STATE OF MAINE
BAXTER STATE PARK
RULES AND REGULATIONS REVISION—2014

I hereby certify that in my opinion the above and foregoing Rules and Regulations are in conformity with the law.

Susan P. Herman, Assistant Attorney General

BAXTER STATE PARK AUTHORITY

Doug Denico
Director, Maine Forest Service

Chandler Woodcock
Commissioner, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

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Attorney General
BAXTER STATE PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS

Summary: These rules, adopted by the Baxter State Park Authority (the “Authority”) pursuant to 12 M.R.S.A. §903, govern the use of Baxter State Park (the “Park”) by the public. No provision of these rules applies to law enforcement or administrative personnel in the course of their official duties. Any delegation of authority to the Director under these rules includes delegation to the Director’s designee. In addition to any specific provision contained in these rules, the Director may restrict public uses or activities within the Park as necessary to preserve or protect the Park or to assure the safety of Park users.

1. CAMPING, RESERVATIONS AND REGISTRATION
1.1 The Authority and Director may establish administrative policies and procedures for the processing of reservations.
1.2 Camping is permitted by reservation only and only in authorized campgrounds and campsites May 15 through October 15, and December 1 through March 31. Campers must register at the gatehouse no later than 8:30 p.m. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m., and check-in time is 1:00 p.m. Tents are not permitted outside of lean-tos at lean-to sites. Camping by groups of more than 12 people is permitted only at group camping areas located at Bear Brook, Foster Field, Nesowadnehunk Field and Trout Brook Farm. 1.3 All persons entering the Park by road or trail must register their entrance at the first opportunity at a staffed gatehouse or self-registration station. Persons entering or leaving the Park by way of the Appalachian Trail must register at Katahdin Stream Campground. Persons entering the Park on foot at any other location or landing aircraft on permitted waters in the Park must register with Park Headquarters or a gatehouse in advance.

2. HIKING AND DAY USE
2.1 The maximum size of a hiking group shall be 12 persons. Affiliated groups on the same trail separated by less than one mile shall be considered one group. 2.2 Hiking or mountain climbing may be restricted at the discretion of the Director. Park users must be reasonably prepared and equipped for the activity they are engaged in, and must take reasonable precautions against endangering themselves or others. Hikers must carry a working flashlight. No children under the age of six (6) years are allowed above timberline. Registration of technical rock/ice climbers is required. The Baxter State Park Authority may request reimbursement of search and rescue costs in cases of reckless hikers.

3. HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING
3.1 Hunting and trapping are prohibited within the Park. Use or possession of any firearm, bow and arrow, sling shot, or air rifle or pistol is prohibited. Firearms may be transported through the Park if kept in a car trunk, enclosed in a case, or otherwise inaccessible to use. Bows may be transported through the Park if unstrung or enclosed in a case. This rule does not apply north of Trout Brook and Wadleigh Brook in T6 R9; in T6 R10; or in T2 R9 and in T2 R10 north of the West Branch of the Penobscot River, east to the end of Abol Stream and west to the west of the Branch of the Penobscot River. Hunting with dogs is prohibited. In the areas within the Park where hunting and trapping are permitted, the general laws of the State pertaining to hunting and trapping apply, except that moose hunting and baiting any animals for hunting purposes are prohibited. 3.2 Maine fishing laws and the rules of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife apply within the Park. Maine fishing licenses are required.

4. RESOURCE PROTECTION AND WILDERNESS PRESERVATION
4.1 Pets or other domestic animals are not allowed in the Park. Releasing or introducing any animal in the Park is prohibited. 4.2 No person may feed, bait, or disturb any animal within the Park, with the exception that baiting of animals for trapping purposes is permitted north of Trout Brook and Wadleigh Brook in T6 R9; in T6 R10; or in T2 R9 and in T2 R10 north of the West Branch of the Penobscot River, east to Abol Stream and west to the West Branch of the Penobscot River. The use of an audio, visual, electronic or any other device in any way that may disturb or harass wildlife is prohibited. 4.3 Fires or other cooking or heating devices are permitted only in designated campsites or picnic areas. At Chimney Pond and Davis Pond, open fires are prohibited and only backpack-type stoves are allowed. The removal of bark from, or the cutting or defacing of live or standing dead trees is prohibited. 4.4 No person may leave a fire without totally extinguishing it, nor discard any burning cigarettes, cigars, matches, or any other burning material within the Park. Any fire outside a designated fireplace must be reported to the nearest Park Ranger at once. 4.5 All trash, rubbish, litter, camping gear, equipment, and materials carried into the Park must be carried out of the Park. No trash, rubbish, or litter shall be deposited in any type of vaulted or un-vaulted toilet. 4.6 Where toilets are not available, human waste must be disposed of at least 200′ from water or trail by burying or by carry-out. 4.7 Use of any soap or detergent, or the disposal of food scraps within 200′ of any waters is prohibited. 4.8 No person may create a disturbance that impairs the enjoyment of the Park by others. Campground quiet hours are posted and enforced. The use of electronic devices in any way that impairs the enjoyment of the Park by others is prohibited. 4.9 Chainsaws, generators, and other power equipment may not be operated within the Park. 4.10 Collection or removal of any cultural object from the Park is prohibited. No person may deface, paint, damage, mutilate, or vandalize any cultural object or any structure or thing within the Park. Possession of paint or marking materials, or tampering with, altering, or removing any sign, marker, or structure, is prohibited. Driving nails or permanently installing any object is prohibited. The use of metal detectors or similar devices is prohibited. 4.11 The removal from, or introduction of natural objects, materials, plants or animals to, the Park is prohibited, with the exceptions that fish and other wildlife may be collected for personal use in authorized areas of the Park as defined in 3.1, 3.2, and 4.2, above and that berries and fiddleheads may be collected for personal use only. Gathering of berries or fiddleheads for sale or commercial purposes is prohibited. 4.12 Research studies and Commercial Media projects within the Park require a special use permit issued by the Director. Requests for use of the Park for research studies must be submitted to the Director in writing nine (9) months in advance of the proposed research, except as expressly authorized by the Director.