an industrial or commercial purpose. However, the removal of any volume of sand that is not sand dune mining within a critical dune area as defined in part 353 is subject to the critical dune protection provisions of part 353. The department may authorize in writing the removal of more than 3,000 tons of sand without a sand dune mining permit issued pursuant to section 63704 for a purpose related to protecting an occupied dwelling or other structure from property damage related to the migration of sand or the instability of sand. This removal may be for more than 1 occurrence, but a written authorization from the department is required for each removal.

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(m) "Water table" means the surface in an unconfined aquifer at which the pressure is atmospheric. The water table is found at the level at which water stands in wells that penetrate the aquifer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63702 Sand dune mining permit within critical dune area; "adjacent" defined.

Sec. 63702. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the department shall not issue a sand dune mining permit within a critical dune area as defined in part 353 after July 5, 1989, except under either of the following circumstances:

(a) The operator seeks to renew or amend a sand dune mining permit that was issued prior to July 5, 1989, subject to the criteria and standards applicable to a renewal or amendatory application.

(b) The operator holds a sand dune mining permit issued pursuant to section 63704 and is seeking to amend the mining permit to include land that is adjacent to property the operator is permitted to mine, and prior to July 5, 1989 the operator owned the land or owned rights to mine dune sand in the land for which the operator seeks an amended permit.

(2) As used in this section, "adjacent" means land that is contiguous with the land for which the operator holds a sand dune mining permit issued pursuant to section 63704, provided no land or space, including a highway or road right-of-way, exists between the property on which sand dune mining is authorized and the adjacent land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63703 Great Lakes sand dune areas; comprehensive study and inventory.

Sec. 63703. The department, by July 1, 1977, shall make or cause to be made a comprehensive study and inventory of Great Lakes sand dune areas in the state. The study and inventory shall include all of the following:

(a) An economic study of the current and projected sand dune mining practices in the state, showing where the sand is marketed, its uses, and the amount of sand reserves.

(b) A geologic study of sand areas within this state, other than Great Lakes sand dune areas, that would contain sufficient reserves and have properties suitable for use as foundry core and molding sands or for other uses of sand.

(c) Sand dune areas or portions of sand dune areas that, for environmental or other reasons, should be protected through purchase by the state or other persons or interests, or easements including the acquisition of mineral rights by the state, and a priority list of sand dune areas to be acquired by the department.

(d) An identification and designation of barrier dunes along the shoreline, showing their effect on aesthetic, environmental, economic, industrial, and agricultural interests in this state.

(e) Methods for recycling or reusing sand for industrial and commercial purposes, along with alternatives to the use of dune sand and its economic impact.

(f) Recommendations for the protection and management of sand dune areas for uses other than sand mining.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63704 Sand dune mining; permit; requirements.

Sec. 63704. (1) A person shall not engage in sand dune mining within Great Lakes sand dune areas except as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13.

(2) Prior to receiving a permit from the department, a person shall submit all of the following:

(a) A permit application on a form provided by the department.

(b) An environmental impact statement of the proposed mining activity as prescribed by section 63705.

(c) A progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan for the proposed mining activity as prescribed by section 63706.

(d) A 15-year mining plan as prescribed by section 63707.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.63705 Environmental impact statement.

Sec. 63705. The environmental impact statement submitted to the department shall comply with the requirements of the department and shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) The compatibility of the proposed sand dune mining activity with adjacent existing land uses or land use plans.

(b) The impact of the proposed sand dune mining activity on flora, fauna, or wildlife habitats.

(c) The economic impact of the proposed sand dune mining activity on the surrounding area.

(d) The effects of the proposed sand dune mining activity on groundwater supply, level, quality, and flow on site and within 1,000 feet of the proposed sand dune mining activity.

(e) The effects of the proposed sand dune mining activity on adjacent surface resources.

(f) The effect of the proposed sand dune mining activity on air quality within 1,000 feet of the proposed sand dune mining activity.

(g) Whether the proposed sand dune mining activity is located within any of the following:

(*i*) 1,000 feet of a residence.

(*ii*) 2,000 feet of a school.

(*iii*) 500 feet of a commercial development.

(h) Alternatives, if any, to the location of the proposed sand dune mining activity and the reasons for the choice of the location of the proposed sand dune mining activity over those alternatives.

(i) A description of the environment as it exists prior to commencement of sand dune mining activity of area of the proposed sand dune mining activity. The environmental impact statement shall provide the greatest detail of the areas and the environmental elements that receive the major impacts from the proposed activity, but also shall include areas that may be impacted as an indirect result of the project.

(j) An inventory of the physical environmental elements of the proposed site. The inventory shall be conducted at a time or at different times of the year that will provide the most complete information regarding the existing conditions of the area that will be impacted directly or indirectly by the proposed activity.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63706 Progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan; sand dune mining permit; requirements.

Sec. 63706. (1) The progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan, for both the total project and each cell-unit, shall include all of the following:

(a) The method and direction of mining.

(b) Surface overburden stripping plans.

(c) The depth of grade level over the entire site from which the sand will be removed.

(d) Provisions for grading, revegetation, and stabilization that will minimize shore and soil erosion, sedimentation, and public safety problems.

(e) The location of buildings, equipment, stockpiles, roads, or other features necessary to the mining activity and provisions for their removal and restoration of the area at the project termination.

(f) Provisions for buffer areas, landscaping, and screening.

(g) The interim use or uses of reclaimed cell-units before the cessation of the entire mining operation.

(h) Maps and other supporting documents required by the department.

(2) The department shall not issue a sand dune mining permit for any of the following:

(a) A sand dune mining operation that existed before March 31, 1977, if the progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan includes more than 3 30-acre cell-units.

(b) A sand dune mining operation that commenced after March 31, 1977, if the progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan includes any cell-unit having an area exceeding 10 acres.

(c) The expansion of an existing sand dune mining operation if that expansion includes any cell-unit having an area exceeding 10 acres.

(3) The progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan for sand dune mining permits issued 30 days or more after June 23, 1994 shall meet the following requirements:

(a) All upland reclamation grades for sand dune mining operations shall have a slope not steeper than 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane, except that the department may approve plans that allow steeper reclaimed slopes in order to provide a smoother transition to undisturbed topographic features or the protection of existing environmental features.

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(b) All submerged grades established by the excavation of material below the water table and the creation of a water body shall have underwater slopes as follows:

(*i*) For water bodies with a surface area less than 5 acres, the submerged grades shall be 1-foot vertical rise in a 3-foot horizontal plane, or flatter, to a depth of 6 feet.

(*ii*) For water bodies with a surface area 5 acres or greater, the submerged grades shall be 1-foot vertical rise in a 6-foot horizontal plane, or flatter, to a depth of 6 feet.

(*iii*) For all water bodies where the progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan designates a final use after sand dune mining as public access, the area designated for public access shall have submerged grades of 1-foot vertical rise in a 10-foot horizontal plane, or flatter, to a depth of 6 feet.

(c) A 200-foot minimum setback distance from the property line to the cell-unit boundary line shall be provided on all cell-unit mining and reclamation plans, except the department may approve plans with less than 200-foot minimum setback distances if the department determines that the sand dune mining activity is compatible with the adjacent existing land use.

(d) A 500-foot minimum setback distance from the ordinary high-water mark of the Great Lakes shall be provided on all cell-unit mining and reclamation plans. As used in this subdivision, ordinary high-water mark means for the lands bordering or adjacent to waters or land affected by levels of the Great Lakes landward of the ordinary high-water mark as defined by section 32502, and those lands between the ordinary high-water mark and the water's edge.

(e) All cell-unit mining and reclamation plans shall include fencing or other techniques to minimize trespass or unauthorized access to the sand dune mining activity.

(f) If the proposed sand dune mining activity proposes to mine below the water table, the department may require a hydrogeological survey of the surrounding area.

(g) If threatened or endangered species are identified within the cell-unit boundaries, the cell-unit mining and reclamation plan shall indicate how the threatened or endangered species shall be protected or, if not protected, what mitigation measures shall be performed.

(h) If the proposed sand dune mining activity includes beneficiation or treatment of the sand, the application documents shall include specific plans depicting the methods, techniques, and manufacturer's material safety data sheets on all chemicals, or other additives that are not natural to the site, that will be utilized in the process. The operator shall also obtain all applicable state and federal permits prior to beginning the beneficiation process.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63707 Fifteen-year mining plan; submission of duplicate copy of cell-unit mining and reclamation plan.

Sec. 63707. (1) The 15-year mining plan shall include the following:

(a) The location and acreage of sand dune areas presently being mined and the amount of sand being mined.

(b) The location and acreage of sand dune areas not presently being mined but planned for that purpose and the amount of sand planned to be mined.

(c) A schedule indicating when the mining activity will begin in each sand dune area and the probable termination date of mining activities in each area.

(d) Additional information requested by the department.

(2) A duplicate copy of the cell-unit mining and reclamation plan shall be submitted to the soil conservation district in the county where the mining activity is proposed to occur. The soil conservation district shall have 30 days after receipt of the plan to review the proposal and submit written comments to the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63708 Sand dune mining permit; duration; renewal; contents; reasons for permitting removal of barrier dune; list of pending applications.

Sec. 63708. (1) A sand dune mining permit issued by the department is valid for not more than 5 years. A sand dune mining permit shall be renewed if the sand dune mining activities have been carried out in compliance with this part, the rules promulgated under this part, and the conditions of the sand dune mining

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permit issued by the department.

(2) The sand dune mining permit shall state any conditions, limitations, or other restrictions determined by the department, including any setback from the ordinary high-water mark of a Great Lake for the protection of the barrier dune.

(3) In granting a sand dune mining permit, if the department allows for the removal of all or a portion of the barrier dune pursuant to this part, it shall submit to the commission written reasons for permitting the removal.

(4) The department shall provide a list of all pending sand dune mining applications upon a request from a person. The list shall give the name and address of each applicant, the legal description of the lands included in the project, and a summary statement of the purpose of the application.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63709 Denial of sand dune mining permit.

Sec. 63709. The department shall deny a sand dune mining permit if, upon review of the environmental impact statement, it determines that the proposed sand dune mining activity is likely to pollute, impair, or destroy the air, water, or other natural resources or the public trust in those resources, as provided by part 17.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63710 Extraction of sand or other minerals by state.

Sec. 63710. The state or an instrumentality of the state shall not engage in the extraction of sand or other minerals from a sand dune area, except as required in the interest of public health and safety in an emergency situation resulting from a disaster as defined in section 2 of the emergency preparedness act, Act No. 390 of the Public Acts of 1976, being section 30.402 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63711 Assessment of fee for surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of part; disposition of unexpended fees; annual report of operator; confidentiality; failure to submit annual report; penalty for unpaid fee; records; annual report of department.

Sec. 63711. (1) For purposes of surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of this part, an operator is assessed a fee of not more than 10 cents per ton of sand mined from a sand dune area for the calendar year reported as described in subsection (2). Funds collected by the assessment of the fee shall not exceed the actual costs to the department of implementing the sections of this part that pertain to sand dune mining. Any fees collected under this subsection that are unexpended at the end of a fiscal year shall be credited to a separate fund of the department, carried over to the succeeding fiscal year, and deducted from the amount appropriated for that year for surveillance, monitoring, administration, and enforcement of this part for purposes of computing the fee to be assessed for that year.

(2) An operator shall file an annual report on or before January 31 of each year. The report shall show the areas mined and describe the progress of restoration and reclamation activities of the operator for the preceding calendar year. The report shall contain both of the following:

(a) The number of tons of sand mined from a sand dune area.

(b) Location of the sand dune area.

(3) The fee described in subsection (1) shall be due not more than 30 days after the department sends written notice to the operator of the amount due.

(4) The surveillance fee and annual report required by this section is confidential and shall not be available for public inspection without the written consent of the person filing the fee and report, except in accordance with judicial order.

(5) Failure to submit an annual report in compliance with rules promulgated by the department constitutes grounds for revocation of a permit.

(6) A penalty equal to 10% of the amount due, or $1,000.00, whichever is greater, shall be assessed against the operator for a fee that is not paid when due. An unpaid fee and penalty shall constitute a debt and become the basis of a judgment against the operator. Penalties paid pursuant to this section shall be used for the

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implementation, administration, and enforcement of this part.

(7) Records upon which the annual report is based shall be preserved for 3 years and are subject to audit by the department.

(8) The department shall annually prepare and submit to the house of representatives and senate standing committees with jurisdiction over subject areas related to natural resources and the environment a report on the sand mining surveillance activities undertaken by the department for the immediately preceding year and the cost of those activities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63712 Conformance bond; reclassification of active cell-unit to interim cell-unit; notice of completion or acceptance of reclamation activity; compliance or approval required for mining or extraction; violation as grounds for revocation of permit.

Sec. 63712. (1) Prior to the initiation of a disturbance of land, the holder of a sand dune mining permit shall file with the department a conformance bond in favor of the state.

(2) The conformance bonds shall be filed for a maximum of 3 active cell-units and 3 cell-units in interim cell-unit status within the sand dune mining permit and shall be for an amount equal to $10,000.00 per cell-unit or $1,000.00 per each acre in the cell-units, whichever is greater, for cell-units bonded prior to June 23, 1994. For all cell-units that are bonded after June 23, 1994, the conformance bond shall be for an amount equal to $20,000.00 per cell-unit or $2,000.00 per each acre in the cell-units, whichever is greater. The bond for a cell-unit bonded prior to June 23, 1994 shall remain in effect until the cell-unit is released from the requirements of the conformance bond as provided in subsection (4) or the cell-unit boundary is revised as approved by the department. If an existing cell-unit boundary is revised, the conformance bond for the cell-unit shall be increased to the amounts provided for cell-units bonded after June 23, 1994.

(3) The conformance bonds shall be transferable to other cell-units contained within the sand dune mining permit upon faithful conformance with the approved reclamation plan as provided in section 63706.

(4) The conformance bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the requirements set forth in the approved reclamation plan as provided in section 63706. Liability under the conformance bond shall be maintained as long as the reclamation is not completed in compliance with the approved plan. The conformance bond shall remain in full force until the release of the cell-unit from the conformance bond requirements, including the period of time the cell-unit may have been placed in interim cell-unit status.

(5) The department shall not reclassify a cell-unit from active to interim cell-unit status until the following minimum conditions or requirements have been met:

(a) All permitted sand dune mining activities within the cell-unit have been completed.

(b) All extraction or processing equipment has been removed from the cell-unit, except that a roadway, conveyor, or slurry pipeline corridor may be maintained through a cell-unit and the cell-unit still may be reclassified to interim cell-unit status. This roadway, conveyor, or slurry pipeline corridor shall be considered part of the plant site and shall be removed and revegetated as provided by section 63706(1)(e).

(c) All upland areas within the cell-unit that were disturbed by sand dune mining have been regraded as provided in section 63706(3)(a).

(d) All submerged grades within the cell-unit established by sand dune mining have been regraded as provided in section 63706(3)(b).

(e) All upland areas within the cell-unit that were disturbed by sand dune mining have been revegetated utilizing native or indigenous species or other plant material pursuant to the approved progressive cell-unit mining and reclamation plan as provided in section 63706(1). The vegetation that has been planted shall have germinated or taken root and cover a minimum of 80% of the upland areas disturbed by sand dune mining, and no single area exposed to the elements shall be greater than 25 square feet.

(f) The operator shall provide proper measures to aid in the establishment of growth of the planted vegetation until adequate root systems have developed to provide sustained growth.

(6) The department may reclassify an active cell-unit to interim cell-unit status upon receipt of a written request by the operator. The department shall conduct an on-site inspection of the reclamation activities that have been completed and determine if the completed reclamation activities are adequate to reclassify the active cell-unit to interim cell-unit status. The department shall schedule the on-site inspection within 45 days of the written request. The department shall notify the operator within 30 days following the date of the inspection of the department's decision to grant or deny the request for interim cell-unit status. If the department determines the reclamation activities conducted within the cell-unit do not meet the conditions

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and requirements for interim cell-unit status, the notification shall include information detailing the reasons for denial.

(7) If the department determines the status of an active cell-unit does not meet the conditions or requirements for reclassification to interim cell-unit status, the operator may not reapply for reclassification of the same active cell-unit until 1 year from the previous request.

(8) Notification shall be given to the operator upon completion or acceptance by the department of the reclamation activity. The notification constitutes the release of the cell-unit from the conformance bond requirements if:

(a) All permitted sand dune mining activities within the cell-unit have been completed.

(b) All extraction or processing equipment has been removed from the cell-unit, except a roadway, conveyor, or slurry pipeline corridor may be maintained through a cell-unit and the cell-unit still released from bond. This roadway, conveyor, or slurry pipeline corridor shall be considered part of the plant site and shall be removed and revegetated as provided by section 63706(1)(e).

(c) All upland areas within the cell-unit that were disturbed by sand dune mining have been regraded as provided in section 63706(3)(a).

(d) All submerged grades within the cell-unit established by sand dune mining have been regraded as provided in section 63706(3)(b).

(e) All upland areas within the cell-unit that were disturbed by sand dune mining have been revegetated utilizing native or indigenous species or other plant material pursuant to the approved reclamation plan as provided in section 63706(1).

(f) There are no areas within the revegetated portions of the cell-unit where a 10-foot by 10-foot test plot can be measured with less than 80% survival of the planted vegetation.

(g) The plant material shall be required to sustain itself through 1 full growing season.

(h) There are no areas within the revegetated portion of the cell-unit with ongoing erosion, except some wind erosion shall be allowed if the wind erosion that is occurring does not threaten the stability of the regraded slopes or the ability of the plant material to accommodate the accretion of sand.

(9) Mining or extraction of sand dune minerals from any other cell-unit contained within the sand dune mining permit is prohibited until compliance or approval is attained from the department.

(10) A violation of this section constitutes grounds for revocation of the sand dune mining permit.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63713 Rules.

Sec. 63713. The department shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.63714 Suspension or revocation of permit; restraining order, injunction, or other appropriate remedy; violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 63714. (1) If the department finds that an operator is not in compliance with this part, the rules promulgated under this part, or a permit issued under this part, the department may suspend or revoke the permit.

(2) At the request of the department, the attorney general may institute an action in the circuit court for a restraining order or injunction or other appropriate remedy to prevent or preclude a violation of this part, a permit issued under this part, or the rules promulgated under this part. This shall be in addition to the rights provided in part 17.

(3) A person who violates this part or a permit issued under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 5
PEAT EXTRACTION FROM STATE OWNED LANDS

PART 641

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324.64101 “Peat” defined.

Sec. 64101. As used in this part, "peat" means a deposit of unconsolidated, naturally occurring soil material consisting of decomposed and partially decomposed mosses, sedges, trees, and other wetland plants, having 12% or greater organic carbon content on a dry weight basis.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64102 Contracts for taking of peat from state-owned lands.

Sec. 64102. Subject to the requirements of this part, the department may make contracts with persons for the taking of peat from state owned lands upon terms consistent with this part, if not less than 10% of the surface area of all eligible and potentially leasable parcels of state owned land containing peat is set aside and preserved in its original natural state as a unique, irreplaceable natural resource of significant historical value.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64103 Inventory and preliminary evaluation; classification of peat lands; public notice; public comments; public hearings; reclassification of lands.

Sec. 64103. (1) Beginning immediately after July 9, 1984, the department shall conduct an inventory of state owned land to determine the surface areas of peat present on those lands and to make a preliminary evaluation of the nature of the peat lands and the relationship of the peat resource to the surrounding wetlands and watershed. The preliminary evaluation shall consist of an analysis of the following data obtained from aerial photographs, a field check of surface features, and any information currently available:

(a) The importance of the peat land for flood and storm control by the hydrologic absorption and storage capacity of the peat land.

(b) The importance of the peat land for wildlife habitat including migratory waterfowl and rare, threatened, or endangered species.

(c) The presence of rare, threatened, or endangered plant species.

(d) The importance of the peat land for its natural pollution treatment capacity.

(e) The importance of the peat land for erosion control as a sedimentation area filtering basin.

(f) The potential impact on water quality for adjacent fish habitat and nursery grounds.

(g) The presence of historical or archeological features in or adjacent to the peat lands.

(h) The importance of the peat land for recreational, environmental, ecological, and educational purposes and any other purpose not covered in subdivisions (a) through (g).

(2) Based upon the inventory and preliminary evaluation described in subsection (1), the department shall classify the peat lands as either potentially leasable or not leasable according to the following:

(a) If the preliminary evaluation shows that a significant adverse impact is not likely to occur if the peat land is leased and the peat is taken, the peat land shall be classified as potentially leasable. A significant adverse impact may include an impact limited to the peat land.

(b) A peat land not classified as potentially leasable under subdivision (a) shall be classified as not leasable.

(3) The department shall provide a public notice of the completion of the inventory and classification required by subsections (1) and (2) including, but not limited to, publication in the agenda of the commission. The department shall accept public comment on the inventory and classifications for not less than 60 days from the date of notice. The department shall consider all pertinent public comments before finalizing the inventory and classifications. Public hearings may be held on the inventory and classification at the department's discretion. The department may reclassify lands upon receipt of further information if the public notice and the opportunity for public comment described in this subsection are provided.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64104 Nomination of parcel; fee; direct lease contract.

Sec. 64104. (1) Except as provided in subsection (4), contracting for the taking of peat from state owned lands shall be initiated by the nomination of a parcel of land as provided in this section.

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(2) Upon completion of the inventory and classification described in section 64103, a private party or the department may nominate a parcel classified as leasable for the taking of peat.

(3) A nomination by a private party shall be accompanied by a fee established by the department. The fee established shall be a nominal sum to assist in defraying the cost to the state of holding public auctions as described in section 64105. The fee shall be deposited in the fund created in section 64108.

(4) The department may enter into a direct lease contract for the taking of peat from state owned land classified as leasable under section 64103 upon obtaining from the direct lease applicant the same information described in section 64105(4) and upon consideration of the direct lease contract in the same manner as required by this part for a contract for the taking of peat from a nominated parcel. The department may enter into a direct lease contract for the taking of peat from state owned land classified as leasable only under either of the following circumstances:

(a) For the completion of an extraction operation area.

(b) For the consolidation of fractional interests owned or controlled by the applicant for the direct lease contract.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64105 Public auction; exclusive opportunity to pursue contract; information required from highest bidder.

Sec. 64105. (1) On the basis of the inventory and the classification described in section 64103, the department shall determine whether to offer at a public auction the exclusive opportunity to pursue a contract for the taking of peat from a nominated parcel.

(2) The exclusive opportunity to pursue a contract for the taking of peat from a specified parcel of state owned land shall be awarded to the highest bidder at a public auction by sealed or oral bid.

(3) An exclusive opportunity to pursue a contract awarded under this section guarantees that, if the department decides to enter into a contract for the taking of peat from the nominated parcel as provided in section 64106, a contract shall be entered into with the highest bidder.

(4) Within 2 years after being awarded an exclusive opportunity to pursue a contract, the highest bidder shall provide to the department the following information:

(a) The quantity and quality of the peat that the bidder proposes to take from the nominated parcel.

(b) The capacity of the production facility that the bidder proposes to operate on the parcel.

(c) The date on which the bidder projects that the taking of peat will commence and the projected duration of the activity.

(d) An environmental assessment of the impact of the taking of the peat, including an analysis of the factors described in section 64106(2).

(e) Any other information the department determines to be reasonably necessary for the department to make the determination described in section 64106(2).

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64106 Public hearing; determination; criteria; statement of reasons.

Sec. 64106. (1) After the submission of the information required by section 64105(4), and after review and evaluation of that information by the department, the department shall hold a public hearing to hear comments from the public on whether the department should enter into a contract for the taking of peat from a nominated parcel. This hearing may be consolidated with other legally required hearings related to the taking of peat from the nominated parcel.

(2) After completion of the public hearing required by subsection (1), the department shall decide whether to enter into a contract with the highest bidder based upon a determination that the taking of the peat from the parcel of nominated land would be in the public interest and would not unacceptably disrupt or destroy the aquatic or other resources of the peat land or the surrounding area. In making this determination, the department shall balance the benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the taking of the peat against the reasonably foreseeable detriment of the taking, and, to that end, shall consider the following criteria:

(a) The relative extent of the public and private need for the taking of the peat.

(b) The availability of feasible and prudent alternative locations and methods for attaining the expected benefits of the taking of the peat.

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(c) The extent and permanence of the beneficial or detrimental effects which the taking of the peat may have on the public and private uses to which the area is suited.

(d) The probable impact of the taking of peat in relation to the cumulative effect created by other existing and anticipated activities in the watershed where the peat is located.

(e) The probable impact of the taking of the peat on recognized historic, cultural, scenic, ecological, educational, or recreational values, and on the public health, or fish or wildlife.

(f) The size of the peat surface area in relation to the size of the parcel of state owned land.

(g) The impact of the taking of the peat on subsurface water resources, recharging groundwater supplies and adjacent watersheds, and surface water bodies.

(h) The economic value, both public and private, of the taking of peat to the general area.

(3) The department shall state its reasons for deciding to enter or not to enter into a contract with the highest bidder for the taking of peat.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64107 Terms of contract.

Sec. 64107. A contract entered into under this part for the taking of peat from state owned lands shall contain the following terms:

(a) A requirement that the lessee obtain worker's compensation insurance, liability insurance, and any other insurance reasonably required by the department.

(b) A requirement that the lessee hold the department harmless against all claims, demands, or judgments for loss, damage, death, or injury arising out of the lessee's activities or operations.

(c) A requirement that the lessee obtain and maintain public liability insurance in amounts reasonably required by the department.

(d) A prohibition against assignment of the contract or rights under the contract without the written approval of the department.

(e) A requirement that the lessee pay all taxes and assessments.

(f) A requirement that the lessee maintain the premises in a manner that safeguards the public health and safety.

(g) A provision that the term of the lease not exceed 10 years, with extension of that period in the discretion of the department.

(h) A requirement that the lessee pay rentals and minimum royalties established on a per acre basis or production royalties established by the department.

(i) A requirement that the lessee file a performance bond, an escrow account, or both, conditioned on the faithful performance of the agreements in the lease, including any agreements relating to the reclamation.

(j) A provision setting forth the department's rights as lessor.

(k) A provision setting forth the lessee's rights.

(*l*) A provision regarding the department's rights in the event of the default of the lessee.

(m) A requirement that the lessee's rights under the lease are conditioned on operation in accordance with the extraction and reclamation plan as approved by the department.

(n) A requirement that the lessee have an extraction and reclamation plan, subject to the approval of the department, that ensures, to the extent practicable, the extraction operations do not have significant adverse impacts on water quality, air quality, wildlife, or fishing resources of the state; that waste areas and product storage and conditioning areas are located, designed, and utilized to minimize aesthetic unattractiveness and fire hazards and to promote reclamation; that extraction is conducted in a manner that will prevent or mitigate hazardous conditions that will result from acidic drainage and blowing dust; and that the parcel is reclaimed in an acceptable manner given the following factors: the original state, condition, and appearance of the land including suitability for original flora and fauna, the uses of adjacent land, the necessary disruption caused by extraction operations, reclamation techniques, the public trust in the natural resources, and applicable statutes and ordinances.

(o) A requirement that the lessee have a plan for monitoring groundwater changes and surface water quality and flow rates.

(p) Any other term reasonably required by the department to protect the state's interest in the land, to protect the surrounding environment, or to assure the optimum economic return to the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.64108 Peat resource conservation and development fund; creation; deposits.

Sec. 64108. (1) The peat resource conservation and development fund is created in the state treasury.

(2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), the following shall be deposited in the peat resource conservation and development fund:

(a) Money received by the state under contracts for the taking of peat.

(b) The fees imposed under this part.

(3) Money received by the state under contracts for taking of peat from state owned lands acquired with game and fish protection funds shall be deposited in the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

(4) If the money in the fund exceeds $250,000.00 at the end of a state fiscal year, the excess shall be deposited in the Michigan natural resources trust fund created in section 35 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 and provided for in section 1902 or as otherwise provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64109 Expenditures; purposes.

Sec. 64109. The department shall expend the money in the fund and the interest and earnings on the money in the fund for the following purposes:

(a) To administer a peat resource conservation, development, and regulatory program consistent with this part.

(b) To perform the inventory of state lands described in section 64103, to fund further study of the state owned lands classified as not leasable under section 64103, and to provide for the reclassification of parcels consistent with the provisions of section 64103 based on the development of information unavailable during the classification required by section 64103(2).

(c) To fund research necessary for the further development of appropriate techniques for environmental monitoring of peat extraction sites, for development and protection of the state's peat resources, and for reclamation of lands following the extraction of peat.

(d) To pay for the costs to the state of personnel services, printing, postage, advertising, contractual services, and the rental of facilities associated with the offering of state owned lands for the purpose of taking peat.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64110 Applicability of MCL 324.64103 to 324.64106; responsibility of meeting legal requirements.

Sec. 64110. The requirements of sections 64103 through 64106 do not apply to proposals for the taking of peat from state owned lands that have been the subject of department action prior to July 9, 1984. This provision does not relieve the department or any of the entities listed in section 64102 from the responsibility of meeting legal requirements applicable to the leasing of state lands for peat development that might otherwise be imposed by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.64111 Rules.

Sec. 64111. The department may promulgate rules for the implementation of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

CHAPTER 4

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324.70101 Recreation and cultural arts section; establishment.

Sec. 70101. There is established a state recreation and cultural arts section in the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70102 Head of section; qualifications.

Sec. 70102. The head of the state recreation and cultural arts section shall be a person widely experienced in community recreation and shall be directly responsible to a deputy director.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70103 Technical advice and guidance; duty to collect and disseminate data and information; other duties.

Sec. 70103. The state recreation and cultural arts section shall provide technical advice and guidance to the political subdivisions of this state and other interested groups and agencies in the planning and development of recreation programs, areas, and facilities including but not limited to creative and cultural activities, and programs for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and the culturally deprived. The section shall collect and disseminate necessary data and information relating to its duties and shall maintain a cooperative relationship with the tourist, resort, and educational extension services of the universities, the Michigan travel commission, Michigan's 4 regional tourist associations, and the various federal agencies.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70104 Representation of citizen interest, need, and participation.

Sec. 70104. The department shall provide continual representation of citizen interest, need, and participation in a wide variety of leisure-time pursuits.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70105 Existing employees; reassignment.

Sec. 70105. The department may reassign existing employees of the department of natural resources or employ staff necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70106 Rules.

Sec. 70106. The department shall promulgate rules necessary for the establishment and implementation of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.70301 Outdoor recreation; comprehensive plan.

Sec. 70301. The department is authorized to prepare, maintain, and keep up-to-date a comprehensive plan for the development of the outdoor recreation resources of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70302 Federal aid programs.

Sec. 70302. The department may apply to any appropriate agency or officer of the United States for participation in or the receipt of aid from any federal program respecting outdoor recreation. The department may enter into contracts and agreements with the United States or any appropriate agency of the United States, keep financial and other records relating to those contracts and agreements, and furnish to appropriate officials and agencies of the United States reports and information as may be reasonably necessary to enable the officials and agencies to perform their duties under the programs. In connection with obtaining the benefits of any such program, the department shall coordinate its activities with and represent the interests of all agencies and subdivisions of the state having interests in the planning, development, and maintenance of outdoor recreation resources and facilities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70303 Federal aid programs; federal land and water conservation fund; disposition and apportionment of funds.

Sec. 70303. Grants-in-aid received from the land and water conservation fund act of 1965, Public Law 88-578, 78 Stat. 897, shall be deposited in the state treasury and disbursed to agencies and subdivisions of the state upon authorization of the department. In the apportionment of funds to subdivisions of the state, the department shall give special consideration to those subdivisions where population density and land and facility needs are greatest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70304 Federal land programs; appropriations; agreements on behalf of state subdivisions.

Sec. 70304. The department shall not make a commitment or enter into an agreement pursuant to an exercise of authority under this part until the legislature has appropriated sufficient funds to it for meeting the state's share, if any, of project costs. It is the legislative intent that, to the extent necessary to assure the proper operation and maintenance of areas and facilities acquired or developed pursuant to any program participated in by this state under this part, those areas and facilities shall be publicly maintained for outdoor recreation purposes. The department may enter into and administer agreements with the United States or any appropriate agency of the United States for planning, acquisition, and development projects involving participating federal-aid funds on behalf of any subdivision of this state, if the subdivision gives necessary assurances to the department that it has available sufficient funds to meet its share, if any, of the cost of the project and that the acquired or developed areas will be operated and maintained at the subdivision's expense for public outdoor recreation use.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.70305 State assistance to subdivisions; guidelines and limits on state payments.

Sec. 70305. The department is authorized to disburse state appropriated grants-in-aid to political subdivisions of the state to be used in conjunction with the land and water conservation fund act of 1965, Public Law 88-578, 78 Stat. 897, which provides financial assistance for outdoor recreation. The criteria for project approval established for federal cost-sharing under the various federal grants-in-aid programs shall be used as guidelines in allocating state grants-in-aid to political subdivisions of the state. The state's share of the cost of a particular project shall not exceed 25% of the total cost. Total state grants-in-aid under this part

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during any fiscal year shall not exceed the amount specifically appropriated for that purpose by the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 711
RECREATION IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

324.71101 Definitions.

Sec. 71101. As used in this part:

(a) "Associated facilities" means restrooms, shelters, campgrounds, and parking lots directly related to trails or waterways projects.

(b) "Off-road vehicle" means ORV as it is defined in part 811, which is required to be registered under part 811.

(c) "Off-road vehicle account" means the off-road vehicle account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2015.

(d) "Recreation improvement account" means the recreation improvement account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2020.

(e) "Recreational projects" means, in addition to the activities provided for in this part, the construction, maintenance, and operation of trails and associated facilities that may be used by off-road vehicles, cross-country skiers, horseback riders, and hikers, and inland lake cleanup grants as provided by part 309.

(f) "Snowmobile account" means the snowmobile account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2025.

(g) "Vessel" means all watercraft except the following:

(*i*) Watercraft used for commercial fishing.

(*ii*) Watercraft used by the sea scout department of the boy scouts of America chiefly for training scouts in seamanship.

(*iii*) Watercraft owned by this state, any political subdivision of this state, or the federal government.

(*iv*) Watercraft when used in interstate or foreign commerce and watercraft used or owned by any railroad company or railroad car ferry company.

(*v*) Watercraft when used in trade, including watercraft when used in connection with an activity that constitutes a person's chief business or means of livelihood.

(h) "Watercraft" means any contrivance that is used or designed for navigation on water, including, but not limited to, any vessel, ship, boat, motor vessel, steam vessel, vessel operated by machinery, motorboat, sailboat, barge, scow, tugboat, and rowboat, but does not include watercraft used or owned by the United States.

(i) "Waterways account" means the waterways account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2035.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71102 Privilege tax; imposition; payment; inapplicable to liquefied petroleum gas.

Sec. 71102. (1) There is a privilege tax imposed on all gasoline and diesel fuel sold in this state that is used to generate power for the operation or propulsion of vessels on the waterways of this state, of off-road vehicles, and of snowmobiles.

(2) The privilege tax imposed on gasoline and undyed diesel fuel shall be paid to the department of treasury in the same manner, at the same time, and at the same rate per gallon as the tax levied under the motor fuel tax act. The privilege tax imposed on dyed diesel fuel shall be paid to the department of treasury by the retail distributor or other person who sells the dyed diesel fuel to a person who uses the fuel to generate power for the operation or propulsion of vessels on the waterways of this state, of off-road vehicles, and of snowmobiles. The privilege tax imposed by this section shall not apply to liquefied petroleum gas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 405, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.71103 Legislative finding; joint report.

Sec. 71103. (1) The legislature finds that 2.0% of all of the gasoline sold in this state for consumption in internal combustion engines is used to generate power for the operation or propulsion of vessels on the waterways of this state, of off-road vehicles, and of snowmobiles.

(2) The department and the state transportation department shall prepare a joint report to the legislature by January 1, 1992, providing their estimate of actual gasoline and diesel fuel usage based on any data collected from March 30, 1988 to January 1, 1991 and their observation of the historical trends of gasoline and diesel fuel usage in this state for the following categories:

(a) Off-road vehicles.

(b) Watercraft.

(c) Snowmobiles.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71104 Tax refund; claim; invoice; payment; false statement; forfeiture; misdemeanor.

Sec. 71104. (1) The purchaser of gasoline or diesel fuel for the operation of vessels excepted by section 71101 is entitled to a refund of tax paid on that gasoline or diesel fuel, upon filing a sworn claim with the department of treasury, upon forms prescribed and furnished by it, within 6 months from the date of purchase, as shown by the invoice. The retail distributor shall furnish a purchaser with an invoice showing the amount of gasoline or diesel fuel purchased, the date of the purchase, and the total amount of tax paid on the purchase. Each dealer or distributor shall keep a copy of the invoices issued for a period of 2 years subject to examination by the department of treasury. Each claim for refund shall have attached to the claim the original invoice received by the purchaser and, when approved by the department of treasury, the claims shall be paid out of the state waterways fund upon warrant of the department of treasury.

(2) A person who makes a false statement in a claim or invoice presented to the department of treasury, or who presents to the department of treasury a claim or invoice containing a false statement, or who collects or causes to be paid to the person or any other person a refund without being entitled to the refund, shall forfeit the full amount of the claim and is guilty of a misdemeanor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 585, Eff. Mar. 1, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71105 Repealed. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to creation of recreation improvement fund.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71106 Total of taxes collected; determining revenue derived.

Sec. 71106. The department of treasury shall annually present to the department an accurate total of all the gasoline taxes collected and shall determine the amount of revenue derived from them. The department of treasury shall determine the portion of these revenues derived from the sale of gasoline as described in section 71102 by multiplying the total by 2.0% and shall credit this amount to the recreation improvement account, less a deduction for collection costs and refunds.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71107 Repealed. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to carrying over money remaining in recreation improvement fund.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.71108 Annual review and recommendations; distribution and use of account.

Sec. 71108. (1) The state treasurer shall annually review and make recommendations to the legislature on the distributions of the recreation improvement account, including recreational projects and geographic locations.

(2) Money in the recreation improvement account shall be distributed as follows:

(a) Eighty percent of the money shall be annually transferred to the waterways account.

(b) Fourteen percent of the money shall be annually transferred to the snowmobile account.

(c) The remainder of the money that is not transferred under subdivisions (a) and (b) shall be used, upon appropriation, for recreation projects and for the administration of the recreation improvement account. Of the money credited to recreational projects in a fiscal year, not less than 25% shall be expended on projects to repair damages as a result of pollution, impairment, or destruction of air, water, or other natural resources, or the public trust in air, water, or other natural resources, as a result of the use of off-road vehicles.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 713
RECREATION BOND AUTHORIZATION

324.71301 Bonds; authorization; limitation; purpose.

Sec. 71301. The state shall borrow a sum not to exceed $140,000,000.00 and issue the general obligation bonds of this state, pledging the full faith and credit of the state for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds, to finance state and local public recreation projects.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71302 Bonds; conditions, methods, and procedures.

Sec.71302. Bonds shall be issued in accordance with conditions, methods, and procedures established by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71303 Bonds; disposition of proceeds and interest.

Sec. 71303. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds or any series of the bonds, any premium and accrued interest received on the delivery of the bonds, and any interest earned on the proceeds of the bonds shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the recreation bond fund created in part 715 and shall be disbursed from that fund only for the purposes for which the bonds have been authorized, including the expense of issuing the bonds. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds or any series of the bonds, any premium and accrued interest received on the delivery of the bonds, and any interest earned on the proceeds of the bonds shall be expended for the purposes set forth in this part in a manner as provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71304 Submission of question to electors.

Sec. 71304. The question of borrowing a sum not to exceed $140,000,000.00 and the issuance of the general obligation bonds of the state for the purposes set forth in this part shall be submitted to a vote of the electors of the state qualified to vote on the question in accordance with section 15 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, at the next general election following September 9, 1988. The question submitted to the electors shall be substantially as follows:

"Shall the state of Michigan borrow a sum not to exceed $140,000,000.00 and issue general obligation bonds of the state, pledging the full faith and credit of the state for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds, to finance state and local public recreation projects, the method of repayment of the bonds to be from

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the general fund of this state?

Yes.....

No..... .".

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71305 Duties of secretary of state.

Sec. 71305. The secretary of state shall perform all acts necessary to properly submit the question prescribed by section 71304 to the electors of this state qualified to vote on the question at the next general November election following September 9, 1988.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71306 Appropriation; purpose; executive budget recommendations.

Sec. 71306. (1) After the issuance of the bonds authorized by this part, there shall be appropriated from the general fund of the state each fiscal year a sufficient amount to pay promptly, when due, the principal of and interest on all outstanding bonds authorized by this part and the costs incidental to the payment of the bonds.

(2) The governor shall include the appropriation provided in subsection (1) in his or her annual executive budget recommendations to the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71307 Majority vote of electors required.

Sec. 71307. Bonds shall not be issued unless the question set forth in section 71304 is approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors voting on the question.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 715
RECREATION BOND IMPLEMENTATION

324.71501 Definitions.

Sec. 71501. As used in this part:

(a) "Bonds" means the bonds issued under part 713 or former Act No. 327 of the Public Acts of 1988.

(b) "Fund" means the recreation bond fund created in section 71506.

(c) "Local public recreation project" means capital improvement projects including, but not limited to, the construction, expansion, development, or rehabilitation of recreational facilities, and the restoration of the natural environment. Local public recreation project does not include the operation, maintenance, or administration of those facilities, wages, or administration of projects or purchase of facilities already dedicated to public recreational purposes.

(d) "Local unit of government" means a county, city, township, village, school district, the Huron-Clinton metropolitan authority, or any authority composed of counties, cities, townships, villages, or school districts, or any combination of those entities, which authority is legally constituted to provide public recreation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71502 Legislative finding and declaration.

Sec. 71502. The legislature finds and declares that the construction, expansion, development, and rehabilitation of state and local recreational facilities and the restoration of the natural environment under this part are a public purpose in the interest of the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.71503 Bonds; requirements generally.

Sec. 71503. (1) The bonds issued under part 713 shall be issued in 1 or more series, each series to be in a principal amount, to be dated, to have the maturities that may be either serial, term, or term and serial, to bear interest at a rate or rates, to be subject or not subject to prior redemption and, if subject to prior redemption, with or without call premiums, to be payable at a place or places, to have or not have provisions for registration as to principal only or as to both principal and interest, to be in a form and to be executed in a manner as shall be determined by resolution to be adopted by the state administrative board, and to be subject to or granting those covenants, directions, restrictions, or rights specified by resolution to be adopted by the state administrative board as necessary to ensure the marketability, insurability, or tax-exempt status. The state administrative board shall rotate legal counsel when issuing bonds.

(2) The state administrative board may refund bonds issued under this part by the issuance of new bonds, whether or not the bonds to be refunded have matured or are subject to prior redemption. The state administrative board may issue bonds to partly refund bonds issued under this part and partly for any other purpose provided by this part. The principal amount of any refunding bonds issued under this section shall not be counted against the limitation on principal amount imposed by the vote of the people on November 8, 1988. Further, refunding bonds issued under this section shall not be subject to the restrictions of section 71507.

(3) The state administrative board may authorize and approve insurance contracts, agreements for lines of credit, letters of credit, commitments to purchase bonds, and any other transaction to provide security to assure timely payment or purchase of any bond issued under this act.

(4) The state administrative board may authorize the state treasurer, but only within limitations that are contained in the authorizing resolution of the board, to do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Sell and deliver and receive payment of the bonds.

(b) Deliver bonds partly to refund bonds and partly for other authorized purposes.

(c) Select which outstanding bonds will be refunded, if any, by the new issue of bonds.

(d) Buy bonds so issued at not more than their face value.

(e) Approve interest rates or methods for fixing interest rates, prices, discounts, maturities, principal amounts, purchase prices, purchase dates, remarketing dates, denominations, dates of issuance, interest payment dates, redemption rights at the option of the state or the owner, the place and time of delivery and payment, and other matters and procedures necessary to complete the authorized transactions.

(f) Execute, deliver, and pay the cost of remarketing agreements, insurance contracts, agreements for lines of credit, letters of credit, commitments to purchase bonds or notes, and any other transaction to provide security to assure timely payments or purchase of any bond issued under this part.

(5) The bonds are not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

(6) The bonds or any series of the bonds shall be sold at a price and at a publicly advertised sale or a competitively negotiated sale as determined by the state administrative board. If bonds are issued at a competitively negotiated sale, the state administrative board shall use its best efforts to include firms based in this state in the sale of the bonds.

(7) Except as provided in subsection (8), the bonds shall be sold in accordance with the following schedule, beginning during the first year after December 1, 1988:

(a) Not more than 34% shall be sold during the first year.

(b) Not more than 33% shall be sold during the second year.

(c) Not more than 33% shall be sold during the third year.

(d) After the third year any remaining bonds may be sold at the discretion of the state administrative board.

(8) The state administrative board may alter the schedule for issuance of the bonds provided in subsection (7) if amendments to the internal revenue code of 1986 would impair the tax-exempt status of the bonds.

(9) The issuance of bonds and notes under this section is subject to the agency financing reporting act.

(10) For the purpose of more effectively managing its debt service, the state administrative board may enter into an interest rate exchange or swap, hedge, or similar agreement with respect to its bonds or notes on the terms and payable from the sources and with the security, if any, as determined by a resolution of the state administrative board.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 72, Imd. Eff. June 6, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 388, Imd. Eff. May 30, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.71504 Bonds negotiable; tax exemption.

Sec. 71504. Bonds issued under part 713 shall be fully negotiable under the uniform commercial code, Act No. 174 of the Public Acts of 1962, being sections 440.1101 to 440.11102 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The bonds and the interest on the bonds shall be exempt from all taxation by the state or any political subdivision of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71505 Bonds as securities.

Sec. 71505. Bonds issued under part 713 are made securities in which banks, savings and loan associations, investment companies, credit unions, and other persons carrying on a banking business; all insurance companies, insurance associations, and other persons carrying on an insurance business; and all administrators, executors, guardians, trustees, and other fiduciaries may properly and legally invest funds, including capital, belonging to them or within their control.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71506 Recreation bond fund; creation; composition; restricted subaccounts.

Sec. 71506. (1) The recreation bond fund is created in the state treasury.

(2) The fund shall consist of all of the following:

(a) The proceeds of sales of general obligation bonds issued pursuant to part 713 and any premium and accrued interest received on the delivery of the bonds.

(b) Any interest or earnings generated by the proceeds described in subdivision (a).

(c) Any repayments of principal and interest made under a loan program authorized for in this part.

(d) Any federal funds received.

(3) The department of treasury may establish restricted subaccounts within the fund as necessary to administer the fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71507 Disposition of bond proceeds; investment of fund; allocation of interest and earnings; crediting and use of repayments of principal and interest; disposition of unencumbered balance; submission and contents of list of projects; appropriations.

Sec. 71507. (1) The proceeds of the bonds issued under part 713 shall be deposited into the fund.

(2) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. Except as otherwise may be required by the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds in order to maintain the exclusion from gross income of the interest paid on the bonds or to comply with state or federal law, interest and earnings from investment of the proceeds of any bond issue shall be allocated in the same proportion as earned on the investment of the proceeds of the bond issue.

(3) Except as otherwise may be required by the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds in order to maintain the exclusion from gross income of the interest paid on the bonds or to comply with state or federal law, all repayments of principal and interest earned under a loan program provided in this part shall be credited to the appropriate restricted subaccounts of the fund and used for the purposes authorized for the use of bond proceeds deposited in that subaccount or to pay debt service on any obligation issued which pledges the loan repayments and the proceeds of which are deposited in that subaccount.

(4) The unencumbered balance in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not revert to the general fund.

(5) The department shall annually submit to the governor, the committees of the house of representatives and the senate with jurisdiction pertaining primarily to natural resources and the environment, and the appropriations committees of the house of representatives and the senate a list of all projects that are recommended to be funded under this part. This list shall be submitted to the legislature not later than February 15 of each year. This list shall also be submitted before any request for supplemental appropriation of bond funds. The list shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the eligible recipient or participant; the nature of the eligible project; the county in which the eligible project is located; an estimate of

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the total cost of the eligible project; and other information considered pertinent by the department. The estimated cost of eligible local public recreation projects on the list for each year in which there is a limitation on borrowing under section 71503(7) shall not exceed 1/3 of the amount authorized for local public recreation projects under section 71508(1)(b).

(6) The legislature shall appropriate prospective or actual bond proceeds for projects proposed to be funded. Appropriations shall be carried over to succeeding fiscal years until the project for which the funds are appropriated is completed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71508 Use of fund generally.

Sec. 71508. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, money in the fund shall be used as follows:

(a) $70,000,000.00 of the bond revenues shall be used to construct, expand, and develop recreational facilities at state parks pursuant to the "5 year capital outlay program" published by the department and approved by the commission, and for other state recreation facilities for which matching funds are available. The department may deviate from the uses of the bond revenues provided in this subdivision only upon recommendation of the commission and approval of the legislature.

(b) $65,000,000.00 of the bond revenues shall be used to provide grants and loans to local units of government for local public recreation projects pursuant to this part.

(c) $5,000,000.00 of the bond revenues shall be used to provide grants and loans to local units of government for the purpose of discouraging development of open space and undeveloped lands that on December 1, 1988 are not zoned for industrial use. Grants and loans made under this subdivision shall be used to redevelop and reuse vacant manufacturing facilities or abandoned industrial sites for recreational facilities.

(2) Money in the fund that is allocated for local public recreation projects under subsection (1)(b) shall be used for any of the following:

(a) Public recreation infrastructure improvements that involve the replacement of or structural improvements relating specifically to existing public recreation facilities, including, but not limited to, recreation centers, sports fields, beaches, trails, historical structures, playgrounds, and restoration of the natural environment.

(b) The development of public recreation facilities on waterfront sites for the purpose of increasing recreation opportunities that encourage further private investments in the area. Public recreation facilities on waterfront sites shall include, but shall not be limited to, shoreline stabilization and beautification, breakwaters, bulkheads, fishing piers, amphitheaters, shoreline walkways, and pedestrian bridges.

(c) The construction of community public recreation facilities for the purpose of addressing the recreational needs of local residents, including, but not limited to, playgrounds, sports fields and courts, community and senior centers, and fishing sites.

(d) The development of public recreation improvements that will attract tourists or otherwise increase tourism, where such developments are reasonably expected to have a substantial positive impact, relative to cost, on the local, regional, or state economy, including, but not limited to, campgrounds, beaches, historical sites, fishing access sites, and recreational development of abandoned railroad rights-of-way.

(e) Intermediate school districts for environmental education capital outlay projects that are consistent with the long-term recreation and parks plan for the local unit or units of government which the intermediate school district serves.

(3) Money in the fund for other state recreation purposes shall be used for infrastructure projects for fisheries, wildlife, recreational boating, or state forest campgrounds, for which not less than 50% of the cost of the project is available from any combination of federal, private, or restricted funds.

(4) Money in the fund shall not be used for land acquisition.

(5) Money in the fund shall not be expended for sports facilities, arenas, or stadiums intended as the primary home of a professional sports team, for commercial theme parks, or for any purpose that may result in the siting of casino gambling in this state.

(6) Money in the fund may be used by the department of treasury to pay for the cost of issuing bonds under part 713 and by the department to pay department costs as provided in this subsection. Not more than 3% of the total amount specified in this section shall be available for appropriation to the department to pay department costs directly associated with the completion of a project described in subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c) for which bonds are issued as provided under this part. Bond proceeds shall not be available to pay indirect, administrative overhead costs incurred by any organizational unit of the department not directly responsible

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for the completion of a project. Department costs shall be deducted proportionately from the amounts stated in subsection (1). It is the intent of the legislature that general fund appropriations to the department shall not be reduced as a result of department costs funded pursuant to this subsection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71509 Making and allocating grants and loans to local units of government; division of state into regions; match by local unit; rules; sale, disposal, or use of facility.

Sec. 71509. (1) Grants and loans made to local units of government under section 71508(1)(b) shall be made by the department and allocated as follows:

(a) Each region provided for in subsection (2) shall receive $6.50 per capita based upon the 1985 census figures in the document entitled "estimated state spending by county fiscal year 1985-86" published by the senate fiscal agency, dated October, 1987.

(b) The balance of the money remaining after the distribution under subdivision (a) shall be used for local public recreation projects that are regional parks as defined by rules promulgated by the department. An application under this subdivision shall not preclude an application under subdivision (a).

(2) For purposes of the distribution of grants and loans for local public recreation projects under section 71508(1)(b), the state is divided into the following 3 regions:

(a) Region 1—all of the counties of the Upper Peninsula.

(b) Region 2—Emmet, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Leelanau, Antrim, Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Iosco, Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Isabella, Midland, Bay, Huron, Saginaw, Tuscola, and Sanilac counties.

(c) Region 3—Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Gratiot, Ottawa, Kent, Ionia, Clinton, Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Allegan, Barry, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Jackson, Washtenaw, Wayne, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Branch, Hillsdale, Lenawee, and Monroe counties.

(3) A grant made under this part to a local unit of government shall require a 25% match by the local unit of government. Not more than 50% of the local unit of government's contribution under this subsection may be in the form of goods and services directly rendered to the construction of the project, or federal funds, or both. A local unit of government shall establish to the satisfaction of the department the cost or fair market value, whichever is less as of the date of the notice of approval by the department, of any of the above items with which it seeks to meet its local unit portion.

(4) The department shall promulgate rules that establish criteria for grants and loans made under this part, an application process, the definition of regional parks, and a process for disbursement of grants and loans to local units of government.

(5) A facility funded under this section shall not be sold, disposed of, or converted to a use not specified in the application for the grant or loan without express approval of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71510 Grant or loan program; rules; maximum participation; considerations in determining appropriateness of grant or loan program; considerations in making grant or loan.

Sec. 71510. (1) The department shall assure maximum participation by local units of government by promulgating rules that provide for a grant or loan program, where appropriate. In determining whether a grant or a loan program is appropriate, the department shall consider whether the project is likely to be undertaken without state assistance; the availability of state funds from other sources; the degree of private sector participation in the type of project under consideration; the extent of the need for the project as a demonstration project; and other factors considered important by the department.

(2) Prior to making a grant or loan authorized by this part, the department shall consider the extent to which the making of the grant or loan contributes to the achievement of a balanced distribution of grants and loans throughout the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.71511 Application for grant or loan; form; information.

Sec. 71511. An application for a grant or a loan authorized under this part shall be made on a form prescribed by the department. The department may require the applicant to provide any information reasonably necessary to allow the department to make determinations required by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71512 Conditions to making grant or loan.

Sec. 71512. The department shall not make a grant or a loan under this part unless all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The applicant demonstrates that the proposed project is in compliance with all applicable state laws and rules.

(b) The applicant demonstrates to the department the capability to implement the proposed project.

(c) The applicant provides the department with evidence that a licensed professional engineer has approved the plans and specifications for the project, if appropriate.

(d) The applicant demonstrates to the department that there is an identifiable source of funds for the maintenance and operation of the proposed project.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71513 Recipient of grant or loan; duties; noncompliance; recovery of grant; withholding grant or loan.

Sec. 71513. (1) A recipient of a grant or a loan made under this part shall be subject to all of the following:

(a) A recipient shall keep an accounting of the money spent on the project or facility in a generally accepted manner. The accounting shall be subject to a postaudit.

(b) A recipient shall obtain authorization from the department before implementing a change that significantly alters the proposed project or facility.

(2) The department may revoke a grant or a loan made by it under this part or withhold payment if the recipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant or loan or with the requirements of this part or the rules promulgated under this part.

(3) The department may recover a grant if the project for which the grant was made never operates.

(4) The department may withhold a grant or a loan until the department determines that the recipient is able to proceed with the proposed project or facility.

(5) To assure timely completion of a project, the department may withhold 10% of the grant or loan amount until the project is complete.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71514 Rules generally.

Sec. 71514. The department shall promulgate rules as are necessary or required to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 716
LOCAL RECREATION GRANTS

324.71601 Definitions.

Sec. 71601. As used in this part:

(a) "Community recreation plan" means a 5-year, comprehensive recreation plan for a given local unit of government, approval of which is required by the department for participation in the land and water conservation fund program pursuant to the land and water conservation fund act of 1965, public law 88-578, 78 Stat. 897, and the Michigan natural resources trust fund grant program under part 19.

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(b) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(c) "Director" means the director of the department.

(d) "Grant" means a local recreation grant under this part.

(e) "Infrastructure improvement" means restoration of the natural environment or the renovation, repair, replacement, upgrading, or structural improvement of an existing facility that is not less than 15 years old, including any of the following:

(*i*) Recreation centers.

(*ii*) Sports fields.

(*iii*) Beaches.

(*iv*) Trails.

(*v*) Playgrounds.

(f) "Local recreation project" means capital improvement projects including, but not limited to, the construction, expansion, development, or rehabilitation of recreational facilities. Local recreation project does not include the operation, maintenance, or administration of those facilities, wages, or administration of projects or purchase of facilities already dedicated to public recreational purposes.

(g) "Local unit of government" means a county, city, township, village, the Huron-Clinton metropolitan authority, or any authority composed of counties, cities, townships, villages, or any combination of those entities, which authority is legally constituted to provide public recreation.

(h) "Regional park" means a public recreation site that is under the applicant's control and that is in compliance with all of the following requirements as determined by the department:

(*i*) The site does now, or will, attract not less than 25% of its users from areas in the region that are 30 minutes or more driving time from the site.

(*ii*) The site provides passive, water-based, and active recreation opportunities.

(*iii*) The site is contiguous to, or encompasses, a natural resource feature.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71602 Local recreation grant program; establishment; provisions; prohibitions.

Sec. 71602. (1) The department shall establish a local recreation grant program. The grant program shall provide grants to local units of government for local recreation projects that provide for 1 or more of the following:

(a) Public recreation infrastructure improvements that involve the replacement of or structural improvements relating specifically to existing public recreation facilities, including, but not limited to, recreation centers, sports fields, beaches, trails, playgrounds, skating rinks, toboggan runs, sledding hills, and park support facilities.

(b) The construction of community public recreation facilities for the purpose of addressing the recreational needs of local residents, including, but not limited to, playgrounds, sports fields and courts, community and senior centers, picnic facilities, nature centers, nonmotorized trails and walkways, amphitheaters, and fishing piers and fishing access sites.

(c) The development of public recreation improvements that will attract tourists or otherwise increase tourism, where such developments are reasonably expected to have a substantial positive impact, relative to cost, on the local, regional, or state economy, including, but not limited to, campgrounds, beaches, and fishing access sites.

(2) A grant shall not be provided under this part for land acquisition or a commercial theme park.

(3) A grant shall not be provided under this part for a project that is located at any of the following:

(a) Land sited for use as a gaming facility or as a stadium or arena for use by a professional sports team.

(b) Land or other facilities owned or operated by a gaming facility or by a stadium or arena for use by a professional sports team.

(c) Land within a project area described in a project plan pursuant to the economic development corporations act, 1974 PA 338, MCL 125.1601 to 125.1636, for a gaming facility.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71603 Allocations to local units of government; zones; purposes; matching requirements; sale, disposal, or conversion of facility.

Sec. 71603. (1) Subject to amounts appropriated to the department under section 19608(5), the total

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amount of grants made to local units of government under this part shall be allocated as follows:

(a) Local recreation projects within zone 1	3.6%
(b) Local recreation projects within zone 2	14.4%
(c) Local recreation projects within zone 3	72%
(d) Local recreation projects at regional parks	10%

(2) For purposes of the distribution of grants for local recreation projects under this part, the state is divided into the following 3 zones:

(a) Zone 1—all of the counties of the Upper Peninsula.

(b) Zone 2—Emmet, Charleviox, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Leelanau, Antrim, Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Iosco, Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Isabella, Midland, Bay, Huron, Saginaw, Tuscola, and Sanilac counties.

(c) Zone 3—Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Gratiot, Ottawa, Kent, Ionia, Clinton, Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Allegan, Barry, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Jackson, Washtenaw, Wayne, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Branch, Hillsdale, Lenawee, and Monroe counties.

(3) A grant made under this part to a local unit of government shall require a 25% match by the local unit of government. Not more than 50% of the local unit of government's contribution under this subsection may be in the form of goods and services directly rendered to the construction of the project, or federal funds, or both. A local unit of government shall establish to the satisfaction of the department the cost or fair market value, whichever is less as of the date of the notice of approval by the department, of any such goods and services with which the local unit of government seeks to meet the match requirement.

(4) A facility funded under this section shall not be sold, disposed of, or converted to a use not specified in the application for the grant without express approval of the department.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71604 Project funding; conditions.

Sec. 71604. The department shall consider a project application for funding under this part if it is in compliance with all of the following conditions:

(a) The application is submitted by the deadline established by the department.

(b) The application is complete and submitted on the form required by the department.

(c) The application includes the following information:

(*i*) An 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch project location map.

(*ii*) An 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch preliminary site development plan.

(*iii*) Preliminary floor plans and elevation drawings for any building construction.

(*iv*) A certified resolution from the governing body of the local unit of government stating that the proposal will be undertaken if a grant is awarded and designating an authorized project representative.

(*v*) Evidence and results of a preannounced public meeting on the application proposal.

(*vi*) A brief description of the project proposal.

(*vii*) The total cost of the project proposal and the amount of grant requested.

(*viii*) Sources of the local match.

(*ix*) A breakdown of development items and their projected costs.

(*x*) A narrative, limited to 1 page, of what the proposal is and why it is needed.

(*xi*) Attestation, by signature of an authorized project representative, that all statements on the application form are true, complete, and accurate to the best of the representative's knowledge.

(*xii*) Other information as determined by the department.

(d) The local unit of government has an approved community recreation plan on file with the department. Department-approved plans are valid through December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after adoption by the local unit's governing body.

(e) The project for which funding assistance is sought is listed and justified in the local unit of government's recreation plan.

(f) The local unit of government has submitted notice of the project application to the regional planning agency for review.

(g) The local unit of government has fee title or a legal instrument that demonstrates property control for not less than 15 years from the date of application. If control is evidenced by less than fee title, the length of control shall be commensurate with the value of the proposed project.

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(h) The local unit of government's grant request is not more than $750,000.00 and not less than $15,000.00. An applicant may receive more than 1 grant in a funding cycle.

(i) The proposed project addresses at least 1 of the following purposes as described in section 71602:

(*i*) Infrastructure improvement.

(*ii*) Community recreation.

(*iii*) Tourist attraction.

(j) The proposed project is not for the purpose of meeting the physical education and athletic program requirements of a school. Facilities funded under this program on school grounds shall not restrict public use to less than 50% of operating hours. A schedule of when such sites are open to the public may be requested by the department.

(k) The proposed project does not unfairly compete with the private sector. Projects that would create an unfairly competitive situation with private enterprises are not eligible for funding. In situations where privately managed facilities are providing identical or similar recreation opportunities, the local unit of government shall provide written justification of the need for the proposed facility in light of the private sector's presence.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71605 Final grant awards; determination; factors; ratings; priority; upgrade of drinking water systems or rest room facilities.

Sec. 71605. (1) Final grant awards will be determined by the director.

(2) The department shall use the 3 factors listed in subsection (3)(a), (b), and (c) to evaluate projects. All factors are of equal importance in the evaluation of a project.

(3) Each of the 3 factors listed in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) shall be rated exceptional, good, or fair. An exceptional rating is equal to a score of 80; a good rating is equal to a score of 60; and a fair rating is equal to a score of 10. The factors are as follows:

(a) The need for the project as determined by an overall assessment of the following:

(*i*) The merits of the project relative to cost in addressing 1 of the following program priorities as designated by the applicant:

(A) Infrastructure improvement.

(B) Community recreation.

(C) Tourism.

(*ii*) How well the project meets the following priorities:

(A) Proximity to urban areas.

(B) Attention, beyond the requirements of law, to the needs of special populations, such as minorities, senior citizens, low income individuals, and the handicapped.

(C) Impact on county and regional recreation opportunity deficiencies or identified local recreation deficiencies documented in the community recreation plan.

(b) The capability of the local unit of government to complete the project and to operate and maintain it once completed. Capability will be determined by an overall assessment of all of the following criteria:

(*i*) Demonstrated satisfactory performance of the local unit of government in other department grant programs.

(*ii*) Demonstrated ability to operate and maintain existing recreation facilities.

(*iii*) Assurance of funds for the maintenance and operation of the proposed project.

(*iv*) Demonstrated commitment to public recreation through recreation staffing and the existence of a citizen recreation board or commission.

(c) The quality of the site and project design. Quality will be determined by an overall assessment of all of the following criteria:

(*i*) The appropriateness of the site for the intended uses.

(*ii*) Clarity and detail of the development plans and the quality of the project design in terms of orientation, spacing of facilities, traffic flow, and effective use of site features.

(*iii*) The quality of any existing development.

(*iv*) The adequacy of safety and health considerations.

(*v*) Evaluation of the impact of proposed development on the natural environment.

(4) If the score on 2 or more projects is the same and does not determine which project should be recommended within available dollars, the department shall consider the following factors to determine priority:

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(a) The amount of local recreation grants funds previously received by a local unit of government under this part.

(b) A local unit of government's need for financial assistance. Financial need will be determined by the local unit of government's rank on the distressed communities list.

(c) A local unit of government's commitment to provide more than the required 25% match.

(d) The amount of Michigan natural resources trust fund development grants and land and water conservation grants previously received by the local unit of government.

(5) If a project is determined to be eligible for a grant and the needs at the location of the project include the upgrade of drinking water systems or rest room facilities, the grant award for the project shall first be used for such upgrades at that project location.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71606 Administration of grants; compliance with requirements of part 196.

Sec. 71606. Grants made under this part are subject to the applicable requirements of part 196. The department shall administer this part in compliance with the applicable requirements of part 196, including the reporting requirements to the legislature of the grants provided under this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.71607 Rules.

Sec. 71607. The department may promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 286, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

TRAILWAYS

PART 721
MICHIGAN TRAILWAYS

324.72101 Definitions.

Sec. 72101. As used in this part:

(a) "Advisory council" means the Michigan trails advisory council created in section 72110.

(b) "Council" means a trail management council established pursuant to section 72106.

(c) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(d) "Director" means the director of the department or his or her designee.

(e) "Equine access locations" means open access roads, management roads, forestry access roads, 2-track and single-track trails that are not wildlife paths, staging areas for pack and saddle animals to be dropped off or picked up, and associated wilderness campsites.

(f) "Forest road" means that term as defined in section 81101.

(g) "Fund" means the Pure Michigan Trails fund created in section 72109.

(h) "Governmental agency" means the federal government, a county, city, village, or township, or a combination of any of these entities.

(i) "Pack and saddle trails" means trails and equine access locations that may be used by pack and saddle animals.

(j) "Pure Michigan Trail" means a trail designated as a "Pure Michigan Trail" under section 72103.

(k) "Pure Michigan Water Trail" means a water trail designated as a "Pure Michigan Water Trail" under section 72103.

(*l*) "Pure Michigan Trail Town" means a "Pure Michigan Trail Town" designated under section 72104.

(m) "Rail-trail" means a former railroad bed that is in public ownership and used as a trail.

(n) "Statewide trail network" means the statewide trail network established in section 72114.

(o) "Trail" means a right-of-way adapted to foot, horseback, motorized, or other nonmotorized travel. Trail also includes a water trail.

(p) "Water trail" means a designated route on a body of water.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 129, Imd. Eff. Nov. 5, 1997;—Am. 2010, Act 46, Imd. Eff.

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Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 211, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2016, Act 288, Imd. Eff. Sept. 28, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72102 Legislative findings.

Sec. 72102. The legislature finds that a statewide system of trails will provide for public enjoyment, health, and fitness; encourage constructive leisure-time activities; protect open space, cultural and historical resources, and habitat for wildlife and plants; enhance the local and state economies; link communities, parks, and natural resources; create opportunities for rural-urban exchange, agricultural education, and the marketing of farm products; and preserve corridors for possible future use for other public purposes. Therefore, the planning, acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of trails are in the best interest of this state and are a public purpose.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 46, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 211, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72103 Designation as "Pure Michigan Trail" or "Pure Michigan Water Trail"; requirements; public hearing; revocation of designation.

Sec. 72103. (1) The director may designate a trail in this state located on land as a "Pure Michigan Trail". A person may request that the director designate a trail as a Pure Michigan Trail. The director shall not designate a trail as a Pure Michigan Trail unless it meets, or will meet when completed, all of the following requirements:

(a) The trail is a model trail for its designated uses and the designation of the trail as a Pure Michigan Trail contributes to a statewide trail network that promotes healthy lifestyles, economic development, recreation, and conservation of the natural and cultural resources of this state.

(b) The land on which the trail is located is owned by this state or a governmental agency or otherwise is under the long-term control of this state or a governmental agency through a lease, easement, or other arrangement. If the land is owned by a governmental agency, the director shall obtain the consent of the governmental agency before designating the land as part of a Pure Michigan Trail.

(c) The design and maintenance of the trail and its related facilities meet generally accepted standards of public safety.

(d) The trail meets appropriate standards for its designated recreation uses.

(e) The trail is available for designated recreation uses on a nondiscriminatory basis.

(f) The trail is, or has potential to be, a segment of a statewide network of trails, or it attracts a substantial share of its users from beyond the local area.

(g) The trail is marked with an official Pure Michigan Trail sign and logo at major access points.

(h) Where feasible, the trail offers adequate support facilities for the public, including parking, sanitary facilities, and emergency telephones, that are accessible to people with disabilities and are at reasonable frequency along the trail. The trail may include amenities related to trail usage such as connectors and access to rest areas, lodging, and eating facilities, as well as park benches and signage. Support facilities and trail amenities described in this subdivision are public goods.

(i) Potential negative impacts of trail development on owners or residents of adjacent property are minimized through all of the following:

(*i*) Adequate enforcement of trail rules and regulations.

(*ii*) Continuation of access for trail crossings for agricultural and other purposes.

(*iii*) Construction and maintenance of fencing, where necessary, by the owner or operator of the trail.

(*iv*) Other means as considered appropriate by the director.

(j) A trademark license is obtained by the department from the Michigan economic development corporation for use of the words "Pure Michigan".

(k) Other conditions required by the director.

(2) In designating trails as Pure Michigan Trails under subsection (1), the director shall consider all forms of permissible recreation uses equally in order to develop a Pure Michigan Trails network that is representative of the various trail uses.

(3) The director may designate a water trail as a "Pure Michigan Water Trail". A person may request that the director designate a trail as a Pure Michigan Water Trail. The director shall not designate a trail as a Pure Michigan Water Trail unless it meets, or will meet when completed, all of the following requirements:

(a) The trail and its access points are open to public use and are designed, constructed, and maintained

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according to best management practices.

(b) The trail is located on a contiguous waterway or a series of waterways that are contiguous or are connected by portages.

(c) The trail is consistent with applicable land use plans and environmental laws.

(d) The trail meets the criteria of subsection (1)(a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i)(*i*) and (*iv*), and (k).

(e) A trademark license is obtained by the department from the Michigan economic development corporation for use of the words "Pure Michigan".

(4) Prior to designating a Pure Michigan Trail under subsection (1) or a Pure Michigan Water Trail under subsection (3), the director shall refer the proposed designation to the natural resources commission, which shall hold a public hearing on the proposed designation. Within 90 days after receiving the referral under this subsection, the natural resources commission shall provide the director with its recommendation regarding the designation.

(5) The director may revoke a Pure Michigan Trail or a Pure Michigan Water Trail designation if he or she determines that a trail fails to meet the requirements of this section. Before revoking a Pure Michigan Trail or a Pure Michigan Water Trail designation, the director shall provide notice to all entities involved in the management of the trail. If the trail is brought into compliance with this section within 90 days after providing this notice, the director shall not revoke the designation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 210, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2018, Act 69, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72103a Researching and providing historical, cultural, or natural resource information; recommendations; means.

Sec. 72103a. The department may develop recommendations for local trail managers on researching and providing historical, cultural, or natural resource information related to the area that a trail traverses using interpretive signage, online material, or other appropriate means.

History: Add. 2018, Act 69, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72104 Designation as "Pure Michigan Trail Town"; sign and logo; revocation of designation.

Sec. 72104.

(1) The director, upon petition by a person, may designate a city, village, or township as a "Pure Michigan Trail Town" if the director determines that the following conditions have been met:

(a) The city, village, or township is easily accessible to users of a Pure Michigan Trail or a Pure Michigan Water Trail.

(b) The city, village, or township has adopted a resolution in support of the designation.

(c) The city, village, or township has adopted a plan for providing support services to trail users such as parking, sanitary facilities, restaurants, accommodations, grocery stores, bike shops, boat docks, or other services that may be needed or desired by trail users.

(d) The petitioner demonstrates at least 3 of the following:

(*i*) There is community support for the designation as evidenced by creation of an advisory committee.

(*ii*) There has been an annual trail-related project or event within the city, village, or township.

(*iii*) A school board within the city, village, or township has endorsed a trail-based service learning educational component within its schools.

(*iv*) Land use plans, planning tools, ordinances, or guidelines are in place that recognize the relationship between the trail and other community assets, or that there is support to amend, change, or add these provisions.

(e) A trademark license is obtained by the department from the Michigan economic development corporation for use of the words "Pure Michigan".

(2) Upon designation of a city, village, or township as a Pure Michigan Trail Town, the city, village, or township may erect and maintain along the Pure Michigan Trail or Pure Michigan Water Trail at a junction with the city, village, or township an official Pure Michigan Trail Town sign and logo designed by the department. The department shall only provide for the erection and maintenance of an official Pure Michigan Trail Town sign and logo when sufficient private contributions are received to pay for the cost of erecting and maintaining the sign and logo.

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(3) The director may revoke a Pure Michigan Trail Town designation if he or she determines that the city, village, or township has failed to meet the requirements of this section. Before revoking a Pure Michigan Trail Town designation, the director shall provide notice to the city, village, or township. If the city, village, or township is brought into compliance with this section within 90 days after providing this notice, the director shall not revoke the designation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 210, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72105 Operating and maintaining trail; agreement; provisions; operation of electric bicycle; requirements; exception; definitions.

Sec. 72105. (1) The department may operate and maintain a trail that is located on state owned land or may enter into an agreement with a council or 1 or more governmental agencies to provide for the operation and maintenance of the trail. An agreement entered into under this subsection may include provisions for any of the following:

(a) Construction, maintenance, and operation of the trail, including amenities related to trail usage such as connectors and access to rest areas, lodging, and eating facilities, as well as park benches and signage.

(b) Enforcement of trail rules and regulations including permitted uses of the trail.

(c) Other provisions consistent with this part.

(2) All of the following apply to the operation of an electric bicycle on a trail subject to this part:

(a) An individual may operate a class 1 electric bicycle on a linear trail that has an asphalt, crushed limestone, or similar surface, or a rail trail. A local authority or agency of this state having jurisdiction over a trail described in this subdivision may regulate or prohibit the operation of a class 1 electric bicycle on that trail.

(b) An individual may operate a class 2 or class 3 electric bicycle on a linear trail that has an asphalt, crushed limestone, or similar surface, or a rail trail if authorized by the local authority or agency of this state having jurisdiction over the trail.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, an individual shall not operate an electric bicycle on a trail that is specifically designated as nonmotorized and that has a natural surface tread that is made by clearing and grading the native soil with no added surfacing materials. A local authority or agency of this state having jurisdiction over a trail described in this subdivision may allow the operation of an electric bicycle on that trail.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to the use of electric bicycles on a congressionally authorized public trail system.

(4) As used in this section, "electric bicycle", "class 1 electric bicycle", "class 2 electric bicycle", and "class 3 electric bicycle" mean those terms as defined in section 13e of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.13e.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 212, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2017, Act 138, Eff. Jan. 28, 2018;—Am. 2018, Act 69, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72105a Adopt-a-trail program.

Sec. 72105a. (1) The department shall establish an "adopt-a-trail" program that will allow volunteer groups to assist in maintaining and enhancing trails on state owned land.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), volunteer groups in the adopt-a-trail program may adopt any available trail or trail segment and may choose any 1 or more of the following volunteer activities:

(a) Spring cleanups.

(b) Environmental activities.

(c) Accessibility projects.

(d) Special events.

(e) Trail maintenance, enhancement, and development.

(f) Public information and assistance.

(g) Training.

(3) The department shall designate the activities to be performed by a volunteer group in the adopt-a-trail program. The department may provide for more than 1 volunteer group to adopt an eligible trail or trail segment. If the department operates other programs in the vicinity of the trail that allows volunteers to adopt a

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park or other resource, the department shall coordinate these programs to provide for efficient and effective volunteer programs in the area.

(4) A volunteer group that wishes to participate in the adopt-a-trail program shall submit an application to the department on a form provided by the department. Additionally, volunteer groups shall agree to the following:

(a) Volunteer groups shall participate in the program for at least a 2-year period.

(b) Volunteer groups shall consist of at least 6 people who are 18 years of age or older, unless the volunteer group is a school or scout organization, in which case the volunteers may be under 18 years of age.

(c) Volunteer groups shall contribute a total of at least 400 service hours over a 2-year period.

(d) Volunteer groups shall comply with other reasonable requirements of the department.

(5) A state park manager or a district forest manager may issue to volunteers who are actively working on adopt-a-trail projects that last more than 1 day free camping permits if campsites are available. A state park manager or a district forest manager may waive state park entry fees for volunteers entering state parks to work on adopt-a-trail projects.

(6) While a volunteer is working on an adopt-a-trail project, the volunteer has the same immunity from civil liability as a department employee and shall be treated in the same manner as an employee under section 8 of 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1408.

(7) The department shall design and erect near the entrance of each adopted trail or trail segment an adopt-a-trail program sign with the name of the volunteer group's sponsoring organization listed for each volunteer group that has contributed at least 100 service hours by volunteers.

History: Add. 1997, Act 129, Imd. Eff. Nov. 5, 1997;—Am. 2010, Act 46, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 212, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72106 Trail management council; establishment; purpose; adopting operating procedures and electing officers; powers; public hearings; dissolution.

Sec. 72106. (1) Two or more governmental agencies may establish a trail management council for the development and management of a trail pursuant to the urban cooperation act of 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512.

(2) Upon formation, a council shall adopt operating procedures and shall elect officers as the council considers appropriate.

(3) A council may do 1 or more of the following as authorized in an interlocal agreement entered into pursuant to the urban cooperation act of 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512:

(a) Operate and maintain that portion of 1 or more trails that are owned or under the control of the governmental agencies establishing the council.

(b) Pursuant to an agreement under section 72105, operate and maintain that portion of 1 or more trails that are located on state owned land.

(c) Review and consider current and potential permitted uses of each trail and trail segment and provide an easily understood plan for trail users.

(d) Establish protocols for the development and management of a trail, which may include any of the following:

(*i*) Signage.

(*ii*) Trail etiquette and safety guidance.

(*iii*) A historical and cultural interpretive plan.

(*iv*) A formula for sharing costs of maintenance.

(*v*) A plan for linking the trail to nearby water trails, where appropriate.

(*vi*) A plan for providing transit-based access for trail users in order to enhance access for those who may not reside in the vicinity of the trail.

(e) Coordinate the enforcement of trail rules and regulations and other applicable laws and ordinances, including permitted uses of the trail on trails owned or under the control of the governmental agencies establishing the council or, pursuant to an agreement under section 72105, trails that are located on state owned land.

(f) Receive any grant made from the fund or other funding related to that portion of a trail within its jurisdiction.

(g) Acquire or hold real property for the purpose of operating a trail.

(h) Perform other functions consistent with this part.

(4) A council may hold 1 or more public hearings to receive input and provide information on the

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development and management of a trail.

(5) A council may be dissolved by the governmental agencies that participated in creating the council. However, if a council has entered into an agreement with the department under section 72105, the agreement shall specify how the council may be dissolved.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 212, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2018, Act 69, Eff. June 17, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72107 Closure during pesticide application.

Sec. 72107. In agricultural areas, a trail may be temporarily closed by the entity operating the trail to allow pesticide application on lands adjoining the trail. The entity operating the trail shall post the closure of the trail or arrange with a landowner or other person for the posting of signs and the closure of the trail during pesticide application and appropriate reentry periods.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 214, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72108 Department; powers; acquisition of land as Pure Michigan Trail; transfer or use of railroad right-of-way; assumption of liability; "fair value" defined.

Sec. 72108. (1) The department may do any of the following:

(a) Grant easements or, pursuant to part 13, use permits or lease land owned by this state that is being used for a Pure Michigan Trail for a use that is compatible with the use of the Pure Michigan Trail.

(b) Enter into contracts for concessions along a state owned Pure Michigan Trail.

(c) Lease land adjacent to a state owned Pure Michigan Trail for the operation of concessions.

(2) If the department acquires land, the director may state that the specified land is acquired for use as a Pure Michigan Trail. Following acquisition of land that the director states is acquired for use as a Pure Michigan Trail, any revenue derived from the land under subsection (1), except as otherwise provided by law, must be deposited into the fund.

(3) If the department enters into negotiations with a railroad for the department to become a trail sponsor under 16 USC 1247(d), the department shall comply with 49 CFR 1152.29(a)(2)(ii). The department shall assume full responsibility for any potential legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of the railroad right-of-way. In exchange for the department's assumption of liability, the railroad shall provide the department with the fair value of the department's assumption of liability. As used in this subsection, "fair value" means the value that the department and the railroad mutually agree accurately reflects the risk of liability assumed by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004;—Am. 2014, Act 215, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2017, Act 39, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72109 Pure Michigan Trails fund.

Sec. 72109. (1) The Pure Michigan Trails fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by law, the state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any of the following for deposit into the fund:

(a) Payments to the state for easements, use permits, leases, or other use of state owned Pure Michigan Trail property.

(b) Payments to the state for concessions operated by private vendors on state owned property located on or adjacent to a Pure Michigan Trail.

(c) Federal funds.

(d) Gifts or bequests.

(e) State appropriations.

(f) Money or assets from other sources as provided by law.

(3) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.

(4) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(5) Money in the fund may be expended for any of the following purposes:

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(a) The expenses of the department in operating and maintaining the Pure Michigan Trail system and enforcing Pure Michigan Trail rules and regulations.

(b) Grants to or contracts with councils, nonprofit organizations, private sector entities, or governmental agencies to operate and maintain segments of Pure Michigan Trails and to enforce Pure Michigan Trail rules and regulations.

(c) Funding Pure Michigan Trail construction and improvements.

(d) Acquisition of land or rights in land.

(e) Publications and promotions of the Pure Michigan Trails system.

(6) The department shall submit a report to the legislature on or before December 1 of each year describing the use of money appropriated from the fund in the previous fiscal year.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 214, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72110 Michigan trails advisory council; creation; duties; membership; terms; vacancy; qualifications; chairperson; vice-chairperson; staffing; procedures; quorum; meetings; powers; workgroups; compensation; contracts; donations; additional responsibilities.

Sec. 72110. (1) The Michigan trails advisory council is created within the department.

(2) The advisory council shall advise the director and the governor on the creation, development, operation, and maintenance of motorized and nonmotorized trails in this state, including, but not limited to, snowmobile, biking, equestrian, hiking, off-road vehicle, skiing trails, and water trails. In advising the director and the governor on the creation and development of motorized and nonmotorized trails in this state, the advisory council shall seek to have the trails linked wherever possible. The advisory council may perform additional related duties as provided by this part, other law, or as requested by the director or the governor.

(3) The advisory council shall consist of 11 members appointed by the governor. Subject to subsection (4), a member of the advisory council shall be appointed for a term of 4 years.

(4) All of the following apply to the first advisory council appointed after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection:

(a) 2 members shall serve for 1 year.

(b) 3 members shall serve for 2 years.

(c) 3 members shall serve for 3 years.

(d) 3 members, not fewer than 2 of whom shall be members of the equine trailways subcommittee created under section 72110a, shall serve for 4 years.

(5) A vacancy on the advisory council occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be filled by the governor in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term. A vacancy does not affect the power of the remaining members to exercise the duties of the advisory council.

