

## ARTICLE 6. NAVIGABLE WATERS

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### Rule 1. Applicability

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#### 312 IAC 6-1-1 Application of article

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-19-1-1](#); [IC 14-21-1](#); [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29](#); [IC 14-34](#); [IC 14-37](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This article governs an activity relative to a license, and an activity for which a license is required whether or not a permit is sought or held, under:

- (1) [IC 14-19-1-1](#);
- (2) [IC 14-29-1](#);
- (3) [IC 14-29-3](#);
- (4) [IC 14-29-4](#) (if [IC 14-29-4-5\(2\)](#) applies); or
- (5) another statute administered by the department as a result of a waterway being navigable.

(b) In the absence of a contrary state boundary, the line of demarcation for a navigable waterway is the ordinary high watermark. If the water level on a navigable waterway is modified by a lawful control structure, the line of demarcation for purposes of licensure and enforcement is determined based upon the ordinary high watermark with the control structure in place.

(c) A separate license is not required under this article and [IC 14-29-1](#) for an activity permitted under:

- (1) [IC 14-21-1](#);
- (2) [IC 14-28-1](#);
- (3) [IC 14-29-3](#);
- (4) [IC 14-34](#); or
- (5) [IC 14-37](#).

(d) Compliance with this article satisfies the licensing requirements for the following:

- (1) [IC 14-29-1](#).
- (2) [IC 14-29-3](#).
- (3) [IC 14-29-4](#) (if [IC 14-29-4-5\(2\)](#) applies).

(e) Before issuing a license under:

- (1) [IC 14-21-1](#);
- (2) [IC 14-28-1](#);
- (3) [IC 14-34](#); or
- (4) [IC 14-37](#);

the department shall apply the requirements of [IC 14-29-1-8](#) and this article with respect to an activity within a navigable waterway.

(f) Before issuing a license under this rule, the department shall consider the following:

- (1) The public trust.
- (2) The likely impact upon the applicant and other affected persons, including the accretion or erosion of sand or sediments.

(g) A separate license is not required under [IC 14-29-1-8](#) for an activity that is exempted from licensing by [IC 14-29-1-8\(e\)](#).

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-1-1; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 366; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.:*

27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

### 312 IAC 6-1-2 Transfer of license

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 2. (a) A person cannot transfer or assign a license issued under this article unless prior written approval for the transfer or assignment is obtained from the director.

(b) The director shall not unreasonably deny a request to transfer or assign a permit issued under this article. (*Natural Resources Commission*; 312 IAC 6-1-2; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

### 312 IAC 6-1-3 License application; limitations; revocation; general sanctions

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 14-9-3](#); [IC 14-10-2-6](#); [IC 14-29](#)

Sec. 3. (a) A license issued under this article is subject to the conditions, terms, or limitations contained on or attached to the license.

(b) A license may be suspended or revoked by the department under [IC 4-21.5](#) for a violation of [IC 14-29](#), this article, or a condition contained on or attached to the license.

(c) Any deputy director referenced in [IC 14-9-3](#) may file a complaint with the commission that seeks the issuance of a notice of violation and the imposition of a charge, where authorized by [IC 14-10-2-6](#), for any of the following:

(1) A violation of [IC 14-29](#).

(2) A violation of this article.

(3) A violation of a condition contained on or attached to a license issued under this article.

(4) Conduct of an activity for which a license is required under this article but for which no license is obtained.

(d) The issuance of a license under this article does not divest the United States, Indiana, the department, or a riparian or littoral owner of a property interest in a navigable waterway or adjacent lands. (*Natural Resources Commission*; 312 IAC 6-1-3; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; errata filed Nov 24, 1997, 4:30 p.m.: 21 IR 1347; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; errata filed Jan 27, 2009, 2:04 p.m.: [20090211-IR-312090064ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

### 312 IAC 6-1-4 Determination of riparian zones

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-26-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-15](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 4. If a determination of riparian boundaries is reasonably required for the performance of functions under [IC 14-29-1](#) and this article, the department (or the commission on administrative review) shall consider as guidance "Riparian Zones within Public Freshwater Lakes and Navigable Waters", as published by the Legislative Services Agency at DIN: [20220209-IR-312220025NRA](#). (*Natural Resources Commission*; 312 IAC 6-1-4; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#); errata filed Oct 31, 2022, 2:28 p.m.: [20221109-IR-312220331ACA](#))

### 312 IAC 6-1-5 Lawful nonconforming uses

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-26-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 14-15](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Sec. 5. (a) A structure or facility that was lawfully placed before the effective date of a provision of:

- (1) [IC 14-29-1-8](#); or
- (2) a section of this article;

which would be unlawful if placed after that date, is eligible for qualification under this section as a lawful nonconforming use.

(b) This subsection governs the establishment of a lawful nonconforming use as follows:

- (1) A person who claims a lawful nonconforming use has the burden of proof for establishing:
  - (A) the existence of the use; and
  - (B) that the use was lawful;

when the new or amended statutory or rule section became effective. Except as provided in subdivision (2), a use must have been in existence when the new or amended section became effective and not merely at some time before it became effective.

(2) If a rule section that governs the placement of a temporary structure becomes effective outside the boating season, but a temporary structure was used during the previous boating season, the use is considered to have been in existence when the section became effective. As used in this subdivision, the boating season is from April 1 through October 31.

(3) The department may consider the following documentation in determining the existence of a lawful nonconforming use:

- (A) Ground level or aerial photographs.
- (B) Blueprints or engineering drawings.
- (C) Pier installation company records.
- (D) Inventories of piers that are nonconforming uses. These inventories shall be maintained by the department's division of law enforcement at the district headquarters for the district in which the structure is located.
- (E) CAD drawings.
- (F) Deeds, plats, and similar recorded documents.
- (G) Adjudications by the commission or by a court, including those determining the intent or consequence of an easement.
- (H) GPS units or range finders.
- (I) USDA documentation.
- (J) County GIS programs and documentation.
- (K) Statements from riparian owners and others familiar with the site may also be considered, but a determination may not be based solely on those statements.

