



State of California  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Sierra District  
Order No. 683-25-005

## EMERALD BAY STATE PARK SUPERINTENDENT ORDER

**Food Storage Requirement / Bears:** The campgrounds, Park offices, and residence areas within the park have been designated as “bear proof food storage areas” in accordance with California Code of Regulations Title 14 (CCR) section 4323(b). Campground areas require additional food storage compliance, as posted, by use of a State approved bear proof food locker and/or storage device.

**Bicycles:** CCR 4360 states that “unless designated by the Department, all trails are open to pedestrians and closed to all other uses.” As such, bicycles are only allowed to be operated in a safe and controlled manner on the following areas of this park:

- Eagle Point Campground paved areas and the fire road down to the lake from the Eagle Point Campground.

**Park Hours:** Other than those areas designated for camping, all facilities, roads, beaches, and trails, etc. are closed from sunset to sunrise daily. Exceptions may include permitted special events, or guided Park led Interpretive activities. When a campground or a portion thereof is closed for the season, no camping is permitted within the closed area.

**Charcoal and Fire Restrictions:** Fire closures may be posted at any time where Department officials have made a finding of extreme fire hazard (CCR 4311). Closures include charcoal grills/barbeques and/or wood campfires periodically as appropriate. Only gas camp stoves will be permitted during full closures. Factors influencing my decision to restrict fires may include, but are not limited to:

- Periods where “red flag” conditions (or other severe weather conditions, to include excessive heat) are forecast
- Periods when the Air Quality Index (AQI) is significantly elevated.
- Periods when fire danger is “Very High” or “Extreme.”
- During periods when fire incidents have caused strain on firefighting and public safety resources.

**Tour and Photography Protocols:** During guided tours or historic presentations within the historic buildings and within historic grounds at this park, the following shall apply:

- No person other than officers, employees of the Department, or other authorized tour guides in the course of duty shall touch, handle, or move any object or exhibit, nor modify any exhibit space.
- No person shall smoke in any building or during any tour or interpretive program.
- No person shall possess or consume food or beverage on any tour or in any building.
- No photography (including by cell phone) is to interfere with scheduled tours, and the time limits allotted them. No photographer is to leave the tour route, use any kind of artificial light (including by cell phone), tripod, or set any equipment on any surface without permission from an employee of the Department. Flash photography (including by cell phone) may be restricted as posted or instructed.

**Vessel Mooring:** Vessels smaller than 30 feet and/or less than 5 tons in displacement are permitted to dock and moor at the following locations:

- The State-owned pier located at the Boat Camp in the Park
- The State-owned pier located at Vikingsholm in the Park and State-owned shoreline
- The State-owned buoys located at Boat Camp and the underwater barge buoy.

Mooring/docking is subject to the following conditions:

1. Vessels meeting the specified limits may dock and moor at the specified State-owned piers, between sunrise and sunset, and only for a period of time to load and unload passengers and/or equipment.
2. Vessels meeting the specified limits may moor overnight only to the specified state-owned buoys in the area known as boat camp, or within the Emerald Bay Anchoring Zone as defined below. Vessels must be registered in a specific site at Boat Camp and moored to the corresponding buoy.
3. Vessels, including human powered, may not be secured to vegetation (trees or shrubs) or Park improvements (picnic tables, etc.) at anytime per CCR T-14 4660.

**Emerald Bay Anchoring Zone:** In the interest of protecting objects of archaeological or historical interest or value in Emerald Bay, and the area known as Emerald Bay Underwater Park, no person shall weigh anchor or cast off from any beach within this park, except:

Within the area bounded by an imaginary line extending 150 yards north of the Vikingsholm Pier, south to the mouth of Eagle Creek and extending East ward from the shoreline to the 60-foot contour depth.

**Campground Occupancy:** Camping occupancy in the total of Sierra District Parks (specifically including Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point SP, DL Bliss SP, Emerald Bay SP, Donner Memorial SP, Tahoe SRA, Grover Hot Springs SP, Plumas Eureka SP, Malakoff Diggins SHP) for park visitors is limited to 30 nights in total per calendar year per individual visitor, regardless of park unit. Consecutive-night occupancy is limited to 15 nights in succession and must include a 2-night absence prior to another period of camping occupancy. The purpose of this regulation shall be to maintain fair recreational access for all.

