



MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

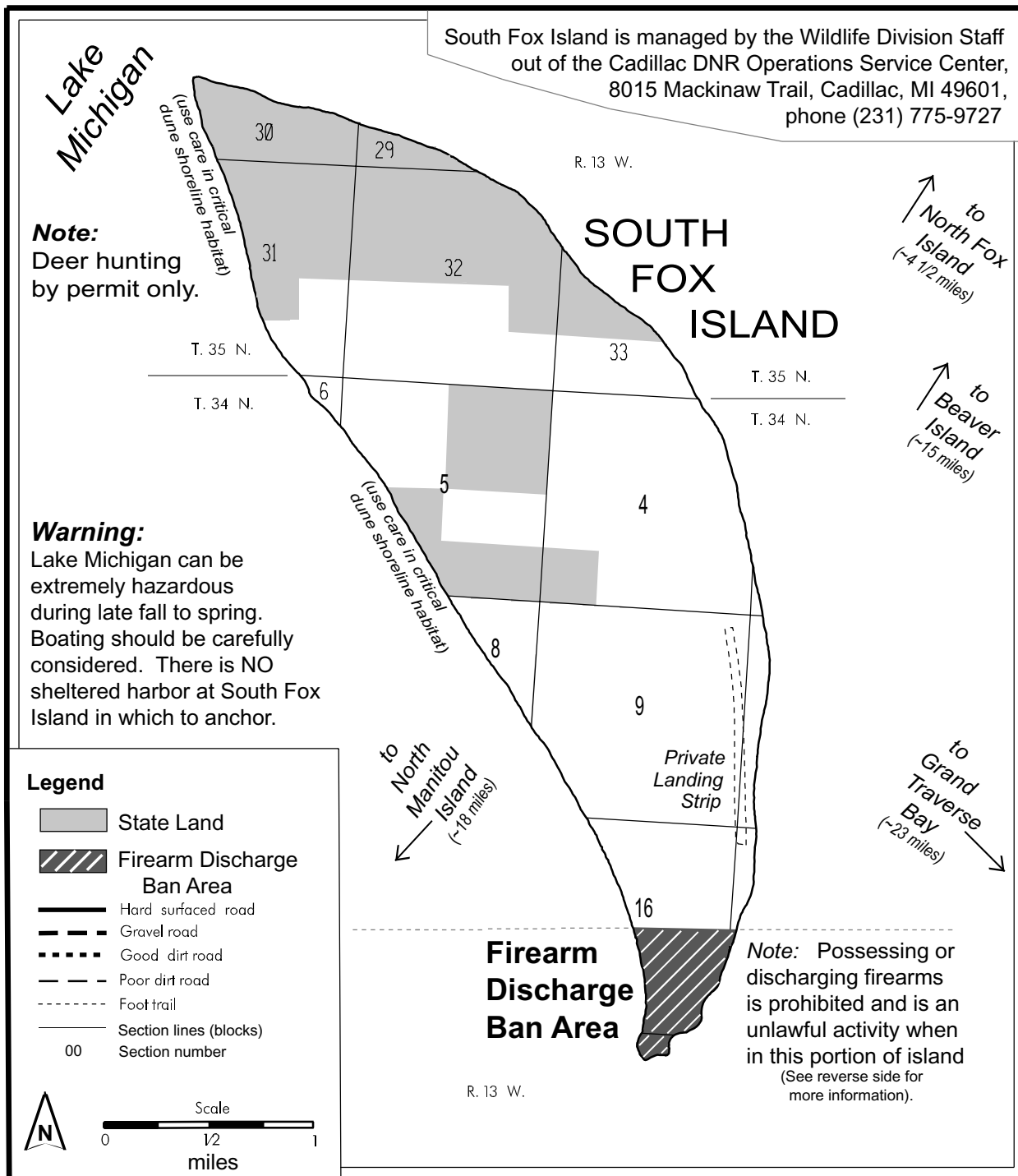
Great Lakes,  
Great Times,  
Great Outdoors  
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# SOUTH FOX ISLAND UNIT

## OF THE

### BEAVER ISLANDS WILDLIFE RESEARCH AREA

LEELANAU COUNTY, MICHIGAN



**BE A SAFE HUNTER OR OUTDOORS-PERSON** - A safe state land user or hunter obeys laws governing land use, hunting and boating, and is alert to any conditions hazardous to personal safety of themselves, other users (hunters and non-hunters), and nearby public.





**SOUTH FOX ISLAND UNIT of the  
BEAVER ISLAND STATE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AREA  
SPECIAL USE AND HUNTING RULES**

(All other applicable State Land Use rules and regulations apply, unless modified by the text below. To review the standard "Wildlife and Game Area - State Land Rules" (IC 2598, rev. 2/07/2006), see the back of most State Game/Wildlife Area maps (except those with Special Use and Hunting Rules); the maps, rules and regulations plus additional details, and more information on this and other areas are available at DNR Offices or on the internet at: <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr> )

**NOTE:** It is your responsibility as a user of public lands, to ensure you are informed of all current rules and regulations relevant to your activities. The information presented here represents some details relevant to land use, but this is not a complete list of all rules and regulations, and may not be as immediately updated as current legislation and rules. This product is not a legal notice, nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed tool issued for convenience on this specific subject. Contact your local DNR office if you have questions, or to verify regulations relating to possible activities before engaging in those activities. The DNR is on the internet at "<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>".