(4) A person may deliver a written request and supporting documentation in support of a claim to any lawful nonconforming use that arises under [IC 14-29-1-8](#) or this article. A person who does not deliver a request under this subdivision is not prohibited from asserting the benefits of a lawful nonconforming use as an affirmative defense or otherwise in a proceeding under [IC 4-21.5](#).

(5) The department shall provide notice under [IC 4-21.5-3-5](#) of a determination that a structure qualifies or does not qualify as a lawful nonconforming use under subdivision (4).

(6) The department shall maintain a public file or files to memorialize any determinations under this subsection. The department may include in the file a determination that a structure qualified or did not qualify as a lawful nonconforming use even if the determination was made before the effective date of this subsection.

(c) This subsection governs the maintenance of or modification to a lawful nonconforming use as follows:

(1) Except as provided in subdivision (2), a lawful nonconforming use may be maintained, but the use cannot be modified or repaired unless a person satisfies the requirements of [IC 14-29-1](#) and this article that are in effect at the time of the modification or repair. In performing modification or repair under this subdivision, the:

- (A) location;
- (B) size; and
- (C) configuration;

of the use must be maintained.

(2) The department may authorize a modification or repair to a lawful nonconforming use if it determines that the resulting change to the:

- (A) location;
- (B) size; or
- (C) configuration;

would better serve a public right or a vested right, as protected by [IC 14-29-1](#) or this article, than does the existing lawful nonconforming use.

(d) This subsection governs the removal of a lawful nonconforming use as follows:

(1) The director or the director's designee may order the removal of a lawful nonconforming use if the structure or facility is either of the following:

(A) A nuisance that is likely to pose a significant adverse effect to any of the following:

- (i) Navigability.
- (ii) The environment.
- (iii) The enjoyment of life or property.
- (iv) The public trust.

(B) Abandoned.

(C) Modified in a manner for which a license is required under [IC 14-29-1](#) or this article, but for which no license has been obtained.

(2) The department has the burden of proof to establish a lawful nonconforming use should be removed under this subsection.

(3) A structure adversely affects navigability under subdivision (1)(A)(i) if the structure is any of the following:

- (A) Extended or located more than one hundred (100) feet from the ordinary high watermark of the waterway.
- (B) Submerged or otherwise obscured from the view of a boater or other person using a lake.
- (C) In a derelict condition. A structure is in a derelict condition if:

- (i) so neglected by the owner that it has become ineffective for the intended purposes; or
- (ii) following a reasonable inquiry, the owner of the structure cannot be identified.

(4) Generally, a use is abandoned if not exercised for a period in excess of one (1) year. A person may, however, present evidence of special factors that would reasonably excuse a failure to maintain the use. These factors include the following:

- (A) Pending litigation relating to the lawful nonconforming use.
- (B) Unusual environmental conditions.

(e) [IC 4-21.5-3-8](#) controls an order issued under subsection (d) unless an emergency exists, in which event [IC 4-21.5-4](#) applies.

(f) Nothing in this rule affects the department's right to seek injunctive or other relief under [IC 14-29-1](#) or another applicable law. (*Natural Resources Commission*; 312 IAC 6-1-5; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

## Rule 2. Definitions

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-1</a>   | Applicability                               |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-2</a>   | "Abandoned shipwreck" defined               |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-3</a>   | "Beach nourishment" defined                 |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-3.3</a> | "Creek rock" defined                        |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-3.7</a> | "Group pier" defined                        |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-3.8</a> | "Hard mineral resources" defined            |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-4</a>   | "Historic shipwreck" defined                |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-5</a>   | "Historic site" defined                     |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-6</a>   | "Marina" defined                            |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-6.8</a> | "Prospecting" defined                       |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-7</a>   | "Public or municipal water utility" defined |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-8</a>   | "Shipwreck" defined                         |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-2-9</a>   | "Waterway" defined (Repealed)               |

### 312 IAC 6-2-1 Applicability

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 1. (a) The definitions contained in this rule apply throughout this article.

(b) The definitions contained in 312 IAC 1 also apply. (*Natural Resources Commission*; 312 IAC 6-2-1; filed Sep 11, 1997,

8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

**312 IAC 6-2-2 "Abandoned shipwreck" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 2. "Abandoned shipwreck" means a shipwreck to which title has been given up by the owner with the intent of never claiming a right or interest in the future. An intention to give up title may be demonstrated where an owner:

- (1) takes steps to collect insurance or pay a salvage award to a person who salvages the vessel's cargo; or
- (2) takes no action after a wreck incident to recovering or removing the vessel and its cargo.

(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-2; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

**312 IAC 6-2-3 "Beach nourishment" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 3. "Beach nourishment" means the placement of sand to mitigate beach erosion:

- (1) within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan; or
- (2) within such proximity to the shoreline of Lake Michigan that wind or water erosion is likely to transport sand into the lake.

(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-3; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

**312 IAC 6-2-3.3 "Creek rock" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 3.3. "Creek rock" means each of the following located within a waterway:

- (1) Sand.
- (2) Gravel.
- (3) Rock.
- (4) Slab rock.

(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-3.3; filed May 12, 2009, 11:27 a.m.: [20090610-IR-312080614FRA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))

**312 IAC 6-2-3.7 "Group pier" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 3.7. "Group pier" means a pier that is subject to [IC 14-29-1](#) and provides docking space for any of the following:

- (1) At least five (5) separate property owners.
- (2) At least five (5) rental units.
- (3) An association.
- (4) A condominium, cooperative, or other form of horizontal property.
- (5) A subdivision or an addition.

