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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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### Division of Wildlife Resources

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## REPEAL OF SPECIAL ORDER

Lake Powell  
May 8, 2020

On April 1, 2020, I, Michal D. Fowlks, Director of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources ("DWR"), issued a Special Order implementing modified decontamination procedures for watercraft recreating on waters infested with Dreissena mussels. This Special Order was issued in response to a March 6, 2020 Declaration of Emergency issued by Governor Gary Herbert regarding the coronavirus pandemic, and social distancing guidelines and group gathering limitations issued by local, state and federal health officials. Additionally, the National Park Service closed many portions of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in and around Lake Powell, and local health departments and counties in Southeastern Utah issued emergency orders temporarily restricting recreation on public lands.

As COVID-19 progresses, state, local and federal officials are beginning to reopen facilities, businesses, and resources. To that end, the National Park Service initiated a phased approach reopening boat launches at Lake Powell, and boaters are once again able to enjoy the lake and recreate responsibly. As Lake Powell is classified as an infested water under Utah law, boaters must comply with established decontamination procedures after recreating on its waters.

In order to minimize the likelihood that Dreissena mussels are introduced to other waterbodies, I hereby repeal the April 1, 2020 Special Order regarding modified aquatic invasive species decontamination protocols. All decontamination requirements provided for in Utah Administrative Code R657-60 are to be followed. Any conveyance currently subject to a mandatory 30-day dry time imposed by the Special Order may receive a professional decontamination and waive the remainder of the 30-day dry time, unless DWR determines that there is a substantial risk that Dreissena mussels remain in or on the conveyance after receiving that professional decontamination.

Boaters are urged to comply with all lawfully issued orders from local, state, and federal officials regarding best practices for minimizing the spread of Coronavirus. Updates may be available at [www.wildlife.utah.gov](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov).

Dated this 8th day of May, 2020



Michal D. Fowlks  
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources