ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Minnesota Sex Offender Program – Moose Lake –Expansion Project

Prepared for
Minnesota Department of Administration

By the
Minnesota Department of Human Services

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Note to preparers: This form and EAW Guidelines are available at http://www.eqb.state.mn.us.

The Environmental Assessment Worksheet provides information about a project that may have the potential for significant environmental effects. The Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) is prepared by the Responsible Governmental Unit or its agents to determine whether an Environmental Impact Statement should be prepared. The project proposer must supply any reasonably accessible data for — but should not complete — the final worksheet. If a complete answer does not fit in the space allotted, attach additional sheets as necessary. The complete question as well as the answer must be included if the EAW is prepared electronically.

Note to reviewers: Comments must be submitted to the RGU during the 30-day comment period following notice of the EAW in the *EQB Monitor*. Comments should address the accuracy and completeness of information, potential impacts that warrant further investigation, and the need for an EIS.

1. **Project title:**
   Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP) Expansion Project

2. **Proposer:** *MN Department of Human Services*
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4. **Reason for EAW preparation:** (check one)
   EIS Scoping **X** Mandatory EAW Citizen Petition RGU Discretion

   Proposer Volunteered

If EAW or EIS is mandatory, give EQB rule category subpart number and subpart
Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4410.4300, Subpart 14, Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Facilities.

5. **Project location:** County: *Carlton* City/Township: *City of Moose Lake*

   Section 28, Township 46 North, Range 19 West

Attach each of the following to the EAW:

- County map showing the general location of the project. *Figure 1 presents a county map with the project location.*
- U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale map indicating project boundaries (photocopy acceptable)*; Figure 2 presents the USGS map with the project location.*
- Site plan showing all significant project and natural features. *Figure 3 is a site plan of the project and Figure 4 is a map with boundaries of the Historic District identified by the Minnesota SHPO.*

6. **Description:**

a. Provide a project summary of 50 words or less to be published in the *EQB Monitor.*

The Minnesota Department of Human Services proposes to expand the existing Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP) facility at Moose Lake from 150 to 950 beds, to accommodate current and projected program needs. The project will be completed in two phases of 400 beds each. Phase I construction is scheduled to be completed Spring of 2009, and Phase II construction is scheduled to be completed Spring of 2010.

b. Give a complete description of the proposed project and related new construction. Attach additional sheets as necessary. Emphasize construction, operation methods and features that will cause physical manipulation of the environment or will produce wastes. Include modifications to existing equipment or industrial processes and significant demolition, removal or remodeling of existing structures. Indicate the timing and duration of construction activities.

The MSOP expansion project facilities will include the following primary components:

1. *Intake Processing*
2. *Education/Treatment (Classrooms, Treatment Staff Offices)*
3. *Housing /Residences*
4. *Food Service (Potential for Outsourcing)*
5. *Laundry Component (Potential for Outsourcing)*
6. *Medical Component (For Medications Distribution)*
7. *Recreational*
8. *Industry Components*
9. *Security & Investigations Components*
10. *Site Security Components (Fencing, Patrol Road, Lighting, Video Surveillance)*
11. *Protective Isolation*
12. *Administrative Support Staff Components*
13. *Expanded Visitation Capacity*
14. *Staff and Visitor Parking Components (Surface Lots, Walks, Curbs, Landscaping, Loading Docks, Delivery Areas)*
15. *Utility Infrastructure Components*

Phase I will include housing for 400 patients, a new foodservice building with equipment to feed 400 patients, therapy staff offices, and a central plant building designed to serve both Phase I and II buildings, with equipment only for Phase I.

Phase II will include housing for an additional 400 patients and support facilities for 800 patients. Support facilities will include therapy rooms, classrooms, library, dining rooms, expanded visiting spaces (including video visitation for non-contact visits), protective isolation, intake, centralized medication distribution, security offices, staff offices, administration offices, staff locker and changing rooms, staff training rooms, maintenance offices and workshop, a patient mart (canteen), additional kitchen equipment, and a warehouse with loading dock facilities.