- (6) A conservancy district.
- (7) A campground.
- (8) A mobile home park.
- (9) A club that has, as a purpose, the use of public waters for any of the following:
  - (A) Boating.
  - (B) Fishing.
  - (C) Hunting.
  - (D) Trapping.
  - (E) Similar activities.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-3.7; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-3.8 "Hard mineral resources" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 3.8. "Hard mineral resources" means naturally occurring alluvial deposits of the following:

- (1) Gold.
- (2) Platinum.
- (3) Silver.
- (4) Lead.
- (5) Copper.
- (6) Diamonds and other gemstones.
- (7) Other similar materials.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-3.8; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:35 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090080FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-4 "Historic shipwreck" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 4. "Historic shipwreck" means a shipwreck that is located within a historic site. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-4; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-5 "Historic site" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-8-2-125](#)

Sec. 5. "Historic site" has the meaning set forth in [IC 14-8-2-125](#). *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-5; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 367; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-6 "Marina" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 6. "Marina" means a structure that:

- (1) can service simultaneously at least five (5) boats; and
- (2) provides, for a fee, one (1) or more of the following:
  - (A) Boat engine fuel.
  - (B) Boat repair.
  - (C) Boat sales or rental.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-6; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 368; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Apr 24, 2008, 1:44 p.m.: [20080521-IR-312070646FRA](#); errata filed Jun 2, 2009, 10:29 a.m.: [20090624-IR-312090386ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-6.8 "Prospecting" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 6.8. "Prospecting" refers to activities conducted in preparation for or to remove hard mineral resources. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-6.8; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:35 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090080FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-7 "Public or municipal water utility" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 8-1-2-1](#); [IC 14](#)

Sec. 7. "Public or municipal water utility" means a "public utility" under [IC 8-1-2-1\(a\)](#) or a "municipally owned utility" under [IC 8-1-2-1\(h\)](#), which is operated to furnish water. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-7; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 368; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-8 "Shipwreck" defined**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14](#)

- Sec. 8. (a) "Shipwreck" means a vessel or wreck, its cargo, and other contents.
- (b) As used in subsection (a), a "vessel or wreck" includes each of the following:
- (1) Hull.
  - (2) Rigging.
  - (3) Armaments.
  - (4) Apparel.
  - (5) Tackle.
  - (6) Cargo.
  - (7) Other contents of the vessel or wreck.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-2-8; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 368; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; errata filed Jun 2, 2009, 10:29 a.m.: [20090624-IR-312090386ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-2-9 "Waterway" defined (Repealed)**

Sec. 9. *(Repealed by Natural Resources Commission; filed Feb 7, 2000, 3:31 p.m.: 23 IR 1367)*



**Rule 3. Shipwrecks and Other Historic Sites**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-3-1</a> | Applicability  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-3-2</a> | Administration of shipwrecks through division of historic preservation |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-3-3</a> | Licensing  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-3-4</a> | Emergency licenses   |

**312 IAC 6-3-1 Applicability**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14-21-1](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes standards applicable to the issuance of licenses, license conditions, and the conduct of investigations and scientific investigations needed to satisfy [IC 14-21-1](#) and [IC 14-29-1-8](#) for an abandoned shipwreck or historic site located in whole or in part within a navigable waterway.

(b) In addition to the purposes described in subsection (a), this rule is intended to effectuate the Abandoned Shipwreck Act (43 U.S.C. 2101) in Indiana. To the extent not inconsistent with this article, the department may apply guidelines of the National Park Service, Department of Interior, published on December 4, 1990, at 55 FR 50116 through 55 FR 50145 in considering an activity that may affect an abandoned shipwreck. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-3-1; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 368; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-3-2 Administration of shipwrecks through division of historic preservation**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 2. (a) The division of historic preservation and archeology of the department shall conduct the technical and professional functions of the department under this rule with respect to a determination or regulation of a historic site (including an abandoned shipwreck located within an historic site).

(b) The director of the division of historic preservation and archeology may issue a license under this rule. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-3-2; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 368; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-3-3 Licensing**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14-21-1](#)

Sec. 3. (a) No person may remove, disturb, salvage, or destroy an abandoned shipwreck or a historic site located in whole or in part within a navigable waterway except under a license issued under this rule.

(b) A license application, with respect to a historic site (including a shipwreck located at a historic site), must include a plan (as defined in 312 IAC 22-1-14) that is proposed by the applicant to satisfy 312 IAC 22. The applicant must also satisfy 312 IAC 21. Except as provided in section 4 of this rule, the application shall be filed with the department at least thirty (30) days before a licensed activity is scheduled to begin.

(c) A person who wishes to recover or salvage an abandoned shipwreck that is not believed to be located at a historic site shall file a notification with the department. The notification must:

- (1) provide the location of the abandoned shipwreck; and
- (2) identify how the application determined:
  - (A) the abandoned ship is not located at a historic site; and
  - (B) that the proposed activity:
    - (i) does not otherwise violate [IC 14-29-1-8](#); or



(ii) is subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of a federal court or federal agency.

(d) A license issued under this rule may be revoked for a violation of [IC 14-21-1](#), [IC 14-29-1-8](#), this article, or a term of the license. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-3-3; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 368; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; errata filed Jan 27, 2009, 2:04 p.m.: [20090211-IR-312090064ACA](#); errata filed Sep 14, 2009, 11:00 a.m.: [20090930-IR-312090768ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-3-4 Emergency licenses**

Authority: [IC 14-21-1-31](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5-4](#); [IC 14](#)

Sec. 4. (a) The department may, under [IC 4-21.5-4](#), issue a license for a scientific investigation or for salvage of a historic site (including an abandoned shipwreck located at a historic site) if the director determines both of the following:

- (1) Imminent and irreparable damage or loss is likely to occur to the historic site due to natural or cultural causes.
- (2) Complete review of an application under this rule is impracticable.

(b) To the extent practicable, a license issued under this section shall meet the requirements of this rule.