**“Hike and Bike” Camping:** Certain campsites within designated units of the California State Park System have been designated for use by pedestrians and bicyclists travelling recreationally through California. The hike-and-bike camping policy for this park is as follows:

- Maximum consecutive length of stay is two (2) days.
- Following the two day stay, there must be a 48-hour vacating period from 12 noon of the checkout day to 12 p.m. of the second day following.
- Due to the purpose of the camping being enroute, maximum length of stay in any calendar year is 4 nights.
- Individuals may not be dropped off in the campground by vehicles, in the spirit of maintaining this section as truly for enroute pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Maximum occupancy is determined by unit rangers pursuant to CCR 4323(a) and may include campers occupying a site with occupants from a different traveling party.

This order also shall serve to give rangers the authority and discretion to allow one-night, self-contained camping in day use areas under CCR 4457. Allowances shall be for public safety or resource protection reasons. Standard camping fees shall apply.

**Dogs:** To assist in protecting the ecological integrity of Emerald Bay State Park as a National Natural Landmark, as exceptions to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sec 4312(f)(1)/(f)(2), dogs are allowed on leash (CCR 4312(e)) only within the developed areas of the Eagle Point Campground and the developed areas of the Boat Camp.

**Juvenile Curfew:** For the protection of juveniles and others and for the safety and welfare of the general public, the following curfew is hereby established for juveniles at this park.

- Juveniles may not enter or remain in the campground or day use areas of this park between the hours following sunset and proceeding sunrise except as follows:
- One who is accompanied by a parent or guardian (or has documentation of being an emancipated minor).
- One who is part of an organized group permitted to occupy a unit or portion thereof and who is

supervised by at least one responsible adult for each fifteen juveniles.

- One who is lawfully camping, having furnished to the department written consent of and the full name, residence number, and telephone number of the juvenile's parent or guardian, with the inclusive dates for which permission is granted to camp at the unit involved.

**Model Aircraft and Unmanned Aerial Systems:** Model aircraft and Unmanned (unoccupied) Aerial Systems (UAS or "drones") are an emergent technology that can have a negative impact on Park resources and public safety and are generally inconsistent with the park experience. Due to the dramatic growth and popularity of model aircraft and UAS, and based on concerns related to wildlife, aesthetics, visitor safety and privacy, and fire hazards, the following lands and facilities located within the Sierra District are restricted as follows:

No person shall launch, land, or operate a powered unmanned (unoccupied) aircraft or unmanned (unoccupied) aerial system (UAS) within **any** State Park unit owned or operated as part of the Sierra District of California State Parks.

I the District Superintendent, or my specifically named designee, may grant exemptions to this order as determined to be necessary for the proper administration of the park, and to protect the safety and welfare of its visitors, employees, and resources. Exceptions to this order **may** include:

- Use by trained law enforcement for public safety purposes
- Use by media outlets
- Non-commercial use upon completion of the park unit's special event permit application and applicable FAA compliance
- Scientific research with appropriate FAA registration and Park unit permits

If any exception is granted, as described above, all UAS/Drone equipment must be made available for inspection of safety compliance at the time of application. All exemptions, except for emergency personnel, must be obtained in writing. Requests for exemptions may be made by contacting the District Superintendent.

***I, the District Superintendent, or my specifically named designee, may grant exceptions to this order as determined to be necessary for the proper administration of the park, and to protect the safety and welfare of visitors, employees and resources. All exceptions, except for emergency personnel, must be obtained in writing by the Sierra District Superintendent at P.O. Box 266, Tahoma, CA 96142.***

***Nothing herein shall be construed in derogation of other provisions of law, existing contracts or property rights previously granted.***

***These orders have been posted pursuant to the California Code regulations, Title 14, Section 4301(i).***

Signed: Rich Adams Date: 5/9/2025  
Rich Adams  
District Superintendent  
Sierra District

***Authority: California Public Resources Code Sections 5003 and 5008, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 4326, CCR 4300, 4301, CCR 4323, CCR 4326, 4317, 4360, 4455, 4457, 4358, 4660***