The existing sewer line connecting the MSOP facility through the Department of Correction's (DOC) Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-Moose Lake facility and into the City sewer system has been determined to be inadequate to serve the expanded population of both phases of the project, but is of adequate size to handle the additional capacity of Phase I. The slope of the existing line, however, does not meet current codes. As a result, the use of the existing line to serve Phase I will require approval by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (MnDLI). If MnDLI approval is not granted, an additional sewer line from the MSOP facility to the existing City sewer main, west of State Highway 73 via the MCF-Moose Lake property, sized to handle both phases of the project, will be required. If the existing line is allowed to be used for Phase I, a new line will be added in Phase II.

Phase I will include a perimeter security patrol road, interior access roads, interior patient pedestrian paths, and expanded staff parking areas. The patrol road, access roads, and parking areas will be gravel in Phase I and paved in Phase II. Interior patient paths will be paved. Phase II will include paved expansions of all of these vehicular and pedestrian circulation paths, as well as, development of interior recreation fields and paved activity courts.

Phase I has been funded through design and construction, while Phase II has been funded through design only. It is anticipated that funding for Phase II construction will be requested in the 2008 legislative session as part of the DHS capital appropriation funding request.

Project Schedule Summary-Phase I

Legislative Funding –Spring 2006
Project Kick Off/Start Date –Summer 2006
Schematic Design Completion – September 2006
Design Development Completion – December 2006
Construction Documents Completion – April 2007
Bidding Completion – May 2007
Construction Start – June 2007
Construction Completion – Spring 2009

Project Schedule Summary-Phase II

Legislative Funding – Spring 2006 (Design) 2008 (Construction)
Project Kick Off/Start Date – Summer 2006
Schematic Design Completion – September 2006
Design Development Completion – December 2006
Construction Documents Completion – June 2007
Legislative Funding for Construction – Spring 2008
Bidding Completion – August 2008
Construction Start – September 2008
Construction Completion – April 2010

c. Explain the project purpose; if the project will be carried out by a governmental unit, explain the need for the project and identify its beneficiaries.

The MSOP facility provides care and treatment programs for sex offenders that have been committed by the courts for treatment. The program currently has capacity for 496 patients, spread across three locations, including MSOP-Moose Lake, the Minnesota Security Hospital at St. Peter, and at temporary facilities at MCF-Moose Lake.

The purpose of the MSOP Expansion Project is to allow the Department of Human Services (DHS) to expand patient capacity at its primary existing facility, to meet the needs of a rapidly growing program and to consolidate the program on a single campus for efficiency of treatment and operations.

Program growth was brought about primarily to a change in the DOC's sex offender referral policy in 2003. This has led to a significant increase in the number of individuals referred for civil commitment into the MSOP program. Based on the anticipated increase in referrals, the DHS 6-year capital plan was revised to anticipate an overall expansion of 800 beds by 2010. The MSOP program does not have existing permanent facilities capable of handling the increase in the number of program participants. The two-phased expansion will provide permanent facilities to accommodate all current program participants and provide space for projected future capacity.

Consolidating the MSOP program into one campus eliminates the need to transfer high-risk patients back and forth between three campuses and locates specialized, trained staff at a single location to promote consistency, efficiency, and effectiveness of treatment programs. This allows the DHS to maintain consistent level of security, focus program expertise, and enable the MSOP program to incorporate a more cost effective residential building model.

The intent of the expansion project is to increase the capacity of MSOP facility by 800 beds, in two phases of 400 beds each, for a total facility capacity of 950. The phased approach is a result of available funding appropriated by the legislature to develop the first 400 beds as quickly as possible to meet the immediate needs of the program, to be followed with additional funding to meet the long-term needs.

Project beneficiaries include the citizens of the State of Minnesota, the Moose Lake community, and the MSOP program participants.

d. Are future stages of this development including development on any outlots planned or likely to happen? _*X*_ Yes __No
If yes, briefly describe future stages, relationship to present project, timeline and plans for environmental review.

Based on estimates from the City of Moose Lake, the operation of Phase I of this program can be accommodated within the current capacity of the Moose Lake Wastewater Facility, but Phase II expansion will exceed the current capacity. The City of Moose Lake is in the process of creating a plan for wastewater facility improvements/expansion to accommodate the growing residential, industrial, and institutional needs within the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility planning area. Because the MSOP program requires wastewater treatment facilities to operate, the need for wastewater facility expansion is considered a connected action under MN Rules 4410.0200 subpart 9b.