(6) At least 5 members of the advisory council shall be an owner of an ORV licensed as required under section 81116 or an owner of a snowmobile registered under section 82105. At least 3 members of the advisory council shall be owners of a snowmobile registered under section 82105. At least 1 member of the advisory council shall possess experience as an instructor in a snowmobile safety education and training program or an ORV safety education course. At least 2 members of the advisory council shall be residents of the Upper Peninsula of this state. At least 2 members of the advisory council shall be members of the equine trailways subcommittee created in section 72110a.

(7) The governor shall designate a member of the advisory council to serve as the chairperson of the advisory council at the pleasure of the governor. The advisory council may select a member of the advisory council to serve as vice-chairperson of the advisory council.

(8) The advisory council shall be staffed and assisted by personnel from the department, subject to available funding. Any budgeting, procurement, or related management functions of the advisory council shall be performed under the direction and supervision of the director.

(9) The advisory council shall adopt procedures consistent with this section and other applicable state law governing its organization and operations.

(10) A majority of the members of the advisory council serving constitute a quorum for the transaction of the advisory council's business. The advisory council shall act by a majority vote of its serving members.

(11) The advisory council shall meet at the call of the chairperson and as may be provided in procedures adopted by the advisory council.

(12) The advisory council may, as appropriate, make inquiries, conduct studies and investigations, hold hearings, and receive comments from the public. The advisory council may also consult with outside experts

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in order to perform its duties, including, but not limited to, experts in the private sector, government agencies, and institutions of higher education. The advisory council shall consult with organizations involved with expanding trail access for persons with disabilities.

(13) The advisory council may establish advisory workgroups, including, but not limited to, an advisory workgroup on snowmobiles, as considered necessary by the advisory council to assist the advisory council in performing the duties and responsibilities of the advisory council. In addition, the equine trailways subcommittee created in section 72110a as a subcommittee of the advisory council shall advise the advisory council.

(14) Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation. Members of the advisory council may receive reimbursement for necessary travel and expenses consistent with relevant statutes and the rules and procedures of the civil service commission and the department of technology, management, and budget, subject to available funding.

(15) The advisory council may hire or retain contractors, subcontractors, advisors, consultants, and agents, and may make and enter into contracts necessary or incidental to the exercise of the powers of the advisory council and the performance of its duties as the director considers advisable and necessary in accordance with this part, other applicable law, and the rules and procedures of the civil service commission and the department of technology, management, and budget, subject to available funding.

(16) The advisory council may accept donations of labor, services, or other things of value from any public or private agency or person.

(17) Members of the advisory council shall refer all legal, legislative, and media contacts to the department.

(18) In addition to the responsibilities provided in this section and otherwise provided by law, the advisory council shall do both of the following:

(a) Make recommendations to the director on the expenditure of money in the fund.

(b) Advise the director on the implementation of this part and the establishment and operation of Pure Michigan Trails and Pure Michigan Water Trails.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 46, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 248, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 213, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72110a Equine trails subcommittee; creation; staffing; funding; membership; appointments; terms; vacancy; removal; meetings; quorum; business conducted at public meetings; writings subject to freedom of information act; compensation; duties.

Sec. 72110a. (1) The equine trails subcommittee is created as a subcommittee of the advisory council. The department may provide staffing and administrative support to the equine trails subcommittee. The equine trails subcommittee may also be staffed and funded by user groups and other interested persons.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the equine trails subcommittee shall consist of the following members appointed by the director:

(a) One individual representing the state's tourism industry.

(b) Five individuals representing the equine industry as follows:

(*i*) One individual from the Upper Peninsula.

(*ii*) One individual from the northern Lower Peninsula.

(*iii*) One individual from the central Lower Peninsula.

(*iv*) One individual from the southeastern Lower Peninsula.

(*v*) One individual from the southwestern Lower Peninsula.

(3) The senate majority leader and the speaker of the house of representatives shall each submit a list of 3 persons to the director. The director shall appoint at least 1 person from each of those lists to the equine trails subcommittee.

(4) Members of the equine trails subcommittee shall serve for terms of 4 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that of the members first appointed 2 shall serve for 2 years, 2 shall serve for 3 years, and 2 shall serve for 4 years.

(5) If a vacancy occurs on the equine trails subcommittee, an appointment for the unexpired term shall be made in the same manner as the original appointment.

(6) A member of the equine trails subcommittee may be removed for incompetency, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause.

(7) The first meeting of the equine trails subcommittee shall be called by the department within 30 days

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after the appointments have been made. At the first meeting, the equine trails subcommittee shall elect from among its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the equine trails subcommittee shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson or if requested by 3 or more members.

(8) A majority of the members of the equine trails subcommittee constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the equine trails subcommittee. A majority of the members present and serving are required for official action of the equine trails subcommittee.

(9) The business that the equine trails subcommittee may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the equine trails subcommittee held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(10) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the equine trails subcommittee in the performance of an official function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(11) Members of the equine trails subcommittee shall serve without compensation. However, subject to the availability of funding, members of the equine trails subcommittee may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the equine trails subcommittee.

(12) The equine trails subcommittee shall do all of the following:

(a) Prepare and submit to the advisory council a recommended plan for a statewide network of pack and saddle trails. The recommended plan for a statewide pack and saddle trails network shall include both of the following:

(*i*) All pack and saddle trails on state owned land that have previously been open for use by pack and saddle animals at any time and that the equine trails subcommittee determines are appropriate for pack and saddle trails.

(*ii*) All additional state lands that the equine trails subcommittee determines would be appropriate for pack and saddle animals and would contribute to a statewide network of pack and saddle trails.

(b) Advise the advisory council and the department on the development and use of the pack and saddle trails network.

(c) Advise the advisory council and the department on other matters related to the promotion of the state's equine industry.

(d) Advise the advisory council and the department on funding to conduct pack and saddle trail reviews under section 72115 and to provide for the reopening of previously closed pack and saddle trails, the preservation of existing pack and saddle trails, and the development of new pack and saddle trails across this state.

History: Add. 2010, Act 46, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 213, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72111 State agencies; duties.

Sec. 72111. All state agencies shall cooperate with the commission and the department in the implementation of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72112 Rules.

Sec. 72112. The department may promulgate rules as it considers necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 210, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72113 Repealed. 2014, Act 210, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to Michigan heritage water trail program.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72114 Statewide trail network; establishment; modification to include additional trails or

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uses; signage; availability on department's website; recommendations from equine trails subcommittee and other trails users; database of trail maps.

Sec. 72114. (1) The department shall establish a statewide trail network that includes Pure Michigan Trails, Pure Michigan Water Trails, and other recreational use trails. The statewide trail network shall be designed to accommodate a variety of public recreation uses and shall specify the types of uses that are allowed on each trail segment. The statewide trail network shall be in conformance with section 72115 and the determinations made under section 72115. Prior to the department establishing the statewide trail network, the department shall hold a public meeting to receive testimony from the general public.

(2) After the statewide trail network is established, if the department is informed that additional trails should be added to the statewide trail network or that uses on particular trail segments should be modified, the department shall modify the statewide trail network to include additional trails or to modify the uses on particular trails as the department determines appropriate. However, any modifications shall be in conformance with section 72115 and determinations made under section 72115.

(3) The department may provide signage and recognition of places significant to the history of Native Americans, including places significant to that history along trails in the statewide trail network, as provided for in section 72117.

(4) Upon establishment of the statewide trail network, the department shall make the statewide trail network available on the department's website. If the department modifies the statewide trail network, the department shall make the updated statewide trail network available on the department's website.

(5) Within 1 year after receiving recommendations from the equine trails subcommittee under section 72110a, the advisory council shall review recommendations from the equine trails subcommittee as well as other interested trail users and shall make recommendations to the department for the establishment of the statewide trail network.

(6) The department shall work in cooperation with interested parties to facilitate the creation and maintenance of a current database of trail maps for all trails within the statewide trail network on the department's internet website. The database of trail maps shall specifically designate which of the trails are Pure Michigan Trails or Pure Michigan Water Trails. The database of trail maps shall allow trail users to download or print trail maps. In addition, the department shall work in cooperation with interested parties to facilitate the development and maintenance of a mobile software application of trail maps and other information related to specific trails that may be downloaded onto smartphones, tablet computers, and other portable electronic devices. The department shall work in cooperation with these interested parties to assure that the software application is updated to reflect current information from the database of trail maps.

History: Add. 2010, Act 45, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 210, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2016, Act 247, Eff. Sept. 22, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72115 Pack and saddle animals; access to pack and saddle trails on public land; restrictions.

Sec. 72115. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), pack and saddle animals shall be allowed to access pack and saddle trails on public land managed by the department as follows:

(a) Access on land of the state forest system is allowed unless restricted by statute, deed restriction, land use order, or other legal mechanism, in effect on April 2, 2010.

(b) Access on land of the state park system or state game area system is prohibited unless authorized by land use order or other legal mechanism in effect on April 2, 2010.

(c) Access on other land managed by the department is allowed according to the specific authorization or restriction applicable to the land.

(2) Access by pack and saddle animals may only be restricted on lands described in subsection (1) after April 2, 2010 if conditions are not suitable for pack and saddle animals because of public safety concerns, necessary maintenance, or for reasons related to the mission of the department. Restrictions related to the mission of the department shall be supported, to the greatest extent practicable, by a written science-based rationale that is supported with documentation that is made available to the public. Prior to determining that access by pack and saddle animals be restricted, the department shall make every effort to resolve any public safety or maintenance concerns. Subject to subsection (3), the department shall not restrict pack and saddle animals from lands described in subsection (1) unless all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The department holds a public meeting on a proposal to restrict access by pack and saddle animals on pack and saddle trails to receive testimony from the general public. The department shall invite the advisory

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council and the equine trails subcommittee created in section 72110a to attend the meeting.

(b) The department, after considering testimony at the meeting under subdivision (a), provides a specific rationale for its determination to restrict access by pack and saddle animals.

(c) Any decision by the department to restrict access by pack and saddle animals shall not take effect for a period of time set by the department, but not less than 60 days. However, if the director determines that a restriction must be imposed because of user conflicts or due to an imminent threat to public health, safety, welfare, or to natural resources or the environment, the director may issue a temporary order restricting access by pack and saddle animals for 30 days or until the threat or user conflict is abated. A temporary order under this subdivision may be reissued if the threat or user conflict persists.

(d) A written statement shall be posted at the trailhead in which the restriction is imposed stating the cause and estimated duration of the closure.

(e) A list of pack and saddle trails on which the department has restricted access for pack and saddle animals, including temporary orders, shall be posted on the department's website and notification shall be provided to the equine trails subcommittee created in section 72110a.

(3) Any restrictions described in subsection (1) on access by pack and saddle animals that were in effect on April 2, 2010 shall remain in effect until those restrictions are reviewed using the process under subsection (2).

(4) An individual shall not use pack and saddle animals on state-owned land except on pack and saddle trails that are open for access by pack and saddle animals. However, an individual may use a pack and saddle animal in an area in which public hunting is permitted to retrieve legally harvested deer, bear, or elk using the most direct route that does not enter a stream, river, or wetland except over a bridge, culvert, or similar structure.

History: Add. 2010, Act 45, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 213, Eff. Sept. 25, 2014;—Am. 2016, Act 288, Imd. Eff. Sept. 28, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72116 Installation of telecommunication facilities on rail-trail; authorization; deposit of use fees; expenditures; preexisting arrangements or agreements; definitions.

Sec. 72116. (1) If the state owns the land on which a rail-trail is located or if the land is under the long-term control of the state or a state governmental agency through a lease, easement, or other arrangement, the department shall, upon application of a telecommunication provider and payment of not more than $500.00 in application fees, authorize the installation of telecommunication facilities on that land unless the installation is inconsistent with or prohibited by the lease, easement, or other arrangement. The authorization granted under this subsection shall be granted within 45 days and shall require all of the following:

(a) All telecommunication facilities shall be installed underground or shall be attached to existing aboveground structures consistent with subdivision (c).

(b) The telecommunication provider shall notify the department, in writing, of the installation of the facilities and the anticipated completion date of the installation not less than 30 days prior to beginning the installation. Within 5 days after its receipt of the notification, the department shall notify the telecommunication provider, in writing, of any use of the rail-trail for which a permit has been issued by the department.

(c) The use of the land for telecommunication facilities and the installation of the facilities or any repairs to the facilities shall not unreasonably interfere with the use or uses of the rail-trail.

(d) Following installation of the telecommunication facilities or any repairs to the facilities, the land shall be reasonably restored to its condition prior to the installation or repair.

(e) The telecommunication provider shall pay to the department a 1-time use fee of 5 cents per longitudinal linear foot of the space to be occupied by the telecommunication facilities. The fee required under this subdivision shall not be required beginning 6 years after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section. At no time during or after this 6-year time period shall a telecommunications provider that pays the fee be charged with any additional fee for the use of the land for telecommunication facilities.

(2) The department shall forward use fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit as follows:

(a) If the land or rights in land on which the telecommunications facilities are installed was purchased with money from the Michigan natural resources trust fund, money received under subsection (1)(e) shall be deposited into the Michigan natural resources trust fund.

(b) All money not described in subdivision (a) shall be deposited into the fund.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, money from the fund that is collected under this

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section shall be expended, upon appropriation, as follows:

(a) Money collected from application fees under subsection (1) shall be used by the department for the administrative costs of implementing this section.

(b) In each county in which money is collected under subsection (1)(e) for the installation of telecommunication facilities on rail-trails that are used for motorized use, the department shall expend the money for grants to organizations operating in that county that are involved with the motorized use of rail-trails if such organizations exist. Money provided under this subdivision to organizations involved with the motorized use of rail-trails shall be used for the development and maintenance of rail-trails located within the county for motorized recreational uses.

(c) In each county in which money is collected under subsection (1)(e) for the installation of telecommunication facilities, but which is not expended pursuant to subdivision (b), the department shall expend the money for grants to local units of government or other organizations operating in that county that are involved with the use of rail-trails. Money provided under this subdivision to local units of government or organizations involved with the use of rail-trails shall be used for the development and maintenance of rail-trails located within the county for motorized and nonmotorized recreational uses.

(4) This section does not affect the rights and duties set forth in any arrangements or agreements for the installation of telecommunication facilities in a rail-trail described in subsection (1) between the department and a telecommunication provider entered before the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section. This section does not create a right for either the department or a telecommunication provider to terminate any preexisting arrangements or agreements.

(5) As used in this section:

(a) "Michigan natural resources trust fund" means the Michigan natural resources trust fund established in section 35 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, and provided for in part 19.

(b) "Telecommunication facilities" means either or both of the following:

(*i*) Telecommunication facilities as defined in section 2 of the metropolitan extension telecommunications rights-of-way oversight act, 2002 PA 48, MCL 484.3102.

(*ii*) Facilities used by a video service provider as defined in section 1 of the uniform video services local franchise act, 2006 PA 480, MCL 484.3301.

(c) "Telecommunication provider" means either or both of the following:

(*i*) A telecommunication provider as defined in section 2 of the metropolitan extension telecommunications rights-of-way oversight act, 2002 PA 48, MCL 484.3102.

(*ii*) A video service provider as defined in section 1 of the uniform video services local franchise act, 2006 PA 480, MCL 484.3301.

History: Add. 2012, Act 138, Imd. Eff. May 22, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72117 Preservation and promotion of history of Native Americans; collaboration with certain entities; report.

Sec. 72117. (1) The department shall work collaboratively with tribal governments, educators, universities, the state transportation department, the council for the arts and cultural affairs, Travel Michigan, the state historic preservation office, the state archaeologist, the Michigan historical commission, historic preservation organizations, and historical societies to do all of the following:

(a) Review, plan, and implement a master plan to promote and preserve the history of Native Americans in this state. The master plan shall include a central compilation of information about places significant to the history of Native Americans in this state. The master plan shall also provide for the dissemination of such information to the public through websites, brochures, or other means.

(b) In conjunction with state and federal authorities, sponsor commemorations, linkages, seminars, and public forums on Native American history in this state and neighboring states.

(c) Assist and promote the making of applications for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and for Michigan historical markers for places significant to the history of Native Americans in this state.

(d) Assist and develop partnerships to seek public and private funds to carry out activities to protect, preserve, and promote the awareness of Native American cultural heritage in this state.

(e) Promote the signage and recognition of places significant to the history of Native Americans, including places significant to that history along the statewide trail network described in section 72114.

(2) The department shall annually report to the governor and both houses of the legislature on its activities under this section in the prior calendar year.

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History: Add. 2016, Act 247, Eff. Sept. 22, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72118 Forest roads; inventory; applicable provisions; posting on website.

Sec. 72118. (1) The department shall make a comprehensive inventory of forest roads that are state roads. The department shall divide the state into 5 regions and complete the inventory in regional phases. The Upper Peninsula shall be a separate region or regions. The department shall inventory the 2 most northerly regions in the Lower Peninsula by December 31, 2017. The department shall inventory the remaining regions by December 31, 2018. The inventory shall meet both of the following requirements:

(a) Identify the location, condition, and development level of the forest roads.

(b) Determine types of motorized and nonmotorized use currently restricted on each forest road segment and the seasons during which those uses are currently restricted.

(2) Beginning when the inventory for a region is completed or required to be completed, whichever occurs first, all of the following apply:

(a) The forest roads within that region are open to motorized use by the public unless designated otherwise by an order of the department under section 504. However, forest roads in the Upper Peninsula are open to motorized use by the public unless designated otherwise by an order of the department under section 504.

(b) If a timber harvest is planned for a particular area in that region, the department shall evaluate whether the timber harvest activity offers the opportunity to connect existing forest roads and trails in that area.

(c) The department shall not newly restrict a road or trail in that region from being used to access public land unless the department has provided each local unit of government in which the public land is located written notice that includes the reason for the restriction. This subdivision does not apply to a restriction imposed to protect public health or safety in an emergency situation.

(3) The department shall annually post to its website the total miles of forest roads open to motorized use in all inventoried regions and a map or maps of those forest roads.

History: Add. 2016, Act 288, Imd. Eff. Sept. 28, 2016;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018;—Am. 2018, Act 240, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 723
TRAILS

324.72301 “Trail” defined.

Sec. 72301. As used in this part, "trail" means a right-of-way adapted to foot or horseback travel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72302 State system of trails; master plan; development and maintenance of trails with facilities.

Sec. 72302. Within legislative appropriations, the department shall make a survey and prepare a master plan for a state system of trails with campsites and necessary facilities that takes into account points of historical interest and scenic beauty. Revisions of the plan may be made from time to time. On those parts of the trail that are not public roads, the department may prohibit motor equipment. The department may provide, develop, and maintain a system of trails with campsites and necessary facilities for the use of the public, within the appropriations made for those purposes by the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.72303 Trails; gifts; grants of property interests; prison labor.

Sec. 72303. The department may accept gifts or grants of land, rights-of-way and other property. The department may use state timber, timber materials, equipment, and prison labor on lands that are under lease or use permit to it.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

RECREATIONAL TRESPASS

PART 731
RECREATIONAL TRESPASS

324.73101 Definitions; F to P.

Sec. 73101. As used in this part:

(a) "Farm product" means that term as defined in section 2 of the Michigan right to farm act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.472.

(b) "Farm property" means land used in the production of a farm product and all lands contained within the farm.

(c) "Fish" means game fish or nongame fish as those terms are defined in section 48701.

(d) "Fur-bearing animal" means that term as defined in section 43503.

(e) "Game" means that term as defined in section 40103.

(f) "Hunting dog" means a dog allowed to range freely to engage in or aid in hunting on the day the dog enters the property of another person.

(g) "License" means a hunting, fishing, or fur harvester's license or, in the discretion of the court, any combination of such licenses. License does not mean a certificate, license, or permit under part 445 or 473.

(h) "Protected animal" means that term as defined in section 40103.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 546, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73102 Entering or remaining on property of another; consent; exceptions.

Sec. 73102. (1) Except as provided in subsection (4), a person shall not enter or remain upon the property of another person, other than farm property or a wooded area connected to farm property, to engage in any recreational activity or trapping on that property without the consent of the owner or his or her lessee or agent, if either of the following circumstances exists:

(a) The property is fenced or enclosed and is maintained in such a manner as to exclude intruders.

(b) The property is posted in a conspicuous manner against entry. The minimum letter height on the posting signs shall be 1 inch. Each posting sign shall be not less than 50 square inches, and the signs shall be spaced to enable a person to observe not less than 1 sign at any point of entry upon the property.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (4), a person shall not enter or remain upon farm property or a wooded area connected to farm property for any recreational activity or trapping without the consent of the owner or his or her lessee or agent, whether or not the farm property or wooded area connected to farm property is fenced, enclosed, or posted.

(3) On fenced or posted property or farm property, a fisherman wading or floating a navigable public stream may, without written or oral consent, enter upon property within the clearly defined banks of the stream or, without damaging farm products, walk a route as closely proximate to the clearly defined bank as possible when necessary to avoid a natural or artificial hazard or obstruction, including, but not limited to, a dam, deep hole, or a fence or other exercise of ownership by the riparian owner.

(4) A person other than a person possessing a firearm may, unless previously prohibited in writing or orally by the property owner or his or her lessee or agent, enter on foot upon the property of another person for the sole purpose of retrieving a hunting dog. The person shall not remain on the property beyond the reasonable time necessary to retrieve the dog. In an action under section 73109 or 73110, the burden of showing that the property owner or his or her lessee or agent previously prohibited entry under this subsection is on the plaintiff or prosecuting attorney, respectively.

(5) Consent to enter or remain upon the property of another person pursuant to this section may be given orally or in writing. The consent may establish conditions for entering or remaining upon that property. Unless prohibited in the written consent, a written consent may be amended or revoked orally. If the owner or his or her lessee or agent requires all persons entering or remaining upon the property to have written consent, the presence of the person on the property without written consent is prima facie evidence of unlawful entry.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 546, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73103 Discharging firearm within right-of-way of public highway abutting certain property; consent; "public highway" defined.

Sec. 73103. (1) A person shall not discharge a firearm within the right-of-way of a public highway adjoining or abutting any platted property, fenced, enclosed, or posted property, farm property, or a wooded area connected to farm property without the consent of the owner of the abutting property or his or her lessee or agent.

(2) As used in this section, "public highway" means a road or highway under the jurisdiction of the state transportation department, the road commission of a county, or of a local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73104 Removing, defacing, or destroying sign or poster.

Sec. 73104. A person shall not remove, deface, or destroy a sign or poster that has been posted pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73105 Posting or enclosing property.

Sec. 73105. A person shall not post a sign on property owned by another person or enclose the property of another person to prohibit hunting, fishing, trapping, or other recreational activities on that property without the written permission of the owner of that property or his or her lessee or agent.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73106 Prosecution generally; seizure and enforcement by peace officer.

Sec. 73106. (1) A prosecution under this part shall be in the name of the people of the state, shall be brought before a district court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the offense was committed, and shall be brought within 1 year from the time the offense charged was committed.

(2) A peace officer may seize property and otherwise enforce this part upon complaint of the landowner or his or her lessee or agent.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73107 Action for injury to person on property of another; exception.

Sec. 73107. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a cause of action shall not arise against the owner, tenant, or lessee of property for an injury to a person who is on that property with oral or written consent but who has not paid the owner, tenant, or lessee of that property valuable consideration for the recreational or trapping use of the property, unless the injury was caused by the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the owner, tenant, or lessee.

(2) A cause of action shall not arise against the owner, tenant, or lessee of property for an injury to a person who is on that property with oral or written consent and has paid the owner, tenant, or lessee valuable consideration for fishing, trapping, or hunting on that property, unless that person's injuries were caused by a condition that involved an unreasonable risk of harm and all of the following apply:

(a) The owner, tenant, or lessee knew or had reason to know of the condition or risk.

(b) The owner, tenant, or lessee failed to exercise reasonable care to make the condition safe or to warn the person of the condition or risk.

(c) The person injured did not know or did not have reason to know of the condition or risk.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73108 Enforcement and prosecution.

Sec. 73108. The prosecuting attorney for a county shall enforce this part and prosecute all persons charged with violating this part in that county. The attorney representing a municipality may enforce this part in that municipality and prosecute all persons charged with violating this part in that municipality.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73109 Violation of part; cause of action by property owner.

Sec. 73109. The owner of property on which a violation of this part is committed, or his or her lessee, may bring a cause of action against an individual who violates this part for $750.00 or actual property damages, whichever is greater, and actual and reasonable attorney fees.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 546, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999;—Am. 2013, Act 176, Eff. Feb. 25, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73110 Violation as misdemeanor; penalties; restitution.

Sec. 73110. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) or (3), an individual who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both.

(2) An individual who kills any protected animal, game, or fish while violating this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $250.00 or more than $750.00, or both.

(3) An individual convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this part occurring within 3 years of a previous violation of this part shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $250.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both. In addition, the court shall order the individual's license revoked if the individual is licensed to hunt, fish, or trap in this state, and shall order the individual not to seek or possess a license for the remainder of the calendar year in which the individual is convicted and during at least 1 succeeding calendar year. This subsection does not apply after September 30, 2001.

(4) This subsection applies beginning October 1, 2001. An individual convicted of a second or subsequent violation of this part occurring within 3 years of a previous violation of this part shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $1,500.00, or both. In addition, the court may order the individual's license revoked if the individual is licensed to hunt, fish, or trap in this state, and may order the individual not to seek or possess a license for not more than 3 succeeding calendar years.

(5) The court may order an individual convicted of violating this part to pay the costs of prosecution.

(6) The following may be seized and forfeited in the same manner as provided in chapter 47 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.4701 to 600.4709:

(a) A protected animal, a fur-bearing animal, game, or fish taken while committing any violation of this part.

(b) Property in the possession of the defendant while committing a second or subsequent violation of this part occurring within 3 years of a previous violation of this part. This subdivision does not apply to either of the following:

(*i*) Electronic hunting-dog-retrieval equipment.

(*ii*) A living or dead animal of any kind not described in subdivision (a).

(7) The court shall order an individual convicted of violating this part to make restitution for any damage arising out of the violation, including, but not limited to, reimbursing this state for the value of any protected animal, fur-bearing animal, game, or fish taken while violating this part as provided in section 40119. However, the value of fish shall be determined as provided in section 48740.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 546, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999;—Am. 2013, Act 176, Eff. Feb. 25, 2014.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

324.73111 Adoption of part as ordinance; effect of contradicting or conflicting ordinance, regulation, or resolution.

Sec. 73111. (1) A local unit of government may adopt this part as an ordinance, except that a penalty imposed for a violation of that ordinance shall not exceed the penalty authorized by law for the violation of an ordinance enacted by that local unit of government.

(2) A local unit of government shall not enact, maintain, or enforce an ordinance, regulation, or resolution that contradicts or conflicts in any manner with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Recreational Trespass Act

PART 733
LIABILITY OF LANDOWNERS

324.73301 Liability of landowner, tenant, or lessee for injuries to persons on property for purpose of outdoor recreation or trail use, using Michigan trailway or other public trail, gleaning agricultural or farm products, fishing or hunting, or picking and purchasing agricultural or farm products at farm or "u-pick" operation; definition.

Sec. 73301. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a cause of action does not arise for injuries to a person who is on the land of another without paying to the owner, tenant, or lessee of the land a valuable consideration for the purpose of fishing, hunting, trapping, camping, hiking, sightseeing, motorcycling, snowmobiling, or any other outdoor recreational use or trail use, with or without permission, against the owner, tenant, or lessee of the land unless the injuries were caused by the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the owner, tenant, or lessee.

(2) A cause of action does not arise for injuries to a person who is on the land of another without paying to the owner, tenant, or lessee of the land a valuable consideration for the purpose of entering or exiting from or using a Michigan trailway as designated under part 721 or other public trail, with or without permission, against the owner, tenant, or lessee of the land unless the injuries were caused by the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the owner, tenant, or lessee. For purposes of this subsection, a Michigan trailway or public trail may be located on land of any size including, but not limited to, urban, suburban, subdivided, and rural land.

(3) A cause of action does not arise, for injuries to a person, against a person, other than a for-profit legal entity, with whom the owner, tenant, or lessee of land contracts to construct, maintain, or operate a trail or other land improvement used by the injured person as described in subsections (1) and (2), unless the injuries were caused by the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the person, other than a for-profit legal entity, with whom the owner, tenant, or lessee contracts.

(4) A cause of action does not arise against the owner, tenant, or lessee of land or premises for injuries to a person who is on that land or premises for the purpose of gleaning agricultural or farm products, unless that person's injuries were caused by the gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the owner, tenant, or lessee.

(5) A cause of action does not arise against the owner, tenant, or lessee of a farm used in the production of agricultural goods as defined by section 35(1)(h) of the former single business tax act, 1975 PA 228, or by section 207(1)(d) of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1207, for injuries to a person who is on that farm and has paid the owner, tenant, or lessee valuable consideration for the purpose of fishing or hunting, unless that person's injuries were caused by a condition that involved an unreasonable risk of harm and all of the following apply:

(a) The owner, tenant, or lessee knew or had reason to know of the condition or risk.

(b) The owner, tenant, or lessee failed to exercise reasonable care to make the condition safe, or to warn the person of the condition or risk.

(c) The person injured did not know or did not have reason to know of the condition or risk.

(6) A cause of action does not arise against the owner, tenant, or lessee of land or premises for injuries to a person, other than an employee or contractor of the owner, tenant, or lessee, who is on the land or premises for the purpose of picking and purchasing agricultural or farm products at a farm or "u-pick" operation, unless

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the person's injuries were caused by a condition that involved an unreasonable risk of harm and all of the following apply:

(a) The owner, tenant, or lessee knew or had reason to know of the condition or risk.

(b) The owner, tenant, or lessee failed to exercise reasonable care to make the condition safe, or to warn the person of the condition or risk.

(c) The person injured did not know or did not have reason to know of the condition or risk.

(7) As used in this section, "agricultural or farm products" means the natural products of the farm, nursery, grove, orchard, vineyard, garden, and apiary, including, but not limited to, trees and firewood.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Dec. 21, 2007;—Am. 2017, Act 39, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.73302 Injuries to person on right-of-way; cause of action against railroad.

Sec. 73302. (1) A cause of action does not arise against a railroad that owns or formerly owned or operated a right-of-way of a rail line that has been dedicated for interim trail use and rail banking under 16 USC 1247(d) for injuries to a person who is on the right-of-way that occur after the Surface Transportation Board approves the dedication of the right-of-way under 16 USC 1247(d) and before the right-of-way is reactivated for return to rail service.

(2) A cause of action does not arise against a railroad that owns or formerly owned or operated a right-of-way of a rail line that has been set apart for interim trail use and rail banking under the state transportation preservation act of 1976, 1976 PA 295, MCL 474.51 to 474.70, for injuries to a person who is on the right-of-way that occur after the dedication of the right-of-way under the state transportation preservation act of 1976, 1976 PA 295, MCL 474.51 to 474.70, and before the right-of-way is reactivated for return to rail service.

History: Add. 2017, Act 39, Eff. Aug. 21, 2017.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 2
PARKS

PARKS

PART 741
STATE PARKS SYSTEM

324.74101 Definitions.

Sec. 74101. As used in this part:

(a) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a commercial vehicle as defined in section 7 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.7.

(b) "Endowment fund" means the Michigan state parks endowment fund established in section 35a of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 and provided for in section 74119.

(c) "Improvement program" means the construction, reconstruction, development, improvement, bettering, operating, maintaining, and extending a facility at a state park, including a site improvement, impoundment, road and parking lot, toilet building, concession building, shelter building, bathhouse, utility, outdoor center, visitor service facility, ski area, ski tow, ski shelter, and administration unit.

(d) "Motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is self-propelled.

(e) "Nonresident motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle other than a commercial motor vehicle that is not registered as a motor vehicle in this state.

(f) "Recreation passport fee" means that term as defined in section 2001.

(g) "Resident motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle other than a commercial motor vehicle that is registered as a motor vehicle in this state.

(h) "State park" means a state park or state recreation area designated by the director.

(i) "State park improvement account" means the state park improvement account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2030.

(j) "State park revenues" means all revenues collected for state parks, including but not limited to, revenue from recreation passport fees, motor vehicle permits, concession fees, nonmotorized trail permits, fees, leases,

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camping fees, sale of farm animals from Maybury state park, donations, and gifts.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 392, Imd. Eff. Oct. 15, 2004;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010;—Am. 2018, Act 599, Eff. Dec. 19, 2020.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Enacting section 2 of Act 599 of 2018 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless Senate Joint Resolution O of the 99th Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Senate Joint Resolution O was agreed to by the House of Representatives and the Senate on December 21, 2018, and filed with the Secretary of State December 27, 2018. The proposed amendment to the constitution was submitted to, and approved, by the electors on November 3, 2020, and became effective December 19, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74102 Legislative findings; duties of department.

Sec. 74102. (1) The legislature finds:

(a) Michigan state parks preserve and protect Michigan's significant natural and historic resources.

(b) Michigan state parks are appropriate and uniquely suited to provide opportunities to learn about protection and management of Michigan's natural resources.

(c) Michigan state parks are an important component of Michigan's tourism industry and vital to local economies.

(d) A holistic, integrated park system that reflects the unique value of both state and local parks is a goal of this state.

(e) State and local park planners should work in concert for a coordinated Michigan park and recreation plan.

(2) The department shall create, maintain, operate, promote, and make available for public use and enjoyment a system of state parks to preserve and protect Michigan's significant natural resources and areas of natural beauty or historic significance, to provide open space for public recreation, and to provide an opportunity to understand Michigan's natural resources and the need to protect and manage those resources.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74102a Duties of commission; report.

Sec. 74102a. (1) The commission shall do all of the following:

(a) Advise and make recommendations to the governor and the legislature on state parks policy and provide guidance on state parks development, management, and planning issues.

(b) Seek the development of a broad variety of programs, facilities, and services for Michigan citizens utilizing the state parks.

(c) Inform and educate the public about the importance of and need for state parks.

(d) Strive to involve citizens in the planning and development of state parks and to ensure that the facilities, programs, and projects are barrier-free and accessible to all citizens.

(e) Establish and maintain effective public relations regarding state parks, utilizing all appropriate communications media.

(f) Advise on financial planning and pursue adequate budget support for state parks.

(g) Serve as a liaison and coordinate with other agencies to ensure a cooperative effort to provide the most effective and economical services possible at state parks.

(h) Periodically evaluate and submit a report to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to natural resources and the environment on the state parks programs, facilities, services, and relationships to ensure that the goals and objectives of this section are being achieved.

(i) Advise and make recommendations to the department on the gem of the parks award, the state parks volunteer of the year award, and the state parks employee of the year award established under section 74124.

(j) Review and make recommendations to the department on whether land within a state park should be transferred as provided in section 74102b.

(2) Not later than 180 days after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, the commission shall submit a report to the standing committees and appropriations subcommittees of the legislature with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to natural resources and the environment. The report shall contain recommendations for savings in state park and forest recreation programs. Savings in state park

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programs equivalent to at least 10% of the cumulative expenditures for state park programs during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009 shall be identified. In developing recommendations, the commission shall consult with the department and interested parties. The commission shall consider at least all of the following:

(a) Increased preventative maintenance.

(b) Energy conservation and efficiency.

(c) Contracting concessions, major maintenance or renovation work, and other park operations to private parties.

(d) Sharing resources and coordinating activities with parks or public recreation facilities owned by local units of government.

History: Add. 2004, Act 392, Imd. Eff. Oct. 15, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 307, Imd. Eff. July 20, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Mar. 31, 2010.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of citizens committee for Michigan state parks from department of natural resources to natural resources commission, and abolishment of the committee, see E.R.O. No. 2009-31 compiled at MCL 324.99919.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74102b Transfer of 100 acres or more than 15% of total acreage of state park; proposal; public hearing; recommendation; conditions; website; definitions.

Sec. 74102b. (1) Prior to recommending that the state transfer more than 100 acres or more than 15% of the total acreage of a state park, whichever is less, by sale or otherwise, the department shall do both of the following:

(a) Submit a proposal with detailed information regarding the potential transfer to the committee for its review and recommendation.

(b) Submit a proposal with detailed information regarding the potential transfer to the commission for its review and approval.

(c) Hold a public hearing, following appropriate public notice, in the vicinity of the state park.

(2) Upon receipt of a proposal under subsection (1), the committee shall review the proposal and make a recommendation to the department. The committee's recommendation is not binding on the department.

(3) Following the public hearing under subsection (1) and receipt of the committee's recommendation under subsection (2), if the commission has approved the proposed transfer, the department may prepare a written recommendation for the transfer of land within a state park. The written recommendation shall include the committee's recommendation. The written recommendation shall be submitted to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over issues primarily pertaining to natural resources and the environment and to the senate and house appropriations committees. If the recommendation is for the transfer of more than 100 acres or more than 15% of the total acreage of a state park, whichever is less, to another public entity without compensation, the recommendation shall include a proposed deed restriction on the land that provides for public access to the land for purposes of hunting and fishing and other similar recreational uses of the land.

(4) The transfer of more than 100 acres or more than 15% of the total acreage of a state park, whichever is less, is prohibited unless specifically authorized by law.

(5) State park land, other than state park land described in subsection (4), shall not be sold unless all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The department has posted on its website notice of the proposed sale.

(b) The department has provided written notice of the proposed sale to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over issues primarily dealing with natural resources and the environment.

(c) The commission has approved the sale.

(d) The sale is not completed for a period of at least 30 days after the notice has been provided to the standing committees under subdivision (b).

(6) The department shall publish on its website a list of the acreage of each state park on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection.

(7) As used in this section:

(a) "State park" means land within the dedicated boundary of a state park or state recreation area that was designated as a state park or state recreation area on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section and any land within the dedicated boundary of a state park or state recreation area that is designated as a state park or state recreation area by the director after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section.

(b) "Total acreage of a state park" means the total acreage within the dedicated boundaries of a state park on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section or the largest amount of acreage included

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within the dedicated boundaries of a state park after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, whichever is greater.

History: Add. 2006, Act 307, Imd. Eff. July 20, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74103 Powers of department; land acquisition and improvement program.

Sec. 74103. In implementing the responsibilities under this part, the department may do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Enter into contracts or agreements that may be necessary to implement this part.

(b) Lease state park property to a person.

(c) Accept gifts, grants, or bequests from any public or private source to be used for a purpose consistent with this part.

(d) Acquire property for designation as a state park.

(e) Provide the granting of concessions to a person within the boundaries of a state park. In granting a concession, the department shall provide that each concession is awarded at least every 7 years based on extension, renegotiation, or competitive bidding.

(2) The department may acquire land and undertake an improvement program for state parks, pursuant to the powers, rights, and privileges conferred by this part, but land acquisition or an improvement program shall not be undertaken until approved by the legislature in the annual capital outlay appropriation act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: In the first paragraph, "(1)" evidently should appear between "Sec. 74103." and the beginning of the sentence.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74103a Shooting range; posting hours of operation.

Sec. 74103a. At each state park that contains a designated shooting range that is open to visitors, the department shall post a notice at the entrance to the recreational areas of the state park that states the regular hours of operation of the shooting range. The notice shall be posted in a visible location, and the lettering on the notice shall be of a sufficient type size to be easily read by state park visitors. The department is not required to post the hours of operation in which the shooting range is open for special events. However, if the department does not post the hours of operation in which the shooting range is open for special events, the notice shall include a statement to that effect.

History: Add. 2006, Act 15, Imd. Eff. Feb. 9, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74104 “Adopt-a-park” program.

Sec. 74104. (1) The department shall establish an "adopt-a-park" program that will allow volunteer groups to assist state park staff in maintaining and enhancing state parks.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), volunteer groups in the adopt-a-park program may adopt any available state park and may choose any 1 or more of the following volunteer activities:

(a) Spring cleanups.

(b) Environmental activities.

(c) Accessibility projects.

(d) Special events.

(e) Park maintenance and development.

(f) Public information and assistance.

(g) Training.

(3) The department shall designate the activities to be performed by a volunteer group in the adopt-a-park program. The department may provide for more than 1 volunteer group to adopt a state park.

(4) A volunteer group that wishes to participate in the adopt-a-park program shall submit an application to the department on a form provided by the department. Additionally, volunteer groups shall agree to the following:

(a) Volunteer groups shall participate in the program for at least a 2-year period.

(b) Volunteer groups shall consist of at least 6 people who are 18 years of age or older, unless the volunteer group is a school or scout organization, in which case the volunteers may be under 18 years of age.

(c) Volunteer groups shall give a total of 400 hours over a 2-year period.

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(d) Volunteer groups shall comply with other reasonable requirements of the department.

(5) A state park manager may issue to volunteers who are actively working on adopt-a-park projects that last more than 1 day free camping permits if campsites are available. A state park manager may waive state park entry fees for volunteers entering state parks to work on adopt-a-park projects.

(6) The department shall design and erect near the state park headquarters of each state park in the adopt-a-park program an adopt-a-park program sign with the name of the volunteer group's sponsoring organization listed for each volunteer group that has contributed at least 100 service hours by volunteers.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74105 Volunteers; appointment; immunity from civil liability; carrying of firearm prohibited.

Sec. 74105. The department may appoint persons to serve as volunteers for the purpose of facilitating the responsibilities of the department as provided in this part. While a volunteer is serving in such a capacity, the volunteer has the same immunity from civil liability as a department employee and shall be treated in the same manner as an employee under section 8 of Act No. 170 of the Public Acts of 1964, being section 691.1408 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. A volunteer shall not carry a firearm while functioning as a volunteer.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74106 Revenue bonds; issuance; amount; notice; includable costs; resolution.

Sec. 74106. For the purpose of providing a park improvement program, the commission may issue revenue bonds as provided in this part. The commission may issue revenue bonds payable from state park revenues. The aggregate principal amount of the revenue bonds shall not exceed $100,000,000.00. The department shall provide notice to the appropriations committee of the senate and the house of representatives at least 30 days before bonds are offered for sale. There may be included in the cost for which bonds are to be issued a reasonable allowance for legal, engineering, architectural and consultant services, traffic studies, cost of printing and issuing of the bonds, interest on the bonds becoming due before collection of the first available state park revenues and for a period of 1 year thereafter, and other incidental expenses. The bonds shall be authorized by a resolution adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of the commission and may be issued in 1 or more series as shall be determined by the commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74107 Authority of department.

Sec. 74107. The commission may authorize the department, but only within limitation which shall be contained in the commission's authorizing resolution, to do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Sell and deliver and receive payment for bonds.

(b) Approve interest rates, purchase prices, discounts, premiums, maturities, principal amounts, interest payment dates, redemption rights at the option of the commission or the holder, and the place and time of delivery and payment for the bonds.

(c) Deliver bonds to refund prior bonds or partly to refund bonds and partly for other authorized purposes.

(d) Select which outstanding bonds will be refunded, if any, by the new issue of bonds.

(e) Any other matters and procedures necessary to complete the issuance and delivery of the bonds.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74108 Resolution authorizing issuance of bonds; contents.

Sec. 74108. A resolution adopted by the commission authorizing the issuance of bonds shall contain all of the following:

(a) A description in reasonable detail of the improvement program as approved by the legislature, for which the bonds are to be issued.

(b) The form of the bonds and all of the following:

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(*i*) The maturity date or dates for the bonds with no maturity later than 30 years after the issuance of the bonds.

(*ii*) The principal amount of and principal payment dates for the bonds.

(*iii*) The interest rate or rates for the bonds or that bonds shall not bear any interest.

(*iv*) The redemption provisions, with or without premium, for the bonds, if any.

(*v*) The authorized denominations for the bonds.

(*vi*) Whether the bonds may be sold at a discount or for a premium.

(*vii*) The manner in which the bonds will be executed.

(*viii*) Any other provision concerning the bonds or the security for the bonds the commission considers appropriate.

(c) A provision that the state park revenues shall be pledged for the payment of the bonds. However, the pledge of state park revenues shall be on a parity with pledges of the revenues previously or subsequently made by the commission pursuant to any other resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds under this part and the resolution shall state that the pledge complies with this subdivision.

(d) A covenant that the park permit fees and penalties provided in section 74117 shall be revised from time to time within the limits permitted by law when necessary to ensure that the revenues to be derived from the fees shall be sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on bonds issued pursuant to this part and other obligations of the commission in connection with the issuance of bonds.

(e) A provision requiring the fiscal agent to set aside money from the state park revenue bond receiving fund into a fund to be designated as the state park debt service fund in a sum proportionately sufficient to provide for the payment of the principal of and interest upon all bonds payable from the fund as and when the principal and interest becomes due and payable in the manner prescribed by the commission. In addition the resolution shall authorize the commission to provide that a reasonable excess amount may be set aside by the fiscal agent from time to time as directed by the commission in the state park debt service fund to produce and provide a reserve to meet a possible future deficiency in the fund. The resolution shall further provide that out of the revenues remaining each quarter, after having first met the requirements of the state park debt service fund, including the reserve for the fund, the commission may by direction to the fiscal agent next set aside additional money in the state park debt service fund for the purpose of calling bonds for redemption, subject to approval by the state administrative board. The resolution shall also contain a provision for the investment of funds held by the fiscal agent.

(f) A provision that money on deposit in the state park revenue bond receiving fund after setting aside the amounts in the state park debt service fund is surplus money, and shall be deposited quarterly by the fiscal agent upon the order of the commission in the state treasury in the state park improvement account. Money in the state park improvement account shall be used only for the improvement, operation, and maintenance of state parks and recreation areas and for the administration of the state park improvement account. Not less than $10.00 of each annual permit and not less than $2.00 of each daily permit projected to be sold in a fiscal year may be appropriated from the state park improvement account for the maintenance and operation of state parks and recreation areas in that fiscal year.

(g) The terms and conditions under which additional bonds payable from the state park revenues of equal standing with a prior issue of bonds may be issued.

(h) A provision for deposit and expenditure of the proceeds of sale of the bonds and for investment of the proceeds of sale of the bonds and of other funds of the commission relating to bonds authorized by this part.

(i) A provision that in the event of a default in the payment of principal of or interest on the bonds, or in the performance of an agreement or covenant contained in the resolution, the holders of a specified percentage of the outstanding bonds may institute 1 or more of the following for the equal benefit of the holders of all of the bonds:

(*i*) An action of mandamus or any other suit, action, or proceeding to enforce the rights of the holders of the bonds.

(*ii*) An action upon the defaulted bonds or coupons.

(*iii*) Any other action as may be provided by law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74109 Repealed. 2003, Act 170, Eff. Jan. 1, 2004.

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Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to prohibited use of increased fee revenue for state park operations and the conditional repeal of 177 PA 1989.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74110 Revenue bonds; state debt; extent of liability.

Sec. 74110. Any bond issued under this part shall state that it is not a general obligation of the state of Michigan, but is a revenue bond payable only from state park revenues. Nothing in this part authorizes the state to incur debt contrary to the constitution or laws of the state. The holders of the bonds shall not have the right to compel a sale of any real estate or personal property of the state parks, nor shall the holders of the bonds have any lien, mortgage, or other encumbrances upon any property of the state of Michigan, real, personal, or mixed. Bonds shall be fully negotiable within the meaning of the negotiable instruments law of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74111 Revenue bonds; refunding issue.

Sec. 74111. The commission may issue bonds for the purpose of refunding any obligations issued under this part, or may authorize a single issue of bonds in part for the purpose of refunding such obligations and in part for the purpose of financing any additional cost of land or improvement program. Bonds issued under this section are payable only from state park revenues and may be sold in the manner provided for the sale of bonds in this part. If sold, that portion of the proceeds representing the refunding portion may be either applied to the payment of the obligations refunded or deposited in escrow for their retirement.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74112 Maximum rate of interest; sale and award of bonds; public or private sale; advertisement; notice of sale.

Sec. 74112. (1) The maximum rate of interest on bonds issued under this part shall be that set forth for bonds in the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. The sale and award of bonds shall be conducted and made by the commission at a public or private sale. If a public sale is held, the bonds shall be advertised for sale once not less than 7 days before sale in a publication with statewide circulation that carries as a part of its regular service notices of the sales of municipal bonds and that has been designated in the resolution as a publication complying with these qualifications. The notice of sale shall be in the form designated by the commission.

(2) Bonds issued under this part are not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

(3) The issuance of bonds under this part is subject to the agency financing reporting act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 249, Imd. Eff. Apr. 30, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74113 State park revenues; fiscal agent; receiving fund; expenses; designation of paying agents.

Sec. 74113. All state park revenues shall be deposited with the state treasurer who shall act as the fiscal agent for the department. The state treasurer shall establish a special depositary account to be designated "state park revenue bond receiving fund". The necessary expenses of the fiscal agent incurred by reason of his or her duties under this part shall be paid from the state park revenue bond receiving fund. The commission may designate banks or trust companies to act as paying agents for bonds issued pursuant to this part. The paying agent shall be paid from the state park debt service fund.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74114 Fees; establishment; collection; deposit.

Sec. 74114. The department may establish fees and collect fees for activities in state parks except those

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activities for which fees are established under this part. All fees collected under this section shall be deposited into the state park improvement account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74115 Free entry of motor vehicles into posted park prohibited.

Sec. 74115. Except as otherwise provided in this part, free entry of a motor vehicle shall not be permitted into any state park or portion of a state park posted in accordance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74116 Entry into state park by nonresident or resident motor vehicle; permit; payment of recreation passport fee; registration tab or sticker; exceptions.

Sec. 74116. (1) Subject to subsection (4), the operator of a nonresident motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle shall not enter any state park with that motor vehicle unless a valid motor vehicle park permit issued under section 74117 is affixed to the lower right-hand corner of the windshield. An annual motor vehicle park permit for a nonresident motor vehicle shall be affixed permanently for that year. The department shall post signs at parks that state that a motor vehicle park permit is required for entry by a nonresident motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), the operator of a resident motor vehicle shall not enter a state park with the resident motor vehicle unless the recreation passport fee has been paid for that motor vehicle. Payment of the recreation passport fee authorizes entry into all state parks and recreation areas and designated state-operated public boating access sites until expiration of the motor vehicle registration.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), if the secretary of state issues registration tabs or stickers as described in section 805 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805, the operator of a resident motor vehicle shall not enter a state park with the resident motor vehicle unless the resident motor vehicle has a registration tab or sticker marked as provided under that section to show that the recreation passport fee has been paid.

(4) Subsections (1) to (3) do not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(a) While the motor vehicle is being driven or parked within an established federal, state, or county highway within a state park.

(b) If the motor vehicle is used in the operation or maintenance of a state park, is an emergency motor vehicle, is a state owned or law enforcement motor vehicle, or is a private motor vehicle being operated on official state business.

(c) If the motor vehicle is registered under section 803e(1) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803e, and is exempt under section 803e(6) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803e, from the registration tax, or if the motor vehicle is registered under section 217d or 803f of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.217d and 257.803f.

(d) At a state-operated public boating access site or a state park where there is an opportunity to fish on a day that the department has designated as a free winter fishing day or a free fishing day under section 43534.

(e) If and to the extent that the department waives the requirements for department-sponsored events or other circumstances as determined by the director or the director's designee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 81, Eff. May 1, 2014;—Am. 2016, Act 1, Eff. Apr. 25, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74117 Park permits beginning October 1, 2010; nonresident motor vehicle park permit; fees; sale; loss or destruction of permit; use of credit card; additional permits for special services or park privileges; adjustment of amounts.

Sec. 74117. (1) This subsection and subsections (2) to (9) apply beginning October 1, 2010. The department shall prepare and distribute park permits as necessary to implement this part.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the department shall issue an annual nonresident motor

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vehicle park permit that authorizes the entry of a nonresident motor vehicle to which it is originally attached within any state park during the calendar year for which it is issued. The fee for the annual nonresident motor vehicle park permit for the owner of a nonresident motor vehicle is $29.00. An annual park permit shall not be used for a commercial motor vehicle.

(3) The department shall issue a daily motor vehicle park permit, valid for 1 day only, that authorizes the entry of a nonresident motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle to which it is originally attached within any state park during the day for which it is issued. The fee for a daily nonresident motor vehicle park permit is $8.00. The fee for a daily commercial motor vehicle park permit is $15.00.

(4) A person who has obtained an annual nonresident motor vehicle park permit under this section for a recreational vehicle to be used as a stationary primary camping shelter camped legally in and not moved from a state park campground during the period of the camping stay may obtain a duplicate nonresident motor vehicle park permit effective for the duration of the camping stay for a towed second motor vehicle present at the time of entry for a fee of $6.00.

(5) The department may designate persons in this state authorized to sell park permits. The department shall require as a condition of the designation of a person other than a department employee that the person furnish a surety bond in an amount and form and with a surety acceptable to the department. After being designated by the department, a person may issue park permits in accordance with this part. This subsection does not apply to employees of the department of state acting under section 805 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805.

(6) If a person's annual nonresident motor vehicle park permit is lost or destroyed, the department shall provide that person with a replacement motor vehicle park permit free of charge. The department may require a person requesting a replacement motor vehicle park permit to supply sufficient evidence of the loss or destruction of the original motor vehicle park permit.

(7) The department may add to the cost of a reservation or a motor vehicle park permit or camping fee the charges that the state incurs because of the use of a credit card.

(8) This section and section 74116 apply only to the entry of motor vehicles into state parks and do not obviate the necessity of obtaining additional permits for special services or park privileges as may be required by law or by rules promulgated by the department.

(9) For each calendar year, the state treasurer shall adjust the amounts set forth in subsections (2) to (4) by an amount determined by the state treasurer to reflect the cumulative percentage change in the consumer price index from October 1, 2010 to the October 1 immediately preceding that calendar year, using the most recent data available and rounded to the nearest dollar.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 170, Eff. Jan. 1, 2004;—Am. 2006, Act 477, Imd. Eff. Dec. 21, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 197, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2009;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Mar. 31, 2010;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Mar. 31, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 81, Eff. May 1, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74118 Park permits; monthly accounting; compensation; report.

Sec. 74118. On or before the tenth day of every month, all persons authorized to sell park permits shall pay to the department all money received from the sale of park permits for the preceding month. Any person who refuses or neglects to pay the money as provided in this section, in addition to other penalties provided by law, forfeits the right to sell park permits. All persons authorized to sell park permits, except employees of the department who receive a regular salary from the state, may charge the purchaser as compensation 15 cents additional for each annual park permit and 10 cents additional for each daily park permit issued. On or before February 15 of each year a complete report of all permits sold during the previous calendar year shall be filed with the department by each person authorized to sell park permits, and all unsold park permits for the previous year shall be returned to the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74119 Michigan state parks endowment fund.

Sec. 74119. (1) In accordance with section 35a of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, the Michigan state parks endowment fund is created within the state treasury. The Michigan state parks endowment fund may be referred to as the Genevieve Gillette state parks endowment fund.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the endowment fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the endowment fund. The state treasurer shall have the

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same authority to invest the assets of the endowment fund as is granted to an investment fiduciary under the public employee retirement system investment act, 1965 PA 314, MCL 38.1132 to 38.1141. The state treasurer shall credit to the endowment fund interest and earnings from endowment fund investments.

(3) Money in the endowment fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the endowment fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The accumulated principal of the endowment fund shall not exceed $800,000,000.00, which amount shall be annually adjusted pursuant to the Detroit Consumer Price Index—all items beginning when the endowment fund reaches $800,000,000.00. This annually adjusted figure is the accumulated principal limit of the endowment fund.

(5) Money in the endowment fund shall be expended for all of the following:

(a) Capital improvements at Michigan state parks.

(b) Operations and maintenance at Michigan state parks.

(c) Acquisition of land or rights in land for Michigan state parks.

(d) Administration of the endowment fund.

(6) Not less than 20% of the money made available for expenditure from the endowment fund from any state fiscal year shall be expended under subsection (5)(a) for capital improvements at Michigan State Parks.

(7) Money in the endowment fund shall be expended as follows:

(a) Until the endowment fund reaches an accumulated principal of $800,000,000.00, each state fiscal year the legislature may appropriate not more than 50% of the money received under section 35 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 plus interest and earnings and any private contributions or other revenue to the endowment fund.

(b) Once the accumulated principal in the endowment fund reaches $800,000,000.00, only the interest and earnings of the endowment fund in excess of the amount necessary to maintain the endowment fund's accumulated principal limit shall be expended.

(8) Unexpended appropriations of the endowment fund from any state fiscal year as authorized by this section may be carried forward or may be appropriated as determined by the legislature for purposes of this section.

(9) The department shall annually prepare a report containing an accounting of revenues and expenditures from the endowment fund. This report shall identify the interest and earnings of the endowment fund from the previous year, the investment performance of the endowment fund during the previous year, and the total amount of appropriations from the endowment fund during the previous year. This report shall be provided to the senate and house of representatives appropriations committees and the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to natural resources and the environment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 54, Eff. Sept. 21, 2002;—Am. 2018, Act 598, Eff. Dec. 19, 2020.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 598 of 2018 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless Senate Joint Resolution O of the 99th Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Senate Joint Resolution O was agreed to by the House of Representatives and the Senate on December 21, 2018, and filed with the Secretary of State December 27, 2018. The proposed amendment to the constitution was submitted to, and approved, by the electors on November 3, 2020, and became effective December 19, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74120 Rules.

Sec. 74120. (1) The department may promulgate rules to implement this part.

(2) The department may promulgate rules providing a method for an individual whose motor vehicle registration expires annually to pay a state park and state-operated public boating access site recreation passport fee in addition to the method provided for in section 805 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805. The amount of the state park and state-operated public boating access site recreation passport fee required to be paid under a method provided for by rule under this subsection shall not exceed twice the amount of a state park and state-operated public boating access site recreation passport fee paid under the method provided for in section 805 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805.

(3) The department shall promulgate rules providing a method for an individual whose motor vehicle registration does not expire annually and who is exempt under sections 74116(4)(c) and 78119(4)(b) from the recreation passport fee to voluntarily pay the recreation passport fee as a donation. The amount of the state park and state-operated public boating access site recreation passport fee required to be paid under the method provided for by rule under this subsection shall equal the amount of a state park and state-operated public boating access site recreation passport fee paid under the method provided for in section 805 of the Michigan

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vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805.

(4) A rule promulgated under this section shall provide for a method evidencing payment of the state park and state-operated public boating access site recreation passport fee, such as the issuance and display of a permit.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Imd. Eff. Mar. 31, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 81, Eff. May 1, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74121 State parks; prohibited conduct.

Sec. 74121. A person shall not do the following in a state park:

(a) Destroy, damage, or remove any tree, shrub, wildflower, or other vegetation or property without the permission of the department.

(b) Operate a motor vehicle except in a designated area.

(c) Violate this part or rules promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74122 Violation; presumption; penalty.

Sec. 74122. (1) A person who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor. This subsection does not apply to violations described in subsection (2).

(2) A person who violates section 74116(1), (2), or (3) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00. A person shall not be cited for a violation of both section 74116(2) and section 74116(3) for the same incident.

(3) In any proceeding for the violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part, if a motor vehicle is found parked in a state park, the registration plate displayed on the motor vehicle constitutes prima facie evidence that the owner of the motor vehicle was the person who parked or placed it at the location where it was found.

(4) In addition to the penalties provided for in subsection (1), a person convicted of an act of vandalism to state park equipment, facilities, or resources shall reimburse the department up to 3 times the amount of the damage as determined by the court. All money collected pursuant to this subsection shall be credited to the state park improvement account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 33, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010 .

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74123 Repealed. 2010, Act 32, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to establishment of fine for failure to purchase park permit.

324.74124 Create "gem of the parks", "volunteer of the year", and "employee of the year" award program.

Sec. 74124. (1) The department shall create a "gem of the parks" award to recognize key state parks for their contribution to the state parks system, a "volunteer of the year" award to recognize outstanding individuals who donate time or monetary contributions to the state park system, and an "employee of the year" award to recognize individuals who are outstanding employees of the state park system. The department shall develop a program to facilitate the determination and presentation of these awards. The awards shall be made on a yearly basis.

(2) The department shall develop a set of standards to use in determining the recipients of the awards under subsection (1) with consideration given to the following:

(a) The contribution of the state park, the volunteer, or the employee to the preservation of the state's natural resources.

(b) The amount of any monetary donation.

(c) The length of time donated or the years of employment.

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(d) The length of a long-term commitment to the preservation of the environment.

(3) The department annually shall submit the names of the award recipients under subsection (1) to the standing committees in the senate and house of representatives responsible for natural resources matters.

History: Add. 2004, Act 395, Imd. Eff. Oct. 15, 2004.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.74124, which pertained to the powers of park and recreation enforcement officers, was repealed by Act 414 of 2000, Eff. Mar.`28, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74125 Bonds; exemption from taxation.

Sec. 74125. All bonds issued pursuant to this part and the interest on those bonds is exempt from taxation by the state, or by any municipality, corporation, county, or other political subdivision or taxing district of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74126 "Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park"; "Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail"; criteria for naming state parks and state owned recreational facilities.

Sec. 74126. (1) The state owned land containing the White Pine trail, which traverses an abandoned rail corridor between Comstock Park and Cadillac, shall be known as the "Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park".

(2) The department shall facilitate the establishment of a recreational trail that traverses, in part, the abandoned rail corridor that runs from White Lake drive, south of the city of Whitehall, to Lake avenue in the city of North Muskegon. This trail shall be known as the "Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail".

(3) The department, in consultation with the committee, the commission, and the Michigan natural resources trust fund board established in section 1905, shall develop criteria for naming state parks and other state owned recreational facilities. Within 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, the department shall present to the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives with jurisdiction primarily relating to natural resources and state parks the criteria it has developed under this section.

History: Add. 2006, Act 248, Imd. Eff. July 3, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 742
CAMP REGISTRATION CARDS

324.74201 Camp registration card; posting; definition.

Sec. 74201. (1) A person shall not camp on any state owned lands under the jurisdiction or control of the department without having first posted a camp registration card.

(2) As used in this part, "to camp" means the erection of a tent or tent-type camper or the parking and occupancy of a travel or house trailer or truck camper.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74202 Camp registration card; obtaining; contents; posting.

Sec. 74202. A person may obtain without charge from a conservation officer or a person authorized to issue fishing or hunting licenses a camp registration card and shall enter on the camp registration card in the space provided, in plain and legible English, the name and address of every person occupying the camp. The card shall be prominently and conspicuously posted at the campsite before the camp is made and shall be left so posted upon the departure of the camping party.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74203 Disposal of rubbish.

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Sec. 74203. Upon breaking camp, every member of a camping party is responsible for the disposal, by burying or burning, of all rubbish, papers, cans, containers, or any other article or thing of any nature whatsoever brought into or built upon the premises by the camping party. A person camping upon the state owned lands shall not deposit and leave any tin cans, bottles, refuse, or other rubbish unburied or otherwise disposed of on the premises.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74204 Camp registration cards; printing and distribution.

Sec. 74204. The department shall have printed and distributed a sufficient number of camp registration cards to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74205 Enforcement of part; duty of peace officers.

Sec. 74205. It is the duty of any peace officer, including conservation officers, to enforce this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74206 Violation of part; penalty.

Sec. 74206. A person who violates this part is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00, and, in addition, is liable for any costs incurred by the department in cleaning up the campsite of the person, which liability shall be recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2015, Act 215, Eff. Mar. 14, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74207 Applicability of part.

Sec. 74207. This part does not apply to any state park, campground, or recreation area administered by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 743
STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

324.74301 Definitions.

Sec. 74301. As used in this part:

(a) "Foundation" means the Michigan state parks foundation created in section 74302.

(b) "State park" means a state park or state recreation area designated by the director.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74302 Michigan state parks foundation; appointment and terms of members; vacancy; removal; meetings; quorum; selection of chairperson, vice-chairperson, and other officials; compensation; staff assistance; conducting business at public meeting.

Sec. 74302. (1) The department shall create a foundation to be known as the Michigan state parks foundation. The foundation shall exercise its powers, functions, and duties independently of the department of natural resources. The foundation shall be governed by an executive board consisting of the director who shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio member, and 13 voting members who shall be appointed by the governor.

(2) The members of the foundation who are appointed by the governor pursuant to subsection (1) shall serve for a term of 4 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that of the members

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first appointed, 3 shall serve for 1 year, 3 shall serve for 2 years, and 3 shall serve for 3 years.

(3) If a vacancy occurs on the foundation from the members appointed by the governor, an appointment shall be made for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. The governor may remove appointed foundation members for neglect of duty or malfeasance in relation to the member's foundation duties.

(4) The foundation shall meet immediately upon complete formation and then shall meet at least quarterly.

(5) Seven members of the foundation shall constitute a quorum for the conducting of business. The foundation shall select a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and other officials from the membership as the members of the foundation consider necessary.

(6) A member of the foundation shall not receive compensation for his or her services but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties as a member of the foundation.

(7) The department shall provide staff assistance to the foundation as necessary for it to carry out its functions.

(8) The business the executive board of the foundation may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the board held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meetings shall be given in the manner required by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74303 Michigan state parks foundation; purpose.

Sec. 74303. The purpose of the foundation is to support the overall enhancement of the Michigan state parks system and to foster awareness, appreciation, understanding, and involvement in the system through focused assistance that is supplementary to appropriated parks funding.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74304 Michigan state parks foundation; duties.

Sec. 74304. The foundation shall do the following:

(a) Determine those projects or undertakings for which the foundation will solicit funding. In determining projects to fund, the foundation shall select projects that enhance the use, preservation, enjoyment, or understanding of the natural and historic resources of the state parks through the following focus areas of need:

(*i*) Education and outreach.

(*ii*) Visitor information services and interpretive facilities.

(*iii*) Support for volunteer activities.

(*iv*) Employee support program.

(b) Maintain a current list and description of projects for which contributions are sought.

(c) Provide for methods by which persons who contribute to the foundation projects may be commemorated for their contributions.

(d) Advise potential contributors of all tax ramifications of contributions to the foundation.

(e) Invest assets of the foundation in any instrument, obligation, security, or property considered appropriate by the executive board of the foundation.

(f) Provide for receiving contributions in lump sums or periodic sums.

(g) Administer money collected by the foundation.

(h) Segregate contributions to the foundation into various accounts.

(i) Procure insurance against any loss in connection with the assets of the foundation or foundation activities.

(j) Enter into contracts on behalf of the foundation.

(k) Define the terms and conditions under which money may be disbursed by the foundation.

(*l*) Contract for goods and services and engage personnel as is necessary and engage the services of private consultants, actuaries, managers, legal counsel, and auditors for rendering professional, management, and technical assistance and advice, payable out of any money of the foundation. However, not more than 10% of the money of the foundation shall be used for the purpose of this subdivision or other administrative costs of the foundation.

(m) Exercise other powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes, objectives, and

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provisions of this part, and the purposes of the foundation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74305 Michigan state parks foundation; management; use of assets.

Sec. 74305. The foundation shall be managed solely pursuant to and for the purpose set forth in this part and money or other assets of the foundation shall not be loaned or otherwise transferred or used by the state for any purpose other than the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.74306 Accounting.

Sec. 74306. The foundation shall annually prepare or cause to be prepared an accounting which shall be a public document and shall transmit a copy of the accounting to the governor, the senate majority and minority leaders, and the Republican and Democratic leaders of the house of representatives. The foundation may also make available the accounting of the foundation to a contributor to the foundation. The accounts of the foundation are subject to annual audits by the state auditor general or a certified public accountant appointed by the auditor general.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 751
DARK SKY PRESERVE

324.75101 Definitions.

Sec. 75101. As used in this part:

(a) "Dark sky preserve" means an area designated in section 75102.

(b) "Fully shielded" means outdoor light fixtures shielded or constructed so that no light rays are emitted by the installed fixture at angles above 15 degrees below the horizontal plane and also constructed so that the filament or light source is not visible to the naked eye when viewed from a point higher than 15 degrees below the horizontal plane.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 251, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.75102 Designation as dark sky preserves; prohibition as to establishment in Upper Peninsula.

Sec. 75102. (1) The following lands are designated as dark sky preserves:

(a) State-owned land at Lake Hudson, legally described as:

All state-owned land located in Sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36, T7S, R1E, and Section 1, T8S, R1E - Lenawee County, Michigan.

(b) The state-owned land comprising Wilderness State Park and the state forestland within Bliss Township, Cross Village Township, and Wawatam in Emmet County.

(c) Those portions of Port Crescent State Park lying north and west of the Pinnebog River in section 9 of Hume Township, Huron County, T18N, R12E.

(d) The state-owned land comprising Rockport State Recreation Area, located in Presque Isle Township, Presque Isle County and Alpena Township, Alpena County.

(e) The state-owned land comprising Negwegon State Park, located in Sanborn Township, Alpena County and Alcona Township, Alcona County.

(f) The state-owned land comprising Thompson's Harbor State Park, located in Krakow Township, Presque Isle County.

(g) The county-owned land comprising Dr. T. K. Lawless Park, located in Porter and Newberg Townships, Cass County.

(h) The county-owned land comprising Headlands International Dark Sky Park, located in Wawatam Township, Emmet County.

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(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, a dark sky preserve shall not be established in the Upper Peninsula.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 251, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2016, Act 11, Eff. May 16, 2016;—Am. 2020, Act 74, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.75103 Outdoor lighting; installation; limitation.

Sec. 75103. (1) The commission shall ensure that outdoor lighting within a state-owned dark sky preserve is not installed unless necessary for safety, security, or the reasonable use and enjoyment of property within the preserve.

(2) The commission shall ensure that outdoor lighting within a state-owned dark sky preserve does not unreasonably interfere with nighttime activities that require darkness, including, but not limited to, the enjoyment of the night sky, nighttime photography, and wildlife photography.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2020, Act 74, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.75104 Outdoor lighting; requirements.

Sec. 75104. (1) The commission shall ensure that all outdoor lighting within a state-owned dark sky preserve conforms to the following:

(a) Lighting shall be directed downward.

(b) If possible, lighting shall be provided by fully shielded fixtures.

(c) If practical and appropriate, outdoor lighting fixtures shall be motion sensor fixtures, and not fixtures that remain lighted during all hours of darkness.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the use and development of land within a state-owned dark sky preserve, including the use of the land for motorized and nonmotorized recreation, shall not be restricted due to the designation as a dark sky preserve.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 251, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2020, Act 74, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.75105 Use and development not restricted; conditions.

Sec. 75105. This part does not restrict the use and development of the state owned land at lake Hudson as prescribed by the master plan approved by the commission if the use and development are in compliance with this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.75106 Repealed. 2002, Act 3, Eff. Mar. 31, 2003.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to repeal of part.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

ABORIGINAL RECORDS AND ANTIQUITIES AND ABANDONED PROPERTY

PART 761
ABORIGINAL RECORDS AND ANTIQUITIES

324.76101 Definitions.

Sec. 76101. As used in this part:

(a) "Abandoned property" means an aircraft; a watercraft, including a ship, boat, canoe, skiff, raft, or barge; the rigging, gear, fittings, trappings, and equipment of an aircraft or watercraft; the personal property of the officers, crew, and passengers of an aircraft or watercraft; and the cargo of an aircraft or watercraft, which have been deserted, relinquished, cast away, or left behind and for which attempts at reclamation have been abandoned by owners and insurers. Abandoned property also means materials resulting from activities of

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historic and prehistoric Native Americans.

(b) "Bottomlands" means the unpatented lake bottomlands of the Great Lakes.

(c) "Committee" means the underwater salvage and preserve committee created in section 76103.

(d) "Great Lakes" means lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan, St. Clair, and Superior.

(e) "Great Lakes bottomlands preserve" means an area located on the bottomlands of the Great Lakes and extending upward to and including the surface of the water, which is delineated and set aside by rule for special protection of abandoned property of historical value, or ecological, educational, geological, or scenic features or formations having recreational, educational, or scientific value. A preserve may encompass a single object, feature, or formation, or a collection of several objects, features, or formations.

(f) "Historical value" means value relating to, or illustrative of, Michigan history, including the statehood, territorial, colonial, and historic, and prehistoric native American periods.

(g) "Mechanical or other assistance" means all humanmade devices, including pry bars, wrenches and other hand or power tools, cutting torches, explosives, winches, flotation bags, lines to surface, extra divers buoyancy devices, and other buoyance devices, used to raise or remove artifacts.

(h) "Recreational value" means value relating to an activity that the public engages in, or may engage in, for recreation or sport, including scuba diving and fishing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76102 Aboriginal records and antiquities; right to explore, survey, excavate, and regulate reserved to state; possessory right or title to abandoned property.

Sec. 76102. (1) The state reserves to itself the exclusive right and privilege, except as provided in this part, of exploring, surveying, excavating, and regulating through its authorized officers, agents, and employees, all aboriginal records and other antiquities, including mounds, earthworks, forts, burial and village sites, mines or other relics, and abandoned property of historical or recreational value found upon or within any of the lands owned by or under the control of the state.

(2) The state reserves to itself a possessory right or title superior to that of a finder to abandoned property of historical or recreational value found on the state owned bottomlands of the Great Lakes. This property shall belong to this state with administration and protection jointly vested in the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76103 Underwater salvage and preserve committee; creation; purpose; appointment, qualifications, and terms of members; vacancy; compensation; appointment, term, and duties of chairperson; committee as advisory body; functions of committee; limitation.

Sec. 76103. (1) The underwater salvage and preserve committee is created in the department to provide technical and other advice to the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries with respect to their responsibilities under this part.

(2) The underwater salvage and preserve committee shall consist of 9 members appointed as follows:

(a) Two individuals appointed by the department who have primary responsibility in the department for administering this part.

(b) Two individuals appointed by the director of the department of history, arts, and libraries who have primary responsibility in the department of history, arts, and libraries for administering this part.

(c) Five individuals appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate from the general public. Two of these individuals shall have experience in recreational scuba diving.

(3) An individual appointed to the committee shall serve for a term of 3 years. A vacancy on the committee shall be filled in the same manner as an original appointment and the term of a member appointed to fill a vacancy shall be for 3 years. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation, except for their regular state salary where applicable.

(4) The chairperson of the committee shall alternate between the representatives from the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries. The chairperson shall be designated by the department or the

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director of the department of history, arts, and libraries, whichever is applicable from among his or her representatives on the committee. The chairperson's term shall run for 12 months, from October 1 through September 30. The department shall appoint the first chairperson of the committee for a term ending September 30, 1989. The chairperson shall call meetings as necessary but not less than 4 times per year, set the agenda for meetings, ensure that adequate minutes are taken, and file an annual report of committee proceedings with the head of the department of natural resources and the director of the department of history, arts, and libraries.

(5) The committee is an advisory body and may perform all of the following functions:

(a) Make recommendations with regard to the creation and boundaries of Great Lakes underwater preserves.

(b) Review applications for underwater salvage permits and make recommendations regarding issuance.

(c) Consider and make recommendations regarding the charging of permit fees and the appropriate use of revenue generated by those fees.

(d) Consider the need for and the content of rules intended to implement this part and make recommendations concerning the promulgation of rules.

(e) Consider and make recommendations concerning appropriate legislation.

(f) Consider and make recommendations concerning program operation.

(6) The committee shall not replace or supersede the responsibility or authority of the department of history, arts, and libraries or the department to carry out their responsibilities under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76104 Deed; clause reserving to state property and exploration rights in aboriginal antiquities; exceptions; waiver.

Sec. 76104. A deed, as provided by this part, given by this state, except state tax deeds for the conveyance of any land owned by the state, shall contain a clause reserving to this state a property right in aboriginal antiquities including mounds, earthworks, forts, burial and village sites, mines, or other relics and also reserving the right to explore and excavate for the aboriginal antiquity by and through this state's authorized agent and employee. This section applies only to the sale of tax reverted land. The department, with the approval of the department of history, arts, and libraries, may waive this reservation when conveying platted property and when making conveyances under subpart 3 of part 21.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76105 Permit for exploration or excavation of aboriginal remain; exception.

Sec. 76105. (1) A person, either personally or through an agent or employee, shall not explore or excavate an aboriginal remain covered by this part upon lands owned by the state, except as authorized by a permit issued by the department, with written approval of the department of history, arts, and libraries, pursuant to part 13. A permit shall be issued without charge.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to the Mackinac Island state park commission on lands owned or controlled by the Mackinac Island state park commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76106 Removal of relics or records of antiquity; consent of landowner required.

Sec. 76106. Without the consent of the land owner, a person shall not remove any relics or records of antiquity such as human or other bones; shells, stone, bone, or copper implements; pottery or shards of pottery, or similar artifacts and objects from the premises where they have been discovered.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76107 Permit to recover, alter, or destroy abandoned property; recovered property as property of department of history, arts, and libraries; prohibitions as to human body or remains; violation; penalty; prior convictions.

Sec. 76107. (1) Except as provided in section 76108, a person shall not recover, alter, or destroy abandoned property which is in, on, under, or over the bottomlands of the Great Lakes, including those within a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve, unless the person has a permit issued jointly by the department of history, arts, and libraries and the department under section 76109.

(2) A person who recovers abandoned property without a permit when a permit is required by this part shall transmit the property to the department of history, arts, and libraries and the recovered property shall be the property of the department of history, arts, and libraries.

(3) A person shall not remove, convey, mutilate, or deface a human body or the remains of a human body located on the bottomlands of the Great Lakes. This subsection does not apply to a person who removes or conveys a human body or the remains of a human body pursuant to a court order, pursuant to the written consent of the decedent's next of kin if the decedent's death occurred less than 100 years before the removal or conveying, or to a person who removes or conveys the body for law enforcement, medical, archaeological, or scientific purposes. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than $5,000.00, or both.

(4) A person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a crime as follows:

(a) If the value of the property is less than $200.00, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or 3 times the aggregate value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(b) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $2,000.00 or 3 times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(*i*) The value of the property involved is $200.00 or more but less than $1,000.00.

(*ii*) The person violates subdivision (a) and has 1 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section.

(c) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than $10,000.00 or 3 times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(*i*) The value of the property involved is $1,000.00 or more but less than $20,000.00.

(*ii*) The person violates subdivision (b)(*i*) and has 1 or more prior convictions for violating or attempting to violate this section. For purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subdivision (a) or (b)(*ii*).

(d) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than $15,000.00 or 3 times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(*i*) The property involved has a value of $20,000.00 or more.

(*ii*) The person violates subdivision (c)(*i*) and has 2 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section. For purposes of this subparagraph, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subdivision (a) or (b)(*ii*).

(5) The values of property recovered or destroyed in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to determine the total value of the property recovered or destroyed.

(6) If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an enhanced sentence based upon the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting attorney shall include on the complaint and information a statement listing the prior conviction or convictions. The existence of the defendant's prior conviction or convictions shall be determined by the court, without a jury, at sentencing or at a separate hearing for that purpose before sentencing. The existence of a prior conviction may be established by any evidence relevant for that purpose, including, but not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

(a) A copy of the judgment of conviction.

(b) A transcript of a prior trial, plea-taking, or sentencing.

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(c) Information contained in a presentence report.

(d) The defendant's statement.

(7) If the sentence for a conviction under this section is enhanced by 1 or more prior convictions, those prior convictions shall not be used to further enhance the sentence for the conviction pursuant to section 10, 11, or 12 of chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.10, 769.11, and 769.12.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001;—Am. 2001, Act 155, Eff. Jan. 1, 2002.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76108 Recovery of abandoned property without permit; report; availability of recovered property for inspection; release of property.

Sec. 76108. (1) A person may recover abandoned property outside a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve without a permit if the abandoned property is not attached to, nor located on, in, or located in the immediate vicinity of and associated with a sunken aircraft or watercraft and if the abandoned property is recoverable by hand without mechanical or other assistance.

(2) A person who recovers abandoned property valued at more than $10.00 without a permit pursuant to subsection (1) shall file a written report within 30 days after removal of the property with the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries if the property has been abandoned for more than 30 years. The written report shall list all recovered property that has been abandoned for more than 30 years and the location of the property at the time of recovery. For a period of 90 days after the report is filed, the person shall make the recovered property available to the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries for inspection at a location in this state. If the department of history, arts, and libraries determines that the recovered property does not have historical value, the department of history, arts, and libraries shall release the property to the person by means of a written instrument.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76109 Recovery of abandoned property; permit; scope; application; filing, form, and contents; additional information or documents; approval or disapproval of application; conditions; payment of salvage costs; recovery of cargo outside Great Lakes bottomlands preserves; administrative review; conduct of hearing; combined appeals; joint decision and order; duration of permit; issuance of new permit; transfer or assignment of permit.

Sec. 76109. (1) A person shall not recover abandoned property located on, in, or located in the immediate vicinity of and associated with a sunken aircraft or watercraft except as authorized by a permit issued by the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries pursuant to part 13.

(2) Notwithstanding section 1303(1), a person shall file an application for a permit with the department on a form prescribed by the department and approved by the department of history, arts, and libraries. The application shall contain all of the following information:

(a) The name and address of the applicant.

(b) The name, if known, of the watercraft or aircraft on or around which recovery operations are to occur and a current photograph or drawing of the watercraft or aircraft, if available.

(c) The location of the abandoned property to be recovered and the depth of water in which it may be found.

(d) A description of each item to be recovered.

(e) The method to be used in recovery operations.

(f) The proposed disposition of the abandoned property recovered, including the location at which it will be available for inspection by the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries.

(g) Other information which the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries considers necessary in evaluating the request for a permit.

(3) An application for a permit is not complete until all information requested on the application form and any other information requested by the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries has been

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received by the department. After receipt of an otherwise complete application, the department may request additional information or documents as are determined to be necessary to make a decision to grant or deny a permit.

(4) The department and the department of history, arts, and libraries shall approve or deny an application for a permit with the advice of the committee. A condition to the approval of an application shall be in writing on the face of the permit. The department and the department of history, arts, and libraries may impose such conditions as are considered reasonable and necessary to protect the public trust and general interests, including conditions that accomplish 1 or more of the following:

(a) Protect and preserve the abandoned property to be recovered, and the recreational value of the area in which recovery is being accomplished.

(b) Assure reasonable public access to the abandoned property after recovery.

(c) Conform with rules applying to activities within a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve.

(d) Prohibit injury, harm, and damage to a bottomlands site or abandoned property not authorized for removal during and after salvage operations by the permit holder.

(e) Prohibit or limit the amount of discharge of possible pollutants, such as floating timbers, planking, and other debris, which may emanate from the shipwreck, plane wreck, or salvage equipment.

(f) Require the permit holder to submit a specific removal plan prior to commencing any salvaging activities. Among other matters considered appropriate by either the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries, or both, the removal plan may be required to ensure the safety of those removing or assisting in the removal of the abandoned property and to address how the permit holder proposes to prevent, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects upon the abandoned property to be removed, that portion of the abandoned property which is not to be removed, and the surrounding geographic features.

(5) The department shall approve an application for a permit unless the department determines that the abandoned property to be recovered has substantial recreational value in itself or in conjunction with other abandoned property in its vicinity underwater, or the recovery of abandoned property would not comply with rules applying to a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve.

(6) The department of history, arts, and libraries shall approve the application for a permit unless the department of history, arts, and libraries determines that the abandoned property to be recovered has substantial historical value in itself or in conjunction with other abandoned property in its vicinity. If the property has substantial historical value, the department of history, arts, and libraries, pursuant to subsection (4), may impose a condition on the permit requiring the permittee to turn over recovered property to the department of history, arts, and libraries for the purpose of preserving the property or permitting public access to the property. The department of history, arts, and libraries may authorize the display of the property in a public or private museum or by a local unit of government. In addition to the conditions authorized by subsection (4), the department of history, arts, and libraries may provide for payment of salvage costs in connection with the recovery of the abandoned property.

(7) A person shall not recover cargo situated on, in, or associated with an abandoned watercraft that is located outside of a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve except as authorized by a permit issued pursuant to this section and part 13. Subject to subsection (4), the permit shall be issued to the first person applying for the permit. However, only the person who discovered the abandoned watercraft may apply for a permit during the first 90 days after the discovery. When a watercraft containing cargo is simultaneously discovered by more than 1 person, a permit shall be approved with respect to the first person or persons jointly applying for a permit.

(8) A person aggrieved by a condition contained on a permit or by the denial of an application for a permit may request an administrative review of the condition or the denial by the commission or the department of history, arts, and libraries, whichever disapproves the application or imposes the condition. A person shall file the request for review with the commission or the department of history, arts, and libraries, whichever is applicable, within 90 days after the permit application is submitted to the department. An administrative hearing conducted pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted under the procedures set forth in chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.287. If neither the department nor the department of history, arts, and libraries approves the application and an administrative review is requested from both the commission and the department of history, arts, and libraries, the appeals shall be combined upon request of the appellant or either the commission or the department of history, arts, and libraries and a single administrative hearing shall be conducted. The commission and the department of history, arts, and libraries shall issue jointly the final decision and order in the case.

