# GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

#### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



August 5, 2022

#### **VIA E-MAIL**

Rick Lowe, Chief Internal Auditor State Budget Office Office of Internal Audit Services 111 South Capitol Avenue 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Romney Building Lansing, Michigan 48933 lower@michigan.gov

Dear Mr. Lowe:

In accordance with the State of Michigan, <u>Financial Management Guide</u>, <u>Part VII</u>, enclosed is our final corrective action plan to address recommendations contained within the Office of the Auditor General report of the Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Division.

If you have any questions regarding the corrective action plan, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Erik Eklund, Chief

Tak Thund

Finance and Operations Division

517-284-2958

#### **Enclosure**

cc: Senate Committee on Natural Resources Members

House Committee on Natural Resources Members

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Environment, Great Lakes and Energy Members

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture and Rural Development and Natural Resources Members

Christopher Semrinec, Senate Fiscal Agency

Austin Scott, House Fiscal Agency

Doug Ringler, Office of Attorney General

Maria Martinez, Executive Office of the Governor

Daniel Eichinger, Director, DNR

Shannon Lott, Natural Resources Deputy, DNR Mark Hoffman. Chief Administrative Officer. DNR

Taylor Ridderbusch, Legislative Liaison, DNR

Ed Golder, DNR

Ron Olson, DNR

# Department of Natural Resources State Park Concessions, Leases, and Operating Agreements (751-0135-21) Issued By OAG May 17, 2022 Department Final Corrective Action Plan

#### **Summary Response Matrix**

	Complied	Will Comply	Partially	Will Not
			Complied	Comply
Agrees	3, 5, 7	6, 8	1, 2, 4	-
Partially Agrees				
Disagrees				

## **Final Corrective Action Plan (CAP)**

Finding Number 1

Finding Title: Improved concession monitoring needed

Related IT system, if applicable: N/A

#### **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and will comply.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

Corrective action steps that have been or will be implemented include:

- DNR has hired a second lease and concession manager to improve concession monitoring. *Completion date of 1/31/2022.*
- DNR is currently developing training for field staff to ensure compliance with policies.
   DNR is also developing better materials and training for field staff to use during site audits. Planned completion date of 1/31/2023.
- DNR will provide training to field staff. Planned completion date of 3/17/2023.

Anticipated Compliance Date: 3/17/2023

Finding Title: Improved contract management needed

Related IT system, if applicable: N/A

#### **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and will comply.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

# Corrective action steps that have been or will be implemented include:

- DNR has implemented various changes to improve contract management including hiring a second lease and concession manager to increase program oversight. In addition, DNR has begun transitioning contract management from Microsoft Excel spreadsheets to Microsoft Lists. DNR is also moving all current files into electronic formats for easier collection, storage, retrieval, and management. Completion date of 6/30/2022.
- DNR will research contract management software options to streamline the contracting process of collecting data, executing contracts, and storing materials to provide better organization and efficiency. Planned completion date of 3/17/2023.

Anticipated Compliance Date: 3/17/2023

Responsible Individual: Michael Desnoyer, Administrative Services Section Chief

Finding Number 3

Finding Title: Access controls over CRS need improvement Related IT system, if applicable: Central Reservation System

## **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and has complied.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

#### Corrective action steps that have been implemented include:

- DNR has implemented the principle of least privilege concerning user access to CRS, thereby reducing the number of super users to only those positions that require that level of privileged access. *Completion date of 2/10/2022*.
- DNR is periodically reviewing the appropriateness of active user accounts to determine if user access is no longer required. *Completion date of 6/30/2022.*

Anticipated Compliance Date: 6/30/2022

Finding Title: Improved segregation of duties over cash receipts needed

Related IT system, if applicable: Central Reservation System

# **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and will comply.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

Corrective action steps that have been or will be implemented include:

- Pertinent DNR staff have completed training on invoicing through the Michigan
  Cashiering and Receivable System (MiCaRS) a revenue control application that allows
  users to invoice, record, correct, and report State revenue. Completion date of
  12/13/2021.
- Staff will receive training on existing policies concerning segregation of duties to ensure proper controls are followed when handling cash receipts in State parks. *Planned completion date of 3/17/2023.*
- DNR staff are using MiCaRS to invoice and the remittance address directs payments to the Lansing cashier's office. Completion date of 11/1/2021.

Anticipated Compliance Date: 3/17/2023

Responsible Individual: Michael Desnoyer, Administrative Services Section Chief

Finding Number 5

Finding Title: Improved controls over revenue tracking needed Related IT system, if applicable: Central Reservation System

#### **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and has complied.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

Corrective action steps that have been implemented include:

• DNR has implemented a process of utilizing CRS notes to determine the proper fiscal year for concession payments receipted in October. During the year-end closing process, receivables are established to record the revenue in the proper fiscal year. To account for payments receipted outside CRS, the process changes implemented in September 2021 to invoice concessionaries and lease / operating agreement vendors via MiCaRS should result in accurate recording of revenue from that date forward. DNR is developing a tracking system in Microsoft Lists to assist with real-time tracking and reporting throughout the lifecycle of the agreements. Completion date of 1/1/2022.

Anticipated Compliance Date: 1/1/2022

Finding Title: Improved controls over revenue collection needed Related IT system, if applicable: Central Reservation System

#### **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and will comply.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

Corrective action steps that have been or will be implemented include:

Pertinent DNR staff have completed training on invoicing through MiCaRS. DNR staff
will process invoices for payments and late fees with collections remitted to the DNR
cashier office in Lansing. DNR will ensure revenue collection aligns with the information
stored in Microsoft Lists. Planned completion date of 3/17/2023.

Anticipated Compliance Date: 3/17/2023

Responsible Individual: Michael Desnoyer, Administrative Services Section Chief

Finding Number 7

Finding Title: Valuable consideration should be quantified

Related IT system, if applicable: N/A

#### **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and has complied.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

Corrective action steps that have been implemented include:

• DNR has updated its process to ensure that valuable consideration is expressly provided in every lease document. *Completion date of 1/1/2022*.

Anticipated Compliance Date: 1/1/2022

Finding Title: Improvements over the concession contract awarding process needed

Related IT system, if applicable: N/A

# **Department Response**

Management Views: DNR agrees and will comply.

Planned Corrective Action and Milestones:

Corrective action steps that have been or will be implemented include:

- DNR will update its policy and process relating to selecting, scoring, and awarding concession contracts. *Planned completion date of 12/1/2022.*
- Pertinent DNR Staff will receive training on the updated policy and process for selecting, scoring, and awarding concession contracts. *Planned completion date of 3/17/2023.*

Anticipated Compliance Date: 3/17/2023