(c) A permit cannot be issued under this section if its issuance would preclude the recovery of archeological, historical, or architectural information that forms the basis for site significance. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-3-4; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 369; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**Rule 4. Marinas and Group Piers**

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-4-1</a> | Applicability                                   |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-4-2</a> | Individual licensure of marinas                 |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-4-3</a> | Sewage pumpout facilities for boats at a marina |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-4-4</a> | Individual licensure of group piers             |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-4-5</a> | General licenses for qualified piers            |

**312 IAC 6-4-1 Applicability**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes standards for the placement or maintenance of a pier, including a marina or a group pier, along or within the ordinary high watermark of a navigable waterway.

(b) This rule is administered by the division of water and the division of law enforcement of the department. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-4-1; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 369; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-4-2 Individual licensure of marinas**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), a person must not place a marina that is a permanent structure along or within the ordinary high watermark of a navigable waterway unless a written license is obtained from the department by which the person agrees to operate the marina under section 3 of this rule.

(b) A license issued under subsection (a) satisfies [IC 14-29-1-8](#) and [IC 14-15-7-3](#).

(c) A separate license is not required under this section if:

- (1) a license is issued for a group pier under section 4 of this rule; and
- (2) the person who seeks the license for the group pier agrees to satisfy the requirements for pumpout facilities in section 3 of this rule.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-4-2; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 369; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

### **312 IAC 6-4-3 Sewage pumpout facilities for boats at a marina**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), a person must not operate a marina unless the person does the following:

(1) Provides a pumpout that is:

- (A) in good working order; and
- (B) readily accessible to patrons of the marina.

(2) Secures and maintains one (1) of the following:

- (A) A license under 327 IAC 3-2 for the construction and operation of a wastewater treatment facility or sanitary sewer.
- (B) A license under 410 IAC 6-10 for the construction of a commercial on-site wastewater disposal facility.
- (C) An alternative written approval for wastewater disposal from an authorized governmental agency.

(b) The department shall require compliance with subsection (a) as a condition for the issuance of a license under section 2 of this rule.

(c) A person may apply to the division of law enforcement for an exemption from this section. The exemption shall be granted, for a period not to exceed five (5) years, where the person demonstrates either of the following:

(1) The marina is designed to serve exclusively boats that are neither required nor likely to be equipped with a marine sanitation device.

(2) The operator of the marina has entered a binding agreement with another marina or similar facility along the waterway to provide pumpout services where the other marina or similar facility:

- (A) maintains a lawful pumpout as described in subsection (a);
- (B) is in proximity to the marina seeking the exemption so patrons to be served at a pumpout, which would otherwise be required at the exempted marina, would not be significantly inconvenienced; and
- (C) has sufficient pumpout capacity and accessibility to effectively serve the patrons of both parties to the agreement.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-4-3; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 369; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Jul 22, 2004, 10:05 a.m.: 27 IR 3885; errata filed Jun 2, 2009, 10:29 a.m.: [20090624-IR-312090386ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

### **312 IAC 6-4-4 Individual licensure of group piers**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-15](#); [IC 14-26-2](#)

Sec. 4. (a) A person must not place a group pier along or within the ordinary high watermark of a navigable waterway unless the person obtains a written license from the department under this section.

(b) The applicant must demonstrate exercise of the license would not do any of the following:

- (1) Unreasonably impair the navigability of the waterway.
- (2) Cause significant harm to the environment.
- (3) Pose an unreasonable hazard to life or property.
- (4) Violate the public trust.
- (5) Interfere with the reasonable exercise of boating operations by the public.

(6) Interfere with the legal interests of a landowner having property rights abutting the lake or rights to access the lake.  
(c) The department shall condition a license for a group pier so the placement, configuration, and maintenance of the pier, as follows:

- (1) Provide a reasonable buffer zone between the pier and the following:
  - (A) The channel where boats are commonly operated in excess of ten (10) miles per hour.
  - (B) The riparian zone of adjacent property owners to provide for reasonable navigation by the adjacent property owner and by the public. Except as otherwise provided in this clause, the department shall require at least (5) feet of clearance on both sides of a riparian line (for a total of ten (10) feet). The department may require as much as ten (10) feet of clearance on both sides of a riparian line (for a total of twenty (20) feet) if, based upon the opinion of a qualified professional, that additional clearance is required for reasonable navigation. The department may approve an exception to this clause where:
    - (i) adjacent riparian owners use a common pier along their mutual property line; and
    - (ii) the purposes of this clause are satisfied by waters elsewhere within their riparian zones.
- (2) Do not result in unreasonable traffic congestion either:
  - (A) in the immediate vicinity of the pier; or
  - (B) to impair the carrying capacity of the navigable waterway where the department has determined the carrying capacity in an analysis that is published before the license application is filed.
- (3) Do not authorize structures that are likely to be hidden or obscured so as to pose a hazard to the public.
- (4) Minimize disturbances to vegetation and sediments between the ordinary high watermark and adjacent shallow waters.
- (5) Are unlikely to trap debris or redirect sediments or currents to cause erosion or sedimentation that is detrimental to navigation or to the property rights of other riparian owners.
- (6) Avoid causing or appearing to cause appropriations of public water unnecessary to the reasonable exercise of riparian rights. A pier must not extend more than one-half (1/2) the width of the applicant's shoreline. As used in this subdivision, "width" is determined by the straight line formed between the points located at intersections of the applicant's property lines with the shoreline.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-4-4; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

### **312 IAC 6-4-5 General licenses for qualified piers**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-15-7-3](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-15](#); [IC 14-26-2](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 5. (a) The placement and maintenance of a pier is authorized without a written license issued by the department under [IC 14-29-1](#) and this rule if the pier qualifies under this section.