(9) A permit issued under this section is valid until December 31 of the year in which the application for the permit was filed and is not renewable. If an item designated in a permit for recovery is not recovered, a permit holder may, upon request following the expiration of the permit, be issued a new permit to remove the

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same abandoned property if the permit holder demonstrates that diligence in attempting recovery was exercised under the previously issued permit.

(10) A permit issued under this section shall not be transferred or assigned unless the assignment is approved in writing by both the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76110 Recovered abandoned property; report; examination; removal from state; action for recovery; release of property.

Sec. 76110. (1) Within 10 days after recovery of abandoned property, a person with a permit issued pursuant to section 76109 shall report the recovery in writing to the department. The person recovering the abandoned property shall give authorized representatives of the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries an opportunity to examine the abandoned property for a period of 90 days after recovery. Recovered abandoned property shall not be removed from this state without written approval of the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries. If the recovered abandoned property is removed from the state without written approval, the attorney general, upon request from the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries, shall bring an action for the recovery of the property.

(2) If the department of history, arts, and libraries determines that the recovered abandoned property does not have historical value, the department of history, arts, and libraries shall release the property to the person holding the permit by means of a written instrument.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76111 Great Lakes bottomlands preserve; establishment; rules; determination; factors; granting permit to recover abandoned artifacts; limitation; intentional sinking of vessel; prohibited use of state money; Thunder Bay Great Lakes state bottomland preserve.

Sec. 76111. (1) Subject to subsection (7), the department of environmental quality shall establish Great Lakes bottomlands preserves by rule. A Great Lakes bottomlands preserve shall be established by emergency rule if it is determined by the department that this action is necessary to immediately protect an object or area of historical or recreational value.

(2) A Great Lakes bottomlands preserve may be established whenever a bottomlands area includes a single watercraft of significant historical value, includes 2 or more abandoned watercraft, or contains other features of archaeological, historical, recreational, geological, or environmental significance. Bottomlands areas containing few or no watercraft or other features directly related to the character of a preserve may be excluded from preserves.

(3) In establishing a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve, the department of environmental quality shall consider all of the following factors:

(a) Whether creating the preserve is necessary to protect either abandoned property possessing historical or recreational value, or significant underwater geological or environmental features.

(b) The extent of local public and private support for creation of the preserve.

(c) Whether a preserve development plan has been prepared by a state or local agency.

(d) The extent to which preserve support facilities such as roads, marinas, charter services, hotels, medical hyperbaric facilities, and rescue agencies have been developed in or are planned for the area.

(4) The department of environmental quality and the department of history, arts, and libraries shall not grant a permit to recover abandoned artifacts within a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve except for historical or scientific purposes or when the recovery will not adversely affect the historical, cultural, or recreational integrity of the preserve area as a whole.

(5) An individual Great Lakes bottomlands preserve shall not exceed 400 square miles in area. Great Lakes bottomlands preserves shall be limited in total area to not more than 10% of the Great Lakes bottomlands within this state. However, the limitations provided in this subsection do not apply to the Thunder Bay Great Lakes bottomland preserve established in subsection (7).

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(6) Upon the approval of the committee, not more than 1 vessel associated with Great Lakes maritime history may be sunk intentionally within a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve. However, state money shall not be expended to purchase, transport, or sink the vessel.

(7) The Thunder Bay Great Lakes state bottomland preserve established under R 299.6001 of the Michigan administrative code shall have boundaries identical with those described in 15 C.F.R. 922.190 for the Thunder Bay national marine sanctuary and underwater preserve. As long as the Thunder Bay national marine sanctuary and underwater preserve remains a designated national marine sanctuary, the right and privilege to explore, survey, excavate, and regulate abandoned property of historical or recreational value found upon or within the lands owned by or under control of the state within those boundaries shall be jointly managed and regulated by the department of environmental quality and the national oceanic and atmospheric administration. However, this subsection shall not be construed to convey any ownership right or interest from the state to the federal government of abandoned property of historical or recreational value found upon or within the lands owned by or under control of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 441, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2001;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 299.6001 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.76112 Rules generally.

Sec. 76112. (1) The department and the department of history, arts, and libraries, jointly or separately, may promulgate rules as are necessary to implement this part.

(2) Within each Great Lakes bottomlands preserve, the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries may jointly promulgate rules that govern access to and use of a Great Lakes bottomlands preserve. These rules may regulate or prohibit the alteration, destruction, or removal of abandoned property, features, or formations within a preserve.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76113 Limitations not imposed by MCL 324.76107 to 324.76110.

Sec. 76113. Sections 76107 to 76110 shall not be considered to impose the following limitations:

(a) A limitation on the right of a person to engage in diving for recreational purposes in and upon the Great Lakes or the bottomlands of the Great Lakes.

(b) A limitation on the right of the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries to recover, or to contract for the recovery of, abandoned property in and upon the bottomlands of the Great Lakes.

(c) A limitation on the right of a person to own either abandoned property recovered before July 2, 1980 or abandoned property released to a person after inspection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76114 Suspension or revocation of permit; grounds; hearing; civil action.

Sec. 76114. (1) If the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries finds that the holder of a permit issued pursuant to section 76105 or 76109 is not in compliance with this part, a rule promulgated under this part, or a provision of or condition in the permit, or has damaged abandoned property or failed to use diligence in attempting to recover property for which a permit was issued, the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries, individually or jointly, may summarily suspend or revoke the permit. If the permit holder requests a hearing within 15 days following the effective date of the suspension or revocation, the commission or the department of history, arts, and libraries shall conduct an administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.287, to consider whether the permit should be reinstated.

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(2) The attorney general, on behalf of the department or the department of history, arts, and libraries, individually or jointly, may commence a civil action in circuit court to enforce compliance with this part, to restrain a violation of this part or any action contrary to a decision denying a permit, to enjoin the further removal of artifacts, geological material, or abandoned property, or to order the restoration of an affected area to its prior condition.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76115 Dangers accepted by participants in sport of scuba diving.

Sec. 76115. Each person who participates in the sport of scuba diving on the Great Lakes bottomlands accepts the dangers that adhere in that sport insofar as the dangers are obvious and necessary. Those dangers include, but are not limited to, injuries which can result from entanglements in sunken watercraft or aircraft; the condition of sunken watercraft or aircraft; the location of sunken watercraft or aircraft; the failure of the state to fund staff or programs at bottomlands preserves; and the depth of the objects and bottomlands within preserves.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76116 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 76116. (1) A person who violates section 76105 or 76106 is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both.

(2) A person who violates sections 76107 or 76111 or a rule promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor. Unless another penalty is provided in this part, a person convicted of a misdemeanor under this subsection is punishable by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76117 Attaching, proceeding against, or confiscating equipment or apparatus; procedure; disposition of proceeds.

Sec. 76117. (1) If a person who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part uses a watercraft, mechanical or other assistance, scuba gear, sonar equipment, a motor vehicle, or any other equipment or apparatus during the course of committing the violation, the items so used may be attached, proceeded against, and confiscated as prescribed in this part.

(2) To effect confiscation, the law enforcement or conservation officer seizing the property shall file a verified complaint in the circuit court for the county in which the seizure was made or in the circuit court for Ingham county. The complaint shall set forth the kind of property seized, the time and place of the seizure, the reasons for the seizure, and a demand for the property's condemnation and confiscation. Upon the filing of the complaint, an order shall be issued requiring the owner to show cause why the property should not be confiscated. The substance of the complaint shall be stated in the order. The order to show cause shall fix the time for service of the order and for the hearing on the proposed condemnation and confiscation.

(3) The order to show cause shall be served on the owner of the property as soon as possible, but not less than 7 days before the complaint is to be heard. The court, for cause shown, may hear the complaint on shorter notice. If the owner is not known or cannot be found, notice may be served in 1 or more of the following ways:

(a) By posting a copy of the order in 3 public places for 3 consecutive weeks in the county in which the seizure was made and by sending a copy of the order by certified mail to the last known business or residential address of the owner. If the last addresses of the owner are not known, mailing a copy of the order is not required.

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(b) By publishing a copy of the order in a newspaper once each week for 3 consecutive weeks in the county where the seizure was made and by sending a copy of the order by registered mail to the last known residential address of the owner. If the last residential address of the owner is not known, mailing a copy of the order is not required.

(c) In such a manner as the court directs.

(4) Upon hearing of the complaint, if the court determines that the property mentioned in the petition was possessed, shipped, or used contrary to law, either by the owner or by a person lawfully in possession of the property under an agreement with the owner, an order shall be made condemning and confiscating the property and directing its sale or other disposal by the department. If the owner signs a property release, a court proceeding is not necessary. At the hearing, if the court determines that the property was not possessed, shipped, or used contrary to law, the court shall order the department to immediately return the property to its owner.

(5) The department shall deposit the proceeds it receives under this section into the state treasury to the credit of the underwater preserve fund created in section 76118.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76118 Underwater preserve fund; creation; sources of revenue; purposes for which money appropriated.

Sec. 76118. (1) The underwater preserve fund is created as a separate fund in the state treasury, and it may receive revenue as provided in this part, or revenue from any other source.

(2) Money in the underwater preserve fund shall be appropriated for only the following purposes:

(a) To the department of history, arts, and libraries for the development of maritime archaeology and for the promotion of Great Lakes bottomlands preserves in this state.

(b) To the department for the enforcement of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 75, Imd. Eff. July 24, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties relating to promotion of history and the preservation of the state's historical resources to the department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 3
MACKINAC ISLAND STATE PARK

PART 765
MACKINAC ISLAND STATE PARK

324.76501 Definitions.

Sec. 76501. As used in this part:

(a) "Commission" means the Mackinac Island state park commission created in section 76503.

(b) "Director" means the director of the Mackinac Island state park commission.

(c) "Motor vehicle" means any device that is self-propelled, or partially self-propelled, by which a person or property may be transported or drawn.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76502 Mackinac Island state park; establishment.

Sec. 76502. Pursuant to the turning over to the state of Michigan, for use as a state park, and for no other purpose, the military reservation, lands and buildings of the national park on Mackinac Island, subject to a reversion to the United States whenever the state ceases to use the lands for the purpose described in this

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section, by the secretary of war, under the authorization of an act of congress, the lands and buildings shall be used as a state park and shall be known as the Mackinac Island state park.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76503 Mackinac Island state park commission; members; appointment and qualifications; resident commissioners; terms; vacancies; expenses; officers; powers and duties.

Sec. 76503. (1) The Mackinac Island state park commission shall consist of 7 members appointed by the governor.

(2) Members of the commission shall be citizens of, registered voters, and regularly domiciled in this state. However, the present members of the commission shall hold office until their successors have been appointed. One member of the commission shall be known as the "resident commissioner", and this member shall be a legal resident of the island and a property owner in the city of Mackinac Island for a period of not less than 6 months preceding his or her nomination. One member of the commission shall be a resident of the village of Mackinaw City.

(3) The members of the commission shall be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, for terms of 6 years each and shall hold office until their successors are appointed. However, of the members first appointed, 2 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, 2 for a term of 4 years each, and 3 for a term of 6 years each. Not more than 4 members of the commission at any 1 time shall be of the same political party. Vacancies shall be filled by the governor in the same manner as the original appointment for the unexpired term.

(4) A member of the commission shall not receive any compensation for his or her services on the commission, but each member of the commission shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with the duties of his or her office.

(5) The commission shall annually elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary.

(6) The Mackinac Island state park commission is created within the department of history, arts, and libraries and shall have the powers and duties of an agency transferred under a type I transfer pursuant to section 3 of the executive organization act of 1965, 1965 PA 380, MCL 16.103.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76504 Mackinac Island state park; control and management by commission; quorum; conducting business at public meeting; notice; powers of commissioners; rules; deputy sheriffs; disposition of moneys; availability of writings to public; annual report; statement of receipts and expenditures; recommendations and suggestions.

Sec. 76504. (1) The Mackinac Island state park shall be under the control and management of the commission, and a majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. The business which the commission may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(2) The commission shall have the exclusive right to do either or both of the following:

(a) Lay out, manage, and maintain the park and preserve the old fort and other property held by the commission on or acquired by the commission after August 6, 2001.

(b) Promulgate and enforce rules not inconsistent with the laws of this state and necessary to implement the commission's duties.

(3) The commission may do 1 or more of the following:

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(a) Enter into leases and establish prices for rentals or privileges upon property controlled by the commission.

(b) Sell or lease as personal property buildings or structures acquired by the commission in settlement of delinquent land rentals.

(c) Employ a director and other persons as may be needed.

(4) The rules of the commission shall apply to all roads situated on Mackinac Island state park lands. The commission shall not make a rule permitting the use of motor vehicles except motor vehicles owned by the state, a political subdivision of the state, or by a public utility, and used in the exercise of its franchise. The commission may provide by rule for the issuance of temporary permits for the operation of motor vehicles over roads situated on state park lands. The commission may grant permits pursuant to part 13 for the use of lands for the expansion of existing cemeteries, under terms and conditions as the commission prescribes. The commission may also grant privileges and franchises for waterworks, sewerage, transportation, and lighting, for a period of not more than 40 years. The commission shall prescribe by rule the maximum number of horse drawn vehicles for hire that may be licensed by the commission for operation within the park.

(5) The sheriff of the county of Mackinac, upon the application of the commission, shall appoint 1 or more persons who shall be designated by the commission as deputy sheriffs in and for the county, and who shall be employees of the commission but who shall not receive fees or emoluments for services as deputy sheriffs. The commission may establish the compensation of the persons employed by the commission, but a debt or obligation shall not be created by the commission exceeding the amount of money at its disposal at the time.

(6) All money received from rentals or privileges shall be paid promptly into the state treasury to be credited to the general fund and to be disbursed as appropriated by the legislature. The commission, in consideration of the furnishing of fire protection, street service, sewerage service, and other public service agreed upon, may remit reasonable rentals as the commission determines from leases of property acquired by the state under the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.157, and deeded to the commission, to the several tax assessing units in which the property is situated as provided in that act, in proportion to the delinquent taxes and special assessments of the units canceled against the description of land.

(7) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the commission in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246. The commission shall provide to the governor an annual report and statement of receipts and expenditures, and recommendations and suggestions as the commission considers proper.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 318.111 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.76505 Fort Mackinac; flag; maintenance.

Sec. 76505. The director shall see to it that the United States flag is kept floating from the flagstaff at Fort Mackinac, and rules relative thereto are the same as those that have governed in that matter when the fort was in possession and occupancy by the United States troops.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 176, Imd. Eff. July 1, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76506 Fort deBuade; restoration; fees; rules.

Sec. 76506. The Mackinac Island state park commission may acquire by purchase, lease, grant, or transfer the use of certain state land in the county of Mackinac for the purpose of developing and restoring as an historical site the area in or near the location where Fort deBuade once stood. After the acquisition and restoration, the site shall be under the jurisdiction, management, and control of the Mackinac Island state park

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commission, and the commission shall have and exercise the same rights and powers over the site as it has and exercises over Mackinac Island state park, including the right to levy and collect fees for the use of the facilities at the site. All rules promulgated by the commission shall be effective within the whole territory covered by the park. The commission may promulgate and enforce rules relative to any part or portion of the park, notwithstanding any contrary or inconsistent ordinance, regulation, or bylaw of any political subdivision.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76507 Mackinac Island state park; operation of vehicle without permit; misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 76507. Except as provided in section 76504, a person who operates a motor vehicle on land within the Mackinac Island state park without a permit is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both, plus the costs of prosecution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 176, Imd. Eff. July 1, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76507a Damaging or removing trees, vegetation, or state property; violation; civil liability.

Sec. 76507a. (1) A person shall not cut, peel, damage, destroy, or remove a tree or other vegetation or state property located in any park or other property under the control of the commission, without written permission from the director.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) is civilly liable to the commission in a sum equal to triple the amount of damage, destruction, or value of the property.

History: Add. 2004, Act 176, Imd. Eff. July 1, 2004.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76508 Special police; appointment; supervision; powers and duties.

Sec. 76508. The director may appoint, by and with the consent of the commission, such number of special police as the commission may by resolution direct, which special police shall be under the supervision and direction of the director, who shall be charged with the enforcement of the laws of this state related to the park and the rules promulgated by the commission for the care and preservation of the park, and the property in and about the fort. The special police shall be vested with the authority of county sheriffs and, within the park, may apprehend and arrest, without warrant, any person whom they may find violating the laws of this state related to the park or the rules that have been promulgated concerning the preservation of property, the mutilation of landmarks, or the destruction or injury to growing trees and shrubs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.76509 Mackinac Island state park commission; acceptance of gifts.

Sec. 76509. The Mackinac Island state park commission, for and on behalf of the state of Michigan, is authorized to receive, accept, and hold, by gift, grant, devise, or bequest, any property, real or personal, but only for the purposes incidental to or connected with the state parks under its management and control.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 767

MACKINAC ISLAND STATE PARK COMMISSION

324.76701 “Commission” defined.

Sec. 76701. As used in this part, "commission" means the Mackinac Island state park commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76702 Mackinac Island state park commission; additional powers.

Sec. 76702. The Mackinac Island state park commission may, in addition to the powers already conferred on it by law, exercise the following powers: (a) To acquire, construct, improve, repair, maintain, restore, equip, furnish, use, and operate all property, real or personal, necessary or convenient to the exercise of the powers or the performance of the duties conferred upon it by law, including, but not limited to, property that in the judgment of the commission will increase the beauty and utility of the state park facilities and provide recreational, historical, or other facilities for the benefit and enjoyment of the public and landscaping, driveways, streets, or walkways for such property.

(b) To employ consulting architects, engineers, museum technicians, landscape architects, supervisors, managers, lawyers, fiscal agents, and other agents and employees as it considers necessary, and to establish their compensation.

(c) To enlist the guidance, assistance, and cooperation of the Michigan historical commission.

(d) To establish charges for admission to the facilities under its jurisdiction, to establish other charges for the use of any facilities, including fees or charges to be imposed on concessionaires, and to charge rentals for the lease or use of any of its facilities as the commission determines proper and as will assure the prompt and full carrying out of all covenants contained in the proceedings authorizing any bonds pursuant to this part.

(e) To accept gifts, grants, and donations.

(f) To acquire, construct, develop, improve, repair, maintain, and operate, but not to extend the runway beyond 3,600 feet, an airport or landing field on property under its jurisdiction, and to lease to any governmental unit any real or personal property under its jurisdiction for use as an airport or landing field on the terms and conditions approved by the commission and the department of management and budget. The exercise of any power granted by this subdivision is subject to determination by the proper federal authority that such exercise will not affect the title of the state to the land involved. All rules and regulations established by any lessee shall reflect written approval by the commission before the rules or regulations are in effect.

(g) To sell real or personal property that is under the control of the commission if all of the following requirements are met:

(*i*) The property is sold for fair market value. The determination of fair market value may take into account a commitment by the buyer to keep the property open or accessible to the public. Furthermore, if the property is sold to a person who donated labor or materials for the improvement, repair, maintenance, or restoration of the property, the price may be reduced by an amount not greater than the portion of the fair market value attributable to the donation of labor or materials.

(*ii*) The commission determines that the property is not of current or potential value to the purposes of the commission as set forth in this subchapter.

(*iii*) The commission determines that the sale of the property is in the best interests of the state.

(*iv*) The sale of the property is not otherwise prohibited by law.

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(*v*) If the property is real property, the property is zoned residential or commercial and is not contiguous to state park land.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 181, Imd. Eff. June 6, 2006.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76703 Mackinac Island state park commission; gross revenue bonds; purpose; cost; interim receipts or certificates; maximum rate of interest; sale and award of notes; notice; resolution; contents; trust indenture; money received as trust funds; disposition; gross revenue refunding bonds; powers of commission; annual audit; signature on bonds; attestation; electronic format; issuance of bonds subject to agency financing reporting act; interest rate agreement.

Sec. 76703. (1) The commission may issue its gross revenue bonds in anticipation of the collection of all or any part of its revenues, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, improving, bettering, extending, restoring, refurbishing, renovating, repairing, equipping, furnishing, any or all, the properties and facilities that it is authorized to acquire, construct, reconstruct, maintain, or operate under this part, including properties and facilities owned by it, and shall pledge to the payment of the interest on and principal of the bonds, all or any part of the revenues derived from the operation of the properties and facilities controlled and operated by the commission. There may be included in the cost for which bonds are to be issued, reasonable allowances for legal, engineering, or fiscal services, interest during construction or reconstruction and for 6 months after the estimated date of completion of the construction or reconstruction or until full revenues are being received from the operation of the facility, and other incidental expenses. The bonds shall be authorized by resolution of the commission and may be issued in 1 or more series, may bear the date or dates, may mature at the time or times not exceeding 30 years from their respective dates, may bear interest at the rate or rates, may be in the form, either coupon or registered, may be executed in the manner, may be payable at the place or places, may be subject to the terms of redemption, with or without premium, and may contain the terms, covenants, and conditions as the resolution or subsequent resolution may provide. Pending preparation of the definitive bonds, interim receipts, or certificates in the form and with the provisions as the commission may determine may be issued to the purchaser or purchasers of the bonds sold pursuant to this part. The bonds and interim receipts and certificates shall be fully negotiable within the meaning of and for all purposes of the negotiable instruments law of this state. The maximum rate of interest on such bonds shall be that set forth for bonds issued under the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821. The sale and award of notes shall be conducted and made by the commission at a public or private sale. If a public sale is held, the notes shall be advertised for sale once not less than 7 days before sale in a publication printed in the English language and circulated in this state, which carries as a part of its regular service notices of the sales of municipal bonds and which has been designated in the resolution as a publication complying with these qualifications. The notice of sale shall be in the form as designated by the commission. Bonds may be sold at a discount as provided in the bond resolution. Bonds issued under this section are not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

(2) Any resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds under this part or any instrument of trust entered into as authorized by this part may contain covenants, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(a) The purpose or purposes to which the proceeds of the sale of the bonds may be applied, and the deposit, use, and disposition of the proceeds.

(b) The use, deposit, securing of deposits, and disposition of the revenues of the commission, including the creation and maintenance of reserves.

(c) The issuance of additional bonds payable from the revenues of the commission.

(d) The operation and maintenance of properties of the commission.

(e) The insurance to be carried thereon, and the use, deposit, and disposition of insurance money.

(f) Books of account and the inspection and audit of the books of account and the accounting methods of the commission.

(g) The nonrendering of any free service by the commission.

(h) The preservation of the properties of the commission, so long as any of the bonds remain outstanding, from any mortgage, sale, lease, or other encumbrance not specifically permitted by the terms of the resolution.

(i) The employment of sufficient personnel for the collection of fees and charges incident to the operation of the facility and for the payment of compensation to the personnel out of the fees and charges.

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(3) In the discretion of the commission, any bonds issued under this part may be secured by a trust indenture by and between the commission and a corporate trustee, which may be any bank having the right to exercise the powers of a trust company within this state. Any trust indenture described in this subsection may pledge or assign the revenues from the operation of properties of the commission, but shall not convey or mortgage any properties, except the revenues. Any trust indenture or any resolution providing for the issuance of bonds may contain the provisions for protecting and enforcing the rights and remedies of the bondholders as may be reasonable and proper and not in violation of law, including covenants setting forth the duties of the commission in relation to the acquisition of property and the construction, improvement, maintenance, repair, operation, and insurance of the improvements in connection with which the bonds have been authorized, and the custody, safeguarding, and application of all money, and provisions for the employment of consulting engineers, architects, and landscape architects in connection with the planning, construction, or operation of the improvements. Any trust indenture may set forth the rights and remedies of the bondholders and of the trustee, and may restrict the individual right of action by bondholders as is customary in trust agreements or trust indentures securing bonds and debentures of corporations. In addition to the foregoing, any trust indenture or resolution may contain other provisions as the commission considers reasonable and proper for the security of the bondholders. The holder of any bond issued under this part or a trustee in his or her behalf may bring suit against the commission and its members, officers, and agents to enforce the provisions and covenants contained in any trust indenture or resolution. All expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of any trust indenture may be treated as a part of the cost of operation of the improvements for which the bonds are authorized.

(4) Money received pursuant to this part, whether as proceeds from the sale of bonds or as revenues from the operations of properties, or otherwise received by the commission, shall be considered to be trust funds, to be held and applied solely as provided in this part and in the resolution authorizing, or trust indenture securing, its bonds. All money received may be deposited in as received and paid out by any bank or banks selected for the purpose and eligible to hold public money under the laws of this state, the deposits and paying out to be in the manner provided in the resolution or trust indenture. None of the money need be paid into the state treasury.

(5) If the commission has issued any bonds under this part, the commission may subsequently issue and negotiate new bonds under this part for the purpose of providing for the retirement of those outstanding bonds, in whole or in part. The new bonds shall be designated "gross revenue refunding bonds", and except as otherwise provided in the refunding resolution, shall be secured to the same extent and shall have the same source of payment as the bonds that have been refunded, or may be payable from earnings on investments held in trust to pay refunded bonds for the period of time specified in the ordinance authorizing the bonds. The refunding bonds may be issued to include the amount of any premium to be paid upon the calling of the callable bonds to be refunded or any premium necessary to be paid in order to secure the surrender of the noncallable bonds to be refunded, interest to the maturity or redemption date of the bonds to be refunded, and the cost of issuing the refunding bonds. This section shall not be construed as providing for the redemption of noncallable unmatured bonds without the consent of the holder or holders of the bonds. The refunding bonds may be sold at public sale, may be privately negotiated, or may be exchanged for the obligations to be refunded by the obligations, and if sold, the proceeds shall be deposited in a bank and credited to a special trust account to be used only for the redemption or purchase of the outstanding bonds. If refunding bonds are to be issued and sold for the purpose of refunding noncallable unmatured bonds, those bonds shall be surrendered and canceled at the time of delivery to the purchaser of the refunding bonds, or sufficient funds shall be deposited in trust to pay principal and interest to maturity on noncallable bonds. If refunding bonds are to be issued for the purpose of refunding callable bonds, those bonds shall be surrendered and canceled at the time of delivery to the purchaser of the refunding bonds, or sufficient funds shall be deposited in trust to pay principal, interest, and redemption premium to the earliest redemption date on callable bonds. When the resolution authorizing the bonds to be refunded permits, the borrower may deposit in trust direct obligations of, or obligations the principal and interest of which are unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States and which do not permit redemption at the option of the issuer, the principal and interest on which when due, without reinvestment, will provide funds sufficient to pay principal, interest, and call premium, when due, on the bonds being refunded.

(6) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section:

(a) Interest on the bonds may be payable at any time provided in the resolution, and may be set, reset or calculated, or both, as provided in the resolution.

(b) If so authorized in the resolution bonds may be:

(*i*) Made the subject of a put or agreement to repurchase by the commission.

(*ii*) Secured by a letter of credit issued by a bank pursuant to an agreement entered into by the commission

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or secured by any other collateral.

(*iii*) Callable.

(*iv*) Reissued by the commission once reacquired by the commission pursuant to any put or repurchase agreement.

(c) The commission may by resolution do any of the following:

(*i*) Authorize the issuance of renewal bonds.

(*ii*) Refund, or refund in advance, bonds by the issuance of new bonds, whether the bonds to be refunded have or have not matured.

(*iii*) Issue bonds partly to refund bonds and partly for any other purposes authorized by this part.

(*iv*) Buy and sell any bonds issued under this part.

(d) Renewal, refunding, or advance refunding bonds are subject to all of the following:

(*i*) Shall be sold and the proceeds applied to the purchase redemption or payment of the bonds to be renewed or refunded.

(*ii*) May be sold or resold at a public or private sale upon such terms and conditions as the commission may establish in the order.

(*iii*) May pledge the revenues pledged in the issue to be refunded in advance effective when a defeasance has occurred with respect to the original issue.

(e) If authorized by the commission in the resolution authorizing the bonds, any bonds issued may be secured in whole or in part pursuant to a trust or escrow agreement, which agreement may also govern the issuance of renewal bonds, refunding bonds, and advance refunding bonds. The agreement may authorize the trustee or escrow agent to make investments of any type authorized in the agreement.

(f) Powers specified in this subsection shall be in addition to those set forth in all other subsections and sections of this part.

(7) The commission shall hire an independent certified public accountant approved by the legislative auditor general to perform an annual audit of all of its operations which are required by, or in any way relate to, any covenants made in connection with any bonds issued pursuant to this part.

(8) The bonds may be issued in electronic format only or, if issued in paper copies, shall be signed by the chairperson or vice-chairperson of the commission and attested to by any other officer of the commission authorized to do so by resolution of the commission. The signature of either officer, but not both, may be affixed by facsimile or electronically.

(9) The issuance of bonds and notes under this section is subject to the agency financing reporting act.

(10) For the purpose of more effectively managing its debt service, the commission may enter into an interest rate exchange or swap, hedge, or similar agreement with respect to its bonds or notes on the terms and payable from the sources and with the security, if any, as determined by a resolution of the commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001;—Am. 2002, Act 389, Imd. Eff. May 30, 2002.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76704 Mackinac Island state park commission; charges and fees; payment of bonds.

Sec. 76704. The commission shall prescribe and collect charges and fees as above authorized for admission to and for the use of the services, facilities and commodities supplied by or through all its properties, including museums, the revenues of which have been pledged to the payment of bonds issued under this part, and shall revise such charges and fees from time to time whenever necessary to ensure that the revenues to be derived from the charges and fees shall be fully sufficient to pay principal of and interest on such bonds, and to carry out all requirements and covenants contained in the proceedings pursuant to which any such bonds are issued. All or any part of the gross revenues derived by the commission from the operation, leasing, or other use of any properties of the commission utilized as a part of any state park project financed under this part may be pledged to the payment of such principal and interest. Each bond shall recite in substance that the bond and the interest on the bond are payable solely from the revenues pledged to the payment thereof, and that the bond does not constitute a debt of the commission or of the state of Michigan within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.76705 Mackinac Island state park commission; public body corporate; tax exemptions.

Sec. 76705. The commission is a public body corporate constituting an instrumentality of the state of Michigan and carrying out duties and functions imposed upon and in the state under its constitution and laws, and shall have the power to sue and be sued. It is accordingly found, determined, and declared that the carrying out of powers of the commission and the purposes of this part are for the benefit of the people of the state and constitute a public purpose. Accordingly, all property owned by the commission or owned by the state and controlled by the commission shall be exempt from all taxes levied by the state and all of its political subdivisions and taxing districts, and the bonds and interim receipts or certificates issued by the commission and the income therefrom shall be free from taxation within the state, and the commission shall be required to pay no taxes or assessments upon its activities or upon any of its revenues.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Effective date: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76706 Construction of part; indebtedness.

Sec. 76706. This part shall not be construed or interpreted as authorizing or permitting the incurring of the indebtedness of the state of Michigan contrary to the provisions of the constitution or laws of the state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76707 Mackinac Island state park commission; authorizing resolution; publication; validity.

Sec. 76707. The commission may in its discretion cause any resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds under this part to be published 1 time in a newspaper published in the county where the facilities are located having a general circulation in that county. Any action or proceeding questioning the validity of the resolution or any provision of the resolution or the validity of the bonds authorized by the resolution or the provisions of any trust indenture in the resolution authorized to be executed for the security of the bonds, must be commenced within 20 days from the publication of the resolution. After the expiration of the 20 days, no right of action or defense founded upon the invalidity of the resolution or any of its provisions or of the trust indenture, if any, or of the bonds, shall be asserted nor shall any court in this state have authority to inquire into such matters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76708 Mackinac Island state park commission; acts; approval.

Sec. 76708. Except to the extent that the state constitution of 1963 may be construed to require the approval of any act of the commission under this part, by the state administrative board, the commission may carry out all powers and functions granted and imposed in it under this part without first obtaining the approval of any other state department, board, bureau, agency, or official.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76709 Construction of part.

Sec. 76709. If 1 or more provisions of this part are inconsistent with any other act, general or special, this part is controlling.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 769
MACKINAC ISLAND STATE PARK RULES

324.76901 Mackinac Island state park commission; rules; care and preservation; violation; fine.

Sec. 76901. (1) The Mackinac Island state park commission may promulgate and enforce reasonable rules for the care and preservation of the Mackinac Island state park and other property under the control of the Mackinac Island state park commission including, but not limited to, the Mill Creek site described in 1975 PA 285 and the site formerly occupied as a military post under the name of Fort Michilimackinac as described in section 77701.

(2) The Mackinac Island state park commission may promulgate rules for the protection of the lands and property under its control against wrongful use or occupancy to protect the lands and property from depredations and to preserve the lands and property from molestation, spoilation, destruction, or any other improper use or occupancy.

(3) A person who violates a rule promulgated by the Mackinac Island state park commission under this act is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 318.111 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.76902 Repealed. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: The repealed rule pertained to enforcement of rules at Mackinac Island state park.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.76903 Mackinac Island state park commission; rules; jurisdiction.

Sec. 76903. All rules promulgated by the Mackinac Island state park commission under this part, this act, or any other act shall be effective within the whole territory covered by the park, and the Mackinac Island state park commission may promulgate and enforce rules relative to any part or portion of the park or other property controlled by the Mackinac Island state park commission, notwithstanding any contrary or inconsistent ordinance, regulation, or bylaw of the city of Mackinac Island, the township of Mackinaw, county of Cheboygan, or the village of Mackinaw City.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 771
MACKINAC ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION

324.77101 Mackinac Island state park commission; contract for fire protection.

Sec. 77101. The Mackinac Island state park commission and the city of Mackinac Island by its governing body are authorized to enter into a continuing contract for fire protection to be furnished by the city of Mackinac Island for property under the control and management of the Mackinac Island state park commission. The fire protection service and apparatus to be furnished shall meet with the approval of the

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bureau of fire services created in section 1b of the fire prevention code, 1941 PA 207, MCL 29.1b. The contract shall be signed by the chief executive and clerk of the city of Mackinac Island and by the chairperson and secretary of the Mackinac Island state park commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 194, Imd. Eff. June 19, 2006.

Compiler's note: For transfer of powers and duties of state fire marshal to department of labor and economic growth, bureau of construction codes and fire safety, by type II transfer, see E.R.O. No. 2003-1, compiled at MCL 445.2011.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 773
OLD MISSION CHURCH AT MACKINAC ISLAND

324.77301 Old Mission Church; acquisition; description.

Sec. 77301. The Mackinac Island state park commission is authorized to acquire, in consideration of the payment of the sum of $1.00 and other considerations to be in hand paid, the so-called "Old Mission Church", being all that certain piece or parcel of land situate and being in the city of Mackinac Island, county of Mackinac and state of Michigan, and more particularly described as follows:

Lot 6 of Block 4 of C. R. Miller's Proposed Subdivision of the Mission House Lots in the Village of Mackinac and bounded and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point in the North line of East Water Street as prolonged in said subdivision 30 feet North 89° East from the Southeast corner of the North half of Lot 12 (known as the Wendell Homestead) for a place of beginning; thence North 6° East along the East line of Mission Street as platted in said subdivision to the South line of an alley 120 feet; thence along the South line of said alley North 89° 15" East 51 feet; thence Southerly about 118 feet to a point in the prolongation of the North line of said East Water Street in said proposed plat of said subdivision; thence Westerly on said North line of said East Water Street 52 feet to the place of beginning, said lot being intended to be the same land on which the Old Mission Church now stands, together with all and singular the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.77302 Old Mission Church; maintenance as historic shrine.

Sec. 77302. The property acquired by the Mackinac Island state park commission under this part shall be maintained as a historic shrine by the Mackinac Island state park commission and shall be open to the public subject to such reasonable rules promulgated by the Mackinac Island state park commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 775
MACKINAC ISLAND; CLERK'S QUARTERS—AMERICAN FUR COMPANY

324.77501, 324.77502 Repealed. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 777
MICHILIMACKINAC STATE PARK

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324.77701 Michilimackinac state park; control; name change.

Sec. 77701. The Mackinac Island state park commission shall have the control and management of the site formerly occupied as a military post under the name of Fort Michilimackinac, in the village of Mackinaw City, county of Cheboygan and state of Michigan, previously conveyed by the village of Mackinaw City to the state of Michigan, under and by virtue of Act No. 520 of the local acts of 1903, conveyed as Wawatam park, by deed dated January 27, 1904, which deed is recorded in the office of the register of deeds of Cheboygan county in liber 26 of deeds on page 588. Though conveyed as "Wawatam Park," the park shall hereafter be known as "Michilimackinac state park".

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.77702 Michilimackinac state park; rules; protection and maintenance.

Sec. 77702. The Mackinac Island state park commission may promulgate and enforce reasonable rules for the care and preservation of Michilimackinac state park, for the maintenance of good order, for the protection of property and for the welfare of the park as shall from time to time be considered necessary or expedient by the Mackinac Island state park commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.77703 Repealed. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to enforcement of rules at Michilimackinac state park.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.77704 Michilimackinac state park; rules; jurisdiction of commission.

Sec. 77704. All rules promulgated by the Mackinac Island state park commission under this part, this act, or any other act shall be effective within the whole territory covered by the park. The Mackinac Island state park commission may promulgate and enforce rules relative to any part or portion of the park, notwithstanding any contrary or inconsistent ordinance, regulation, or bylaw of the village of Mackinaw City.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 779.
MILL CREEK

324.77901 Mill creek site; control and management.

Sec. 77901. The Mackinac Island state park commission shall have the control and management of the site known as the Mill Creek site described in 1975 PA 285.

History: Add. 2001, Act 78, Eff. Aug. 6, 2001.

Compiler's note: For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2009-26, compiled at MCL 399.752.

For transfer of Mackinac Island state park commission from department of natural resources and environment to department of natural resources, see E.R.O. No. 2011-1, compiled at MCL 324.99921.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 4
THE MICHIGAN STATE WATERWAYS COMMISSION

GENERAL

PART 781
MICHIGAN STATE WATERWAYS COMMISSION

324.78101 Definitions.

Sec. 78101. As used in this part:

(a) "Commercial motor vehicle" means that term as defined in section 74101.

(b) "Commission" means the Michigan state waterways commission.

(c) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(d) "Designated state-operated public boating access site" means a state-operated public boating access site designated under section 78105(2).

(e) "Director" means the administrative director of the commission.

(f) "Diesel motor fuel" means any liquid fuel used in the operation of engines of the diesel type in motor vehicles or watercraft.

(g) "Gasoline" means gasoline, casing head or natural gasoline, benzole, benzine, and naphtha. Gasoline also means any liquid prepared, advertised, offered for sale, sold for use as, or used for, the generation of power for the propulsion of motor vehicles or watercraft, including any product obtained by blending together any 1 or more products of petroleum, regardless of their original names or characteristics, with or without other products, unless the resultant product obtained is entirely incapable of use for the generation of power for the propulsion of motor vehicles or watercraft. Gasoline does not include diesel fuel, liquefied petroleum gas, or commercial or industrial naphthas or solvents manufactured, imported, received, stored, distributed, sold, or used exclusively for purposes other than as a fuel for motor vehicles or watercraft.

(h) "Harbor" means a portion of a lake or other body of water either naturally or artificially protected so as to be a place of safety for watercraft, including contrivances used or designed for navigation on water and used or owned by the United States.

(i) "Harbor facilities" means the structures at a harbor constructed to protect the lake or body of water and the facilities provided within the harbor and ashore for the mooring and servicing of watercraft and the servicing of crews and passengers.

(j) "Inland lake or stream" means that term as defined in section 30101.

(k) "Liquefied petroleum gas" means gases derived from petroleum or natural gases that are in the gaseous state at normal atmospheric temperature and pressure, but that may be maintained in the liquid state at normal atmospheric temperature by suitable pressure.

(*l*) "Marina" means a site that contains harbor facilities.

(m) "Motor vehicle" means that term as defined in section 74101.

(n) "Navigable water" means any waterway navigable by vessels, or capable of being made navigable by vessels through artificial improvements, and includes the structures and facilities created to facilitate navigation.

(o) "Nonresident motor vehicle" means that term as defined in section 74101.

(p) "Person" includes any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or body politic, except the United States and this state, and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, or other similar representative of those entities.

(q) "Public boating access site" means a publicly owned site for the launching of recreational watercraft.

(r) "Recreational boating facilities" means boat launches, harbors, marinas, and locks assisting recreational boats accessing water bodies at different elevations.

(s) "Recreation passport fee" means that term as defined in section 2001.

(t) "Resident motor vehicle" means that term as defined in section 74101.

(u) "Retail fuel dealer" includes any person or persons, both private and municipal, who engage in the business of selling or distributing fuel within this state.

(v) "Secretary of state" means the secretary of state of this state, acting directly or through a duly authorized deputy, investigators, agents, and employees.

(w) "Vessel" means all watercraft except the following:

(*i*) Watercraft used for commercial fishing.

(*ii*) Watercraft used by the sea scout department of the boy scouts of America chiefly for training scouts in

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seamanship.

(*iii*) Watercraft owned by this state, any political subdivision of this state, or the federal government.

(*iv*) Watercraft when used in interstate or foreign commerce and watercraft used or owned by any railroad company or railroad car ferry company.

(*v*) Watercraft when used in trade, including watercraft when used in connection with an activity that constitutes a person's chief business or means of livelihood.

(x) "Watercraft" means any contrivance used or designed for navigation on water, including, but not limited to, any vessel, ship, boat, motor vessel, steam vessel, vessel operated by machinery, motorboat, sailboat, barge, scow, tugboat, and rowboat, but does not include contrivances used or owned by the United States.

(y) "Waterway" means any body of water.

(z) "Waterways account" means the waterways account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2035.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 210, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2006, Act 466, Imd. Eff. Dec. 20, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 34, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010;—Am. 2010, Act 302, Imd. Eff. Dec. 16, 2010.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78102 Michigan state waterways commission; creation; appointment, qualifications, and terms of members; oath; reimbursement for expenses; removal of members; vacancies; seal; rules; election of officers; action by commission; offices and equipment.

Sec. 78102. There is created a state commission to be known and designated as the Michigan state waterways commission. The commission shall consist of 7 members, who shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate. The term of office of each member shall be 3 years, except that of members first appointed, 2 shall be appointed for 1 year, 2 shall be appointed for 2 years, and 1 shall be appointed for 3 years. Not less than 2 members shall reside north of townline 16, 1 of whom shall reside in the upper peninsula and 1 of whom shall reside in the lower peninsula. One of the members shall be an individual who owns or operates a harbor or marina in this state at the time of his or her appointment and during his or her membership on the commission. One member shall be a representative of the marine-trades industry who does not own or operate a harbor or marina. The first term of the individual who owns or operates a harbor or marina shall expire on September 18, 1989. The first term of the marine-trade representative who does not own or operate a harbor or marina shall expire on September 18, 1988. A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term. Members shall qualify by taking and filing the constitutional oath of office. A member of the commission shall not receive a salary for his or her services as a commissioner, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in performance of official duties. The members of the commission may be removed by the governor for inefficiency, neglect of duty, misuse of office, or malfeasance in office, in the manner provided by law for the removal of other public officers for similar causes. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments. The commission shall, immediately upon its appointment, organize, adopt a seal, and make, amend, and revise the rules necessary for the administration of the commission's duties under this part. The commission at the organization meeting shall elect from its members a chairperson and vice-chairperson to serve for 1 year and annually thereafter shall elect such officers, each to serve until his or her successor is appointed and qualified. Action shall not be taken by the commission with less than a majority assent of its members. The department of management and budget shall provide suitable offices and equipment for the use of the commission.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78103 Waterways commission; conducting business at public meeting; notice of meeting; availability of writings to public.

Sec. 78103. (1) The business which the Michigan state waterways commission may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of

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the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be given in the manner required by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976.

(2) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the commission in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, Act No. 442 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.231 to 15.246 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78104 Waterways commission; director; appointment; qualifications; term; compensation; duties; assistants; salaries; expenses.

Sec. 78104. There is established the office of administrative director of the commission. The director qualified by a record of experience in connection with boating shall be appointed by the commission to serve for an indefinite term, during his or her efficient, honest, and businesslike execution of his or her duties. He or she shall receive such compensation as the commission may determine, not in excess of $8,400.00, and shall be reimbursed for all traveling and other expenses incurred by him or her in the discharge of his or her official duties. The director shall be charged with the administration of this part in accordance with the policies established by the commission. The department, upon recommendation of the director, subject to the approval of the commission, may employ such assistants, and make such expenditures as may be necessary in implementing this part related to the powers and duties of the commission. The salaries of all employees, and the necessary expenses while traveling in performing any of their duties, shall be paid in the same manner as the salaries and expenses of other state employees are paid.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78105 Powers and duties of department; designation of state-operated boating access sites requiring passes; fees.

Sec. 78105. (1) The department has the following powers and duties:

(a) To acquire, construct, and maintain harbors, channels, and facilities for vessels in the navigable waters lying within the boundaries of this state.

(b) To acquire, by purchase, lease, gift, or condemnation the lands, rights of way, and easements necessary for harbors and channels. For the purposes of this subdivision, the department shall be considered a state agency under 1911 PA 149, MCL 213.21 to 213.25.

(c) To acquire, by purchase, lease, gift, or condemnation suitable areas on shore for disposal of the material from dredging.

(d) To enter into any contracts or agreements that may be necessary in carrying out this part, including agreements to hold and save the United States free from damages due to the construction and maintenance by the United States of those works that the United States undertakes.

(e) To provide for the granting of concessions within the boundaries of harbors, so as to furnish the public gas, oil, food, and other facilities.

(f) To represent this state and the governor in dealings with the chief of engineers of the United States army and his or her authorized agents for the purposes set forth in this part.

(g) To charge fees for both seasonal and daily moorage at state-operated small craft mooring facilities. All revenues derived from this source shall be deposited in the waterways account.

(h) To collect the proceeds from the sale of marine fuel at harbors operated by the department. The proceeds from the sales shall be credited to the waterways account and used for the purchase of marine fuel supplies as may be needed. Any remaining revenue from this source not needed for the purchase of marine fuel supplies may be expended in the same manner as other funds within the waterways account.

(2) The director shall designate state-operated public boating access sites that, subject to section 78119(4), shall not be entered by a resident motor vehicle unless the recreation passport fee has been paid or by a nonresident or commercial motor vehicle unless a pass purchased under subsection (3) is affixed to the motor vehicle as described in section 78119.

(3) The department shall charge fees for passes authorizing seasonal or daily entry by nonresident motor vehicles or commercial motor vehicles at designated state-operated public boating access sites. Fee revenue under this subsection shall be deposited in the waterways account.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 34, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010 ;—Am. 2013, Act 81, Eff. May 1, 2014.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78106 Authority of local agencies and public colleges and universities to enter contracts with department.

Sec. 78106. The local units of government of this state, within the jurisdiction of which are situated inland waterways connected with or connecting the waters of the Great Lakes, or within which channels to nearby inland lakes and streams may be constructed or opened for navigation and shelter of light draft vessels, may by majority vote of their respective legislative bodies enter into contracts and agreements with the department in carrying out the purposes of this part. In addition, the public colleges and universities of the state may enter into contracts and agreements with the department in carrying out the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 19, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2003.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78107 Facilities in harbors and connecting waterways; use.

Sec. 78107. Facilities in harbors and connecting waterways established under this part shall be open to all on equal and reasonable terms.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78108 Financing local agencies and public colleges and universities to obtain federal participation; contracts with army corps of engineers.

Sec. 78108. (1) The department may do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Take actions as may be necessary to provide the finances required of local agencies and public colleges and universities as condition for United States' participation in any project in which the department is empowered to act.

(b) Use any part or all of the appropriation and funds otherwise available to meet the portion of the requirement of local participation as the department considers proper.

(c) Enter into agreements with any public college or university or political subdivision of the state in connection with participation with the United States in any project in which the department is empowered to act and provide adjustments which in the judgment of the department are considered to be in the best interest of the state.

(2) The department may enter into any contract or agreement with the army corps of engineers of the United States, or any other agency or instrumentality of the United States for the dredging of harbors, the erection of breakwaters, piers or any other device for the protection of vessels, and may do any act or enter into any contract or agreement desirable in implementing this part. The department may take such steps as may be necessary to take advantage of any act of congress that may be of assistance in carrying out the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 19, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2003.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78109 Administration of part; advice by commission.

Sec. 78109. The commission shall advise the department on the administration of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78110 Waterways account; use.

Sec. 78110. Money in the waterways account shall be used only for the following:

(a) The construction, operation, and maintenance of the following that are associated with recreational

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boating facilities:

(*i*) Ramps and related support infrastructure for launching watercraft.

(*ii*) Piers, jetties, breakwaters, or other similar structures connected to existing or proposed recreational boating facilities or harbors of refuge.

(*iii*) Moorage facilities and related support infrastructure at marinas to provide dockage for transient and seasonal users.

(*iv*) Studies and surveys necessary for the development of recreational boating facilities or the operation of recreational boating facilities, and the implementation of recommendations from these studies and surveys.

(*v*) Restrooms, sewage treatment facilities, showers, potable water supplies, security lights, and parking areas.

(*vi*) Pump outs.

(*vii*) Access roads, bridges, signals, and other infrastructure to provide the public access to recreational boating facilities.

(*viii*) Engineering costs, including planning and construction costs and costs of environmental assessments and permit applications.

(*ix*) Dredging, stump removal, and aquatic weed control when the activities can be shown to clear lanes to make a water body more accessible primarily for recreational boats as opposed to general navigation.

(*x*) Navigational aids in the immediate area of recreational boating facilities.

(*xi*) Signage for the effective use of recreational boating facilities.

(*xii*) Publication of guides, brochures, maps, road signs, internet sites, and other aids to inform boaters of recreational boating facilities.

(*xiii*) Projects that compensate or mitigate for natural resource losses caused by activities described in this subdivision.

(*xiv*) Locks used exclusively by recreational boaters.

(*xv*) Leases of property for recreational boating facilities or parking areas for the exclusive use of recreational boating facilities.

(*xvi*) Boat storage facilities, boat lift facilities, and boat servicing facilities within recreational boating facilities when constructed so as to be leased to a private marina operator under the guidelines of part 791.

(*xvii*) Equipment used exclusively for the development, maintenance, or operation of recreational boating facilities.

(b) The acquisition of property or rights in property for the purposes of this part, including both of the following:

(*i*) Land acquisition for the development of recreational boating facilities or parking areas exclusively for the servicing of recreational boating facilities.

(*ii*) Water rights for the securing of recreational boating access facilities.

(c) For grants to local units of government and state colleges or universities to acquire and develop harbors of refuge and public boating access sites under section 78115.

(d) For the purposes provided in part 791.

(e) For the administration of this part and part 791, including the following:

(*i*) Administrative and overhead cost directly related to recreational boating facilities.

(*ii*) Employee wages and benefits incurred for the administration of this part.

(*iii*) Conferences, meetings, and training for employees working at or on recreational boating facilities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 210, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1998;—Am. 2003, Act 19, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 302, Imd. Eff. Dec. 16, 2010.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78111 State appropriation as advancement.

Sec. 78111. It is the purpose of this part, in providing for harbors and channels, that the appropriation made by the state be considered an advancement, and that the fees, taxes, and other revenues received under this part, to be credited to the waterways account, shall be applied against the advancement, until all advancements have been fully paid. Thereafter, all such fees, taxes, and revenues shall be available for continued expansion and development of harbors and connecting waterways. However, subject to the approval of the state administrative board, the necessary expense of administration of this part, and any expense necessary to the protection of the harbors, and connecting waterways, constructed or established

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under the provisions of this part, or any improvement to the harbors and connecting waterways necessary for the proper and adequate protecting of vessels, shall be paid from the fees, taxes, and revenues before being credited to the advancements. The state administrative board shall from time to time provide for the transfer of credits to advancements from the waterways account to the general fund, until the advancements have been fully paid.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78112 State acceptance of federal program for construction of harbors of refuge.

Sec. 78112. In addition to the other matters contained in this part, this part shall constitute prima facie evidence of the acceptance by the state of Michigan of the provisions for state participation in the federal program for construction of certain harbors of refuge within the boundaries of the state of Michigan as provided for in chapter 19, 59 Stat. 10, Public Law 14 of the 79th Congress authorized March 2, 1945, pursuant to House Document No. 446 of the 78th Congress.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78113 Public boating access site advisory committee.

Sec. 78113. (1) Within 30 days after the effective date of this section, the department shall establish a public boating access site advisory committee to advise the department and the legislature on the state's method of acquiring public boating access sites. The advisory committee shall consist of not more than 20 members representing the boating industry, recreational users, riparian owners, local public officials who have public boating access sites within their local unit of government, experts from Michigan institutions of higher education, and other interested parties as appointed by the department. At least 2 members of the advisory committee shall be representatives of the general public. The advisory committee shall review and make recommendations regarding the current method of acquiring and operating public boating access sites. Additionally, the committee shall make recommendations on all of the following:

(a) The protection of the ecological integrity of lakes from degradation.

(b) The protection of the boating public and other lake users, including, but not limited to, riparian owners, from overly intense use of lakes.

(c) The provision of recreational boating opportunities for members of the general public.

(d) Other issues the advisory committee considers relevant.

(2) A meeting of the advisory committee shall be held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(3) Within 6 months after the advisory committee is established under subsection (1), the advisory committee shall deliver a report to the department, the commission, and the legislature on administrative and any legislative changes that the state should consider in acquiring and operating public boating access sites.

(4) Not later than 1 year after the advisory committee is established under subsection (1), the advisory committee shall be disbanded.

History: Add. 1998, Act 210, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1998.

Compiler's note: For transfer of public boating access site advisory committee to department of natural resources by type III transfer, see E.R.O. No. 2010-13, compiled at MCL 324.99917.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78114 Acquisition of public boating access site; placement of land option.

Sec. 78114. (1) Prior to acquiring a public boating access site, the department shall obtain a 90-day option on the land proposed for acquisition. In obtaining this option, the department shall attempt to negotiate an option that may be transferred to a local unit of government. Upon placing the option on the land, the department shall notify the municipality and the county in which the land is located of the option and whether the department plans to hold a public hearing on the proposed purchase and development of the land as a public boating access site. The municipality or county in which the proposed public boating access site is located may hold a public hearing on the proposed purchase and development of the land as a public boating

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access site. If a municipality or county holds a public hearing under this subsection, the municipality or county shall notify the department, and a representative of the department shall attend the public hearing.

(2) During the 90-day period in which the department holds an option under subsection (1), the municipality or county in which the land is located may do either of the following:

(a) Notify the department that it intends to operate a public boating access site on that land. If the department receives a notice pursuant to this subdivision, the department shall transfer the option, if possible, to the municipality or county so that it may exercise the option and purchase the land. If the municipality exercises the option and purchases the land, the exercise of the option shall be contingent upon the municipality or county and the department entering into a legally enforceable agreement that specifies how the public boating access site will be operated. The agreement shall provide that the public boating access site will be operated in the same manner as a public boating access site that is operated by the department, unless the department agrees to alternative terms. The agreement shall also provide that if the municipality or county violates the agreement, the department may operate the public boating access site in compliance with the agreement.

(b) Identify another suitable location on the lake that the department could acquire for a public boating access site. The public boating access site shall be comparable for development as the one proposed by the department.

History: Add. 1998, Act 210, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78115 Public boating access sites grant program.

Sec. 78115. (1) The department shall establish a public boating access sites grant program. The grant program shall provide funding with money in the waterways account to local units of government and public colleges or universities for all or a portion of the cost of either or both of the following:

(a) The acquisition of land for the establishment of a public boating access site.

(b) The cost of developing a public boating access site.

(2) A grant under subsection (1)(a) may be used as the required match by a local unit of government or a public college or university under part 19 or another state or federal program.

(3) A local unit of government or a public college or university receiving a grant under subsection (1)(b) must agree to operate the public boating access site in accordance with the department's operational requirements. The operational requirements shall be included within a grant agreement that is entered into by the grant recipient and the department. The grant agreement may contain, but need not be limited to, 1 or more of the following provisions as required by the department:

(a) Any net revenues accruing from the operation of the public boating access site shall be separately accounted for and reserved in a restricted fund by the grantee for the future maintenance or expansion of the public boating access site or, with the approval of the department, the construction of other recreational boating facilities. Unless otherwise provided in the grant agreement or otherwise authorized in writing by the department, if a fee is charged for the use of the public boating access site, the fee shall be the same as the fee rates set by the department.

(b) Unless otherwise provided in the grant agreement or otherwise authorized in writing by the department, the public boating access site and any facilities constructed for use in conjunction with the public boating access site shall be reserved by the grantee exclusively for the use or rental, on a daily basis, of recreational watercraft.

(c) Unless otherwise provided in the grant agreement or otherwise authorized in writing by the department, commercial operations of any type shall not be permitted to regularly use the public boating access site or any of the facilities constructed for use in conjunction with the public boating access site.

(d) The public boating access site and any facilities constructed for use in conjunction with that public boating access site shall be open to the public at all times on equal and reasonable terms.

(4) A local unit of government or a public college or university that wishes to be considered for a grant under this section shall submit an application to the department in a manner prescribed by the department and containing the information required by the department.

History: Add. 1998, Act 210, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1998;—Am. 2003, Act 19, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Compiler's note: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.78116 Rules.

Sec. 78116. The department may promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 210, Imd. Eff. July 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78117 Township ordinances regulating activities at public boating access site; scope.

Sec. 78117. A township may by ordinance regulate activities at a public boating access site owned by the department and located on an inland lake or stream. However, the scope of the ordinance shall not exceed the scope of applicable rules promulgated or orders issued by the department under section 504.

History: Add. 2006, Act 466, Imd. Eff. Dec. 20, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78119 Entry into state-operated boating access site; pass, tab, or sticker required; recreation passport fee; exceptions; violation as civil infraction; fine; evidence.

Sec. 78119. (1) Subject to subsection (4), a person shall not enter, in a nonresident motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle, a state-operated public boating access site designated under section 78105(2) without a valid pass affixed to the lower right-hand corner of the windshield. A seasonal pass shall be affixed permanently for the season.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), the operator of a resident motor vehicle shall not enter a state-operated public boating access site designated under section 78105(2) with the resident motor vehicle unless the recreation passport fee has been paid for that motor vehicle. Payment of the recreation passport fee authorizes entry into all state parks and recreation areas and designated state-operated public boating access sites until expiration of the motor vehicle registration.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), if the secretary of state issues registration tabs or stickers as described in section 805 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805, the operator of a resident motor vehicle shall not enter a designated state-operated public boating access site with the resident motor vehicle unless the resident motor vehicle has a registration tab or sticker marked as provided under that section to show that the recreation passport fee has been paid.

(4) Subsections (1) to (3) do not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(a) If the motor vehicle is used in the operation or maintenance of the public boating access site, is an emergency motor vehicle, is a state-owned or law enforcement motor vehicle, or is a private motor vehicle being operated on official state business.

(b) If the motor vehicle is registered under section 803e(1) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803e, and is exempt under section 803e(6) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803e, from the registration tax, or if the motor vehicle is registered under section 217d or 803f of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.217d and 257.803f.

(c) If and to the extent the department waives the requirements for department-sponsored events or other circumstances as determined by the director or the director's designee.

(5) A person who violates subsection (1), (2), or (3) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00. A person shall not be cited for a violation of both subsections (2) and (3) for the same incident.

(6) In any proceeding for the violation of this part or a rule promulgated under this part, if a motor vehicle is found parked in a designated state-operated public boating access site, the registration plate displayed on the motor vehicle constitutes prima facie evidence that the owner of the motor vehicle was the person who parked or placed it at the location where it was found.

History: Add. 2010, Act 34, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010;—Am. 2013, Act 81, Eff. May 1, 2014.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 783
FERRY DOCKS AT THE STRAITS OF MACKINAC

324.78301 Ferry docks at Straits of Mackinac; jurisdiction and control; transfer; description.

Sec. 78301. The jurisdiction and control of the following described lands is transferred from the state

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transportation department to the department:

Mackinaw City Dock

Lots 1 to 6, both inclusive, of block 9 and Railroad avenue lying east of the east line of Huron avenue in Wendell's addition to Mackinaw City, Cheboygan county, Michigan.

Oil Storage Area

All that part of the unplatted portion of government lot 1 of section 18, town 39 north, range 3 west, village of Mackinaw City, Cheboygan county, Michigan, and water lots 55 and 56, block B of the plat of "Mackinaw City" as recorded in the office of the register of deeds, Cheboygan county, Michigan, described as:

Beginning at a point on the southerly line of government lot 1 of said section 18 which is 93.7 feet easterly, measured along said southerly lot line from its intersection with the former westerly line of Huron avenue according to the recorded plat of the village of Mackinaw City, said point of beginning being the center line of the existing pavement on Huron avenue; thence northeasterly along said center line at an angle of 103° 03' 15" with the southerly line of said government lot 1, a distance of 418.54 feet to the northerly line of water lot 55 extended westerly; thence easterly at an angle to the right of 77° 02' 25", along said extension and the northerly line of said water lot 55, a distance of 410 feet more or less to the water's edge of the Straits of Mackinac; thence southerly along said water's edge, 408 feet more or less to the southerly line of government lot 1 of said section 18; thence westerly along said southerly line of said government lot 1, a distance of 520 feet more or less, to the point of beginning; reserving an easement for highway purposes in, over and upon that part of the above described property which lies westerly of a line 100 feet easterly of, measured at right angles to, and parallel with the center line of the existing pavement on Huron avenue. Subject to the reservation in favor of the Michigan Central railroad company and the New York Central railroad company as recorded in liber 122, on pages 467-469, office of the register of deeds, Cheboygan county, Michigan.

St. Ignace Dock 1

Lots 6 to 12, both inclusive, of block 2, of assessor's plat No. 5, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan, according to the plat thereof recorded in liber 2 of plats, on page 49, register's office, Mackinac county, Michigan.

St. Ignace Dock 2

Lots 1 and 2, block 2, assessor's plat No. 5, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan, according to the plat thereof recorded in liber 2 of plats, on page 49, register's office, Mackinac county, Michigan.

Also, that part of private claim 15 located south of assessor's plat No. 5, city of St. Ignace, lying between State street on the west and lake Huron on the east, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan.

Also, that part of the north 2/3 of private claim 14 lying between State street on the west and lake Huron on the east, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan.

St. Ignace Dock 3

Lots 16 to 28, both inclusive, of block 1 and entire blocks 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Straits subdivision, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan, according to the plat thereof recorded in liber 2 of plats, on page 39, register's office, Mackinac county, Michigan.

Also, that part of private claim 2 located south of the south line of Straits subdivision and east of the east line of State street, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan.

Also, that part of private claim 1 located north of the north line of block 1 of the partition plat of private claim 1 and east of a line 363 feet east of, measured at right angles, and parallel with the centerline of State street, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan.

Also, lots 6 to 15, both inclusive, block 1; lots 6 to 19, both inclusive, block 2 and lots 1 to 4, both inclusive, block 5, including the streets and alley adjacent thereto, of the partition plat of private claim 1, city of St. Ignace, Mackinac county, Michigan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78302 Operation and maintenance of docks and approaches to docks; determination; purpose; relinquishment of control.

Sec. 78302. The department shall operate and maintain the docks, and approaches to the docks, as the department determines is necessary to serve tourism and boating in the area. The department shall relinquish control of the docks and approaches for use by the state or any of its agencies if for any reason the Mackinac Straits bridge becomes unusable, or in the event of an emergency declared by the governor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.78303 Ferry docks at Straits of Mackinac; leases; concessions; rules.

Sec. 78303. Subject to the provisions of this part, the department may grant leases and concessions for the use of the properties transferred by this part. The department shall promulgate rules for the use of these properties by all persons without discrimination. The department shall not grant exclusive use of the docking facilities to any person, but may lease designated areas to particular persons for the operation of commercial enterprises. The department may make arrangements with other state agencies for use of portions of the properties transferred by this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78304 Entering into lease with village of Mackinaw City; duration; duties of village.

Sec. 78304. The department may enter into a lease for a period not to exceed 25 years with the village of Mackinaw City, whereby the village agrees to operate and maintain the parking facilities located on the property described in section 78301 as the Mackinaw City dock, to construct, operate, and maintain buildings on the Mackinaw City dock, or to perform other functions in relation to the Mackinaw City dock, under such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the department and the village of Mackinaw City.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78305 Entering into lease with city of St. Ignace; duration; duties of city.

Sec. 78305. The department may enter into a lease for a period not to exceed 25 years with the city of St. Ignace, whereby the city agrees to operate and maintain the parking facilities located on the property described in section 78301 as the St. Ignace docks numbers 1 and 2, to construct, operate, and maintain buildings on the St. Ignace docks numbers 1 and 2, or to perform other functions in relation to the St. Ignace docks numbers 1 and 2, under such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the department and the city of St. Ignace.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78306 Land transferred from Mackinac Island state park commission to department; small craft harbor facility.

Sec. 78306. (1) The jurisdiction and control of the following described land is transferred from the Mackinac Island state park commission to the department:

A parcel of land beginning at the northwest corner of lot No. 88 of assessors plat No. 2, city of Mackinac Island, county of Mackinac, extending along the south side of Huron street in a westerly direction 530 feet thence to the shoreline of lake Huron in a southerly direction, the distance from Huron street to the shore of lake Huron being approximately 80 feet; thence easterly along the shore of lake Huron to the southwest corner of Lot No. 88 of assessors plat No. 2, city of Mackinac Island, county of Mackinac, and thence northerly approximately 80 feet along the west line of lot No. 88, assessors plat No. 2, city of Mackinac Island, county of Mackinac, to the point of beginning; also the docks, piers, buildings and appurtenances situated thereon or attached thereto, which are now under the jurisdiction of the Mackinac Island state park commission.

(2) The department shall operate the properties transferred by this section as a harbor facility for small craft and shall not permit the operation of any commercial enterprise thereon except the sale of marine fuel and other supplies for small craft by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78307 Disposition of revenues.

Sec. 78307. All revenues received by the department under this part shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the state waterways fund and shall be expended as appropriated by the legislature.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.78308 Administration of part; advice by commission.

Sec. 78308. The Michigan state waterways commission created in part 781 shall advise the department on the administration of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 785
CHEBOYGAN LOCK AND DAM

324.78501 Cheboygan lock and dam; acquisition.

Sec. 78501. The department may purchase and receive from its owners on behalf of the state for a nominal consideration of not to exceed $1.00 and subject to an agreement that the department maintain the property and such terms, conditions, and stipulations as the department may approve, the locks, dams, races, structures, and related properties, facilities, flowage easements, and real estate connected with or a part of the facility now known as the Cheboygan lock and dam, at Cheboygan, Michigan.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78502 Cheboygan lock and dam; leases; agreements.

Sec. 78502. The department may operate, control, maintain, and lease such property and may establish and revise fees and hours of operation for the facility. The department may enter into agreements with any person with respect to water rights, water levels, controls, lockage fees, and related matters.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78503 Revenues; disposition.

Sec. 78503. Revenues received by the department under this part shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the waterways account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2035.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.78504 Administration of part; advice by commission.

Sec. 78504. The Michigan state waterways commission created in part 781 shall advise the department on the administration of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT

PART 791
HARBOR DEVELOPMENT

324.79101 Definitions.

Sec. 79101. As used in this part:

(a) "Commission" means the Michigan state waterways commission created in part 781.

(b) "Harbor" means a portion of a lake or other body of water either naturally or artificially protected in order to be a place of safety for watercraft.

(c) "Harbor facilities" means the structures of a harbor constructed to protect the lake or body of water and

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the facilities provided within the harbor and on shore for the mooring and servicing of watercraft and the servicing of crews and passengers.

(d) "Marina" means a site which contains harbor facilities.

(e) "Nonrevenue-producing harbor facilities" means any portion of harbor facilities that would not normally produce revenue and includes, but is not limited to, jetties, breakwaters, dredging, and shore protection.

(f) "Revenue-producing harbor facilities" means any portion of harbor facilities that normally produce revenue and includes, but is not limited to, watercraft slips, watercraft launching facilities, watercraft storage, lodging, access roads, watercraft repair facilities, parking lots, mechanical haul-out devices, and facilities for fuel, food, and other services.

(g) "Watercraft" means any contrivance used or designed for navigation on water, including, but not limited to, any vessel, ship, boat, motor vessel, steam vessel, vessel operated by machinery, motorboat, sailboat, barge, scow, tugboat, and rowboat.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79102 Providing assistance to certain persons.

Sec. 79102. The department may provide assistance to a person seeking to secure construction, operation, and maintenance of recreational boat slips on the waters of this state as provided in this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79103 Purchase of real property for development of marinas.

Sec. 79103. The department may purchase real property accessible to, or capable of being made accessible to, the waters of this state for the development of marinas, as provided in this part, only when it can be demonstrated that the demand for recreational boat slips within a specific harbor or within a local unit of government exceeds the available supply.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79104 Purchase of property located within local unit of government.

Sec. 79104. The department shall not purchase property located within a local unit of government, under this part, if the local unit of government where the property is located imposes property taxes on property containing a shoreline recreational facility that is owned by an adjacent local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79105 Sale of structures, real property, or rights or interest in real property.

Sec. 79105. The department may sell or remove buildings or other structures on real property acquired by the department under this part, and may sell real property or rights or interest in real property not considered essential for the purposes of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79106 Construction of nonrevenue-producing harbor facilities.

Sec. 79106. If, in the judgment of the department, real property acquired under this part requires modification or improvement to make it financially attractive to potential investors in a marina, the department may construct nonrevenue-producing harbor facilities at those sites.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79107 Leases of real property.

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Sec. 79107. After real property is acquired under this part, the department may enter into leases of the real property or portions of the real property the department determines will aid in the construction of a marina, the provision of summer or winter storage of watercraft, or the provision of services normally found at commercial marinas.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79108 Solicitation and evaluation of proposals.

Sec. 79108. (1) If the department determines that real property acquired by it under this part is suitable for use as a marina, the department shall publicly solicit proposals for the development of the marina and the lease of the real property. The solicitation of proposals shall include published notices in at least 1 local news publication of general circulation in the area in which the marina will be located and in at least 2 journals related to the marina, watercraft, or harbor industries, which journals have statewide circulation. A reasonable time shall be allowed for bidders to respond, and all proposals shall be publicly opened and read. A proposal received by the department in response to the solicitation may be rejected by the department for any reason or without cause if the department believes such action to be appropriate. The department may waive any defects in any proposals received, at its discretion, but is not required to do so.

(2) In evaluating proposals for the construction of revenue-producing harbor facilities and the operation of a marina, the department shall take into consideration, among other things, the technical qualifications of the applicants; the financial responsibility of the applicants; the ability of the applicants to perform efficiently the services necessary to maintain a sound facility, including the prior experience, if any, of the applicants in operating a marina; the proposed lease payments; the nature and scope of each applicant's plans for the marina; and the timetables for development of the proposed marina.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79109 Term of lease; extension; rule establishing penalty schedule for nonpayment of lease payments; notice of taxation.

Sec. 79109. (1) A lease entered into by the department under this part shall be for an initial term of not more than 25 years. A lease may be extended for a period not to exceed 5 years, at the discretion of the department, if the lessee has complied with the provisions of the lease and has made appropriate efforts to upgrade and maintain the real property.

(2) The department shall establish, by rule, a penalty schedule for nonpayment of lease payments. The department shall provide in a lease entered into under this part that, if a lessee is in default on a payment for more than 60 days, or if a lessee defaults on a payment or delays making a payment for more than 30 days on more than 2 occasions in a single year, the department may declare the lease agreement breached and seek its remedies at law or in accordance with the lease agreement.

(3) The department shall provide notice in any lease entered into under this part that the lessee may be subject to taxation under Act No. 189 of the Public Acts of 1953, being sections 211.181 to 211.182 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79110 Sale, transfer, or assignment of lease; transfer by bequest or descent of lessee.

Sec. 79110. A lease entered into by the department under this part or an interest in a lease entered into by the department under this part shall not be sold, transferred, or assigned unless the sale, transfer, or assignment is first approved by the department, after receipt of a written application containing the same information as to the purchaser, transferee, or assignee as is required of an original applicant. This section does not restrict the transfer by bequest or descent of the lessee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79111 Consideration for issuance of lease; reduction of initial financial burden.

Sec. 79111. A lease entered into by the department under this part shall not be issued without

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consideration. However, the department may establish annual lease payments, which reduce the initial financial burden on the lessee as much as is reasonably possible, with subsequent payments to be appropriately increased to assure payment of the total lease obligation prior to the termination of the lease.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79112 Lease agreements with 1 or more local units of government; apportionment of revenue.

Sec. 79112. The department may enter into lease agreements for purposes of this part with 1 or more local units of government or public colleges or universities acting jointly with the department as a lessor. Revenue from each lease shall be apportioned according to the proportional share of the investments made by the department and the local unit or units of government or public colleges or universities in the construction of nonrevenue-producing harbor facilities and in consideration of the relative land investments of the entities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 19, Imd. Eff. June 18, 2003.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79113 Minimum standards for construction and operation of harbor facilities by lessee.

Sec. 79113. The department may establish minimum standards applicable to the construction and operation of harbor facilities by a lessee including, but not limited to, restrooms and showers, the number of slips available to transient and seasonal watercraft rentals, construction material, parking lots, engineering and architectural plans and designs, watercraft launching facilities, and watercraft storage and repair facilities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79114 Disposition of revenue from lease contracts.

Sec. 79114. All revenue from lease contracts entered into under this part shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the waterways account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2035.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79115 Liability.

Sec. 79115. The department shall not be liable for loss of life or injury or damage to persons or property as a result of the conditions on real property, waterways, or facilities on real property leased to persons by the department under this part. However, this section shall not relieve lessees of any obligations they may otherwise have to persons or to damages if they are found to have failed to meet their obligations properly.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79116 Rules.

Sec. 79116. The department shall promulgate rules as are necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79117 Administration of part; advice by department.

Sec. 79117. The Michigan state waterways commission created in part 781 shall advise the department on the administration of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.79118 Discrimination prohibited.

Sec. 79118. A person shall not deny another individual the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations created under this part because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, or marital status.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 793
HARBORS, CHANNELS, AND OTHER NAVIGATIONAL FACILITIES

324.79301 “Political subdivision” defined.

Sec. 79301. As used in this part, "political subdivision" means any local unit of government or port district of this state and any other governmental agency or subdivision, public corporation, authority, or district in this state, which is or may be authorized by law to acquire, establish, construct, maintain, improve, and operate harbors, channels, and other navigational facilities. Whenever used in this part, the term political subdivision includes any combination of political subdivisions acting jointly.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79302 Political subdivision; powers.

Sec. 79302. A political subdivision may do 1 or more of the following:

(a) Adopt and amend all necessary rules, regulations, and ordinances for the management, government, and use of any waterways, harbors, channels, or other navigational facilities under its control, either within or outside of its territorial limits; employ harbor guards, police, or a harbormaster with full police powers; establish penalties for the violation of the rules, regulations, and ordinances; and enforce those penalties.

(b) Adopt and enact rules, regulations, and ordinances designed to safeguard the public upon or beyond the limits of harbors, channels, connecting waterways, or other navigational facilities within the political subdivision or its political jurisdiction, which rules shall be consistent with and conform to, as nearly as possible, the laws of this state.

(c) Vest authority for the maintenance, operation, and regulation thereof in an officer, board, or body of the political subdivision by ordinances or resolution which shall prescribe the duties and powers of the officers, boards, or body.

(d) Employ a regular harbormaster for the harbors, channels, connecting waterways, or navigational facilities under its control; or, in cases where a harbor board or body is established, the harbormaster may be employed by the board or body.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79303 Political subdivisions; joint action.

Sec. 79303. All powers, rights, and authority granted to any political subdivision in this part may be exercised and enjoyed by 2 or more political subdivisions, or by this state through its appropriate agencies and 1 or more such political subdivisions acting jointly, either within or outside of the territorial limits of either of them, and contracts may be entered with each political subdivision for the purposes of implementing this part and authorizing joint action.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 795
WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION

324.79501 Definitions.

Sec. 79501. As used in this part:

(a) "Commission" means the Michigan jobs commission.

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(b) "Department" means the department of environmental quality.

(c) "Gaming facility" means a gaming facility regulated under the Michigan gaming control and revenue act, the initiated law of 1996, MCL 432.201 to 432.226.

(d) "Grant" means a waterfront redevelopment grant under this part.

(e) "Response activity" means that term as it is defined in part 201.

(f) "Waterfront" means land that is contiguous to the Great Lakes or their connecting waterways, a river, or a lake or impoundment that has a surface area of not less than 50 acres.

(g) "Waterfront planning area" means the geographic area included within a waterfront redevelopment plan.

(h) "Waterfront redevelopment plan" means a waterfront redevelopment plan prepared by a local unit of government under section 79503 or a state approved recreation plan that includes waterfront improvements.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79502 Waterfront redevelopment grants program; establishment; provisions; funding sources; waterfront public access.

Sec. 79502. (1) The department shall establish a waterfront redevelopment grants program. A local unit of government may apply to the department for a grant to conduct a project that does any of the following:

(a) Provides for response activities on waterfront property consistent with a waterfront redevelopment plan.

(b) Provides for the demolition of buildings and other facilities along a waterfront that are inconsistent with a waterfront redevelopment plan.

(c) Provides for the acquisition of waterfront property or the assembly of waterfront property consistent with a waterfront redevelopment plan.

(d) Provides public infrastructure and public facility improvements to waterfront property consistent with a waterfront redevelopment plan.

(2) A grant shall not be provided under this part for a project that is located at any of the following:

(a) Land sited for use as a gaming facility or as a stadium or arena for use by a professional sports team.

(b) Land or other facilities owned or operated by a gaming facility or by a stadium or arena for use by a professional sports team.

(c) Land within a project area described in a project plan pursuant to the economic development corporations act, 1974 PA 338, MCL 125.1601 to 125.1636, for a gaming facility.

(3) For any grant issued under this part, the department shall require that a local unit of government provide at least 25% of the total project's cost from other public or private funding sources.

(4) A project funded pursuant to this part shall provide for waterfront access to the general public.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79503 Waterfront redevelopment plan; preparation.

Sec. 79503. A local unit of government that wishes to apply for a grant shall prepare a waterfront redevelopment plan that provides for the improvement of the waterfront. The waterfront redevelopment plan, at a minimum, shall do both of the following:

(a) Clearly designate the geographic area included within the waterfront planning area.

(b) Identify the economic impact on the improved area, the surrounding neighborhood, and the region in which the waterfront planning area is located.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79504 Grant application.

Sec. 79504. A local unit of government that wishes to be considered for a grant shall submit a written grant application to the department in a manner prescribed by the department and containing the information required by the department. The grant application shall also include all of the following:

(a) A detailed description of the project and how the grant would be used, including any private sector participation.

(b) A copy of the waterfront redevelopment plan for the area in which the project is to be located.

(c) An explanation of how the project will contribute significantly to the local unit of government's

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economic and community redevelopment or the revitalization of adjacent neighborhoods.

(d) An explanation of how the project will provide for public access to the waterfront or will provide recreational opportunities for the public.

(e) If the project includes the purchase of property, an identification of the intended use of the property, and a timeline for redevelopment of the property.

(f) The total cost of the project and the source of the local unit of government's contribution to the project.

(g) A detailed description of the practices the local unit of government will implement and maintain to control nonpoint source pollution from the project site both during construction activities and throughout the period of time in which the state is paying off the bonds that were issued pursuant to the clean Michigan initiative act.

(h) Other information that the department and the commission consider relevant.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79505 Grant application; review by department and commission.

Sec. 79505. Upon receipt of a grant application under section 79504, the department shall forward a copy of the application to the commission. The department and the commission shall jointly review the grant applications. In reviewing grant applications, the department and the commission shall consider all of the following:

(a) Whether the project proposed to be funded is authorized by this part.

(b) Whether the grant application submitted complies with this part.

(c) Whether the project is consistent with the waterfront redevelopment plan for the area in which the project is located.

(d) Whether the project provides significant public access to the waterfront or provides recreational opportunities for the public.

(e) Whether the project will significantly contribute to the local unit of government's economic and community redevelopment or the revitalization of adjacent neighborhoods.

(f) Whether there is evidence of adverse economic and socioeconomic conditions within the waterfront planning area.

(g) The viability of the waterfront redevelopment plan.

(h) Whether the project is innovative in comparison to other grant applications.

(i) The level of public and private commitment and other resources available for the project.

(j) The level of public and private commitment to other aspects of the waterfront redevelopment plan.

(k) How the project relates to a broader economic and community development plan for the local unit of government as a whole.

(*l*) The level of demonstrated commitment from other governmental agencies.

(m) The level of public and private commitment to improving abandoned real property within the waterfront planning area in which the project is located.

(n) Other criteria that the department and the commission consider relevant.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79506 Issuance of grants.

Sec. 79506. The department, with the approval of the commission, shall issue grants under this part for projects that the department determines meet the requirements of this part and will contribute to the revitalization of waterfronts throughout the state that are not being used in a manner that maximizes economic and public value.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79507 Recovery of costs.

Sec. 79507. The department and the department of attorney general may recover costs expended pursuant to section 79502(1)(a) and all other costs recoverable under part 201 from persons who are liable under part 201. Actions to recover costs shall proceed in the manner provided in part 201.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.79508 Administration of part.

Sec. 79508. Grants made under this part are subject to the applicable requirements of part 196. The department shall administer this part in compliance with the applicable requirements of part 196, including the reporting requirements to the legislature of the grants provided under this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 285, Eff. Dec. 1, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

SUBCHAPTER 5
WATERCRAFT AND MARINE SAFETY

PART 801
MARINE SAFETY

324.80101 Definitions; A to C.

Sec. 80101. As used in this part:

(a) "Airboat" means a motorboat that is propelled, wholly or in part, by a propeller projecting above the water surface.

(b) "Alcoholic liquor" means that term as defined in section 1d of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1d.

(c) "Anchored rafts" means all types of nonpowered rafts used for recreational purposes that are anchored seasonally on waters of this state.

(d) "Associated equipment" means any of the following that are not radio equipment:

(*i*) An original system, part, or component of a boat at the time that boat was manufactured, or a similar part or component manufactured or sold for replacement.

(*ii*) Repair or improvement of an original or replacement system, part, or component.

(*iii*) An accessory or equipment for, or appurtenance to, a boat.

(*iv*) A marine safety article, accessory, or equipment intended for use by a person on board a boat.

(e) "Boat" means a vessel.

(f) "Boat livery" means a business that holds a vessel for renting, leasing, or chartering.

(g) "Boating safety certificate" means any of the following:

(*i*) The document issued by the department under part 802 that certifies that the individual named in the document has successfully completed a boating safety course and passed an examination approved and administered as required under section 80212.

(*ii*) A document issued by the United States coast guard auxiliary or United States power squadron that certifies that the individual named in the document has successfully completed a United States coast guard auxiliary course concerning boating safety.

(*iii*) A written rental agreement provided to an individual named in the rental agreement entered into under section 44522 only on the date or dates indicated on the rental agreement while the named individual is operating a personal watercraft leased, hired, or rented from a boat livery.

(h) "Boating safety course" means a course that meets both of the following requirements:

(*i*) Provides instruction on the safe operation of a personal watercraft that meets or exceeds the minimum course content for boating or personal watercraft education established by the national association of state boating law administrators education committee (October 1996), a province of the commonwealth of Canada, or another country.

(*ii*) Is approved by the department.

(i) "Controlled substance" means that term as defined in section 7104 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7104.

(j) "Conviction" means a final conviction, the payment of a fine, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere if accepted by the court, a finding of guilt, or a probate court or family division disposition on a violation of this part, regardless of whether the penalty is rebated or suspended.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 547, Imd. Eff. Jan. 3, 2005;—Am. 2012, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

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Popular name: NREPA

324.80102 Definitions; D to L.

Sec. 80102. As used in this part:

(a) "Dealer" means a person and an authorized representative of that person who annually purchases from a manufacturer, or who is engaged in selling or manufacturing, 6 or more vessels that require certificates of number under this part.

(b) "Identification document" means any of the following:

(*i*) A valid Michigan operator's or chauffeur's license.

