**Long-Term Boat & Property Storage on Lynx Lake**
**Nancy Lake State Recreation Area**

**Director's Determination**
**March 2014**

**Proposed Action**
The Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation proposes to authorize, via special park use permits issued under 11AAC 18.010, the storage of boats and related property longer than 72 hours within an identified area at Lynx Lake within Nancy Lake State Recreation Area.

**Authority**
11 AAC 12.220(b) (Unattended camps and equipment)
11AAC 18.010 (Special park use permits)
11 AAC 18.025 (Procedure)

**Management Plan**
Nancy Lake State Recreation Area Master Plan (October, 1983)

**Location**
Uplands located on eastern shore of Lynx Lake

**Legal description**
SW ¼ NW ¼ Section 20 T18N R4W Seward Meridian

**Borough**
Matanuska-Susitna Borough

**Land use classification**
Natural zone (Nancy Lake State Recreation Area Master Plan, October, 1983)

**Background**:
Park regulation 11 AAC 12.220(b) prohibits a person from leaving camping equipment or a vehicle in an undeveloped area of a state park for more than 72 hours unless they are engaged in recreational activities on a daily basis and have made prior arrangements with a state park officer. 11 AAC 18.010(a)(4) stipulates that no person may place structures or property in a state park without a permit.

There are thirteen private parcels adjacent to Lynx Lake. Most of these parcels have seasonal residences which in the summer can only be accessed by floatplane or by boat. There is a primitive public boat launch on the east shore where the division has allowed,

by permit, the storage of boats. Most of the boats which have been stored at this location on Lynx Lake are small enough to be pulled on shore and tipped over, typically small skiffs with small outboard motors.

**Procedure**
Pursuant to 11 AAC 18.025(c), the Director may, upon proper application, issue a permit for activities described in 11 AAC 18.010(a)(4) if he or she determines that:

(1) Park facilities and natural and cultural resources will not be adversely affected;

Discussion: The area where the division has and proposes to continue authorizing boat storage on Lynx Lake is a small cleared area accessible by highway vehicle from the Lynx Lake road. The boat launch is approximately 15' wide and has a gravel surface. There are no other park facilities or known cultural or historical features at the site.

(2) The state park is protected from pollution;

Discussion: Allowing storage of boats and personal property could result in pollution to the park if fuel is not adequately contained and personal property not secured to avoid disturbance by wildlife or from weather.

(3) Public use values of the state park will be maintained and protected; and

Discussion: There is minimal use of the site by the public except for boat launching and storage of boats and personal property.

(4) The public safety, health, and welfare will not be adversely affected.

Discussion: The boat launch and storage site is not an area of the park that receives heavy use by the public and there are no known safety hazards at the site.

**Determination**
It is determined that boat and related property storage is consistent with the criteria in 11 AAC 18.025 with conditions related to the following stipulated within any permits issued:

- Restrictions on amount of fuel stored on site and type of container used;
- Requirements for property to be adequately secured to avoid disturbance by wildlife or weather;
- Boat and property storage will be located within the area identified by DPOR so as to protect shoreline vegetation and in a manner that does not prevent or restrict access by the public to state park lands and waters;

- All boats and property will be clearly labelled with owner's name and contact information.

The division will monitor the use of the site and may implement other requirements as necessary to comply with the criteria in 11 AAC 18.025.

for Ben Ellis, Director

March 6 2014
Date

**Appeals**
All appeals must be in accordance with 11 AAC 02. To be eligible to appeal a person must be affected by this decision. Any appeal must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of "issuance" of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC 02(c) and (d). If no appeal is filed within the 20 days of "issuance" this decision goes into effect as a final order and decision 31 days after "issuance". An eligible person must first appeal this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

Appeals should be directed to:

Joe Balash, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501
Fax: (907) 269-8918
Email: dnr.appeals@alaska.gov