(b) In order for a pier to qualify, the structure must satisfy each of the following:

- (1) Not infringe on the access of an adjacent landowner to the navigable waterway.
- (2) Not unduly restrict navigation.
- (3) Not exceed the lesser of the following:
  - (A) One hundred (100) feet long.
  - (B) One-quarter (1/4) of the width of the waterway.
- (4) Not be unusually wide or long relative to similar structures within the vicinity on the same navigable waterway.
- (5) Not be a marina.
- (6) Not be a group pier.
- (7) Be placed by a riparian owner or with the written approval of a riparian owner.

(c) A pier placed along or within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan must also comply with 312 IAC 11-7 or 312 IAC 11-8.

(d) A pier placed along or within the ordinary high watermark of any of the following lakes must, in addition to this article, satisfy any requirement otherwise applicable to a property that is owned or leased by the state and managed by a division of the department:

- (1) Brookville Lake in Franklin County and Union County.

- (2) Cagles Mill Lake in Putnam County and Owen County.
- (3) Cecil M. Harden Lake in Parke County.
- (4) Mississinewa Lake in Miami County, Wabash County, and Grant County.
- (5) Lake Monroe in Monroe County, Brown County, and Lawrence County.
- (6) Patoka Lake in Dubois County, Orange County, and Crawford County.
- (7) J. Edward Roush Lake in Huntington County.

(e) A pier is exempted from licensure under this rule and [IC 14-29-1](#) if placed along or within the ordinary high watermark of either of the following:

- (1) Lake Freeman in Carroll County and White County.
- (2) Lake Shafer in White County.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-4-5; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:37 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090137FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**Rule 5. Mineral Extractions**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-1</a>  | Applicability   |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-2</a>  | Procedures  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-3</a>  | License to extract minerals                                   |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-4</a>  | License fees  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-5</a>  | Bonds   |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-6</a>  | License duration  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-7</a>  | Conditions for the extraction of minerals                     |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-8</a>  | Compensation for extracted minerals                           |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-9</a>  | Creek rock removal from a navigable waterway; general license |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-5-10</a> | Prospecting in a navigable waterway                           |

**312 IAC 6-5-1 Applicability**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14-34](#); [IC 14-37](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes standards applicable to the extraction of sand, gravel, stone, or another mineral from or under the bed of a navigable waterway.

- (b) Except as provided in subsections (c) through (d), this rule is administered by the division of water of the department.
- (c) The division of reclamation of the department administers an activity under this rule that is also controlled by [IC 14-34](#).
- (d) The division of oil and gas of the department administers an activity under this rule that is also controlled by [IC 14-37](#).

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-1; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 369; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-5-2 Procedures**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 14-11-4](#)

Sec. 2. (a) Before the department takes an agency action to issue or deny a license under this rule, [IC 14-11-4](#) and 312 IAC 2-3 govern.

(b) After the department takes an agency action, [IC 4-21.5](#) and 312 IAC 3-1 govern. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-2; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 370; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-5-3 License to extract minerals**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#); [IC 14-29-3](#); [IC 14-34](#); [IC 14-37](#)

Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) through (d), a written license is required under this rule before a person can lawfully extract sand, gravel, stone, coal, oil, gas, or another mineral from or under the bed of a navigable waterway.

(b) A separate license is not required under this rule for the extraction of coal from or under the bed of a navigable waterway if a license is issued under [IC 14-34](#) and 312 IAC 25 that also applies the requirements of this rule.

(c) A separate license is not required under this rule for the extraction of oil or gas from or under the bed of a navigable waterway if a license is issued under [IC 14-37](#) and 312 IAC 16-3 that also applies the requirements of this rule.

(d) A license is not required under this rule for the extraction of sand, gravel, or stone from the bed of a navigable waterway that is within a floodway if the extraction activity is exempted or excluded from the licensing requirements of [IC 14-28-1](#).

(e) A license under this section shall conform to [IC 14-29-1](#) and [IC 14-29-3](#).

(f) The standards and requirements of this rule govern a license issued under this rule and any activity for which a license is required under this rule. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-3; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 370; filed Feb 7, 2000, 3:31 p.m.: 23 IR 1365; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; errata filed Jan 27, 2009, 2:04 p.m.: [20090211-IR-312090064ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-5-4 License fees**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#); [IC 14-34-2-1](#); [IC 14-37-3-15](#)

Affected: [IC 14-34](#); [IC 14-37](#)

Sec. 4. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the fee for a license under this rule is fifty dollars (\$50).

(b) A separate license fee is not required under this rule for an activity for which a permit is issued under [IC 14-34](#) or [IC 14-37](#). (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-4; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 370; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-5-5 Bonds**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#); [IC 14-34-2-1](#); [IC 14-37-3-5](#)

Affected: [IC 14-29](#); [IC 14-34](#); [IC 14-37](#)

Sec. 5. (a) Except as provided in this section, a bond shall be posted by the license applicant with the department to assure prompt compliance with the terms and conditions of the license. Bond shall be in the form of a surety bond, a cash bond, or a certificate of deposit. No surety bond shall be approved unless issued by a company holding an applicable certificate of authority from the department of insurance, state of Indiana.

(b) The bond for any extraction resulting from surface coal mining operations shall be as determined under [IC 14-34](#) and 312 IAC 25.

(c) The bond for any well for oil and gas purposes shall be as determined under [IC 14-37](#) and 312 IAC 16-4. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-5; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 370; filed Feb 7, 2000, 3:31 p.m.: 23 IR 1365; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; errata filed Jan 27, 2009, 2:04 p.m.: [20090211-IR-312090064ACA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-5-6 License duration**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#); [IC 14-34-2-1](#); [IC 14-37-3-15](#)

Affected: [IC 14-37-4-10](#)

Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a license issued under this rule, including a license for the extraction of coal,

terminates upon the earlier of the following:

- (1) The termination date set forth in the license.
- (2) Five (5) years after the date on which the department sent notice of the agency action to issue the license.