(*ii*) A valid driver's or chauffeur's license issued by an agency, department, or bureau of the United States or another state.

(*iii*) An official identification card issued by an agency, department, or bureau of the United States, this state, or another state.

(*iv*) An official identification card issued by a political subdivision of this state or another state.

(c) "Issuing authority" means the United States coast guard or a state that has a numbering system approved by the United States coast guard.

(d) "Law of another state" means a law or ordinance enacted by any of the following:

(*i*) Another state.

(*ii*) A local unit of government in another state.

(*iii*) Canada or a province or territory of Canada.

(*iv*) A local unit of government in a province or territory of Canada.

(e) "Lifeboat" means a small boat designated and used solely for lifesaving purposes, and does not include a dinghy, tender, speedboat, or other type of craft that is not carried aboard a vessel for lifesaving purposes.

(f) "Long-term incapacitating injury" means an injury that causes serious impairment of a body function.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80103 Definitions; M to O.

Sec. 80103. As used in this part:

(a) "Manufacturer" means a person engaged in any of the following:

(*i*) The manufacture, construction, or assembly of boats or associated equipment.

(*ii*) The manufacture or construction of components for boats and associated equipment to be sold for subsequent assembly.

(*iii*) The importation of a boat or associated equipment into the state for sale.

(b) "Marine law" means this part, a local ordinance adopted in conformity with this part, or a rule promulgated under this part.

(c) "Marine safety act" means former Act No. 303 of the Public Acts of 1967.

(d) "Marine safety program" means marine law enforcement, search and rescue operations, water safety education, recovery of drowned bodies, and boat livery inspections.

(e) "Michigan vehicle code" means Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being sections 257.1 to 257.923 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(f) "Motorboat" means a vessel propelled wholly or in part by machinery.

(g) "Operate" means to be in control of a vessel while the vessel is under way and is not secured in some manner such as being docked or at anchor.

(h) "Operator" means the person who is in control or in charge of a vessel while that vessel is underway.

(i) "Owner" means a person who claims or is entitled to lawful possession of a vessel by virtue of that person's legal title or equitable interest in a vessel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80104 "Highly restricted personal information" defined; definitions; P to W.

Sec. 80104. As used in this part:

(a) "Highly restricted personal information" means an individual's photograph or image, Social Security number, digitized signature, and medical and disability information.

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(b) "Passenger" means an individual carried on board, attached to, or towed by a vessel, other than the operator.

(c) "Peace officer" means any of the following:

(*i*) A sheriff.

(*ii*) A sheriff's deputy.

(*iii*) A deputy who is authorized by a sheriff to enforce this part and who has satisfactorily completed at least 40 hours of law enforcement training, including training specific to this part.

(*iv*) A village or township marshal.

(*v*) An officer of the police department of a municipality.

(*vi*) An officer of the department of state police.

(*vii*) The director and conservation officers employed by the department.

(d) "Personal information" means information that identifies an individual, including an individual's driver license number, name, address not including zip code, and telephone number, but does not include information on watercraft operation and equipment-related violations or civil infractions, operator or vehicle registration status, accidents, or other behaviorally related information.

(e) "Personal watercraft" means that term as defined in 40 CFR 1045.801.

(f) "Political subdivision" means a county, metropolitan authority, municipality, or combination of those entities in this state. If a body of water is located in more than 1 political subdivision, all of the subdivisions shall act individually in order to comply with this part, except that if the problem is confined to a specific area of the body of water, only the political subdivision in which the problem waters lie shall act.

(g) "Port" means left, and reference is to the port side of a vessel or to the left side of the vessel.

(h) "Prior conviction" means a conviction for any of the following, whether under a law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, a law of the United States substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(*i*) A violation or an attempted violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7), except that only 1 violation or attempted violation of section 80176(6), a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(6), a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 80176(6), or a law of the United States substantially corresponding to section 80176(6) may be used as a prior conviction other than for enhancement purposes as provided in section 80178a(1)(b).

(*ii*) Negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of a vessel or an attempt to commit any of those crimes.

(*iii*) Former section 73, 73b, or 171(1) of the marine safety act.

(i) "Probate court or family division disposition" means the entry of a probate court order of disposition or family division order of disposition for a child found to be within the provisions of chapter XIIA of the probate code of 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712A.1 to 712A.32.

(j) "Prosecuting attorney", unless the context requires otherwise, means the attorney general, prosecuting attorney of a county, or attorney representing a political subdivision of government.

(k) "Regatta", "boat race", "marine parade", "tournament", or "exhibition" means an organized water event of limited duration that is conducted according to a prearranged schedule.

(*l*) "Slow—no wake speed" means a very slow speed whereby the wake or wash created by the vessel would be minimal.

(m) "Specialty court program" means a program under any of the following:

(*i*) A drug treatment court, as defined in section 1060 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1060, in which the participant is an adult.

(*ii*) A DWI/sobriety court, as defined in section 1084 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1084.

(*iii*) A hybrid of the programs under subparagraphs (*i*) and (*ii*).

(*iv*) A mental health court as defined in section 1090 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1090.

(*v*) A veterans treatment court, as defined in section 1200 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1200.

(n) "Starboard" means right, and reference is to the starboard side of a vessel or to the right side of the vessel.

(o) "State aid" means payment made by this state to a county for the conduct of a marine safety program.

(p) "Temporary ordinance" means a type of local ordinance adopted by a political subdivision of this state under section 80112a that includes, but is not limited to, a local watercraft control or administrative rule.

(q) "Undocumented vessel" means a vessel that does not have, and is not required to have, a valid marine document issued by the United States Coast Guard or federal agency successor to the United States Coast

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Guard.

(r) "Uniform inspection decal" means an adhesive-backed sticker created by the department that is color-coded to indicate the year that it expires and is attached to a vessel in the manner prescribed for decals in section 80122 when a peace officer inspects and determines that the vessel complies with this part.

(s) "Use" means operate, navigate, or employ.

(t) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

(u) "Waters of this state" means any waters within the territorial limits of this state, and includes those waters of the Great Lakes that are under the jurisdiction of this state.

(v) "Waterways account" means the waterways account established in section 2035.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 58, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 72, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80105 Application of part.

Sec. 80105. (1) This part applies to vessels and associated equipment used, to be used, or carried in vessels used on waters subject to the jurisdiction of this state.

(2) This part, except where expressly indicated otherwise, does not apply to any of the following:

(a) Foreign vessels temporarily using waters subject to state jurisdiction.

(b) Military or public vessels of the United States, except recreational-type public vessels.

(c) A vessel whose owner is a state or political subdivision of a state, other than this state and its political subdivisions, that is used principally for governmental purposes and that is clearly identifiable as such.

(d) A ship's lifeboat.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80106 Administration of part; advisory representative.

Sec. 80106. The department shall be responsible for administration of this part except as otherwise provided in this part. The Michigan sheriffs' association shall designate an advisory representative to the department who shall transmit information, advice, and recommendations relative to county marine activities and assist in the coordination of state and county marine safety programs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80107 Review of boating accidents, safety education programs, and policies.

Sec. 80107. The department shall review boating accidents on Michigan waters and study the development of marine safety education programs and other policies of state government relating to marine safety and shall consider changes to department policies and programs.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80108 Regulations of waterborne vehicles; exclusive diving, fishing, swimming or water ski areas; special local regulations.

Sec. 80108. The department may regulate the operation of vessels, water skis, water sleds, aquaplanes, surfboards, or other similar contrivances on the waters of this state. Where special regulations are determined necessary, the department may establish vessel speed limits; prohibit the use of vessels, water skis, water

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sleds, aquaplanes, surfboards, or other similar contrivances; restrict the use of vessels, water skis, water sleds, aquaplanes, surfboards, or other similar contrivances by day and hour; establish and designate areas restricted solely to boating, skin or scuba diving, fishing, swimming, or water skiing; and prescribe any other regulations relating to the use or operation of vessels, water skis, water sleds, aquaplanes, surfboards, or other similar contrivances that will assure compatible use of state waters and best protect the public safety. The department shall prescribe special local regulations in such a manner as to make the regulations uniform with other special local regulations established on other waters of this state insofar as is reasonably possible.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80108[1] Lists of information; sale prohibited.

Sec. 80108. The department or any other state department or agency that maintains or collects lists of information as part of its duties or responsibilities under this act shall not sell any lists of information maintained or collected for the purpose of surveys, marketing, and solicitations.

History: Add. 2000, Act 194, Eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

Compiler's note: Section 80108, as added by Act 194 of 2000, was compiled as MCL 324.80108[1] to distinguish it from another section 80108, deriving from Act 58 of 1995 and pertaining to regulation of waterborne vehicles.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80108a Operation of airboat within certain distance of residence; limitation; exceptions.

Sec. 80108a. (1) A person shall not operate an airboat on the waters of this state within 450 feet of a residence between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. at a speed in excess of the minimum speed required to maintain forward movement.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to any of the following:

(a) The operation of an airboat in an emergency when necessary to protect public safety.

(b) The operation of an airboat so as to free the airboat when it has run aground.

(c) The operation of an airboat for a governmental purpose if the airboat is clearly marked and identified as being used for a governmental purpose.

History: Add. 2008, Act 152, Imd. Eff. June 5, 2008.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.80108a, which pertained to operation of airboat within certain distance of residence, was repealed by Act 547 of 2004, Eff. May 1, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80109 Rules; subsection (1) inapplicable to special local rules.

Sec. 80109. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the department shall promulgate rules authorized by this part. The department shall publish the approved rules in a convenient form.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to special local rules adopted pursuant to sections 80110 and 80111.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80110 Special rules for vessels, water skis, water sleds, aquaplanes, surfboards, or other similar contrivances; investigations and inquiries; preliminary report; notice of public hearing; presentation of views by interested persons; determination by department; proposal for local ordinance; appeal; "water body" defined.

Sec. 80110. (1) Except as provided under section 80112a, the department may initiate an investigation and inquiry into the need for a special rule for the use of vessels, water skis, water sleds, aquaplanes, surfboards, or other similar contrivances on any of the waters of this state to assure compatibility of uses and to protect public safety. If the department receives a resolution under section 80112, the department shall initiate an investigation and inquiry under this subsection.

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(2) The department's investigation and inquiry under subsection (1) into whether a special rule is needed on a water body must include consideration of all of the following:

(a) Whether the activities subject to the proposed rule pose any issues of safety to life or property.

(b) The profile of the water body, including the name of the political subdivision with jurisdiction, size, geographic location, and amount of vessel traffic.

(c) The current and historical depth of the water body, including whether there is an established lake level.

(d) Whether any special problems or conditions exist on the water body for the activities subject to the proposed rule, such as rocks, pier heads, swimming areas, public access sites, shallow waters, and submerged obstacles.

(e) Whether the proposed rule would unreasonably interfere with normal navigational traffic.

(f) Whether user conflicts exist on the water body.

(g) Complaints received by local law enforcement agencies regarding activities on the water body.

(h) The status of any accidents that have occurred on the water body.

(i) Historical uses of the water body and potential future uses of the water body.

(j) Whether the water body is public or private.

(k) Whether existing law adequately regulates the activities subject to the proposed rule.

(3) Following completion of the department's investigation and inquiry under subsection (1), the department shall prepare a preliminary report that includes the department's evaluation of the items listed in subsection (2) and a preliminary recommendation as to whether a special rule is needed for the water body.

(4) On preparation of the preliminary report under subsection (3), the department shall provide a copy of the preliminary report to the political subdivision and schedule a public hearing in the vicinity of the water body to gather public input on the preliminary report and the need for a special rule. The department shall provide notice of the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the water body is located not less than 10 days before the hearing. At the public hearing, any interested person may comment on the preliminary report and the need for a special rule, either orally or in writing.

(5) Within 90 days after the public hearing under subsection (4), if the department determines that a special rule is needed for the water body, the department shall propose a local ordinance or appropriate changes to a local ordinance. If the department determines that a special rule is not needed, the department shall notify the political subdivision and provide the specific reasons for the determination.

(6) A determination by the department under this section that a special rule is not needed for the water body may be appealed to the director by the political subdivision. The director shall make the final agency decision on whether a special rule is needed for the water body.

(7) As used in this section, "water body" includes all or a portion of a water body.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 237, Imd. Eff. June 26, 2006;—Am. 2020, Act 72, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80111 Proposed local ordinance; submission to governing body; approval or disapproval; enactment; enforcement.

Sec. 80111. A local ordinance proposed pursuant to section 80110 shall be submitted to the governing body of the political subdivision in which the water body subject to the proposed special rules is located. Within 60 calendar days, the governing body shall inform the department that it approves or disapproves of the proposed local ordinance. If the required information is not received within the time specified, the department shall consider the proposed local ordinance disapproved by the governing body. If the governing body disapproves the proposed local ordinance, or if the 60-day period has elapsed without a reply having been received from the governing body, no further action shall be taken. If the governing body approves the proposed local ordinance, the local ordinance shall be enacted identical in all respects to the local ordinance proposed by the department. After the local ordinance is enacted, the local ordinance shall be enforced as provided for in section 80113.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 237, Imd. Eff. June 26, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80112 Special local ordinances; request for assistance; form; receipt of resolution by

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department.

Sec. 80112. Local political subdivisions that believe that special local ordinances of the type authorized by this part are needed on waters subject to their jurisdiction shall inform the department and request assistance. All such requests shall be in the form of an official resolution approved by a majority of the governing body of the concerned political subdivision following a public hearing on the resolution. Upon receipt of a resolution under this section, the department shall proceed as required by sections 80110 and 80111.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2006, Act 237, Imd. Eff. June 26, 2006.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80112a Temporary ordinance for use of vessels on a water body; application; information required; investigation; notice; expiration; right to appeal.

Sec. 80112a. (1) If a political subdivision believes a temporary ordinance is needed for the use of vessels on a water body subject to its jurisdiction, the political subdivision may submit an application and a resolution for a temporary ordinance to the department.

(2) An application for a temporary ordinance under this section must contain all of the following information:

(a) The resolution and a copy of the public notice that lists the adoption of the resolution on the agenda.

(b) The information required under section 80110(2).

(c) The circumstances that justify a temporary ordinance rather than a special rule under section 80110.

(d) A complete list of all local ordinances, regulations, and rules concerning the water body and how the ordinances, regulations, and rules are enforced.

(e) If the temporary ordinance is approved, how the political subdivision will provide for and fund the public notice of the temporary ordinance, including, but not limited to, buoy placement and signage.

(f) If the temporary ordinance is approved, how the political subdivision will enforce the temporary ordinance.

(g) Any other information the political subdivision believes is relevant or necessary.

(3) Within 10 days after receiving an application under subsection (2), the department shall review the application. If the application is complete, the department shall conduct an investigation and inquiry within 10 days into the need for a temporary ordinance. If additional information is needed, the department shall request the additional information. Within 10 days after receiving the additional information, the department shall conduct an investigation and inquiry into the need for a temporary ordinance.

(4) Within 10 days after completing the investigation and inquiry under subsection (3), if the department determines that there is a need for a temporary ordinance, the department shall propose a temporary ordinance that affects all boats or boat types on the water body. If the department determines that there is not a need for a temporary ordinance, the department shall notify the political subdivision and provide the specific reasons for the determination.

(5) A determination by the department under this section that there is not a need for a temporary ordinance may be appealed by the political subdivision to the director. The director shall make the final agency decision on the need for a temporary ordinance.

(6) If the department determines there is a need for a temporary ordinance, the department shall submit to the political subdivision a proposed temporary ordinance. Notwithstanding any charter provision or other provision of law, the proposed temporary ordinance takes effect when both of the following requirements are met, which must occur within 30 days after the department submits the proposed temporary ordinance to the political subdivision:

(a) The governing body of the political subdivision adopts the ordinance at a public meeting.

(b) The political subdivision notifies the department of the adoption.

(7) If the political subdivision fails to notify the department of the adoption of the proposed temporary ordinance, the proposed temporary ordinance is considered disapproved and no further action shall be taken.

(8) A temporary ordinance expires 6 months after the department is notified of the adoption of the temporary ordinance under subsection (6). The temporary ordinance may be extended or renewed in consecutive years only if the political subdivision is going through the process of adopting a proposed special rule under sections 80110 and 80111, and the public hearing required under section 80110(4) has occurred.

(9) If the department determines that a special rule is not needed under section 80110(5), and the director denies the appeal under section 80110(6), the political subdivision may not extend or renew a temporary ordinance in consecutive years under subsection (8).

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(10) As used in this section, "water body" includes all or a portion of a water body.

History: Add. 2020, Act 72, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80113 Enforcement of local ordinances; existing rules; enactment of statutory provisions as ordinance.

Sec. 80113. (1) State, county, and local peace officers shall enforce local ordinances enacted in accordance with this part.

(2) All rules establishing special local watercraft controls promulgated under former 1967 PA 303 before March 17, 1986 shall remain in effect unless rescinded pursuant to sections 80108, 80110, 80111, and 80112.

(3) Local political subdivisions may enact as an ordinance any or all of sections 80101 to 80104, 80122 to 80124, 80126, 80140, 80141, 80144 to 80153, 80155, 80164, 80165, and 80166 to 80173.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 215, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 281.700.1 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.80114 Rules; violation; fine.

Sec. 80114. (1) The department may promulgate rules to establish performance or other safety standards relating to boat construction or the installation, use, or carriage of associated equipment.

(2) In order that a boat operator may pass unhindered from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, rules authorized by this section shall be identical to federal regulations for enforcement purposes. However, rules requiring the carrying or using of marine safety articles to meet uniquely hazardous conditions or circumstances within this state may be promulgated, if the rules for the safety articles are approved by the United States coast guard.

(3) A person who violates a rule promulgated to implement this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80114a Prohibition against operation of motorized vessel; exemption; marine exemption certificate; physician's attestation.

Sec. 80114a. (1) A marine law that prohibits the operation of a motorized vessel on a portion of the waterways of this state shall not be enforced against an individual who meets all of the following qualifications:

(a) The individual has a disability that prevents him or her from rowing or paddling a vessel.

(b) The individual has in his or her possession a marine exemption certificate.

(c) The individual is operating a noncommercial vessel at slow—no wake speed using an electric motor that is rated at 100 pounds of thrust or less.

(2) This section does not exempt an individual from compliance with any other marine law.

(3) An individual may obtain a marine exemption certificate from either the department or a sheriff's department by presenting a physician's attestation that the physician has examined the individual and determined that the individual has a disability that prevents him or her from rowing or paddling a vessel.

(4) The department shall develop and make available for use as prescribed in this section a physician's attestation form and a marine exemption certificate.

History: Add. 2008, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Apr. 29, 2008.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80115 Disposition of revenues; credit to waterways account; appropriation; fees.

Sec. 80115. (1) The revenue received under this part shall be deposited in the state treasury. The revenue division, department of treasury, shall annually present to the department an accurate total of all the revenues

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collected, and shall then, except as provided in section 80124b, credit the revenues collected to the waterways account to be used as follows:

(a) 17.5% to implement part 781.

(b) 33.5% to implement part 791.

(c) 49% for water safety education programs and for the administration and enforcement of this part, including state aid to counties, and for no other purpose.

(2) Fees provided for in section 80124 shall not be appropriated for the inspection of vessels that carry passengers for hire and are regulated under part 445.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 292, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 2004;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80116 Boating safety program; compliance with rules; federal financial assistance.

Sec. 80116. The department shall do all things necessary to conduct a comprehensive boating safety program as provided in chapter 131 of part I of subtitle II of title 46 of the United States Code, 46 U.S.C. 13101 to 13110; to comply with rules promulgated under that act by the secretary of the department in which the coast guard is operating; and to accept federal financial assistance as provided in that act.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80117 Marine safety program; state aid; formula; limitation on determination; use; statement of expenditures.

Sec. 80117. (1) Each county of the state is entitled to receive state aid as provided in this part. A county board of commissioners desiring to conduct a marine safety program shall submit to the department by December 31 of each year an estimate of authorized expenditures for the following calendar year, in the form and containing the information the department requires. The department shall review the entire request and may approve the county request for state aid. The department shall annually survey the marine safety program of each county to assist in determining the amount of state aid to be allocated to a county for its marine safety program. In making its annual determination of the amount of state aid to be allocated to a county, the department shall develop and employ a formula which shall include such factors as:

(a) The number of students to be trained in boating safety in any United States coast guard auxiliary, United States power squadron, or department-sponsored marine safety classes.

(b) The number of boat user days.

(c) The number of livery boats.

(d) Program effectiveness measured by comparing the existing rate of compliance with current statutes to the acceptable rate of compliance determined by the department.

(e) The number and type of boat access areas requiring a county marine safety program.

(f) The water area of the county.

(2) A determination of the amount of state aid allocated to a county under this part shall not be based, wholly or in part, upon the number of vessels within that county that are stopped or inspected under section 80166.

(3) State aid allocated to a county under this part shall be used exclusively for the conduct of the county marine safety program as provided by this part and rules promulgated under this part. Within 90 days after the close of each calendar year, a county board of commissioners shall submit to the department a statement of authorized expenditures actually incurred, in the form and containing the information that the department requires. A county that provides the department with statements or supplements to statements subsequent to the 90-day period is not eligible for state aid under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

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Popular name: NREPA

324.80118 Allocation of state aid to counties.

Sec. 80118. The amount of state aid to be allocated to a county pursuant to this part shall be determined by the department in the manner the department determines is appropriate. The department shall review the county's statement of authorized expenditures actually incurred and if satisfied shall provide state aid in an amount not to exceed 3/4 of the county's estimated authorized expenditures for the past calendar year. If the county's authorized expenditures actually incurred for the past calendar year exceed the county's estimated authorized expenditures for that calendar year, the department, if it considers it to be in the best interests of the state and adequate funds have been appropriated by the legislature for state aid to counties, may provide state aid in excess of 3/4 of the county's estimated authorized expenditures for that calendar year, but not in excess of 3/4 of the county's authorized expenditures actually incurred. If the amount appropriated by the legislature for state aid to counties is insufficient to pay the full amount to which the counties are entitled, the department shall reduce the allocations proportionate to the shortfall of revenue among all state and local programs for which waterways account money was appropriated.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80119 Marine safety program; audits of county records; refunds to state.

Sec. 80119. Annually the department of the treasury shall audit the county records pertaining to the marine safety program to assure the proper disposition of this money in accordance with this part and rules promulgated under this part. If the audit reveals that a refund of state aid money is due to the state, the county treasurer, within 30 days of the completion of the audit, shall send to the department the amount of the refund due to the state, which the department shall return to the waterways account to be used for the purpose described in section 80115(1)(c).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80120 Marine safety program; cooperation with county sheriffs; records; reports.

Sec. 80120. The department and the county sheriffs shall cooperate in the conduct of the marine safety program. The county sheriffs shall maintain records and submit reports in a form and containing information as the department may require.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80121 Rules.

Sec. 80121. The department may promulgate rules as may be necessary to implement this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80122 Conditions to operation of vessels; violation; fine.

Sec. 80122. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, a person shall not operate or give permission for the operation of a vessel of any length on the waters of this state unless the fees prescribed in section 80124 for the vessel are paid, the certificate of number assigned to the vessel is on board and is in full force and

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effect, and, except for the following, the identifying number and decal are displayed on each side of the forward half of the vessel in accordance with this part and the rules promulgated by the department under this part:

(a) A decal and identifying numbers for a wooden hull and historic vessel as that term is defined in section 80124 may be displayed in the manner described in section 80126(2).

(b) A decal for an inflatable boat may be displayed on the transom of the boat.

(2) If a vessel is actually numbered in another state of principal use in accordance with a federally approved numbering system, it is in compliance with the numbering requirements of this state while it is temporarily being used in this state. This subsection applies to a vessel for which a valid temporary certificate is issued to the vessel's owner by the issuing authority of the state in which the vessel is principally used.

(3) If a vessel is removed to this state as the new state of principal use, a number awarded by any other issuing authority is valid for not more than 60 days before numbering is required by this state.

(4) A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80123 Exemption.

Sec. 80123. (1) The owner of a vessel is not required to pay a fee and a vessel is not required to be numbered and to display a decal under this part if the vessel is 1 or more of the following:

(a) Used temporarily on the waters of this state and the owner and the vessel are from a country other than the United States.

(b) A vessel that is owned by the United States, used in the public service for purposes other than recreation, and clearly identifiable as such a vessel.

(c) A vessel's lifeboat.

(d) An all-terrain vehicle not used as a vessel.

(e) A raft, sailboard, surfboard, or swim float.

(f) A vessel 16 feet or less, propelled by hand either with oars or paddles, and not used for rental or other commercial purposes.

(g) A nonmotorized canoe or kayak not used for rental or other commercial purposes.

(2) The owner of a vessel documented by the United States coast guard or a federal agency that is the successor to the United States coast guard shall comply with this part, including the payment of fees as provided in this part. However, the vessel shall not be required to display numbers under this part.

(3) This part does not prohibit the numbering of an undocumented vessel pursuant to this part upon request by the owner, even though the vessel is exempt from the numbering requirements of this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80124 Application for certificate of number; certificate of title; 15-day permit; fee; "the length of vessel" defined; tax exemption; issuance; delinquent fee or tax; penalty; retention of certificate of number on shore; contents of lease or rental agreement; painting or attaching number; assigning block of numbers; federally documented vessel; decal; issuance of original certificate of number, numbering renewal decal, or other renewal device; numbering system; registration; issuance of certificate of number; historic vessel; refund to owner of nonmotorized canoe or kayak; refund and computation of fee.

Sec. 80124. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the owner of a vessel required, pursuant to sections 80122 and 80123, to be numbered and to display a decal shall file an application for a certificate of number with the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall prescribe and furnish certificate of title application forms. If a vessel requiring a certificate of title under part 803 is sold by a dealer, that dealer shall combine the application for a certificate of number that is signed by the vessel owner with the application for a certificate of title. The dealer shall obtain the certificate of number in the name of the owner. The application for a certificate of number shall include a certification. The owner of the vessel shall sign the application or, if the application is filed electronically, provide information requested by the secretary of state

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to verify the owner's identity. A person shall not file an application for a certificate of number that contains false information. A dealer who fails to submit an application as required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both.

(2) A dealer who submits an application for a certificate of number as provided in subsection (1) may issue to the owner of the vessel a 15-day permit, on forms prescribed by the secretary of state, for the use of the vessel while the certificate of number is being issued.

(3) A dealer may issue a 15-day permit, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, for the use of a vessel purchased in this state and delivered to the purchaser for removal to a place outside of this state, if the purchaser certifies by his or her signature that the vessel will be registered and primarily used and stored outside of this state and will not be returned to this state by the purchaser for use or storage. A certificate of number shall not be issued for a vessel holding a permit under this subsection.

(4) A 15-day permit issued under subsection (2) or (3) shall not be renewed or extended.

(5) A person shall operate or permit the operation of a vessel for which a 15-day permit has been issued under this section only if the permit is valid and displayed on the vessel as prescribed by rule promulgated by the department under this part.

(6) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an applicant shall pay the following fee at the time of application:

(a) A 15-day permit issued under subsection (3)	$ 10.00
(b) Nonpowered vessels, other than nonmotorized canoes or kayaks	9.00
(c) Nonmotorized canoes or kayaks	5.00
(d) Motorboats less than 12 feet in length	14.00
(e) Motorboats 12 feet or over but less than 16 feet in length	17.00
(f) Motorboats 16 feet or over but less than 21 feet in length	42.00
(g) Motorboats 21 feet or over but less than 28 feet in length	115.00
(h) Motorboats 28 feet or over but less than 35 feet in length	168.00
(i) Motorboats 35 feet or over but less than 42 feet in length	244.00
(j) Motorboats 42 feet or over but less than 50 feet in length	280.00
(k) Motorboats 50 feet in length or over	448.00
(*l*) Pontoon vessels regardless of size	23.00
(m) Motorized canoes regardless of size	14.00
(n) Vessels licensed under part 473	15.00
(o) Vessels carrying passengers for hire that are in compliance with part 445, or under federal law; and vessels carrying passengers and freight or freight only and owned within this state or hailing from a port within this state	45.00

(7) As used in this section, "the length of a vessel" means the distance from end to end over the deck, excluding the longitudinal upward or downward curve of the deck, fore and aft. For a pontoon boat, length of a vessel means the length of its deck, fore and aft.

(8) Payment of the fee specified in this section exempts the vessel from the tax imposed under the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.155.

(9) Upon receipt of an initial application for a certificate of number in approved form and payment of the required fee, the secretary of state shall enter the information upon the official records and issue to the applicant a certificate of number containing the number awarded to the vessel, the name and address of the owner, and other information that the secretary of state determines necessary. The secretary of state shall issue a certificate of number that is pocket size and legible. Except as provided in subsection (13), a person operating a vessel shall present that vessel's certificate of number to a peace officer upon the peace officer's request.

(10) If a check or draft payable to the secretary of state under this part is not paid on its first presentation, the fee or tax is delinquent as of the date the draft or check was tendered. The person tendering the check or draft remains liable for the payment of the fee or tax and a penalty.

(11) Upon determining that a fee or tax required by this part has not been paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice and demand, the secretary of state may suspend a certificate of number.

(12) If a person who tenders a check or draft described in subsection (10) fails to pay the fee or tax for which the check or draft was tendered within 15 days after the secretary of state gives him or her notice that

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the check or draft described in subsection (10) was not paid on its first presentation, the secretary of state shall assess and collect a penalty of $5.00 or 20% of the check or draft, whichever is larger, in addition to the fee or tax.

(13) The owner or authorized agent of the owner of a vessel less than 26 feet in length that is leased or rented to a person for noncommercial use for not more than 24 hours may retain, at the place from which the vessel departs or returns to the possession of the owner or the owner's representative, the certificate of number for that vessel if a copy of the lease or rental agreement is on the vessel. Upon the demand of a peace officer, the operator shall produce for inspection either the certificate of number or a copy of the lease or rental agreement for that vessel. The lease or rental agreement shall contain each of the following:

(a) The vessel number that appears on the certificate of number.

(b) The period of time for which the vessel is leased or rented.

(c) The signature of the vessel's owner or that person's authorized agent.

(d) The signature of the person leasing or renting the vessel.

(14) Upon receipt of a certificate of number for a vessel, the owner of that vessel shall paint on or attach in a permanent manner to each side of the forward half of the vessel the number identified in the certificate of number, in the manner prescribed by rules promulgated by the department. The secretary of state shall assign to the owner of vessels for rent or lease a block of numbers sufficient to number consecutively all of that owner's rental or lease vessels. The owner shall maintain the numbers in a legible condition. A vessel documented by the United States coast guard or a federal agency that is the successor to the United States coast guard is not required to display numbers under this part but shall display a decal indicating payment of the fee prescribed in subsection (6), and shall otherwise be in compliance with this part. This subsection does not apply to a nonpowered vessel 12 feet or less in length.

(15) Upon receipt of an application for a certificate of number in an approved form and payment of the fee required by this part, the secretary of state shall issue a decal that indicates that the vessel is numbered in compliance with this part. The decal shall be color-coded and dated to identify the year of its expiration. The department shall promulgate a rule or rules to establish the manner in which the decal is to be displayed. A person who operates a vessel in violation of a rule promulgated to implement this subsection is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(16) A decal is valid for a 3-year period that begins on April 1 and expires on March 31 of the third year. An original certificate of number may be issued up to 90 days before April 1. A numbering renewal decal or other renewal device may be issued up to 90 days before the expiration of a certificate.

(17) Upon receipt of a request for renewal of a decal and payment of the fee prescribed in subsection (6), the secretary of state shall issue to the applicant a decal as provided in subsection (15). A person who operates a vessel for which no decal was issued as required under this section or for which a decal has expired is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(18) The numbering system adopted under this part shall be in accordance with the standard system of numbering established by the secretary of the department in which the United States coast guard operates.

(19) An agency of this state, a political subdivision of this state, or a state supported college or university of this state that owns a vessel that is required to be numbered under this part shall register that vessel and upon payment of either of the following shall receive from the secretary of state a certificate of number for that vessel:

(a) A fee of $3.00 for a vessel that is not used for recreational, commercial, or rental purposes.

(b) The fee required under subsection (6) for a vessel that is used for recreational, commercial, or rental purposes.

(20) The secretary of state shall, upon receipt of payment of the fee required under subsection (19), issue a certificate of number for each vessel subject to subsection (19).

(21) A vessel that is 30 years of age or older and not used other than in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and other similar activities is a historic vessel. The secretary of state shall make available to the public application forms for certificates of number for historic vessels and, upon receipt of a completed application form and fee, shall number a historic vessel as a historic vessel. The fee for the numbering of a historic vessel is 1/3 of the otherwise applicable fee specified in subsection (6).

(22) The secretary of state shall refund to the owner of a vessel registered under this part all of the registration fee paid for that vessel under this section if all of the following conditions are met during the period for which the registration fee was paid:

(a) The owner transfers or assigns title or interest in the registered vessel before placing the decal issued under subsection (15) on the vessel.

(b) The owner surrenders the unused decal to the secretary of state within 30 days after the date of transfer or assignment.

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(23) The secretary of state shall refund to the surviving spouse of a deceased vessel owner the registration fee paid under this part, prorated on a monthly basis, upon receipt of the decal issued under subsection (15) or evidence satisfactory to the secretary of state that the decal issued under subsection (15) has been destroyed or voided.

(24) If the secretary of state computes a fee under this part that results in a figure other than a whole dollar amount, the secretary of state shall round the figure to the nearest whole dollar.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007;—Am. 2012, Act 28, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80124a Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal.

Sec. 80124a. (1) Subject to subsection (4), the secretary of state shall make available for purchase an annual Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal. The Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal shall be designed by the secretary of state and shall depict some aspect of the Great Lakes or of Great Lakes water quality.

(2) The Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal shall be sold for $35.00. Revenues from the sale of Great Lakes specialty watercraft decals shall be expended as provided for in section 80124b.

(3) The secretary of state may establish the appropriate placement of Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decals on watercraft so as not to create confusion for law enforcement officers with decals required under section 80124.

(4) The secretary of state shall discontinue sales of Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decals under subsection (1) if the secretary of state is unable to sell at least 2,000 decals in the 2-year period ending September 30, 2006 and at least 500 decals in each fiscal year thereafter.

History: Add. 2003, Act 293, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 2004;—Am. 2005, Act 271, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80124b Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal; use of money received from sale; definitions.

Sec. 80124b. (1) Money received by the secretary of state from the sale of each Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal under section 80124a shall be used as follows:

(a) $10.00 shall be retained by the secretary of state for use in creating and distributing the decal.

(b) $25.00 shall be forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit into the Michigan Great Lakes protection fund to be used for research on aquatic nuisance species, for public education of the threat of aquatic nuisance species, and for efforts to eradicate aquatic nuisance species from the Great Lakes and other waters of the state.

(2) As used in this section:

(a) "Aquatic nuisance species" means that term as it is defined in section 3101.

(b) "Michigan Great Lakes protection fund" means the Michigan Great Lakes protection fund created in section 32905.

History: Add. 2003, Act 294, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80125 Notice of destruction or sale of vessel; transfer of vessel; change of address; surrender of certificate; cancellation of certificate and reassignment of number; certificate for replacement vessel; refund; recording new address and returning certificates; application for transfer of certificate; fees; duration of certificate; duplicate certificate.

Sec. 80125. (1) The owner of a vessel shall notify the secretary of state within 15 days if the vessel is destroyed or sold; if an interest in the vessel is transferred either wholly or in part, to another person; or if the owner's address no longer conforms to the address appearing on the certificate of number. The notice shall consist of a surrender of the certificate of number, on which the proper information shall be noted on a place to be provided on the certificate. When the surrender of the certificate is due to the vessel being destroyed, the

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secretary of state shall cancel the certificate and enter that fact in the secretary of state's records, and the number may be reassigned.

(2) The owner of a destroyed vessel, upon proper application, may receive a new certificate of number, valid for the remainder of the numbering period, for a replacement vessel, if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The replacement vessel is owned by the same person who owned the destroyed vessel.

(b) The owner of the replacement vessel pays additional fees, if required under section 80124, due to the change in vessel size or classification.

(c) Payment of a $2.00 application fee.

(3) If the fees required for the replacement vessel under section 80124 are less than the fees that were required for the destroyed vessel, the owner of the vessel shall not receive a refund.

(4) If the surrender of the certificate of number is due to a change of the owner's address, the new address shall be recorded by the secretary of state and a certificate of number bearing that information shall be returned to the owner.

(5) The transferee of a vessel registered under this part, within 15 days after acquisition of the vessel, shall apply to the secretary of state for transfer to the transferee of the certificate of number issued to the vessel. The transferee shall provide his or her name, address, and the number of the vessel and pay to the secretary of state a transfer fee of $2.00. The registration fee for the certificate of number shall be 2/3 the fee provided in section 80124 if the transferred certificate of number would have remained valid for 1 year or less. The registration fee for the certificate of number shall be 1/3 the fee provided in section 80124 if the transferred certificate of number would have remained valid for more than 1 year but less than 2 years. An additional registration fee shall not be assessed if the transferred registration would have remained valid for 2 or more years. Unless the application is made and the fee paid within 15 days after acquisition of the vessel, the vessel shall be considered to be without certificate of number and a person shall not operate the vessel until a certificate is issued. Upon receipt of the application and appropriate fees, the secretary of state shall transfer the certificate of number issued for the vessel to the new owner. The certificate of number shall be valid for a 3-year period.

(6) If a certificate of number is lost, mutilated, or illegible, the owner of the vessel shall obtain a duplicate of the certificate upon application and payment of a fee of $2.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80126 Dealer certificates of number and dealer decals.

Sec. 80126. (1) A dealer shall apply for and obtain from the secretary of state dealer certificates of number and dealer decals for each vessel of the dealer that is tested, demonstrated, or otherwise operated. Upon receipt of an application in a form approved by the secretary of state and payment of $30.00 for each set of dealer certificates of number and dealer decals, the secretary of state shall issue to the applicant the dealer certificates of number and dealer decals. A single dealer certificate of number and dealer decal issued pursuant to this section may be used on only 1 vessel at a time.

(2) The operator of a vessel governed by this section shall do each of the following:

(a) Maintain the dealer certificate of number on board the vessel.

(b) Upon demand of a peace officer, display the dealer certificate of number.

(c) Permanently or temporarily display the identifying number and dealer decal on the vessel in accordance with rules promulgated by the department under this part.

(3) A person shall not operate a vessel numbered under this section unless the dealer is on board the vessel or the operator has the written authorization of the dealer to operate the vessel. A person shall not use a vessel numbered under this section for commercial purposes that include the rental of the vessel or the carrying of passengers for hire on the vessel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80127 Payment of fee by credit card or check.

Sec. 80127. The secretary of state may accept payment by a credit card or check in lieu of cash of a fee

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required under this part. The secretary of state shall determine which major credit cards may be utilized, provided, however, that the fee received shall not be less than 100% of the applicable fee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80128 Secretary of state; certificate of number.

Sec. 80128. The secretary of state may award any certificate of number directly or may authorize any person to act as his or her agent for the awarding of a certificate of number.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80129 Maintenance of records; availability to the public.

Sec. 80129. Records maintained under this part, other than those declared to be confidential by law or which are restricted by law from disclosure to the public, shall be available to the public pursuant to procedures prescribed in this part and in the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130 Commercial lookup service of records; disposition of fees; computerized central file; purpose; creation; maintenance; providing records to nongovernmental person or entity; payment; admissibility in evidence.

Sec. 80130. (1) The secretary of state may provide a commercial lookup service of records maintained under this part. For each individual record looked up, the secretary of state shall charge a fee of $15.00 per record. The secretary of state shall process a commercial lookup request only if the request is in a form or format prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall credit fees collected under this subsection to the transportation administration collection fund created in section 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b, through October 1, 2027.

(2) To provide an individual, historical boating record, the secretary of state shall create and maintain a computerized central file that includes the information contained on application forms received under this part and the name of each individual who is convicted of an offense, who fails to comply with an order or judgment issued, or against whom an order is entered under this part. The computerized central file must be interfaced with the law enforcement information network as provided in the C.J.I.S. policy council act, 1974 PA 163, MCL 28.211 to 28.215.

(3) The secretary of state shall not provide an entire computerized central or other file of records maintained under this part to a nongovernmental person or entity unless the purchaser pays the prescribed fee or price for each individual record contained within the computerized file.

(4) A certified copy of an order, record, or paper maintained under this part is admissible in evidence in the same manner as the original and is prima facie proof of the facts stated in the original.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2005, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 100, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2015, Act 77, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2023, Act 140, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2023.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130a Disclosure of information prohibited; exceptions.

Sec. 80130a. (1) Except as provided in this section and section 80130c, personal information in a record maintained under this part shall not be disclosed, unless the person requesting the information furnishes proof of identity considered satisfactory to the secretary of state and certifies that the personal information requested will be used for a permissible purpose identified in this section or in section 80130c. Notwithstanding this

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section, highly restricted personal information shall be used and disclosed only as expressly permitted by law.

(2) Personal information in a record maintained under this act shall be disclosed by the secretary of state if required to carry out the purposes of a specified federal law. As used in this section, "specified federal law" means the automobile information disclosure act, Public Law 85-506, 15 U.S.C. 1231 to 1232 and 1233, the former motor vehicle information and cost savings act, Public Law 92-513, the former national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966, Public Law 89-563, the anti-car theft act of 1992, Public Law 102-519, 106 Stat. 3384, the clean air act, chapter 360, 69 Stat. 322, 42 U.S.C. 7401 to 7431, 7470 to 7479, 7491 to 7492, 7501 to 7509a, 7511 to 7515, 7521 to 7525, 7541 to 7545, 7547 to 7550, 7552 to 7554, 7571 to 7574, 7581 to 7590, 7601 to 7612, 7614 to 7617, 7619 to 7622, 7624 to 7627, 7641 to 7642, 7651 to 7651o, 7661 to 7661f, and 7671 to 7671q, and all federal regulations promulgated to implement these federal laws.

(3) Personal information in a record maintained under this act may be disclosed to any person by the secretary of state as follows:

(a) For use by any government agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out its functions, or any private person or entity acting on behalf of a government agency in carrying out its functions.

(b) For use in connection with matters of watercraft and operator safety or watercraft theft; watercraft emissions; watercraft product alterations, recalls, or advisories; performance monitoring of watercraft; watercraft research activities including survey research; and the removal of nonowner records from the original records of watercraft manufacturers.

(c) For use in the normal course of business by a business or its agents, employees, or contractors to verify the accuracy of personal information submitted by an individual to the business or its agents, employees, or contractors, and if the information as submitted is not correct or is no longer correct, to obtain the correct information, but only for the purposes of preventing fraud, by pursuing legal remedies against, or recovering on a debt or security interest against, the individual.

(d) For use in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitral proceeding in any court or government agency or before any self-regulatory body, including the service of process, investigation in anticipation of litigation, and the execution or enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of any court, administrative agency, or self-regulatory body.

(e) For use in legitimate research activities and in preparing statistical reports for commercial, scholarly, or academic purposes by a bona fide research organization, so long as the personal information is not published, redisclosed, or used to contact individuals.

(f) For use by any insurer, self-insurer, or insurance support organization, or its agents, employees, or contractors, in connection with claims investigation activities, antifraud activities, rating, or underwriting.

(g) For use in providing notice to the owner of an abandoned, towed, or impounded watercraft.

(h) For use by any licensed private security guard agency or alarm system contractor licensed under the private security guard act of 1968, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to 338.1085, or a private detective or private investigator licensed under the private detective license act of 1965, 1965 PA 285, MCL 338.821 to 338.851, for any purpose permitted under this section.

(i) For use by a news medium in the preparation and dissemination of a report related in part or in whole to the operation of a motor vehicle or public safety. "News medium" includes a newspaper, a magazine or periodical published at regular intervals, a news service, a broadcast network, a television station, a radio station, a cablecaster, or an entity employed by any of the foregoing.

(j) For any use by an individual requesting information pertaining to himself or herself or requesting in writing that the secretary of state provide information pertaining to himself or herself to the individual's designee. A request for disclosure to a designee, however, may be submitted only by the individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2000, Act 194, Eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130b Resale or redisclosure of personal information; maintenance of records; duration; availability for inspection.

Sec. 80130b. (1) An authorized recipient of personal information may resell or redisclose the information for any use permitted under section 80130a. An authorized recipient of an individual record or records under section 81114a may resell or redisclose personal information for any purpose.

(2) Any authorized recipient who resells or rediscloses personal information shall be required by the secretary of state to maintain for a period of not less than 5 years records as to the information obtained and

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the permitted use for which it was obtained, and to make such records available for inspection by the secretary of state, upon request.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130c Furnishing list of information to federal, state, or local governmental agency; contract for sale of list of information; insertion of safeguard in agreement or contract; resale or redisclosure of information; disclosure of list based on watercraft operations or sanctions to nongovernmental agency.

Sec. 80130c. (1) Upon request, the secretary of state may furnish a list of information from the records of the department maintained under this part to a federal, state, or local governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions, or to a private person or entity acting on behalf of a governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the secretary of state may charge the requesting agency a preparation fee to cover the cost of preparing and furnishing a list provided under this subsection if the cost of preparation exceeds $25.00, and use the revenues received from the service to defray necessary expenses. If the secretary of state sells a list of information under this subsection to a member of the state legislature, the secretary of state shall charge the same fee as the fee for the sale of information under subsection (2) unless the list of information is requested by the member of the legislature to carry out a legislative function. The secretary of state may require the requesting agency to furnish 1 or more blank computer tapes, cartridges, or other electronic media, and may require the agency to execute a written memorandum of agreement as a condition of obtaining a list of information under this subsection.

(2) The secretary of state may contract for the sale of lists of records maintained under this part in bulk, in addition to those lists distributed at cost or at no cost under this section, for purposes defined in section 80130a(3). The secretary of state shall require each purchaser of information in bulk to execute a written purchase contract. The secretary of state shall fix a market-based price for the sale of lists of bulk information, which may include personal information. The proceeds from each sale shall be used by the secretary of state to defray the costs of list preparation and for other necessary or related expenses.

(3) The secretary of state or any other state agency shall not sell or furnish any list of information under subsection (2) for the purpose of surveys, marketing, and solicitations. The secretary of state shall ensure that personal information disclosed in bulk will be used, rented, or sold solely for uses permitted under this part.

(4) The secretary of state may insert any safeguard the secretary considers reasonable or necessary, including a bond requirement, in a memorandum of agreement or purchase contract executed under this section, to ensure that the information furnished or sold is used only for a permissible use and that the rights of individuals and of the secretary of state are protected.

(5) An authorized recipient of personal information disclosed under this section who resells or rediscloses the information for any of the permissible purposes described in section 80130a(3) shall do both of the following:

(a) Make and keep for a period of not less than 5 years records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(b) Allow a representative of the secretary of state, upon request, to inspect and copy records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(6) The secretary of state shall not disclose a list based on watercraft operation or sanctions to a nongovernmental agency, including an individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2000, Act 194, Eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130d Prohibited conduct; violations as felony; penalties.

Sec. 80130d. (1) A person who makes a false representation or false certification to obtain personal information under this part, or who uses personal information for a purpose other than a permissible purpose identified in section 80130a or 80130c, is guilty of a felony.

(2) A person who is convicted of a second violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 2 years or more than 7 years, or by a fine of not less than $1,500.00 or more

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than $7,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 5 years or more than 15 years, or by a fine of not less than $5,000.00 or more than $15,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130f Abandonment of vessel prohibited; presumption; violation; civil infraction; "abandoned vessel" defined; determination that vessel not stolen; duties of police agency; notice of abandoned vessel; duties of secretary of state; request for hearing by owner to contest abandonment; redemption of vessel; abandonment of vessel on private property without owner consent; offer of vessel for public sale.

Sec. 80130f. (1) A person shall not abandon a vessel in this state. It is presumed that the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner of the vessel is responsible for abandoning the vessel unless the person provides a record of the transfer of the vessel to another person. For the purposes of this subsection, the record of transfer must be either a photocopy of the reassigned title or reassigned registration or a form or document that includes the transferee's name, address, driver license number, and signature, the date of transfer of the vessel, and, if applicable, the sale price. A person who violates this subsection and who fails to redeem the vessel before disposition of the vessel under section 80130k is responsible for a state civil infraction as provided in section 8905a.

(2) As used in this section through section 80130p, "abandoned vessel" means any of the following:

(a) A vessel that is on private property without the consent of the property owner.

(b) A vessel that has remained on public property that is not a state trunk line highway as described in section 1 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651, for a period of 48 hours or more without the permission of the governmental unit with custody of the property.

(c) A vessel that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is stationary on a state trunk line highway as described in section 1 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651.

(*ii*) Is not on a motor vehicle or trailer as described under subdivision (d)(*i*).

(*iii*) is not under the immediate custody of the owner or owner's agent.

(d) A vessel on a motor vehicle or trailer if the motor vehicle or trailer meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Displays a valid registration plate under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

(*ii*) Has remained parked on a state trunk line highway as described in section 1 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651, for a period of 18 hours or more.

(*iii*) Is not under the immediate custody of the owner of the vessel, motor vehicle, or trailer or the owner's agent.

(3) If a vessel qualifies as abandoned under subsection (2)(b) or (c), a police agency having jurisdiction over the vessel or the agency's designee shall determine whether the vessel has been reported stolen and, if the vessel has not been reported stolen, may have a towing agency take the vessel into custody.

(4) A police agency that has a vessel taken into custody under subsection (3) or that receives notice of a vessel taken into custody under subsection (10) shall do all of the following:

(a) Recheck to determine if the vessel taken into custody under subsection (3) or check if the vessel taken into custody under subsection (10) has been reported stolen.

(b) If the vessel has not been reported stolen, within 24 hours after the vessel is taken into custody, enter the vessel in the law enforcement information network as an abandoned vessel and notify the secretary of state through the law enforcement information network that the vessel has been taken into custody as abandoned. The notification shall contain all of the following information:

(*i*) The year, make, and vessel identification number of the vessel, if available.

(*ii*) The address or approximate location from which the vessel was taken into custody.

(*iii*) The date on which the vessel was taken into custody.

(*iv*) The name and address of the police agency.

(*v*) The name and business address of the custodian of the vessel.

(*vi*) The name of the court that has jurisdiction over the case.

(5) Within 7 days after receiving notice under subsection (4)(b) that a vessel has been taken into custody as

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abandoned, the secretary of state shall do both of the following:

(a) Send to the last titled owner and secured party, as shown by the records of the secretary of state, or, if there is no titled owner, to the last registered owner, by first-class mail or personal service, notice that the vessel is considered abandoned. Each notice form shall contain all of the following information:

(*i*) The year, make, and vessel identification number of the vessel, if available.

(*ii*) The address or approximate location from which the vessel was taken into custody.

(*iii*) The date on which the vessel was taken into custody.

(*iv*) The name and address of the police agency that had the vessel taken into custody under subsection (3) or received notice of a vessel taken into custody under subsection (10).

(*v*) The name and business address of the custodian of the vessel.

(*vi*) The procedure to redeem the vessel.

(*vii*) The procedure to contest the fact that the vessel is considered abandoned or the reasonableness of the towing fees and daily storage fees.

(*viii*) A form petition that the owner may file in person or by mail with the specified court having jurisdiction to request a hearing on the validity of the grounds for taking custody of the vessel.

(*ix*) A warning that if the vessel is not redeemed or a hearing requested within 20 days after the date of the notice, the vessel may be sold and all rights of the owner and the secured party to the vessel or to the proceeds of the sale terminated.

(b) Enter the information described in subdivision (a) on a website maintained by the secretary of state for public use in locating vessels that are taken into custody under this section as abandoned. The secretary of state shall maintain the data on the website for 1 year or until the vessel is disposed of under this part, whichever occurs first.

(6) To contest whether the vessel is abandoned or, unless the towing fees and daily storage fees are established by contract with the local governmental unit or police agency and comply with section 80130m, the reasonableness of the towing fees and daily storage fees, the owner shall request a hearing. A request for a hearing shall be made by filing a petition with the court specified in the notice under subsection (5) within 20 days after the date of the notice under subsection (5). If the owner requests a hearing, the matter shall be resolved after a hearing conducted under section 80130j. An owner who requests a hearing may redeem the vessel by posting a towing and storage bond with or paying a fee to the court. The bond or fee shall be equal to $40.00 plus the accrued towing and storage fees.

(7) If the owner does not request a hearing under subsection (6), he or she may redeem the vessel by paying a fee of $40.00 and the accrued towing and storage fees to the custodian of the vessel. The custodian of the vessel shall forward $25.00 of the fee to the secretary of state within 30 days after receipt, in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall deposit the $25.00 into the abandoned vessel, ORV, and snowmobile fund created in section 80130*l*.

(8) If the owner does not redeem the vessel or request a hearing within 20 days after the date of the notice under subsection (5)(a), the secured party may redeem the vessel by paying a $40.00 fee plus the accrued charges to the custodian of the vessel. The custodian of the vessel shall forward $25.00 of the fee to the secretary of state within 30 days after receipt, in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall deposit that portion of the fee into the abandoned vessel, ORV, and snowmobile fund created in section 80130*l*.

(9) If a vessel is on private property without the consent of the property owner, the owner of the private property may have the vessel taken into custody as an abandoned vessel by contacting a local towing agency. A local towing agency is a towing agency whose storage lot is located within 15 miles from the border of the local unit of government having jurisdiction over the abandoned vessel.

(10) Before removing the vessel from private property, the towing agency contacted under subsection (9) shall provide reasonable notice by telephone, or otherwise, to a police agency having jurisdiction over the vessel that the vessel is being removed. The police agency shall determine if the vessel has been reported stolen, and if the vessel has not been reported stolen, comply with subsection (4)(b). Verification by the police agency of compliance with this section is not necessary and is not a predicate to entering the vessel in the law enforcement information network. Subsections (5) to (8) apply to a vessel removed from private property.

(11) Not less than 20 days after a determination that the vessel is abandoned in a hearing under subsection (6) or, if a hearing is not requested, not less than 20 days after the date of the notice, the following shall offer the vessel for sale at a public sale under section 80130k:

(a) The police agency, if the abandoned vessel is found on public property.

(b) The custodian of the vessel, if the vessel is found on private property.

(12) If the ownership of a vessel that is considered abandoned under this section cannot be determined either because of the condition of the vessel identification numbers or because a check with the records of the

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secretary of state as described in section 80310 does not reveal ownership, the police agency may sell the vessel at public sale as provided in section 80130k not less than 30 days after public notice of the sale has been published.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130g Definitions; unregistered abandoned scrap vessel; custody; duties of police agency; release of vessel to towing service; certificate of scrapping; retention of records; abandonment of vessel on private property; notice of abandoned vessel; request for hearing by owner to contest abandonment; redemption of vessel.

Sec. 80130g. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Registered abandoned scrap vessel" means a vessel that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is 7 or more years old.

(*ii*) Is apparently inoperable or is damaged, to the extent that the cost of repairing the vessel to make it operational and safe would exceed the fair market value of that vessel.

(*iii*) Is currently registered or titled in this state or displays a current year registration or current year registration decal from another state.

(b) "Unregistered abandoned scrap vessel" means a vessel that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is apparently inoperable or is damaged, to the extent that the cost of repairing the vessel to make it operational and safe would exceed the fair market value of that vessel.

(*ii*) Is not currently registered or titled in this state and does not display a current year registration or current year registration decal from another state.

(2) A police agency or the agency's designee or, if the vessel is on private property, the property owner may have an unregistered abandoned scrap vessel taken into custody, in which case the police agency shall determine if the vessel has been reported stolen. If the vessel has not been reported stolen, the police agency shall do all of the following:

(a) Take 2 photographs of the vessel.

(b) Make a report to substantiate the vessel as an unregistered abandoned scrap vessel. The report shall contain the following information:

(*i*) The year, make, and vessel identification number, if available, and a brief description of the vessel.

(*ii*) The date of abandonment.

(*iii*) The location of abandonment.

(*iv*) A detailed listing of the damage or the missing equipment.

(*v*) The reporting officer's name and title.

(*vi*) The location where the vessel is being held.

(c) Within 24 hours after taking the vessel into custody, enter the vessel in the law enforcement information network as an abandoned vessel.

(3) The secretary of state shall furnish the police agency with a release form that includes a certification that the police agency has complied with the requirements of subsection (2)(a) and (b).

(4) If the police agency determined under subsection (2) that a vessel was not reported stolen, then within 24 hours, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays, after taking the vessel into custody, the police agency or the agency's designee shall complete a release form and certification and release the vessel to the towing service.

(5) The towing service shall complete the certificate of scrapping on the back of the release form and transfer the form to and dispose of the vessel with a scrap metal processor or landfill operator. The scrap metal processor or landfill operator shall transfer the form to the secretary of state.

(6) The secretary of state shall retain the records relating to an abandoned scrap vessel for not less than 2 years. The police agency or the agency's designee shall retain the 2 photographs taken under subsection (2)(a) for not less than 2 years. After the certificate of scrapping has been issued, the secretary of state shall not reissue a certificate of title for the vessel.

(7) A police agency or the agency's designee or, if the vessel is on private property, the property owner may have a registered abandoned scrap vessel taken into custody, in which case the police agency shall determine if the vessel has been reported stolen. If the vessel has not been reported stolen, the police agency shall do all of the following:

(a) Take 2 photographs of the vessel.

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(b) Make a report to substantiate the vessel as a registered abandoned scrap vessel. The report shall contain the following information:

(*i*) The year, make, and vessel identification number, if available.

(*ii*) The date of abandonment.

(*iii*) The location of abandonment.

(*iv*) A detailed listing of the damage or the missing equipment.

(*v*) The reporting officer's name and title.

(*vi*) The location where the vessel is being held.

(c) Within 24 hours after taking the vessel into custody, cause the vessel to be entered in the law enforcement information network as abandoned.

(8) If the police agency determined under subsection (7) that a vessel was not reported stolen, within 7 days after the vessel is taken into custody, the secretary of state shall send to the last titled or registered owner and secured party, as shown by the records of the secretary of state, by first-class mail or personal service, notice that the vessel is considered abandoned. The form for the notice shall be furnished by the secretary of state. Each notice form shall contain the following information:

(a) The year, make, and vessel identification number of the vessel, if available.

(b) The address or approximate location from which the vessel was taken into custody.

(c) The date on which the vessel was taken into custody.

(d) The name and address of the police agency that had the vessel taken into custody, if applicable.

(e) The name and business address of the custodian of the vessel.

(f) The procedure to redeem the vessel.

(g) The name of the court that has jurisdiction of the case.

(h) The procedure to contest whether the vessel is abandoned or the reasonableness of the towing fees and daily storage fees.

(i) A form that the owner may file in person or by mail with the specified court that requests a hearing on the custody of the vessel.

(j) A warning that if the vessel is not redeemed or a hearing requested within 20 days after the date of the notice, the vessel may be sold and all rights of the owner and the secured party to the vessel or the proceeds of the sale terminated.

(9) To contest designation of the registered vessel as an abandoned scrap vessel or, unless the towing fees and daily storage fees are established by contract with the local governmental unit or police agency and comply with section 80130m, the reasonableness of the towing fees and daily storage fees the registered owner shall request a hearing. A request for a hearing shall be made by filing a petition with the court specified in the notice under subsection (8) within 20 days after the date of the notice. If the owner requests a hearing, the matter shall be resolved after a hearing conducted under section 80130j. An owner who requests a hearing may redeem the vessel by posting a towing and storage bond with or paying a fee to the court. The bond or fee shall equal $40.00 plus the accrued towing and storage fees.

(10) If the owner does not request a hearing under subsection (9), he or she may redeem the vessel by paying a fee of $40.00 plus the accrued charges to the custodian of the vessel. Within 30 days after receipt of a fee under this subsection, the custodian shall forward $25.00 of the fee to the secretary of state in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall deposit the fee into the abandoned vessel, ORV, and snowmobile fund created in section 80130*l*.

(11) If the owner does not redeem the vessel or request a hearing within 20 days after the date of the notice under subsection (8), the secured party may redeem the vessel by paying a fee of $40.00 plus the accrued charges to the custodian of the vessel. Within 30 days after the receipt of the fee under this subsection, the custodian shall forward $25.00 of the fee to the secretary of state in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall deposit the fee into the abandoned vessel, ORV, and snowmobile fund created in section 80130*l*.

(12) Not less than 20 days after a determination that the vessel is abandoned in a hearing described in subsection (9) or, if a hearing is not requested, not less than 20 days after the date of the notice under subsection (8), the police agency or the agency's designee, scrap metal processor or landfill operator, and secretary of state shall follow the procedures established in subsections (3) to (6).

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

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324.80130h Determination that vessel not stolen; immediate removal from public or private property; arrival of owner before towing or removal; entering vessel in law enforcement information network as abandoned; release of vessel to owner; authorization required; notice.

Sec. 80130h. (1) After determining under subsection (3) that a vessel has not been reported stolen, a police agency or a governmental agency designated by the police agency may provide for the immediate removal of a vessel from public or private property to a place of safekeeping at the expense of the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner of the vessel in any of the following circumstances:

(a) The vessel is in such a condition that the operation of the vessel would constitute an immediate hazard to the public.

(b) The vessel is parked or standing upon a highway, road, or street in a manner that creates an immediate public hazard or an obstruction of traffic.

(c) The vessel is parked in a posted tow-away zone.

(d) There is reasonable cause to believe that the vessel or any part of the vessel is stolen.

(e) The vessel must be seized to preserve evidence of a crime or because there is reasonable cause to believe that the vessel was used in the commission of a crime.

(f) Removal is necessary in the interest of public safety because of fire, flood, storm, snow, natural or man-made disaster, or other emergency.

(g) The vessel is interfering with the owner's or owner's agent's use of private property or is parked in a manner that impedes the movement of another vessel or vehicle.

(h) The vessel is stopped, standing, or parked in a space designated as parking for persons with disabilities and is not permitted by law to be stopped, standing, or parked in a space designated as parking for persons with disabilities.

(i) The vessel is located in a clearly identified access aisle or access lane immediately adjacent to a space designated as parking for persons with disabilities.

(j) The vessel is interfering with the use of a ramp or a curb-cut by persons with disabilities.

(k) The vessel has been involved in a crash and cannot be safely operated to remove it from the scene of the crash.

(*l*) The vessel is submerged in, partially submerged in, or floating unanchored or untethered upon a public waterway.

(2) Unless the vessel is ordered to be towed by a police agency or a governmental agency designated by a police agency under subsection (1)(a), (d), (e), or (k), if the owner or other person who is legally entitled to possess a vessel to be towed or removed arrives at the vessel's location before the actual towing or removal of the vessel, the vessel shall be disconnected from the tow truck or other towing vehicle, and the owner or other person who is legally entitled to possess the vessel may take possession of the vessel and remove it without interference upon the payment of the reasonable service fee to the towing agency, for which the towing agency shall provide a receipt.

(3) Before authorizing the removal of a vessel under subsection (1), a police agency shall check to determine if the vessel has been reported stolen. Except for vessels removed under subsection (1)(d), (e), or (k), the police agency shall enter the vessel in the law enforcement information network as abandoned not less than 7 days after authorizing the removal and the procedures set forth in section 80130f apply.

(4) The towing agency or custodian shall not release to the vessel owner a vessel removed under subsection (1)(d), (e), or (k) unless the release has been authorized by the police agency that authorized the removal.

(5) Not less than 20 days but not more than 30 days after a vessel has been released by the police agency under subsection (4), the towing agency or custodian shall notify the police agency to enter the vessel in the law enforcement information network as abandoned and the police agency shall follow the procedures set forth in section 80130f if the impounded vessel has not been redeemed.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130i Courts; jurisdiction; venue; use of bond to pay towing and storage fees; exclusive remedies.

Sec. 80130i. (1) The following courts have jurisdiction to determine if a police agency, towing agency or custodian, or private property owner has acted properly in reporting or processing a vessel under section

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80130f, 80130g(7) to (12), or 80130h:

(a) The district court.

(b) A municipal court.

(2) The court specified in the notice prescribed in section 80130f(4)(b) or 80130g(8) shall be the court that has territorial jurisdiction at the location from which the vessel was removed or where it was abandoned. Venue in the district court is governed by section 8312 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.8312.

(3) If the owner fails to pay the accrued towing and storage fees, the towing and storage bond posted with the court to secure redemption of the vessel under section 80130f or 80130g shall be used to pay the towing and storage fees.

(4) The remedies under sections 80130f to 80130p are the exclusive remedies for the disposition of abandoned vessels.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130j Filing of petition by owner of vessel; duties of court; burden of showing compliance with act; decision of court.

Sec. 80130j. (1) Upon the filing of a petition prescribed in section 80130f or 80130g, signed by the owner of the vessel that has been taken into custody, the court shall do both of the following:

(a) Schedule a hearing within 30 days for the purpose of determining whether the police agency, towing agency or custodian, or private property owner acted in accordance with this part.

(b) Notify the owner, towing agency or custodian, police agency, and, if the vessel was removed from private property, the private property owner of the time and place of the hearing.

(2) At the hearing specified in subsection (1), the police agency, towing agency or custodian, and, if the vessel was removed from private property, the private property owner have the burden of showing by a preponderance of the evidence that they have complied with the requirements of this act in reporting or processing the abandoned vessel or vessel removed under section 80130h.

(3) After the hearing, the court shall make a decision that includes 1 or more of the following:

(a) A finding that the police agency complied with the procedures established for the processing of an abandoned vessel or a vessel removed under section 80130f, 80130g, or 80130h, and an order providing a period of 20 days after the decision for the owner to redeem the vessel. If the owner does not redeem the vessel within 20 days, the police agency shall dispose of the vessel under section 80130g or 80130k. Within 30 days after the court's decision, the court shall forward $25.00 of the fee collected under section 80130g or 80130k to the secretary of state in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The towing and storage fees and $15.00 of the fee collected under section 80130g or 80130k shall be forwarded to the towing agency.

(b) A finding that the police agency did not comply with the procedures established for the processing of an abandoned vessel or a vessel removed under section 80130f, 80130g, or 80130h and directing all of the following:

(*i*) That the vessel immediately be released to the owner.

(*ii*) That the police agency is responsible for the accrued towing and storage charges.

(*iii*) That any fee or bond posted by the owner be returned.

(c) A finding that the towing fees and daily storage fees were reasonable.

(d) A finding that the towing fees and daily storage fees were unreasonable and directing the towing agency or custodian of the vessel to provide the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner of the vessel with an appropriate reduction or refund.

(e) A finding that the owner of the real property complied with section 80130o, if applicable.

(f) A finding that the owner of the real property did not comply with section 80130o, if applicable, and an order requiring the owner of the real property to reimburse the last titled owner of the vessel for the accrued towing and storage charges.

(g) A finding that the towing agency did not comply with the procedures established for the proper removal and reporting of a vessel removed under section 80130f, 80130g, or 80130h and an order directing all of the following:

(*i*) That the vessel immediately be released to the owner.

(*ii*) That the towing agency is responsible for the accrued towing and storage charges.

(*iii*) That any fee or bond posted by the owner be returned.

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(h) A finding that the towing agency did comply with the procedures established for the proper removal and reporting of a vessel removed under section 80130f, 80130g, or 80130h.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130k Public sale of abandoned vessel.

Sec. 80130k. (1) A public sale for a vessel, and its contents, that has been determined to be abandoned under section 80130f or 80197 or removed under section 80130h shall comply with all of the following:

(a) Be under the control of the police agency or, if the vessel is being sold under section 80130f(11), the custodian of the vessel. However, a police agency may designate the custodian of the vessel or a third party to conduct the auction.

(b) Be open to the public and consist of open auction bidding or bidding by sealed bids. If sealed bids are received, the police agency or the agency's designee or, if the vessel is being sold under section 80130f(11), the custodian of the vessel shall provide the person submitting a bid with a receipt for the bid.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in section 80130f(11) and (12), be held not less than 5 days after public notice of the sale has been published. The public notice shall be published at least once in a newspaper having a general circulation within the county in which the vessel was abandoned or on a publicly accessible website maintained by the secretary of state. The public notice shall give a description of the vessel for sale and shall state the time, date, and location of the sale.

(2) The money received from the public sale of the vessel shall be applied in the following order of priority:

(a) Accrued towing and storage charges. If the money received from the public sale does not satisfy the accrued towing, storage, and disposal fees, the towing company may collect the balance of those unpaid fees from the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner, subject to section 80130m(2) and (3).

(b) Expenses incurred by the police agency or the custodian of the vessel, for disposition as described in section 80130j(3)(a).

(c) Payment of the $40.00 in fees under section 80130j(3)(a).

(d) Sent to the department of treasury's unclaimed property division to be disbursed as follows:

(*i*) To the secured party, if any, in the amount of the debt outstanding on the vessel.

(*ii*) Remainder to the owner. A reasonable attempt shall be made to mail the remainder to the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner. If delivery of the remainder cannot be accomplished, the remainder shall become the property of the local unit of government whose police agency entered the vessel in the law enforcement information network.

(3) If there are no bidders on the vessel, the police agency or the custodian of the vessel may do 1 of the following:

(a) Turn the vessel over to the towing firm or the custodian of the vessel to satisfy charges against the vessel by completing the release form under section 80130g. However, if the value of the vessel does not satisfy the accrued towing, storage, and disposal fees, the custodian of the vessel may collect the balance of those unpaid fees from the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner, subject to section 80130m.

(b) Obtain title to the vessel for the police agency or the unit of government the police agency represents, by doing both of the following:

(*i*) Paying the towing and storage charges.

(*ii*) Applying for title to the vessel.

(c) Holding another public sale under subsection (1).

(4) Upon disposition of the vessel, the police agency or towing agency or custodian shall provide the secretary of state and the police agency, if that police agency did not conduct the sale, with the vessel's disposition and the name of the agency that disposed of it and the police agency shall cancel the entry in the law enforcement information network under section 80130f or 80130h, if applicable.

(5) If by 25 days after the date of notice required under section 80130f the police agency has not provided a copy of the bill of sale by the police agency for the abandoned vessel to the towing agency or custodian or police agency's designee, the towing agency or custodian or police agency designee may obtain an original of the bill of sale by submitting an application to the secretary of state in a form as determined by the secretary of state.

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History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

324.80130l Abandoned vessel, ORV, and snowmobile fund.

Sec. 80130*l*. (1) The abandoned vessel, ORV, and snowmobile fund is created within the state treasury.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and other earnings from fund investments.

(3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

(4) The department of state shall be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

(5) The department of state shall expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, to administer sections 80130f to 80130p, 81151, and 82161 and other provisions of this act relating to abandoned vessels, ORVs and snowmobiles.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130m Towing or storage fees.

Sec. 80130m. (1) A towing service, custodian of a vessel, or both, may recover towing fees or, subject to subsection (2), storage fees from the last titled owner or, if there is no titled owner, the last registered owner of a vessel considered abandoned under section 80130f or section 80130g or removed under section 80130h.

(2) If a vessel is released for disposition under section 80130g or section 80130k, the amount of storage fees that may be collected is the least of the following:

(a) The daily storage rate established by contract or agreement with the law enforcement agency or unit of government that authorized the towing and storage of the vessel.

(b) The daily storage rate charged by the storage facility.

(c) $1,000.00.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a commercial vessel or a vessel that is owned or leased by an entity other than an individual.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130n Applicability of MCL 324.80130f and 324.80130g.

Sec. 80130n. Sections 80130f and 80130g do not apply to a vessel that is owned by the person who owns the private real property on which the vessel is located and do not prohibit or preempt a local unit of government from regulating the number and placement of vessels on private property.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130o Notice of towing or removal of vessel; posting; requirements; use of term "vehicles."

Sec. 80130o. (1) Except as otherwise provided in section 80130p, an owner or lessor of private real property shall post a notice before authorizing the towing or removal of a vessel from the real property without the consent of the owner or other person who is legally entitled to possess the vessel. The notice shall meet all of the following requirements:

(a) Be prominently displayed at each point of entry for vehicular access to the real property. If the real property lacks curbs or access barriers, not less than 1 notice shall be posted for each 100 feet of road frontage.

(b) Subject to subsection (2), clearly indicate in letters not less than 2 inches high on a contrasting background that unauthorized vessels will be towed away at the owner's expense.

(c) Provide the name and telephone number of the towing service responsible for towing or removing vessels from that property.

(d) Be permanently installed with the bottom of the notice located not less than 4 feet from the ground and

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continuously maintained on the property for not less than 24 hours before a vessel is towed or removed.

(2) Instead of "vessels", the sign required under subsection (1) may use the term "vehicles", which shall be construed to give notice that vehicles as defined in section 79 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.79, as well as vessels, may be towed.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80130p Applicability of MCL 324.80130o.

Sec. 80130p. Section 80130o does not apply to any of the following:

(a) Real property that is appurtenant to and obviously part of a single- or dual-family residence.

(b) If notice of both of the following is personally given to the owner or other person legally entitled to control of a vessel:

(*i*) That the area where the vessel is parked is reserved or otherwise unavailable to unauthorized vessels.

(*ii*) That the vessel is subject to towing or removal from the private real property without the consent of the vessel owner or other person legally entitled to control of the vessel.

(c) A vessel removed from private property under section 80130h.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80131 Violation of part or ordinance; record of charge or citation; forwarding abstracts or report to secretary of state; statement; certification; noncompliance; public inspection; basis for issuing order; transmitting and entering order of reversal; modifying requirements.

Sec. 80131. (1) Each municipal judge and each clerk of a court of record shall keep a full record of every case in which a person is charged with or cited for a violation of this part or of a local ordinance corresponding to this part regulating the operation of vessels.

(2) Within 14 days after a conviction, forfeiture of bail, entry of a civil infraction determination, or default judgment upon a charge of, or citation for, violating this part or a local ordinance corresponding to this part regulating the operation of vessels, except as provided in subsection (11), the municipal judge or clerk of the court of record shall prepare and immediately forward to the secretary of state an abstract of the record of the court for the case. The abstract shall be certified to be true and correct by signature, stamp, or facsimile signature by the person required to prepare the abstract. If a city or village department, bureau, or person is authorized to accept a payment of money as a settlement for a violation of a local ordinance corresponding to this part, the city or village department, bureau, or person shall send a full report of each case in which a person pays any amount of money to the city or village department, bureau, or person to the secretary of state upon a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

(3) The abstract or report required under this section shall be made upon a form furnished by the secretary of state and shall include all of the following:

(a) The name, address, and date of birth of the person charged or cited.

(b) The date and nature of the violation.

(c) The type of vessel operated at the time of the violation.

(d) The date of the conviction, finding, forfeiture, judgment, or determination.

(e) Whether bail was forfeited.

(f) Any order issued by the court pursuant to this part.

(g) Other information considered necessary to the secretary of state.

(4) As used in subsections (5) to (7), "felony in which a vessel was used" means a felony during the commission of which the person operated a vessel and while operating the vessel presented real or potential harm to persons or property and 1 or more of the following circumstances existed:

(a) The vessel was used as an instrument of the felony.

(b) The vessel was used to transport a victim of the felony.

(c) The vessel was used to flee the scene of the felony.

(d) The vessel was necessary for the commission of the felony.

(5) If a person is charged with a felony in which a vessel was used, the prosecuting attorney shall include

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the following statement on the complaint and information filed in district or circuit court:

"You are charged with the commission of a felony in which a vessel was used. If you are convicted and the judge finds that the conviction is for a felony in which a vessel was used, as defined in section 80131 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, the secretary of state will order you not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state.".

(6) If a child is accused of an act the nature of which constitutes a felony in which a vessel was used, the prosecuting attorney or juvenile court shall include the following statement on the petition filed in the probate court:

"You are accused of an act the nature of which constitutes a felony in which a vessel was used. If the accusation is found to be true and the judge or referee finds that the nature of the act constitutes a felony in which a vessel was used, as defined in section 80131 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, the secretary of state will order you not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state.".

(7) If the judge or juvenile court referee determines as part of the sentence or disposition that the felony for which the defendant was convicted or adjudicated and with respect to which notice was given pursuant to subsection (5) or (6) is a felony in which a vessel was used, the clerk of the court shall forward an abstract of the court record of that conviction or adjudication to the secretary of state.

(8) Every person required to forward abstracts to the secretary of state under this section shall certify for the period from January 1 through June 30 and for the period from July 1 through December 31 that all abstracts required to be forwarded during the period have been forwarded. The certification shall be filed with the secretary of state not later than 28 days after the end of the period covered by the certification. The certification shall be made upon a form furnished by the secretary of state and shall include all of the following:

(a) The name and title of the person required to forward abstracts.

(b) The court for which the certification is filed.

(c) The time period covered by the certification.

(d) The following statement:

"I certify that all abstracts required by section 80131 of the natural resources and environmental protection act for the period _____ through _____ have been forwarded to the secretary of state.".

(e) Other information the secretary of state considers necessary.

(f) The signature of the person required to forward abstracts.

(9) The failure, refusal, or neglect of a person to comply with this section constitutes misconduct in office and is grounds for removal from office.

(10) Except as provided in subsection (11), the secretary of state shall keep all abstracts received under this section at the secretary of state's main office, and the abstracts shall be open for public inspection during the office's usual business hours. The secretary of state shall enter each abstract upon the boating record of the person to whom it pertains and shall record the information in a manner that makes the information available to peace officers through the law enforcement information network.

(11) The court shall not submit, and the secretary of state shall discard and not enter on the boating record, an abstract for a conviction or civil infraction determination for a violation of this part that could not be the basis for the secretary of state's issuance of an order not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state. The secretary of state shall discard and not enter on the boating record an abstract for a bond forfeiture that occurred outside this state.

(12) The secretary of state shall inform the court of the violations of this part that are used by the secretary of state as the basis for issuance of an order not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state.

(13) If a conviction or civil infraction determination is reversed upon appeal, the court shall transmit a copy of the order of reversal to the secretary of state, and the secretary of state shall enter the order in the proper book or index in connection with the record of the conviction or civil infraction determination.

(14) The secretary of state may permit a city or village department, bureau, person, or court to modify the requirement as to the time and manner of reporting a conviction, civil infraction determination, or settlement to the secretary of state if the modification will increase the economy and efficiency of collecting and utilizing the records. If the permitted abstract of court record reporting a conviction, civil infraction determination, or settlement originates as a part of the written notice to appear, authorized in section 80168, the form of the written notice and report shall be as prescribed by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

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324.80132 Applicability of MCL 324.80134 and 324.80135; applicability of section.

Sec. 80132. (1) Sections 80134 and 80135 apply to a vessel operated on waters subject to the jurisdiction of this state when the vessel is either of the following:

(a) Operated by its operator for recreational purposes.

(b) Required to be numbered in this state.

(2) This section does not apply to a vessel required to have a certificate of inspection under chapter I of title 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80133 Casualty involving vessel; assistance to injured persons.

Sec. 80133. (1) The operator of a vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty, and the operator of any other vessel, to the extent that he or she can do so without serious danger to his or her own vessel, crew, and passengers, shall render reasonable assistance to a person affected by the collision, accident, or other casualty, including the transporting of the injured person to a physician or surgeon for medical or surgical treatment, if it is apparent that treatment is necessary or when requested by the injured person.

(2) A person who complies with subsection (1), or who gratuitously and in good faith renders assistance at the scene of a vessel collision, accident, or other casualty without objection of the person assisted, is not liable for civil damages as a result of the rendering of assistance, or for an act or omission in providing or arranging towage, medical treatment, or other assistance, if the assisting person acts as an ordinary, reasonably prudent person would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80134 Casualties involving vessels; exchange of identification.

Sec. 80134. In the case of collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel, the operator shall stop his or her vessel and give his or her name and address and identification of his or her vessel, and the name and address of the owner of the vessel if he or she is not the operator, to the operator or occupants of any other vessel involved or to the owner or his or her agents of any property damaged by the accident.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80134a Accident involving serious impairment of body function or death; remaining at scene of accident; violation as felony; “serious impairment of a body function” defined.

Sec. 80134a. (1) The operator of a vessel who knows or who has reason to believe that he or she has been involved in an accident resulting in serious impairment of a body function or death of a person shall immediately stop his or her vessel at the scene of the accident and shall remain there until the requirements of sections 80133 and 80134 are fulfilled.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3), a person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or by a fine of not more than $5,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who violates subsection (1) following an accident caused by that person that results in the death of another person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both.

(4) As used in this section, "serious impairment of a body function" means that term as defined in section 58c of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.58c.

History: Add. 2003, Act 231, Eff. Apr. 1, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80135 Casualty involving vessel; report.

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Sec. 80135. (1) In the case of collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel, the operator shall report the collision, accident, or other casualty to the nearest peace officer, state police post, or the sheriff of the county in which the collision, accident, or other casualty occurred.

(2) A report of a collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel that is made to a peace officer other than the sheriff of the county in which the collision, accident, or other casualty occurred shall be reported without delay by the peace officer to the sheriff of the county in which the collision, accident, or other casualty occurred.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80136 Peace officer receiving report or investigating casualty involving vessel; report to department and county sheriff; form and contents.

Sec. 80136. A peace officer receiving a report or investigating the collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel shall prepare and submit within 15 days a complete report thereof to the department and the sheriff of the county where the collision, accident, or other casualty involving a vessel occurred, in a form and containing such information as the department may require.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80137 Casualty reports involving vessel; use; fee; copies; admissibility in court.

Sec. 80137. All collision, accident, or other casualty reports involving a vessel shall be without prejudice and shall be for the information of the department. Any person upon the payment of $2.00 to the department shall be furnished a copy of the report. The report required in section 80136 is not admissible in a court.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80138 Transmission of information for analytical or statistical purposes.

Sec. 80138. In accordance with a request by an authorized official or agency of the United States or by the department, information compiled or otherwise available to the secretary of state and the department under this part shall be transmitted to the official or agency of the United States or to the department for analytical and statistical purposes.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80139 Rules.

Sec. 80139. The department shall promulgate rules to establish a state vessel collision, accident, or other casualty reporting system in conformity with that established by the United States coast guard.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

Administrative rules: R 281.1221 et seq. of the Michigan Administrative Code.

324.80140 Educational programs; establishment; youthful boat operators training program; certificates of completion; information to be included in program.

Sec. 80140. (1) In order to protect the public interest in the prudent and equitable use of the waters of this state and to enhance the enjoyment of pleasure boating and other recreational water sports on the waters of the state, the department shall establish and pursue comprehensive educational programs designed to advance boating and general water safety.

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(2) The department shall put into effect a program to train youthful boat operators and shall issue a boating safety certificate to those who satisfactorily complete the program. For the purpose of giving the courses of instruction and awarding boating safety certificates, the department may designate as its agent any person it considers qualified to act in this capacity. A charge shall not be made for any instruction given or for the award of boating safety certificates.

(3) The department shall include in its educational programs under this section all of the following:

(a) Information on proper marine fueling techniques.

(b) Information on the problems that marine fuel spillage may cause to water bodies.

(c) Information on how and where to report a marine fuel spill.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 95, Imd. Eff. May 7, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80141 Operation of motorboat by person less than 12 years of age; operation of motorboat by person on or after July 1, 1996; certification required; electronic verification; consent to search; liability.

Sec. 80141. (1) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2), a person less than 12 years of age shall not operate a motorboat that is powered by a motor or motors totaling more than 6 horsepower on the waters of this state unless both of the following requirements are met:

(a) He or she is under the direct supervision of a person on board the motorboat who is 16 years of age or older and who, if born on or after July 1, 1996, has been issued a boating safety certificate.

(b) The motorboat is powered by a motor or motors totaling no more than 35 horsepower.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), a person born on or after July 1, 1996 shall not operate a motorboat that is powered by a motor or motors totaling more than 6 horsepower on the waters of this state unless the person has been issued a boating safety certificate.

(3) A person operating or supervising the operation of a motorboat as described in this section shall present the boating safety certificate issued to him or her or, at the person's option, an electronic copy, in a format approved by the department, of a boating safety certificate issued to him or her, upon the demand of a peace officer who identifies himself or herself as a peace officer.