The Facility Plan being prepared by the City of Moose Lake will identify the constraints of the existing system, propose cost-effective long-term solutions to meet the anticipated needs of the service area, and conduct an environmental review of the preferred action in the form of an EAW.

The Draft Moose Lake Facility Plan identifies the following schedule of events for activities pertinent to the construction of the MSOP Expansion Project:.

1. Completion of the facility plan by December 2006.

2. *Completion of the EAW during 2007*

3. *Completion of new facility design/In-Service by October 2008*

The proposed schedule would have improvements to the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility completed before the completion of Phase II of the MSOP Expansion Project. Given the different planning and implementation schedules of the two projects, this EAW will not be able to adequately address the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility as it contributes to the MSOP Expansion Project. However, the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility must also prepare an EAW according to MN Rule 4410.4300 Subpart 18. The EAW for the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility will adequately address the environmental aspects of the Moose Lake Facility.

A 50-bed expansion was initially planned to follow completion of Phase I and Phase II of this program, but that expansion has been eliminated from further consideration due to the increased unit cost associated with smaller scale construction. At this time, there are no plans for additional expansion outside the Phase I and Phase II MSOP Expansion Project.

e. Is this project a subsequent stage of an earlier project? __Yes _X_No
If yes, briefly describe the past development, timeline and any past environmental review.

7. **Project magnitude data**
Total project acreage *44.01*
Number of residential units: unattached attached maximum units per building
Commercial, industrial or institutional building area (gross floor space): total square feet

Indicate areas of specific uses (in square feet):

Office	Manufacturing
Retail	Other industrial
Warehouse	Institutional *365,421 square feet*
Light industrial	Agricultural
Other commercial (specify)	

Building height Max: *Height 45 feet (1-2 stories)* If over two stories, compare to heights of nearby buildings

8. **Permits and approvals required.** List all known local, state and federal permits, approvals, and financial assistance for the project. Include modifications of any existing permits, governmental review of plans and all direct and indirect forms of public financial assistance including bond guarantees, Tax Increment Financing and infrastructure.

Table 8-1: List of Permits

Unit of government	Type of application	Status
City of Moose Lake/MnDLI-BCSD	Building Construction and Demolition Permits	To Be Obtained
City of Moose Lake	Industrial Wastewater Discharge Contract	Under Discussion
City of Moose Lake	Zoning Permit	To Be Obtained
City of Moose Lake	Conditional Use Permit for work within a shoreline management area	To Be Obtained
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	Air Permit	To Be Obtained
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	NPDES General Permit to Discharge Storm water	To Be Obtained

Table 8-1: List of Permits		
Unit of government	**Type of application**	**Status**
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	UST	To Be Obtained
Minnesota Department of Health	Review, inspection and certification of Food Service Building	To Be Obtained
City of Moose Lake	Revised Water Appropriation contract	To Be Obtained
Carlton County Planning and Zoning Department	Wetland Conservation Act Permit	To Be Obtained
US Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Permit for dredging and filling of navigable waters/jurisdictional wetlands	If Necessary
State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	Concurrence on Findings of Cultural Resource Impacts	To Be Obtained
MnDLI	Plumbing Review	To Be Obtained

9. **Land use.** Describe current and recent past land use and development on the site and on adjacent lands. Discuss project compatibility with adjacent and nearby land uses. Indicate whether any potential conflicts involve environmental matters. Identify any potential environmental hazards due to past site uses, such as soil contamination or abandoned storage tanks, or proximity to nearby hazardous liquid or gas pipelines.

Current land use of the development site is an institutional facility. Surrounding land uses include:

- *Institutional to the west and southwest. The existing MSOP facilities are directly west of the proposed expansion. The MCF – Moose Lake is located to the west of the MSOP facility.*
- *Moosehead Lake is located north and northwest of the site. The City of Moose Lake is located across the lake from the MSOP facility.*
- *The Moose Lake State Park is located east of the site.*
- *Highway to the south. State Highway 73 runs east to west along the southern boundary of the State-owned land.*

The area to the west was used by the State for a State-run hospital from 1938 to 1995. Starting in 1989 portions of the grounds were converted to prison facilities. The conversion was completed in 1997. The portion of the property to the east of the existing MSOP facility was developed as a State park in 1971 and is still operated as a State park by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Prior to the development, the land was forested and farmed.