(b) For the extraction of oil or gas, the duration of the license is as provided in [IC 14-37-4-10](#) unless otherwise specified in the license. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-6; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 370; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-5-7 Conditions for the extraction of minerals**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-34](#); [IC 14-37](#)

Sec. 7. The works, workings, and operations of a license issued under this rule must not do any of the following:

- (1) Impede or unreasonably impair the navigation of the navigable waterway.
- (2) Damage or endanger a bridge, highway, railroad, public work, or utility.
- (3) Damage the property of a riparian owner, an adjoining proprietor, or a person who holds a license under this rule and conducts mineral extraction on adjacent property. The department may waive the requirements of this subdivision if the license applicant obtains written consent from the affected person.
- (4) Cause significant harm to the environment.
- (5) Violate [IC 14-28-1](#), [IC 14-34](#), or [IC 14-37](#).

(*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-7; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 370; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-5-8 Compensation for extracted minerals**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 13-11-2-116](#); [IC 14](#)

Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a person shall pay to the department a reasonable value for extracted minerals. The value shall be as determined by the department and set forth in the license.

(b) An extraction is exempt from subsection (a) if the mineral is authorized by the department for placement, and is lawfully placed:

- (1) for beach nourishment; or
- (2) in a landfill as defined in [IC 13-11-2-116](#).

(*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-8; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 371; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-5-9 Creek rock removal from a navigable waterway; general license**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-28-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14-19-1-1](#); [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#); [IC 14-29-3](#)

Sec. 9. (a) Except as provided in subsection (d), this section establishes a general license for the removal of creek rock from a navigable waterway that is subject to [IC 14-28-1](#), [IC 14-29-1](#), or [IC 14-29-3](#).

(b) To act under this section, a person must:

- (1) if creek rock is to be removed from a parcel located in the riparian zone of an adjacent property owner, either:
  - (A) be a riparian owner for the parcel; or
  - (B) have written permission from a riparian owner for the parcel; and
- (2) receive written permission from the department in the conduct of its responsibilities under [IC 14-19-1-1](#)(9). The permission under this subdivision is a proprietary function for the public trust and is not a licensure function.



(c) Without a written license under [IC 14-28-1](#), [IC 14-29-1](#), or [IC 14-29-3](#), and without notice to the department other than as anticipated by subsection (b)(2), a person may remove creek rock from the parcel, if the person satisfies each of the following conditions:

- (1) Not more than ten (10) cubic yards of creek rock is removed within one (1) calendar year from the parcel.
- (2) The creek rock is removed exclusively by the following methods:
  - (A) Hand.
  - (B) Hand tools.
- (3) The creek rock is removed between July 1 and March 31 of the following year.
- (4) The creek rock is removed only from sand bars and gravel bars within the waterway. The excavation of waterway banks does not qualify under this subdivision.
- (d) An individual license is required under [IC 14-28-1](#) and this article for the removal of creek rock from Lake Michigan.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-9; filed May 12, 2009, 11:27 a.m.: [20090610-IR-312080614FRA](#); readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

### **312 IAC 6-5-10 Prospecting in a navigable waterway**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-1-5](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-22-34-12](#); [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#); [IC 14-29-3](#)

Sec. 10. (a) This section governs prospecting in a navigable waterway that is subject to [IC 14-28-1](#), [IC 14-29-1](#), or [IC 14-29-3](#).

(b) Unless otherwise provided in this section, a person must not engage in prospecting except as approved by the department in a written license.

(c) Without a written license or notice to the department, and except as provided in subsection (d), a person may engage in prospecting within the ordinary high watermark of a navigable waterway upon compliance with each of the following conditions:

- (1) Lawful ingress to and egress from the navigable waterway is obtained.
- (2) Written permission is obtained from any affected riparian owner.
- (3) Prospecting is performed exclusively by one (1) or a combination of the following processes:
  - (A) Without the use of equipment.
  - (B) With the use of nonmotorized equipment, such as a pan, sluice box, or pick and shovel.
  - (C) With the use of suction equipment, including motorized equipment, having a hand-operated nozzle that has an opening not larger than five (5) inches in diameter.
- (4) No mercury or other chemicals are used to assist with the recovery of hard mineral resources.
- (5) Activities occur exclusively between sunrise and sunset.
- (6) No mussels are taken as prescribed by 312 IAC 9-9-3.
- (7) No endangered species are taken as prescribed by [IC 14-22-34-12](#).
- (d) The following waterways do not qualify for prospecting under subsection (c) or under 312 IAC 10-5-11(c):
  - (1) Big Blue River in Harrison County, Crawford County, and Washington County from river mile 57.2 downstream to river mile 11.5.
  - (2) The East Branch of the Little Calumet River in Porter County.
  - (3) Lake Michigan.
  - (4) The Portage Burns Waterway in Porter County.
  - (5) St. Joseph River in St. Joseph County from the Twin Branch Dam in Mishawaka downstream to the Michigan State Line.

(e) Nothing in this section is intended to modify the rights of riparian owners. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-5-10; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:35 p.m.: [20091202-IR-312090080FRA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

### **Rule 6. General Authorization for Beach Nourishment to Lake Michigan**

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-6-1</a> | Applicability                                 |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-6-2</a> | Notice to the department of natural resources |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-6-3</a> | Department project review                     |



[312 IAC 6-6-4](#)  
[312 IAC 6-6-5](#)

Posting  
 Compliance with terms and sanctions for violations

**312 IAC 6-6-1 Applicability**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes terms for a general authorization to place sand for beach nourishment within Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore or Indiana Dunes State Park.

(b) A person who acts under this rule is not required to complete an application or to obtain a written license from the department under [IC 14-29-1](#). A person may, however, elect to seek a written license under [IC 14-29-1](#) rather than apply this rule. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-6-1; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 371; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-6-2 Notice to the department of natural resources**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 2. A person who wishes to obtain a general authorization under this rule must provide a written notice to the division of water of the department, including the following:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of any person seeking the authorization. Persons for which the information shall be provided include:

- (A) the owner of the sand before placement for beach nourishment; and
- (B) if other than the owner, the person who transports the sand.

