

March 17, 2023

Hello,

We are writing to let you know that on March 16, 2023, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry made an update to the proposal to make amendments to [Ontario Regulation 161/17](#) under the [Public Lands Act](#) regarding the use of floating accommodations.

The changes to the proposal are described in the updated proposal notice on Ontario's Regulatory Registry and the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) (ERO number [019-6590](#)), which was first published on February 24, 2023 and updated on March 16, 2023.

In the updated proposal, we are still proposing to amend Ontario Regulation 161/17 to clarify the structures or things that cannot be placed and used for overnight accommodation on water over public land.

The following changes proposed in the original posting have been removed through the update:

- reducing the number of days that a person can camp on water over public land (per location, per calendar year) from 21 days to 7 days
- increasing the distance that a person camping on water must move their camping unit to be occupying a different location from 100 metres to 1 kilometre
- adding a new condition to prohibit camping on water within 300 metres of a developed shoreline, including any waterfront structure, dock, boathouse, erosion control structure, altered shoreline, boat launch and/or fill
- harmonizing the conditions for camping on public land so that residents and non-residents are required to follow the same conditions when camping on water over public lands or on public lands
- specifying conditions for swim rafts, jumps, ramps for water sports, heat loops and water intake pipes
- clarifying that camping on a road, trail, parking lot or boat launch is prohibited
- amending the regulation to add the following to the list of excluded public lands to which section 21.1 of the *Public Lands Act* and Ontario Regulation 161/17 do not apply:

- lands subject to an agreement authorizing the use of those lands
- lands subject to an authorization under the *Aggregate Resources Act*.

We encourage you to review the updated proposal notice (ERO number [019-6590](#)) and provide feedback through the ERO. The comment period for the proposal closes on **April 11, 2023**.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Henry, R.P.F.  
Director, Crown Forests and Lands Policy Branch  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Pauline Desroches, Manager, Crown Lands Policy Section