10. **Cover types.** Estimate the acreage of the site with each of the following cover types before and after development:

Table 10-1: Cover Type Acreage						
	Phase I		Phase II		Project Total	
Cover Type	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Types 1-8 Wetlands	0.00	0.00	2.26	0.00	2.26	0.00
Wooded/Forested	8.54	0.00	5.27	0.00	13.81	0.00
Brush/Grassland/Cropland	8.04	2.81	11.90	6.60	19.94	9.41
Lawn/Landscaping	1.82	10.51	4.13	9.36	5.95	19.87
Impervious Surfaces	0.62	5.70	1.43	9.03	2.05	14.73
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	19.02	19.02	24.99	24.99	44.01	44.01

If **Before** and **After** totals are not equal, explain why:

11. **Fish, wildlife and ecologically sensitive resources**

a. Identify fish and wildlife resources and habitats on or near the site and describe how they would be affected by the project. Describe any measures to be taken to minimize or avoid impacts.

The existing facility provides limited wildlife habitat over much of the project area. Nearby wildlife resources include the Moose Lake State Park located east of the MSOP facility and Moosehead Lake located to the north and west of the facility.

The habitat in the Moose Lake State Park includes upland mixed deciduous forest, upland and lowland coniferous forest, upland and lowland brushland, plantation conifer stand, manmade ponds, and herbaceous cover.

White tail deer are common across the county and would be expected in the Moose Lake State Park to the east. Black bear occur in the area, but prefer large areas of woodland habitat. The mixture of forest, wetland, and open habitats provide suitable habitat for a variety of small mammals (mink, fox, squirrel, rabbits, coyote, and muskrat), waterfowl (Canada geese, wood ducks, and mallards), game birds (ruffed grouse and woodcock), raptors, bald eagles, hawks, and songbirds (robins, chickadees, kingfishers, and blackbirds).

Moosehead Lake is a 292-acre lake located north and west of the existing MSOP facility. The lake supports game fish of walleye, northern pike, and bluegill.

Design measures to minimize impacts from construction and operation of the MSOP Expansion Project include storm water management ponds to manage water quality and discharge of storm water prior to discharge from the site, mitigation of wetland impacts through creation or enhancement as specified in appropriate permits, and controlling glare from proposed lights.

b. Are any state-listed (endangered, threatened or special concern) species, rare plant communities or other sensitive ecological resources such as native prairie habitat, colonial waterbird nesting colonies or regionally rare plant communities on or near the site? _X_ Yes __No

If yes, describe the resource and how it would be affected by the project. Indicate if a site survey of the resources has been conducted and describe the results. If the DNR Natural Heritage and Nongame Research program has been contacted give the correspondence reference number:

Describe measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

The Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program (NHNRP) was contacted (Attachment 1) and found eight known occurrences of rare species or native plant communities in the vicinity of the project area. These occurrences include two threatened species, four species of special concern, one colonial nesting site, and one species tracked (but no legal status). Based on the locations and habitat requirements (mostly aquatic) listed for each occurrence, the project is not expected to affect any known occurrences of rare features.

12. **Physical impacts on water resources.** Will the project involve the physical or hydrologic alteration — dredging, filling, stream diversion, outfall structure, diking, and impoundment — of any surface waters such as a lake, pond, wetland, stream or drainage ditch? _X_ Yes __ No
    If yes, identify water resource affected and give the DNR Protected Waters Inventory number(s) if the water resources affected are on the PWI:

Not listed on PWI.

Describe alternatives considered and proposed mitigation measures to minimize impacts.

Construction of Phase II will result in impacts to the wetland located east of the existing MSOP facility boundaries (see Figure 3). A wetland delineation will be conducted to determine the wetland boundaries. Following the wetland delineation, a wetland delineation report will be prepared and submitted to the U.S. Corps of Engineers (USACE) for jurisdictional determination. Based on site conditions, the wetland basin appears to be isolated and not under USACE jurisdiction.