(4) An individual who, under subsection (3), displays an electronic copy of his or her boating safety certificate using an electronic device is not presumed to have consented to a search of the electronic device. This state, an employee of this state, a peace officer, or an entity employing the peace officer is not liable for damage to or loss of an electronic device that occurs as a result of the peace officer's viewing an electronic copy of a boating safety certificate as provided in this section, regardless of whether the peace officer was in possession of the electronic device at the time the damage or loss occurred.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 400, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80142 Wearing of personal flotation device by child required; exception; “charter boat” and “class C vessel” defined; violation; fine.

Sec. 80142. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3), a person shall not operate a vessel on the waters of this state unless each person in an open deck area on board the vessel who is less than 6 years of age is wearing a type I or type II personal flotation device as described in R 281.1234 of the Michigan administrative code.

(2) A parent or guardian of a child less than 6 years of age who accompanies that child on board a vessel that is not a charter boat described in subsection (3) shall ensure that the child is wearing a personal flotation device that complies with this section.

(3) This section does not apply to a charter boat bearing either of the following:

(a) A valid certificate of inspection issued by the United States coast guard that verifies the charter boat's compliance with subchapter H or subchapter T of the code of federal regulations, 46 C.F.R. 70.01-1 to 80.40 and 175.01-1 to 185.30-30.

(b) A valid certificate of inspection issued by the department for a class C vessel that is greater than 45 feet in length.

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(4) As used in this section, "charter boat" and "class C vessel" mean those terms as defined in section 44501.

(5) A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80143 Barge; lights; number; placement; position; barges moored together; limitation; order to move moored vessel; violation as misdemeanor; penalty; costs; definitions.

Sec. 80143. (1) The owner of a barge shall place his or her name, address, and telephone number on a prominent place on the hull of the barge in letters that are light-reflective, in a contrasting color to the hull, and not less than 6 inches in height.

(2) In addition to the other lighting requirements of this chapter and subject to subsection (3), the operator of a barge shall ensure that the barge is properly lit with 4 or more white lights during the period from sunset to sunrise and as practicable during all periods of limited visibility if any of the following apply:

(a) The barge projects into a restricted channel or into a channel established by buoys.

(b) The barge is moored so that it reduces the available navigable width of a channel.

(c) The barge is not parallel to the bank or dock to which it is moored.

(d) The barge is moored as part of a group of 2 or more barges.

(3) The lights on a barge described in subsection (1) shall be placed as follows if either of the following applies:

(a) If the barge or group formation of barges is positioned so that vessels may navigate on 1 or more sides of the barge or group formation of barges, the lights shall be displayed on each outside corner of the barge or group formation of barges.

(b) If the barge projects from a group formation of barges, the lights shall be displayed on the corners of the projecting barge that are outboard of the group.

(4) Lights used under this section shall meet the requirements of R 281.1233 of the Michigan administrative code and shall be positioned in such a manner and be of sufficient intensity as to be visible from any direction for at least 1 nautical mile at night under clear conditions.

(5) A group of barges shall not be moored together if the total width of those barges would exceed 82 feet.

(6) The department or a local authority may order a vessel moored in violation of this section that poses a hazard to navigation to be immediately moved and, if the vessel is not moved as ordered, may move or cause the vessel to be moved, with the owner subject to the payment of costs under subsection (8).

(7) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $10,000.00, or both. For purposes of this subsection, each 24-hour period that a violation exists constitutes a separate violation.

(8) The court shall order a person convicted of violating this section to pay the actual and reasonable costs incurred by this state or a local unit of government in moving a vessel under subsection (6).

(9) As used in this section:

(a) "Barge" means a flat-bottomed displacement vessel that is used to carry cargo or as a work platform, whether or not it operates under its own power.

(b) "Operator" includes a person in command of a barge while it is moored.

History: Add. 2012, Act 59, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 324.80143, which pertained to requirements for operation of personal watercraft, was repealed by Act 263 of 1998, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80143a Carrying, storing, maintaining, and using marine safety equipment onboard vessel; violation as civil infraction; fine.

Sec. 80143a. A person who operates a vessel, or the owner of a vessel who operates or causes or permits the vessel to be operated, on the waters of this state shall carry, store, maintain, and use marine safety equipment onboard the vessel as required by the department. A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

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History: Add. 2012, Act 58, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80144 Operation of vessels; rules; violation; fine.

Sec. 80144. (1) When vessels are being operated in such a manner as to make collision imminent or likely, the following apply:

(a) When 2 vessels are approaching each other head-on, or nearly so, the operator of each shall cause his or her vessel to pass on the port side of the other.

(b) When overtaking a vessel proceeding in the same direction, the operator of the overtaking vessel, unless it is not feasible to do so, shall pass on the port side of the vessel ahead.

(c) When 2 vessels are approaching each other at right angles or obliquely so as to involve risk of collision, other than when 1 vessel is overtaking another, the operator of the vessel that has the other on his or her own port side shall hold his or her course and speed, and the operator of the vessel that has the other on his or her own starboard side shall give way to the other by directing his or her course to starboard so as to cross the stern of the other vessel or, if necessary to do so, shall slacken his or her speed, stop, or reverse.

(d) When a motorboat and a vessel under sail are proceeding in a manner that involves a risk of collision, the operator of the motorboat shall give way to the vessel under sail.

(e) When a motorboat and a vessel not propelled by sail or mechanical means are proceeding in a manner that involves risk of collision, the operator of the motorboat shall give way to the other vessel.

(f) When, by any of the rules provided in this section, the operator of a vessel is required to give way to the other, the operator of the other vessel shall maintain his or her direction and speed.

(2) This section does not relieve the operator of a vessel otherwise privileged by this section from the duty to operate with due regard for the safety of all persons using the waters of this state.

(3) A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80145 Operation of vessels; speed; interference with use of waters by others; violation; fine.

Sec. 80145. A person operating or propelling a vessel upon the waters of this state shall operate it in a careful and prudent manner and at such a rate of speed so as not to endanger unreasonably the life or property of any person. A person shall not operate any vessel at a rate of speed greater than will permit him or her, in the exercise of reasonable care, to bring the vessel to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead. A person shall not operate a vessel in a manner so as to interfere unreasonably with the lawful use by others of any waters. A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80146 Maximum or unlimited vessel speed; rules; maximum vessel speed where limits not established; exceptions; resolution requesting reduction in maximum speed limit; emergency conditions; temporary speed limit requirements; time limitations; declaration of state emergency; requiring slow—no wake speed or minimum speed; violation; fine; exceptions; waiver.

Sec. 80146. (1) The department may promulgate rules to establish maximum vessel speed limits or to allow unlimited vessel speed on the waters of this state.

(2) On waters of this state for which a vessel speed limit is not established under subsection (1), for which the department has not established an unlimited vessel speed limit, and for which stricter speed restrictions are not established pursuant to another act, the maximum speed limit is 55 miles per hour, except as follows:

(a) In an emergency as determined by local government authority.

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(b) For conservation officers and other peace officers when engaged in official duties.

(c) In the Great Lakes and Lake St. Clair, except for an area within 1 mile of the shoreline measured at a right angle from the shoreline.

(3) Upon receipt of a resolution by the governing body of a local unit of government having jurisdiction over waters of this state requesting a reduction in the maximum speed limit on those waters, the department, pursuant to sections 80108 and 80109 to 80113, may establish a maximum speed limit not to exceed 40 miles per hour on those waters.

(4) Upon receipt of a resolution of the governing body of a county or municipality requesting a reduction in the maximum vessel speed limit to protect life and property during emergency conditions, the department, the county emergency management coordinator, or the county sheriff may establish a temporary reduced maximum vessel speed limit on waters of this state located in the county or municipality. In that case, the department, emergency management coordinator, or sheriff, respectively, shall do all of the following:

(a) Specify a maximum fine for violating the temporary speed limit. The maximum fine shall not be greater than $100.00 for a first violation of a temporary speed limit established by that authority or $500.00 for a second or subsequent violation.

(b) Notify the other authorities authorized to issue temporary speed limits under this subsection of the temporary speed limit.

(c) Post the temporary speed limit, the maximum fine, and a description of the affected waters on its website.

(d) Subject to section 80159, place buoys sufficient to advise vessel operators of the temporary speed limit.

(5) A person who violates a temporary speed limit established by the department under subsection (4) is responsible for a state civil infraction and subject to a civil fine as specified pursuant to subsection (4). A person who violates a temporary speed limit established by an emergency management coordinator or sheriff is responsible for a municipal civil infraction and subject to a civil fine as specified pursuant to subsection (4).

(6) A temporary speed limit under subsection (4) shall remain in effect for not more than 14 days. A temporary speed limit may be reissued once per calendar year. However, a temporary speed limit may be reissued twice per calendar year if, before adopting the resolution requesting the second reissuance, the county or municipality submitted to the department an application and resolution for a temporary ordinance under section 80112a in lieu of the temporary speed limit under subsection (4). Temporary speed limits under subsection (4) shall only be in effect during the period from September 1 to June 20. However, a temporary speed limit may be in effect during the period from June 21 to June 30 if it is the first or second reissuance of a temporary speed limit and if, before adopting the resolution requesting that reissuance, the county or municipality submitted to the department an application and resolution for a temporary ordinance under section 80112a in lieu of the temporary speed limit under subsection (4).

(7) A temporary speed limit under subsection (4) shall not prohibit the use of any type of vessel.

(8) During a state of emergency or disaster declared by the governor pursuant to law, the governor may establish restricted wake zones if necessary and appropriate to address emergency or disaster conditions.

(9) A person shall not operate a vessel on the waters of this state at a speed greater than slow—no wake speed or the minimum speed necessary for the vessel to maintain forward movement when within 100 feet of the shoreline where the water depth is less than 3 feet, as determined by vertical measurement, except in navigable channels not otherwise posted.

(10) A person who violates subsection (2) or (3) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00, unless 1 of the following conditions exists:

(a) The requirements of this section have been waived as described under subsection (11).

(b) The person violates this section in a manner that constitutes reckless operation of a vessel as described in section 80147.

(11) The department may waive the requirements of this section and section 80156 for marine events authorized by the department under section 80164.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007;—Am. 2020, Act 70, Imd. Eff. Apr. 2, 2020.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80147 Reckless operation of vessels; penalty.

Sec. 80147. (1) If a person carelessly and heedlessly operates a vessel upon the waters of this state in disregard of the rights or safety of others, without due caution and circumspection, or at a rate of speed or in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger a person or property, that person is guilty of reckless operation

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of a vessel and is subject to the penalties described in subsection (3).

(2) If a person, while being towed on water skis, a water sled, a surfboard, or a similar contrivance upon the waters of this state, carelessly and heedlessly navigates, steers, or controls himself or herself in disregard of the rights or safety of others or without due caution and circumspection and in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger a person or property, then that person is guilty of reckless operation of the contrivance that he or she controls is subject to the penalties described in subsection (3).

(3) Upon a person's conviction under this section, the court may issue an order prohibiting that person from operating a vessel on the waters of this state for a period of not more than 2 years. Upon a person's subsequent conviction under this section, the court shall order that person to participate in and complete a marine safety educational program approved by the department. An order issued pursuant to this subsection is in addition to any other penalty authorized under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80148 Operating motorboat at more than slow—no wake speed; prohibitions; exceptions.

Sec. 80148. (1) Subject to the exceptions described in subsection (2), a person shall not operate a motorboat at more than slow—no wake speed if any of the following circumstances exist:

(a) A person is located on or in the bow of the motorboat, and that motorboat is not manufactured to provide bow seating.

(b) A person or a portion of a person's body extends beyond the exterior port or starboard walls of the hull of the motorboat.

(2) This section does not apply to either of the following:

(a) A person engaged in the operation of a sailboat that is not being powered by a motor.

(b) A person on board a vessel who is attempting to anchor, moor, dock, or otherwise secure the vessel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80149 Operation of vessels in counter-clockwise fashion; distance between persons being towed and other objects; exception; violation as misdemeanor; violation as civil infraction; fine.

Sec. 80149. (1) A person operating a vessel on the waters of this state in areas not marked by well defined channels, canals, rivers, or stream courses shall operate the vessels in a counter-clockwise fashion to the extent that it is reasonably possible. These persons and persons being towed on water skis or on a water sled, kite, surfboard, or similar contrivance shall maintain a distance of 100 feet from any dock, raft, buoyed or occupied bathing area, or vessel moored or at anchor, except when the vessel is proceeding at a slow—no wake speed or when water skiers are being picked up or dropped off, if that operation is otherwise conducted with due regard to the safety of persons and property and in accordance with the laws of this state. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), a person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) A person who violates this section while on any of the following bodies of water in this state is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00:

(a) The Great Lakes.

(b) Lake St. Clair.

(c) The St. Clair river.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80150 Operation of vessels; prohibited in certain areas.

Sec. 80150. A person shall not operate a vessel on any of the waters of this state within a lawfully authorized restricted area clearly marked by buoys, beacons, or other distinguishing devices as being prohibited to vessels.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80151 Towing of persons; prohibited time; violation; fine.

Sec. 80151. (1) A person operating a vessel shall not have in tow or otherwise be assisting in the propulsion of a person on water skis or on a water sled, surfboard, or other similar contrivance during the period of 1 hour after sunset to 1 hour prior to sunrise.

(2) A person shall not permit himself or herself to be towed on water skis or on a water sled, surfboard, or similar contrivance in violation of this part.

(3) A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80152 Towing or assisting person prohibited; exceptions; violation; fine; subsections (1) and (3) inapplicable under certain conditions; standards; rules; certification; information to be provided; specification of bodies of water for use in practice.

Sec. 80152. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person shall not operate a vessel on the waters of this state while towing or otherwise assisting a person being towed unless both of the following conditions are met:

(a) A person capable of communicating to the vessel operator the condition and needs of the person being towed or assisted is on board the vessel and positioned to observe the person being towed or assisted.

(b) The person being towed is wearing the proper type I, type II, or type III personal flotation device, as applicable. The wearing of an inflatable personal flotation device does not satisfy this requirement.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

(3) A person shall not permit himself or herself to be towed or otherwise assisted by a vessel on the waters of this state unless he or she complies with the conditions listed in subsection (1).

(4) A person who violates subsection (3) who is 16 years of age or older is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

(5) Subsections (1) and (3) do not apply to any of the following:

(a) A person who operates or who is towed by a vessel used by a ski school in the giving of instructions or a vessel used in sanctioned ski tournaments, competitions, expositions, or trials if the vessel is equipped with a 170-degree wide-angle rearview mirror affixed in a manner that will permit the operator to observe the progress of the person being towed.

(b) A person being towed by a motorboat less than 16 feet in length that is actually operated by the person being towed if the vessel is constructed to be incapable of carrying the operator in or on the motorboat.

(c) A vessel operator or the person being towed if the vessel operator is towing a person preparing for a specific water ski tournament and if all of the following conditions are met:

(*i*) The vessel operator is certified as provided in subsection (6).

(*ii*) The person being towed is certified as provided in subsection (7).

(*iii*) Towing is conducted so that, on average, not more than 1 vessel approaches within 300 feet of the towing vessel during any 5-minute period.

(*iv*) The vessel is equipped with all of the following:

(A) A center-mounted tow pylon.

(B) A large clear rearview mirror capable of allowing the vessel operator to distinguish hand signals at a distance of 75 feet.

(C) Markings that identify the vessel as a vessel that is being operated in conformance with this subdivision.

(6) The department shall adopt standards for water ski tournament boat operation established by U.S.A. water ski in "Trained Boat Driver Program", April 1997, and by the American water ski association in "Drivers' Policy Manual". However, the department may promulgate rules providing for alternative standards under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The department shall

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certify each individual who satisfies the standards described in this subsection as a tournament water ski vessel operator and issue proof of that certification to the individual.

(7) The department shall adopt standards for tournament water skiers established by the Michigan water ski association in "Guidelines for Training Permit Eligibility", proposed revision 125 of 1996. However, the department may promulgate rules providing for alternative standards under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The department shall certify each individual who satisfies the standards described in this subsection as a tournament water skier and issue proof of that certification to the individual.

(8) The Michigan water ski association shall provide annually to the department and the Michigan sheriffs association both of the following:

(a) A list of the individuals whom the organization considers qualified for tournament water skiing.

(b) The names of not more than 3 bodies of water on which each of those individuals may be authorized to practice for tournament water skiing.

(9) The department shall specify the body or bodies of water upon which a water skier may practice upon each certificate issued under subsection (7).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 19, Imd. Eff. Apr. 30, 1999;—Am. 2012, Act 58, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80153 Vessels; use of portions unintended for occupancy prohibited; exceptions.

Sec. 80153. Any occupant or operator of any vessel under way on the waters of this state shall not sit, stand, or walk upon any portion of the vessel not specially designed for that purpose, except when immediately necessary for the safe and reasonable navigation or operation of the vessel.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80154 Interference with operation of vessel by nonoccupant.

Sec. 80154. A person not in a boat shall not intentionally rock, tip, jostle, or otherwise interfere with the operation of any vessel, except under supervised training.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80155 Divers; marking point of submergence; distance from diver's flag.

Sec. 80155. Any person diving or submerging in any of the waters of this state with the aid of a diving suit or other mechanical diving device shall place a buoy or boat in the water at or near the point of submergence. The buoy or boat shall bear a red flag not less than 14 inches by 16 inches with a 3-1/2 inch white stripe running from 1 upper corner to a diagonal lower corner. The flag shall be in place only while actual diving operations are in progress. A vessel shall not be operated within 200 feet of a buoyed diver's flag unless it is involved in tendering the diving operation. A person diving shall stay within a surface area of 100 feet of the diver's flag.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80156 Motorboat; muffler or underwater exhaust system required; maximum sound levels; test and maximum decibel levels; new motorboat to comply with prescribed sound levels; exceptions; “dB(A)” defined; violation and penalties.

Sec. 80156. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state unless the motorboat is equipped and maintained with an effective muffler or underwater exhaust system that does not produce sound levels in excess of 90 dB(A) when subjected to a stationary sound level test as

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prescribed by SAE J2005 or a sound level in excess of 75 dB(A) when subjected to a shoreline sound level measurement procedure as described by SAE J1970. The operator of a motorboat shall present the motorboat for a sound level test as prescribed by SAE J2005 upon the request of a peace officer. If a motorboat is equipped with more than 1 motor or engine, the test shall be performed with all motors or engines operating. To determine whether a person is violating this subsection, a peace officer may measure sound levels pursuant to procedures prescribed in SAE J1970, issued 1991-92.

(2) The department may by rule establish a motorboat sound level test and set a maximum decibel level or levels permitted for motorboat operation that replace the tests and maximum decibel levels permitted under subsection (1). If a test and maximum decibel level or levels are established pursuant to this subsection, all of the following apply:

(a) A person shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state if the motorboat produces sound levels that exceed the maximum decibel level or levels established under this subsection.

(b) The operator of a motorboat shall present the motorboat for the sound level test established pursuant to this subsection upon the request of a peace officer.

(c) A motorboat equipped with more than 1 motor or engine shall be tested with all motors or engines operating.

(3) A person shall not manufacture, sell, or offer for sale a motorboat for use on the waters of this state unless that motorboat is equipped and maintained with an effective muffler or underwater exhaust system that complies with the applicable sound levels permitted under subsection (1) or (2).

(4) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to any of the following:

(a) A motorboat tuning up or testing for or participating in official trials for speed records or a sanctioned race conducted pursuant to a permit issued by an appropriate unit of government.

(b) A motorboat being operated by a boat or marine engine manufacturer for the purpose of testing or development.

(c) A motorboat that qualifies as an historic vessel.

(5) As used in this section, "dB(A)" means decibels on the "A" scale on a sound meter having characteristics of a general purpose sound meter as defined by American national standards institute S1.4-1983.

(6) A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00. A person who violates this section a second or subsequent time is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days and a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00. Additionally, before putting the motorboat back in use, a person who violates this section is required to install an effective muffler or underwater exhaust system that meets the requirements of this section on the motorboat in violation at his or her expense.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 274, Imd. Eff. June 17, 1996;—Am. 2022, Act 23, Eff. June 8, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80157 Liability of vessel owner for negligent operation; presumption of consent to use.

Sec. 80157. The owner of a vessel is liable for any injury occasioned by the negligent operation of the vessel, whether the negligence consists of a violation of the statutes of this state, or in the failure to observe such ordinary care in the operation as the rules of the common law require. The owner is not liable unless the vessel is being used with his or her expressed or implied consent. It shall be presumed that the vessel is being operated with the knowledge and consent of the owner if it is driven at the time of the injury by his or her son, daughter, spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, or other immediate member of the owner's family.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80158 Responsibility of vessel owner for damage caused by vessel wake.

Sec. 80158. The owner of any vessel operated upon the waters of this state is personally responsible for any damage to life or property resulting from a wake or swell created by the negligent operation or propulsion of the vessel, if the vessel is being operated with his or her consent.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80159 Buoys or beacons; permit for placement; application; revocation; removal.

Sec. 80159. A person shall not place a beacon or buoy, other than a mooring buoy, in the waters of this state except as authorized by a permit issued by the department pursuant to part 13. The department may issue a permit for the placing of buoys or beacons in the waters of this state to mark obstruction to navigation, to designate bathing areas, to designate vessel anchorages, or for any other purpose if it will promote safety or navigation. An application for a permit shall contain information required by the department. If buoys or beacons are placed in the waters of this state without a permit having been issued, the department may order their removal. If, in the judgment of the department, buoys or beacons authorized by the department are found to be improperly placed, the reason for their placement no longer exists, or the buoys or beacons do not conform to the uniform system of marking established by state regulation, the department may revoke the permit authorizing their placement and may order their removal. Revocation of permits and orders of removal shall be by written notice to the person placing the buoys or beacons or to the person to whom the permit was issued at his or her last known address, directing the removal within a specified time. The person to whom the notice is directed shall remove the buoys or beacons in accordance with the instructions. If the person fails to remove the buoys or beacons within the specified time, the department may cause their removal, and the cost and expense of the removal shall be charged against the person authorized to place the buoys or beacons or, where authorization has not been granted, the person placing such buoys or beacons and shall be recoverable through any court of competent jurisdiction.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80160 Buoys or beacons; uniform marking system.

Sec. 80160. The department shall establish a uniform waterway marking system for the marking of all buoys and beacons authorized by this part to be placed in the waters of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80161 Buoys or beacons; compliance with federal law or regulations; permits.

Sec. 80161. Sections 80159 and 80160 do not exempt any person from compliance with applicable federal law or regulation, and sections 80159 and 80160 do not require the securing of a state revocable permit if a permit therefor has been obtained from an authorized agency of the United States.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80162 Buoys or beacons; use as moorings; moving, removal or damaging.

Sec. 80162. A person shall not moor or fasten a vessel to a lawfully placed buoy or beacon, except mooring buoys, or willfully move, remove, or damage such a buoy or beacon.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80163 Anchored raft or other item or material; relocation or removal as navigation hazard; costs; failure to pay; lien.

Sec. 80163. (1) If an anchored raft or other item or material, whether floating free or attached to the bottomland or a shoreline, presents a hazard to navigation, the department or a peace officer with jurisdiction over the body of water where the anchored raft or other item or material is located may relocate or remove it

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or may order its relocation or removal.

(2) The person who owns or who caused a navigational hazard that is relocated or removed under subsection (1) is liable to pay the actual and reasonable costs of relocation or removal. The department or the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the body of water where the navigational hazard was located may send written notice of the relocation or removal under subsection (1) and the associated costs to the person determined to own or to have caused the navigational hazard. If the owner or person who caused the navigational hazard fails to pay the costs within 30 days of the date the written notice is mailed, the costs may become a lien against the person's property.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2010, Act 101, Imd. Eff. June 22, 2010.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80164 Regattas; rules; permit; authorization; applications.

Sec. 80164. The department may authorize the holding of regattas, motorboat or other boat races, marine parades, tournaments, or exhibitions, or trials for those events, on any waters of this state. The department shall promulgate and may amend rules concerning the conduct of such marine events. Whenever a regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition, or trials for those events, is proposed to be held, the person in charge of the event, at least 30 days prior to the event, shall file an application with the department for permission to hold the regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament, exhibition, or trials. The application shall set forth the date, time, and location where it is proposed to hold the regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition, and it shall not be conducted without the written authorization of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80164a Personal flotation device and throwable flotation device; exception from requirements.

Sec. 80164a. The requirements for having a personal flotation device and a throwable flotation device in a vessel do not apply to a person in a racing shell or rowing scull.

History: Add. 2010, Act 298, Imd. Eff. Dec. 16, 2010.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80165 Regattas, races, or trials; compliance with federal law or regulation; permit; waiver.

Sec. 80165. Section 80164 does not exempt a person from compliance with an applicable federal law or regulation, and it shall not be construed to require the securing of a state permit if a permit for an event, exhibition, or trial described in section 80164 has been obtained from an authorized agency of the United States. The department in its permit may waive the provisions of sections 80122, 80144, 80146, 80149, 80151, 80152, and 80156, as well as the registration provisions of the laws of this state, and any of the rules promulgated by the department under this part, to the extent that they apply to vessels participating in races, regattas, or trials sanctioned by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80166 Peace officers; stopping of vessels; duty of operator; reasonable suspicion; furnishing false information as misdemeanor; arrest without warrant.

Sec. 80166. (1) Upon the direction of a peace officer acting in the lawful performance of his or her duty, the operator of a vessel moving on the waters of this state shall immediately bring the vessel to a stop or maneuver it in a manner that permits the peace officer to come beside the vessel. The operator of the vessel shall do the following upon the request of the peace officer:

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(a) Provide his or her correct name and address.

(b) Exhibit the certificate of number awarded for the vessel.

(c) If the vessel does not bear a decal described in section 80166a or an equivalent decal issued by or on behalf of another state, submit to a reasonable inspection of the vessel and to a reasonable inspection and test of the equipment of the vessel.

(2) A peace officer shall not stop and inspect a vessel bearing the decal described in section 80166a or an equivalent decal issued by or on behalf of another state during the period the decal remains in effect unless that peace officer has a reasonable suspicion that the vessel or the vessel's operator is in violation of a marine law or is otherwise engaged in criminal activity.

(3) A person who is detained for a violation of this part or of a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a provision of this part and who furnishes a peace officer false, forged, fictitious, or misleading verbal or written information identifying the person as another person is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(4) A peace officer who observes a marine law violation or the commission of a crime may immediately arrest the person without a warrant or issue to the person a written or verbal warning.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2002, Act 636, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2002;—Am. 2012, Act 62, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80166a Agreement with United States coast guard.

Sec. 80166a. (1) The department may enter into an agreement with the United States coast guard, the United States coast guard auxiliary, or an organization sponsored by the United States coast guard or the United States coast guard auxiliary to provide for vessel safety checks of a vessel and its equipment. An agreement entered into under this subsection shall not preclude the department, or any peace officer within his or her jurisdiction, from performing an inspection of a vessel or the vessel's equipment for enforcement purposes or courtesy purposes.

(2) An agreement entered into under this section shall specify that the United States coast guard, the United States coast guard auxiliary, or an organization sponsored by the United States coast guard or the United States coast guard auxiliary shall provide the department with a sufficient number of vessel safety check decals for conservation officers and those counties that participate in the marine safety program. In addition to any other information that is included on a vessel safety check decal, each vessel safety check decal shall bear the likeness of the state seal of Michigan. The vessel safety check decal shall display the year in which the decal was issued and during which it is valid.

(3) Upon the completion of an inspection of a vessel or the vessel's equipment by a peace officer, the United States coast guard, the United States coast guard auxiliary, or an organization sponsored by the United States coast guard or the United States coast guard auxiliary, the peace officer or person performing the inspection shall affix to the vessel the vessel safety check decal provided for in this section.

History: Add. 2002, Act 636, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2002.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80167 Arrest without warrant; cases in which arrested person arraigned by magistrate or judge.

Sec. 80167. If a person is arrested without a warrant for any of the following, the arrested person shall, without unreasonable delay, be arraigned by a magistrate or judge who is within the county in which the offense charged is alleged to have been committed, who has jurisdiction of the offense, and who is nearest or most accessible with reference to the place where the arrest is made:

(a) The person is arrested upon a charge of negligent homicide.

(b) The person is arrested under section 80176(1), (3), (4), or (5), or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1) or (3).

(c) The person is arrested under section 80147 or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80147. If in the existing circumstances it does not appear that releasing the person pending the issuance of a warrant will constitute a public menace, the arresting officer may proceed as provided by section 80168.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80168 Arrest without warrant; notice to appear in court; time; place; appearance; acceptance of pleas.

Sec. 80168. (1) When a person is arrested without a warrant for a violation of this part punishable as a misdemeanor, or of a provision of any local ordinance or rule established in conformity with this part, under conditions not referred to in section 80167, the arresting officer shall prepare in duplicate a written notice to appear in court containing the name and address of the person, the offense charged, and the time and place when and where the person shall appear in court. If the arrested person so demands, he or she shall be arraigned by a magistrate or a district court judge as provided in section 80167 in lieu of being given the notice.

(2) The time specified in the notice to appear shall be within a reasonable time after the arrest unless the person arrested demands an earlier hearing.

(3) The place specified in the notice to appear shall be before a magistrate or a district court judge who is within the township or county in which the offense charged is alleged to have been committed and who has jurisdiction of the offense.

(4) Appearance may be made in person, by representation, or by mail. When appearance is made by representation or mail, the magistrate or the district court judge may accept the plea of guilty or not guilty for purposes of arraignment, with the same effect as though the person personally appeared before him or her. The magistrate or the district court judge, by giving notice 5 days prior to the date of appearance, may require appearance in person at the time and place designated in the notice.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80169 Arrest without warrant; nonresidents; recognizance; receipt and summons; failure to appear; deposit of money; report; embezzlement.

Sec. 80169. (1) If a person not a resident of this state is arrested without a warrant for a violation of this part under conditions not referred to under section 80167, the officer making the arrest, upon demand of the arrested person, shall immediately take the person for arraignment by a magistrate or a district court judge in the vicinity to answer to the complaint made against him or her. If a magistrate or a district court judge is not available or an immediate trial cannot be had, the person arrested may recognize to the officer for his or her appearance by leaving with him or her not more than $200.00.

(2) The officer making the arrest shall give a receipt to the person arrested for the money deposited with him or her under subsection (1), together with a written summons as provided in section 80168.

(3) If the offender fails to appear as required, the deposit shall be forfeited as in other cases of default in bail, in addition to any other penalty provided in this part.

(4) Not more than 48 hours after taking a deposit under this section, the officer shall deposit the money with the magistrate or the district court judge named in the notice to appear, together with a report stating the facts relating to the arrest. Failure to make the report and deposit the money is embezzlement of public money.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80170 Violation by officer, magistrate, or district court judge as misconduct in office; removal from office; applicability and construction of MCL 324.80168 and 324.80169.

Sec. 80170. (1) Any officer, magistrate, or district court judge violating section 80168 or 80169 is guilty of misconduct in office and is subject to removal from office.

(2) Sections 80168 and 80169 govern all peace officers in making arrests without a warrant for violations of this part and do not prevent the execution of a warrant for the arrest of the person as in other cases of misdemeanors when it may be necessary.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80171 Violation of part or rules; penalties.

Sec. 80171. Unless otherwise specified under this part, a violation of this part or rules promulgated under this part is a misdemeanor. A political subdivision having adopted a local ordinance in conformity with this part may provide that any violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor. Any person convicted of reckless operation of a vessel as defined in section 80147, or of operating a motorboat while under the influence of alcoholic liquor or narcotic drugs, or with any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214, in his or her body, in addition to any other penalty, may be refused by the court having jurisdiction of the violation the right of operating any motorboat on any of the waters of this state for a period of not more than 2 years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80172 Negligent crippling or death; penalty.

Sec. 80172. A person who, by the operation of any vessel at an immoderate rate of speed or in a careless, reckless, or negligent manner, but not willfully or wantonly, injures so as to cripple or cause the death of another is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be imprisoned for not more than 2 years, or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80173 Felonious operation of watercraft; penalty.

Sec. 80173. A person who operates any vessel carelessly and heedlessly in willful and wanton disregard of the rights or safety of others, or without due caution and circumspection and at a speed or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property and thereby injures so as to cripple any person, but not causing death, is guilty of the offense of felonious operation, and shall be imprisoned for not more than 2 years, or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80174 Negligent homicide included in charge of manslaughter.

Sec. 80174. The crime of negligent homicide is included within every crime of manslaughter charged to have been committed in the operation of any vessel, and where a defendant is charged with manslaughter committed in the operation of any vessel, if the jury finds the defendant not guilty of the crime of manslaughter, the jury may render a verdict of negligent homicide.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80175 Nonresidents; secretary of state as attorney for service of summons; service; procedure; sufficiency; death; appointment of secretary of state as attorney; abatement of actions; costs; applicability to all courts.

Sec. 80175. (1) The operation by a nonresident of a vessel upon the waters of this state, or the operation on the waters of this state of a vessel owned by a nonresident if operated with his or her consent, expressed or implied, is the appointment by the nonresident of the secretary of state as his or her true and lawful attorney, upon whom may be served the summons in any action against him or her, growing out of any accident or

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collision in which the nonresident may be involved while operating a vessel on the waters of this state, or in which the vessel may be involved while being so operated. The operation is a signification of his or her agreement that any summons against him or her that is so served has the same legal force and validity as if served on him or her personally within this state. Service of summons shall be made by leaving a copy of the summons with the secretary of state, or his or her deputy, who shall keep a record of each process and the day and hour of service. Service shall be sufficient service upon the nonresident, if notice of the service and a copy of the summons are forthwith either served upon the defendant personally by the sheriff or constable of the county in which he or she resides or sent by certified mail by the plaintiff or his or her attorney to the defendant. If personal service of the notice and copy of summons is had upon the defendant, the officer making the service shall so certify in his or her return, which shall be filed with the court having jurisdiction of the cause. If service is made by certified mail, then the plaintiff or his or her attorney shall make an affidavit showing that he or she has made service of the notice and summons upon the defendant by certified mail, and the affiant shall attach to the affidavit a true copy of the summons and notice so served and the return receipt of the defendant and shall file the affidavit and attached papers with the court having jurisdiction of the cause. The court in which the action is pending may order such extension of time as is necessary to afford the defendant reasonable opportunity to defend the action.

(2) The death of a nonresident does not revoke the appointment by him or her of the secretary of state as his or her true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served the summons in an action against him or her growing out of any such accident or collision, and any action growing out of such accident or collision may be commenced or prosecuted against his or her executor or administrator duly appointed by the state, territory, or district of the United States or foreign country in which the nonresident was domiciled at the time of his or her death. Service of the summons shall be made upon the secretary of state, and personal service of such notice and the copy of the summons be upon his or her executor or administrator, in like manner, with the same force and effect as service upon the nonresident during his or her lifetime.

(3) Any action or proceeding pending in any court of this state, in which the court has obtained jurisdiction of the nonresident pursuant to this section, shall not abate by reason of the death of the nonresident, but his or her executor or administrator duly appointed in the state, territory, or district of the United States or foreign country in which he or she was domiciled at the time of his or her death, upon the application of the plaintiff in the action and upon such notice as the court may prescribe, shall be brought in and substituted in the place of the decedent, and the action or proceeding shall continue.

(4) The court shall include as taxable costs, in addition to other legal costs against the plaintiff in case the defendant prevails in the action, the actual traveling expenses of the defendant from his or her residence to the place of trial and return, not to exceed the sum of $100.00.

(5) This section applies to actions commenced in all courts of this state having civil jurisdiction, including justice courts.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80176 Operation of or authorizing operation of motorboat while under influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance prohibited; visible impairment; violation as felony; penalty; "serious impairment of a body function" defined; operation by person less than 21 years of age; "any bodily alcohol content" defined; requirements; "operate" defined.

Sec. 80176. (1) A person shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state if any of the following apply:

(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both.

(b) The person has a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person has in his or her body any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214.

(2) The owner of a motorboat or a person in charge or in control of a motorboat shall not authorize or knowingly permit the motorboat to be operated on the waters of this state by a person if any of the following apply:

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(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both.

(b) The person has a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person's ability to operate the motorboat is visibly impaired due to the consumption of alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

(3) A person shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state when, due to the consumption of an alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both, the person's ability to operate the motorboat is visibly impaired. If a person is charged with violating subsection (1), a finding of guilty under this subsection may be rendered.

(4) A person who operates a motorboat on the waters of this state in violation of subsection (1) or (3) and by the operation of that motorboat causes the death of another person is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years, or a fine of not less than $2,500.00 or more than $10,000.00, or both.

(5) A person who operates a motorboat on the waters of this state in violation of subsection (1) or (3) and by the operation of that motorboat causes a serious impairment of a body function of another person is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $5,000.00, or both. As used in this subsection, "serious impairment of a body function" means that term as defined in section 58c of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.58c.

(6) A person who is less than 21 years of age, whether licensed or not, shall not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state if the person has any bodily alcohol content. As used in this subsection, "any bodily alcohol content" means either of the following:

(a) An alcohol content of 0.02 grams or more but less than 0.08 grams per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(b) Any presence of alcohol within a person's body resulting from the consumption of alcoholic liquor, other than consumption of alcoholic liquor as a part of a generally recognized religious service or ceremony.

(7) A person, whether licensed or not, is subject to the following requirements:

(a) He or she shall not operate a motorboat in violation of subsection (1), (3), (4), or (5) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the motorboat.

(b) He or she shall not operate a motorboat in violation of subsection (6) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the motorboat.

(8) As used in this section, "operate" means to be in control of a vessel propelled wholly or in part by machinery while the vessel is underway and is not docked, at anchor, idle, or otherwise secured.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2001, Act 12, Eff. July 1, 2001;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80177 Violation of MCL 324.80176(1); sanctions; costs.

Sec. 80177. (1) If a person is convicted of violating section 80176(1), the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 45 days.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*iii*) A fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be imprisoned for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not less than 48 consecutive hours or more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person is guilty of a felony and shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00, or both.

(2) A term of imprisonment imposed under subsection (1)(b)(*ii*) or (1)(c) shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program. A person sentenced to perform service to the community under this section shall not receive compensation and shall

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reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

(3) In addition to the sanctions prescribed under subsection (1) and section 80176(4) and (5), the court may, under chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.1 to 769.36, order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution. The court shall also impose sanctions under sections 80185 and 80186.

(4) A person who is convicted of violating section 80176(2) is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 12, Eff. July 1, 2001;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80178 Violation of MCL 324.80176(3); sanctions; costs.

Sec. 80178. (1) If a person is convicted of violating section 80176(3), the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 45 days.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*iii*) A fine of not more than $300.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of 1 prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to both a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00, and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to both a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00, and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for a period of not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(2) In addition to the sanctions prescribed in subsection (1), the court may, under the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 760.1 to 777.69, order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution. The court shall also impose sanctions under sections 80185 and 80186.

(3) A person sentenced to perform service to the community under this section shall not receive compensation, and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 12, Eff. July 1, 2001;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80178a Violation of MCL 324.80176(6); sanctions; costs.

Sec. 80178a. (1) If a person is convicted of violating section 80176(6), all of the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or both of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 360 hours.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $250.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of 1 or more prior convictions, including a prior conviction for section 80176(6), the person may be sentenced to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 60 days.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $500.00.

(*iii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

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(2) In addition to imposing the sanctions prescribed under this section, the court may order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution under the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 760.1 to 777.69.

(3) A person sentenced to perform community service under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

History: Add. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80178b Violation of MCL 324.80176(7)(a) or 324.80176(7)(b); sanctions; costs.

Sec. 80178b. (1) A person who violates section 80176(7)(a) is guilty of a crime punishable as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a person who violates section 80176(7)(a) is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year. Not less than 48 hours of this term of imprisonment shall be served consecutively. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(*ii*) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction or after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, a person who violates section 80176(7)(a) is guilty of a felony and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00 and to either of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years.

(*ii*) Probation with imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days or more than 1 year and community service for not less than 60 days or more than 180 days. Not less than 48 hours of this term of imprisonment shall be served consecutively. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(2) A person who violates section 80176(7)(b) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a person who violates section 80176(7)(b) may be sentenced to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 60 days.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $500.00.

(*iii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction or after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, a person who violates section 80176(7)(b) shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(*ii*) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(3) In addition to imposing the sanctions prescribed under this section, the court may order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution under chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.1 to 769.36.

(4) A person sentenced to perform community service under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

History: Add. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80179 Enhanced sentencing based on prior convictions; conditions; attempted violation of MCL 324.80176(1), MCL 324.80176(3), or local ordinance.

Sec. 80179. (1) If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an enhanced sentence under section 80177 or

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80178 based upon the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting attorney shall include on the complaint and information filed in district court, circuit court, recorder's court, municipal court, or probate court a statement listing the defendant's prior convictions.

(2) A prior conviction shall be established at sentencing by 1 or more of the following:

(a) An abstract of conviction.

(b) A copy of the defendant's boating record.

(c) An admission by the defendant.

(3) A person who is convicted of an attempted violation of section 80176(1) or (3), or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1) or (3), shall be punished as if the offense had been completed.

(4) When issuing an order under this part, the secretary of state and the court shall treat a conviction of an attempted violation of section 80176(1) or (3), former section 171(1) or (3) of the marine safety act, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1) or (3), or a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 80176(1) or (3) the same as if the offense had been completed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80180 Peace officer; arrest without warrant; reasonable cause; conditions; returning motorboat and occupants to shore; effect of not charging person receiving citation.

Sec. 80180. (1) A peace officer, without a warrant, may arrest a person if the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person was, at the time of an accident, the operator of a vessel involved in the accident in this state while in violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (3), or (6).

(2) A peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that a person was operating a motorboat on the waters of this state, and that, by the consumption of alcoholic liquor, the person may have affected his or her ability to operate a motorboat, may require the person to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis. The following apply with respect to a preliminary chemical breath analysis:

(a) Only a peace officer who has successfully completed a training course taught by a state-certified instructor in the administration of the preliminary chemical breath analysis may administer that test.

(b) A peace officer may arrest a person based in whole or in part upon the results of a preliminary chemical breath analysis.

(c) The results of a preliminary chemical breath analysis are admissible in a criminal prosecution for a crime described in section 80187(1) or in an administrative hearing solely to assist the court or hearing officer in determining a challenge to the validity of an arrest. This subdivision does not limit the introduction of other competent evidence offered to establish the validity of an arrest.

(d) A person who submits to a preliminary chemical breath analysis remains subject to the requirements of sections 80187 to 80190 for the purposes of chemical tests described in those sections.

(e) A person who refuses to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis upon a lawful request by a peace officer is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(3) A peace officer making an arrest under this part shall take measures to assure that the motorboat and its occupants are safely returned to shore.

(4) If, not more than 60 days after the issuance of a citation for a state civil infraction under this section, the person to whom the citation is issued is not charged with a violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (3), or (6), the citation issued for the state civil infraction is void. Upon application of the person to whom the citation is issued, money paid by the person as a fine, costs, or otherwise shall be immediately returned.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80181 Chemical test and analysis of blood, urine, or breath; collection of sample or specimen; application of administrative rules.

Sec. 80181. (1) The following apply with respect to a chemical test and analysis of a person's blood, urine,

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or breath, other than a preliminary chemical breath analysis:

(a) The amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in an operator's blood at the time alleged as shown by chemical analysis of the person's blood, urine, or breath is admissible into evidence in any civil or criminal proceeding.

(b) A person arrested for a crime described in section 80187(1) shall be advised of all of the following:

(*i*) That if the person takes a chemical test of his or her blood, urine, or breath administered at the request of a peace officer, the person has the right to demand that someone of the person's own choosing administer 1 of the chemical tests; that the results of the test are admissible in a judicial proceeding as provided under this part and shall be considered with other competent evidence in determining the innocence or guilt of the defendant; and that the person is responsible for obtaining a chemical analysis of a test sample obtained pursuant to the person's own request.

(*ii*) That if the person refuses the request of a peace officer to take a test described in subparagraph (*i*), the test shall not be given without a court order, but the peace officer may seek to obtain such a court order.

(*iii*) That the person's refusal of the request of a peace officer to take a test described in subparagraph (*i*) will result in issuance of an order that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state for at least 6 months.

(2) A sample or specimen of urine or breath shall be taken and collected in a reasonable manner. Only a licensed physician, or a licensed nurse or medical technician under the direction of a licensed physician, qualified to withdraw blood and acting in a medical environment, may withdraw blood at the request of a peace officer for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in a person's blood, as provided in this subsection. A qualified person who withdraws or analyzes blood, or assists in the withdrawal or analysis, in accordance with this part is not liable for a crime or civil damages predicated on the act of withdrawing or analyzing blood and related procedures unless the withdrawal or analysis is performed in a negligent manner.

(3) A rule relating to a chemical test for alcohol or a controlled substance promulgated under the Michigan vehicle code, Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being sections 257.1 to 257.923 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, applies to a chemical test administered under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80182 Chemical test; administration at request of peace officer, during medical treatment, or by medical examiner if operator of vessel is deceased; procedures.

Sec. 80182. (1) A chemical test described in section 80181 shall be administered at the request of a peace officer having reasonable grounds to believe the person has committed a crime described in section 80187(1). A person who takes a chemical test administered at the request of a peace officer, as provided in section 80181, shall be given a reasonable opportunity to have someone of the person's own choosing administer 1 of the chemical tests described in section 80181 within a reasonable time after the person's detention, and the results of the test are admissible and shall be considered with other competent evidence in determining the innocence or guilt of the defendant. If the person charged is administered a chemical test by someone of the person's own choosing, the person charged is responsible for obtaining a chemical analysis of the test sample.

(2) If, after an accident, the operator of a vessel involved in the accident is transported to a medical facility and a sample of the operator's blood is withdrawn at that time for the purpose of medical treatment, the results of a chemical analysis of that sample are admissible in any civil or criminal proceeding to show the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in the person's blood at the time alleged, regardless of whether the person had been offered or had refused a chemical test. The medical facility or person performing the chemical analysis shall disclose the results of the analysis to a prosecuting attorney who requests the results for use in a criminal prosecution as provided in this subsection. A medical facility or person disclosing information in compliance with this subsection is not civilly or criminally liable for making the disclosure.

(3) If, after an accident, the operator of a vessel involved in the accident is deceased, a sample of the decedent's blood shall be withdrawn in a manner directed by the medical examiner for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or the presence of a controlled substance, or both, in the decedent's blood. The medical examiner shall give the results of the chemical analysis of the sample to the law enforcement agency investigating the accident, and that agency shall forward the results to the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80183 Chemical test; introduction of other competent evidence; availability of test results.

Sec. 80183. (1) The provisions of sections 80181 and 80182 relating to chemical testing do not limit the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question of whether or not a person was impaired by, or under the influence of, alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both, or whether the person had a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine, or whether the person had any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214, in his or her body.

(2) If a chemical test described in sections 80181 and 80182 is administered, the results of the test shall be made available to the person charged or the person's attorney upon written request to the prosecution, with a copy of the request filed with the court. The prosecution shall furnish the results at least 2 days before the day of the trial. The results of the test shall be offered as evidence by the prosecution in that trial. Failure to fully comply with the request bars the admission of the results into evidence by the prosecution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80184 Refusal to submit to chemical test as admissible evidence.

Sec. 80184. A person's refusal to submit to a chemical test as provided in sections 80181 and 80182 is admissible in a criminal prosecution for a crime described in section 80187(1) only for the purpose of showing that a test was offered to the defendant, but not as evidence in determining innocence or guilt of the defendant. The jury shall be instructed accordingly.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80185 Advising defendant of penalties and sanctions; ordering screening, assessment, and rehabilitative services.

Sec. 80185. (1) Before accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere under sections 80176 to 80179, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (2), or (3), the court shall advise the accused of the maximum possible term of imprisonment and the maximum possible fine that may be imposed for the violation, and shall advise the defendant that the maximum possible sanctions that may be imposed will be based upon the boating record maintained by the secretary of state pursuant to section 80130 or other evidence of a prior conviction as provided in section 80179.

(2) Before imposing sentence, other than court-ordered operating sanctions, for a violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), or (5) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1) or (3), the court shall order the person to undergo screening and assessment by a person or agency designated by the office of substance abuse services to determine whether the person is likely to benefit from rehabilitative services, including alcohol or drug education or treatment programs. As part of the sentence, the court may order the person to participate in and successfully complete 1 or more appropriate rehabilitative programs. The person shall pay for the costs of the screening, assessment, and rehabilitative services.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80186 Sentencing as multiple offender; consideration of prior convictions; sanctions.

Sec. 80186. Immediately upon acceptance by the court of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or upon entry of a verdict of guilty for a violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance

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substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (3), or (6), whether or not the person is eligible to be sentenced as a multiple offender, the court shall consider all prior convictions currently entered upon the boating record of the person or other evidence of prior convictions established under section 80179, except those convictions that, upon motion by the defendant, are determined by the court to be constitutionally invalid, and shall impose the following sanctions:

(a) For a conviction under section 80176(4) or (5), the court shall order with no expiration date that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state.

(b) For a conviction under section 80176(1) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1):

(*i*) If the court finds that the person has no prior convictions within 7 years, the court may order that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state for not less than 1 year or more than 2 years.

(*ii*) If the court finds that the person has 1 or more prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state for not less than 2 years.

(*iii*) If the court finds that the person has 2 or more prior convictions within 10 years, the court shall order with no expiration date that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state.

(c) For a conviction under section 80176(3) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(3):

(*i*) If the court finds that the convicted person has no prior conviction within 7 years, the court may order that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state for not less than 6 months or more than 1 year.

(*ii*) If the court finds that the person has 1 prior conviction within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state for not less than 1 year or more than 2 years.

(*iii*) If the court finds that the person has 2 or more prior convictions within 10 years, the court shall order with no expiration date that person not to operate a motorboat on the waters of this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80187 Consent to chemical tests of blood, breath, or urine; circumstances; exception; administration.

Sec. 80187. (1) A person who operates a motorboat on the waters of this state is considered to have given consent to chemical tests of his or her blood, breath, or urine for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in his or her blood in all of the following circumstances:

(a) The person is arrested for a violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7), or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (3), or (6).

(b) The person is arrested for negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of a motorboat, and the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating the motorboat in violation of section 80176.

(2) A person who is afflicted with hemophilia, diabetes, or a condition requiring the use of an anticoagulant under the direction of a physician shall not be considered to have given consent to the withdrawal of blood.

(3) A chemical test described in subsection (1) shall be administered as provided in sections 80181 and 80182.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80188 Refusal to submit to chemical test at request of peace officer; obtaining court order; forwarding report to secretary of state.

Sec. 80188. (1) If a person refuses the request of a peace officer to submit to a chemical test offered pursuant to section 80181 or 80182, a test shall not be given without a court order, but the officer may seek to obtain the court order.

(2) If a person refuses a chemical test offered pursuant to section 80181 or 80182, the peace officer who

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requested the person to submit to the test shall immediately forward a written report to the secretary of state. The report shall state that the officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person committed a crime described in section 80187(1) and that the person refused to submit to the test upon the request of the peace officer and has been advised of the consequences of the refusal. The form of the report shall be prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80189 Refusal to submit to chemical test; notice of right to request hearing.

Sec. 80189. (1) If a person refuses to submit to a chemical test pursuant to section 80181 or 80182, the peace officer shall immediately notify the person in writing that within 14 days of the date of the notice the person may request a hearing as provided in section 80190. The form of the notice shall be prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state.

(2) The notice shall specifically state that failure to request a hearing within 14 days will result in issuance of an order that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state. The notice shall also state that there is not a requirement that the person retain counsel for the hearing, though counsel is permitted to represent the person at the hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80190 Refusal to submit to chemical test; failure to request hearing; manner and conditions of hearing if requested; record of proceedings; order; petitions to review order or to review determination of hearing officer.

Sec. 80190. (1) If a person who refuses to submit to a chemical test under section 80181 or 80182 does not request a hearing within 14 days of the date of notice under section 80189, the secretary of state shall issue an order that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state for 1 year or, for a second or subsequent refusal within 7 years, for 2 years.

(2) If a hearing is requested, the secretary of state shall hold the hearing in the same manner and under the same conditions as provided in section 322 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.322. A person shall not order a hearing officer to make a particular finding on any issue enumerated under subdivisions (a) to (d). Not less than 5 days' notice of the hearing shall be mailed to the person requesting the hearing, to the peace officer who filed the report under section 80188, and, if the prosecuting attorney requests receipt of the notice, to the prosecuting attorney of the county where the arrest was made. The hearing officer may administer oaths, issue subpoenas for the attendance of necessary witnesses, and grant a reasonable request for an adjournment. Not more than 1 adjournment shall be granted to a party, and the length of an adjournment shall not exceed 14 days. A hearing under this subsection shall be scheduled to be held within 45 days after the date of arrest and, except for delay attributable to the unavailability of the defendant, a witness, or material evidence or to an interlocutory appeal or exceptional circumstances, but not for delay attributable to docket congestion, shall be finally adjudicated within 77 days after the date of arrest. The hearing shall cover only the following issues:

(a) Whether the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person had committed a crime described in section 80187(1).

(b) Whether the person was placed under arrest for a crime described in section 80187(1).

(c) If the person refused to submit to the test upon the request of the officer, whether the refusal was reasonable.

(d) Whether the person was advised of his or her rights under section 80181.

(3) The hearing officer shall make a record of proceedings held under subsection (2). The record shall be prepared and transcribed in accordance with section 86 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.286. Upon notification of the filing of a petition for judicial review under section 80194 and not less than 10 days before the matter is set for review, the hearing officer shall transmit to the court in which the petition is filed the original or a certified copy of the official record of the proceedings. The parties to the proceedings for judicial review may stipulate that the record be shortened. A party unreasonably refusing to stipulate to a shortened record may be taxed by the court in which the petition is filed for the additional costs.

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The court may permit subsequent corrections to the record.

(4) After a hearing, if the person who requested the hearing does not prevail, the secretary of state shall order that the person not operate a motorboat on the waters of this state for 1 year or, for a second or subsequent refusal within 7 years, for 2 years. The person may file a petition in the circuit court of the county in which the arrest was made to review the order as provided in section 80194. If after the hearing the person who requested the hearing prevails, the peace officer who filed the report under section 80188 may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, file a petition in the circuit court of the county in which the arrest was made to review the determination of the hearing officer as provided in section 80194.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80191 Order not to operate vessel on waters of state; convictions requiring issuance of order by secretary of state; effectiveness of order if more than 1 conviction resulting from same incident.

Sec. 80191. (1) Notwithstanding a court order issued under section 80176(1), (3), (4), or (5), section 80185 or 80186, former section 171(1), (3), (4), or (5), 181, or 182 of the marine safety act, former section 73 or 73b of the marine safety act, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1) or (3), section 80185 or 80186, or former section 73 or 73b of the marine safety act, if a court has not ordered a person not to operate a vessel as authorized by this part, the secretary of state shall issue an order that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state for not less than 6 months or more than 2 years, if the person has the following convictions within a 7-year period, whether under the law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(a) One conviction under section 80176(1), former section 171(1) of the marine safety act, or former section 73 of the marine safety act.

(b) Any combination of 2 convictions under section 80176(3), former section 171(3) of the marine safety act, or former section 73b of the marine safety act.

(c) One conviction under section 80176(1), former section 171(1) or the marine safety act, or former section 73 of the marine safety act and 1 conviction under section 80176(3), former section 171(3) of the marine safety act, or former section 73b of the marine safety act.

(d) One conviction under section 80176(4) or (5) or former section 171(4) or (5) of the marine safety act followed by 1 conviction under section 80176(3) or former section 171(3) of the marine safety act.

(2) If the secretary of state receives records of more than 1 conviction of a person resulting from the same incident, an order not to operate shall be issued solely for that violation for which an order could be effective for the longest period of time under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Compiler's note: In subsection (1)(c), "former section 171(1) or the marine safety act" evidently should read "former section 171(1) of the marine safety act."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80192 Convictions requiring order with no expiration date; terminating order; multiple convictions from same incident; judicial review.

Sec. 80192. (1) Upon receipt of the appropriate records of conviction, the secretary of state shall issue an order with no expiration date that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state to a person having any of the following convictions, whether under a law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(a) Four convictions under section 80147, former section 74 of the marine safety act, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80147 within 7 years.

(b) Two convictions of a felony involving the use of a vessel within 7 years.

(c) Any combination of 2 convictions within 7 years for 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) A violation of section 80176(1) or former section 171(1) of the marine safety act.

(*ii*) A violation of former section 73 of the marine safety act.

(*iii*) A violation of section 80176(4) or (5) or former section 171(4) or (5) of the marine safety act.

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(d) One conviction under section 80176(4) or (5) or former section 171(4) or (5) of the marine safety act.

(e) Any combination of 3 convictions within 10 years for 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) A violation of section 80176(1), (3), (4), or (5) or former section 171(1), (3), (4), or (5) of the marine safety act.

(*ii*) A violation of former section 73 or former section 73b of the marine safety act.

(2) The secretary of state shall issue an order with no expiration date that a person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state notwithstanding a court order issued under section 80176, section 80185 or 80186, former section 73, 73b, 171, 181, or 182 of the marine safety act, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176, section 80185 or 80186, or former section 73 or 73b of the marine safety act.

(3) The secretary of state shall not terminate an order with no expiration date issued under this part until both of the following occur:

(a) The later of the following:

(*i*) The expiration of not less than 1 year after the order was issued.

(*ii*) The expiration of not less than 5 years after the date of a subsequent issuance of an order with no expiration date occurring within 7 years after the date of a prior order.

(b) The person meets the requirements of the department.

(4) Multiple convictions resulting from the same incident shall be treated as a single violation for purposes of issuance of an order under this section.

(5) Judicial review of an administrative sanction under this section is governed by the law in effect at the time the offense was committed or attempted.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80193 Failure to answer citation or notice to appear in court or comply with judgment or order; notice of issuance of order without expiration date; conditions terminating order.

Sec. 80193. (1) If a person is charged with, or convicted of, a violation of section 80176(1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (2), or (3), and the person fails to answer a citation or a notice to appear in court, or for any matter pending, or fails to comply with an order or judgment of the court, including, but not limited to, paying all fines, costs, and crime victim's rights assessments, the court shall immediately give notice by first-class mail sent to the person's last known address that if the person fails to appear within 7 days after the notice is issued or fails to comply with the order or judgment of the court, including, but not limited to, paying all fines, costs, and crime victim's rights assessments, within 14 days after the notice is issued, the secretary of state will issue an order with no expiration date that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state. If the person fails to appear within the 7-day period or fails to comply with the order or judgment of the court, including, but not limited to, paying all fines, costs, and crime victim rights assessments, within the 14-day period, the court shall immediately inform the secretary of state who shall immediately issue the order and send a copy to the person by personal service or first-class mail sent to the person's last known address.

(2) An order imposed under subsection (1) remains in effect until both of the following occur:

(a) The court informs the secretary of state that the person has appeared before the court and that all matters relating to the violation are resolved.

(b) The person has paid to the court a $25.00 administrative order processing fee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80194 Petition for review of determination; order setting cause for hearing; service; authority and duty of court; applicability of section.

Sec. 80194. (1) A person who is aggrieved by a final determination of the secretary of state under this part may petition for a review of the determination in the circuit court in the county where the person was arrested. The petition shall be filed within 63 days after the determination is made except that, for good cause shown, the court may allow the petition to be filed within 182 days after the determination is made. As provided in section 80190, a peace officer who is aggrieved by a determination of a hearing officer in favor of a person who requested a hearing under section 80190 may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, petition for

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review of the determination in the circuit court in the county where the arrest was made. The petition shall be filed within 63 days after the determination is made except that, for good cause shown, the court may allow the petition to be filed within 182 days after the determination is made.

(2) The circuit court shall enter an order setting the cause for hearing for a day certain that is not more than 63 days after the date of the order. The order, a copy of the petition, which shall include the person's full name, current address, and birth date, and all supporting affidavits shall be served on the secretary of state's office in Lansing not less than 20 days before the date set for the hearing. If the person is seeking a review of the record prepared pursuant to section 80190, the service upon the secretary of state shall be made not less than 50 days before the date set for the hearing.

(3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (6), the court may take testimony and examine all the facts and circumstances incident to the order that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state. The court may affirm, modify, or set aside the order. The order of the court shall be duly entered, and the petitioner shall file a certified copy of the order with the secretary of state's office in Lansing within 7 days after entry of the order.

(4) In reviewing a determination under section 80190, the court shall confine its consideration to a review of the record prepared pursuant to section 80190 to determine whether the hearing officer properly determined the issues enumerated in section 80190.

(5) This section does not apply to an order issued by the secretary of state pursuant to a court order issued as part of the sentence for a conviction under section 80176, section 80185 or 80186, former sections 171, 181, or 182 of the marine safety act, former section 73 or 73b of the marine safety act, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 80176(1), (2), or (3), or former section 73 or 73b of the marine safety act.

(6) In reviewing a determination resulting in issuance of an order under section 80192(1)(c), (d), or (e), the court shall confine its consideration to a review of the record prepared pursuant to section 80190 or the boating record. The court shall set aside the determination of the secretary of state only if substantial rights of the petitioner have been prejudiced because the determination is any of the following:

(a) In violation of the constitution of the United States, the state constitution of 1963, or a statute.

(b) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the secretary of state.

(c) Made upon unlawful procedure resulting in material prejudice to the petitioner.

(d) Not supported by competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record.

(e) Arbitrary, capricious, or clearly an abuse or unwarranted exercise of discretion.

(f) Affected by other substantial and material error of law.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80195 Petition for stay of order; entering ex parte order; terms and conditions; exception.

Sec. 80195. (1) Within 63 days after the determination, a person who is aggrieved by a final determination of the secretary of state under this part may petition the circuit court for the county in which the conviction or determination resulting in issuance of the order that the person not operate a vessel on the waters of this state for an order staying the order. Except as provided in subsection (2), the court may enter an ex parte order staying the order subject to terms and conditions prescribed by the court until the determination of an appeal to the secretary of state or of an appeal or a review by the circuit court, or for a lesser time that the court considers proper.

(2) The court shall not enter an ex parte order staying the order if the order is based upon a claim of undue hardship.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80196 Person subject to order not to operate vessel on waters of state; prohibited conduct; violation of subsection (1) as misdemeanor; penalty; extending length of order; obtaining and furnishing boating record; applicability of section; confiscating certificate of number and cancelling registration numbers.

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Sec. 80196. (1) A person who is ordered not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state and who has been notified of the order by personal service or first-class mail shall not operate a vessel on the waters of this state. A person shall not knowingly permit a vessel owned by the person to be operated on the waters of this state by a person who is subject to such an order. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(a) By imprisonment for not more than 90 days or by a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

(b) For a second or subsequent violation punishable under this subsection, by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

(2) Upon receiving a record of the conviction of a person upon a charge of unlawful operation of a vessel while the person is subject to an order not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state, the secretary of state shall immediately extend the length of the order for an additional like period. If the secretary of state receives records of more than 1 conviction resulting from the same incident, all of the convictions shall be treated as a single violation for purposes of extending the length of an order under this subsection.

(3) Before a person is arraigned before a judge or district court magistrate on a charge of violating this section, the arresting officer shall obtain the boating record of the person from the secretary of state and shall furnish the record to the court. The boating record of the person may be obtained from the secretary of state's computer information network.

(4) This section does not apply to a person who operates a vessel solely for the purpose of protecting human life or property, if the life or property is endangered and the summoning or giving of prompt aid is essential.

(5) If a person is convicted of violating subsection (1), the court shall order confiscation of the vessel's certificate of number and cancellation of the vessel's registration numbers, unless the vessel was stolen or permission to use the vessel was not knowingly given. The secretary of state shall not assign a registration number to or issue a certificate of number for a vessel whose number is canceled and certificate confiscated until after the expiration of 90 days after the cancellation or confiscation, whichever is later.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80197 Impoundment of vessel; order; execution; liability for expenses; rights of conditional vendor, chattel mortgagee, or lessor of vessel.

Sec. 80197. (1) When a person is convicted under section 80196(1), the vessel, if it is owned in whole or in part by that person, shall be ordered impounded for not less than 30 or more than 120 days from the date of judgment. An order of impoundment issued pursuant to this subsection is valid throughout the state. Any peace officer may execute the impoundment order. The order shall include the implied consent of the owner of the vessel to the storage for insurance coverage purposes.

(2) The owner of a vessel impounded pursuant to this section is liable for expenses incurred in the removal and storage of the vessel whether or not the vessel is returned to him or her. The vessel shall be returned to the owner only if the owner pays the expenses for removal and storage. If redemption is not made or the vessel is not returned as provided in this section within 30 days after the time set in the impoundment order for return of the vessel, the vessel shall be considered abandoned.

(3) Nothing in this section affects the rights of a conditional vendor, chattel mortgagee, or lessor of a vessel registered in the name of another person as owner who becomes subject to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80197a Conviction based on plea of nolo contendere.

Sec. 80197a. A conviction based on a plea of nolo contendere shall be treated in the same manner as a conviction based on a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt for all purposes under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

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324.80198 Administrative order processing fee; disposition and allocation.

Sec. 80198. Whether with or without an expiration date, an order not to operate a vessel on the waters of this state or to operate a vessel with restrictions does not expire until the person subject to the order pays an administrative order processing fee of $125.00 to the secretary of state. The state treasurer shall deposit $10.00 of the fee in the drunk driving prevention equipment and training fund created under section 625h of the Michigan vehicle code, Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being section 257.625h of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and $30.00 in the drunk driving caseflow assistance fund created under section 625h of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949. The state treasurer shall allocate the balance of the fee to the department of state for the administration of orders issued under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80198a Public dock, pier, wharf, or retaining wall; entry or use prohibited under certain wind conditions; barricades; notice.

Sec. 80198a. (1) When wind conditions on the Great Lakes attain a magnitude whereby 1/3 of the waves resulting from the conditions cause any public dock, pier, wharf, or retaining wall to be awash, it constitutes a state not conducive to the orderly and safe use and occupancy of those structures.

(2) When the conditions described in subsection (1) exist, any harbormaster, peace or police officer, or other authorized official may rope off or barricade entry to these structures or post in a conspicuous manner notices that entry on those structures for the purpose of fishing, swimming, or other recreational activity is prohibited.

(3) A person shall not knowingly enter or remain upon any public dock, pier, wharf, or retaining wall for the purpose of fishing, swimming, or other recreational activity when the structure is roped, cabled, or otherwise barricaded in a manner designed to exclude intruders, when notice against entry is given by posting in a conspicuous manner, or when notice to leave or stay off is personally communicated to that person by a peace or police officer or other authorized official of the local unit of government.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80198b Public bathing beaches; buoys required; prohibited swimming area; exception; violation; fine.

Sec. 80198b. (1) The owner or person in charge of a bathing beach maintained primarily for public use shall not knowingly permit a person to bathe or swim from the bathing beach unless buoys outlining a safe bathing or swimming area are established in accordance with section 80159.

(2) A person who is bathing or swimming from a bathing beach maintained primarily for public use shall not bathe or swim in waters that are within 100 feet beyond the buoyed bathing or swimming area. This subsection does not apply to persons swimming from adjacent privately owned beaches that are not open to the general public.

(3) A person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.80199 Part not to affect owner's rights under laws of United States.

Sec. 80199. This part does not affect any of the rights of an owner under the laws of the United States.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Marine Safety Act

Popular name: NREPA

PART 802

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324.80201 Definitions.

Sec. 80201. As used in this part:

(a) "Associated equipment" means any of the following that are not radio equipment:

(*i*) An original system, part, or component of a personal watercraft at the time that boat was manufactured, or a similar part or component manufactured or sold for replacement.

(*ii*) Repair or improvement of an original or replacement system, part, or component.

(*iii*) An accessory or equipment for, or appurtenance to, a personal watercraft.

(*iv*) A marine safety article, accessory, or equipment intended for use by a person on board a boat.

(b) "Boat livery" means that term as defined in section 44501.

(c) "Boating safety certificate" means either of the following:

(*i*) The document issued by the department under this part that certifies that the individual named in the document has successfully completed a boating safety course and passed an examination approved and administered as required under section 80211.

(*ii*) A document issued by the United States coast guard auxiliary that certifies that the individual named in the document has successfully completed a United States coast guard auxiliary course concerning boating safety.

(*iii*) A written rental agreement provided to an individual named in the rental agreement entered into under section 44522 only on the date or dates indicated on the rental agreement while the named individual is operating a personal watercraft leased, hired, or rented from a boat livery.

(d) "Boating safety course" means a course that meets both of the following requirements:

(*i*) Provides instruction on the safe operation of a personal watercraft that meets or exceeds the minimum course content for boating or personal watercraft education established by the national association of state boating law administrators education committee (October 1996).

(*ii*) Is approved by the department.

(e) "Channel" means either of the following:

(*i*) The deepest part of a stream, bay, or straight through which the main current flows.

(*ii*) The part of a body of water deep enough for navigation through an area otherwise not suitable for navigation that is marked by a single or double line of navigational aids or range markers.

(f) "Dealer" means a person and an authorized representative of that person who annually purchases from a manufacturer, or who is engaged in selling or manufacturing, 6 or more personal watercraft that require certificates of number under part 801.

(g) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(h) "Director" means the director of the department of natural resources.

(i) "Manufacturer" means a person engaged in any of the following:

(*i*) The manufacture, construction, or assembly of personal watercraft or associated equipment.

(*ii*) The manufacture or construction of components for personal watercraft and associated equipment to be sold for subsequent assembly.

(*iii*) The importation of a personal watercraft or associated equipment into the state for sale.

(j) "Operate" means to be in control of a personal watercraft while the personal watercraft is under way and is not docked or at anchor or secured in another way.

(k) "Operator" means the person who is in control or in charge of a personal watercraft while that vessel is under way.

(*l*) "Owner" means a person who claims or is entitled to lawful possession of a personal watercraft by virtue of that person's legal title or equitable interest in a personal watercraft.

(m) "Peace officer" means 1 or both of the following:

(*i*) A law enforcement officer as that term is defined in section 2 of the commission on law enforcement standards act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.602.

(*ii*) A deputy who is authorized by a sheriff to enforce this act and who has satisfactorily completed at least 40 hours of law enforcement training, including training specific to this part.

(n) "Person" means an individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

(o) "Personal watercraft" means a vessel that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Uses a motor-driven propeller or an internal combustion engine powering a water jet pump as its primary source of propulsion.

(*ii*) Is designed without an open load carrying area that would retain water.

(*iii*) Is designed to be operated by 1 or more persons positioned on, rather than within, the confines of the

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hull.

(p) "Political subdivision" means a county, metropolitan authority, municipality, or combination of those entities in this state.

(q) "Slow--no wake speed" means the use of a vessel at a very slow speed so that the resulting wake or wash is minimal.

(r) "Use" means operate, navigate, or employ.

(s) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

(t) "Waters of this state" means any waters within the territorial limits of this state, and includes those waters of the Great Lakes that are under the jurisdiction of this state.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Compiler's note: In subdivision (e)(*i*), the word “straight” should evidently read “strait.”

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80202 Scope.

Sec. 80202. (1) This part applies to personal watercraft and associated equipment used on the waters of this state.

(2) Except where expressly indicated otherwise, this part does not apply to a personal watercraft that is all of the following:

(a) Owned by a state or political subdivision of a state other than this state and its political subdivisions.

(b) Used principally for governmental purposes.

(c) Clearly marked and identifiable as personal watercraft that is used principally for governmental purposes.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80203 Administration of part.

Sec. 80203. Except as otherwise provided in this part, the department is responsible for the administration of this part.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80204 Rules.

Sec. 80204. The department shall promulgate rules authorized by this part under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. The department shall publish the approved rules in a convenient form.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80205 Operation of personal watercraft; requirements; violation; fine; exception.

Sec. 80205. (1) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state unless each person riding on or being towed behind the personal watercraft is wearing a type I, type II, or type III personal flotation device as described in R 281.1234 of the Michigan Administrative Code.

(2) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state unless each person on board the personal watercraft is wearing a personal flotation device that is not inflatable.

(3) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state if a child who is under 7 years of age is on board or being towed behind the personal watercraft unless the child is in the company of his or her parent or guardian or a designee of the parent or guardian.

(4) While operating a personal watercraft equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch on the waters of this state, a person shall have the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing, or personal flotation device as is appropriate for the personal watercraft.

(5) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state during the period that begins at sunset and ends at 8 a.m. As used in this subsection, "sunset" means that time as determined by the National Weather Service.

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(6) A person operating a personal watercraft on the waters of this state shall not cross within 150 feet behind another vessel, other than a personal watercraft, unless the person is operating the personal watercraft at slow—no wake speed. A person who violates this subsection is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(7) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state where the water depth is less than 2 feet, as determined by vertical measurement, unless 1 or both of the following circumstances exist:

(a) The personal watercraft is being operated at slow—no wake speed.

(b) The personal watercraft is being docked or launched.

(8) A person who violates subsection (7) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(9) A person shall operate a personal watercraft in a reasonable and prudent manner. A maneuver that unreasonably or unnecessarily endangers life, limb, or property, including, but not limited to, all of the following, constitutes reckless operation of a personal watercraft under section 80208:

(a) Weaving through congested vessel traffic.

(b) Jumping the wake of another vessel unreasonably or unnecessarily close to the other vessel or when visibility around the other vessel is obstructed.

(c) Waiting until the last possible moment before swerving to avoid a collision.

(10) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state carrying more persons than the personal watercraft is designed to carry.

(11) A violation of subsection (10) is prima facie evidence of reckless operation of a watercraft under section 80208.

(12) A person operating a personal watercraft in excess of the speeds established under part 801 is guilty of reckless operation of a personal watercraft under section 80208.

(13) This section does not apply to a performer engaged in a professional exhibition or a person preparing to participate or participating in a regatta, race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition held in compliance with section 80164 under a permit issued by the department and at the time and place specified in the permit.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000;—Am. 2004, Act 27, Imd. Eff. Mar. 16, 2004;—Am. 2007, Act 8, Imd. Eff. May 11, 2007;—Am. 2008, Act 178, Eff. Mar. 31, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 61, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80206 Operation of personal watercraft; prohibition; violation as civil infraction; fine.

Sec. 80206. (1) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state outside of a channel or in an area where aquatic rooted vegetation is visible above the surface of the water in the deltaic wetlands of a lake that is greater than 32 square miles and less than 144 square miles in area.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) is responsible for a state civil infraction punishable by a fine of $25.00.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80207 Liability of personal watercraft owner; negligence; presumption of consent.

Sec. 80207. The owner of a personal watercraft is liable for any injury occasioned by the negligent operation of the personal watercraft, whether the negligence consists of a violation of the statutes of this state, or in the failure to observe the ordinary care in the operation that the rules of the common law require. The owner is not liable unless the personal watercraft is being used with his or her expressed or implied consent. It shall be rebuttably presumed that the personal watercraft is being operated with the knowledge and consent of the owner if it is driven at the time of the injury by his or her son, daughter, spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, or other immediate member of the owner's family.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80208 Reckless operation of personal watercraft; violation; penalty; impoundment; storage cost.

Sec. 80208. (1) If a person carelessly and heedlessly operates a personal watercraft upon the waters of this state in disregard of the rights or safety of others, without due caution and circumspection, or at a rate of

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speed or in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger a person or property, that person is guilty of reckless operation of a personal watercraft and is subject to the penalties described in subsection (2) or (3), or both, as applicable.

(2) Upon a person's conviction under this section, the court may issue an order prohibiting the person from operating a personal watercraft on the waters of this state for a period of not more than 2 years and shall order the person to participate in and complete a boating safety course. An order issued pursuant to this subsection is in addition to any other penalty authorized under section 80219 or subsection (3).

(3) A person who violates this section twice within a 3-year period is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both. A person who violates this section 3 or more times within a 5-year period is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $2,000.00, or both. Upon a person's second or subsequent conviction under this section, the court may issue an order impounding the personal watercraft that the person was operating at the time the person violated subsection (1) for a period of not more than 1 year, if either of the following conditions exists:

(a) The person is an owner of the personal watercraft.

(b) The person is the minor child of an owner of the personal watercraft.

(4) The cost of storage for an impoundment ordered under subsection (3) shall be paid by the owner of the personal watercraft.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80209 Operation of personal watercraft; distance requirements; exceptions.

Sec. 80209. (1) Except when traveling at slow--no wake speed perpendicular to the shoreline, a person who operates a personal watercraft on 1 of the Great Lakes that is under the jurisdiction of this state shall maintain a distance of 200 feet from the shoreline.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (4), a person who operates a personal watercraft or a person who is being towed by a personal watercraft on a water sled, kite, surfboard, parachute, tube, water ski, or similar equipment on the waters of this state shall maintain a distance of not less than 100 feet from a dock, raft, or buoyed or occupied bathing or swimming area, a person in the water or on the water in a personal flotation device, or a vessel moored, anchored, drifting, or sitting in dead water.

(3) A person who operates a personal watercraft or a person who is being towed by a personal watercraft on a water sled, kite, surfboard, parachute, tube, water ski, or similar equipment on the waters of this state shall maintain a distance of not less than 200 feet from a submerged diver, vessel engaged in underwater diving activities, or a flotation device displaying the international diving insignia.

(4) Subsection (2) does not apply under either of the following conditions:

(a) The personal watercraft being operated or the person being towed is proceeding at a slow--no wake speed.

(b) The personal watercraft being operated or the person being towed is in a navigable channel, canal, river, or stream not otherwise posted.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80210 Repealed. 2018, Act 400, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to the possession of a boating safety certificate.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80211 Advancement of boating safety; educational programs.

Sec. 80211. (1) In order to protect the public interest in the prudent and equitable use of the waters of this state and to enhance the enjoyment of pleasure boating and other recreational water sports on the waters of this state, the department shall establish and pursue comprehensive educational programs designed to advance boating safety.

(2) The department shall put into effect a program to train boat operators and shall issue a boating safety certificate to those who satisfactorily complete the program. For the purpose of giving the courses of instruction and awarding boating safety certificates, the department may designate as its agent any person it considers qualified to act in this capacity. The department or its agent may offer a video or home study

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boating safety course. A charge shall not be made for any instruction given or for the award of boating safety certificates by any of the following:

(a) The department or another state agency.

(b) A law enforcement agency of this state or of a political subdivision of this state.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80212 Boating safety certificate; issuance; use of LEIN.

Sec. 80212. (1) The department shall issue a boating safety certificate to each individual who successfully completes a boating safety course as described in section 80211 and passes an examination prescribed by the department.

(2) The department shall consider the number of examinations that are administered under this section when calculating the state aid to counties under section 80117.

(3) The department shall not issue a boating safety certificate to an individual unless the individual has successfully completed a boating safety course and passed an examination as described in subsection (1). A boating safety certificate issued under this section is valid, unless revoked, for the life of the person who earned the certificate.

(4) The department of natural resources shall develop and, in conjunction with the department of state police, implement a process using the L.E.I.N., or any other appropriate system that limits access to law enforcement, to allow law enforcement agencies of this state to verify that an individual has obtained a boating safety certificate.

(5) As used in this section, "L.E.I.N." means the law enforcement information network regulated under the C.J.I.S. policy council act, 1974 PA 163, MCL 28.211 to 28.215.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000;—Am. 2012, Act 120, Eff. Nov. 1, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 400, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80213 Boating safety certificate; electronic copy; consent to search; liability; display.

Sec. 80213. (1) An individual who is required to complete a boating safety course under this part and who operates a personal watercraft on the waters of this state shall display his or her boating safety certificate or, at the individual's option, an electronic copy, in a format approved by the department, of the boating safety certificate upon the demand of a peace officer who identifies himself or herself as a peace officer. Not later than March 31, 2019, the department shall approve 1 or more formats for an individual to display an electronic copy of his or her boating safety certificate.

(2) A peace officer shall not stop a personal watercraft solely for the purpose of determining whether the operator has in his or her possession either of the following:

(a) A boating safety certificate.

(b) An electronic copy of a boating safety certificate in a format approved by the department.

(3) An individual who, under subsection (1), displays an electronic copy of his or her boating safety certificate using an electronic device is not presumed to have consented to a search of the electronic device. This state, an employee of this state, a peace officer, or an entity employing the peace officer is not liable for damage to or loss of an electronic device that occurs as a result of the peace officer's viewing an electronic copy of a boating safety certificate under subsection (1), regardless of whether the peace officer was in possession of the electronic device at the time the damage or loss occurred.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000;—Am. 2018, Act 402, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80214 Modification or suspension of boating safety certificate requirements.

Sec. 80214. The director may by written authorization modify or suspend the boating safety certificate requirements under this part if the modification or suspension of those certificate requirements is for individuals engaged in a marine event authorized by the director or for which the director receives a copy of a United States coast guard authorization.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.80215 Operation of personal watercraft; graduated age provisions; amendatory act known and cited as "Ashleigh Iserman's law."

Sec. 80215. (1) Until October 1, 2011, except as provided in subsection (2), a person under the age of 14 shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state.

(2) Until October 1, 2011, a person who is 12 or more and less than 14 years of age may operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state if all of the following circumstances exist:

(a) The person is accompanied solely by the person's parent or legal guardian.

(b) Both the person and the parent or legal guardian have obtained a boating safety certificate.

(c) The personal watercraft is equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, and the parent or legal guardian has the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing, or personal flotation device.

(d) The personal watercraft is designed to carry not less than 2 persons.

(3) A person who was born after December 31, 1978 shall not operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of this state unless he or she first obtains a boating safety certificate.

(4) Beginning October 1, 2011, a person under the age of 16 shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters of this state unless the person is not less than 14 years of age and 1 of the following circumstances applies:

(a) The person is riding the personal watercraft with his or her parent or guardian or an individual 21 years of age or older designated by the parent or guardian.

(b) The person is operating or riding a personal watercraft at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or guardian or an individual 21 years of age or older designated by the parent or guardian.

(5) The owner of a personal watercraft or a person having charge over or control of a personal watercraft shall not authorize or knowingly permit the personal watercraft to be operated in violation of this section.

(6) This section does not apply to a performer engaged in a professional exhibition or a person preparing to participate or participating in a regatta, race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition held in compliance with section 80164 under a permit issued by the department and at the time and place specified in the permit.

(7) The amendatory act that added subdivisions (4)(a) and (b) shall be known and may be cited as "Ashleigh Iserman's Law".

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000;—Am. 2008, Act 178, Eff. Mar. 31, 2009.

Compiler's note: In subsection (7), the citation to "subdivisions (4)(a) and (b)" evidently should read "subsection (4)(a) and (b)".

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80217 Dealers of personal watercraft; advising buyer about sources of boating safety courses; violation; fine.

Sec. 80217. (1) A dealer of a new or used personal watercraft shall advise each person who buys a personal watercraft from the dealer of the sources of boating safety courses in the area.

(2) A dealer who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and shall be ordered to pay a civil fine in the amount of $100.00.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80218 Creation and availability of documents by department; documents provided by dealer to buyer; violation; fine.

Sec. 80218. (1) The department shall create and make available to dealers of personal watercraft both of the following:

(a) A document that summarizes the laws that pertain exclusively to personal watercraft.

(b) A document that summarizes the safety features of personal watercraft. This document may be a generic document and shall not represent the safety features of a particular style or brand of personal watercraft.

(2) A dealer shall provide a copy of each of the documents described in subsection (1) to each person who buys a personal watercraft from the dealer. A dealer who violates this subsection is responsible for a state civil infraction and shall be ordered to pay a civil fine in the amount of $100.00.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80219 Violation of part; penalty.

Sec. 80219. Unless otherwise specified in this part, a person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than $100.00, or both. In addition, a person who violates this part may be required to participate in and complete a boating safety course.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80220 Tracking offenses; duties of secretary of state.

Sec. 80220. (1) Not later than April 30, 2000, the secretary of state shall begin tracking individual offenses of this part.

(2) In order to accomplish the tracking requirement described in subsection (1), the secretary of state shall do both of the following:

(a) Pursue and implement a comprehensive technology system.

(b) Work cooperatively with the appropriate departments of this state.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80221 Enforcement.

Sec. 80221. Peace officers shall enforce this part. If a person has received a citation for a violation of a certification requirement prescribed in section 80213 or 80215, the court shall waive any fine and costs upon receipt, not more than 10 days after the citation is issued, of proof of certification by a law enforcement agency that the person, before the appearance date on the citation, produced a valid boating safety certificate, or an electronic copy thereof, in a format approved by the department, that was valid on the date the violation occurred.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000;—Am. 2018, Act 401, Eff. Mar. 19, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.80222 Compliance.

