

NOTICE OF REVISION/CHANGE

TO

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM #5

SUBJECT: BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING AND TRAIL USE

TO: ALL POLICY & PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM HOLDERS

EFFECTIVE DATE: JANUARY 5, 1979

**REVISION DATE: MAY 24, 2002**

This revision supersedes and replaces all previous information included in PPM #4 originally issued January 5, 1979. The current PPM is to be replaced in its entirety by this revised issue.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

This is Revision No. 1 of this PPM with an original date of January 5, 1979.

**IMPORTANT:**

Insert this revision notice in the PPM file preceding all other information on this subject in order to maintain a current document file.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM NO. 5

SUBJECT: BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING AND TRAIL USE

TO: ALL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM HOLDERS

EFFECTIVE DATE: JANUARY 5, 1979

**REVISION DATE: MAY 24, 2002**

POLICY:

To establish rules and regulations for the proper use of all backcountry facilities on state parks and to protect users and park resources.

PROCEDURE:

Although each park will have its own particular situations regarding backcountry use, this policy is broad enough to cover most situations that may occur. We want to encourage all managers to evaluate their backcountry facilities as they relate to this policy.

1. Backcountry camping is defined as camping in undeveloped areas of the park where there are designated primitive campsites and minimal facilities provided. These areas are reached by backpacking or by non-motorized boat. Hikers must stay on designated trails.
2. A written backcountry permit (Exhibit A) is required for all overnight backcountry use. This permit may be obtained at the park entrance station. For group outings this permit must be obtained two weeks in advance and may be obtained by writing to the Park.
3. A trip plan including expected area of camping, route of travel, and expected departure and return times must be filed with the Park office.
4. All trash must be packed out and properly disposed of in trash containers. The camping area should be left as clean or cleaner than it was before you used it.
5. Human waste is to be buried 200' from campsites, trail, and water. Dig waste pits 6-8" deep. Cover and disguise pits when finished. Use tissue paper and wipes sparingly and pack out.
6. Fires are permitted but only dead wood collected from the ground is to be used for fuel. Fires should be confined to fire rings and modest in size. Fully extinguish fires before leaving campsite.
7. Digging, ditching, or leveling of ground for tent sites is prohibited. Installation of permanent camp facilities is prohibited.
8. No horses, dogs, cats, mechanized or wheeled vehicles, or motorized boats are allowed in backcountry areas.
9. Possession of firearms, traps, seines, etc. is prohibited. Fishing is permitted with a valid Louisiana fishing license.
10. Campers should be self-sufficient and carry enough water, food, and first aid equipment for emergency situations.
11. Vehicles used to get to the trail head will be left in areas designated by appropriate park personnel.

12. Because of the delicate nature of the backcountry environment each site will establish the maximum number of people per campsite that will be allowed at any give time.
13. Backcountry Camping Permit Procedure:
  - A. Provide user with copy of regulations (Exhibit B) and have trip leader fill out permit in duplicate.
  - B. Collect use fee for park.
  - C. Review trip plan with party leader and impress upon him the importance of following plan to greatest extent possible.
  - D. Sign permit and give one copy to party leader. Keep second copy in park office.
  - E. Tell users where you want to leave their vehicles.
  - F. Plastic trash bags will be issued to those users unable to carry out their garbage in any other manner.
  - G. Advise user to inform park office upon departure.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ASSISYANT SECRETARY

EXHIBIT A

BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING PERMIT

BCP-001  
1/02

SITE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PARTY LEADER/PERSON IN CHARGE: \_\_\_\_\_

NO. OF PEOPLE IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ESTIMATED TIME OF DEPARTURE: \_\_\_\_\_AM/PM                      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ESTIMATED TIME OF RETURN: \_\_\_\_\_AM/PM                      DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(NOTIFY PARK OFFICE UPON DEPARTURE)

TRIP PLAN (ATTACH MAP): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

USER FEE COLLECTED:\$\_\_\_\_\_ RANGER/CASHIER SIGNATURE:\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that we are using backcountry areas at the convenience of the Office of State Parks and I agree to be responsible for my group and to be sure that they follow the backcountry use regulations. This permit may be revoked for infringement of rules.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Party Leader/Person In Charge

## EXHIBIT B

### BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING REGULATIONS

BCP-002  
1/02

1. Backcountry camping is defined as camping in undeveloped areas of the park where there are designated primitive campsites and minimal facilities provided. These areas are reached by backpacking or by non-motorized boat. Hikers must stay on designated trails.
2. A written backcountry permit is required for all overnight backcountry use. This permit may be obtained at the park entrance station. For group outings this permit must be obtained two weeks in advance and may be obtained by writing to the Park.
3. A trip plan including expected area of camping, route of travel, and expected departure and return times must be filed with the Park office.
4. All trash must be packed out and properly disposed of in trash containers. The camping area should be left as clean or cleaner than it was before you used it.
5. Human waste is to be buried 200' from campsites, trail, and water. Dig waste pits 6-8" deep. Cover and disguise pits when finished. Use tissue paper and wipes sparingly and pack out.
6. Fires are permitted but only dead wood collected from the ground is to be used for fuel. Fires should be confined to fire rings and modest in size. Fully extinguish fires before leaving campsite.
7. Digging, ditching, or leveling of ground for tent sites is prohibited. Installation of permanent camp facilities is prohibited.
8. No horses, dogs, cats, mechanized or wheeled vehicles, or motorized boats are allowed in backcountry areas.
9. Possession of firearms, traps, seines, etc. is prohibited. Fishing is permitted with a valid Louisiana fishing license.
10. Campers should be self-sufficient and carry enough water, food, and first aid equipment for emergency situations.
11. Vehicles used to get to the trail head will be left in areas designated by appropriate park personnel.
12. Because of the delicate nature of the backcountry environment at \_\_\_\_\_ no more than \_\_\_\_\_ people per campsite will be allowed at any given time.