Three design alternatives were analyzed for the project. Avoidance and minimization of wetland impacts were incorporated into the design alternative review for the MSOP Expansion Project. The three alternatives considered are described below.

Pre-design Option A expands the facility in a northerly direction as an expansion of the organization of the facility along the existing axis. The two new housing buildings are completely detached, requiring outdoor patient and staff circulation between housing and other buildings. Foodservice and medical functions are centrally located as additions to the existing facility. Industry, Patient Support, Education, and Recreation are combined in a single large building between the housing buildings. A service road to all new buildings would run along the secure perimeter, allowing service vehicle access at the rear of each building.

Pre-design Option A was not selected because of the significant topographical features. The west Housing building and the Industry complex are each located on a greater than 20-percent sloping terrain, which would require significant earthwork or retaining walls and their proximity to the lake may be an issue due to the lake setback requirements. This option requires the acquisition of portions of the adjacent Department of Natural Resources (DNR) property. In addition, the location of new construction inside the secure perimeter is not preferred from a security or construction cost perspective.

Pre-design Option B arranges the new construction as an adjacent facility to the east of the existing facility. The facilities would share parking and service access with the existing facility, but generally would operate independently. Secure perimeters for each facility could be connected as one, allowing staff, and possibly patients, to move between facilities within one secure perimeter. Patient circulation within the new facility is internally contained, with the exception of external movement to and from the separate Recreation/Industry building to the south.

Pre-design Option B was not selected because of the operating inefficiencies, unnecessary costs, and security issues. The new facility and secure perimeter is situated on the edge of existing wetlands on the east side of the site. Operating two separate facilities on the same site may result in departmental overlap and inefficiencies. The existing parking lot and access road would have to be relocated to accommodate the new secure perimeter, which would add unnecessary cost to the project and the State. The location of the new areas in relationship to the existing visitor and staff parking lot is undesirable from a security standpoint. Patients being able to see what car a staff member drives, or visitors being tossing distance from the housing areas, are potential problems that can be avoided.

Pre-design Option C locates all new construction outside of the existing secure perimeter, simplifying phasing and allowing the existing facility to operate as normally as possible during construction. Locating construction to the east – northeast allows for the buildings to be close to the existing facility, while avoiding the prohibitively steep slopes to the north-northwest of the existing facility. The warehouse is located outside of the secure perimeter, allowing for convenient service vehicle access, and would be linked to the main Industry building via a secure connection through the perimeter.

Pre-design Option C was selected to move forward into the design phase because of the efficiency of set-up, suitable topography, and safety benefits. External travel distances for staff and patients will be significant from the existing facility to the new buildings, but not as great as other options would present. There is a wetland area that will need to be delineated and mitigated. A portion of the land is currently operated by the DNR and a swap will have to occur in order for the expansion to occur. The lesser need for grading and better adjacencies made it a preferred expansion area.

The project will require permits for activities with a wetland. As part of the permitting process, appropriate mitigation will be determined to offset the impacts associated with wetland disturbance of the project.

13. **Water use.** Will the project involve installation or abandonment of any water wells, connection to or changes in any public water supply or appropriation of any ground or surface water (including dewatering)? __Yes _X_No

    If yes, as applicable, give location and purpose of any new wells; public supply affected, changes to be made, and water quantities to be used; the source, duration, quantity and purpose of any appropriations; and unique well numbers and DNR appropriation permit numbers, if known. Identify any existing and new wells on the site map. If there are no wells known on site, explain methodology used to determine.

The MSOP Expansion Project would utilize the existing connections to the Moose Lake Municipal Water supply. Based on information from the Minnesota Geological Survey and the Minnesota County Well Index, there are no existing wells on the site, although there are two wells located on the DOC property to the west, as discussed in question 19.

14. **Water-related land use management district.** Does any part of the project involve a shoreland zoning district, a delineated 100-year flood plain, or a state or federally designated wild or scenic river land use district? _X_Yes __No
    If yes, identify the district and discuss project compatibility with district land use restrictions.