Sec. 80222. Except as otherwise provided in this part, a personal watercraft operator shall comply with part 801.

History: Add. 2000, Act 229, Imd. Eff. June 27, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

PART 803
WATERCRAFT TRANSFER AND CERTIFICATE OF TITLE

324.80301 Additional definitions.

Sec. 80301. As used in this part:

(a) "Highly restricted personal information" means an individual's photograph or image, social security number, digitized signature, and medical and disability information.

(b) "Personal information" means information that identifies an individual, including an individual's driver identification number, name, address not including zip code, and telephone number.

(c) "Watercraft" means a contrivance used or designed for navigation on water, including a vessel, boat, motor vessel, steam vessel, vessel operated by machinery either permanently or temporarily affixed, scow, tugboat, or any marine equipment that is capable of carrying passengers, except a ferry.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

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324.80302 Exceptions; appropriate forms.

Sec. 80302. (1) This part does not apply to any of the following:

(a) A boat from a jurisdiction other than this state temporarily using the waters of this state.

(b) A boat whose owner is the United States, a state, or political subdivision thereof.

(c) A ship's lifeboat.

(d) Watercraft less than 20 feet in length that do not have permanently affixed engines unless the owner, lessee, or operator voluntarily wishes to become subject to this part.

(e) Watercraft documented by an agency of the United States government.

(2) The various certificates, applications, and assignments necessary to provide certificates of title for watercraft shall be made upon appropriate forms approved by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80303 Rules; cancellation of improperly issued certificate of title.

Sec. 80303. (1) The secretary of state shall promulgate rules to implement this part.

(2) If it appears that a certificate of title is improperly issued, the secretary of state shall cancel the certificate. The secretary of state shall notify the person to whom the certificate of title was issued, as well as any lienholders appearing on the certificate of title, of the cancellation, and shall demand the surrender of the certificate of title, but the cancellation shall not affect the validity of a lien noted on the certificate of title. The holder of the certificate of title shall return it to the secretary of state immediately.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80304 Sale, purchase, or other disposition or acquisition of watercraft; certificate of title required.

Sec. 80304. (1) Subject to section 80320(4), and except as provided in section 80306, a person shall not sell or otherwise dispose of a watercraft without delivering to the purchaser or transferee of the watercraft a certificate of title with such assignment on the certificate of title as is necessary to show title in the purchaser.

(2) Subject to 80320(4), a person shall not purchase or otherwise acquire a watercraft without obtaining a certificate of title for it in the person's name pursuant to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80305 Acquisition of watercraft from owner; certificate of title or manufacturer's or importer's certificate required; waiver or estoppel; judicial recognition of right, title, claim, or interest.

Sec. 80305. (1) Subject to section 80320(4), a person acquiring a watercraft from the owner of the watercraft, whether the owner is a manufacturer, importer, dealer, or otherwise, shall not acquire any right, title, claim, or interest in or to the watercraft until that person has issued to him or her a certificate of title to the watercraft, or delivered a manufacturer's or importer's certificate for the watercraft. A waiver or estoppel shall not operate in favor of that person against a person having possession of the certificate of title, or manufacturer's or importer's certificate for the watercraft, for a valuable consideration.

(2) A court shall not recognize the right, title, claim, or interest of a person in or to a watercraft sold or disposed of, or mortgaged or encumbered, unless the right, title, claim, or interest is 1 of the following:

(a) Subject to section 80320(4), evidenced by a certificate of title or a manufacturer's or importer's certificate issued pursuant to this part.

(b) Evidenced by admission in the pleadings or stipulation of the parties.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80306 Sale or other disposition of new watercraft to dealer for display or resale; manufacturer's or importer's certificate required; contents; assignment.

Sec. 80306. (1) A manufacturer, importer, dealer, or other person shall not sell or otherwise dispose of a new watercraft to a dealer, to be used by the dealer for purposes of display and resale, without delivering to the dealer a manufacturer's or importer's certificate executed in accordance with this section and with those assignments on the certificate as are necessary to show title in the purchaser of the watercraft. A dealer shall not purchase or acquire a new watercraft without obtaining from the seller of the watercraft the manufacturer's or importer's certificate.

(2) A manufacturer's or importer's certificate of the origin of a watercraft shall contain, in the form and together with the information the secretary of state requires, the following information:

(a) A description of the watercraft, including, if applicable, make, year, length, series of model, hull type, and hull identification number.

(b) Certification of the date of transfer of the watercraft to a distributor, dealer, or other transferee, and the name and address of the transferee.

(c) Certification that this transaction is the first transfer of the new watercraft in ordinary trade and commerce.

(d) Signature and address of a representative of the transferor.

(3) An assignment of a manufacturer's or importer's certificate shall be printed on the reverse side of the manufacturer's or importer's certificate in the form to be prescribed by the secretary of state. The assignment form shall include the name and address of the transferee, a certification that the watercraft is new, and a warranty that the title at the time of delivery is subject only to the liens and encumbrances that are set forth and described in full in the assignment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80307 Certificate of title; application; form; fee; evidence of ownership; certificate of hull identification number; duties of secretary of state; surety bond; name in which certificate of title to be obtained.

Sec. 80307. (1) An application for a certificate of title for a watercraft shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. The application shall be filed with the secretary of state within 15 days after the date of purchase or transfer. At the request of the applicant, an application shall be processed on an expedited basis. The application shall be accompanied by the fee or fees prescribed in section 80311, and if a certificate of title was previously issued for the watercraft, it shall be accompanied by the certificate of title duly assigned, unless otherwise provided in this part. Unless otherwise provided in this part, if a certificate of title was not previously issued for the watercraft in this state, the application shall be accompanied by a manufacturer's or importer's certificate, by a certificate of ownership, or a certificate of number issued under part 801 or former 1967 PA 303, if purchased by the applicant on or before July 1, 1976, or by a certificate of title, bill of sale, or other evidence of ownership required by the law of another state from which the watercraft is brought into this state. Evidence of ownership of a watercraft for which a Michigan certificate of title was not previously issued, and that does not have permanently affixed to it a hull identification number, shall be accompanied by the certificate of hull identification number assigned by the secretary of state as provided in section 80308. The secretary of state shall retain the evidence of title presented by the applicant and upon which the certificate of title is issued, and shall use reasonable diligence in ascertaining whether the facts in the application are true by checking the application and documents accompanying the application with the secretary of state's records of watercraft. Subject to section 80320(4), if satisfied that the applicant is the owner of the watercraft and that the application is in the proper form, the secretary of state shall issue a certificate of title.

(2) If the secretary of state is not satisfied as to the ownership of a watercraft having a value of more than $2,500.00, before registering the watercraft and issuing a certificate of title, the secretary of state may require the applicant to file a properly executed surety bond in a form prescribed by the secretary of state and executed by the applicant and a company authorized to conduct a surety business in this state. The bond shall be in an amount equal to twice the value of the watercraft as determined by the secretary of state and shall be conditioned to indemnify or reimburse the secretary of state, any prior owner, and any subsequent purchaser and their successors in interest against any expense, loss, or damage, including reasonable attorney fees,

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incurred as a result of the issuance of a certificate of title for the watercraft or any defect in the right, title, or interest of the applicant in the watercraft. An interested person has a right of action to recover on the bond for a breach of the conditions of the bond, but the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons shall not exceed the amount of the bond. The bond shall be returned at the end of 3 years, or before 3 years if the watercraft is no longer registered in this state and the currently valid certificate of title is surrendered to the secretary of state, unless the secretary of state has received notification of the pendency of an action to recover on the bond. If the secretary of state is not satisfied as to the ownership of a watercraft that is worth $2,500.00 or less, the secretary of state shall require the applicant to certify that the applicant is the owner of the watercraft and entitled to register and title the watercraft.

(3) Subject to section 80320(4), when a watercraft is sold by a dealer to a general purchaser or user, the certificate of title shall be obtained in the name of the purchaser by the dealer upon application signed by the purchaser. In other cases, the certificate shall be obtained by the purchaser.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 271, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2005;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80308 Application for watercraft certificate of title; certification; contents; permanent or assigned hull identification number; affixing or imprinting assigned hull identification number.

Sec. 80308. (1) An application for a watercraft certificate of title shall include a certification. The owner or purchaser of the watercraft shall sign the application or, if the application is filed electronically, provide information requested by the secretary of state to verify the owner's or purchaser's identity. The application shall contain, in the form and together with other information that the secretary of state requires, the following information:

(a) Name and address of the applicant.

(b) Name and address of the previous owner.

(c) A statement of liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances on the watercraft, and the name and address of the holder of the liens, mortgages, or other encumbrances.

(d) If a lien, mortgage, or other encumbrance is not outstanding, a statement of that fact.

(e) A description of the watercraft, including, if applicable, the make, year, length, series or model, hull type, and hull identification number.

(2) If the watercraft contains a permanent hull identification number placed on the watercraft by the manufacturer of the watercraft, this number shall be used as the hull identification number. If there is not a manufacturer's hull identification number, or if the manufacturer's hull identification number is removed or obliterated, the secretary of state, upon a prescribed application that includes information indicating proof of ownership, shall assign a hull identification number to the watercraft. This assigned hull identification number shall be permanently affixed to, or imprinted by the applicant, at the place and in the manner designated by the secretary of state, upon the watercraft to which the hull identification number is assigned.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2012, Act 28, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80309 Certificate of title; refusal; issuance; contents; assignment form.

Sec. 80309. (1) The secretary of state may refuse to issue a watercraft certificate of title under the circumstances provided in section 80320(4).

(2) Subject to subsection (1), the secretary of state shall issue a certificate of title containing the information required in the application for a certificate of title, as prescribed by section 80308, except for the name and address of the previous owner. The certificate of title shall also contain space for the notation and cancellation of a lien, mortgage, or encumbrance. An assignment of certificate of title shall appear on the certificate of title in the form to be prescribed by the secretary of state. The assignment form shall include a warranty that the signer is the owner of the watercraft and that a mortgage, lien, or encumbrance is not on the watercraft, except as noted on the face of the certificate of title.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 271, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2005;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80310 Certificate of title; uniform method of numbering; indexes; destruction by secretary of state; furnishing information to law enforcement and conservation officers.

Sec. 80310. (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe a uniform method of numbering certificates of title, and shall maintain in his or her office indexes for the certificates of title.

(2) The secretary of state may destroy a certificate of title or supporting evidence of a certificate of title covering a watercraft which was on file for 10 years after the date of its filing.

(3) The secretary of state shall furnish information on a title without charge to authorized law enforcement and conservation officers when engaged in official duties.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80311 Fee for processing application for certificate of title or duplicate; additional fee; check or draft not paid on first presentation as delinquent fee; liability; notice or demand; suspension of certificate; penalty.

Sec. 80311. (1) The secretary of state shall charge a fee of $5.00 for the processing of an application for a certificate of title or a duplicate certificate of title. The secretary of state shall charge an additional fee of $5.00 for the processing of an application on an expedited basis.

(2) If a check or draft in payment of a fee payable to the secretary of state under this section is not paid on its first presentation, the fee is delinquent as of the date the check or draft was tendered. The person tendering the check or draft remains liable for the payment of each fee and any penalty.

(3) The secretary of state may suspend a certificate of title if the secretary of state determines that a fee prescribed in this section has not been paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice or demand.

(4) If a fee is still delinquent 15 days after the secretary of state gives notice to a person who tendered the check or draft, a $5.00 penalty shall be assessed and collected in addition to the fee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80312 Certificate of title for watercraft; issuance; compliance; transfer of ownership; requirements; petition for watercraft not owned; proof of ownership and right of possession; statement of lien.

Sec. 80312. (1) The secretary of state may issue a certificate of title for a watercraft to a person who complies with subsection (2) or (3) if the transfer of ownership of that watercraft is any of the following:

(a) By operation of law including, but not limited to, inheritance, devise, bequest, order in bankruptcy, insolvency, replevin, or execution of sale.

(b) By sale to satisfy a storage or repair charge.

(c) By repossession upon default in performance of the terms of a security agreement.

(d) As provided in subsection (3).

(2) A person applying for a certificate of title under this section shall do all of the following:

(a) Surrender to the secretary of state either a valid certificate of title or the manufacturer's or importer's certificate for the watercraft or, if surrender of a certificate for that watercraft is not possible, present proof satisfactory to the secretary of state of the applicant's ownership of and right of possession to the watercraft.

(b) Pay the fee prescribed in section 80311.

(c) Present to the secretary of state an application for certificate of title.

(3) A person may petition the secretary of state for a certificate or certificates of title for 1 or more registered watercraft that the person does not own, if all of the following circumstances exist:

(a) The record owner of the registered watercraft dies without leaving other property that requires the procurement of letters under the estates and protected individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.1101 to 700.8206.

(b) On the date of the petition, the total value of the deceased owner's interest in all watercraft subject to

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the petition for a certificate or certificates of title under this section does not exceed the following dollar amount, as applicable:

(*i*) For calendar years through 2023, $100,000.00.

(*ii*) For the 2024 and 2025 calendar years, $300,000.00.

(*iii*) For the 2026 calendar year and each calendar year thereafter, a dollar amount equal to the product of the dollar amount applicable for the immediately preceding calendar year multiplied by the cost-of-living adjustment factor, rounded to the nearest $1,000.00. Beginning with the dollar amount for the 2026 calendar year, and annually thereafter, the department of treasury shall certify and publish the adjusted dollar amount applicable for each calendar year by September 1 of the prior calendar year. As used in this subparagraph:

(A) "Cost-of-living adjustment factor" means a fraction, the numerator of which is the United States Consumer Price Index for the year before the prior calendar year and the denominator of which is the United States Consumer Price Index for 2023.

(B) "United States Consumer Price Index" means the annual average of the United States Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers as defined and reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, or its successor agency.

(c) The petitioner is 1 of the following, in the following order of priority:

(*i*) The surviving spouse of the watercraft owner.

(*ii*) A person entitled to the certificate or certificates of title in the order specified in section 2103 of the estates and protected individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.2103.

(d) The petitioner furnishes the secretary of state with proof satisfactory to the secretary of state of all of the following:

(*i*) The death of the owner of each watercraft for which a certificate of title is sought.

(*ii*) The petitioner's priority to receive the decedent's interest in each watercraft for which a certificate of title is sought.

(4) A certification by the person, or agent of the person, to whom possession of the watercraft passed, that sets forth the facts entitling that person to possession and ownership of the watercraft, together with a copy of the journal entry, court order, instrument, or other document upon which the claim of possession and ownership is founded, are satisfactory proof of ownership and right of possession. If the applicant cannot produce proof of ownership, the applicant may apply to the secretary of state for a certificate of title and submit evidence that establishes that person's ownership interest in the watercraft. If the secretary of state finds the evidence sufficient, the secretary of state may issue to that person a certificate of title for that watercraft. The office of secretary of state shall examine the records in its possession and, if it determines from that examination that a lien is on the watercraft, and if the applicant fails to provide satisfactory evidence of extinction of the lien, the secretary of state shall furnish a certificate of title that contains a statement of the lien.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2000, Act 65, Eff. Apr. 1, 2000;—Am. 2024, Act 4, Eff. May 21, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80313 Dismantling, destroying, or changing watercraft; surrender, cancellation, and destruction of certificate of title.

Sec. 80313. (1) An owner of a watercraft and a person mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title, when the watercraft is dismantled, destroyed, or changed in such manner that it loses its character as a watercraft, or changed in such manner that it is not the watercraft described in the certificate of title, shall surrender the certificate of title to the secretary of state, and the secretary of state shall, with the consent of a holder of a lien noted on the certificate of title, enter a cancellation upon his or her records.

(2) Upon the cancellation of a certificate of title in the manner prescribed by subsection (1), the secretary of state may cancel and destroy the certificates.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80314 Loss, mutilation, or illegibility of certificate of title; application and fee for duplicate copy; issuance and contents of duplicate copy; rights and indemnification of purchaser; surrender and cancellation of original certificate; conditions not requiring

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duplicate of lost watercraft certificate of title at time of transfer; record; definitions.

Sec. 80314. (1) If a certificate of title is lost, mutilated, or becomes illegible, the person to whom that certificate of title was issued may apply to the secretary of state for a duplicate copy of the certificate of title upon a form prescribed by the secretary of state and accompanied by the fee prescribed by section 80311. The applicant shall certify the application. Upon an applicant's compliance with this section, the secretary of state shall issue to that applicant a duplicate copy of the certificate of title that contains the legend, "This is a duplicate certificate and may be subject to the rights of a person under the original certificate.". As provided under section 80320(4), the department of state is not required to issue a duplicate certificate of title to the owner of a watercraft if the title is subject to a security interest. A purchaser of watercraft who obtains title to the watercraft through a duplicate copy of the watercraft's certificate of title acquires only those rights in the watercraft that the holder of the duplicate certificate of title had. At the time of purchase, a watercraft purchaser may require the seller to indemnify the purchaser and subsequent purchasers of the watercraft against a loss that the purchaser or subsequent purchasers may suffer by reason of a claim presented upon the original certificate of title. If the original certificate of title is recovered by the owner, the owner shall immediately surrender it to the secretary of state for cancellation.

(2) The secretary of state is not required to issue a duplicate of a lost watercraft certificate of title when ownership of the watercraft is being transferred if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The transferor personally appears before an authorized representative of the secretary of state and does all of the following:

(*i*) Provides evidence of the transferor's identity and ownership interest in the watercraft that is satisfactory to the authorized representative of the secretary of state.

(*ii*) Pays the fee required under section 80311.

(b) The transferee or the transferee's representative accompanies the transferor in appearing before the authorized agent of the secretary of state and does all of the following:

(*i*) Applies for an original certificate of title for the watercraft.

(*ii*) Provides evidence of the transferee's identity that is satisfactory to the authorized representative of the secretary of state.

(*iii*) Pays the fee required under section 80311.

(3) If a duplicate certificate of title is not required for the transfer of a watercraft under subsection (2), the secretary of state shall maintain a record specifying that ownership of the watercraft was transferred without a surrender of the watercraft's certificate of title.

(4) As used in this section, "transfer" or "transferred" includes a conveyance, assignment, and gift.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80315 Records available to the public; commercial lookup service of watercraft title records; disposition of fees; computerized central file; creation; maintenance; providing to nongovernmental person or entity; payment; admissibility in evidence.

Sec. 80315. (1) The secretary of state shall make available to the public records maintained under this part, other than those declared to be confidential by law or that are restricted by law from disclosure to the public, under procedures prescribed in this part and the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(2) The secretary of state may provide a commercial lookup service of watercraft title records maintained under this part. For each individual record looked up, the secretary of state shall charge a fee of $15.00 per record. The secretary of state shall process a commercial lookup request only if the request is in a form or format prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall credit fees collected under this subsection to the transportation administration collection fund created in section 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b, through October 1, 2027.

(3) The secretary of state shall create and maintain a computerized central file that includes the information contained on application forms received under this part. The computerized central file must be interfaced with the law enforcement information network as provided in the C.J.I.S. policy council act, 1974 PA 163, MCL 28.211 to 28.215.

(4) The secretary of state shall not provide an entire computerized central or other file of records maintained under this part to a nongovernmental person or entity unless the purchaser pays the prescribed fee or price for each individual record contained within the computerized file.

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(5) A certified copy of an order, record, or paper maintained under this part is admissible in evidence in the same manner as the original and is prima facie proof of the facts stated in the original.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2005, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 100, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2015, Act 77, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2023, Act 140, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2023.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80315a Disclosure of personal information; uses.

Sec. 80315a. (1) Except as provided in this section and section 80315c, personal information in a record maintained under this part shall not be disclosed, unless the person requesting the information furnishes proof of identity considered satisfactory to the secretary of state and certifies that the personal information requested will be used for a permissible purpose identified in this section or in section 80315c. Notwithstanding this section, highly restricted personal information shall be used and disclosed only as expressly permitted by law.

(2) Personal information in a record maintained under this act shall be disclosed by the secretary of state if required to carry out the purposes of a specified federal law. As used in this section, "specified federal law" means the automobile information disclosure act, Public Law 85-506, 15 U.S.C. 1231 to 1232 and 1233, the former motor vehicle information and cost savings act, Public Law 92-513, the former national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966, Public Law 89-563, the anti-car theft act of 1992, Public Law 102-519, 106 Stat. 3384, the clean air act, chapter 360, 69 Stat. 322, 42 U.S.C. 7401 to 7431, 7470 to 7479, 7491 to 7492, 7501 to 7509a, 7511 to 7515, 7521 to 7525, 7541 to 7545, 7547 to 7550, 7552 to 7554, 7571 to 7574, 7581 to 7590, 7601 to 7612, 7614 to 7617, 7619 to 7622, 7624 to 7627, 7641 to 7642, 7651 to 7651o, 7661 to 7661f, and 7671 to 7671q, and all federal regulations promulgated to implement these federal laws.

(3) Personal information in a record maintained under this part may be disclosed as follows:

(a) For use by any government agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out its functions, or any private person or entity acting on behalf of a government agency in carrying out its functions.

(b) For use in connection with matters of watercraft and operator safety or watercraft theft; watercraft emissions; watercraft product alterations, recalls; or advisories; performance monitoring of watercraft; watercraft research activities, including survey research; and the removal of nonowner records from the original records of watercraft manufacturers.

(c) For use in the normal course of business by a business or its agents, employees, or contractors to verify the accuracy of personal information submitted by an individual to the business or its agents, employees, or contractors, and if the information as submitted is not correct or is no longer correct, to obtain the correct information, but only for the purposes of preventing fraud, by pursuing legal remedies against, or recovering on a debt or security interest against, the individual.

(d) For use in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitral proceeding in any court or government agency or before any self-regulatory body, including the service of process, investigation in anticipation of litigation, and the execution or enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of any court, administrative agency, or self-regulatory body.

(e) For use in legitimate research activities and in preparing statistical reports for commercial, scholarly, or academic purposes by a bona fide research organization, so long as the personal information is not published, redisclosed, or used to contact individuals.

(f) For use by any insurer, self-insurer, or insurance support organization, or its agents, employees, or contractors, in connection with claims investigation activities, antifraud activities, rating, or underwriting.

(g) For use in providing notice to the owner of an abandoned, towed, or impounded watercraft.

(h) For use by any licensed private security guard agency or alarm system contractor licensed under the private security guard act of 1968, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to 338.1085, or a private detective or private investigator licensed under the private detective license act of 1965, 1965 PA 285, MCL 338.821 to 338.851, for any purpose permitted under this section.

(i) For use by a watercraft rental business or its employees, agents, contractors, or service firms for the purpose of making rental decisions.

(j) For use by a news medium in the preparation and dissemination of a report related in part or in whole to the operation of a motor vehicle or public safety. "News medium" includes a newspaper, a magazine or periodical published at regular intervals, a news service, a broadcast network, a television station, a radio station, a cablecaster, or an entity employed by any of the foregoing.

(k) For any use by an individual requesting information pertaining to himself or herself or requesting in

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writing that the secretary of state provide information pertaining to himself or herself to the individual's designee. A request for disclosure to a designee, however, may be submitted only by the individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80315b Resale or redisclosure of information; maintenance of records; duration; availability for inspection.

Sec. 80315b. (1) An authorized recipient of personal information under section 80315a may resell or redisclose the information for any use permitted under section 80315a.

(2) Any authorized recipient who resells or rediscloses personal information shall be required by the secretary of state to maintain for a period of not less than 5 years records as to the information obtained and the permitted use for which it was obtained, and to make such records available for inspection by the secretary of state, upon request.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80315c Furnishing list of information to federal, state, or local governmental agency; contract for sale of list of information; insertion of safeguard in agreement or contract; resale or redisclosure of information; duties of recipient.

Sec. 80315c. (1) Upon request, the secretary of state may furnish a list of information from the records of the department maintained under this part to a federal, state, or local governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions, or to a private person or entity acting on behalf of a governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the secretary of state may charge the requesting agency a preparation fee to cover the cost of preparing and furnishing a list provided under this subsection if the cost of preparation exceeds $25.00, and use the revenues received from the service to defray necessary expenses. If the secretary of state sells a list of information under this subsection to a member of the state legislature, the secretary of state shall charge the same fee as the fee for the sale of information under subsection (2) unless the list of information is requested by the member of the legislature to carry out a legislative function. The secretary of state may require the requesting agency to furnish 1 or more blank computer tapes, cartridges, or other electronic media, and may require the agency to execute a written memorandum of agreement as a condition of obtaining a list of information under this subsection.

(2) The secretary of state may contract for the sale of lists of records maintained under this part in bulk, in addition to those lists distributed at cost or at no cost under this section, for purposes defined in section 80315a(3) as well as for surveys, marketing, and solicitations. The secretary of state shall require each purchaser of information in bulk to execute a written purchase contract. The secretary of state shall fix a market-based price for the sale of lists of bulk information, which may include personal information. The proceeds from each sale shall be used by the secretary of state to defray the costs of list preparation and for other necessary or related expenses.

(3) The secretary of state or any other state agency shall not sell or furnish any list of information under subsection (2) for the purpose of surveys, marketing, and solicitations. The secretary of state shall ensure that personal information disclosed in bulk will be used, rented, or sold solely for uses permitted under this part.

(4) The secretary of state may insert any safeguard the secretary considers reasonable or necessary, including a bond requirement, in a memorandum of agreement or purchase contract executed under this section, to ensure that the information furnished or sold is used only for a permissible use and that the rights of individuals and of the secretary of state are protected.

(5) An authorized recipient of personal information disclosed under this section who resells or rediscloses the information for any of the permissible purposes described in section 80315a(3) shall do both of the following:

(a) Make and keep for a period of not less than 5 years records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(b) Allow a representative of the secretary of state, upon request, to inspect and copy records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

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History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2000, Act 194, Eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80315f Electronic lien title system; participation of secured parties; inclusion of secured interest or other information in electronic file; execution of release; delivery; assignment of ownership by watercraft dealer; admissibility as evidence of security interest; determination of requirements by secretary of state; establishment, implementation, and operation by February 16, 2021; definitions.

Sec. 80315f. (1) The secretary of state may enter into 1 or more contracts under this section to establish, implement, and operate an electronic lien title system to process the notification and release of security interests in watercraft through electronic file transfers, or as otherwise determined by the secretary of state, in lieu of the issuance and maintenance of paper documents otherwise required by law. Any such contract shall require the protection of proprietary information in the electronic lien title system and provide for the protection of a competitive free market.

(2) Except for persons who are not normally engaged in the business or practice of financing watercraft, all secured parties are required to participate in the electronic lien title system.

(3) For the purposes of this part, any requirement that a security interest or other information appear on a certificate of title is satisfied by the inclusion of that information in an electronic file maintained in an electronic lien title system. The satisfaction of a security interest may be electronically transmitted to the secretary of state. A secured party shall execute a release of its security interest in a watercraft in a manner prescribed by the department not more than 14 days after the secured party receives the payment in satisfaction of the security interest. If the certificate of title is in the possession of the watercraft owner, the secured party shall deliver the release to the watercraft owner or as otherwise directed by the owner. However, if the certificate of title is held electronically as provided under section 80320(4), the secured party shall deliver the release of security interest to the department of state, and the department of state shall cancel the security interest. If the secured party fails to comply with these requirements for the release of a secured interest, the secured party is liable to the watercraft owner for all damages sustained by the owner because of the failure to comply. The electronic lien title system shall provide a mechanism by which a watercraft dealer may assign ownership of a watercraft without proof that the prior security interest was satisfied existing on the electronic lien title system. However, in the event of such an assignment, the dealer warrants that the title is free and clear of all liens and assumes responsibility for the satisfaction of the security interest.

(4) A certified copy of the secretary of state's electronic record of a security interest is admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in this state as evidence of the existence of the security interest. If a certificate of title is maintained in the electronic lien title system, a certified copy of the secretary of state's electronic record of the certificate of title is admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in this state as evidence of the existence and contents of the certificate of title.

(5) The secretary of state may determine any requirements necessary to carry out this section, including, but not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

(a) Monitoring the reasonable fees charged by service providers or a contractor for the establishment and maintenance of the electronic lien title system.

(b) The qualifications of service providers for participation in the electronic lien title system.

(c) The qualifications for a contractor to enter into a contract with the secretary of state to establish, implement, and operate the electronic lien title system.

(d) Program specifications that a contractor must adhere to in establishing, implementing, and operating the electronic lien title system.

(6) The electronic lien title system under this section shall be established, implemented, and operational by February 16, 2021.

(7) By February 16, 2021, the department shall require a person to enter evidence of security interests and any related information into the electronic lien title system in lieu of paper documents.

(8) As used in this section:

(a) "Contractor" means a person who enters into a contract with the secretary of state to establish, implement, and operate the electronic lien title system described in this section.

(b) "Electronic lien title system" means a system to process the notification and release of security interests through electronic file transfers that is established and implemented under this section.

(c) "Service provider" means a person who provides secured parties with software to manage electronic

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lien and title data as provided under this section.

History: Add. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80316 Authorized agents.

Sec. 80316. Manufacturers and importers shall appoint and authorize agents who shall sign manufacturer's or importer's certificates. The secretary of state may require that a certified copy of a list containing the names and the facsimile signatures of authorized agents be furnished to him or her. The secretary of state may prescribe the form of authorization to be used by manufacturers or importers and the method of certification of the names of agents.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80317 Stolen or converted watercraft; information; record; report; notice of recovery; removal of record from file.

Sec. 80317. (1) Upon receiving knowledge of a stolen watercraft, a law enforcement agency shall immediately furnish the sheriff's department of the county in which the watercraft was stolen and the department of state police with full information concerning the theft.

(2) The law enforcement agency receiving the initial report of the theft or conversion of a watercraft shall notify the department and the secretary of state, and shall furnish the secretary of state with a distinctive record of the initial report, including the make of the stolen watercraft and its manufacturer's hull identification number or assigned hull identification number. The secretary of state shall file the record in the numerical order of the manufacturer's hull identification number or assigned hull identification number with the index records of the watercraft. The secretary of state shall prepare a report listing watercraft stolen and recovered as disclosed by the reports submitted to the secretary of state, to be distributed as the secretary of state considers advisable.

(3) If a stolen or converted watercraft is recovered, the owner or recovering agency shall immediately notify the law enforcement agency which received the initial theft report, which shall immediately notify the department, the sheriff of the county from which the watercraft was stolen, the department of state police, and the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall remove the record of the theft or conversion from the file in which the report is recorded.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80318 Prohibited conduct generally.

Sec. 80318. A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Operate in this state a watercraft for which a certificate of title is required without having a certificate as prescribed by this part.

(b) Operate in this state a watercraft for which a certificate of title is required for which the certificate of title is canceled.

(c) Fail to surrender a certificate of title upon cancellation of the certificate by the secretary of state and notice of the cancellation as prescribed in this part.

(d) Fail to surrender the certificate of title to the secretary of state, as provided in this part, if the watercraft is destroyed, dismantled, or changed in such manner that it is not the watercraft described in the certificate of title.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80319 Additional prohibited conduct; violation as misdemeanor; penalty; payment of

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restitution.

Sec. 80319. (1) A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Reproduce, alter, counterfeit, forge, or duplicate a certificate of title, or a manufacturer's or importer's certificate, to a watercraft, an assignment of either, or a cancellation of a lien on a watercraft.

(b) Hold or use a certificate, assignment, or cancellation knowing it is reproduced, altered, counterfeited, forged, or duplicated.

(c) Procure or attempt to procure a certificate of title to a watercraft, or pass or attempt to pass a certificate of title or an assignment of title to a watercraft, knowing or having reason to believe that the watercraft is stolen.

(d) Sell or offer for sale in this state a watercraft on which the manufacturer's or assigned hull identification number is destroyed, removed, covered, altered, or defaced, with knowledge of the destruction, removal, covering, alteration, or defacement of the manufacturer's or assigned hull identification number.

(e) Use a false or fictitious name, give a false or fictitious address, or make a false statement in an application or certificate required under this part, or in a bill of sale or sworn statement of ownership, or otherwise commit a fraud in an application.

(f) Fraudulently indicate on a certificate of title that there is no security interest on record for a watercraft.

(g) Forge or counterfeit a letter, receipt, or other document from the holder of a security interest in a watercraft indicating that the security interest has been released.

(h) Sell or transfer a watercraft without delivering to the purchaser or transferee of the watercraft a certificate of title, or a manufacturer's or importer's certificate to the watercraft, assigned to the purchaser as provided for in this part.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or a fine of not more than $5,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who is convicted of a violation of subsection (1)(f) or (g), in addition to any other penalty, shall pay restitution to the holder of a security interest in the watercraft in the amount of the outstanding lien on the watercraft.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80319a Prohibited conduct; violations as felony; penalties.

Sec. 80319a. (1) A person who makes a false representation or false certification to obtain personal information under this part, or who uses personal information for a purpose other than a permissible purpose identified in section 80315a or 80315c, is guilty of a felony.

(2) A person who is convicted of a second violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 2 years or more than 7 years, or by a fine of not less than $1,500.00 or more than $7,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 5 years or more than 15 years, or by a fine of not less than $5,000.00 or more than $15,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80320 Secured interest in watercraft; notation; discharge; perfection; electronic transactions; requirements.

Sec. 80320. (1) A party with a secured interest in a watercraft, upon presentation of a properly completed application for certificate of title to the secretary of state, together with the fee prescribed by section 80311, may have a notation of the security interest made on the face of the certificate of title to be issued by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall enter the notation and the date and shall note the security interest and the date in his or her files. However, as provided in subsection (5), the secretary of state is not required to issue a certificate of title to the owner of a vehicle if the title is subject to a security interest.

(2) When the security interest is discharged, the holder shall note the discharge on the certificate of title over his or her signature.

(3) Receipt by the secretary of state of a properly tendered application for a certificate of title on which a

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security interest in a watercraft is to be indicated is a condition of perfection of a security interest in the watercraft, unless, under subsection (4), the department of state does not issue certificates of title for watercraft subject to a security interest, and is equivalent to filing a financing statement under the uniform commercial code, 1962 PA 174, MCL 440.1101 to 440.9994, with respect to the watercraft. When a security interest in a watercraft is perfected, it has priority over the rights of a lien creditor as lien creditor is defined in section 9102 of the uniform commercial code, 1962 PA 174, MCL 440.9102.

(4) The department of state may require that all transactions concerning watercraft title liens and security interests be conducted by electronic means, as determined by the department of state. In that case, if a watercraft is subject to a security interest, the department of state is not required to issue a certificate of title to the owner of the watercraft or a lienholder if it maintains a record of title electronically. After all liens have been terminated, or for purposes of retitling the watercraft in another state or any other purpose considered appropriate by the department of state, the department of state may issue a paper copy of the watercraft title to the watercraft owner.

(5) A watercraft sale transaction in which a security interest is entered by electronic means shall include a document recording entry of the electronic security interest and information regarding the financial institution that holds the security interest. When a secured party is presented with payment in satisfaction of the security interest, a secured receipt in a form approved by the department of state may be produced and submitted to the department of state in lieu of the certificate of title for purposes of transferring ownership in the watercraft.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 37, Imd. Eff. June 7, 2005;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80321 Watercraft acquired prior to January 1, 1977.

Sec. 80321. A watercraft acquired by the owner prior to January 1, 1977, is not the subject of a certificate of title until it is mortgaged, sold, or transferred, or, subject to section 80320(4), a lien is placed on the watercraft.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 678, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

324.80322 Violation; penalty.

Sec. 80322. A person who violates sections 80301 to 80319 or rules promulgated under this part is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be imprisoned for not more than 90 days, or fined not more than $100.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Watercraft Title Act

SUBCHAPTER 6
MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

OFF-ROAD RECREATION VEHICLES

PART 811
OFF-ROAD RECREATION VEHICLES

324.81101 Definitions.

Sec. 81101. As used in this part:

(a) "Alcoholic liquor" means that term as defined in section 1d of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1d.

(b) "ATV" means a vehicle with 3 or more wheels that is designed for off-road use, has low-pressure tires, has a seat designed to be straddled by the rider, and is powered by a 50cc to 1,000cc gasoline engine or an engine of comparable size using other fuels.

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(c) "Code" means the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

(d) "County road" means a county primary road or county local road as described in section 5 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.655, or a segment thereof.

(e) "Dealer" means a person engaged in the sale, lease, or rental of an ORV as a regular business or, for purposes of selling licenses under section 81116, any other person authorized by the department to sell licenses or permits, or both, under this act.

(f) "Designated", unless the context implies otherwise, means posted by the department, with appropriate signs, as open for ORV use.

(g) "Farm vehicle" means either of the following:

(*i*) An implement of husbandry as defined in section 21 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.21.

(*ii*) A vehicle used in connection with a farm operation as defined in section 2 of the Michigan right to farm act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.472.

(h) "Forest road" means a hard surfaced road, gravel or dirt road, or other route capable of travel by a 2-wheel drive, 4-wheel conventional vehicle designed for road use. Forest road does not include a street, county road, or highway.

(i) "Forest trail" means a designated path or way that is not a route.

(j) "Highway" means a state trunk line highway or a segment of a state trunk line highway.

(k) "Highly restricted personal information" means an individual's photograph or image, Social Security number, digitized signature, and medical and disability information.

(*l*) "Late model ORV" means an ORV manufactured in the current model year or the 5 model years immediately preceding the current model year.

(m) "Law of another state" means a law or ordinance enacted by any of the following:

(*i*) Another state.

(*ii*) A local unit of government in another state.

(*iii*) Canada or a province or territory of Canada.

(*iv*) A local unit of government in a province or territory of Canada.

(n) "Local unit of government" means a county, township, or municipality.

(o) "Maintained portion" means the roadway and any shoulder of a street, county road, or highway.

(p) "Manufacturer" means a person, partnership, corporation, or association engaged in the production and manufacture of ORVs as a regular business.

(q) "Municipality" means a city or village.

(r) "Off-road vehicle account" means the off-road vehicle account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund established in section 2015.

(s) "Operate" means to ride in or on, and be in actual physical control of, the operation of an ORV.

(t) "Operator" means an individual who operates or is in actual physical control of the operation of an ORV.

(u) "ORV" or, unless the context implies a different meaning, "vehicle" means a motor-driven off-road recreation vehicle capable of cross-country travel without benefit of a road or trail, on or immediately over land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain. A multitrack or multiwheel drive vehicle, a motorcycle or related 2-wheel vehicle, a vehicle with 3 or more wheels, an amphibious machine, a ground effect air cushion vehicle, or other means of transportation may be an ORV. An ATV is an ORV. ORV or vehicle does not include a registered snowmobile, a farm vehicle being used for farming, a vehicle used for military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement purposes, a vehicle owned and operated by a utility company or an oil or gas company when performing maintenance on its facilities or on property over which it has an easement, a construction or logging vehicle used in performance of its common function, or a registered aircraft.

(v) "ORV safety certificate" means an ORV safety certificate issued under section 81130 or, except as used in section 81130, a comparable safety certificate issued under the authority of another state or province of Canada.

(w) "Owner" means any of the following:

(*i*) A vendee or lessee of an ORV that is the subject of an agreement for the conditional sale or lease of the ORV, with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement, and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or lessee.

(*ii*) A person renting an ORV, or having the exclusive use of an ORV, for more than 30 days.

(*iii*) A person who holds legal ownership of an ORV.

(x) "Peace officer" means any of the following:

(*i*) A sheriff.

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(*ii*) A sheriff's deputy.

(*iii*) A deputy who is authorized by a sheriff to enforce this part and who has satisfactorily completed at least 40 hours of law enforcement training, including training specific to this part.

(*iv*) A village or township marshal.

(*v*) An officer of the police department of a municipality.

(*vi*) An officer of the department of state police.

(*vii*) The director and conservation officers employed by the department.

(y) "Person with a disability" means an individual who has 1 or more of the following physical characteristics:

(*i*) Blindness.

(*ii*) Inability, during some time of the year, to ambulate more than 200 feet without having to stop and rest.

(*iii*) Loss of use of 1 or both legs or feet.

(*iv*) Inability to ambulate without the prolonged use of a wheelchair, walker, crutches, braces, or other device required to aid mobility.

(*v*) A lung disease from which the individual's expiratory volume for 1 second, measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter, or from which the individual's arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 mm/hg of room air at rest.

(*vi*) A cardiovascular disease that causes the individual to measure between 3 and 4 on the New York heart classification scale, or that results in a marked limitation of physical activity by causing fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea, or anginal pain.

(*vii*) Other diagnosed disease or disorder including, but not limited to, severe arthritis or a neurological or orthopedic impairment that creates a severe mobility limitation.

(z) "Personal information" means information that identifies an individual, including an individual's driver identification number, name, address not including zip code, and telephone number, but does not include information on ORV operation or equipment-related violations or civil infractions, operator or vehicle registration status, accidents, or other behaviorally related information.

(aa) "Prior conviction" means a conviction for any of the following, whether under a law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, a law of the United States substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(*i*) A violation or an attempted violation of section 81134(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7), except that only 1 violation or attempted violation of section 81134(6), a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 81134(6), a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 81134(6), or a law of the United States substantially corresponding to section 81134(6) may be used as a prior conviction other than for enhancement purposes as provided in section 81134(11)(b).

(*ii*) Negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of an ORV, or an attempt to commit any of those crimes.

(*iii*) Former section 81135.

(bb) "Public agency" means the department or a local or federal unit of government.

(cc) "Roadway" means the portion of a street, county road, or highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for travel by vehicles registered under the code. Roadway does not include the shoulder.

(dd) "Route" means a forest road or other road that is designated for purposes of this part by the department.

(ee) "Safety chief instructor" means an individual who has been certified by a nationally recognized ORV organization to certify instructors and to do on-sight evaluations of instructors.

(ff) "Shoulder" means that portion of a street, county road, or highway contiguous to the roadway and generally extending the contour of the roadway, not designed for vehicular travel but maintained for the temporary accommodation of disabled or stopped motor vehicles otherwise permitted on the roadway.

(gg) "Southern county" means Muskegon, Kent, Ionia, Clinton, Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, or Macomb County, or a county lying south of the territory constituted by these counties.

(hh) "Specialty court program" means a program under any of the following:

(*i*) A drug treatment court, as defined in section 1060 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1060, in which the participant is an adult.

(*ii*) A DWI/sobriety court, as defined in section 1084 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1084.

(*iii*) A hybrid of the programs under subparagraphs (*i*) and (*ii*).

(*iv*) A mental health court as defined in section 1090 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1090.

(*v*) A veterans treatment court, as defined in section 1200 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA

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236, MCL 600.1200.

(ii) "Street" means a city or village major street or city or village local street as described in section 9 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.659, or a segment thereof.

(jj) "Traffic lane" means a clearly marked lane on a roadway.

(kk) "Unmaintained portion" means the portion of a street, county road, or highway that is not the maintained portion.

(*ll*) "Visual supervision" means the direct observation of the operator with the unaided or normally corrected eye by an observer who is able to come to the immediate aid of the operator.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998;—Am. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2009, Act 196, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2009;—Am. 2009, Act 200, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 246, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 249, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021;—Am. 2023, Act 210, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81102 Repealed. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to vehicles exempt from licensure requirements.

324.81103 Subject to MCL 324.81109(5); ORV; certificate of title generally.

Sec. 81103. (1) This section is subject to section 81109(5).

(2) After April 1, 1991, every ORV sold by a dealer to a retail purchaser shall be subject to the certificate of title provisions of this part.

(3) After April 1, 1991, a person who purchases or otherwise acquires an ORV shall apply for a certificate of title as provided in this part.

(4) After April 1, 1991, the owner of an ORV that has not been titled pursuant to subsection (2) or (3) or the code may apply for and, if otherwise eligible, receive a certificate of title issued under this part. If the ORV was previously titled under the code, it is not eligible for titling under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81104 Application for title to ORV under code.

Sec. 81104. The owner of an ORV that has been and is titled under this part may apply for and, if otherwise eligible, receive a title to the ORV under the code. If the owner applies for a title under the code, any certificate of title issued under this part shall at that time be surrendered to the department of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81105 ORV; sale or assignment of ownership; purchase or acquisition; requirements; exception if subject to a security interest.

Sec. 81105. (1) Subject to subsection (2), after an ORV has been titled under this part, both of the following apply:

(a) The owner, except as provided in section 81104, shall not sell or otherwise assign ownership in the ORV without delivering to the transferee a certificate of title showing assignment of the ORV in the transferee's name.

(b) A person shall not purchase or otherwise acquire an ORV without obtaining a certificate of title to it in

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the person's name pursuant to either this part or the code.

(2) As provided under section 81109(5), the department of state is not required to issue a certificate of title to the owner of an ORV if the title is subject to a security interest.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81106 ORV exempt from MCL 257.1101 to 257.1133 and MCL 500.3101 to 500.3179.

Sec. 81106. An ORV is exempt from the motor vehicle accident claims act, Act No. 198 of the Public Acts of 1965, being sections 257.1101 to 257.1133 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and from sections 3101 to 3179 of the insurance code of 1956, Act No. 218 of the Public Acts of 1956, being sections 500.3101 to 500.3179 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81107 Manufacturer's certificate of origin.

Sec. 81107. (1) A person shall not sell or otherwise transfer an ORV to a dealer, to be used by the dealer for purposes of display and resale, without delivering to the dealer a manufacturer's certificate of origin executed in accordance with this section. A dealer shall not purchase or otherwise acquire a new ORV without obtaining a manufacturer's certificate of origin.

(2) A manufacturer's certificate of origin shall contain the following information:

(a) A description of the ORV, including year, make, model or series, and vehicle identification number.

(b) Certification of the date of the transfer of the ORV to the dealer.

(c) The dealer's name and address.

(d) Certification that this transaction is the first transfer of the new ORV in ordinary commerce.

(e) The transferor's signature and address.

(3) An assignment of a manufacturer's certificate of origin shall be printed on the reverse side of the certificate. The assignment shall include the name and address of the transferee, a certification that the ORV is new, and a warranty that the title at the time of delivery is subject only to the secured interests set forth in the assignment.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81108 Application for ORV certificate of title; form; contents; security agreement; perfection of security interest; priority.

Sec. 81108. (1) An application for an ORV certificate of title shall be on a form prescribed by the department of state. The application shall include a certification. The owner or purchaser shall sign the application or, if the application is filed electronically, provide information requested by the department of state to verify the owner's identity. The application shall contain, in addition to other information required by the department of state, the following information:

(a) The applicant's name and address.

(b) A statement of any security interest or other liens on the ORV, along with the name and address of any lienholder.

(c) If a lien is not outstanding, a statement of that fact.

(d) A description of the ORV, including the year, make, model or series, and vehicle identification number.

(2) An application for an ORV certificate of title that indicates the existence of a security interest in the ORV shall, if requested by the security interest holder, be accompanied by a copy of the security agreement, which may be unsigned. The department of state shall indicate on the copy the date and place of filing and shall return the copy to the person who filed the application. The filer shall forward the copy to the security

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interest holder identified in the application.

(3) Receipt by the secretary of state of a properly tendered application for an ORV certificate of title that indicates the existence of a security interest in the ORV is a condition of perfection of a security interest in the ORV, unless, under section 81109(5), the department of state does not issue certificates of title for ORVs subject to a security interest, and is equivalent to filing a financing statement under the uniform commercial code, 1962 PA 174, MCL 440.1101 to 440.9994, with respect to the ORV. When a security interest in an ORV is perfected, it has priority over the rights of a lien creditor as lien creditor is defined in section 9102 of the uniform commercial code, 1962 PA 174, MCL 440.9102.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 39, Imd. Eff. June 7, 2005;—Am. 2012, Act 28, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81109 Making application to department of state for issuance of ORV certificate of title; transactions by electronic means required; security interest.

Sec. 81109. (1) The purchaser or other transferee of an ORV subject to the titling provisions of this part shall, except as provided in subsection (2), apply to the department of state for issuance of a certificate of title to the ORV. The application shall be filed within 15 days after the date of purchase or transfer.

(2) A dealer selling ORVs at retail, within 15 days after delivering an ORV to a retail purchaser, shall apply to the department of state for issuance of an ORV certificate of title in the purchaser's name. The purchaser of the ORV shall sign the application and other papers necessary to enable the dealer to secure the title from the department of state. If the ORV was not previously titled, the application shall be accompanied by a manufacturer's certificate of origin.

(3) At the request of the applicant, the department of state shall process an application for an ORV certificate of title on an expedited basis.

(4) An application filed with the department of state pursuant to this section shall be accompanied by the fee or fees prescribed in section 81110.

(5) The department of state may require that all transactions concerning ORV security interests be conducted by electronic means, as determined by the department of state. In that case, if an ORV is subject to a security interest, the department of state is not required to issue a certificate of title to the owner of the ORV or a lienholder if it maintains a record of title electronically. After all security interests have been terminated, or for purposes of retitling the ORV in another state or any other purpose considered appropriate by the department of state, the department of state may issue a paper copy of the ORV title to the ORV owner.

(6) An ORV sale transaction in which a security interest is entered by electronic means shall include a document recording entry of the electronic security interest and information regarding the financial institution that holds the security interest. When a secured party is presented with payment in satisfaction of the security interest, a secured receipt in a form approved by the department of state may be produced and submitted to the department of state in lieu of the certificate of title for purposes of transferring ownership in the ORV.

(7) Beginning January 1, 1992, a person who violates this section is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81110 Fee for processing application for ORV certificate of title.

Sec. 81110. (1) The department of state shall charge a fee of $11.00 for processing an application for an ORV certificate of title or a duplicate ORV certificate of title. The department of state shall charge an additional fee of $5.00 for processing an application on an expedited basis.

(2) If a check or draft in payment of a required fee is not paid on its first presentation, the fee is delinquent as of the date the check or draft was tendered. The person tendering the check or draft remains liable for the payment of each fee and any penalty.

(3) The department of state may suspend an ORV certificate of title if the department of state determines

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that a fee prescribed in this section has not been paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice or demand.

(4) If a fee is still delinquent 15 days after the department of state has given notice to a person who tendered the check or draft, a $10.00 penalty shall be assessed and collected in addition to the fee.

(5) The revenue collected from the fees imposed under this section shall be used to support the administrative costs of the secretary of state required by this section. Annual revenue collected in excess of these administrative costs shall be credited to the off-road vehicle account. Amounts appropriated for administrative costs but unexpended shall be credited to the off-road vehicle account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81111 Refusal to issue ORV certificate of title; grounds; issuance and delivery; requiring certification of ownership.

Sec. 81111. (1) The department of state may refuse to issue an original or duplicate ORV certificate of title under the circumstances provided in section 81109(5) or if any of the following occur:

(a) The applicant fails to furnish all required information or reasonable additional information requested by the department of state.

(b) The required fee has not been paid.

(c) The applicant is not entitled to an ORV certificate of title under this part.

(d) The ORV is titled under the code.

(e) The application contains a false or fraudulent statement.

(f) The department of state has reasonable grounds to believe that the ORV was stolen or embezzled.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), if satisfied that the applicant is the owner of the ORV and is otherwise entitled to an ORV certificate of title, the department of state shall issue an ORV certificate of title in the applicant's name. The certificate shall be mailed or otherwise delivered to the owner of the ORV or to another person specified by the owner in a separate instrument, in a form prescribed by the department of state.

(3) If the secretary of state is not satisfied as to the ownership of an ORV which is not a late model ORV and whose value does not exceed $1,500.00, the secretary of state shall require the applicant to certify that the applicant is the owner of the ORV and therefore entitled to make application for a certificate of title for the ORV.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81112 Manufacturing requirements for ORV certificate of title; uniform method of numbering; contents; prohibited acts; penalties.

Sec. 81112. (1) An ORV certificate of title shall be manufactured in a manner to prevent as nearly as possible the reproduction, alteration, counterfeiting, forging, or duplication of the certificate without ready detection. An ORV certificate of title shall contain on its face the information set forth in the application, including a notation of all secured interests in the ORV, the date on which the application was filed, and other information required by the department of state.

(2) The department of state shall prescribe a uniform method of numbering ORV certificates of title.

(3) An ORV certificate of title shall contain a form for assignment and warranty of title by the owner with space for the notation of a security interest in the ORV. The ORV certificate of title may also contain other forms that the department of state considers necessary to facilitate the effective administration of this part. The certificate shall bear the coat of arms of this state.

(4) A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Reproduce, alter, counterfeit, forge, or duplicate an ORV certificate of title or hold or use an ORV certificate of title knowing it is reproduced, altered, counterfeited, forged, or duplicated.

(b) Fraudulently indicate on an ORV certificate of title that there is no security interest on record for the

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ORV.

(c) Forge or counterfeit a letter, receipt, or other document from the holder of a security interest in an ORV indicating that the security interest has been released.

(5) A person who violates subsection (4) is subject to the following penalties:

(a) If the intent of the violation was to commit or aid in the commission of an offense punishable by imprisonment for 1 or more years, the person committing the violation is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for a period equal to that which could be imposed for the commission of the offense the person had the intent to aid or commit or a fine of not more than $5,000.00, or both.

(b) If the intent of the violation was to commit or aid in the commission of an offense punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, the person committing the violation is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

(6) A person who is convicted of a violation of subsection (4)(b) or (c), in addition to any other penalty, shall pay restitution to the holder of a security interest in the ORV in the amount of the outstanding lien on the ORV.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 271, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2005;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: ORV

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: NREPA

324.81113 Loss, mutilation, or illegibility of ORV certificate; application for and issuance of duplicate; legend; indexes.

Sec. 81113. (1) If an ORV certificate of title or duplicate certificate of title is lost or mutilated or becomes illegible, the person entitled to possession of the certificate, or the legal representative or successor in interest to the titleholder of record, may apply to the department of state for a duplicate ORV certificate of title. Upon receipt of the application, the fee prescribed in section 81110, and information satisfactory to the department of state to establish entitlement to the duplicate, the department of state may issue a duplicate ORV certificate of title to the applicant. As provided under section 81109(5), the department of state is not required to issue a duplicate certificate of title to the owner of an ORV if the title is subject to a security interest.

(2) A duplicate ORV certificate of title shall contain the legend: "This is a duplicate certificate of title and may be subject to the rights of a person under the original certificate.".

(3) The secretary of state shall maintain 1 or more indexes pertaining to ORV certificates of title. Upon receiving an application for an ORV certificate of title, the secretary of state may check the information in the application and accompanying documents against the indexes of titled, registered, stolen, and recovered ORVs and against other records maintained by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81114 Records available to public; commercial lookup service of ORV operation, title, and registration; disposition of fees; computerized central file; purging records; providing records to nongovernmental person or entity; payment; admissibility in evidence.

Sec. 81114. (1) The secretary of state shall make available to the public records maintained under this part, other than those declared to be confidential by law or that are restricted by law from disclosure to the public, under procedures prescribed in this part and the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(2) The secretary of state may provide a commercial lookup service of ORV operation, title, and registration records maintained under this part. For each individual record looked up, the secretary of state shall charge a fee of $15.00 per record. The secretary of state shall process a commercial lookup request only if the request is in a form or format prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall credit fees collected under this subsection to the transportation administration collection fund created in section 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b, through October 1, 2027.

(3) The secretary of state shall create and maintain a computerized central file that includes the information

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contained on application forms received under this part and the name of each individual who is convicted of an offense, who fails to comply with an order or judgment issued, or against whom an order is entered under this part. The computerized central file must be interfaced with the law enforcement information network as provided in the C.J.I.S. policy council act, 1974 PA 163, MCL 28.211 to 28.215.

(4) The secretary of state may purge a record of an ORV certificate of title and any record pertaining to it 7 years after the title was issued or the record was made or received.

(5) The secretary of state shall not provide an entire computerized central or other file of records maintained under this part to a nongovernmental person or entity unless the purchaser pays the prescribed fee or price for each individual record contained within the computerized file.

(6) A certified copy of an order, record, or paper maintained under this part is admissible in evidence in the same manner as the original and is prima facie proof of the facts stated in the original.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2005, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 100, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2015, Act 77, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2017, Act 199, Eff. Mar. 15, 2018;—Am. 2019, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2023, Act 140, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2023.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81114a Disclosure of personal information; uses.

Sec. 81114a. (1) Except as provided in this section and in section 81114c, personal information in a record maintained under this part shall not be disclosed, unless the person requesting the information furnishes proof of identity considered satisfactory to the secretary of state and certifies that the personal information requested will be used for a permissible purpose identified in this section or in section 81114c. Notwithstanding this section, highly restricted personal information shall be used and disclosed only as expressly permitted by law.

(2) Personal information in a record maintained under this act shall be disclosed by the secretary of state if required to carry out the purposes of a specified federal law. As used in this section, "specified federal law" means the automobile information disclosure act, Public Law 85-506, 15 U.S.C. 1231 to 1232 and 1233, the former motor vehicle information and cost savings act, Public Law 92-513, the former national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966, Public Law 89-563, the anti-car theft act of 1992, Public Law 102-519, 106 Stat. 3384, the clean air act, chapter 360, 69 Stat. 322, 42 U.S.C. 7401 to 7431, 7470 to 7479, 7491 to 7492, 7501 to 7509a, 7511 to 7515, 7521 to 7525, 7541 to 7545, 7547 to 7550, 7552 to 7554, 7571 to 7574, 7581 to 7590, 7601 to 7612, 7614 to 7617, 7619 to 7622, 7624 to 7627, 7641 to 7642, 7651 to 7651o, 7661 to 7661f, and 7671 to 7671q, and all federal regulations promulgated to implement these federal laws.

(3) Personal information in a record maintained under this part may be disclosed as follows:

(a) For use by any government agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out its functions, or any private person or entity acting on behalf of a government agency in carrying out its functions.

(b) For use in connection with matters of ORV and operator safety or ORV theft; ORV emissions; ORV product alterations, recalls, or advisories; performance monitoring of ORVs; ORV research activities, including survey research; and the removal of nonowner records from the original records of ORV manufacturers.

(c) For use in the normal course of business by a business or its agents, employees, or contractors to verify the accuracy of personal information submitted by an individual to the business or its agents, employees, or contractors, and if the information as submitted is not correct or is no longer correct, to obtain the correct information, but only for the purposes of preventing fraud, by pursuing legal remedies against, or recovering on a debt or security interest against, the individual.

(d) For use in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitral proceeding in any court or government agency or before any self-regulatory body, including the service of process, investigation in anticipation of litigation, and the execution or enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of any court, administrative agency, or self-regulatory body.

(e) For use in legitimate research activities and in preparing statistical reports for commercial, scholarly, or academic purposes by a bona fide research organization, so long as the personal information is not published, redisclosed, or used to contact individuals.

(f) For use by any insurer, self-insurer, or insurance support organization, or its agents, employees, or contractors, in connection with claims investigation activities, antifraud activities, rating, or underwriting.

(g) For use in providing notice to the owner of an abandoned, towed, or impounded ORV.

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(h) For use by any licensed private security guard agency or alarm system contractor licensed under the private security guard act of 1968, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to 338.1085, or a private detective or private investigator licensed under the private detective license act of 1965, 1965 PA 285, MCL 338.821 to 338.851, for any purpose permitted under this section.

(i) For use by an ORV rental business, or its employees, agents, contractors, or service firms, for the purpose of making rental decisions.

(j) For use by a news medium in the preparation and dissemination of a report related in part or in whole to the operation of a motor vehicle or public safety. "News medium" includes a newspaper, a magazine or periodical published at regular intervals, a news service, a broadcast network, a television station, a radio station, a cablecaster, or an entity employed by any of the foregoing.

(k) For any use by an individual requesting information pertaining to himself or herself or requesting in writing that the secretary of state provide information pertaining to himself or herself to the individual's designee. A request for disclosure to a designee, however, may be submitted only by the individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81114b Resale or redisclosure of personal information; maintenance of records; duration; availability for inspection.

Sec. 81114b. (1) An authorized recipient of personal information under section 81114a may resell or redisclose the information for any use permitted under section 81114a.

(2) Any authorized recipient of personal information disclosed under section 81114a who resells or rediscloses personal information shall be required by the secretary of state to maintain for a period of not less than 5 years records as to the information obtained and the permitted use for which it was obtained, and to make such records available for inspection by the secretary of state, upon request.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81114c Furnishing list of information to federal, state, or local governmental agency; contract for sale of lists of records; surveys, marketing, and solicitations; insertion of safeguards in agreement or contract; resale or redisclosure of information; disclosure of list based on ORV operation or sanctions to nongovernmental agency.

Sec. 81114c. (1) Upon request, the secretary of state may furnish a list of information from the records of the department maintained under this part to a federal, state, or local governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions, or to a private person or entity acting on behalf of a governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the secretary of state may charge the requesting agency a preparation fee to cover the cost of preparing and furnishing a list provided under this subsection if the cost of preparation exceeds $25.00, and use the revenues received from the service to defray necessary expenses. If the secretary of state sells a list of information under this subsection to a member of the state legislature, the secretary of state shall charge the same fee as the fee for the sale of information under subsection (2) unless the list of information is requested by the member of the legislature to carry out a legislative function. The secretary of state may require the requesting agency to furnish 1 or more blank computer tapes, cartridges, or other electronic media, and may require the agency to execute a written memorandum of agreement as a condition of obtaining a list of information under this subsection.

(2) The secretary of state may contract for the sale of lists of records maintained under this part in bulk, in addition to those lists distributed at cost or at no cost under this section, for purposes defined in section 81114a(3). The secretary of state shall require each purchaser of information in bulk to execute a written purchase contract. The secretary of state shall fix a market-based price for the sale of lists of bulk information, which may include personal information. The proceeds from each sale shall be used by the secretary of state to defray the costs of list preparation and for other necessary or related expenses.

(3) The secretary of state or any other state agency shall not sell or furnish any list of information under subsection (2) for the purpose of surveys, marketing, and solicitations. The secretary of state shall ensure that

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personal information disclosed in bulk will be used, rented, or sold solely for uses permitted under this part.

(4) The secretary of state may insert any safeguard the secretary considers reasonable or necessary, including a bond requirement, in a memorandum of agreement or purchase contract executed under this section, to ensure that the information furnished or sold is used only for a permissible use and that the rights of individuals and of the secretary of state are protected.

(5) An authorized recipient of personal information disclosed under this section who resells or rediscloses the information for any of the permissible purposes described in section 81114a(3) shall do both of the following:

(a) Make and keep for a period of not less than 5 years records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(b) Allow a representative of the secretary of state, upon request, to inspect and copy records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(6) The secretary of state shall not disclose a list based on ORV operation or sanctions to a nongovernmental agency, including an individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2000, Act 194, Eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81114f Electronic lien title system; notification and release of security interests in ORVs; participation required; electronic transfers; admissibility in civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings; requirements; definitions.

Sec. 81114f. (1) The secretary of state may enter into 1 or more contracts under this section to establish, implement, and operate an electronic lien title system to process the notification and release of security interests in ORVs through electronic file transfers, or as otherwise determined by the secretary of state, in lieu of the issuance and maintenance of paper documents otherwise required by law. Any such contract shall require the protection of proprietary information in the electronic lien title system and provide for the protection of a competitive free market.

(2) Except for persons who are not normally engaged in the business or practice of financing ORVs, all secured parties are required to participate in the electronic lien title system.

(3) For the purposes of this part, any requirement that a security interest or other information appear on a certificate of title is satisfied by the inclusion of that information in an electronic file maintained in an electronic lien title system. The satisfaction of a security interest may be electronically transmitted to the secretary of state. A secured party shall execute a release of its security interest in an ORV in a manner prescribed by the department not more than 14 days after the secured party receives the payment in satisfaction of the security interest. If the certificate of title is in the possession of the ORV owner, the secured party shall deliver the release to the ORV owner or as otherwise directed by the owner. However, if the certificate of title is held electronically as provided under section 81109(5), the secured party shall deliver the release of security interest to the department of state, and the department of state shall cancel the security interest. If the secured party fails to comply with these requirements for the release of a secured interest, the secured party is liable to the ORV owner for all damages sustained by the owner because of the failure to comply. The electronic lien title system shall provide a mechanism by which an ORV dealer may assign ownership of an ORV without proof that the prior security interest was satisfied existing on the electronic lien title system. However, in the event of such an assignment, the dealer warrants that the title is free and clear of all liens and assumes responsibility for the satisfaction of the security interest.

(4) A certified copy of the secretary of state's electronic record of a security interest is admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in this state as evidence of the existence of the security interest. If a certificate of title is maintained in the electronic lien title system, a certified copy of the secretary of state's electronic record of the certificate of title is admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding in this state as evidence of the existence and contents of the certificate of title.

(5) The secretary of state may determine any requirements necessary to carry out this section, including, but not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

(a) Monitoring the reasonable fees charged by service providers or a contractor for the establishment and maintenance of the electronic lien title system.

(b) The qualifications of service providers for participation in the electronic lien title system.

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(c) The qualifications for a contractor to enter into a contract with the secretary of state to establish, implement, and operate the electronic lien title system.

(d) Program specifications that a contractor must adhere to in establishing, implementing, and operating the electronic lien title system.

(6) The electronic lien title system under this section shall be established, implemented, and operational by February 16, 2021.

(7) By February 16, 2021, the department shall require a person to enter evidence of security interests and any related information into the electronic lien title system in lieu of paper documents.

(8) As used in this section:

(a) "Contractor" means a person who enters into a contract with the secretary of state to establish, implement, and operate the electronic lien title system described in this section.

(b) "Electronic lien title system" means a system to process the notification and release of security interests through electronic file transfers that is established and implemented under this section.

(c) "Service provider" means a person who provides secured parties with software to manage electronic lien and title data as provided under this section.

History: Add. 2018, Act 519, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81115 Licensing of ORV required; exceptions; reciprocal agreement.

Sec. 81115. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person shall not operate an ORV under any of the following conditions unless the ORV is licensed with the department or a dealer as provided under this part:

(a) Except as otherwise provided by law, on or over land, snow, ice, or other natural terrain.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this part, on a forest trail or in a designated area.

(c) On a street, county road, or highway, except if the vehicle is registered under the code.

(2) An ORV is not required to be licensed under this part under any of the following circumstances:

(a) The ORV is used exclusively in a comprehensive program for training as required in section 81129.

(b) The ORV is operated solely on private property by the owner of the property, a family member of the owner, or an invited guest of the owner.

(c) The ORV is being operated on a free ORV-riding day. The department shall designate as free ORV-riding days each year a Saturday and the following Sunday that are also designated as free fishing days under section 43534. In addition, the department may designate 1 other day or 2 other consecutive days each year as free ORV-riding days. A person operating an unlicensed ORV during a free ORV-riding day has the same privileges and is subject to the same rules and regulations as a person operating an ORV licensed as required under subsection (1).

(d) If and to the extent the department waives the requirement pursuant to a reciprocal agreement with another state.

(3) The department is authorized to enter a reciprocal agreement described in subsection (2)(d).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2008, Act 240, Imd. Eff. July 17, 2008;—Am. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81116 Application for license by owner or dealer of ORV; filing; form; application fee; false information prohibited; issuance of license; validity; permit fees; purchase and resale of ORV licenses; refunds; records; attachment of license to vehicle; license not required for vehicle used and stored outside state; lost or destroyed license.

Sec. 81116. (1) To obtain a license required under this part, the owner of an ORV shall file an application with the department or a dealer on forms provided by the department. If an ORV is sold by a dealer, the application for a license shall be submitted to the department by the dealer in the name of the owner. The application shall include a certification. The owner of the vehicle shall sign the application or, if the application is filed electronically, provide information requested by the department to verify the owner's identity. The application shall be accompanied by a fee as provided in subsection (2). A person shall not file

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an application for a license that contains false information. Upon receipt of the application in approved form and payment of the appropriate fee, the department or dealer shall issue to the applicant a license. A license is valid for the 12-month period beginning April 1 and ending the following March 31.

(2) The fee for a license is as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), $26.25.

(b) If the license authorizes operation of the ORV on state ORV trails, $36.25.

(3) A dealer may purchase from the department ORV licenses for resale to owners of vehicles that require a license under this part. The department shall refund to a dealer the purchase price of any ORV licenses returned within 90 days after the end of the 12-month period for which they were valid. A dealer shall maintain and provide to the department records of ORV license sales on forms provided by the department. In addition to the sale of ORV licenses, a dealer engaged in the sale, lease, or rental of ORVs as a regular business may sell any other license or permit authorized by the department to be sold by other dealers under the statutes of this state.

(4) Before a vehicle that requires an ORV license is operated, the owner shall ensure that a license is permanently attached to the vehicle in the manner prescribed by and, subject to this subsection, in the location designated by the department. The license for a 2-wheel vehicle shall be attached as provided in either of the following:

(a) Centered on the exposed surface of the rear fender.

(b) Located at a visible place facing forward on a front suspension fork.

(5) If, when a vehicle that otherwise requires a license under this part is sold, the purchaser certifies on a form provided by the department that the vehicle will be used and stored outside of this state and will not be returned by the purchaser to this state for use, a license is not required for the vehicle.

(6) If a license acquired by the owner of an ORV is lost or destroyed, the department shall provide that person with a replacement license free of charge. The department may require a person requesting a replacement license to supply sufficient evidence of the loss or destruction of the original license.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 99, Imd. Eff. June 22, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2006, Act 477, Imd. Eff. Dec. 21, 2006;—Am. 2012, Act 28, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 75, Imd. Eff. June 25, 2013;—Am. 2017, Act 199, Eff. Mar. 15, 2018;—Am. 2022, Act 57, Eff. Mar. 29, 2023;—Am. 2023, Act 217, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81117 Off-road vehicle account.

Sec. 81117. (1) Money in the off-road vehicle account shall be used only for the following:

(a) Signage for and improvement, maintenance, and construction of ORV trails, routes, or areas.

(b) The administration and enforcement of this part.

(c) The leasing of land.

(d) The acquisition of easements, permits, or other agreements for the use of land for ORV trails, routes, or areas.

(e) The restoration of any of the natural resources of this state on public land that are damaged due to ORV use in conjunction with the plan required by section 81123.

(f) One dollar of the revenue from each fee collected under section 81116 shall be used for the purposes of sections 81129 and 81130.

(2) All revenue from each fee collected under section 81116 shall be deposited in the off-road vehicle account.

(3) All funds allocated under this part shall be for projects that are open to the public.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81118 Repealed. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

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Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to creation of safety education fund.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81119 Distribution of revenue in form of grants.

Sec. 81119. (1) Not less than 50% of the money in the off-road vehicle account shall be distributed each year in the form of grants for the purpose of planning, improving, constructing, signing, and maintaining ORV trails, areas, and routes and access to those trails, areas, and routes, the leasing of land, the acquisition of easements, permits, or other agreements for the use of land for ORV trails, areas, and routes, to public agencies and nonprofit incorporated clubs and organizations.

(2) An application by a public agency or a nonprofit incorporated club or organization shall include a plan for restoration of any of the natural resources of this state on public land that are damaged due to ORV use. The public agencies or nonprofit incorporated clubs or organizations shall indicate on their application that their use of grant money is consistent with, and meets the requirements of, the plan developed by the department pursuant to section 81123, and the trail, route, or area is available to the public. The department shall not approve a grant unless the application meets the requirements of the plan. The department shall make application forms available and consider grant requests on a yearly basis.

(3) A grant shall not be made for a trail, route, or area unless the trail, route, or area is available for ORV use and is approved by the department. A grant for the cost of leasing of land and the acquisition of easements, permits, or other agreements may equal 100% of incurred expense. Specifications shall be prescribed by the department.

(4) Not less than 31-1/4% of the money in the off-road vehicle account shall be used each year for enforcement of this part or the purchase of any necessary equipment used for enforcement of this part. Of the amount available for enforcement, the department shall make available 24% of the funds for distribution in the form of grants by the department to the county sheriffs' departments. The balance of the funds available shall be used by the department for the enforcement of this part or for the purchase of any necessary equipment used for the enforcement of this part. In making grants available for distribution under this subsection, the department shall consider the following factors:

(a) The number of miles of ORV trails, routes, or areas within the county.

(b) The number of sheriff's department employees available for enforcement of this part.

(c) The estimated number of ORVs within the county and that are brought into the county for ORV use.

(d) The estimated number of days that ORVs may be used within that county.

(e) Any other factors considered appropriate by the department. The department shall require a county sheriff receiving a grant under this subsection to maintain records and submit an annual report to verify expenditure of grant money received.

(5) Not less than 12-1/2% of the revenue in the off-road vehicle account shall be distributed each year in the form of grants to public agencies and nonprofit incorporated clubs and organizations for the restoration of damage that is caused by ORV use to natural resources on public land. A grant under this subsection may be in addition to a grant under subsection (1). An application for a grant under this subsection shall comply with subsection (2).

(6) Not more than 3-1/8% of the revenue in the off-road vehicle account in any year shall be used for administration of this part. The department may use revenue from the funds for personnel to operate the program under this part.

(7) The remaining 3-1/8% of the revenue in the off-road vehicle account may be used for the purposes described in subsections (1) and (4), except that 25 cents of each fee for a license sold by a dealer shall be retained by the dealer as a commission for services rendered. If the remainder of the money in the off-road vehicle account is used for the purposes described in subsection (4), it shall be allocated as provided in subsection (4).

(8) Grants under this section shall remain available until expended once a contract or commitment has been entered into under this section. A contract shall be for a period of not more than 2 years. A grant not expended within the contract period may be renewed by the department by entering into a new contract.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81120 Prohibited conduct; violations as felony; penalties.

Sec. 81120. (1) A person who makes a false representation or false certification to obtain personal information under this part, or who uses personal information for a purpose other than a permissible purpose identified in section 81114a or 81114c, is guilty of a felony.

(2) A person who is convicted of a second violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 2 years or more than 7 years, or by a fine of not less than $1,500.00 or more than $7,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 5 years or more than 15 years, or by a fine of not less than $5,000.00 or more than $15,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81121 Renting, leasing, or furnishing ORV; maintaining safe operating condition; explanation of operation; liability insurance.

Sec. 81121. (1) A dealer shall maintain in safe operating condition an ORV rented, leased, or furnished by the dealer. The dealer, dealer's agents, or employees shall explain the operation of the vehicle being rented, leased, or furnished, and if the dealer, dealer's agent, or employee believes the person to whom the vehicle is to be rented, leased, or furnished is not competent to operate the vehicle with safety to that person or others, the dealer, dealer's agent, or employee shall refuse to rent, lease, or furnish the vehicle.

(2) A dealer renting, leasing, or furnishing a vehicle shall carry a policy of liability insurance subject to limits, exclusive of interest and costs, with respect to the vehicle, as follows: $20,000.00 because of bodily injury to, or death of, 1 person in any 1 accident, and $40,000.00 because of bodily injury to, or death of, 2 or more persons in any 1 accident, and $10,000.00 because of injury to, or destruction of, property of others in any 1 accident, or alternatively, the dealer shall demand and be shown proof that the person renting, leasing, or being furnished a vehicle carries a liability policy of at least the type and coverage as specified above.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81122 Prohibited operation of unregistered ORV; permit not required; operator as prima facie negligent.

Sec. 81122. (1) A person shall not operate an ORV that is not registered under the code upon a street, county road, or highway, except as provided in section 81131 or under the following conditions and circumstances:

(a) The operator of a vehicle may cross a street, county road, or highway, other than a limited access highway, at right angles, for the purpose of getting from 1 area to another, if the operation can be done in safety. The operator shall bring the vehicle to a complete stop before proceeding across a street, county road, or highway, and shall yield the right-of-way to oncoming traffic.

(b) A vehicle may be operated on a street, county road, or highway for a special event of limited duration and conducted according to a prearranged schedule only under permit from the governmental unit having jurisdiction. Subject to subsection (2), a special event involving ORVs may be conducted on the frozen surface of public waters only under permit from the department.

(c) A farmer, employee of a farmer, or family member of a farmer who is at least 16 years of age may operate an ORV on a street, county road, or highway while traveling to or from the farmer's residence or work location or field during the course of farming operations. An ORV shall not be operated pursuant to this subdivision during the period of 30 minutes before sunset to 30 minutes after sunrise or when visibility is substantially reduced due to weather conditions. The individual shall operate the ORV in the same manner

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and on the same portion of the street, county road, or highway as required under section 81131(9). The state transportation department and all of its employees are immune from tort liability for injury or damages sustained by any person arising in any way by reason of the operation or use of an ORV for the limited purposes allowed under this subdivision. An operator of an ORV under this subdivision shall have attached to the ORV a flag made of reflective material. The flag shall extend not less than 8 feet from the surface of the street, county road, or highway and not less than 4 feet above the top of the ORV. The flag shall be not less than 12 inches high by 18 inches long and not measure less than 100 square inches.

(2) The department shall not require a permit under this part merely for organized group recreational ORV riding on department lands, or for an ORV event on the frozen surface of public waters, if conducted in compliance with applicable statutes, rules, and orders. Within 90 days after the effective date of the amendatory act from the 2013-2014 legislative session that added this subsection, the department shall develop and establish, in consultation with representatives of the Michigan snowmobile and trails advisory committee and other interested parties, policy criteria for determining circumstances under which notice to the department or a permit is required for ORV events on department lands.

(3) In a court action in this state if competent evidence demonstrates that a vehicle that is permitted to operate on a highway pursuant to the code is in a collision on a roadway with an ORV that is not registered under the code, the operator of the ORV involved in the collision shall be considered prima facie negligent.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81123 Comprehensive plan for management of ORV use of certain areas, routes, and trails; revision; approval; designation of ORV trails and areas for nonconflicting recreation trail use; designated scramble area; maps of trails.

Sec. 81123. (1) The department shall, by October 1, 1991, develop a comprehensive plan for the management of ORV use of areas, routes, and trails maintained by or under the jurisdiction of the department or a local unit of government pursuant to section 81131. The plan shall, as a minimum, set forth the following methods and timetable:

(a) The inventorying, by appropriate means, of all areas, forest roads, and forest trails used by or suitable for use by ORVs.

(b) The identification and evaluation of the suitability of areas, forest roads, and forest trails to sustain ORV use.

(c) The designation of areas, forest roads, and forest trails for ORV use, including use by persons with disabilities.

(d) The development of resource management plans to maintain areas, forest roads, or forest trails and to restore or reconstruct damaged areas, forest roads, or forest trails. The plans shall include consideration of the social, economic, and environmental impact of ORV use.

(e) Specifications for trails and areas.

(2) The plan developed under subsection (1) shall be revised every 2 years. The plan shall be submitted to the legislature for approval. The legislature shall approve the plan without amendment by concurrent resolution adopted by both standing committees of the house of representatives and senate that consider natural resources matters and both houses of the legislature by recorded vote. The department shall submit any subsequent revisions to the plan to the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives at least 20 session days before the effective date of the revisions. If both standing committees of the house of representatives and senate that consider natural resources matters fail to reject the revisions within those 20 session days, the revisions shall be considered approved.

(3) The plan may designate where bicyclists, hikers, equestrians, and other nonconflicting recreation trail users may use ORV trails or areas.

(4) By May 7, 1992, the department shall designate an appropriate area in the northern Lower Peninsula and an appropriate area in southeast Michigan as a scramble area.

(5) Copies of maps of trails shall be prepared and made available by the department in sufficient quantities to accompany each ORV certificate of title issued by the secretary of state and to place in each county sheriff's office and each department of natural resources field office.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81124 Rules.

Sec. 81124. If the department finds that rules are necessary to implement the regulatory provisions of this part or to clarify the intent of this part, the department shall promulgate rules.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81125 Repealed. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to ORV trails advisory committee.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81126 Repealed. 2016, Act 288, Imd. Eff. Sept. 28, 2016.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to applicability of MCL 324.81123, 324.81125, and 324.81127 to the Upper Peninsula and submission of a report to legislative committees.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81127 Comprehensive system; ORV use on forest roads and other state owned land; revisions; needs of hunters, senior citizens, and individuals with disabilities.

Sec. 81127. (1) Under the comprehensive system previously approved and implemented under former section 16d of 1975 PA 319, all forest roads shall be open to ORV use as provided in section 72118. All other state owned land under the jurisdiction of the department shall be closed to ORV use except the following:

(a) Designated roads that are not forest roads.

(b) Designated trails.

(c) Designated areas.

(2) The commission shall approve any subsequent revisions to the system and shall establish an effective date for the revisions. The department shall submit the revisions approved by the commission to the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives at least 20 session days before the effective date determined by the commission.

(3) In developing the system, the department shall consider the needs of hunters, senior citizens, and individuals with disabilities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998;—Am. 2016, Act 288, Imd. Eff. Sept. 28, 2016.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81128 Repealed. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to citizens review board.

324.81129 Operation of ORV or ATV by child; requirements; ORV information and safety advice; training program and performance testing; course instruction; ORV safety certificates; rules; exceptions; additional requirements.

Sec. 81129. (1) Subject to subsection (17), a parent or legal guardian of a child less than 16 years of age shall not permit the child to operate an ORV unless the child is under the direct visual supervision of an adult

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and the child has an ORV safety certificate in his or her immediate possession.

(2) Subject to subsection (17), a parent or legal guardian of a child less than 12 years of age shall not permit the child to operate an ATV with 4 or more wheels unless the child is not less than 10 years of age and is on private land owned by a parent or legal guardian of the child. This subsection does not apply to the operation of an ATV used in agricultural operations.

(3) A parent or legal guardian of a child less than 16 years of age shall not permit the child to operate a 3-wheeled ATV.

(4) Subject to subsection (17), the owner or person in charge of an ORV shall not knowingly permit the vehicle to be operated by a child less than 16 years of age unless the child is under the direct visual supervision of an adult and the child has an ORV safety certificate in his or her immediate possession.

(5) Subject to subsection (17), the owner or person in charge of an ATV with 4 or more wheels shall not knowingly permit the vehicle to be operated by a child less than 12 years of age unless the child is not less than 10 years of age and is on private land owned by a parent or legal guardian of the child. This subsection does not apply to the operation of an ATV used in agricultural operations.

(6) The owner or person in charge of a 3-wheeled ATV shall not knowingly permit the vehicle to be operated by a child less than 16 years of age.

(7) The owner or person in charge of an ORV shall not knowingly permit the vehicle to be operated by an individual who is incompetent to operate the vehicle because of mental or physical disability.

(8) The department shall implement a comprehensive program for the training of ORV operators and the preparation and dissemination of ORV information and safety advice to the public. The program shall provide for the training of youthful operators and for the issuance of ORV safety certificates to those who successfully complete the training and may include separate instruction for each type of ORV.

(9) In implementing a program under subsection (8), the department shall cooperate with private organizations and associations, private and public corporations, the department of education, the department of state, and local governmental units. The department shall consult with ORV and environmental organizations and associations in regard to the subject matter of a training program and performance testing that leads to certification of ORV operators.

(10) The department may designate a qualified individual to provide course instruction and to award ORV safety certificates.

(11) The department may promulgate rules to implement subsections (8) to (10) and (17).

(12) Subject to subsection (17), a child who is less than 16 years of age shall not operate an ORV unless the child is under the direct visual supervision of an adult and the child has an ORV safety certificate in his or her immediate possession.

(13) Subject to subsection (17), a child who is less than 12 years of age shall not operate an ATV with 4 or more wheels unless the child is not less than 10 years of age and is on private land owned by a parent or legal guardian of the child. This subsection does not apply to the operation of an ATV in agricultural operations.

(14) A child who is less than 16 years of age shall not operate a 3-wheeled ATV.

(15) Subject to subsection (17), when operating an ORV, a child who is less than 16 years of age shall present the ORV safety certificate to a peace officer upon demand.

(16) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an operator who is less than 12 years of age shall not cross a street, county road, or highway. An operator who is not less than 12 years of age but less than 16 years of age may cross a street, county road, or highway or operate an ORV pursuant to section 81131(9) if the operator has an ORV safety certificate in his or her immediate possession and meets any other requirements under this section for operation of the vehicle.

(17) The requirement that a child possess an ORV safety certificate to operate an ORV, and the requirement that a child who is less than 12 years of age not operate an ATV with 4 or more wheels unless the child is not less than 10 years of age and is on private land owned by a parent or legal guardian of the child, do not apply if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The child is participating in an organized ORV riding or racing event held on land not owned by this state.

