

**SUBJECT:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AMENDING THE BEVERLY LAKE, LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN TO ALLOW FOR ELECTRIC MOTORS AND 15 HORSEPOWER AND LESS MOTORS ON NON-MOTORIZED DAYS.

**AGENDA OF:** June 20, 2023

**ASSEMBLY ACTION:**

*Adopted without objection 8-15-23*

**AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED:** Introduce and set for public hearing.

Route To Department/Director	Signature	Comments
Originator	<i>x [Signature]</i>	
Planning Department Director	<i>x [Signature]</i>	
Finance Department Director	<i>x [Signature]</i> <i>A. Strawn</i>	
Borough Attorney	<i>x [Signature]</i>	
Borough Manager	<i>x [Signature]</i>	
Borough Clerk	<i>x [Signature]</i>	<i>SP</i>

**ATTACHMENT (S) :** Fiscal Note: YES \_\_\_ NO X  
 Planning Commission Resolution No. 23-26 (3 pp)  
 Ordinance Serial No. 23-065 (2 pp)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

This legislation was requested by Assemblymember Yundt.

The Borough Assembly adopted the Beverly Lake, Lake Management Plan (LMP) on December 20, 2022, via Ordinance No 22-078. After Assemblymember Tew reconsidered his vote to adopt the Plan, Assemblymember Yundt brought forward an amendment to the original LMP to include a timeshare for motorized watercraft, including jet skis. The original version of the LMP that was voted forward by the community with a 54% majority included the use of fifteen and

under horsepower motors and electric motors on all days of the week. This nuance was missed in the amendment that was moved forward by the Assembly in the final ordinance and has caused the residents of Beverly Lake to suffer as many of the residents enjoy fishing off their motorized docks with electric motors.

Throughout the planning process, residents showed overwhelming support for maintaining the use of electric motors and motors fifteen and under horsepower motors. This is due to the compatibility of these types of motors with non-motorized sports like kayaking, canoeing, swimming, and stand-up paddle boarding. These types of motors also have a very low safety risk.

MSB 15.24.030(C) states that unless there is an imminent threat to the public health, safety, welfare, or a lake's water quality, lake management plans shall not be amended for a period of two years from the date of adoption. Beverly Lake residents have requested that the Assembly amend their Lake Management Plan to include electric motors and fifteen and under horsepower motors on all days of the week due to the decrease in quality of life and community welfare they are experiencing because of the amendment to the original plan.

**RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:**

Staff respectfully recommends that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly adopt the Beverly Lake, Lake Management Plan amendment to allow electric motors and fifteen and under horsepower motors on non-motorized days.

By:  
Introduced:  
Public Hearing:  
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 23-26**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDING THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY ADOPT  
ORDINANCE NO. 23-065 AMENDING THE BEVERLY LAKE, LAKE MANAGEMENT  
PLAN.

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WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly adopted the  
Beverly Lake, Lake Management Plan on December 20, 2022, via  
Ordinance No. 22-078; and

WHEREAS, the adopted plan included an amendment that created  
a schedule for motorized days and non-motorized days on the lake;  
and

WHEREAS, the amendment did not capture the full intent of the  
original plan created by the residents of Beverly Lake, who vastly  
supported the allowance of fifteen and under horsepower motors,  
and electric motors on all days of the week; and

WHEREAS, residents have asked the Assembly to consider  
amending the plan to allow for those uses on non-motorized days;  
and

WHEREAS, electric motors and fifteen and under horsepower  
motors do not conflict with non-motorized uses, such as kayaking,  
fishing, stand-up paddle boarding, and swimming; and

WHEREAS, electric motors and fifteen and under horsepower motors provide great enjoyment to residents who use smaller motors on their docks and small fishing boats; and

WHEREAS, the will of the community was shown through a final ballot process that showed a 54% majority in favor of including these uses on Beverly Lake throughout the week; and

WHEREAS, MSB 15.24.030(C) states that unless there is an imminent threat to the public health, safety, welfare, or a lake's water quality, lake management plans shall not be amended for a period of two years from the date of adoption; and

WHEREAS, the welfare of the community has been negatively impacted by the decision to not allow for electric motors and fifteen and under horsepower motors on all days of the week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission hereby adopts Resolution No. 23-26 in support of amending the Beverly Lake, Lake Management Plan to include the use of fifteen and under horsepower and electric motors on all days of the week.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission this -- day of --, 2023.

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CJ KOAN, Chair

ATTEST

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KAROL RIESE, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

YES:

NO:

DRAFT