The MSOP Expansion Project would be within 1,000 feet of Moosehead Lake and would be subject to the Carlton County Shoreland Management District zoning requirements. Moose Lake

is a natural environment shoreland management lake. The county requirements are primarily concerned with developments setback from the ordinary high water mark and from bluff edges to protect visual resources. The project would be required to obtain a permit from Carlton County and demonstrate adherence to zoning requirements.

15. **Water surface use.** Will the project change the number or type of watercraft on any water body?
__Yes _X_No
If yes, indicate the current and projected watercraft usage and discuss any potential overcrowding or conflicts with other uses.

16. **Erosion and sedimentation.** Give the acreage to be graded or excavated and the cubic yards of soil to be moved:

The project will require grading of about 44.01 acres.

480,000 cubic yards to be excavated and *490,000* cubic yards of fill. Describe any steep slopes or highly erodible soils and identify them on the site map. Describe any erosion and sedimentation control measures to be used during and after project construction.

The project will disturb more than one acre of soil during construction and require a Storm water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) per the General Permit Authorization to Discharge Storm Water Associated With Construction Activity Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System Permit Program (General Permit). Application for coverage under the General Permit will be made prior to commencement of land disturbing activities. Both temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control measures will be employed during and after project construction in accordance with the SWPPP requirements in the General Permit. With permitting and compliance, no adverse impacts to water quality from erosion and sedimentation are anticipated as a result of this project.

A Grading Plan has not been prepared for the project at this time. The initial goal is to utilize all excavated soils for fill on the site and minimize the need for offsite disposal.

17. **Water quality: surface water runoff**
a. Compare the quantity and quality of site runoff before and after the project. Describe permanent controls to manage or treat runoff. Describe any storm water pollution prevention plans.

The site is currently developed. Phase I will add approximately 5.08 acres of impermeable surface and Phase II will add approximately 7.60 acres of impermeable surface.

The storm water ponds will be retention ponds designed to hold the 100-year storm event. The existing storm water pond located west of the site will be enlarged to handle runoff from Phase I Housing. The existing pond outlet location will be used. A larger storm water pond is proposed at the southeast corner of the site to handle runoff from Phase II Housing and the additional support buildings. The outlet for this pond will drain to the existing pond located east of the proposed pond.

The project will require a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit. As part of this permit application process a SWPPP will be prepared prior to submitting the permit application. The SWPPP will identify specific storm water pollution protection plans.

b. Identify routes and receiving water bodies for runoff from the site; include major downstream water bodies as well as the immediate receiving waters. Estimate impact runoff on the quality of receiving

waters.

The site generally drains towards an unnamed intermittent tributary on the DOC facilities to the west and to Moosehead Lake to the north and west of the project area. With the existing and proposed storm water management measures for the project, there are no expected impacts to Moosehead Lake.

18. **Water quality: wastewaters**

a. Describe sources, composition and quantities of all sanitary, municipal and industrial wastewater produced or treated at the site.

Wastewater generated will be domestic wastewater; there will be no change in the composition of wastewater from what is currently discharged from the existing facility. Estimated wastewater generation for the project is 67,500 gallons per day (gpd) or 24.6 million gallon per year (gpy) for each phase, or 135,000 gpd and 49.3 million gpy for both phases combined.

b. Describe waste treatment methods or pollution prevention efforts and give estimates of composition after treatment. Identify receiving waters, including major downstream water bodies, and estimate the discharge impact on the quality of receiving waters. If the project involves on-site sewage systems, discuss the suitability of site conditions for such systems.

Wastewater from the project will be treated at the Moose Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project does not involve on-site sewage systems.

c. If wastes will be discharged into a publicly owned treatment facility, identify the facility, describe any pretreatment provisions and discuss the facility's ability to handle the volume and composition of wastes, identifying any improvements necessary.

The current facility discharges to the Moose Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant, operated by the City of Moose Lake. As discussed under question 6.d., the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility has capacity to handle the increase wastewater generated under Phase I of the MSOP Expansion Project, but not under Phase II. The Moose Lake Facility is in the process of identifying treatment needs within their planning area (including the MSOP facility) and plan to have facility expansion construction completed and in-service by October of 2008. As Phase II of the MSOP Expansion Project is scheduled to be completed in Spring of 2010, the improved wastewater collection and treatment facilities should be able to accommodate the increased wastewater generated under operations of Phase II.