(b) The child's parent or legal guardian has provided the event organizer with written permission for the child to participate in the event.

(c) The event organizer has not less than $500,000.00 liability insurance coverage for the event.

(d) A physician or physician's assistant licensed or otherwise authorized under part 170 or 175 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.17001 to 333.17084 and 333.17501 to 333.17556, or a paramedic or emergency medical technician licensed under part 209 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20901 to 333.20979, is present at the site of the event or available on call.

(e) The event is at all times under the direct visual supervision of adult staff of the event organizer and a

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staff member serves as a flagger to warn participants if another participant is injured or an ORV is inoperable in the ORV operating area.

(f) Fencing or another means of crowd control is used to keep spectators out of the ORV operating area.

(g) If the event is on a closed course, dust is controlled in the ORV operating area and the riding surface in the ORV operating area is otherwise properly prepared.

(h) Three-wheeled ATVs are not used by participants.

(i) Any ATVs used by participants are equipped with a side step bar or comparable safety equipment and with a tether kill switch, and the tether is used by all participants.

(j) Each participant in the event wears a crash helmet approved by the United States department of transportation, a protective long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long pants, boots, and protective gloves.

(k) Any other applicable requirements of this part or rules promulgated under this part are met.

(18) If a child less than 16 years of age participates and is injured in an organized ORV riding or racing event, the organizer of the event shall, within 30 days after the event, submit to the department a report on a form developed by the department. The report shall include all of the following information, as applicable:

(a) Whether any participant less than 16 years of age was killed or suffered an injury resulting in transportation to a hospital as a result of an ORV accident at the event.

(b) The age of the child.

(c) Whether the child had been issued an ORV safety certificate.

(d) The type of ORV operated.

(e) A description of the accident and injury.

(19) The requirements of this section are in addition to any applicable requirements of section 81131(13).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2008, Act 164, Imd. Eff. June 19, 2008;—Am. 2008, Act 240, Imd. Eff. July 17, 2008;—Am. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 249, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 2013;—Am. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81130 ORV safety education course.

Sec. 81130. (1) A person who is under 16 years of age, before operating an ATV or ORV, shall complete an ORV safety education course approved by the department. This course may include a written examination and a driving test designed to test the competency of the applicant. Upon successful completion of this safety education course, a person shall receive an ORV safety certificate.

(2) A safety education course conducted by a college or university, an intermediate school district, a local school district, a law enforcement agency, or another governmental agency located in this state or by a department approved nonprofit service organization shall be conducted in compliance with this section. An agency or a school conducting a course under this subsection may apply to the department for a grant from the off-road vehicle account for costs associated with conducting a course.

(3) Except for a course conducted by a private business enterprise as provided by subsection (4), an applicant for a safety education course under this section shall pay not more than a $25.00 course fee or in the case of a university or community college a fee not more than the cost of 1 credit hour of instruction. The course fees shall only be used for funding the administration and implementation of the course.

(4) An ATV or ORV, or both, safety education course required by this section and approved by the department may be conducted by a private business enterprise. A private business enterprise may charge a course fee not to exceed the cost of conducting the course.

(5) The director shall designate a person to be the state coordinator of the ATV and ORV safety education program. A person designated under this subsection shall have successfully completed ATV and ORV safety courses.

(6) The director shall designate a person who has successfully completed ATV and ORV safety courses to perform annual inspections of course sites.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 111, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81131 Ordinance allowing disabled person to operate ORV; notice of public hearing; closure of county road to operation of ORVs; operation of ORVs on highway; operation of ORV with flow of traffic; maintaining county road or street or highway not required; immunity from tort liability; "gross negligence" defined; operator of ORV as prima facie negligent; violation as municipal civil infraction; deposit of fines; violation as state civil infraction.

Sec. 81131. (1) A municipality may pass an ordinance allowing a permanently disabled person to operate an ORV in that municipality.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), a county board of commissioners may adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of ORVs on 1 or more county roads located within the county. Not less than 45 days before a public hearing on the ordinance, the county clerk shall send notice of the public hearing, by certified mail, to the county road commission, to the legislative body of each township and municipality located within the county, to the state transportation department if the road intersects a highway, and, if state forestland is located within the county, to the department. If the county is a southern county, before adopting an ordinance under this subsection, the county board of commissioners shall consult with the board of county road commissioners.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), the legislative body of a township or municipality may adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of ORVs on 1 or more county roads located within the township or municipality, respectively. Not less than 28 days before a public hearing on the ordinance, the clerk of the township or municipality shall send notice of the public hearing, by certified mail, to the county road commission, to the county board of commissioners, to the legislative body of every other township and municipality located within the county, to the state transportation department if the road intersects a highway, and, if state forestland is located within the township or municipality, to the department. If the township or municipality is located in a southern county, before adopting an ordinance under this subsection, the legislative body of the township or municipality shall consult with the board of county road commissioners. This subsection does not apply to a township or municipality until 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that first authorized the county in which that township or municipality is located to adopt an ordinance under subsection (2).

(4) The board of county road commissioners may close a county road to the operation of ORVs otherwise authorized pursuant to subsection (2) or (3). A county road commission shall not under this subsection close more than 30% of the linear miles of county roads located within the county to the operation of ORVs otherwise authorized pursuant to subsection (2) or (3). The legislative body of a township or municipality may adopt an ordinance to close a county road located in the township or municipality to the operation of ORVs otherwise authorized pursuant to subsection (2). The legislative body of a village may adopt an ordinance to close a county road located in the village to the operation of ORVs otherwise authorized by the township pursuant to subsection (3). A county road may be closed to the operation of ORVs under this subsection only to protect the environment or if the operation of ORVs poses a particular and demonstrable threat to public safety.

(5) The legislative body of a municipality may adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of ORVs on 1 or more streets within the municipality.

(6) The legislative body of a local unit of government may request the state transportation department to authorize the local unit of government to adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of ORVs on a highway, other than an interstate highway, located within the local unit of government. The request shall describe how the authorization would meet the requirements of subsection (7). The state transportation department shall solicit comment on the request from the department, ORV clubs, and local units of government where the highway is located. The state transportation department shall consider comments received on the request before making a decision on the request. The state transportation department shall grant the request in whole or in part or deny the request not more than 60 days after the request is received. If the state transportation department grants a request in whole or in part under this subsection, the local unit of government that submitted the request may adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of ORVs on the highway that was the subject of the request. A county may submit a request for authorization under this subsection on behalf of 1 or more local units of government located within that county if requested by those local units of government. Before January 1, 2015, the state transportation department may authorize the operation of ORVs on a highway as provided in this subsection and subsection (7) on the department's initiative and without having received a request from a local unit of government.

(7) The state transportation department shall authorize operation of an ORV under subsection (6) only on a

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highway that is not an interstate highway and that meets 1 or more of the following requirements:

(a) Serves as a connector between ORV areas, routes, or trails designated by the department or an ORV user group.

(b) Provides access to tourist attractions, food service establishments, fuel, motels, or other services.

(c) Serves as a connector between 2 segments of the same county road that run along discontinuous town lines and on which ORV use is authorized pursuant to subsection (2) or (3).

(d) Includes a bridge or culvert that allows an ORV to cross a river, stream, wetland, or gully that is not crossed by a street or county road on which ORVs are authorized to operate under subsection (2), (3), or (5).

(8) The state transportation department may close a highway to the operation of ORVs otherwise authorized pursuant to subsection (6) after written notice to the clerk of each local unit of government where the highway is located and the senate and house committees with primary responsibility for natural resources, recreation, and transportation. The notice shall be in writing and sent by first-class United States mail or personally delivered not less than 30 days before the adoption of the rule or order closing the highway. The notice shall set forth specific reasons for the closure.

(9) Subject to subsection (4), if a local unit of government adopts an ordinance pursuant to subsection (2), (3), or (5), a person may operate an ORV with the flow of traffic on the far right of the maintained portion of the street or county road covered by the ordinance. If the operation of ORVs on a highway is authorized pursuant to subsection (6), a person may operate an ORV with the flow of traffic as follows:

(a) On the right shoulder of the highway.

(b) If there is not a right shoulder or the right shoulder is not of adequate width, on the right unmaintained portion of the highway.

(c) On the far right of the right traffic lane of the highway, if necessary to cross a bridge or culvert and if the operator brings the ORV to a complete stop before entering and yields the right-of-way to an approaching vehicle on that traffic lane.

(10) A person shall not operate an ORV as authorized pursuant to subsection (2), (3), (5), or (6) at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour or a lower posted ORV speed limit or in a manner that interferes with traffic on the street, county road, or highway.

(11) Unless the person possesses a license as defined in section 25 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.25, a person shall not operate an ORV as authorized pursuant to subsection (2), (3), (5), or (6) if the ORV is registered as a motor vehicle under chapter II of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.201 to 257.259, and either is more than 65 inches wide or has 3 wheels. ORVs operated as authorized pursuant to subsection (2), (3), (5), or (6) shall travel single file, except that an ORV may travel abreast of another ORV when it is overtaking and passing, or being overtaken and passed by, another ORV.

(12) A person shall not operate an ORV as authorized pursuant to this section without displaying a lighted headlight and lighted taillight.

(13) A person under 18 years of age shall not operate an ORV as authorized pursuant to this section unless the person is in possession of a valid driver license or under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian and the person has in his or her immediate possession an ORV safety certificate issued pursuant to this part or a comparable ORV safety certificate issued under the authority of another state or a province of Canada. A person under 12 years of age shall not operate an ORV as authorized pursuant to this section. The requirements of this subsection are in addition to any applicable requirements of section 81129.

(14) A township that has authorized the operation of ORVs on a county road under subsection (3) does not have a duty to maintain the maintained portion or unmaintained portion of the county road in a condition reasonably safe and convenient for the operation of ORVs. This state does not have a duty to maintain a highway in reasonable repair so that it is reasonably safe and convenient for the operation of ORVs except ORVs registered and operated as motor vehicles as provided in the code. A board of county road commissioners, a county board of commissioners, or a municipality does not have a duty to maintain the maintained portion or unmaintained portion of a county road or street under its jurisdiction in a condition reasonably safe and convenient for the operation of ORVs, except the following ORVs:

(a) ORVs registered and operated as motor vehicles as provided in the code.

(b) ORVs operated as authorized pursuant to subsection (1).

(15) Subject to section 5 of 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1405, this state, a board of county road commissioners, a county board of commissioners, and a local unit of government are immune from tort liability for injuries or damages sustained by any person arising in any way out of the operation or use, on the maintained portion or unmaintained portion of a highway, road, or street, of an ORV that is not registered under the code or that is registered under the code but is operated as authorized pursuant to subsection (2), (3), (5), or (6). The immunity provided by this subsection does not apply to actions of an employee of this state, an employee of a board of county road commissioners, an employee of a county board of commissioners, or

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an employee of a local unit of government that constitute gross negligence. As used in this subsection, "gross negligence" means conduct so reckless as to demonstrate a substantial lack of concern for whether an injury results.

(16) In a court action in this state, if competent evidence demonstrates that a vehicle that is permitted to operate on a road, street, or highway pursuant to the code was in a collision on a roadway with an ORV that is not registered under the code, the operator of the ORV shall be considered prima facie negligent.

(17) A violation of an ordinance described in this section is a municipal civil infraction. The ordinance may provide for a fine of not more than $500.00 for a violation of the ordinance. In addition, the court shall order the defendant to pay the cost of repairing any damage to the environment, a street, county road, or highway, or public property as a result of the violation.

(18) The treasurer of the local unit of government shall deposit fines collected by that local unit of government under section 8379 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.8379, and subsection (17) and damages collected under subsection (17) into a fund to be designated as the "ORV fund". The legislative body of the local unit of government shall appropriate revenue in the ORV fund as follows:

(a) Fifty percent to the county sheriff or police department responsible for law enforcement in the local unit of government for ORV enforcement and training.

(b) Fifty percent to the board of county road commissioners or, in the case of a city or village, to the department responsible for street maintenance in the city or village. However, if a fine was collected for a violation of an ordinance adopted under subsection (6), 50% of the fine revenue shall be appropriated to the state transportation department. Revenue appropriated under this subdivision shall be used for repairing damage to streets, county roads, or highways and the environment that may have been caused by ORVs and for posting signs indicating ORV speed limits or indicating whether streets, county roads, or highways are open or closed to the operation of ORVs under this section.

(19) A person who violates a rule promulgated or order issued under subsection (6) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00. In addition, the court shall order the defendant to pay the cost of repairing any damage to the environment, a highway, or public property as a result of the violation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 240, Imd. Eff. July 17, 2008;—Am. 2009, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Dec. 15, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 107, Imd. Eff. July 19, 2011;—Am. 2013, Act 117, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 118, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81132 Rules; ordinance enacted under authority of rule; enforcement.

Sec. 81132. (1) The department may promulgate rules governing the operation and conduct of ORVs, vehicle speed limits, use of vehicles by day and hour, and the establishment and designation of areas within which vehicles may be used in a manner compatible with, and that will best protect, the public safety and general welfare on the frozen surface of public waters, and that will preserve the submerged marshlands adjacent to the borders of the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, and the navigable inland waters of the state.

(2) The department, on its own initiative or on receipt of a certified resolution of the governing body of a local unit of government may initiate investigations into the need for special rules governing the operation of vehicles on the frozen surface of public waters and the submerged marshlands adjacent to the borders of the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, and the navigable inland waters of the state. If controls for that activity are considered necessary, or when the amendment or rescission of an existing rule is required, a rule must be prepared. Notice of a public hearing must be made not less than 10 days prior to the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation in the area within which the rules are to be imposed, amended, or rescinded.

(3) The proposed rule must then be submitted to the governing body of the political subdivision in which the affected frozen waters or marshes lie. Within 30 calendar days, the governing body shall inform the department that it approves or disapproves of the proposed rule. If the governing body disapproves the proposed rule, further action must not be taken. If the governing body approves the proposed rule, a local ordinance may be enacted which must be identical to the rule, and which ordinance must not be effective until the rule is in effect in accordance with law. The department shall then promulgate the rule.

(4) When an ordinance is enacted under the authority of a rule, and that rule is subsequently suspended by the legislature, or amended or rescinded by the department, the ordinance must also be suspended, amended, or repealed.

(5) A local peace officer may enforce an ordinance enacted pursuant to this section, and a state peace

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officer shall enforce a rule promulgated under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 210, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81133 Operation of ORV; prohibited acts; crash helmet and protective eyewear required; exception; assumption of risk.

Sec. 81133. (1) An individual shall not operate an ORV:

(a) At a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper, or in a careless manner, having due regard for conditions then existing.

(b) During the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise without displaying a lighted headlight and lighted taillight. The requirements of this subdivision are in addition to any applicable requirements of section 81131(12).

(c) Unless the vehicle is equipped with a braking system that may be operated by hand or foot, capable of producing deceleration at 14 feet per second on level ground at a speed of 20 miles per hour; a brake light, brighter than the taillight, visible from behind the vehicle when the brake is activated, if the vehicle is operated during the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise; and a throttle so designed that when the pressure used to advance the throttle is removed, the engine speed will immediately and automatically return to idle.

(d) In a state game area or state park or recreation area, except on roads, trails, or areas designated for this purpose, notwithstanding section 72118; on other state-owned lands under the control of the department where the operation would be in violation of rules promulgated by the department; in a forest nursery or planting area; on public lands posted or reasonably identifiable as an area of forest reproduction, and when growing stock may be damaged; in a dedicated natural area of the department; or in any area in such a manner as to create an erosive condition, or to injure, damage, or destroy trees or growing crops. However, the department may permit an owner and guests of the owner to use an ORV within the boundaries of a state forest in order to access the owner's property.

(e) On the frozen surface of public waters within 100 feet of an individual not in or upon a vehicle, or within 100 feet of a fishing shanty or shelter or an area that is cleared of snow for skating purposes, except at the minimum speed required to maintain controlled forward movement of the vehicle, or as may be authorized by permit in special events.

(f) Unless the vehicle is equipped with a spark arrester type United States Forest Service approved muffler, in good working order and in constant operation. Exhaust noise emission shall not exceed 86 Db(A) or 82 Db(A) on a vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1986, when the vehicle is under full throttle, traveling in second gear, and measured 50 feet at right angles from the vehicle path with a sound level meter that meets the requirement of ANSI S1.4 1983, using procedure and ancillary equipment therein described; or 99 Db(A) or 94 Db(A) on a vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1986, or that level comparable to the current sound level as provided for by the United States Environmental Protection Agency when tested according to the provisions of the current SAE J1287, June 86 test procedure for exhaust levels of stationary motorcycles, using sound level meters and ancillary equipment therein described. A vehicle subject to this part, manufactured or assembled after December 31, 1972 and used, sold, or offered for sale in this state, shall conform to the noise emission levels established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under the noise control act of 1972, 42 USC 4901 to 4918.

(g) Within 100 feet of a dwelling at a speed greater than the minimum required to maintain controlled forward movement of the vehicle, except under any of the following circumstances:

(*i*) On property owned by or under the operator's control or on which the operator is an invited guest.

(*ii*) On a forest road or forest trail if the forest road or forest trail is maintained by or under the jurisdiction of the department.

(*iii*) On a street, county road, or highway on which ORV use is authorized under section 81131(2), (3), (5), or (6).

(h) In or upon the lands of another without the written consent of the owner, the owner's agent, or a lessee, when required by part 731. The operator of the vehicle is liable for damage to private property caused by operation of the vehicle, including, but not limited to, damage to trees, shrubs, or growing crops, injury to other living creatures, or erosive or other ecological damage. The owner of the private property may recover from the individual responsible nominal damages of not less than the amount of damage or injury. Failure to

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post private property or fence or otherwise enclose in a manner to exclude intruders or of the private property owner or other authorized person to personally communicate against trespass does not imply consent to ORV use.

(i) In an area on which public hunting is permitted during the regular November firearm deer season, from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., except as follows:

(*i*) During an emergency.

(*ii*) For law enforcement purposes.

(*iii*) To go to and from a permanent residence or a hunting camp otherwise inaccessible by a conventional wheeled vehicle.

(*iv*) To remove legally harvested deer, bear, or elk from public land. An individual shall operate an ORV under this subparagraph at a speed not exceeding 5 miles per hour, using the most direct route that complies with subdivision (n).

(*v*) To conduct necessary work functions involving land and timber survey, communication and transmission line patrol, or timber harvest operations.

(*vi*) On property owned or under control of the operator or on which the operator is an invited guest.

(*vii*) While operating a vehicle registered under the code on a private road capable of sustaining automobile traffic or a street, county road, or highway.

(*viii*) If the individual holds a valid permit to hunt from a standing vehicle issued under part 401 or is a person with a disability using an ORV to access public lands for purposes of hunting or fishing through use of a designated trail or forest road. An individual holding a valid permit to hunt from a standing vehicle issued under part 401, or a person with a disability using an ORV to access public lands for purposes of hunting or fishing, may display a flag, the color of which the department shall determine, to identify himself or herself as a person with a disability or an individual holding a permit to hunt from a standing vehicle under part 401.

(j) Except as otherwise provided in section 40111, while transporting on the vehicle a bow unless unstrung or encased, or a firearm unless unloaded and securely encased, or equipped with and made inoperative by a manufactured keylocked trigger housing mechanism.

(k) On or across a cemetery or burial ground, or land used as an airport.

(*l*) Within 100 feet of a slide, ski, or skating area, unless the vehicle is being used for the purpose of servicing the area or is being operated pursuant to section 81131(2), (3), (5), or (6).

(m) On an operating or nonabandoned railroad or railroad right-of-way, or public utility right-of-way, other than for the purpose of crossing at a clearly established site intended for vehicular traffic, except railroad, public utility, or law enforcement personnel while in performance of their duties, and except if the right-of-way is designated as provided for in section 81127.

(n) In or upon the waters of any stream, river, bog, wetland, swamp, marsh, or quagmire except over a bridge, culvert, or similar structure.

(o) To hunt, pursue, worry, kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, worry, or kill an animal, whether wild or domesticated.

(p) In a manner so as to leave behind litter or other debris.

(q) On public land, in a manner contrary to operating regulations.

(r) While transporting or possessing, in or on the vehicle, alcoholic liquor in a container that is open or uncapped or upon which the seal is broken, except under either of the following circumstances:

(*i*) The container is in a trunk or compartment separate from the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

(*ii*) If the vehicle does not have a trunk or compartment separate from the passenger compartment, the container is encased or enclosed.

(s) While transporting any passenger in or upon an ORV unless the manufacturing standards for the vehicle make provisions for transporting passengers.

(t) On adjacent private land, in an area zoned residential, within 300 feet of a dwelling at a speed greater than the minimum required to maintain controlled forward movement of the vehicle except under any of the following circumstances:

(*i*) On a forest road or forest trail if the forest road or forest trail is maintained by or under the jurisdiction of the department.

(*ii*) On a street, county road, or highway on which ORV use is authorized under section 81131(2), (3), (5), or (6).

(u) On a forest trail if the ORV is greater than 50 inches in width.

(2) An individual who is operating or is a passenger on an ORV shall wear a crash helmet and protective eyewear that are approved by the United States Department of Transportation. This subsection does not apply to any of the following:

(a) An individual who owns the property on which the ORV is operating, is a family member of the owner

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and resides at that property, or is an invited guest of an individual who owns the property. An exception under this subdivision does not apply to any of the following:

(*i*) An individual less than 16 years of age.

(*ii*) An individual 16 or 17 years of age, unless the individual has consent from his or her parent or guardian to ride without a crash helmet.

(*iii*) An individual participating in an organized ORV riding or racing event if an individual who owns the property receives consideration for use of the property for operating ORVs.

(b) An individual wearing a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt if the ORV is equipped with a roof that meets or exceeds United States Department of Transportation standards for a crash helmet.

(c) An ORV operated on a state-licensed game bird hunting preserve at a speed of not greater than 10 miles per hour.

(d) An ORV operated for the purpose of towing a fishing shanty or supply shed over the frozen surface of public waters at the minimum speed required to maintain controlled forward movement of the vehicle or while traveling to and from a fishing shanty at a speed of not greater than 10 miles per hour. An owner of private property is not liable for personal injuries, including death, to an individual who operates an ORV as described in this subdivision without wearing a helmet while traveling on the owner's property.

(3) Each person who participates in the sport of ORV riding accepts the risks associated with that sport insofar as the dangers are inherent. Those risks include, but are not limited to, injuries to persons or property that can result from variations in terrain; defects in traffic lanes; surface or subsurface snow or ice conditions; bare spots; rocks, trees, and other forms of natural growth or debris; and collisions with fill material, decks, bridges, signs, fences, trail maintenance equipment, or other ORVs. Those risks do not include injuries to persons or property that result from the use of an ORV by another person in a careless or negligent manner likely to endanger person or property. When an ORV is operated in the vicinity of a railroad right-of-way, each person who participates in the sport of ORV riding additionally assumes risks including, but not limited to, entanglement with railroad tracks, switches, and ties and collisions with trains and train-related equipment and facilities.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 86, Imd. Eff. May 13, 1998;—Am. 2008, Act 240, Imd. Eff. July 17, 2008;—Am. 2008, Act 365, Imd. Eff. Dec. 23, 2008;—Am. 2012, Act 246, Imd. Eff. July 2, 2012;—Am. 2012, Act 340, Imd. Eff. Oct. 16, 2012;—Am. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013;—Am. 2013, Act 249, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 147, Imd. Eff. June 4, 2014;—Am. 2016, Act 288, Imd. Eff. Sept. 28, 2016;—Am. 2018, Act 206, Eff. Sept. 18, 2018.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81134 Operation of or authorizing operation of ORV while under influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance prohibited; visible impairment; violation; penalty; "serious impairment of a body function" defined; person less than 21 years of age; person less than 16 years of age occupying ORV; penalties; costs; screening, assessment, and rehabilitative services; duty of court before accepting guilty plea; record.

Sec. 81134. (1) A person shall not operate an ORV if any of the following apply:

(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, as defined by section 7104 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7104, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

(b) The person has an alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person has in his or her body any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214.

(2) The owner or person in charge or in control of an ORV shall not authorize or knowingly permit the ORV to be operated by a person if any of the following apply:

(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

(b) The person has an alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person's ability to operate an ORV is visibly impaired due to the consumption of an alcoholic

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liquor, a controlled substance, or a combination of an alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

(3) A person shall not operate an ORV if, due to the consumption of alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance, as defined by section 7104 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7104, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance, the person's ability to operate an ORV is visibly impaired. If a person is charged with violating subsection (1), a finding of guilty is permissible under this subsection.

(4) A person who operates an ORV in violation of subsection (1) or (3) and by the operation of that ORV causes the death of another person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years or a fine of not less than $2,500.00 or more than $10,000.00, or both.

(5) A person who operates an ORV within this state in violation of subsection (1) or (3) and by the operation of that ORV causes a serious impairment of a body function of another person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $5,000.00, or both. As used in this subsection, "serious impairment of a body function" means that term as defined in section 58c of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.58c.

(6) A person who is less than 21 years of age, whether licensed or not, shall not operate an ORV if the person has any bodily alcohol content. As used in this subsection, "any bodily alcohol content" means either of the following:

(a) An alcohol content of 0.02 grams or more but less than 0.08 grams per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine, or, beginning October 1, 2018, an alcohol content of 0.02 grams or more but less than 0.10 grams per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(b) Any presence of alcohol within a person's body resulting from the consumption of alcoholic liquor, other than consumption of alcoholic liquor as a part of a generally recognized religious service or ceremony.

(7) A person shall not operate an ORV in violation of subsection (1), (3), (4), (5), or (6) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the ORV.

(8) If a person is convicted of violating subsection (1)(a) or (b), all of the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 360 hours.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*iii*) A fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person is guilty of a felony and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00 and to either of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years.

(*ii*) Probation with imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days or more than 1 year and community service for not less than 60 days or more than 180 days. Not less than 48 hours of the imprisonment imposed under this subparagraph shall be served consecutively.

(d) A term of imprisonment imposed under subdivision (b) or (c) shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(9) A person who is convicted of violating subsection (2) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both.

(10) If a person is convicted of violating subsection (3), all of the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 45 days.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*iii*) A fine of not more than $300.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of 1 prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00, and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than

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90 days.

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for a period of not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(11) If a person is convicted of violating subsection (6), all of the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or both of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 360 hours.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $250.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of 1 or more prior convictions, the person may be sentenced to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 60 days.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $500.00.

(*iii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(12) A person who violates subsection (7) is guilty of a crime as follows:

(a) A person who operates an ORV in violation of subsection (1), (3), (4), or (5) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the ORV is guilty of a crime as follows:

(*i*) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a person who violates this subdivision is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(A) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year. Not less than 48 hours of this term of imprisonment shall be served consecutively. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(B) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(*ii*) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction or after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, a person who violates this subdivision is guilty of a felony and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00 and to either of the following:

(A) Imprisonment under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years.

(B) Probation with imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days or more than 1 year and community service for not less than 60 days or more than 180 days. Not less than 48 hours of this term of imprisonment shall be served consecutively. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(b) A person who operates an ORV in violation of subsection (6) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the ORV is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(*i*) Except as provided in subparagraph (*ii*), a person who violates this subdivision may be sentenced to 1 or more of the following:

(A) Community service for not more than 60 days.

(B) A fine of not more than $500.00.

(C) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*ii*) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction or after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, a person who violates this subdivision shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(A) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(B) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(13) For a conviction under subsection (4) or (5), the court shall order, without an expiration date, that the person not operate an ORV.

(14) As part of the sentence for a violation of subsection (1) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to subsection (1), the court shall do the following:

(a) If the court finds that the person has no prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the

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person not operate an ORV for a period of not less than 6 months or more than 2 years.

(b) If the court finds that the person has 1 or more prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate an ORV for a period of not less than 1 year or more than 2 years.

(c) If the court finds that the person has 2 or more prior convictions within a period of 10 years, the court shall order that the person not operate an ORV for a period of not less than 1 year or more than 2 years.

(15) As part of the sentence for a violation of subsection (3) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to subsection (3), the court shall do the following:

(a) If the court finds that the person has no prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate an ORV for a period of not less than 90 days or more than 1 year.

(b) If the court finds that the person has 1 or more prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate an ORV for a period of not less than 6 months or more than 18 months.

(c) If the court finds that the person has 2 or more prior convictions within a period of 10 years, the court shall order that the person not operate an ORV for a period of not less than 1 year or more than 2 years.

(16) In addition to imposing the sanctions prescribed under this section, the court may order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution under chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.1 to 769.36.

(17) A person sentenced to perform community service under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

(18) Before imposing sentence for a violation of subsection (1), (3), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to subsection (1), (3), or (6), the court shall order the person to undergo screening and assessment by a person or agency designated by the office of substance abuse services, to determine whether the person is likely to benefit from rehabilitative services, including alcohol or drug education and alcohol or drug treatment programs. As part of the sentence, the court may order the person to participate in and successfully complete 1 or more appropriate rehabilitative programs. The person shall pay for the costs of the screening, assessment, and rehabilitative services.

(19) Before accepting a plea of guilty under this section, the court shall advise the accused of the statutory consequences possible as the result of a plea of guilty in respect to suspension of the person's right to operate an ORV and the penalty imposed for violation of this section.

(20) Each municipal judge and each clerk of a court of record shall keep a full record of every case in which a person is charged with a violation of this section. The municipal judge or clerk of the court of record shall prepare and immediately forward to the secretary of state an abstract of the court of record for each case charging a violation of this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 1998, Act 355, Eff. Oct. 1, 1999;—Am. 1999, Act 22, Eff. Oct. 1, 2000;—Am. 2001, Act 12, Eff. July 1, 2001;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81135 Repealed. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to operation of ORV by visibly impaired person.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81136 Chemical analysis of operator's blood, urine, or breath; admissibility; request for results of test; taking sample of urine or breath; withdrawing blood; liability; administration of tests by person of arrested person's own choosing; refusal to take test; other evidence; jury instruction; admissibility of blood withdrawn after accident; sample of decedent's blood.

Sec. 81136. (1) In a criminal prosecution for violating section 81134 or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 81134(1), (3), or (6) or in a criminal prosecution for negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of an ORV while the operator is alleged to have been impaired by or under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance or a combination of alcoholic

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liquor and a controlled substance, or to have had a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine, or to have had in his or her body any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214, the amount of alcohol or controlled substance in the operator's blood at the time alleged as shown by chemical analysis of the operator's blood, urine, or breath is admissible into evidence.

(2) If a chemical test of an operator's blood, urine, or breath is given, the results of the test shall be made available to the person charged with an offense enumerated in subsection (1) or the person's attorney upon written request to the prosecution, with a copy of the request filed with the court. The prosecution shall furnish the report at least 2 days before the day of the trial and the results shall be offered as evidence by the prosecution in a criminal proceeding. Failure to fully comply with the request shall bar the admission of the results into evidence by the prosecution.

(3) A sample or specimen of urine or breath shall be taken and collected in a reasonable manner. Only a licensed physician, or a licensed nurse or medical technician under the direction of a licensed physician and qualified to withdraw blood acting in a medical environment, at the request of a peace officer, may withdraw blood for the purpose of determining the alcoholic content of the blood under this part. Liability for a crime or civil damages predicated on the act of withdrawing blood and related procedures shall not attach to a qualified person who withdraws blood or assists in the withdrawal in accordance with this part unless the withdrawal is performed in a negligent manner.

(4) A person arrested for a crime enumerated in subsection (1) who takes a chemical test administered at the request of a peace officer as provided in this part shall be given a reasonable opportunity to have a person of his or her own choosing administer 1 of the chemical tests described in this section within a reasonable time after his or her detention, and the results of the test shall be admissible and shall be considered with other competent evidence in determining the defendant's innocence or guilt of a crime enumerated in subsection (1). If the person arrested is administered a chemical test by a person of his or her own choosing, the person arrested shall be responsible for obtaining a chemical analysis of the test sample. The person shall be informed that he or she has the right to demand that a person of his or her choosing administer 1 of the chemical tests described in this section, that the results of the test shall be admissible and shall be considered with other competent evidence in determining the innocence or guilt of the defendant, and that the person arrested shall be responsible for obtaining a chemical analysis of the test sample.

(5) A person arrested shall be advised that if the person refuses the request of a peace officer to take a test described in this section, a test shall not be given without a court order. The person arrested shall also be advised that the person's refusal of the request of a peace officer to take a test described in this section shall result in the suspension of the person's right to operate an ORV.

(6) This section shall not be construed as limiting the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question of whether or not the defendant was impaired by or under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance, or whether the person had a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine or had in his or her body any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214.

(7) If a jury instruction regarding a defendant's refusal to submit to a chemical test under this section is requested by the prosecution or the defendant, the jury instruction shall be given as follows:

"Evidence was admitted in this case which, if believed by the jury, could prove that the defendant had exercised his or her right to refuse a chemical test. You are instructed that such a refusal is within the statutory rights of the defendant and is not evidence of the defendant's guilt. You are not to consider such a refusal in determining the guilt or innocence of the defendant.".

(8) If after an accident the operator of an ORV involved in the accident is transported to a medical facility and a sample of the operator's blood is withdrawn at that time for the purpose of medical treatment, the results of a chemical analysis of that sample shall be admissible in a criminal prosecution for a crime described in subsection (1) to show the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in the person's blood at the time alleged, regardless of whether the person had been offered or had refused a chemical test. The medical facility or person performing the chemical analysis shall disclose the results of the analysis to a prosecuting attorney who requests the results for use in a criminal prosecution as provided in this subsection. A medical facility or person disclosing information in compliance with this subsection shall not be civilly or criminally liable for making the disclosure.

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(9) If after an accident the operator of an ORV involved in the accident is deceased, a sample of the decedent's blood shall be withdrawn in a manner directed by the medical examiner for the purpose of determining blood alcohol content or presence of a controlled substance, or both. The medical examiner shall give the results of the chemical analysis to the law enforcement agency investigating the accident, and that agency shall forward the results to the department of state police.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81137 Implied consent to chemical tests of blood, breath, or urine; exception.

Sec. 81137. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person who operates an ORV is considered to have given consent to chemical tests of his or her blood, breath, or urine for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance or both in his or her blood, and may be requested by a peace officer to submit to chemical tests of his or her blood, breath, or urine for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance or both in his or her blood if:

(a) The person is arrested for a violation of section 81134(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 81134(1), (3), or (6).

(b) The person is arrested for negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of an ORV, and the peace officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating the ORV in violation of section 81134.

(2) A person who is afflicted with hemophilia, diabetes, or a condition requiring the use of an anticoagulant under the direction of a physician shall not be considered to have given consent to the withdrawal of blood.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81138 Chemical tests; advising of right to refuse; court order; report.

Sec. 81138. (1) A person who is requested pursuant to section 81137(1) to take a chemical test shall be advised of the right to refuse to submit to chemical tests; and if the person refuses the request of a peace officer to submit to chemical tests, a test shall not be given without a court order.

(2) If a person refuses the request of a peace officer under section 81137(1) to submit to a chemical test, a written report shall be forwarded to the secretary of state by the peace officer. The report shall state that the officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person committed a violation described in section 81137(1) and that the person refused to submit to a chemical test upon the request of the peace officer and was advised of the consequences of the refusal. The form of the report shall be prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81139 Administrative hearing; notice.

Sec. 81139. (1) Upon receipt of a report made pursuant to section 81138, the secretary of state shall immediately notify the person in a writing, mailed to the person's last known address, that the report has been received and that within 14 days after the date of the notice the person may request an administrative hearing as provided in section 81140.

(2) The notice shall specifically state that failure to request a hearing within 14 days shall result in the suspension of the person's right to operate an ORV and that the person is not required to retain counsel for the hearing, although counsel will be permitted to represent the person at the hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81140 Suspension of right to operate ORV; appointment of hearing officer; notice; powers of hearing officer; scope and conduct of hearing; final decision or order; petition; review; order; record of proceedings.

Sec. 81140. (1) If a person who refuses to submit to a chemical test under section 81138 does not request an administrative hearing within 14 days after the date of notice under section 81139, the secretary of state shall suspend the person's right to operate an ORV for a period of 1 year, or for a second or subsequent refusal within a period of 7 years, for 2 years.

(2) If an administrative hearing is requested, the secretary of state shall appoint a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. Not less than 10 days' notice of the hearing shall be provided by mail to the person submitting the request, to the peace officer who filed the report under section 81138, and, if a prosecuting attorney requests receipt of the notice, to the prosecuting attorney of the county where the arrest was made. The hearing officer may administer oaths and issue subpoenas for the attendance of necessary witnesses, and may grant a reasonable request for an adjournment. The hearing shall cover only the following issues:

(a) Whether the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person committed a crime described in section 81137(1).

(b) Whether the person was placed under arrest for a crime described in section 81137(1).

(c) Whether the person reasonably refused to submit to a chemical test upon request of the officer.

(d) Whether the person was advised of his or her rights under section 81136.

(3) An administrative hearing conducted under this section is not a contested case for the purposes of chapter 4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.271 to 24.287. The hearing shall be conducted in an impartial manner. A final decision or order of a hearing officer shall be made in writing or stated in the record, and shall include findings of fact based exclusively on the evidence presented and matters officially noticed, and shall specify any sanction to be imposed against the person involved. A copy of the final decision or order shall be delivered or mailed immediately to the person and the peace officer.

(4) After the administrative hearing, if the person is found to have unreasonably refused to submit to a chemical test, the secretary of state shall suspend the person's right to operate an ORV for a period of 1 year, or for a second or subsequent refusal within a period of 7 years, for 2 years. Within 60 days after the final decision or order is issued by the hearing officer, the person may file a petition in the circuit court of the county in which the arrest was made to review the suspension. If after the hearing the person who requested the hearing prevails, the peace officer who filed the report under section 81138 may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, file a petition in the circuit court of the county in which the arrest was made to review the determination of the hearing officer as provided in section 81140b. The scope of the court's review shall be limited to the issues provided in section 106 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.306.

(5) The circuit court shall enter an order setting the cause for hearing for a date certain that is not more than 60 days after the date of the order. The order, a copy of the petition, which shall include the person's full name, current address, birth date, and driver's license number, and all supporting affidavits shall be served on the secretary of state's office in Lansing not less than 50 days before the date set for the hearing. The department shall cause a record to be made of the proceedings held under subsection (2). The record shall be prepared and transcribed in accordance with section 86 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.286. Upon notification of the filing of a petition for judicial review, the department shall transmit to the court in which the petition was filed, not less than 10 days before the matter is set for review, the original or a certified copy of the official record of the proceedings.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81140a Suspension or revocation of operator's or chauffeur's license; operation of ORV prohibited; violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

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Sec. 81140a. (1) If the operator's or chauffeur's license of a person who is a resident of this state is suspended or revoked by the secretary of state under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or if the driver license of a person who is a nonresident is suspended or revoked under the law of the state in which he or she resides, that person shall not operate an ORV under this part for the same period.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(a) For a first conviction, imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

(b) For a second or subsequent conviction, imprisonment for not more than 180 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1999, Act 43, Eff. Oct. 1, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81140b Final determination of secretary of state; petition for review in circuit court; filing; order setting cause for hearing; service on secretary of state; review of the record.

Sec. 81140b. (1) A person who is aggrieved by a final determination of the secretary of state under this part may petition for a review of the determination in the circuit court in the county where the person was arrested. The petition shall be filed within 63 days after the determination is made except that, for good cause shown, the court may allow the petition to be filed within 182 days after the determination is made. As provided in section 81140, a peace officer who is aggrieved by a determination of a hearing officer in favor of a person who requested a hearing under section 81140 may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, petition for review of the determination in the circuit court in the county where the arrest was made. The petition shall be filed within 63 days after the determination is made except that, for good cause shown, the court may allow the petition to be filed within 182 days after the determination is made.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the circuit court shall enter an order setting the cause for hearing for a day certain that is not more than 63 days after the date of the order. The order, a copy of the petition that includes the person's full name, current address, birth date, and driver license number, and all supporting affidavits shall be served on the secretary of state's office in Lansing not less than 20 days before the date set for the hearing. If the person is seeking a review of the record prepared under section 81140, the service upon the secretary of state shall be made not less than 50 days before the date set for the hearing.

(3) The court may take testimony and examine all the facts and circumstances incident to the order that the person not operate an ORV in this state. The court may affirm, modify, or set aside the order. The order of the court shall be duly entered, and the petitioner shall file a certified copy of the order with the secretary of state's office in Lansing within 7 days after entry of the order.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this section, in reviewing a determination under section 81140, the court shall confine its consideration to a review of the record prepared under section 81140 to determine whether the hearing officer properly determined the issues enumerated in section 81140.

(5) In reviewing a determination resulting in issuance of an order under section 81134, the court shall confine its consideration to a review of the record prepared under section 81140. The court shall set aside the determination of the secretary of state only if substantial rights of the petitioner have been prejudiced because the determination is any of the following:

(a) In violation of the constitution of the United States, the state constitution of 1963, or a statute.

(b) In excess of the secretary of state's statutory authority or jurisdiction.

(c) Made upon unlawful procedure resulting in material prejudice to the petitioner.

(d) Not supported by competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record.

(e) Arbitrary, capricious, or clearly an abuse or unwarranted exercise of discretion.

(f) Affected by other substantial and material error of law.

History: Add. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81141 Preliminary chemical breath analysis; arrest; admissibility of results; requirements; civil infraction; fine.

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Sec. 81141. (1) A peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that a person was operating an ORV and that the person by the consumption of alcoholic liquor may have affected his or her ability to operate the ORV, may require the person to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis.

(2) A peace officer may arrest a person based in whole or in part upon the results of a preliminary chemical breath analysis.

(3) The results of a preliminary chemical breath analysis shall be admissible in a criminal prosecution for a crime enumerated in section 81136(1) or in an administrative hearing held under section 81140, solely to assist the court or hearing officer in determining a challenge to the validity of an arrest. This subsection does not limit the introduction of other competent evidence offered to establish the validity of an arrest.

(4) A person who submits to a preliminary chemical breath analysis remains subject to the requirements of sections 81136, 81137, 81138, 81139, and 81140 for the purposes of chemical tests described in those sections.

(5) A person who refuses to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis upon a lawful request by a peace officer is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81142 Operation of ORV after right suspended as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 81142. A person whose right to operate an ORV has been suspended pursuant to this part and who operates an ORV is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81143 Accident resulting in injury, death, or property damage; notice; report; report by medical facility; collection and evaluation of information; duties of operator.

Sec. 81143. (1) The operator of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injuries to, or the death of, a person, or resulting in property damage in an estimated amount of $100.00 or more, shall immediately, by the quickest available means of communication, notify a state police officer, or the sheriff's office of the county in which the accident occurred. The police agency receiving the notice shall complete a report of the accident on forms prescribed by the director of the department of state police and forward the report to the department of state police and the department.

(2) A medical facility to which a person injured in an accident involving an ORV is transported shall report the accident to the department of state police.

(3) The department of state police, in cooperation with the department, shall collect and evaluate information concerning accidents involving ORVs.

(4) The operator of a vehicle involved in an accident upon public or private property resulting in injury to or the death of a person shall immediately stop at the scene of an accident and shall render to any person injured in the accident reasonable assistance in securing medical aid or transportation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81144 Arrest without warrant of alleged operator of ORV.

Sec. 81144. If a peace officer has reasonable cause to believe that a person was, at the time of an accident, the operator of an ORV involved in the accident and was operating the ORV while under the influence of an alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance as defined in section 7104 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368,

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MCL 333.7104, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance, or was operating the ORV while his or her ability to operate an ORV was impaired due to the consumption of alcoholic liquor, a controlled substance, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance, the peace officer may arrest the alleged operator of the ORV without a warrant.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 405, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81145 Violations; appearance tickets; prima facie evidence of operation by owner.

Sec. 81145. (1) A peace officer may issue an appearance ticket for a violation of this part under sections 9a to 9g of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 764.9a to 764.9g.

(2) In a proceeding for a violation of this part involving prohibited operation or conduct, the registration number or numbered decal or vehicle identification number displayed on an ORV constitutes prima facie evidence that the owner of the vehicle was the person operating the vehicle at the time of the offense; unless the owner identifies the operator of the vehicle to a peace officer, the vehicle was reported as stolen at the time of the violation, or that the vehicle was stolen or not in use at the time of the violation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 210, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81146 Failure or refusal to obey signal or request to stop; misdemeanor.

Sec. 81146. (1) An operator of an ORV, who is given by hand, voice, emergency light, or siren a visual or audible signal by a peace officer acting in the lawful performance of the peace officer's duty, directing the operator to bring the vehicle to a stop, and who willfully fails to obey the signal by increasing speed, extinguishing lights, or otherwise attempting to flee or elude the officer, is guilty of a misdemeanor. The peace officer giving the signal must be in uniform, and the peace officer's vehicle must be easily identifiable as an official law enforcement vehicle.

(2) The operator of a vehicle on the private premises of another, when visibly hailed by the owner or the owner's authorized agent, shall bring the vehicle to an immediate stop and provide personal identification. Refusal to obey such a request to stop or subsequent escape or attempt to escape is a misdemeanor.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 210, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81147 Violation of part as misdemeanor or civil violation; penalties; restoration; impoundment; disposition of seized ORV or personal property.

Sec. 81147. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, a person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $50.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, for each violation.

(2) A person who violates section 81133(1)(d) by operating an ORV in such a manner as to create an erosive condition or who violates section 81133(1)(h) or (n) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than $250.00 or more than $1,000.00, or both, for each violation.

(3) A person who violates section 81105, 81107, 81115, 81116, 81121, 81130, 81133(1)(b), (c), (e), (f), (g), (i), (k), or (*l*), or 81133(2) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

(4) A person shall not remove, deface, or destroy a sign or marker placed by the department indicating the boundaries of an ORV trail or area or that marks a route.

(5) In addition to the penalties otherwise provided under this part, a court of competent jurisdiction may order a person to restore, as nearly as possible, any land, water, stream bank, streambed, or other natural or geographic formation damaged by the violation of this part to the condition it was in before the violation

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occurred.

(6) The department or any other peace officer may impound the ORV of a person who commits a violation of this part that is punishable as a misdemeanor or who causes damage to the particular area in which the ORV was used in the commission of the violation.

(7) Upon conviction of a person for violation described in subsection (6), a court of competent jurisdiction may order the ORV and any personal property on the ORV seized as a result of the violation returned to the owner or, upon recommendation of the local prosecuting attorney, turned over to the department. An ORV or any other property turned over to the department under this subsection shall be disposed of in the manner provided for condemnation of property in part 16. The proceeds realized by the department under this subsection shall first be used to restore areas damaged by ORV use, and any balance shall be deposited in the off-road vehicle account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 240, Imd. Eff. July 17, 2008;—Am. 2013, Act 119, Imd. Eff. Sept. 25, 2013;—Am. 2014, Act 147, Imd. Eff. June 4, 2014.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81148 Condemnation of ORV unauthorized where trespass is result of emergency.

Sec. 81148. A person shall not have an ORV condemned pursuant to section 81147 if the trespass is the result of an emergency situation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81149 Repealed. 2018, Act 237, Eff. Sept. 25, 2018.

Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to a report on the unrefunded gasoline sales tax money relating to nonhighway use of ORVs.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81150 Uniform interpretation.

Sec. 81150. The department shall disseminate information to its field officers and to state and local law enforcement agencies on a uniform interpretation of this part and each peace officer's duties and responsibilities in enforcing this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2023, Act 210, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

324.81151 Abandonment of ORV prohibited; presumption; violation; civil infraction.

Sec. 81151. (1) A person shall not abandon an ORV in this state.

(2) The last titled owner of the ORV is presumed to be responsible for abandoning the ORV unless the person provides a record of the transfer of the ORV to another person. The record of transfer must be either a photocopy of the reassigned title or a form or document that includes the transferee's name, address, driver license number, and signature, the date of transfer of the ORV, and, if applicable, the sale price.

(3) Sections 80130f(2) to 80130p apply to an ORV in the same manner as those provisions apply to a vessel.

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(4) A person who violates subsection (1) and who fails to redeem the ORV before disposition of the ORV under section 80130k is responsible for a state civil infraction as provided in section 8905a.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Off-Road Vehicle Act

Popular name: ORV

SNOWMOBILES

PART 821
SNOWMOBILES

324.82101 Definitions.

Sec. 82101. As used in this part:

(a) "Alcoholic liquor" means that term as defined in section 1d of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1d.

(b) "Auction" means the sale or offer for sale by bidding of real or personal property at a public or private location.

(c) "Auctioneer" means a person that is engaged in the business of conducting auctions or that offers to conduct an auction for compensation.

(d) "Conviction" means a final conviction, the payment of a fine, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere if accepted by the court, or a finding of guilt or probate court disposition on a violation of this part, regardless of whether the penalty is rebated or suspended.

(e) "Dealer" means any person engaged in the sale, lease, or rental of snowmobiles as a regular business, other than an auctioneer.

(f) "Former section 15a" means section 15a of former 1968 PA 74, as constituted before May 1, 1994.

(g) "Highly restricted personal information" means an individual's photograph or image, Social Security number, digitized signature, and medical and disability information.

(h) "Highway or street" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained if any part of it is open to public use for vehicular travel.

(i) "Historic snowmobile" means a snowmobile that is over 25 years old and that is owned solely as a collector's item and for occasional use and for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and similar uses, including mechanical testing.

(j) "In-kind contributions" means services and goods as approved by the department that are provided by a grant recipient toward completion of a department-approved local snowmobile program under section 82107.

(k) "Law of another state" means a law or ordinance enacted by any of the following:

(*i*) Another state.

(*ii*) A local unit of government in another state.

(*iii*) Canada or a province or territory of Canada.

(*iv*) A local unit of government in a province or territory of Canada.

(*l*) "Operate" means to ride in or on and be in actual physical control of the operation of a snowmobile.

(m) "Operator" means any individual who operates a snowmobile.

(n) "Owner" means any of the following:

(*i*) A person that holds the legal title to a snowmobile.

(*ii*) A vendee or lessee of a snowmobile that is the subject of an agreement for conditional sale or lease with the right of purchase upon performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession vested in the conditional vendee or lessee.

(*iii*) A person renting a snowmobile or having the exclusive use of a snowmobile for more than 30 days.

(o) "Peace officer" means any of the following:

(*i*) A sheriff.

(*ii*) A sheriff's deputy.

(*iii*) A deputy who is authorized by a sheriff to enforce this part and who has satisfactorily completed at least 40 hours of law enforcement training, including training specific to this part.

(*iv*) A village or township marshal.

(*v*) An officer of the police department of any municipality.

(*vi*) An officer of the Michigan state police.

(*vii*) The director and conservation officers employed by the department.

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(*viii*) A law enforcement officer who is licensed or certified under the Michigan commission on law enforcement standards act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.601 to 28.615, and is policing within his or her jurisdiction.

(p) "Personal information" means information that identifies an individual, including an individual's driver identification number, name, address not including zip code, and telephone number, but does not include information on snowmobile operation or equipment-related violations or civil infractions, operator or snowmobile registration status, accidents, or other behaviorally-related information.

(q) "Prior conviction" means a conviction for any of the following, whether under a law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, a law of the United States substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(*i*) A violation or an attempted violation of section 82127(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7), except that only 1 violation or attempted violation of section 82127(6), a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(6), or a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 82127(6), or a law of the United States substantially corresponding to section 82127(6) may be used as a prior conviction other than for enhancement purposes as provided in section 82129a(1)(b).

(*ii*) Negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of a snowmobile or an attempt to commit any of those crimes.

(*iii*) Former section 15a(1), (3), (4), or (5) of 1968 PA 74.

(*iv*) Former section 15a.

(r) "Probate court or family division disposition" means the entry of a probate court order of disposition or family division order of disposition for a child found to be within the provisions of chapter XIIA of the probate code of 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712A.1 to 712A.32.

(s) "Prosecuting attorney", unless the context requires otherwise, means the attorney general, the prosecuting attorney of a county, or the attorney representing a local unit of government.

(t) "Recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount" means the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount of the snowmobile account created in section 82110.

(u) "Right-of-way" means that portion of a highway or street not including the roadway and any shoulder.

(v) "Roadway" means that portion of a highway or street improved, designated, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel. If a highway or street includes 2 or more separate roadways, the term roadway refers to any roadway separately, but not to all of the roadways collectively.

(w) "Shoulder" means that portion of a highway or street on either side of the roadway that is normally snowplowed for the safety and convenience of vehicular traffic.

(x) "Snowmobile" means any motor-driven vehicle that is designed for travel primarily on snow or ice and that utilizes sled-type runners or skis, an endless belt tread, or any combination of these or other similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated, but is not a vehicle that must be registered under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

(y) "Snowmobile account" means the snowmobile account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2025.

(z) "Snowmobile registration fee subaccount" means the snowmobile registration fee subaccount of the snowmobile account created in section 82111.

(aa) "Specialty court program" means a program under any of the following:

(*i*) A drug treatment court, as defined in section 1060 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1060, in which the participant is an adult.

(*ii*) A DWI/sobriety court, as defined in section 1084 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1084.

(*iii*) A hybrid of the programs under subparagraphs (*i*) and (*ii*).

(*iv*) A mental health court as defined in section 1090 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1090.

(*v*) A veterans treatment court, as defined in section 1200 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1200.

(bb) "Zone 1" means all of the Upper Peninsula.

(cc) "Zone 2" means all of that part of the Lower Peninsula north of a line beginning at and drawn from a point on the Michigan-Wisconsin boundary line due west of the westerly terminus of River Road in Muskegon County; thence due east to the westerly terminus of River Road; thence north and east along the center line of the River Road to its intersection with highway M-120; thence northeasterly and easterly along the center line of highway M-120 to the junction of highway M-20; thence easterly along the center line of M-20 to its junction with US-10 at the Midland-Bay County line; thence easterly along the center line of the "business route" of highway US-10 to the intersection of Garfield Road in Bay County; thence north along the center line of Garfield Road to the intersection of the Pinconning Road; thence east along the center line of

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Pinconning Road to the intersection of the Seven Mile Road; thence north along the center of the Seven Mile Road to the Bay-Arenac County line; thence north along the center line of the Lincoln School Road (county road 25) in Arenac County to the intersection of highway M-61; thence east along the center line of highway M-61 to the junction of highway US-23; thence northerly and easterly along the center line of highway US-23 to the center line of the Au Gres River; thence southerly along the center line of the river to its junction with Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron; thence north 78° east to the international boundary line between the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

(dd) "Zone 3" means all of that part of the Lower Peninsula south of the line described in subdivision (bb).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2003, Act 43, Imd. Eff. July 14, 2003;—Am. 2003, Act 230, Imd. Eff. Dec. 18, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2005, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2005;—Am. 2008, Act 145, Eff. July 1, 2009;—Am. 2010, Act 371, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2010;—Am. 2014, Act 195, Imd. Eff. June 24, 2014;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2016, Act 294, Eff. Jan. 2, 2017;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

In subdivision (dd) of this section, the reference to "subdivision (bb)" evidently should read "subdivision (cc)".

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82102 Snowmobiles; exemption from taxes and fees.

Sec. 82102. Snowmobiles are exempt from all taxes and fees imposed on vehicles under the Michigan vehicle code, Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being sections 257.1 to 257.923 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and the motor vehicle accident claims act, Act No. 198 of the Public Acts of 1965, being sections 257.1101 to 257.1133 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82102a Michigan snowmobile advisory committee.

Sec. 82102a. (1) The Michigan snowmobile advisory committee is created in the department. The committee shall consist of 7 individuals appointed by the director for 2-year terms. The members of the former snowmobile advisory board serving on April 29, 1994 shall serve on the committee until the expiration of their terms on the snowmobile advisory board. The director shall appoint 1 member of the committee as chairperson and that member shall serve as chairperson at the pleasure of the director. The membership of the committee shall consist of the following:

(a) Three persons representing the Michigan snowmobile association, 1 from each of the department's 3 regions. One of the 3 shall also have experience as an instructor in a snowmobile safety program.

(b) One person representing trail sponsors.

(c) One person representing the business community.

(d) Two persons representing at-large trail users.

(2) The committee shall meet twice each year and at the call of the committee chairperson as needed.

(3) The Michigan snowmobile advisory committee shall advise the department regarding all of the following:

(a) The development of criteria for safety education and training programs.

(b) The allocation of funds from the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount.

(c) The promulgation of rules affecting snowmobile use in this state.

(d) The development of annual updates to the comprehensive plan for implementing a statewide recreational and snowmobile trails system.

(e) Implementation of the recommendations made by snowmobile users regarding trails that should be designated for snowmobile use.

(f) The development of a comprehensive plan for the use of snowmobiles in this state.

(4) As used in this section, "committee" means the Michigan snowmobile advisory committee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part

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of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

For transfer of powers and duties of Michigan snowmobile advisory committee to the Michigan trails advisory council, and abolishment of the advisory committee, see E.R.O. No. 2009-31, compiled at MCL 324.99919.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82103 Certificate of registration and registration decal required; exceptions; violation; penalty.

Sec. 82103. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, a snowmobile must not be operated unless the owner first obtains a certificate of registration and a registration decal. The certificate of registration must be secured at the time of purchase or transfer of ownership. A certificate of registration or a registration decal is not required for a snowmobile operated exclusively on lands owned or under the control of the snowmobile owner or for a snowmobile used entirely in a safety education and training program conducted by a certified snowmobile safety instructor and authorized under section 82108.

(2) A person who is convicted of a violation of this section shall be fined not more than $50.00.

(3) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, before the start of each snowmobile season, the department shall designate 1 weekend in that snowmobile season during which registration under this part is not required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 55, Imd. Eff. Apr. 7, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82104 Special event; certificate of registration or registration decal not required.

Sec. 82104. A certificate of registration or a registration decal is not required for a snowmobile that is exclusively operated in a special event of limited duration conducted according to a prearranged schedule under a permit from the governmental unit having jurisdiction.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82105 Application for registration; forms; signature; fee; recording application; issuance of certificate of registration and decal; contents, legibility, and inspection of certificate; surety bond; issuance, duration, and renewal of certificate and registration decal; display of decal; destroying record of certificate.

Sec. 82105. (1) Before operating a snowmobile requiring registration in this state, the owner shall apply for registration with the department of state on forms provided by the department of state. If the snowmobile was purchased from a retail dealer in this state, application for initial registration shall be made with the dealer at the point of sale. The dealer shall issue a temporary registration permit in a form received from and approved by the department of state that is valid for 15 days after the date of sale. Each retail dealer shall submit applications for registrations and fees to the department of state not less than once each week. The application shall include a certification. The new owner shall sign the application or, if the application is filed electronically, provide information requested by the department of state to verify the new owner's identity. The application shall also include the new owner's name and bona fide residence address and the names and addresses of holders of any security interest in the snowmobile and its accessories in the order of priority. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of $30.00. Upon receipt of the application in approved form, the department of state shall enter the application upon its records and issue to the applicant a certificate of registration and decal. The certificate of registration shall contain the number awarded to the snowmobile, the name and address of the owner, other information the department of state considers necessary, and, beginning July 1, 2009, the name and address of the holders of secured interests. A person shall not operate a snowmobile that is required to be registered in this state unless the person possesses the certificate of registration in legible form. The person shall make the certificate of registration available for inspection upon demand by a peace officer.

(2) If the secretary of state is not satisfied as to the ownership of a snowmobile that is worth more than $2,500.00, before registering the snowmobile and issuing a certificate of registration, the secretary of state may require the applicant to file a properly executed surety bond in a form prescribed by the secretary of state

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and executed by the applicant and a company authorized to conduct a surety business in this state. The bond shall be in an amount equal to twice the value of the snowmobile as determined by the secretary of state and shall be conditioned to indemnify or reimburse the secretary of state, any prior owner, and any subsequent purchaser of the snowmobile and their successors in interest against any expense, loss, or damage, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred as a result of the issuance of a certificate of registration for the snowmobile or any defect in the right, title, or interest of the applicant in the snowmobile. An interested person has a right of action to recover on the bond for a breach of the conditions of the bond, but the aggregate liability of the surety to all persons shall not exceed the amount of the bond. The bond shall be returned at the end of 3 years, or before 3 years if the snowmobile is no longer registered in this state and the current valid certificate of registration is surrendered to the secretary of state, unless the secretary of state has received notification of the pendency of an action to recover on the bond. If the secretary of state is not satisfied as to the ownership of a snowmobile that is worth $2,500.00 or less, the secretary of state shall require the applicant to certify that the applicant is the owner of the snowmobile and entitled to register the snowmobile.

(3) The certificate of registration and registration decal authorizes the operation of the snowmobile for a 3-year period that begins on October 1 and expires on September 30 of the third year. The certificate of registration and registration decal may be renewed beginning July 1 of the expiration year by payment of a fee of $30.00. The registration decal shall be displayed as prescribed by rule promulgated by the department of state.

(4) The department of state may destroy a record of a certificate of registration 7 years after expiration of the certificate.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 297, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999;—Am. 2005, Act 271, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 2005;—Am. 2008, Act 145, Eff. July 1, 2009;—Am. 2008, Act 399, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 28, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82105a Fees; delinquency; penalty; deposit and use of collected penalties.

Sec. 82105a. (1) If a check, draft, or electronic payment of a required fee is not paid on its first presentation, the fee is delinquent as of the date the check, draft, or electronic payment was tendered. The person tendering the check, draft, or electronic payment remains liable for the payment of each fee and any penalty.

(2) The department of state may suspend the operator's or chauffeur's license issued under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, of the person tendering the check, draft, or electronic payment for a snowmobile registration if the department of state determines a fee prescribed in this section has not been paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice or demand.

(3) If a fee is delinquent 15 days after the department of state has given notice to a person who tendered the check, draft, or electronic payment, a $25.00 penalty shall be assessed and collected in addition to the fee.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this part, the penalties collected under this section shall be deposited in the general fund and used first to defray the administrative costs of the department of state required by the registration provisions of this part. Any money not required for administration of the registration provisions of this part shall be credited each year to the recreational snowmobile trail improvement fund.

History: Add. 2008, Act 145, Eff. July 1, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82105b Cancellation, suspension, revocation, or refusal to issue snowmobile registration; conditions.

Sec. 82105b. The department of state may cancel, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue a snowmobile registration if any of the following occur:

(a) The applicant has failed to furnish all required information or reasonable additional information requested by the department of state.

(b) The required fees have not been paid.

(c) The applicant is not entitled to a snowmobile registration under this part.

(d) The department of state issued the registration in error.

(e) The application contains a false or fraudulent statement.

(f) The department of state has reasonable grounds to believe that the snowmobile was stolen or

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embezzled.

History: Add. 2008, Act 145, Eff. July 1, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82105c Historic snowmobile registration decal; issuance; placement; fee; validity; revocation; exemption from registration; rules.

Sec. 82105c. (1) The secretary of state may issue to the owner of a historic snowmobile a historic snowmobile registration decal which shall bear the inscription "historic snowmobile - Michigan" and the registration number. The registration decal shall be affixed above or below the headlight or, if the historic snowmobile was not originally equipped with a headlight, on the forward half of the cowl above the footwell of the historic snowmobile.

(2) The owner of a historic snowmobile applying for a historic snowmobile registration decal under this section shall pay a fee of $50.00 and shall certify that the snowmobile for which the registration is requested is owned and operated solely as a historic snowmobile.

(3) A registration issued under this section is valid for the period the historic snowmobile is owned by the owner and is nontransferable.

(4) The secretary of state may revoke a registration decal issued under this section, for cause shown and after a hearing, for failure of the applicant to comply with this section or for use of the snowmobile for which the registration was issued for purposes other than those enumerated in section 82101(f).

(5) A historic snowmobile registered under this section is exempt from registration under section 82105.

(6) The secretary of state may promulgate rules to implement this section.

History: Add. 2010, Act 371, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2010.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82106 Disposition of revenue; designation of state recreational trail coordinator; plan for statewide recreational and snowmobile trails system; expenditures; construction of recreational trail facilities or major improvements on private land; interconnecting network of statewide snowmobile trails and use areas; alternative nonconflicting off-season recreational trail uses.

Sec. 82106. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, revenue received from the registration fees under this part shall be deposited as follows:

(a) Twenty-two dollars of each registration fee for a snowmobile and $8.00 of each registration fee for a historic snowmobile shall be deposited into the snowmobile registration fee subaccount. However, if the balance of the snowmobile registration fee subaccount exceeds $1,600,000.00 at any time, the state treasurer shall transfer all amounts in excess of $1,600,000.00 to the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount. From the revenue deposited in the snowmobile registration fee subaccount under this part, the legislature shall make an annual appropriation as follows:

(*i*) Not more than $3.00 of each registration fee for a snowmobile and not more than $3.00 for each registration fee for a historic snowmobile collected during each fiscal year shall be appropriated to the department of state for administration of the registration provisions of this part. At the close of each state fiscal year, any money appropriated under this subparagraph but not expended shall be credited to the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount. Additionally, if less than $3.00 of each registration fee is appropriated to the department of state, the state treasurer shall transfer the difference between $3.00 and the amount appropriated from each registration fee to the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount.

(*ii*) Fourteen dollars of each fee for a registration for a snowmobile paid before July 1, 2009, or $19.00 of each fee for a registration for a snowmobile paid on or after July 1, 2009, and $5.00 of each fee for a registration for a historic snowmobile shall be appropriated to the department for purposes set forth in section 82107, including financial assistance to county sheriff departments and local law enforcement agencies for local snowmobile programs. Any money appropriated but not expended under this subparagraph shall be credited each year to the snowmobile registration fee subaccount.

(b) Five dollars of each fee for a registration for a snowmobile paid before July 1, 2009, and $42.00 of each fee for registration of a historic snowmobile shall be deposited in the recreational snowmobile trail

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improvement subaccount and shall be administered by the department for the purposes of planning, construction, maintenance, and acquisition of trails and areas for the use of snowmobiles, or access to those trails and areas, and basic snowmobile facilities.

(c) From each fee for a registration for a snowmobile other than a historic snowmobile paid on or after July 1, 2009, $8.00 shall be deposited into the permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount under section 82110a. This money is intended to supplement other money expended for snowmobile-related activities of the department and not as a replacement for those expenditures.

(2) The department shall designate a state recreational trail coordinator and shall maintain a comprehensive plan for implementing a statewide recreational and snowmobile trails system. The comprehensive plan shall be reviewed and updated each year by the department.

(3) The money appropriated under this section to the department for snowmobile trails and areas, for access to those trails or areas, and for basic snowmobile facilities may be expended for the acquisition, development, and maintenance on any land in the state. This money may be used to purchase lands or secure easements, leases, permits, or other appropriate agreements permitting use of private property for snowmobile trails, basic facilities, and areas which may be used by bicyclists, hikers, equestrians, and other nonconflicting off-season recreational trail users, if the easements, leases, permits, or other agreements provide public access to the trail, use areas, and support facilities.

(4) Recreational trail facilities or major improvements shall not be constructed on private land unless a written agreement in the form of an easement, lease, or permit for a public trail right-of-way having a term of not less than 5 years is made between the owner of the land and the department.

(5) The money appropriated under this section shall be expended in a manner and as part of the overall plan of the department for an interconnecting network of statewide snowmobile trails and use areas giving consideration to expected snowfall and availability for use with adequate snow cover. Consideration shall be given in the plan for alternative nonconflicting off-season recreational uses of snowmobile trails.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1998, Act 297, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999;—Am. 2003, Act 230, Imd. Eff. Dec. 18, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 399, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 2009;—Am. 2010, Act 371, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2010.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82107 Annual budget request to include amounts for department enforcement of part and local snowmobile programs; financial assistance to counties; cooperation in conduct of program; records; reports; rules.

Sec. 82107. (1) The annual budget request of the department shall include an amount for department enforcement of this part, for department administration of the programs provided for in this part, and for local snowmobile programs provided for under this section. In preparing its annual budget for snowmobile registration fee funds, the department shall do both of the following:

(a) Seek input from the snowmobile advisory committee created under section 82102a.

(b) To the degree feasible, give priority to use of the funds for enforcement efforts under local snowmobile programs.

(2) The department shall provide for an annual program of financial assistance to county sheriff departments and local law enforcement agencies for local snowmobile programs that shall include enforcement of this part and may also include, at the discretion of the department, a snowmobile safety education and training program based on the criteria set forth in section 82108. A county sheriff department or local law enforcement agency desiring to conduct a local snowmobile program shall submit to the department by November 1 of each year an estimate of authorized expenditures for the following calendar year, in a form and containing the information which the department requires. The department shall review the entire request and may approve a request for financial assistance in part or in whole.

(3) The amount of financial assistance to be allocated to a county sheriff department or local law enforcement agency pursuant to this section shall be determined by the department. In determining the amount of financial assistance provided to each county sheriff or local law enforcement agency, the department shall give priority to law enforcement activities and may give priority to locations where, in the determination of the department, a greater need for a local snowmobile program exists.

(4) Upon approval by the department, a county sheriff department or local law enforcement agency may

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use in-kind contributions in calculating its authorized expenditures not to exceed 15% of the total authorized expenditures.

(5) The department shall not provide financial assistance to a county sheriff department or local law enforcement agency in excess of 85% of the authorized expenditure documented by the county or local agency and approved by the department.

(6) Financial assistance allocated to a county sheriff department or local law enforcement agency under this section shall be used exclusively for the conduct of a local snowmobile program as provided by this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

(7) County sheriff departments and local law enforcement agencies that receive financial assistance under this section shall maintain records of activities, expenditures, and in-kind contributions and shall submit documentation and reports to the department by deadlines, in form, and containing information as the department requires.

(8) The department shall cooperate with county sheriff departments and local law enforcement departments that are operating local snowmobile programs that are funded under this section.

(9) The department may promulgate rules to implement this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 230, Imd. Eff. Dec. 18, 2003.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82108 Snowmobile safety education and training program.

Sec. 82108. (1) The department shall design by May 1, 1995 the minimum content of a comprehensive snowmobile safety education and training program, which shall include the preparation and dissemination of snowmobile information and safety advice to the public and training of operators. The content of the program shall include provision for the training of youthful operators at least 12 but less than 17 years of age and for the issuance of snowmobile safety certificates to those who successfully complete the training provided under the program. A person less than 17 years of age who successfully completes a training program shall carry the safety certificate on his or her person whenever operating a snowmobile in this state. The department and the counties shall encourage persons 17 years of age or over to take the program.

(2) The minimum content of a snowmobile safety education and training program shall include the following:

(a) Description of the snowmobile and its main parts.

(b) Description of machine controls, safety and operating procedures, and loading and towing procedures.

(c) General content of snowmobile and highway laws and rules.

(d) Safety hazards of operation, including possible hearing damage, and environmental consequences of snowmobile use.

(e) Performance and written tests.

(f) Familiarization with the snowmobile trail system in this state.

(3) The fee charged by a county for a training program shall be not more than $5.00.

(4) In implementing a program that is established pursuant to this section, the department shall cooperate with private organizations and associations, private and public corporations, schools, and local governmental units. The department shall consult with the department of state police and county sheriffs in regard to subject matter of a training program and performance testing that leads to certification of snowmobile operators. However, a county may expand the course content beyond the minimum requirements established by subsection (2).

(5) The department may designate any person it considers qualified to provide course instruction and to award snowmobile safety certificates.

(6) A person less than 17 years of age who fails to have a safety certificate on his or her person is subject to a fine of not more than $25.00.

(7) A person who has a valid safety certificate from another state or province shall not be required to complete the safety education and training program in this state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82109 Appropriation; uses; allocation; grants; contract payments; financial assistance;

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conditions; application; grant agreement or contract; payment; term; request for information; report.

Sec. 82109. (1) Money appropriated to the department from the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount shall be used for 1 or more of the following:

(a) Planning, constructing, maintaining, and acquiring trails and areas for the use of snowmobiles, or access to those trails and areas, and basic snowmobile facilities.

(b) Financial assistance to local units of government and nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs or organizations considered eligible by the department.

(c) The department's administration of subdivisions (a) and (b).

(2) In preparing its annual budget for recreational snowmobile trail improvement funds and determining the allocation of funds as provided for in subsection (1), the department shall do both of the following:

(a) Seek input from the snowmobile advisory committee created under section 82102a.

(b) To the degree feasible, give priority to use of the funds for financial assistance to local units of government and nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs or organizations.

(3) A portion of the funds appropriated to the department each year shall be used to provide financial assistance to local units of government and nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs or organizations in the form of grants or contract payments for annual snowmobile trail maintenance costs, including signage and liability insurance. The department may also issue grants or enter into contracts for 1 or more of the following additional activities:

(a) Maintenance equipment.

(b) Repair or new development of snowmobile trails or related facilities, including the costs of designing and engineering for grant-funded improvements.

(c) Acquisition of land or rights in lands for snowmobile trails or related facilities, costs of leases, permits, easements, or other agreements that allow for use of private lands for public access to snowmobile trails and related facilities, or development of new snowmobile trails and related facilities.

(4) Financial assistance shall not be made under this section unless the costs are for a trail that is available for public snowmobile use and is approved by the department.

(5) Financial assistance shall be allocated as follows:

(a) Assistance for snowmobile trail maintenance costs, excluding signage and liability insurance, shall be according to a formula promulgated by the state recreational trail coordinator, which shall provide an amount up to 100% of the actual, eligible expense of maintaining the trail per year incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(b) Assistance for the cost of land acquisition, leasing, permits, or other agreements may equal 100% of the actual, eligible expenses incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(c) Assistance for signage may equal 100% of the actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department. In lieu of financial assistance for signage, the department may choose to use recreational snowmobile trail improvement funds to purchase signs and provide them to grant recipients or contractors. Financial assistance for signs shall not be provided under this section unless the snowmobile trails meet minimum state snowmobile trail construction standards and are funded for snowmobile season maintenance.

(d) Assistance for trail insurance may equal 100% of the actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(e) Assistance for repair or the development of new trails or trail facilities shall equal 100% of the actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(f) The department may also assist in a portion of the costs of acquiring grooming equipment. The department shall determine the available grant or contract percentage for eligible grooming equipment costs on an annual basis and publish the percentage prior to the application deadline. Assistance for acquiring grooming equipment shall be based on actual, eligible costs incurred and documented by the grant recipient or contractor and approved by the department.

(6) To be considered for financial assistance, a local unit of government or nonprofit incorporated snowmobile club or organization must submit an application on a form provided by the department and by a deadline established by the department. An application shall include a proposed budget and the amount of financial assistance requested for each of the activities for which assistance is requested.

(7) To receive financial assistance under this section, a local unit of government or nonprofit incorporated snowmobile club or organization must enter into a grant agreement or contract with the department that specifies the obligations of the grant recipient or contractor. The grant agreement or contract shall include

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provisions as determined by the department, including, but not limited to, requirements that the grant recipient or contractor maintain records and submit documentation and reports to the department to verify expenditure of money received. The grant agreement or contract shall also require a grant recipient or contractor to adhere to trail specifications prescribed by the department.

(8) Upon execution of a grant agreement or contract, the department may, at its discretion, provide an advanced payment for a portion of the projected cost for 1 or more of the approved activities. The department shall make final payment upon completion of the project as determined by the department and department approval of cost documentation submitted by the grant recipient or contractor.

(9) A grant agreement or contract shall include a specified term for which the grant agreement or contract is valid. Grant or contract funds shall be encumbered upon execution of the grant agreement or contract and remain available for the specified term. Grant or contract funds not expended by a grant recipient or contractor within the specified term may, at the department's discretion, be reallocated to the grant recipient or contractor as part of a new grant agreement or contract.

(10) The department of state and the department shall include in their annual budget requests information detailing their snowmobile programs.

(11) Beginning March 31, 2004, the department shall provide a biannual report to the commission of its expenditures under this section for the prior 2 fiscal years.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2003, Act 230, Imd. Eff. Dec. 18, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82110 Recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount; use; deposits; rules; projects open to public.

Sec. 82110. (1) The recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount is created as a subaccount of the snowmobile account. Money in the subaccount shall be used upon appropriation solely for the improvement of snowmobile trails and other nonconflicting recreational purposes.

(2) Five dollars of each fee collected under section 82105, a portion of each trail permit fee collected as provided under section 82118, and not less than 80% of the revenue from the fees collected under sections 82114 and 82115 shall be deposited in the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount.

(3) The department shall promulgate rules for the administration of the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount.

(4) All funds allocated under this part shall be for projects that are open to the public.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 16, Imd. Eff. June 12, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82110a Permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount.

Sec. 82110a. (1) The permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount is created as a subaccount of the snowmobile account.

(2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the subaccount. The state treasurer shall credit to the subaccount interest and earnings from subaccount investments. Money in the subaccount at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the subaccount and shall not lapse to the snowmobile account or the general fund. The department shall be the administrator of the subaccount for auditing purposes.

(3) The department shall expend money from the permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount, upon appropriation, only to purchase lands, or secure easements or other appropriate agreements allowing use of private property, for permanent snowmobile trails that are open to the public in this state or to make grants for

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those purposes. To be eligible for a grant, an entity shall be a local unit of government or be organized for educational and charitable purposes within the meaning of 26 USC 501(c)(3) that includes promoting and facilitating the expansion and improvement of the existing snowmobile trail system in this state with permanent snowmobile trails.

(4) If a recipient of a grant under subsection (3) ceases to exist, any interest allowing the use of private property to establish permanent snowmobile trails that was obtained by that grant recipient with grant money under subsection (3) shall vest in this state, subject to the terms of the instrument creating the interest, including, but not limited to, terms concerning the scope of the easement.

(5) The department of attorney general shall review grants and other instruments proposed to be utilized for the purposes of subsections (3) and (4).

(6) The department in consultation with the snowmobile advisory committee shall promulgate rules for the administration of the permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount.

(7) Any proceeds from the sale of lands purchased under subsection (3) or the termination of easements or other agreements secured under subsection (3) shall be deposited into the permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount.

(8) If, at any time after July 1, 2010, the Michigan snowmobile advisory committee, by the affirmative vote of at least 5 members, determines that the public snowmobile trail system in this state is fully developed and not capable of expansion by adding further permanent snowmobile trail easements, the advisory committee shall report its determination to the department. The department shall, within 60 days, submit to the senate and house appropriations committees and standing committees with primary responsibility for outdoor recreation issues a report setting forth the department's recommendations concerning dissolution of the permanent snowmobile trail easement subaccount, the disposition of revenue in that subaccount, and other relevant issues under this part.

History: Add. 2008, Act 400, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82111 Snowmobile registration fee subaccount; creation.

Sec. 82111. The snowmobile registration fee subaccount is created as a subaccount of the snowmobile account.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82112 Operation of snowmobile program; review of effectiveness; report.

Sec. 82112. (1) The department, in consultation with the snowmobile advisory board, shall conduct a review of the effectiveness of operation of the snowmobile program by the forestry division of the department and submit a written report to the house and senate committees that consider natural resources and conservation legislation by July 1, 1996.

(2) The review shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of the following:

(a) The manner in which trail improvement funds and snowmobile registration fee funds are spent and whether the spending is in accordance with this part.

(b) The manner in which the grant process has been implemented and to whom grants have been awarded during the time of the review.

(c) Establishment and maintenance of the snowmobile trails system.

(d) Long-term planning pertaining to the trails system.

(e) Contract grooming of snowmobile trails versus grooming of trails by employees of the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82113 Registration decal; display; issuance; expiration of certificate of registration;

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awarding certificate of number.

Sec. 82113. (1) The owner of a snowmobile having been issued a certificate of registration for the snowmobile shall affix to each side of the forward half of the cowl above the footwell of the snowmobile the registration decal assigned to that snowmobile. The registration decal shall be as prescribed by the department. Beginning July 1, 1999, the registration decal shall include the registration expiration date and the registration number and shall contain 2 letters and 4 numbers. The numbers shall contrast so as to be distinctly visible and legible. A number other than the number awarded to the snowmobile on the registration certificate, or granted reciprocity under this part, shall not be attached or otherwise displayed on the snowmobile.

(2) Not earlier than 90 days before the expiration date of a certificate, a registration decal or other device may be issued indicating that the certificate of registration is in full force and effect.

(3) A certificate of registration shall expire pursuant to section 82105.

(4) The department of state may award a certificate of number directly or may authorize a person to act as its agent for the awarding of a certificate of number.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 92, Imd. Eff. Aug. 1, 1997;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 297, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82114 Destruction, abandonment, sale, or transfer of snowmobile; change of address; notice; surrender of certificate; cancellation of certificate; destruction of record; recording new address; return of certificate to owner; application by transferee for new certificate; fee; operation without certificate prohibited; duplicate certificate; replacement registration decal.

Sec. 82114. (1) The owner of a snowmobile shall notify the department of state within 15 days if the snowmobile is destroyed or abandoned, or is sold, or an interest in the snowmobile is transferred either wholly or in part to another person, or if the owner's address no longer conforms to the address appearing on the certificate of registration. The notice shall consist of a surrender of the certificate of registration on which the proper information shall be noted on a place to be provided. If the certificate of registration is surrendered because the snowmobile was destroyed or abandoned, the department of state shall cancel the certificate of registration and enter that fact in the records of the department of state, and the number may be then reassigned. The department of state may destroy the record of a surrendered certificate of registration 10 years after its surrender.

(2) If the certificate of registration is surrendered because of the owner's change of address, the new address shall be recorded by the department of state and a certificate of registration bearing that information shall be returned to the owner.

(3) The transferee of a snowmobile registered under this part, within 15 days after acquiring the snowmobile, shall apply to the department of state for issuance of a new certificate of registration for the snowmobile, giving the previous registration number of the snowmobile and proof of payment or satisfaction of any security interest shown on the previous owner's certificate of registration or department of state's records. The application shall include a certification. The new owner shall sign the application or, if the application is filed electronically, provide information requested by the department of state to verify the owner's identity. The application shall also include the new owner's name and bona fide residence address and the names and addresses of the holders of security interests in the snowmobile and its accessories in the order of their priority. The application shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed in section 82105. Upon receipt of the application and fee, the department of state shall issue a new certificate of registration for the snowmobile to the new owner. Unless the application is made and the fee paid within 15 days of transfer of ownership, the snowmobile is without certificate of registration, and a person shall not operate the snowmobile until a valid certificate of registration is issued.

(4) If a certificate of registration is lost, mutilated, or illegible, the owner of the snowmobile shall obtain a duplicate of the certificate of registration upon application and payment of a fee of $5.00.

(5) If a valid registration decal is lost, mutilated, or illegible, the owner of the snowmobile may obtain a replacement registration decal upon submission of proof of registration and payment of a fee of $5.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2008, Act 145, Eff. July 1, 2009;—Am. 2012, Act 28, Imd. Eff. Feb. 23, 2012.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82115 Certificates of registration for dealers and manufacturers; use; fee; placement of registration decal.

Sec. 82115. A dealer or manufacturer, upon application to the department of state upon forms provided by it, may obtain certificates of registration for use in the testing or demonstrating of snowmobiles upon payment of $10.00 for each of the first 2 registration certificates. Additional certificates as the dealer may require may be issued at a cost of $5.00 each and used by the applicant only in the testing or demonstrating of snowmobiles by temporary placement of the registration decal on the snowmobile being tested or demonstrated. Any 1 certificate issued pursuant to this section may be used on only 1 snowmobile at any given time. The temporary placement of registration decals shall be as prescribed by this part or rules promulgated under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: Snowmobiles

Popular name: NREPA

324.82116 Snowmobile numbers; stamping on frame or plate; location of number; possession of snowmobile with altered, defaced, or obliterated number.

Sec. 82116. (1) A snowmobile that is manufactured after December 1, 1972 for sale in this state shall have an identifying number that is stamped into the frame of the snowmobile or into a plate affixed to the frame and is unique from an identifying number on any other snowmobile. The number shall be stamped in a place where it is easily visible with a minimum of physical effort and it shall be termed the vehicle number. A manufacturer shall furnish to a requesting police agency, to the department of state, and to the department information as to the location of vehicle numbers on snowmobiles it produces. The vehicle number shall be printed on the certificate of registration issued by the department of state to the owner.