(2) The site, and the ownership of the site, from which sand will be removed or extracted.

(3) The results of any testing or other documentation to establish the sand is unlikely to contain contaminants harmful to humans or aquatic life.

(4) The method by which the sand is to be transported.

(5) The site where the sand is to be deposited for the purpose of providing beach nourishment and written acceptance of the riparian owner for its deposit.

(6) The period for which the general authorization is sought.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-6-2; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 371; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-6-3 Department project review**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
 Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 3. (a) Following the receipt of a written notice under section 2 of this rule, the department shall inspect the site from which the sand is to be extracted and the site at which the sand is to be deposited. Within fourteen (14) days after the receipt of the written notice, the department shall inform the person seeking the general authorization whether:

- (1) the person may proceed;
- (2) the person must comply with additional conditions in order to act under this rule, which general conditions may include successful completion of testing criteria; or
- (3) the person cannot act except according to a license issued under [IC 14-29-1-8](#).

(b) In performing its review, the department shall consider whether removal, transport, or placement of the sand is likely to pose a hazard to either of the following:

- (1) Public health or safety.

(2) The environment.

(c) If the department does not respond within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of a written notice, the request for the general authorization is deemed to have been approved. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-6-3; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 371; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-6-4 Posting**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 4. The department may require a person who acts upon the general authorization to post a copy of the written notice, together with the acceptance and any terms or conditions required by the department, at the site where the sand is deposited. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-6-4; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 371; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-6-5 Compliance with terms and sanctions for violations**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14](#)

Sec. 5. (a) A person who acts upon a general authorization must comply with the terms of the written notice provided under section 2 of this rule and any conditions under section 3 of this rule.

(b) A violation of subsection (a) may result in a revocation or suspension of the general authorization or in any other sanction provided by law for the violation of a license issued by the department. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-6-5; filed Sep 11, 1997, 8:50 a.m.: 21 IR 371; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**Rule 7. Emergency Construction Activities in Lake Michigan**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-1</a> | Application  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-2</a> | Request for approval of emergency construction           |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-3</a> | Response to request for emergency construction approval  |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-4</a> | Determining if an emergency exists                       |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-5</a> | Factors tending to support a finding an emergency exists |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-6</a> | Disposition of emergency license                         |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-7</a> | After-the-fact license                                   |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-7-8</a> | Administrative review                                    |

**312 IAC 6-7-1 Application**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes standards for determining whether an emergency condition warrants the approval of a construction activity along or within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan where a license application, review, and approval are not completed before conducting the activity. An emergency authorization under this rule applies to [IC 14-28-1](#) and [IC 14-29-1](#).

(b) The presumption is a license application, review, and approval process must be completed before a construction activity can be approved. An emergency action is authorized only if the division director finds the action is supported by extraordinary circumstances as described in this rule.

(c) This rule also sets procedures for seeking approval of an emergency activity and the status of improvements made as a result

of the activity. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-1; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1610; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

### **312 IAC 6-7-2 Request for approval of emergency construction**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 2. (a) A person who wishes to perform emergency construction along or within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan, without first obtaining license approval under [IC 14-29-1](#) and this article, must notify the department and the applicable county emergency management agency.

(b) The notice shall describe the nature of the emergency and the construction requested to be performed in response to the emergency. The notice must provide sufficient information for the department to review the request under the terms set forth in this rule.

(c) An authorization issued under this rule also satisfies the need to obtain a license under [IC 14-28-1](#) for the period the authorization is in effect. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-2; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1610; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

### **312 IAC 6-7-3 Response to request for emergency construction approval**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29](#)

Sec. 3. Upon the receipt of a request for emergency construction approval, the department shall perform an on-site inspection. To the extent practicable, the department shall consult with other agencies before responding to the request. Included among these agencies are the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the appropriate county emergency management agency. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-3; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1611; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

### **312 IAC 6-7-4 Determining if an emergency exists**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29](#)

Sec. 4. The department may grant a request to approve emergency construction if, without performing the construction, there is an imminent risk of harm to public safety or major damage to property and at least one (1) of the following conditions exist:

(1) No erosion protection structure is present at the site.

(2) A failure or significant structural deterioration of an existing erosion protection structure has occurred. Examples include the following:

(A) Erosion of the lake bottom has occurred adjacent to a sheet steel wall.

(B) Stones in a rock revetment have shifted.

(3) Major shoreline erosion has occurred.

(4) A bluff face is excessively steep and threatens mass slumping.

(5) Without the construction, there would be a likelihood of significant harm to the environment or to public health and safety.

(*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-4; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1611; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-7-5 Factors tending to support a finding an emergency exists**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-26-2.1-2](#); [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29](#)

Sec. 5. Factors tending to support a finding emergency conditions are present under section 3 of this rule include the following:

- (1) The lake level is rising.
- (2) The current lake level is higher than the ordinary high watermark.
- (3) The failed or threatened erosion control structure is in close proximity to the subject property.
- (4) The content, design, or position of an erosion control structure makes its accelerated deterioration or collapse more likely.
- (5) The existing angle of repose of a bluff face or the bluff height make continued slumping probable.
- (6) The risk of harm to public safety or major damage to real property is aggravated by external circumstances.
- (7) If immediate action is not taken, persons other than the person seeking to perform emergency remedial action are also likely to suffer harm.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-5; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1611; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#); filed Apr 24, 2023, 10:29 a.m.: [20230524-IR-312220350FRA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-7-6 Disposition of emergency license**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29](#)

Sec. 6. (a) The department may approve, approve with conditions, or deny a request for an emergency authorization under this rule. This disposition may be made orally if conditions warrant but shall be memorialized in writing as quickly as practicable.