The existing sewer line connecting the MSOP facility through the DOC facility and into the City sewer system is of adequate size to accommodate Phase I expansion, but does not meet current codes in terms of slope. The existing line within the DOC site is less than the minimal allowed slope of 0.52 percent. The existing line will not, however, be adequate to accommodate Phase II expansion in terms of either size or slope. As a result, a new sewer line will be constructed as part of the MSOP Expansion Project. Whether the new line will be included in Phase I or Phase II will be determined in consultation with the MnDLI.

Pretreatment contracts typically prohibit discharges of:

- *Gasoline, benzene, naptha, fuel oil, or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas.*
- *Toxic or poisonous solids, liquids, or gases in hazardous quantities.*
- *Waters or wastes having a pH lower than 5.0 or higher than 10.5 s.u., or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazards.*

- *Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, or the interference with the proper operation of the Wastewater Treatment Facility.*
- *Any wastewaters that would directly or indirectly result in a violation of the city NPDES permit.*

The specific conditions for discharge, industrial user charges, testing and monitoring requirements, and other specific special conditions would be determined as part of negotiations between the MSOP facilities and the City of Moose Lake and may change from existing conditions due to the size of the expansion and changes being considered to the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility.

In order to reduce wastewater load, the project is incorporating some practices to reduce solids and flow loading to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. These practices include reducing uses by using hand driers and a food service facility pulper with a grinder to enable grey water recycling and solids extraction.

No impacts to water quality as a result of wastewater are anticipated as a result of this project.

d. If the project requires disposal of liquid animal manure, describe disposal technique and location and discuss capacity to handle the volume and composition of manure. Identify any improvements necessary. Describe any required setbacks for land disposal systems.

The project does not require the disposal of liquid animal manure.

19. **Geologic hazards and soil conditions**

a. Approximate depth (in feet) to ground water: *see text below* minimum *(see text below)*

Information about groundwater levels in the project area was not available. The closest information was for wells north of the site which has significant difference in elevation.

b. Average to bedrock :>241 feet minimum average

Based on data from the Minnesota Geological Survey, there are two wells on the Moose Lake Correctional Facility site west of the MSOP facility. The two wells went to a depth of 241 feet and 248 feet without hitting bedrock. No other wells are documented on the property.

c. Describe any of the following geologic site hazards to ground water and also identify them on the site map: sinkholes, shallow limestone formations or karst conditions. Describe measures to avoid or minimize environmental problems due to any of these hazards.

During construction, care will be taken to avoid spills of controlled substances such as fuel and hydraulic fluids. Any spills that occur will be cleaned up quickly and thoroughly. Construction contractors will be required to develop spill response plans and to make all project personnel aware of the response plan requirements, including notifications to the MPCA/State Duty Officer, if necessary.

d. Describe the soils on the site, giving NRCS (SCS) classifications, if known. Discuss soil granularity and potential for groundwater contamination from wastes or chemicals spread or spilled onto the soils. Discuss any mitigation measures to prevent such contamination.

The table below identifies the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) classification of

soils in the project area. The majority of the soils are fine, sandy loams and have slow to very slow permeability. The soil properties will have a tendency to retard downward migration of waste or chemical spills.

NRCS Soil Classifications in the MSOP Facility Expansion (Phase I and II) Project Area.		
Map Symbol	**Soil Name**	**Permeability (inches/hour)**
502	Dusler Silt Loam	Slow
504	Duluth Very Fine Sandy Loam 0-2% slopes	Slow
504C	Duluth Very Fine Sandy Loam 2-12% slopes	Slow
504E	Duluth Very Fine Sandy Loam 25-35% slopes	Slow
980	Blackhoff and Matowa Soils	Slow to Very Slow

20. **Solid wastes, hazardous wastes, storage tanks**

a. Describe types, amounts and compositions of solid or hazardous wastes, including solid animal manure, sludge and ash, produced during construction and operation. Identify method and location of disposal. For projects generating municipal solid waste, indicate if there is a source separation plan; describe how the project will be modified for recycling. If hazardous waste is generated, indicate if there is a hazardous waste minimization plan and routine hazardous waste reduction assessments.