(2) Possession of a snowmobile with an altered, defaced, or obliterated vehicle number is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or by a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82116a Alteration, removal, or defacement of vehicle number; application for special identifying number; missing vehicle number; replacement; fee.

Sec. 82116a. (1) The owner of a snowmobile whose vehicle number has been altered, removed, or defaced, including the owner of a snowmobile who intends to register the snowmobile as an assembled snowmobile, shall apply, in a form prescribed by the department of state, to the department of state for a special identifying number accompanied by an application for a certificate of registration and the required fees. The owner shall furnish information satisfying the department of state that he or she is the owner, upon receipt of which the department of state shall assign a special identifying number for the snowmobile, preceded by a symbol indicating this state. The department of state shall maintain a record of assigned special identifying numbers. The special identifying number shall be applied to the snowmobile as directed by the department of state. The special number shall be regarded as the identifying number of the snowmobile.

(2) The owner of a snowmobile whose vehicle number is missing shall apply, in a form prescribed by the department of state, to the department of state for a replacement vehicle number accompanied by a $10.00 fee. The owner shall furnish information satisfying the department of state that he or she is the owner of the snowmobile upon receipt of which the department of state shall assign a replacement vehicle number that shall be applied to the snowmobile as directed by the department of state. The department of state shall note on the registration record for that snowmobile that a replacement vehicle number was issued for that snowmobile.

History: Add. 2008, Act 145, Eff. July 1, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82117 Dealers; duties; liability insurance.

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Sec. 82117. (1) A dealer shall maintain in safe operating condition all snowmobiles rented, leased, or furnished by him or her. The dealer or the dealer's agents or employees shall explain the operation of the snowmobile being rented, leased, or furnished and, if the dealer or the dealer's agent or employee believes the person to whom the snowmobile is to be rented, leased, or furnished is not competent to operate the snowmobile with competency to himself or herself and to the safety of others, the dealer shall refuse to rent, lease, or furnish the snowmobile. By October 15, 1994, the department shall furnish each dealer with a safety education checklist of not more than 1 page in length that the dealer shall distribute to each person who purchases, rents, or leases a snowmobile from that dealer.

(2) Any dealer renting, leasing, or furnishing any snowmobile shall carry a policy of liability insurance subject to limits exclusive of interests and costs, with respect to such snowmobile, as follows: $20,000.00 because of bodily injury to or death of 1 person in any 1 accident and subject to that limit for 1 person, $40,000.00 because of bodily injury to or death of 2 or more persons in any 1 accident, and $10,000.00 because of injury to or destruction of property of others in any 1 accident; or, in the alternative, any dealer renting, leasing, or furnishing any snowmobile shall demand and be shown proof that the person renting, leasing, or being furnished a snowmobile carries liability policy of at least the type and coverage as specified in this subsection.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82118 Michigan snowmobile trail permit; exceptions.

Sec. 82118. (1) In addition to registration of a snowmobile under section 82105 or registration in another state or province, except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who desires to operate a snowmobile in this state shall purchase a Michigan snowmobile trail permit sticker. The Michigan snowmobile trail permit issued under this section is valid for a period of 1 year that begins on October 1 and ends on the following September 30. The fee for the permit is as follows:

(a) For permits valid for the 1-year period beginning October 1, 2009 or October 1, 2010, $35.00.

(b) For permits valid for the 1-year period beginning October 1, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, or 2015, $45.00.

(c) For permits valid for the 1-year period beginning October 1, 2016 and every fifth year thereafter, the state treasurer shall adjust the current permit fee by an amount determined by the state treasurer to reflect the cumulative percentage change in the Consumer Price Index during the most recent 5-year period for which Consumer Price Index statistics are available, rounded to the nearest dollar. A fee adjusted by the state treasurer under this subdivision remains in effect for 5 years. As used in this subdivision, "Consumer Price Index" means the most comprehensive index of consumer prices available for this state from the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

(2) Revenue from the trail permit fee shall be allocated as follows:

(a) 50 cents shall be retained by the department for administrative costs.

(b) $1.00 shall be retained by the agent selling the permit.

(c) The balance shall be deposited in the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount.

(3) The department shall make the sale of trail permits available on its website. For each trail permit sold through the website, the amount otherwise credited to an agent under subsection (2) shall instead be credited to the recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount.

(4) The trail permit sticker shall be permanently affixed to the snowmobile directly above or below the headlight of the snowmobile.

(5) The department may contract with a person to act as an agent for the purpose of issuing Michigan snowmobile trail permits. The department shall sell the permits to agents in bulk. An agent may obtain a refund from the department for any permits that are not sold.

(6) An agent who uses or allows the use of a permit by anyone except the snowmobile user to whom the permit is sold is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of $50.00 for each instance of use or allowed use.

(7) The department of state may suspend a certificate of registration if the department of state determines that the required fee has not been paid and remains unpaid after reasonable notice or demand. In addition to the required fee, a $10.00 penalty shall be assessed and collected against any person who tenders an insufficient check or draft in payment of the fee.

(8) A snowmobile used solely for transportation on the frozen surface of public waters for the purpose of ice fishing is exempt from the requirement of purchasing and displaying a snowmobile trail permit sticker

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under this section.

(9) A person shall not charge a fee for a snowmobile trail permit in an amount that is greater than the fee printed on the face of the permit.

(10) To obtain a snowmobile trail permit, an applicant must provide all information required on the permit application.

(11) A person who fails to secure a permit under this section or who violates subsection (4) is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.

(12) The department shall, by June 1 of each year, report to the members of the appropriate standing committees and appropriations subcommittees of the house and senate, a detailed expenditure plan pertaining to the funds generated by this section. The plan shall include information as to how funds were expended in the prior year.

(13) This section does not apply to a historic snowmobile registered under section 82105c.

(14) Before the start of each snowmobile season, the department shall designate 1 weekend in that snowmobile season during which a trail permit under this section is not required.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 114, Eff. Mar. 21, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 139, Imd. Eff. Mar. 21, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 183, Imd. Eff. May 3, 1996;—Am. 2001, Act 15, Imd. Eff. June 12, 2001;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2008, Act 400, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 2009;—Am. 2010, Act 371, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2010;—Am. 2022, Act 56, Imd. Eff. Apr. 7, 2022.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:

"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82119 Operation of snowmobiles prohibited; exceptions; permanent prohibition; requirements; rules.

Sec. 82119. (1) A person shall not operate a snowmobile upon a public highway, land used as an airport or street, or on a public or private parking lot not specifically designated for the use of snowmobiles except under the following conditions and circumstances:

(a) Subject to subsection (2), a snowmobile may be operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, except a limited access highway, if it is operated at the extreme right of the open portion of the right-of-way and with the flow of traffic on the highway. However, a snowmobile may be operated on the right-of-way of a public highway against the flow of traffic if the right-of-way is a snowmobile trail that is designated by the department in the plan developed pursuant to section 82106(2) and that is approved by the state transportation department. Snowmobiles operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, as provided in this subdivision, shall travel single file and shall not be operated abreast except when overtaking and passing another snowmobile. In the absence of a posted snowmobile speed limit, a snowmobile operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, as provided in this subdivision, shall not exceed the speed limit posted on the public highway.

(b) Subject to subsection (2), a snowmobile may be operated on the right-of-way of a limited access public highway if it is operated on a snowmobile trail that is designated by the department in the plan developed pursuant to section 82106(2) and that is approved by the state transportation department. A snowmobile shall only be operated on that right-of-way in the manner provided in that plan. In addition, a snowmobile operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, as provided in this subdivision, shall travel single file and shall not be operated abreast except when overtaking and passing another snowmobile. In the absence of a posted snowmobile speed limit, a snowmobile operated on the right-of-way of a public highway, as provided in this subdivision, shall not exceed the speed limit posted on the public highway.

(c) A snowmobile may be operated on the roadway or shoulder when necessary to cross a bridge or culvert if the snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before entering onto the roadway or shoulder and the driver yields the right-of-way to an approaching vehicle on the highway.

(d) In a court action in this state where competent evidence demonstrates that a vehicle that is permitted to be operated on a highway pursuant to the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, collided with a snowmobile on a roadway, the driver of the snowmobile involved in the collision shall be considered prima facie negligent.

(e) A snowmobile may be operated across a public highway other than a limited access highway, at right angles to the highway, for the purpose of getting from 1 area to another when the operation can be done in safety and another vehicle is not crossing the highway at the same time in the same general area. An operator

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shall bring his or her snowmobile to a complete stop before proceeding across the public highway and shall yield the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic.

(f) Snowmobiles may be operated on a highway in a county road system that is not normally snowplowed for vehicular traffic and on the plowed right-of-way or shoulder when no right-of-way exists on a snowplowed highway in the county road system, outside the corporate limits of a city or village, that is designated and marked for snowmobile use by the county road commission having jurisdiction. Upon the request of a county road commission that has designated all county roads outside the corporate limits of a city or village for snowmobile use, the state transportation department shall erect at county road commission expense and shall maintain, in accordance with the Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices standards, the basic snowmobile sign unit together with a supplemental panel stating "permitted on right-of-way or shoulder of all ..... (county name) roads — MCL 324.82119" at the county line on all state trunk line highways and county roads. A sign erected before the effective date of the 2005 amendatory act that amended this section may cite 1968 PA 74 instead of citing this section.

(g) A law enforcement officer of a local unit of government or the state may authorize use of a snowmobile on a public highway or street within his or her jurisdiction when an emergency occurs and conventional motor vehicles cannot be used for transportation due to snow or other extreme highway conditions.

(h) A snowmobile may be operated on a highway or street for a special event of limited duration conducted according to a prearranged schedule only under permit from the governmental unit having jurisdiction. The event may be conducted on the frozen surface of public waters only under permit from the department.

(i) A city or village by ordinance may designate 1 or more specific public highways or streets within its jurisdiction as egress and ingress routes for the use of snowmobiles. A city or village acting under the authority of this subdivision shall erect and maintain, in accordance with the Michigan manual of uniform traffic control devices standards, a sign unit giving proper notice of the designation.

(2) The state transportation department and the department of natural resources may permanently prohibit snowmobile use as described in subsection (1)(a) or (b) in a highway right-of-way if, within 10 years after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The right-of-way is designated in a closure plan developed by the state transportation department and the department of natural resources and approved by the state transportation commission and the commission of natural resources.

(b) The state transportation department and the department of natural resources have held a public hearing on the proposed prohibition in the county where the prohibition is to apply. The state transportation department and the department of natural resources shall give notice of the hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county not more than 21 or less than 7 days before the hearing.

(c) The state transportation department and the department have consulted on the proposed prohibition with the snowmobile advisory committee created under section 82102a.

(d) Snowmobile use in that right-of-way poses a particular and demonstrable threat to public safety.

(e) The department has designated and, if required under subsection (1)(a) or (b), the state transportation department has approved an alternative snowmobile trail that meets all of the following requirements:

(*i*) Is open for use and functional during snowmobile season.

(*ii*) Bypasses the highway right-of-way on which snowmobile use is to be prohibited.

(*iii*) Provides access to any qualified business that, when the alternative snowmobile trail is designated, is located along the highway right-of-way on which snowmobile use is to be prohibited. As used in this subparagraph, "qualified business" means a gas station, restaurant, hotel, motel, convenience store, or grocery store or any other business that relies on snowmobile-based commerce.

(3) The state transportation department and the department of natural resources may promulgate rules to implement subsections (1)(b) and (2).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 307, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2005.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82120 Supervision of child less than 12 years of age; exception; conditions for operation of snowmobile by person 12 but less than 17 years of age; snowmobile safety certificate; crossing highway or street; duty of snowmobile owner; report of violation; suspension of certificate.

Sec. 82120. (1) A parent or legal guardian shall not permit his or her child who is less than 12 years of age to operate a snowmobile without the direct supervision of an adult except on land owned or under the control

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of the parent or legal guardian.

(2) A person who is at least 12 but less than 17 years of age may operate a snowmobile if 1 of the following conditions exist:

(a) The person is under the direct supervision of a person who is 21 years of age or older.

(b) The person has in his or her immediate possession a snowmobile safety certificate issued pursuant to a program conducted under section 82107.

(c) The person is on land owned or under the control of his or her parent or legal guardian.

(d) The person possesses a snowmobile safety certificate issued to the person under the authority of a law of another state or province of Canada.

(3) A person who is operating a snowmobile pursuant to subsection (2)(b) shall present the snowmobile safety certificate to any peace officer upon demand.

(4) Notwithstanding section 82119, an operator who is less than 12 years of age shall not cross a highway or street. An operator who is at least 12 years of age but less than 17 years of age may cross a highway or street only if he or she has a valid snowmobile safety certificate in his or her immediate possession.

(5) The owner of a snowmobile shall not permit the snowmobile to be operated contrary to this section.

(6) When the judge of a juvenile court determines that a person who is less than 17 years of age has violated this part, the judge shall immediately report the determination to the department. The department upon receiving a notice of a determination pursuant to this subsection may suspend the snowmobile safety certificate without a hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82121 Use of snowmobile to hunt wild bird or animal.

Sec. 82121. A snowmobile shall not be used to hunt, pursue, worry, or kill a wild bird or animal.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82122 Lights and brakes; minimum safety standards; certification as proof of compliance.

Sec. 82122. (1) A snowmobile shall not be operated unless it has at least 1 headlight, 1 taillight, and adequate brakes capable, while the snowmobile travels on packed snow and carries an operator who weighs 175 pounds or more, of stopping the snowmobile in not more than 40 feet from an initial steady speed of 20 miles per hour or of locking the snowmobile's traction belt or belts.

(2) A person shall not sell or offer to sell in this state a snowmobile manufactured after July 1, 1978, unless it meets the minimum safety standards for snowmobile product certification of the snowmobile safety and certification committee's November 23, 1976, volume 3, safety standards for snowmobiles for product certification, including detailed standard supplement and test specifications and procedures, covering machine sound levels, seats, controls, brake systems, fuel systems, shields and guards, electrical systems and lighting, reflectors, handgrips, and general hazard requirements. Proof of compliance with this section shall be in the form of certification by a qualified independent testing company that is not affiliated with the manufacturer and is approved by the department.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82123 Crash helmet required.

Sec. 82123. A person operating or riding on a snowmobile shall wear a crash helmet on his or her head. Crash helmets shall be approved by the United States department of transportation. This section does not apply to a person riding on or operating a snowmobile on his or her own private property.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82124 Ordinances; duty to maintain highway; immunity from liability; "gross negligence" defined.

Sec. 82124. (1) Any municipality may pass an ordinance regulating the operation of snowmobiles if the ordinance meets substantially the minimum requirements of this part. A local unit of government may not adopt an ordinance that:

(a) Imposes a fee for a license.

(b) Specifies accessory equipment to be carried on the snowmobile.

(c) Requires a snowmobile operator to possess a motor vehicle driver license.

(d) Restricts operation of a snowmobile on the frozen surface of public waters or on lands owned by or under the control of the state except pursuant to section 82125.

(2) A board of county road commissioners, a county board of commissioners, and a county have no duty to maintain any highway under their jurisdiction in a condition reasonably safe and convenient for the operation of snowmobiles.

(3) Beginning on October 19, 1993, a board of county road commissioners, a county board of commissioners, and a county are immune from tort liability for injuries or damages sustained by any person arising in any way out of the operation or use of a snowmobile on maintained or unmaintained highways, shoulders, and rights-of-way over which the board of county road commissioners, the county board of commissioners, or the county has jurisdiction. The immunity provided by this subsection does not apply to actions which constitute gross negligence. Gross negligence is defined as conduct so reckless as to demonstrate a substantial lack of concern for whether an injury results.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82125 Rules governing operation and conduct of snowmobiles; special rules; hearing; notice; corresponding ordinances; suspension, amendment, or repeal; enforcement.

Sec. 82125. (1) The department may promulgate rules to govern the operation and conduct of snowmobiles, speed limits, and the times when a snowmobile may be used and to establish and designate areas where snowmobiles may be used in a manner that will ensure compatible use and best protection of the safety and general welfare of the public on the frozen surface of public waters.

(2) The department, on its own initiative or upon receipt of a certified resolution of the governing body of a political subdivision, may initiate investigations into the need for special rules to govern the operation of snowmobiles on the frozen surface of public waters. If controls for an activity are considered necessary, or amendment or repeal of an existing rule is required, the department shall prepare a rule for consideration at a public hearing. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the rules are to be imposed, amended, or repealed, at least 10 days before the hearing.

(3) After a hearing is held pursuant to subsection (2), the proposed rule shall be submitted to the governing body of the political subdivision in which the affected frozen waters lie. The governing body shall inform the department that it approves or disapproves of the proposed rule within 30 days after receiving the rule from the department. If the governing body disapproves the proposed rule, further action shall not be taken. If the governing body approves the proposed rule, it may enact an ordinance that is identical to the proposed rule and the department shall promulgate the rule. An ordinance enacted pursuant to this subsection is not effective until the proposed rule is promulgated and effective.

(4) An ordinance that is the same as a rule that is suspended by the legislature or amended or repealed by the department shall likewise be suspended, amended, or repealed. The governing body, by majority vote, may repeal the ordinance at any time.

(5) Local law enforcement officers may enforce ordinances enacted pursuant to this section, and state and county enforcement officers shall enforce rules that are promulgated pursuant to this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82126 Operation of snowmobile; prohibitions; exemption; construction, operation, and maintenance of snowmobile trail; conditions; demarcation of trail by signing; "operate"

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defined; prohibited conduct; assumption of risk; violation of subsection (2) as civil infraction; fine.

Sec. 82126. (1) A person shall not operate a snowmobile under any of the following circumstances:

(a) At a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper having due regard for conditions then existing.

(b) In a forest nursery, planting area, or on public lands posted or reasonably identifiable as an area of forest reproduction when growing stock may be damaged or posted or reasonably identifiable as a natural dedicated area that is in zone 2 or zone 3.

(c) On the frozen surface of public waters as follows:

(*i*) Within 100 feet of a person, including a skater, who is not in or upon a snowmobile.

(*ii*) Within 100 feet of a fishing shanty or shelter except at the minimum speed required to maintain forward movement of the snowmobile.

(*iii*) On an area that has been cleared of snow for skating purposes unless the area is necessary for access to the public water.

(d) Within 100 feet of a dwelling between 12 midnight and 6 a.m., at a speed greater than the minimum required to maintain forward movement of the snowmobile.

(e) In an area on which public hunting is permitted during the regular November firearm deer season from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., except under 1 or more of the following circumstances:

(*i*) During an emergency.

(*ii*) For law enforcement purposes.

(*iii*) To go to and from a permanent residence or a hunting camp otherwise inaccessible by a conventional wheeled vehicle.

(*iv*) For the conduct of necessary work functions involving land and timber survey, communication and transmission line patrol, or timber harvest operations.

(*v*) On the person's own property or property under the person's control or as an invited guest.

(f) While transporting on the snowmobile a bow, unless unstrung or encased, or a firearm, unless unloaded in both barrel and magazine and securely encased.

(g) On or across a cemetery or burial ground.

(h) Within 100 feet of a slide, ski, or skating area except when traveling on a county road right-of-way pursuant to section 82119 or a snowmobile trail that is designated and funded by the department. A snowmobile may enter such an area for the purpose of servicing the area or for medical emergencies.

(i) On a railroad or railroad right-of-way. This prohibition does not apply to railroad personnel, public utility personnel, law enforcement personnel while in the performance of their duties, or persons using a snowmobile trail located on or along a railroad right-of-way, or an at-grade snowmobile trail crossing of a railroad right-of-way, that has been expressly approved in writing by the owner of the right-of-way and each railroad company using the tracks and that meets the conditions imposed in subsections (4) and (5). A snowmobile trail or an at-grade snowmobile trail crossing shall not be constructed on a right-of-way designated by the federal government as a high-speed rail corridor.

(2) Except as provided under subsection (3), a person shall not operate a snowmobile unless the snowmobile is equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation from which noise emission does not exceed either of the following:

(a) For a snowmobile manufactured after July 1, 1977 and sold or offered for sale in this state, 78 decibels at 50 feet, as measured using the 2003 society of automotive engineers standard J192.

(b) For a stationary snowmobile manufactured after July 1, 1980 and sold or offered for sale in this state, 88 decibels, as measured using the 2004 society of automotive engineers standard J2567.

(3) A person is exempt from the requirement of subsection (2) under either of the following circumstances:

(a) While operating a snowmobile during an organized race on a course that is used solely for racing.

(b) While operating a snowmobile on private property, with the permission of the private property owner, in preparation for an organized race, if the operation of the snowmobile is in compliance with applicable local noise ordinances.

(4) A snowmobile trail located on or along a railroad right-of-way shall be constructed, operated, and maintained by a person other than the person owning the railroad right-of-way and the person operating the railroad, except that an at-grade snowmobile trail crossing of a railroad right-of-way shall be constructed and maintained by the person operating the railroad at the sole cost and expense of the person operating the trail connected by the crossing, pursuant to terms of a lease agreement under which the person operating the trail agrees to do all of the following:

(a) Indemnify the person owning the railroad right-of-way and the person operating the railroad against any claims associated with, arising from, or incidental to the construction, maintenance, operation, and use of

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the trail or at-grade snowmobile trail crossing.

(b) Provide liability insurance in the amount of $2,000,000.00 naming the person owning the railroad right-of-way and the person operating the railroad as named insureds.

(c) Meet any other obligations or provisions considered appropriate by the person owning the railroad right-of-way or the person operating the railroad including, but not limited to, the payment of rent that the person owning the railroad right-of-way or the person operating the railroad is authorized to charge under this part and the meeting of all construction, operating, and maintenance conditions imposed by the person owning the railroad right-of-way and the person operating the railroad regarding the snowmobile trail.

(5) A snowmobile trail shall be clearly demarcated by signing constructed and maintained at the sole cost and expense of the grant program sponsor. The signing shall be placed at the outer edge of the railroad right-of-way, as far from the edge of the railroad tracks as possible, and not closer than 20 feet from the edge of the railroad tracks unless topography or other natural or manmade features require the trail to lie within 20 feet of the edge of the railroad tracks. The at-grade snowmobile trail crossing of a railroad right-of-way shall be aligned at 90 degrees or as close to 90 degrees as possible to the railroad track being crossed, and shall be located where approach grades to the crossing are minimal and where the vision of a person operating a snowmobile will be unobstructed as he or she approaches the railroad tracks. The design of the snowmobile trail, including the location of signing, shall be included upon plan sheets by the person constructing, operating, and maintaining the trail, and shall be approved in writing by the person owning the right-of-way and the person operating the railroad. Signing shall conform to specifications issued by the department to its snowmobile trail grant program sponsors.

(6) Notwithstanding section 82101, as used in this section, "operate" means to cause to function, run, or manage.

(7) A person shall not alter, deface, damage, or remove a snowmobile trail sign or control device.

(8) Each person who participates in the sport of snowmobiling accepts the risks associated with that sport insofar as the dangers are obvious and inherent. Those risks include, but are not limited to, injuries to persons or property that can result from variations in terrain; surface or subsurface snow or ice conditions; bare spots; rocks, trees, and other forms of natural growth or debris; and collisions with signs, fences, or other snowmobiles or snow-grooming equipment. Those risks do not include injuries to persons or property that can result from the use of a snowmobile by another person in a careless or negligent manner likely to endanger person or property. When a snowmobile is operated in the vicinity of a railroad right-of-way, each person who participates in the sport of snowmobiling additionally assumes risks including, but not limited to, entanglement with tracks, switches, and ties and collisions with trains and other equipment and facilities.

(9) A person who violates subsection (2) is responsible for a state civil infraction and shall be ordered to pay a civil fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $250.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1995, Act 201, Imd. Eff. Nov. 29, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 500, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 1997;—Am. 1998, Act 30, Imd. Eff. Mar. 18, 1998;—Am. 2003, Act 2, Imd. Eff. Apr. 22, 2003;—Am. 2008, Act 27, Imd. Eff. Mar. 13, 2008;—Am. 2008, Act 399, Imd. Eff. Jan. 6, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82126a Operation of snowmobile; prohibited conduct; violation as civil infraction.

Sec. 82126a. (1) A person shall not operate a snowmobile upon a highway, public trail, frozen surface of a public lake, stream, river, pond, or another public place, including but not limited to an area designated for the parking of snowmobiles or other motor vehicles, in a careless or negligent manner likely to endanger any person or property.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) is responsible for a state civil infraction.

History: Add. 1998, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82126b Operation of snowmobile; prohibited conduct; violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 82126b. (1) A person shall not operate a snowmobile upon a highway, public trail, frozen surface of a public lake, stream, river, pond, or another public place, including, but not limited to, an area designated for the parking of snowmobiles or other motor vehicles, in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or

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property.

(2) A person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than $250.00.

History: Add. 1998, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82126c Operation of snowmobile; conduct causing death or serious impairment of bodily function; violation as misdemeanor or felony; penalty; definition; order prohibiting operation of snowmobile.

Sec. 82126c. (1) A person who operates a snowmobile in a careless or negligent manner causing the death or serious impairment of bodily function of another is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be imprisoned for not more than 2 years or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both.

(2) A person who, by the operation of a snowmobile in a careless and heedless manner in willful and wanton disregard of the rights or safety of others, or without due caution and circumspection and at a speed or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property, causes the serious impairment of bodily function, but does not cause the death of another, is guilty of the offense of felonious operation, and shall be imprisoned for not more than 2 years or fined not more than $2,000.00, or both.

(3) As used in this section, "serious impairment of bodily function" includes, but is not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

(a) Loss of a limb or use of a limb.

(b) Loss of a hand, foot, finger, or thumb or use of a hand, foot, finger, or thumb.

(c) Loss of an eye or ear or use of an eye or ear.

(d) Loss or substantial impairment of a bodily function.

(e) Serious visible disfigurement.

(f) A comatose state that lasts for more than 3 days.

(g) Measurable brain damage or mental impairment.

(h) A skull fracture or other serious bone fracture.

(i) Subdural hemorrhage or subdural hematoma.

(4) Upon a person's conviction of a violation under this section, the court may issue an order prohibiting the person from operating a snowmobile in this state for a period of 2 or more years in the discretion of the court. An order issued under this section is in addition to any other penalty authorized under this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 461, Eff. Mar. 23, 1999.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82127 Operation of or authorizing operation of snowmobile while under influence of alcoholic liquor or controlled substance prohibited; visible impairment; violation; penalty; “serious impairment of a body function” defined; operation by person less than 21 years of age; "any bodily alcoholic content" defined; person less than 16 years of age occupying snowmobile.

Sec. 82127. (1) A person shall not operate a snowmobile in this state if any of the following apply:

(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both.

(b) The person has a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person has in his or her body any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214.

(2) The owner of a snowmobile or a person in charge or in control of a snowmobile shall not authorize or knowingly permit the snowmobile to be driven or operated by a person if any of the following apply:

(a) The person is under the influence of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both.

(b) The person has an alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(c) The person's ability to operate a snowmobile is visibly impaired due to the consumption of an alcoholic

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liquor, a controlled substance, or a combination of an alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

(3) A person shall not operate a snowmobile when, due to the consumption of an alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both, the person's ability to operate the snowmobile is visibly impaired. If a person is charged with violating subsection (1), a finding of guilty under this subsection may be rendered.

(4) A person who operates a snowmobile in violation of subsection (1) or (3) and by the operation of that snowmobile causes the death of another person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years or a fine of not less than $2,500.00 or more than $10,000.00, or both.

(5) A person who operates a snowmobile in violation of subsection (1) or (3) and by the operation of that snowmobile causes a serious impairment of a body function of another person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not less than $1,000.00 or more than $5,000.00, or both. As used in this subsection, "serious impairment of a body function" means that term as defined in section 58c of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.58c.

(6) A person who is less than 21 years of age, whether licensed or not, shall not operate a snowmobile if the person has any bodily alcohol content. As used in this subsection, "any bodily alcohol content" means either of the following:

(a) An alcohol content of 0.02 grams or more but less than 0.08 grams per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine, or, beginning October 1, 2018, an alcohol content of 0.02 grams or more but less than 0.10 grams per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine.

(b) Any presence of alcohol within a person's body resulting from the consumption of alcoholic liquor, other than consumption of alcoholic liquor as a part of a generally recognized religious service or ceremony.

(7) A person is subject to the following requirements:

(a) He or she shall not operate a snowmobile in violation of subsection (1), (3), (4), or (5) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the snowmobile.

(b) He or she shall not operate a snowmobile in violation of subsection (6) while another person who is less than 16 years of age is occupying the snowmobile.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 183, Imd. Eff. May 3, 1996;—Am. 2001, Act 12, Eff. July 1, 2001;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82128 Violations; sanctions.

Sec. 82128. (1) If a person is convicted of violating section 82127(1), the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 45 days.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*iii*) A fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be imprisoned for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not less than 48 consecutive hours or more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person is guilty of a felony and shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years or a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00, or both.

(2) A term of imprisonment imposed under subsection (1)(b)(*ii*) or (1)(c) shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(3) A person sentenced to perform service to the community under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service if ordered by the court.

(4) In addition to the sanctions prescribed under subsection (1) and section 82127(4) and (5), the court may, under chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.1 to 769.36, order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution. The court shall also impose sanctions under section 82142.

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(5) A person who is convicted of violating section 82127(2) is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not less than $100.00 or more than $500.00, or both.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 22, Eff. Oct. 1, 2000;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82129 Violations; sanctions.

Sec. 82129. (1) If a person is convicted of violating section 82127(3), the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 45 days.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(*iii*) A fine of not more than $300.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of 1 prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to both a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00, and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(c) If the violation occurs after 2 or more prior convictions regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, the person shall be sentenced to both a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00, and either of the following:

(*i*) Community service for a period of not less than 10 days or more than 90 days, and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 1 year.

(*ii*) Imprisonment for not more than 1 year, and may be sentenced to community service for not more than 90 days.

(2) In addition to the sanctions prescribed in subsection (1), the court may, under the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 760.1 to 777.69, order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution. The court shall also impose sanctions under section 82142.

(3) A person sentenced to perform service to the community under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service as ordered by the court.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 22, Eff. Oct. 1, 2000;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82129a Violation of MCL 324.82127(6); sanctions; community service.

Sec. 82129a. (1) If a person is convicted of violating section 82127(6), all of the following apply:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by 1 or both of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 360 hours.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $250.00.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of 1 or more prior convictions, including a prior conviction for section 82127(6), the person may be sentenced to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 60 days.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $500.00.

(*iii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(2) In addition to imposing the sanctions prescribed under this section, the court may order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution under the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 760.1 to 777.69.

(3) A person sentenced to perform community service under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

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History: Add. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82129b Violation of MCL 324.82127(7)(a) or (b); sanctions; community service.

Sec. 82129b. (1) A person who violates section 82127(7)(a) is guilty of a crime punishable as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a person who violates section 82127(7)(a) is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year. Not less than 48 hours of this term of imprisonment shall be served consecutively. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(*ii*) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction or after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, a person who violates section 82127(7)(a) is guilty of a felony and shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $5,000.00 and to either of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for not less than 1 year or more than 5 years.

(*ii*) Probation with imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days or more than 1 year and community service for not less than 60 days or more than 180 days. Not less than 48 hours of this term of imprisonment shall be served consecutively. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(2) A person who violates section 82127(7)(b) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a person who violates section 82127(7)(b) may be sentenced to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Community service for not more than 60 days.

(*ii*) A fine of not more than $500.00.

(*iii*) Imprisonment for not more than 93 days.

(b) If the violation occurs within 7 years of a prior conviction or after 2 or more prior convictions, regardless of the number of years that have elapsed since any prior conviction, a person who violates section 82127(7)(b) shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than $200.00 or more than $1,000.00 and to 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) Imprisonment for not less than 5 days or more than 1 year. This term of imprisonment shall not be suspended unless the defendant agrees to participate in a specialty court program and successfully completes the program.

(*ii*) Community service for not less than 30 days or more than 90 days.

(3) In addition to imposing the sanctions prescribed under this section, the court may order the person to pay the costs of the prosecution under chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.1 to 769.36.

(4) A person sentenced to perform community service under this section shall not receive compensation and shall reimburse the state or appropriate local unit of government for the cost of supervision incurred by the state or local unit of government as a result of the person's activities in that service.

History: Add. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015;—Am. 2020, Act 385, Eff. Mar. 24, 2021.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82130 Enhanced sentence; listing of prior convictions; attempted violation.

Sec. 82130. (1) If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an enhanced sentence under section 82128, 82129, 82129a, or 82129b based upon the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting attorney shall include on the complaint and information filed in district court, circuit court, recorder's court, municipal court, or probate court a statement listing the defendant's prior convictions.

(2) A prior conviction shall be established at sentencing by 1 or more of the following:

(a) An abstract of conviction.

(b) An admission by the defendant.

(3) A person who is convicted of an attempted violation of section 82127(1) or (3) or a local ordinance

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substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3) shall be punished as if the offense had been completed.

(4) When issuing an order under this part, the secretary of state and the court shall treat a conviction of an attempted violation of section 82127(1) or (3), former section 15a(1) or (3) of 1968 PA 74, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3), a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3), or a law of the United States substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3) the same as if the offense had been completed.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82131 Display of lighted headlight and taillight required; applicability of section to snowmobile 25 years or older.

Sec. 82131. (1) A person shall not operate a snowmobile without displaying a lighted headlight and a lighted taillight. However, the headlight shall not be covered with a lens cap of any color.

(2) This section does not apply to a snowmobile of a model year 25 years old or older.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 29, Imd. Eff. Mar. 22, 2004.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82132 Accidents; notice; reports.

Sec. 82132. The operator of a snowmobile involved in an accident resulting in injuries to or the death of any person or property damage in an estimated amount of $100.00 or more shall immediately by the quickest means of communication notify a state police officer or officers, the sheriff's office of the county in which the accident occurred, or the office of the police department of the local unit of government in which the accident occurred. The police agency receiving the notice shall complete a report of the accident on forms prescribed by the director of the department of state police and forward the report to the department of state police within 14 days after the date of the accident. The department of state police shall forward a copy of all snowmobile accident reports to the department within 14 days after receipt of the accident report.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82133 Violation of part as misdemeanor; violation of 82113 and 82114(1) as civil infraction.

Sec. 82133. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this part, a person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) An individual who violates section 82113 for a first time is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00.

(3) An individual who violates section 82114(1) for a first time is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $150.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2022, Act 23, Eff. June 8, 2022.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82134 Violations; appearance tickets; presumption.

Sec. 82134. (1) A peace or police officer may issue appearance tickets for violations of this part pursuant to sections 9a to 9e of chapter 4 of the code of criminal procedure, Act No. 175 of the Public Acts of 1927, being sections 764.9a to 764.9e of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) In a proceeding for a violation of this part involving prohibited operation or conduct, the registration number displayed on a snowmobile constitutes prima facie evidence that the owner of the snowmobile was the person operating the snowmobile at the time of the offense.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82135 Failure to stop on signal of uniformed officer; penalty; identification of official vehicle.

Sec. 82135. An operator of a snowmobile who is given by hand, voice, emergency light, or siren a visual or audible signal by a peace, police, or conservation officer acting in the lawful performance of his or her duty, directing the operator to bring his or her snowmobile to a stop, and who willfully fails to obey the direction by increasing his or her speed or extinguishing his or her lights, or who otherwise attempts to flee or elude the officer, is guilty of a misdemeanor. The officer giving the signal shall be in uniform. A vehicle or snowmobile which is used by an officer at night for purposes of enforcing this part shall be identified as an official law enforcement vehicle or snowmobile.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82136 Arrest without warrant; preliminary chemical breath analysis.

Sec. 82136. (1) A peace officer, without a warrant, may arrest a person if the peace officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person was, at the time of an accident, the operator of a snowmobile involved in the accident in this state while in violation of section 82127(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (3), or (6).

(2) A peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that a person was operating a snowmobile and that, by the consumption of alcoholic liquor, the person may have affected his or her ability to operate a snowmobile may require the person to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis. The following apply with respect to a preliminary chemical breath analysis:

(a) A peace officer may arrest a person based in whole or in part upon the results of a preliminary chemical breath analysis.

(b) The results of a preliminary chemical breath analysis are admissible in a criminal prosecution for a crime enumerated in section 82143(1) or in an administrative hearing solely to assist the court or hearing officer in determining a challenge to the validity of an arrest. This subdivision does not limit the introduction of other competent evidence offered to establish the validity of an arrest.

(c) A person who submits to a preliminary chemical breath analysis remains subject to the requirements of sections 82143 to 82146 for the purposes of chemical tests described in those sections.

(d) A person who refuses to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis upon a lawful request by a peace officer is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82137 Chemical tests and analysis of person's blood, urine, or breath; provisions.

Sec. 82137. (1) The following apply with respect to a chemical test and analysis of a person's blood, urine, or breath, other than a preliminary chemical breath analysis:

(a) The amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in an operator's blood at the time alleged as shown by chemical analysis of the person's blood, urine, or breath is admissible into evidence in any civil or criminal proceeding.

(b) A person arrested for a crime described in section 82143(1) shall be advised of all of the following:

(*i*) That if the person takes a chemical test of his or her blood, urine, or breath administered at the request of a peace officer, the person has the right to demand that someone of the person's own choosing administer 1 of the chemical tests; that the results of the test are admissible in a judicial proceeding as provided under this part and shall be considered with other competent evidence in determining the innocence or guilt of the defendant; and that the person is responsible for obtaining a chemical analysis of a test sample obtained pursuant to the person's own request.

(*ii*) That if the person refuses the request of a peace officer to take a test described in subparagraph (*i*), the test shall not be given without a court order, but the peace officer may seek to obtain such a court order.

(*iii*) That the person's refusal of the request of a peace officer to take a test described in subparagraph (*i*)

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will result in issuance of an order that the person not operate a snowmobile.

(2) A sample or specimen of urine or breath shall be taken and collected in a reasonable manner. Only a licensed physician, or a licensed nurse or medical technician under the direction of a licensed physician, qualified to withdraw blood and acting in a medical environment, may withdraw blood at the request of a peace officer for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in a person's blood, as provided in this subsection. A qualified person who withdraws or analyzes blood, or assists in the withdrawal or analysis, in accordance with this part is not liable for a crime or civil damages predicated on the act of withdrawing or analyzing blood and related procedures unless the withdrawal or analysis is performed in a negligent manner.

(3) A rule relating to a chemical test for alcohol or a controlled substance promulgated under the Michigan vehicle code, Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being sections 257.1 to 257.923 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, applies to a chemical test administered under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82138 Chemical test and analysis of person's blood, urine, or breath; additional provisions.

Sec. 82138. (1) A chemical test described in section 82137 shall be administered at the request of a peace officer having reasonable grounds to believe the person has committed a crime described in section 82143(1). A person who takes a chemical test administered at the request of a peace officer, as provided in section 82137, shall be given a reasonable opportunity to have someone of the person's own choosing administer 1 of the chemical tests described in section 82137 within a reasonable time after the person's detention, and the results of the test are admissible and shall be considered with other competent evidence in determining the innocence or guilt of the defendant. If the person charged is administered a chemical test by someone of the person's own choosing, the person charged is responsible for obtaining a chemical analysis of the test sample.

(2) If, after an accident, the operator of a snowmobile involved in an accident is transported to a medical facility and a sample of the operator's blood is withdrawn at that time for the purpose of medical treatment, the results of a chemical analysis of that sample are admissible in any civil or criminal proceeding to show the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in the person's blood at the time alleged, regardless of whether the person had been offered or had refused a chemical test. The medical facility or person performing the chemical analysis shall disclose the results of the analysis to a prosecuting attorney who requests the results for use in a criminal prosecution as provided in this subsection. A medical facility or person disclosing information in compliance with this subsection is not civilly or criminally liable for making the disclosure.

(3) If, after an accident, the operator of a snowmobile involved in an accident is deceased, a sample of the decedent's blood shall be withdrawn in a manner directed by the medical examiner for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or the presence of a controlled substance, or both, in the decedent's blood. The medical examiner shall give the results of the chemical analysis of the sample to the law enforcement agency investigating the accident, and that agency shall forward the results to the department of state police.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82139 Introduction of other evidence not limited by MCL 324.82137 and 324.82138; availability of chemical test results.

Sec. 82139. (1) The provisions of sections 82137 and 82138 relating to chemical testing do not limit the introduction of any other competent evidence bearing upon the question of whether a person was impaired by, or under the influence of, alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance, or both, or whether the person had a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine or had in his or her body any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule 1 under section 7212 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7212, or a rule promulgated under that section, or of a controlled substance described in section 7214(a)(*iv*) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7214.

(2) If a chemical test described in sections 82137 and 82138 is administered, the results of the test shall be

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made available to the person charged or the person's attorney upon written request to the prosecution, with a copy of the request filed with the court. The prosecution shall furnish the results at least 2 days before the day of the trial. The results of the test shall be offered as evidence by the prosecution in that trial. Failure to fully comply with the request bars the admission of the results into evidence by the prosecution.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 183, Imd. Eff. May 3, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82140 Refusal to submit to chemical test; admissibility.

Sec. 82140.

A person's refusal to submit to a chemical test as provided in sections 82137 and 82138 is admissible in a criminal prosecution for a crime described in section 82143(1) only for the purpose of showing that a test was offered to the defendant, but not as evidence in determining innocence or guilt of the defendant. The jury shall be instructed accordingly.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 183, Imd. Eff. May 3, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82141 Acceptance of guilty plea or nolo contendere; advisement by court of maximum imprisonment and fine; screening, assessment, and rehabilitative services; record.

Sec. 82141. (1) Before accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere under section 82127 or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (2), or (3), the court shall advise the accused of the maximum possible term of imprisonment and the maximum possible fine that may be imposed for the violation.

(2) Before imposing sentence, other than court-ordered operating sanctions, for a violation of section 82127(1), (3), (4), or (5) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3), the court shall order the person to undergo screening and assessment by a person or agency designated by the office of substance abuse services to determine whether the person is likely to benefit from rehabilitative services, including alcohol or drug education or treatment programs. As part of the sentence, the court may order the person to participate in and successfully complete 1 or more appropriate rehabilitative programs. The person shall pay for the costs of the screening, assessment, and rehabilitative services.

(3) Each municipal judge and each clerk of a court of record shall keep a full record of every case in which a person is charged with a violation of section 82127(1) or (3). The municipal judge or clerk of the court of record shall prepare and immediately forward to the secretary of state an abstract of the court of record for each case charging a violation of section 82127(1) or (3).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1999, Act 22, Eff. Oct. 1, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82142 Consideration of prior convictions; sanctions.

Sec. 82142. Immediately upon acceptance by the court of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or upon entry of a verdict of guilty for a violation of section 82127(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (3), or (6) whether or not the person is eligible to be sentenced as a multiple offender, the court shall consider all prior convictions established under section 82130, except those convictions that, upon motion by the defendant, are determined by the court to be constitutionally invalid, and shall impose the following sanctions:

(a) For a conviction under section 82127(4) or (5), the court shall order, without an expiration date, that the person not operate a snowmobile.

(b) For a conviction under section 82127(1) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1):

(*i*) If the court finds that the person has no prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate a snowmobile for not less than 6 months or more than 2 years and shall require that the

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person take and successfully complete the snowmobile safety education and training program before operating a snowmobile.

(*ii*) If the court finds that the person has 1 or more prior convictions within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate a snowmobile for a period of not less than 1 year or more than 2 years and shall require the person to take and successfully complete the snowmobile safety education and training program before operating a snowmobile.

(*iii*) If the court finds that the person has 2 or more prior convictions within 10 years, the court shall order, without an expiration date, that the person not operate a snowmobile.

(c) For a conviction under section 82127(3) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(3):

(*i*) If the court finds that the convicted person has no prior conviction within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate a snowmobile for not less than 90 days or more than 1 year.

(*ii*) If the court finds that the person has 1 prior conviction within 7 years, the court shall order that the person not operate a snowmobile for not less than 6 months or more than 2 years.

(*iii*) If the court finds that the person has 2 or more prior convictions within 10 years, the court shall order, without an expiration date, the person not to operate a snowmobile.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82143 Implied consent to chemical tests; circumstances; exception; administration of chemical test.

Sec. 82143. (1) A person who operates a snowmobile is considered to have given consent to chemical tests of his or her blood, breath, or urine for the purpose of determining the amount of alcohol or presence of a controlled substance, or both, in his or her blood in all of the following circumstances:

(a) The person is arrested for a violation of section 82127(1), (3), (4), (5), (6), or (7) or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (3), or (6).

(b) The person is arrested for negligent homicide, manslaughter, or murder resulting from the operation of a snowmobile, and the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person was operating the snowmobile in violation of section 82127.

(2) A person who is afflicted with hemophilia, diabetes, or a condition requiring the use of an anticoagulant under the direction of a physician shall not be considered to have given consent to the withdrawal of blood.

(3) A chemical test described in subsection (1) shall be administered as provided in sections 82137 and 82138.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 183, Imd. Eff. May 3, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82144 Refusal to submit to chemical test; court order; report to secretary of state.

Sec. 82144. (1) If a person refuses the request of a peace officer to submit to a chemical test offered under section 82137 or 82138, a test shall not be given without a court order, but the officer may seek to obtain the court order.

(2) If a person refuses a chemical test offered under section 82137 or 82138, or submits to the chemical test and the test reveals a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine, the peace officer who requested the person to submit to the test shall immediately forward a written report to the secretary of state. The report shall state that the officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person had committed a crime described in section 82143(1), and either that the person has refused to submit to the test upon the request of the peace officer and has been advised of the consequences of the refusal or that the test revealed a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams or more per 100 milliliters of blood, per 210 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine. The form of the report shall be prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 183, Imd. Eff. May 3, 1996;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82145 Refusal to submit to chemical test; notice of right to hearing.

Sec. 82145. (1) If a person refuses to submit to a chemical test pursuant to section 82144, the peace officer shall immediately notify the person in writing that within 14 days of the date of the notice the person may request a hearing as provided in section 82146. The form of the notice shall be prescribed and furnished by the secretary of state.

(2) The notice shall specifically state that failure to request a hearing within 14 days will result in issuance of an order that the person not operate a snowmobile. The notice shall also state that there is not a requirement that the person retain counsel for the hearing, though counsel is permitted to represent the person at the hearing.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82146 Refusal to submit to chemical test; failure to request hearing; order; hearing procedures.

Sec. 82146. (1) If a person who refuses to submit to a chemical test under section 82144 does not request a hearing within 14 days of the date of notice under section 82145, the secretary of state shall issue an order that the person not operate a snowmobile for 1 year or, for a second or subsequent refusal within 7 years, for 2 years.

(2) If a hearing is requested, the secretary of state shall hold the hearing in the same manner and under the same conditions as provided in section 322 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.322. A person shall not order a hearing officer to make a particular finding on any issue enumerated under subdivisions (a) to (d). Not less than 5 days' notice of the hearing shall be mailed to the person requesting the hearing, to the peace officer who filed the report under section 82144, and, if the prosecuting attorney requests receipt of the notice, to the prosecuting attorney of the county where the arrest was made. The hearing officer may administer oaths, issue subpoenas for the attendance of necessary witnesses, and grant a reasonable request for an adjournment. Not more than 1 adjournment shall be granted to a party, and the length of an adjournment shall not exceed 14 days. A hearing under this subsection shall be scheduled to be held within 45 days after the date of arrest and, except for delay attributable to the unavailability of the defendant, a witness, or material evidence or to an interlocutory appeal or exceptional circumstances, but not for delay attributable to docket congestion, shall be finally adjudicated within 77 days after the date of arrest. The hearing shall cover only the following issues:

(a) Whether the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe that the person had committed a crime described in section 82143(1).

(b) Whether the person was placed under arrest for a crime described in section 82143(1).

(c) If the person refused to submit to the test upon the request of the officer, whether the refusal was reasonable.

(d) Whether the person was advised of his or her rights under section 82137.

(3) The hearing officer shall make a record of proceedings held under subsection (2). The record shall be prepared and transcribed in accordance with section 86 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.286. Upon notification of the filing of a petition for judicial review under section 82150 and not less than 10 days before the matter is set for review, the hearing officer shall transmit to the court in which the petition is filed the original or a certified copy of the official record of the proceedings. The parties to the proceedings for judicial review may stipulate that the record be shortened. A party unreasonably refusing to stipulate to a shortened record may be taxed by the court in which the petition is filed for the additional costs. The court may permit subsequent corrections to the record.

(4) After a hearing, if the person who requested the hearing does not prevail, the secretary of state shall order that the person not operate a snowmobile for 1 year or, for a second or subsequent refusal within 7 years, for 2 years. The person may file a petition in the circuit court of the county in which the arrest was made to review the order as provided in section 82150. If after the hearing the person who requested the hearing prevails, the peace officer who filed the report under section 82144 may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, file a petition in the circuit court of the county in which the arrest was made to review the determination of the hearing officer as provided in section 82150.

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History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82147 Issuance of order by secretary of state; operation of snowmobile prohibited; imposition of suspension for more than 1 conviction or probate court dispositions from same incident.

Sec. 82147. (1) Notwithstanding a court order issued under section 82127(1), (3), (4), or (5), section 15a(1), (3), (4), or (5) of former 1968 PA 74, sections 82141 to 82142, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3), or sections 82141 to 82142, if a court has not ordered a person not to operate a snowmobile as authorized by this part, the secretary of state shall issue an order that the person not operate a snowmobile as follows:

(a) For 90 days, upon receiving a record of the conviction of the person for a violation of section 82127(3), section 15a(3) of former 1968 PA 74, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(3), or a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 82127(3), if the person has no prior convictions within 7 years for a violation of section 82127(1), (3), (4), or (5), section 15a(1), (3), (4), or (5) of former 1968 PA 74, or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1) or (3) or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (3), (4), or (5) or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74.

(b) For 1 year for a violation of section 324, 413, or 414 of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.324, 750.413, and 750.414; or a violation of section 626(3) or (4) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.626.

(c) For 6 months, if the person has the following convictions within a 7-year period, whether under the law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(*i*) One conviction under section 82127(1), section 15a(1) of former 1968 PA 74, or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74.

(*ii*) Two convictions under section 82127(3), section 15a(3) of former 1968 PA 74, or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74.

(*iii*) One conviction under section 82127(1) or section 15a(1) of former 1968 PA 74 and 1 conviction under section 82127(3), section 15a(3) of former 1968 PA 74, or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74.

(*iv*) One conviction under section 82127(4) or (5) or section 15a(4) or (5) of former 1968 PA 74 followed by 1 conviction under section 82127(3) or section 15a(3) of former 1968 PA 74.

(2) If the secretary of state receives records of more than 1 conviction or probate court or family division of circuit court disposition of a person resulting from the same incident, a suspension shall be imposed only for the violation to which the longest period of suspension applies under this section.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2001, Act 148, Eff. Feb. 1, 2002;—Am. 2008, Act 465, Imd. Eff. Jan. 9, 2009.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82147a Suspension or revocation of operator's or chauffeur's license; operation of snowmobile prohibited; violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 82147a. (1) If the operator's or chauffeur's license of a person who is a resident of this state is suspended or revoked by the secretary of state under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or if the driver license of a person who is a nonresident is suspended or revoked under the law of the state in which he or she resides, that person shall not operate a snowmobile under this part for the same period.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(a) For a first conviction, imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

(b) For a second or subsequent conviction, imprisonment for not more than 180 days or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1999, Act 43, Eff. Oct. 1, 2000.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82148 Convictions prohibiting operation of snowmobile; order; sharing conviction records; termination of indefinite order; multiple convictions or probate court dispositions resulting from same incident; hearing; record; judicial review.

Sec. 82148. (1) Upon receipt of the appropriate records of conviction, the secretary of state shall issue an order with no expiration date that the person not operate a snowmobile to a person having any of the following convictions, whether under a law of this state, a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a law of this state, or a law of another state substantially corresponding to a law of this state:

(a) Two convictions of a felony involving the use of a snowmobile within 7 years.

(b) Any combination of 2 convictions within 7 years for a violation of section 82127(1), section 15a(1) of former 1968 PA 74, or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74, as added by 1980 PA 402.

(c) One conviction under section 82127(4) or (5) or section 15a(4) or (5) of former 1968 PA 74.

(d) Any combination of 3 convictions within 10 years for a violation of section 82127(1) or (3), section 15a(1) or (3) of former 1968 PA 74, or section 15a of former 1968 PA 74, as added by 1980 PA 402.

(2) The department shall seek to enter agreements with the appropriate agencies of other states, Canada, and provinces and territories of Canada for the sharing of records of convictions described in subsection (1).

(3) The secretary of state shall issue an order with no expiration date that a person not operate a snowmobile notwithstanding a court order issued under section 82142, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82142. The secretary of state shall not terminate an indefinite order issued under this part until both of the following occur:

(a) The later of the following:

(*i*) The expiration of not less than 1 year after the order was issued.

(*ii*) The expiration of not less than 5 years after the date of a subsequent issuance of an indefinite order occurring within 7 years after the date of a prior order.

(b) The person meets the requirements of the department of state.

(4) Multiple convictions or probate court dispositions resulting from the same incident shall be treated as a single violation for purposes of issuance of an order under this section.

(5) A person who is aggrieved by the issuance of an order by the secretary of state under this section may request a hearing with the secretary of state. The hearing shall be requested within 14 days after issuance of an order under this section by the secretary of state. If a hearing is requested, the secretary of state shall hold the hearing in the same manner and under the same conditions as provided in section 322 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.322.

(6) The hearing officer shall make a record of proceedings held under subsection (5). The record shall be prepared and transcribed in accordance with section 86 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.286. Upon notification of the filing of a petition for judicial review under section 82150 and not less than 10 days before the matter is set for review, the hearing officer shall transmit to the court in which the petition is filed the original or a certified copy of the official record of the proceedings. The parties to the proceedings for judicial review may stipulate that the record be shortened. A party unreasonably refusing to stipulate to a shortened record may be taxed by the court in which the petition is filed for the additional costs. The court may permit subsequent corrections to the record.

(7) Judicial review of an administrative sanction under this section is governed by the law in effect at the time the offense was committed or attempted.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2005, Act 175, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2005;—Am. 2014, Act 404, Eff. Mar. 31, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82149 Operation of snowmobile prohibited; issuance of order without expiration date; notice; expiration of order; conditions.

Sec. 82149. (1) If a person is charged with, or convicted of, a violation of section 82127(1), (2), (3), (4), or (5), former section 15a(1), (2), (3), (4), or (5) of Act No. 74 of the Public Acts of 1968, or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (2), or (3), and the person fails to answer a citation or a notice to appear in court, or for any matter pending, or fails to comply with an order or judgment of the court, including, but not limited to, paying all fines, costs, and crime victim's rights assessments, the court shall immediately give notice by first-class mail sent to the person's last known address that if the person fails to

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appear within 7 days after the notice is issued or fails to comply with the order or judgment of the court, including, but not limited to, paying all fines, costs, and crime victim's rights assessments, within 14 days after the notice is issued, the secretary of state will issue an order with no expiration date that the person not operate a snowmobile. If the person fails to appear within the 7-day period or fails to comply with the order or judgment of the court, including, but not limited to, paying all fines, costs, and crime victim rights assessments, within the 14-day period, the court shall immediately inform the secretary of state who shall immediately issue the order and send a copy to the person by personal service or first-class mail sent to the person's last known address.

(2) An order imposed under subsection (1) remains in effect until both of the following occur:

(a) The court informs the secretary of state that the person has appeared before the court and that all matters relating to the violation are resolved.

(b) The person has paid to the court a $25.00 administrative order processing fee.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82150 Final determination by secretary of state; petition for review in circuit court; consideration of record by court; authority of court to affirm, modify, or set aside order; applicability of section.

Sec. 82150. (1) A person who is aggrieved by a final determination of the secretary of state under this part may petition for a review of the determination in the circuit court in the county where the person was arrested. The petition shall be filed within 63 days after the determination is made except that, for good cause shown, the court may allow the petition to be filed within 182 days after the determination is made. As provided in section 82146, a peace officer who is aggrieved by a determination of a hearing officer in favor of a person who requested a hearing under section 82146 may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, petition for review of the determination in the circuit court in the county where the arrest was made. The petition shall be filed within 63 days after the determination is made except that, for good cause shown, the court may allow the petition to be filed within 182 days after the determination is made.

(2) The circuit court shall enter an order setting the cause for hearing for a day certain that is not more than 63 days after the date of the order. The order, a copy of the petition, which shall include the person's full name, current address, and birth date, and all supporting affidavits shall be served on the secretary of state's office in Lansing not less than 20 days before the date set for the hearing. If the person is seeking a review of the record prepared pursuant to section 82146, the service upon the secretary of state shall be made not less than 50 days before the date set for the hearing.

(3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (6), the court may take testimony and examine all the facts and circumstances incident to the order that the person not operate a snowmobile. The court may affirm, modify, or set aside the order. The order of the court shall be duly entered, and the petitioner shall file a certified copy of the order with the secretary of state's office in Lansing within 7 days after entry of the order.

(4) In reviewing a determination under section 82146, the court shall confine its consideration to a review of the record prepared pursuant to section 82146 to determine whether the hearing officer properly determined the issues enumerated in section 82146.

(5) In reviewing a determination resulting in issuance of an order under section 82148(1)(b), (c), or (d), the court shall confine its consideration to a review of the record prepared pursuant to section 82148. The court shall set aside the determination of the secretary of state only if substantial rights of the petitioner have been prejudiced because the determination is any of the following:

(a) In violation of the constitution of the United States, the state constitution of 1963, or a statute.

(b) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the secretary of state.

(c) Made upon unlawful procedure resulting in material prejudice to the petitioner.

(d) Not supported by competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record.

(e) Arbitrary, capricious, or clearly an abuse or unwarranted exercise of discretion.

(f) Affected by other substantial and material error of law.

(6) This section does not apply to an order issued by the secretary of state pursuant to a court order issued as part of the sentence for a conviction under section 82127, sections 82141 to 82142 or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127(1), (2), or (3).

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82151 Ex parte order to stay pending order.

Sec. 82151. (1) Within 63 days after the determination, a person who is aggrieved by a final determination of the secretary of state under this part may petition the circuit court for the county in which the conviction or determination resulting in issuance of the order that the person not operate a snowmobile for an order staying the order. Except as provided in subsection (2), the court may enter an ex parte order staying the order subject to terms and conditions prescribed by the court until the determination of an appeal to the secretary of state or of an appeal or a review by the circuit court, or for a lesser time that the court considers proper.

(2) The court shall not enter an ex parte order staying the order if the order is based upon a claim of undue hardship.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82152 Operation of snowmobile prohibited; knowingly permitting operation by person subject to order prohibited; violation of subsection (1) as misdemeanor; extension of length of order; cancellation of certificate of registration.

Sec. 82152. (1) A person who is ordered not to operate a snowmobile and who has been notified of the order by personal service or first-class mail shall not operate a snowmobile. A person shall not knowingly permit a snowmobile owned by the person to be operated by a person who is subject to such an order. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(a) By imprisonment for not more than 90 days or by a fine of not more than $500.00, or both.

(b) For a second or subsequent violation punishable under this subsection, by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than $1,000.00, or both.

(2) Upon receiving a record of the conviction or probate court disposition of a person upon a charge of unlawful operation of a snowmobile while the person is subject to an order not to operate a snowmobile, the secretary of state shall immediately extend the length of the order for an additional like period.

(3) If the secretary of state receives records of more than 1 conviction or probate court disposition resulting from the same incident, all of the convictions or probate court dispositions shall be treated as a single violation for purposes of extending the length of an order under subsection (2).

(4) If a person is convicted of violating subsection (1), the court shall order cancellation of the certificate of registration for the snowmobile, unless the snowmobile was stolen or permission to use the snowmobile was not knowingly given. The secretary of state shall not issue a certificate of registration for a snowmobile whose registration is canceled until after the expiration of 90 days after the cancellation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82153 Impoundment of snowmobile.

Sec. 82153. (1) When a person is convicted under section 82152(1), the snowmobile, if it is owned by that person, shall be ordered impounded for not less than 30 or more than 120 days from the date of judgment.

(2) An order of impoundment issued pursuant to subsection (1) is valid throughout the state. Any peace officer may execute the impoundment order. The order shall include the implied consent of the owner of the snowmobile to the storage for insurance coverage purposes.

(3) The owner of a snowmobile impounded pursuant to this section is liable for expenses incurred in the removal and storage of the snowmobile whether or not the snowmobile is returned to him or her. The snowmobile shall be returned to the owner only if the owner pays the expenses for removal and storage. If redemption is not made or the snowmobile is not returned as provided in this section within 30 days after the time set in the impoundment order for return of the snowmobile, the snowmobile shall be considered abandoned.

(4) Nothing in this section affects the rights of a conditional vendor, chattel mortgagee, or lessor of a snowmobile registered in the name of another person as owner who becomes subject to this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

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Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82154 Conviction based on plea of nolo contendere.

Sec. 82154. A conviction based on a plea of nolo contendere shall be treated in the same manner as a conviction based on a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt for all purposes under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82155 Expiration of order not to operate snowmobile; administrative order processing fee.

Sec. 82155. Whether of definite or indefinite length, an order not to operate a snowmobile does not expire until the person subject to the order pays an administrative order processing fee of $125.00 to the secretary of state. The state treasurer shall deposit $10.00 of the fee in the drunk driving prevention equipment and training fund created under section 625h(1) of the Michigan vehicle code, Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being section 257.625h of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and $30.00 in the drunk driving caseflow assistance fund created under section 625h(5) of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, being section 257.625h of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The state treasurer shall allocate the balance of the fee to the department of state for the administration of orders issued under this part.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82156 Availability of records to public; commercial lookup service of snowmobile operation, title, and registration; disposition of fees; computerized central file; providing records to nongovernmental person or entity; payment; admissibility in evidence.

Sec. 82156. (1) The secretary of state shall make available to the public records maintained under this part, other than those declared to be confidential by law or that are restricted by law from disclosure to the public, under procedures prescribed in this part and the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(2) The secretary of state may provide a commercial lookup service of snowmobile operation, title, and registration records maintained under this part. For each individual record looked up, the secretary of state shall charge a fee of $15.00 per record. The secretary of state shall process a commercial lookup request only if the request is in a form or format prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall credit fees collected under this subsection to the transportation administration collection fund created in section 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b, through October 1, 2027.

(3) To provide an individual, historical snowmobiling record, the secretary of state shall create and maintain a computerized central file that includes the information contained on application forms received under this part and the name of each individual who is convicted of an offense, who fails to comply with an order or judgment issued, or against whom an order is entered under this part or former 1968 PA 74. The computerized central file must be interfaced with the law enforcement information network as provided in the C.J.I.S. policy council act, 1974 PA 163, MCL 28.211 to 28.215.

(4) The secretary of state shall not provide an entire computerized central or other file of records maintained under this part to a nongovernmental person or entity unless the purchaser pays the prescribed fee or price for each individual record contained within the computerized file.

(5) A certified copy of an order, record, or paper maintained in this record is admissible in evidence in like manner as the original and is prima facie proof of the facts stated in the original.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2005, Act 174, Imd. Eff. Oct. 12, 2005;—Am. 2009, Act 100, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2009;—Am. 2011, Act 90, Imd. Eff. July 15, 2011;—Am. 2015, Act 77, Eff. Oct. 1, 2015;—Am. 2019, Act 81, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 2019;—Am. 2023, Act 140, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 2023.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

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324.82156a Disclosure of personal information; uses.

Sec. 82156a. (1) Except as provided in this section and in section 82156c, personal information in a record maintained under this part shall not be disclosed, unless the person requesting the information furnishes proof of identity deemed satisfactory to the secretary of state and certifies that the personal information requested will be used for a permissible purpose identified in this section or in section 82156c. Notwithstanding this section, highly restricted personal information shall be used and disclosed only as expressly permitted by law.

(2) Personal information in a record maintained under this act shall be disclosed by the secretary of state if required to carry out the purposes of a specified federal law. As used in this section, "specified federal law" means the automobile information disclosure act, Public Law 85-506, 15 U.S.C. 1231 to 1232 and 1233, the former motor vehicle information and cost savings act, Public Law 92-513, the former national traffic and motor vehicle safety act of 1966, Public Law 89-563, the anti-car theft act of 1992, Public Law 102-519, 106 Stat. 3384, the clean air act, chapter 360, 69 Stat. 322, 42 U.S.C. 7401 to 7431, 7470 to 7479, 7491 to 7492, 7501 to 7509a, 7511 to 7515, 7521 to 7525, 7541 to 7545, 7547 to 7550, 7552 to 7554, 7571 to 7574, 7581 to 7590, 7601 to 7612, 7614 to 7617, 7619 to 7622, 7624 to 7627, 7641 to 7642, 7651 to 7651o, 7661 to 7661f, and 7671 to 7671q, and all federal regulations promulgated to implement these federal laws.

(3) Personal information in a record maintained under this part may be disclosed as follows:

(a) For use by any government agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out its functions, or any private person or entity acting on behalf of a government agency in carrying out its functions.

(b) For use in connection with matters of snowmobile and operator safety or ORV theft; snowmobile emissions; snowmobile product alterations, recalls, or advisories; performance monitoring of snowmobiles; snowmobiles research activities, including survey research; and the removal of nonowner records from the original records of snowmobile manufacturers.

(c) For use in the normal course of business by a business or its agents, employees, or contractors to verify the accuracy of personal information submitted by an individual to the business or its agents, employees, or contractors, and if the information as submitted is not correct or is no longer correct, to obtain the correct information, but only for the purposes of preventing fraud, by pursuing legal remedies against, or recovering on a debt or security interest against, the individual.

(d) For use in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitral proceeding in any court or government agency or before any self-regulatory body, including the service of process, investigation in anticipation of litigation, and the execution or enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of any court.

(e) For use in legitimate research activities and in preparing statistical reports for commercial, scholarly, or academic purposes by a bona fide research organization, so long as the personal information is not published, redisclosed, or used to contact individuals.

(f) For use by any insurer, self-insurer, or insurance support organization, or its agents, employees, or contractors, in connection with claims investigation activities, antifraud activities, rating, or underwriting.

(g) For use in providing notice to the owner of an abandoned, towed, or impounded snowmobile.

(h) For use by any licensed private security guard agency or alarm system contractor licensed under the private security guard act of 1968, 1968 PA 330, MCL 338.1051 to 338.1085, or a private detective or private investigator licensed under the private detective license act of 1965, 1965 PA 285, MCL 338.821 to 338.851, for any purpose permitted under this section.

(i) For use by an ORV rental business or its employees, agents, contractors, or service firms for the purpose of making rental decisions.

(j) For use by a news medium in the preparation and dissemination of a report related in part or in whole to the operation of a motor vehicle or public safety. "News medium" includes a newspaper, a magazine or periodical published at regular intervals, a news service, a broadcast network, a television station, a radio station, a cablecaster, or an entity employed by any of the foregoing.

(k) For any use by an individual requesting information pertaining to himself or herself or requesting in writing that the secretary of state provide information pertaining to himself or herself to the individual's designee. A request for disclosure to a designee, however, may be submitted only by the individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82156b Resale or redisclosure of information; maintenance of records; duration;

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availability for inspection.

Sec. 82156b. (1) An authorized recipient of personal information disclosed under section 82156a may resell or redisclose the information for any use permitted under section 82156a.

(2) Any authorized recipient, except a recipient of an individual record or records under subsection (4)(b), who resells or rediscloses personal information shall be required by the secretary of state to maintain for a period of not less than 5 years records as to the information obtained and the permitted use for which it was obtained, and to make such records available for inspection by the secretary of state, upon request.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82156c Furnishing list of information to federal, state, or local governmental agency; contract for sale of lists of records; surveys, marketing, and solicitations; insertion of safeguards in agreement or contract; duties of recipient of personal information; disclosure of list based on snowmobile operation or sanctions.

Sec. 82156c. (1) Upon request, the secretary of state may furnish a list of information from the records of the department maintained under this part to a federal, state, or local governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions, or to a private person or entity acting on behalf of a governmental agency for use in carrying out the agency's functions. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the secretary of state may charge the requesting agency a preparation fee to cover the cost of preparing and furnishing a list provided under this subsection if the cost of preparation exceeds $25.00, and use the revenues received from the service to defray necessary expenses. If the secretary of state sells a list of information under this subsection to a member of the state legislature, the secretary of state shall charge the same fee as the fee for the sale of information under subsection (2) unless the list of information is requested by the member of the legislature to carry out a legislative function. The secretary of state may require the requesting agency to furnish 1 or more blank computer tapes, cartridges, or other electronic media, and may require the agency to execute a written memorandum of agreement as a condition of obtaining a list of information under this subsection.

(2) The secretary of state may contract for the sale of lists of records maintained under this part in bulk, in addition to those lists distributed at cost or at no cost under this section, for purposes defined in section 82156a(3). The secretary of state shall require each purchaser of information in bulk to execute a written purchase contract. The secretary of state shall fix a market-based price for the sale of lists of bulk information, which may include personal information. The proceeds from each sale shall be used by the secretary of state to defray the costs of list preparation and for other necessary or related expenses.

(3) The secretary of state or any other state agency shall not sell or furnish any list of information under subsection (2) for the purpose of surveys, marketing, and solicitations. The secretary of state shall ensure that personal information disclosed in bulk will be used, rented, or sold solely for uses permitted under this part.

(4) The secretary of state may insert any safeguard the secretary considers reasonable or necessary, including a bond requirement, in a memorandum of agreement or purchase contract executed under this section, to ensure that the information furnished or sold is used only for a permissible use and that the rights of individuals and of the secretary of state are protected.

(5) An authorized recipient of personal information disclosed under this section who resells or rediscloses the information for any of the permissible purposes described in section 82156a(3) shall do both of the following:

(a) Make and keep for a period of not less than 5 years records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(b) Allow a representative of the secretary of state, upon request, to inspect and copy records identifying each person who received personal information from the authorized recipient and the permitted purpose for which it was obtained.

(6) The secretary of state shall not disclose a list based on snowmobile operation or sanctions to a nongovernmental agency, including an individual.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997;—Am. 2000, Act 194, Eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82157 Abstract or record to be kept by court clerk of record.

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Sec. 82157. (1) Each district judge and each clerk of a court of record shall keep a full record of every case in which a person is charged with or cited for a violation of this part or former Act No. 74 of the Public Acts of 1968 or of a local ordinance corresponding to this part or former Act No. 74 of the Public Acts of 1968 regulating the operation of snowmobiles.

(2) Within 14 days after a conviction, forfeiture of bail, entry of a civil infraction determination, or default judgment upon a charge of, or citation for, violating this part or a local ordinance corresponding to this part regulating the operation of snowmobiles, except as provided in subsection (11), the district judge or clerk of the court of record shall prepare and immediately forward to the secretary of state an abstract of the record of the court for the case. The abstract shall be certified to be true and correct by signature, stamp, or facsimile signature by the person required to prepare the abstract. If a city or village department, bureau, or person is authorized to accept a payment of money as a settlement for a violation of a local ordinance corresponding to this part, the city or village department, bureau, or person shall send a full report of each case in which a person pays any amount of money to the city or village department, bureau, or person to the secretary of state upon a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

(3) The abstract or report required under this section shall be made upon a form furnished by the secretary of state and shall include all of the following:

(a) The name, address, and date of birth of the person charged or cited.

(b) The date and nature of the violation.

(c) The type of snowmobile operated at the time of the violation.

(d) The date of the conviction, finding, forfeiture, judgment, or determination.

(e) Whether bail was forfeited.

(f) Any order issued by the court pursuant to this part.

(g) Other information considered necessary to the secretary of state.

(4) As used in subsections (5) to (7), "felony in which a snowmobile was used" means a felony during the commission of which the person operated a snowmobile and while operating the snowmobile presented real or potential harm to persons or property and 1 or more of the following circumstances existed:

(a) The snowmobile was used as an instrument of the felony.

(b) The snowmobile was used to transport a victim of the felony.

(c) The snowmobile was used to flee the scene of the felony.

(d) The snowmobile was necessary for the commission of the felony.

(5) If a person is charged with a felony in which a snowmobile was used, the prosecuting attorney shall include the following statement on the complaint and information filed in district or circuit court: "You are charged with the commission of a felony in which a snowmobile was used. If you are convicted and the judge finds that the conviction is for a felony in which a snowmobile was used, as defined in section 82157 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, the secretary of state will order you not to operate a snowmobile in this state.".

(6) If a child is accused of an act the nature of which constitutes a felony in which a snowmobile was used, the prosecuting attorney or juvenile court shall include the following statement on the petition filed in the probate court: "You are accused of an act the nature of which constitutes a felony in which a snowmobile was used. If the accusation is found to be true and the judge or referee finds that the nature of the act constitutes a felony in which a snowmobile was used, as defined in section 82157 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, the secretary of state will order you not to operate a snowmobile in this state.".

(7) If the judge or juvenile court referee determines as part of the sentence or disposition that the felony for which the defendant was convicted or adjudicated and with respect to which notice was given pursuant to subsection (5) or (6) is a felony in which a snowmobile was used, the clerk of the court shall forward an abstract of the court record of that conviction or adjudication to the secretary of state.

(8) Every person required to forward abstracts to the secretary of state under this section shall certify for the period from January 1 through June 30 and for the period from July 1 through December 31 that all abstracts required to be forwarded during the period have been forwarded. The certification shall be filed with the secretary of state not later than 28 days after the end of the period covered by the certification. The certification shall be made upon a form furnished by the secretary of state and shall include all of the following:

(a) The name and title of the person required to forward abstracts.

(b) The court for which the certification is filed.

(c) The time period covered by the certification.

(d) The following statement: "I certify that all abstracts required by section 82157 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, for the period _____ through _____ have been forwarded to the secretary of state.".

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(e) Other information the secretary of state considers necessary.

(f) The signature of the person required to forward abstracts.

(9) The failure, refusal, or neglect of a person to comply with this section constitutes misconduct in office and is grounds for removal from office.

(10) Except as provided in subsection (11), the secretary of state shall keep all abstracts received under this section at the secretary of state's main office, and the abstracts shall be open for public inspection during the office's usual business hours. The secretary of state shall enter each abstract upon the snowmobiling record of the person to whom it pertains and shall record the information in a manner that makes the information available to peace officers through the law enforcement information network.

(11) The court shall not submit, and the secretary of state shall discard and not enter on the snowmobiling record, an abstract for a conviction or civil infraction determination for a violation of this part that could not be the basis for the secretary of state's issuance of an order not to operate a snowmobile in this state. The secretary of state shall discard and not enter on the snowmobiling record an abstract for a bond forfeiture that occurred outside this state.

(12) The secretary of state shall inform the court of the violations of this part that are used by the secretary of state as the basis for issuance of an order not to operate a snowmobile in this state.

(13) If a conviction or civil infraction determination is reversed upon appeal, the court shall transmit a copy of the order of reversal to the secretary of state, and the secretary of state shall enter the order in the proper book or index in connection with the record of the conviction or civil infraction determination.

(14) The secretary of state may permit a city or village department, bureau, person, or court to modify the requirement as to the time and manner of reporting a conviction, civil infraction determination, or settlement to the secretary of state if the modification will increase the economy and efficiency of collecting and utilizing the records. If the permitted abstract of court record reporting a conviction, civil infraction determination, or settlement originates as a part of the written notice to appeal, authorized in section 82134, the form of the written notice and report shall be as prescribed by the secretary of state.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82158 Operator of snowmobile detained by officer; conduct of operator as misdemeanor; arrest without warrant.

Sec. 82158. (1) The operator or person in charge of a snowmobile being used or operated in this state, who is by hand, voice, emergency light or siren, or a visual or audible signal directed to bring his or her snowmobile to a stop by any peace, police, or conservation officer who is in uniform and empowered to enforce this part or the provisions of a local ordinance or rules established under this part, shall immediately bring the snowmobile to a stop or maneuver it in a manner that permits the officer to come alongside. A vehicle or snowmobile that is used by an officer at night for purposes of enforcing this part shall be identified as an official law enforcement vehicle or snowmobile. The operator or person in charge of the snowmobile and any other person on board shall give his or her correct name and address, exhibit the certificate of registration awarded for the snowmobile, and submit to a reasonable inspection of the snowmobile and to a reasonable inspection and test of the equipment of the snowmobile.

(2) A person who willfully fails to obey the direction by increasing his or her speed or extinguishing his or her lights, or who otherwise attempts to flee or elude the officer, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(3) A person who is detained for a violation of this part or of a local ordinance substantially corresponding to a provision of this part and who furnishes a peace officer false, forged, fictitious, or misleading verbal or written information identifying the person as another person is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(4) A peace officer who observes a violation by a person of this part or of a local ordinance or rule established under this part may arrest the person without a warrant.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82159 Person arrested without warrant to be taken before magistrate or judge.

Sec. 82159. If a person is arrested without a warrant for any of the following, the arrested person shall be taken, without unreasonable delay, before a magistrate or judge who is within the county in which the offense

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charged is alleged to have been committed, who has jurisdiction of the offense, and who is nearest or most accessible with reference to the place where the arrest is made:

(a) The person is arrested upon a charge of negligent homicide.

(b) The person is arrested under section 82127 or a local ordinance substantially corresponding to section 82127. If in the existing circumstances it does not appear that releasing the person pending the issuance of a warrant will constitute a public menace, the arresting officer may proceed as provided by section 82134.

History: Add. 1995, Act 58, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82160 Prohibited conduct; violations as felony; penalties.

Sec. 82160. (1) A person who makes a false representation or false certification to obtain personal information under this part, or who uses personal information for a purpose other than a permissible purpose identified in section 82156a or 82156c, is guilty of a felony.

(2) A person who is convicted of a second violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 2 years or more than 7 years, or by a fine of not less than $1,500.00 or more than $7,000.00, or both.

(3) A person who is convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 5 years or more than 15 years, or by a fine of not less than $5,000.00 or more than $15,000.00, or both.

History: Add. 1997, Act 102, Imd. Eff. Aug. 7, 1997.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

324.82161 Abandonment of snowmobile prohibited; presumption; violation; civil infraction.

Sec. 82161. (1) A person shall not abandon a snowmobile in this state.

(2) The last registered owner of the snowmobile is presumed to be responsible for abandoning the snowmobile unless the person provides a record of the transfer of the snowmobile to another person. The record of transfer must be a form or document that includes the transferee's name, address, driver license number, and signature, date of transfer of the snowmobile, and, if applicable, the sale price.

(3) Sections 80130f(2) to 80130p apply to a snowmobile in the same manner as those provisions apply to a vessel, except that section 80130k(3)(b)(*ii*) does not apply to a snowmobile.

(4) A person who violates subsection (1) and who fails to redeem the snowmobile before disposition of the snowmobile under section 80130k is responsible for a state civil infraction as provided in section 8905a.

History: Add. 2014, Act 549, Eff. Apr. 16, 2015.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

Popular name: Snowmobiles

SUBCHAPTER 7
FOREST RECREATION

PART 831
STATE FOREST RECREATION

324.83101 Definitions.

Sec. 83101. As used in this part:

(a) "Concession" means an agreement between the department and a person under terms and conditions as specified by the department to provide services or recreational opportunities for public use.

(b) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(c) "Director" means the director of the department.

(d) "Forest recreation account" means the forest recreation account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2005.

(e) "Lease" means a conveyance by the department to a person of a portion of the state's interest in land under specific terms and for valuable consideration, thereby granting to the lessee the possession of that portion conveyed during the period stipulated.

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(f) "State forest" means those lands designated as state forests by the department.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.83102 Recreation within state forest; scope.

Sec. 83102. The department shall develop, operate, maintain, and promote an integrated recreation system that provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, snowmobiling, off-road vehicle trail riding, boating, trail related activities, and other forms of recreation within each state forest. In developing, operating, maintaining, and promoting this recreation system, the department shall focus on maintaining the integrity of the forest while supporting recreation activities and experiences for which a large land base, rustic nature, and the forest and forest values are critical to the activity.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.83103 Implementation of MCL 324.83102; powers of department; disposition of money collected; grant and award of concessions; notice to legislature; report.

Sec. 83103. (1) In implementing section 83102, the department may do any of the following:

(a) Enter into contracts or agreements with a person as may be necessary to implement this part.

(b) Grant concessions within the boundaries of a state forest to a person. In granting a concession, the department shall provide for all of the following:

(*i*) That the concession or any related structure, facility, equipment, or service is compatible with the natural resource values of the surrounding forest area and is appropriate for the forest recreation system.

(*ii*) That each concession is awarded at least every 7 years based on extension, renegotiation, or competitive bidding. However, if the department determines that a concession requires a capital investment in which a reasonable financing or amortization necessitates a longer term, the department may grant a concession for up to a 15-year term.

(*iii*) That a concession requiring a capital expenditure of more than $100,000.00 for a building or structure be provided for in the state forest management plan for the state forest in which the concession is proposed to be located.

(*iv*) That all buildings and equipment shall be removed from the state forest property at the end of the concession term, unless the department authorizes otherwise.

(*v*) That no concession or concession operator is granted the authority to charge a fee for access to public land or a public recreation resource.

(*vi*) That all prices, rates, and charges and all services or items offered in the operation of the concession shall be approved by the department.

(c) Lease property to a person.

(d) Accept gifts, grants, or bequests from any public or private source or from the federal government or a local unit of government for furthering the purposes of this part.

(2) Unless otherwise provided by state or federal law, all money collected under this section shall be deposited into the forest recreation account.

(3) Not less than 3 months before granting a concession for more than $500,000.00 or that will require a capital expenditure of more than $500,000.00, the department shall notify each member of the house of representatives and senate with primary responsibility for natural resources issues of its intention to grant the concession and of specific details on the nature of the concession.

(4) By December 31 of each year, the department shall submit to the legislature a report that provides details on all concessions awarded during the previous year under subsection (1).

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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324.83104 Forest recreation account; use.

Sec. 83104. Money in the forest recreation account shall be used by the department to develop, maintain, operate, and promote forest recreation activities and to implement this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.83105 Forest recreation activities; volunteers.

Sec. 83105. (1) The department may appoint persons to function as volunteers for the purpose of facilitating forest recreation activities. While a volunteer is serving in such a capacity, the volunteer has the same immunity from civil liability as a department employee and shall be treated in the same manner as an employee under section 8 of 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1408.

(2) A volunteer under subsection (1) shall not carry a firearm when functioning as a volunteer.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.83106 Camping permit; fee; permit to use lands and facilities; exception; deposit of money into account.

Sec. 83106. (1) The department may require a person to obtain a permit for camping in designated state forest campgrounds and may establish and collect a fee for the camping permit. However, at least 6 months before increasing a camping permit fee, the department shall provide written notice of its intent to do so to the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives that have primary jurisdiction over legislation pertaining to natural resources and the environment.

(2) The department may require a person to obtain a permit, except as otherwise provided by law, for the use of lands and facilities within the state forest as designated by the department for recreation use. The department shall not require a permit or payment of a fee for use of a state forest nonmotorized trail or pathway or state forest campground facility except as provided in subsection (1) or otherwise provided in this act.

(3) Money collected under this section shall be deposited into the forest recreation account.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998;—Am. 2004, Act 587, Eff. Dec. 23, 2006;—Am. 2010, Act 34, Eff. Oct. 1, 2010.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 587 of 2004 provides:
"Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect unless House Joint Resolution Z of the 92nd Legislature becomes a part of the state constitution of 1963 as provided in section 1 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.83107 Rules; enforcement by state forest officers.

Sec. 83107. To ensure compliance with this part, rules promulgated under this part and this act, including the state land use rules provided in R 299.331 to R 299.335 of the Michigan administrative code, and any orders of the director, the director may commission state forest officers to enforce upon properties administered by the department these rules and any laws of this state specified in those rules as enforceable by commissioned state forest officers. In performing those enforcement activities, commissioned state forest officers are vested with the powers, privileges, prerogatives, and immunities conferred upon peace officers under the laws of this state.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

324.83108 Rules.

Sec. 83108. The department may promulgate rules to implement this part.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

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Popular name: NREPA

324.83109 Violation as state civil infraction; fine.

Sec. 83109. A person who violates this part or a rule promulgated under this part is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $500.00.

History: Add. 1998, Act 418, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 1998.

Popular name: Act 451

Popular name: NREPA

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