ORDINANCE REGULATING CONDUCT IN CHARLOTTE PARK AND WILDLIFE REFUGE

The Selectboard of the Town of Charlotte hereby ordains:

Section 1: Purpose- This ordinance is enacted to insure use of Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge in Charlotte by the public in a manner consistent with the goals of maintaining the Park as a wildlife preserve and for passive recreational activities that do not impact wildlife or the plant communities existing within the Park.

Section 2: Authority- This ordinance is adopted by the Selectboard pursuant to the authority set forth in 24 V.S.A. Sections 872 and 2291. This ordinance shall be a civil ordinance within the meaning of 24 V.S.A. Section 1971.

Section 3: Applicability- This ordinance shall only apply to Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge as designated by the Selectboard, consisting of approximately 250 acres located between Vermont Route #7 and Greenbush Road.

Section 4: Park Supervision and Rules-

A. Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge will be operated, maintained and supervised by the Selectboard, or the Board's designee, in accordance with the approved management plan for the Park.

B. The Selectboard will, from time to time, establish rules regarding use of the Park, including setting times when the Park will be closed to the public.

C. The Selectboard may, following consultation with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, authorize a managed hunt within the Park for the purpose of maintaining the population of Park wildlife at environmentally sustainable levels.

Section 5: Conduct in Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge-

A. All persons visiting Charlotte Park and Wildlife Refuge shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner that does not disrupt, injure or remove the Park's wildlife, wildlife habitat, and plants, including without limitation, trees, shrubs, flowers, ferns, and grasses, except persons, acting under direction of the Selectboard to maintain the Park in accordance with Section 4.A.

B. Horseback riding is allowed in the Park only on designated trails.

C. Pets are not allowed in the Park at any time.

D. Wheeled vehicles, wheeled boards and wheeled footwear are not allowed in the park at any time, with the exception of emergency vehicles responding to an emergency, agricultural equipment consistent with the approved management plan, and maintenance vehicles authorized by the Selectboard.

E. Firearms of any description, air rifles, gas weapons, slingshots, bows and arrows, firecrackers, and explosives are prohibited in the Park, except those used by persons acting under direction of the Selectboard to conduct a managed hunt in accordance with Section 4.C.

F. Refuse, rubbish, garbage or other trash of any nature shall not be left in the Park except in trash receptacles where provided.

G. No fires shall be built in the Park.

H. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the Park.

I. No one may camp or remain overnight in the Park.

J. No person shall disturb the peace, endanger the public safety, or prevent the use of the Park by others.

Section 6. Enforcement- Any person who violates a provision of this civil ordinance shall be subject to civil penalties as set forth below for each day that such violation continues. The Selectboard shall designate an individual to enforce this ordinance who shall be authorized to act as the Issuing Municipal Official to issue and pursue before the Traffic and Municipal Ordinance Bureau a municipal complaint.

Section 7. Waiver Fee- The Issuing Municipal Official is authorized to recover a waiver fee of Twenty dollars ($20 for a violation of this Ordinance for any person who declines to contest a municipal complaint and pays the waiver fee.

Section 8. Civil Penalties- The Issuing Municipal Official is authorized to recover a civil penalty of Fifty Dollars ($50.00) for each violation this Ordinance.

Section 9. Severability- If any portion of this ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected.

DATED: July ___, 1998

TOWN OF CHARLOTTE SELECTBOARD

Martha E. [illegible]

James [illegible]

Holly [illegible]

Clark N. Hinsdale III

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