



STATE OF
MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

44

500 LAFAYETTE ROAD • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA • 55155-40

DNR INFORMATION
(612) 296-6157

July 25, 1991

Michele Swanson
LCRAR
55 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1201

Dear Ms. Swanson:

Enclosed as you requested is a copy of the Statement of Need and Reasonableness for the rule amendments for state forest campgrounds and day use areas. Not sending a copy of the SONAR was an oversight on our part.

Sincerely,

John W. Hellquist
Forest Recreation and Land
Program Coordinator

The Legislative Commission to
Review Administrative Rules

JUL 26 1991



STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED RULES REVISION
FOR PARKS AND TRAILS: PUBLIC USE OF STATE
PARKS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL AREAS

STATEMENT OF NEED AND REASONABLENESS

April 28, 1991

INTRODUCTION

Minnesota's state forests were created by the Legislature to produce timber and other forest crops, provide outdoor recreation, protect watersheds and to perpetuate rare and distinctive species of native flora and fauna.

The Department of Natural Resources has determined that the rules for state forest campgrounds and day use areas which have been in effect since April of 1990 are inadequate and in need of revision to protect the health and safety of users of state forest campgrounds and day use areas.

The Department believes that these rule amendments have no fiscal impact on local governments, no impact on small business, and no impact on agricultural lands.

The Department of Natural Resources is experiencing an ever-increasing demand by various user groups to provide settings in which to pursue new recreational interests. Occasionally these activities are not allowed in state forest campgrounds and day use areas because of user conflicts, impacts to the natural, historical and cultural resources, or because they are determined not to be in the public interest.

Through these proposed rule changes and additions, the Department hopes to strike a balance between needs and demands of various users and protecting the resources and facilities of the state forest campgrounds and day use areas.

The proposed rule amendments make changes in subpart 6100.0700 Personal Conduct and Prohibitions and by adding a subpart 6100.1610 which prohibits certain activities at state forest campgrounds and day use areas/beaches.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

6100.0700 PERSONAL CONDUCT AND PROHIBITIONS.

The prohibition on consumption of intoxicating liquors and display of containers of intoxicating liquor has been added for state forest campgrounds and day use areas. The Division of Forestry is adding this language for state forest campgrounds and day use areas because of unique problems that have occurred at state forest recreation facilities since the rule was changed to allow the consumption of alcohol. The Division has experienced problems with alcohol consumption and the containers that it is packaged in. This amendment would allow forest officers, conservation officers and county sheriffs to more readily intervene in situations where liquor related disturbances were occurring and allow them to have the liquor removed. This change will help to protect the health and safety of the users of state forest recreation facilities and will also make it easier for law enforcement officers to break up parties that have occurred after our recreation facilities are closed to the public for the day and which disturb other campers and in some instances adjacent cabin owners.

Possession of 3.2 beer (not defined as intoxicating liquor) in a keg would also be prohibited at state forest campgrounds and day use areas without a permit. This is reasonable because kegs of beer tend to congregate people and increase the level of disturbance for other users in the vicinity. Permits for kegs would be issued to groups based on factors such as the number in the group, the number of other users that will be affected (time of year, day of the week) the facilities ability to provide a location where disruption of other users is less likely, and potential damage to forest resources would be minimized.

6100.1610 SWIMMING AT STATE FOREST CAMPGROUNDS OR DAY USE AREAS.

A new subpart has been added which makes certain provisions of the state park beach rules apply at state forest campgrounds and day use areas. This is necessary for safety reasons, to protect forest resources and facilities, and to minimize user conflicts.

Language concerning dogs and pets has been added to reflect that these animals are not allowed in the water with swimmers; This rule is necessary to protect swimmers from being scratched or harassed by pets swimming in the water.

Language has also been added to prohibit people from swimming before sunrise or after sunset. This rule is necessary to eliminate safety problems that occur when people swim at night.

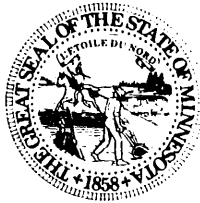
Language has been added to prohibit hazardous activities to protect users of the beach and to prohibit the use of soaps to protect water quality.

Possession of glass containers has been added to protect beach users from broken glass which can occur when glass containers break or are left lying around.

Boats, canoes, rafts and fishing are prohibited because these activities can cause injury to swimmers and beach users. Clothes changing except in a designated facility is prohibited to control inappropriate behavior and to allow for enjoyment of the beach.

Prepared by John Hellquist, Division of Forestry

LCRAR



Legislative Commission

to Review Administrative Rules

Representative Peter Rodosovich
Chair

Senator Phil Riveness
Vice Chair

55 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1201
Telephone 612/296-1143

Maryanne V. Hruby, Director

July 19, 1991

John Hellquist
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
Box 44, 500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4044

proposed 5/20/91
received 7/26/91

Dear Mr. Hellquist:

I write to request a copy of the Department of Natural Resources Statement of Need and Reasonableness (SONAR) for recently published rules relating to parks and recreation areas.

As you may know, Minnesota Statutes, sections 14.131 and 14.23 now require state agencies to provide copies of SONAR's to the LCRAR when they become available for public review.

If you have not already done so, please send a copy of the SONAR for these proposed rules to:

The Legislative Commission to Review Administrative Rules
Maryanne Hruby, Director
55 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Please contact me at 296-1143 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michele Swanson".

Michele Swanson
Commission Secretary