(b) The department may terminate an application for an emergency license if the applicant fails to provide supporting documentation in a timely fashion.

(c) Unless otherwise specified in writing by the department, an approval under this rule is effective for ninety (90) days.

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-6; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1611; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-7-7 After-the-fact license**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 14-18-6](#); [IC 14-28-1](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 7. (a) A person who obtains and acts upon an emergency authorization under this rule must file with the department a completed application, under [IC 14-29-1](#) and this article, for a permanent after-the-fact license within ninety (90) days of commencing the emergency activity. The department may, for good cause, grant an extension of time for filing an after-the-fact license application.

(b) If the activity for which an emergency authorization is granted also requires a license under [IC 14-28-1](#), a completed application for a permanent after-the-fact license under [IC 14-28-1](#) must also be filed with the department within ninety (90) days of commencing the emergency activity.

(c) Subsections (a) and (b) do not apply if the person granted an emergency authorization conducts no activity over which the department has jurisdiction under [IC 14-28-1](#) or [IC 14-29-1](#).

(d) The receipt of an emergency authorization creates no inference of entitlement to an after-the-fact license or to ownership of the bed of Lake Michigan. The department may require modification or removal of any material or structure placed on or within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan if appropriate to [IC 14-29-1](#) and this article. A person may obtain title to lands within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan only upon compliance with [IC 14-18-6](#). *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-7; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1611; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#))*

**312 IAC 6-7-8 Administrative review**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 4-21.5](#); [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29](#)

Sec. 8. (a) An affected person may obtain administrative review under [IC 4-21.5](#) and 312 IAC 3-1 of a determination under this rule. The division of hearings of the commission shall, as soon as practicable, conduct any appropriate proceeding.

(b) Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, a hearing under this section shall be held in an Indiana county that borders Lake Michigan. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-7-8; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1612; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**Rule 8. Placement of Permanent Structures in Lake Michigan**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-8-1</a> | Application of rule                      |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-8-2</a> | License for the placement of a structure |
| <a href="#">312 IAC 6-8-3</a> | Action by department                     |

**312 IAC 6-8-1 Application of rule**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes standards for determining whether to grant approval for the placement of a permanent structure in Lake Michigan under [IC 14-29-1](#).

(b) If the permanent structure is a marina, approval must be obtained under 312 IAC 6-4 in addition to this rule.

(c) As used in this rule, "permanent structure" means a:

- (1) marina;
- (2) seawall;
- (3) breakwater;
- (4) detached breakwater;
- (5) jetty;
- (6) boat launch;
- (7) "z" wall;
- (8) binwall;
- (9) sinusoidal wall;
- (10) bulkhead;
- (11) groin;
- (12) grout tube;
- (13) cable;
- (14) pipeline;
- (15) wharf;
- (16) pier;
- (17) piling;
- (18) rock revetment; or
- (19) similar structure.

(*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-8-1; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1612; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-8-2 License for the placement of a structure**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)  
Affected: [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29](#)

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NAVIGABLE WATERS

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Sec. 2. (a) A person who wishes to place a permanent structure on or within the ordinary high watermark of Lake Michigan must file a license application with the department that is completed under this article.

(b) The applicant must include plans, drawings, other specifications reasonably required for the department to determine whether placement of the permanent structure would satisfy 312 IAC 6-1-1.

(c) The applicant must demonstrate the permanent structure will not do any of the following:

(1) Unreasonably impair the navigability of the lake or an adjacent navigable waterway.

(2) Cause significant harm to the environment.

(3) Pose an unreasonable hazard to life or property.

(d) The applicant shall evaluate the likely impact of the permanent structure on coastal dynamics, including the following:

(1) Shoreline erosion and accretion.

(2) Sand movement within the lake.

(3) The interaction with existing structures.

(e) The applicant must demonstrate either that it is the fee owner of land immediately adjacent to the site where the construction would take place or that the applicant has written authorization from the fee owner of that land.

(f) The applicant must provide notice to persons adjacent to the affected real property as described in 312 IAC 2-3. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-8-2; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1612; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

**312 IAC 6-8-3 Action by department**

Authority: [IC 14-10-2-4](#); [IC 14-28-3-2](#); [IC 14-29-1-8](#)

Affected: [IC 4-21.5-3-5](#); [IC 14-28](#); [IC 14-29-1](#)

Sec. 3. (a) The department may determine to approve, approve with conditions, or deny a license sought under this rule and [IC 14-29-1](#). Those conditions may include any action needed to mitigate a negative impact identified under section 2 of this rule. Notice of the determination shall be provided to the applicant and any other person required to be notified under [IC 4-21.5-3-5](#).

(b) The department may terminate a license application where the applicant fails to provide supporting documentation in a timely fashion.

(c) If the department determines the placement of a structure as described in the application would violate the public trust doctrine, the department shall either deny the application or condition approval of the application upon terms that would allow placement of the structure without violation of the public trust doctrine. The license may be conditioned to assure that any public access will not be impeded and to provide for complete removal of the structure and site restoration, at the expense of the riparian landowner, when the structure is no longer required.

(d) As a condition of approval, the department may require monitoring of the structure or of affected lands and waters to determine the impact of the structure upon coastal dynamics or other environmental factors. If monitoring or other documentation identifies a negative impact that was not fully addressed when the license was approved, the department may require removal, modification, or improvement to the structure (or another action needed) to mitigate the negative impact. (*Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 6-8-3; filed Jan 23, 2001, 10:17 a.m.: 24 IR 1613; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; readopted filed Sep 28, 2009, 11:57 a.m.: [20091021-IR-312090152RFA](#); readopted filed Nov 24, 2015, 4:05 p.m.: [20151223-IR-312150295RFA](#); readopted filed Sep 23, 2021, 9:42 a.m.: [20211020-IR-312210342RFA](#)*)

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