**If you have questions or comments about the area or its management, please contact the Cadillac DNR Operations Service Center, 8015 Mackinaw Trail, Cadillac, MI 49601, and at phone (231) 775-9727.**

**South Fox Island** is a portion of the Beaver Islands State Wildlife Research Area. Located off the northwestern coast of Michigan's Lower Peninsula in Lake Michigan offshore of the Leelanau Peninsula, it represents natural landscape of Great Lake islands. The island includes several Michigan historical features, such as the South Fox Island Lighthouse at the south end.

**Note:** South Fox Island is not connected to the mainland by roads or other convenient transportation. Lake Michigan can be extremely hazardous in late fall (November) and spring; boating should be carefully considered. There is no sheltered harbor at South Fox Island in which to anchor. The Island includes private property; ensure you follow correct land use rules, and do not trespass into areas where you do not belong. Please plan any trip accordingly; if you've questions, please contact the office.

**Prohibition on the Possession and Discharge of Firearms on Portion of South Fox Island, in Leelanau County:**

The southern portion of South Fox Island contains many buildings of historical significance, including a lighthouse and the lighthouse keeper's quarters. Over time, these buildings have been seriously vandalized by their use as targets for individuals with firearms. The damage that has been done to these structures is extensive. An effort to restore past damage and minimize future vandalism is underway. Therefore the DNR, under order of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, has implemented a prohibition on the possession and discharge of firearms on the described portion of South Fox Island.

*The following excerpts specify the ban area:*

**Land Use Orders of the Director, Amendment No. 19 of 2001, from September 21, 2001:**

By authority conferred on the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by Section 504 of Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, being section 324.504 of the Michigan Compiled Laws and in accordance with R 299.302, R 299.321, R 299.331, R 299.671 and R 299.1003 of the Michigan Administrative Code, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources orders that the following order of the Land Use Orders of the Director shall read as follows: **5.15 Certain state-owned lands, Leelanau county, possession and discharge of firearms prohibited.** Order 5.15 A person shall not do the following upon the described state-owned lands, Leelanau County: (1) Possess or discharge a firearm of any type on that portion of South Fox Island being south of a line beginning at the west shore of the island and running east along the east-west quarter line of section 16, T34N R13W, and continuing east along the east-west quarter line of section 15, T34N R13W to the point at which the line intersects the shoreline on the east side of the island. **Regarding Penalty:** excerpt from the Department of Natural Resources General Powers and Duties, Part 5, Section 511 **MCL 324.504 Department of natural resources; rules for protection of lands and property; orders; violation as civil infraction; fine.** Sec. 504. The department shall promulgate rules for the protection of the lands and property under its control against wrongful use or occupancy as will ensure the carrying out of the intent of this part to protect the lands and property from depredations and to preserve the lands and property from molestation, spoliation, destruction, or any other improper use or occupancy. This section does not allow the department to promulgate a rule that applies to commercial fishing except as otherwise provided by law. The department shall issue orders necessary to implement rules promulgated under this section. These orders shall be effective upon posting. A person who violates a rule promulgated under this section or an order issued under 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: 1994, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 30, 1995;--Am. 1996, Act 171, Imd. Eff. Apr. 18, 1996.)

It is believed that prohibiting the possession and discharge of firearms in the area surrounding these historical buildings will enhance the ability of the Department to maintain them while having a minimal impact on the use of the island by hunters.

**REGARDING HUNTING:** Deer Hunting is by permit only. Contact the Cadillac DNR office for information (contact info provided above).

You must carry the appropriate hunting permits or licenses with you on your person during hunting in the appropriate season.

**REMINDER - THESE ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED:**

- a) Hunting from within a safety zone without the written permission of the owner or occupant of such safety zone.
- b) Possessing or discharging of any firearms when in the Firearm Discharge Ban Area at south end of South Fox Island (see map);
- c) Permanently construct or affix to a tree or other natural feature a scaffold, platform, ladder, steps or any other device to assist in climbing a tree, or use any item that penetrates the cambium of a tree in the construction or affixing of any device to assist in climbing a tree. This includes such activities as constructing a shooting pit or permanent blind, screw-in steps, nails, etc. Portable blinds are permitted, but must follow the guidelines for blinds and must be removed at end of each hunt (see the annual hunt guide for specific dates). Make sure all stands or blinds are correctly labeled as required.
- d) Using or operate any wheeled, motorized vehicle (such as an amphibious vehicle, off-road vehicle (ORV), all-terrain vehicle (ATV)) except on forest roads, designated trails, designated routes, and in designated areas.
- e) Other Rules and Regulations for these state lands may be posted in the area; look for additional signs or notices.

**CAUTION:** Use care near all open water areas; some of these areas may contain deep water, depending on season and recent rainfall.

**BE SAFE OUTDOORS – A safe hunter or outdoors-person obeys laws governing land use, hunting and boating, and is alert to any conditions hazardous to personal safety of themselves, other users (hunter and non-hunters), and nearby public.** (Rev. 9/2007)

**Equal Rights for Natural Resources Users**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both State and Federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write the Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909-7528, or the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, 3054 West Grand Blvd, Suite 3-600, Detroit, MI 48202, or the Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

For information or assistance on this publication, or for information about other State land areas, contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-7944, or through the internet at "<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>". TTY / TTD (teletype): 711 (Michigan Relay Center). This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.