The MSOP facility currently contracts for solid waste handling and disposal with private vendors. This type of contracting is expected to continue with the project. The composition of solid wastes from the project is not expected to change. The DHS anticipates that solid waste will be compacted to reduce the volume and number of trips required by the private vendor.

All solid wastes from day-to-day operations are currently disposed of properly and will continue to be with the project. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated from the day-to-day post construction disposal of solid wastes.

b. Identify any toxic or hazardous materials to be used or present at the site and identify measures to be used to prevent them from contaminating groundwater. If the use of toxic or hazardous materials will lead to a regulated waste, discharge or emission, discuss any alternatives considered to minimize or eliminate the waste, discharge or emission.

No hazardous, radioactive, or toxic wastes are produced by the facility.

There is a medical clinic for treating minor illnesses or injuries within the facility. More serious cases are referred to offsite medical facilities. Therefore, medical wastes currently from the facility are minor and are expected to remain minor with the project.

Small quantities of cleaning products, paints, and solvents are stored on-site. These chemicals are stored in fireproof chemical storage lockers, as appropriate. An inventory of these chemicals and storage is monitored by DHS.

c. Indicate the number, location, size and use of any above or below ground tanks to store petroleum products or other materials, except water. Describe any emergency response containment plans.

There is a planned above ground tank to store no. 2 fuel oil outside the General Support building. Specific size requirements cannot be determined until final project details are known. The tank will be installed in accordance with state requirements and will be registered with the Minnesota

Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

21. **Traffic.** Parking spaces added *400 in Phase I, 400 in Phase 2* . Existing spaces (if project involves expansion) *150* . Estimated total average *(See discussion below)* daily traffic generated . Estimated maximum peak hour traffic generated (if known) and time of occurrence *(See discussion below)*. Provide an estimate of the impact on traffic congestion on affected roads and describe any traffic improvements necessary. If the project is within the Twin Cities metropolitan area, discuss its impact on the regional transportation system.

The following presents a discussion of the potential for both post construction and temporary construction related traffic issues.

TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC

Construction traffic related to the delivery of building supplies, and the hauling of fill materials, will temporarily increase traffic during each construction phase. The project will limit construction traffic to daylight hours, schedule deliveries, and hauling, to avoid peak traffic hours, and will coordinate with the City to minimize temporary traffic issues.

POST CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC

Currently, there are 150 patients at the facility, supported by 235 staff during the week. The expansion plans would add 800 patients and 800 staff to the site. The additional staff will increase the amount of automobile traffic on the surrounding roadway network. This section discusses the potential impacts the expansion could have on roadway traffic.

The MSOP facility is accessed from John Riley Memorial Drive, which connects with State Highway 73. State Highway 73 connects with Interstate 35 (I-35), located 1,000 feet east, and downtown Moose Lake, located approximately 1.5 miles north. Based on data provided by the DHS, as well as information obtained from Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) traffic volume maps, two road segments were identified as susceptible to impacts of changes to the MSOP facility. Table 21-1 documents each of the study area road segments used in the analysis and their reported Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) values.

Table 21-1: Study Area Road Segments

Road	From	To	AADT
State Highway 73	I-35	CR 10	4,400
John Riley Mem Dr	S.H. 73	MSOP- Moose Lake	500

Sources: HDR Engineering, Inc., MN/DOT Traffic Volume Map – Carlton County, 2004

The MSOP facility generates most of their traffic from employees. Visitors also account for some traffic generation. However, most of this occurs on weeknights and weekends outside of the morning and evening peak hours. The MSOP facility has 235 employees working during the week, with 101 employees during the weekend. It is assumed that each employee rides to and from work alone. It is also assumed (per discussions with the DHS, that approximately 20 people leave the site for lunch. It has been estimated based on the various start and finish times of the shifts that employees account for 510 vehicle trips that travel along the existing roadway network to/from work on an average weekday. This number was based on the fact that an employee traveling to and from the site accounts for two trips (235 employees = 470 trips). The estimate was also based on the assumption that 20 employees leave the site once each for lunch or other

work or non-work related task. Using the same methodology, the number of weekend trips from the 101 employees would account for an estimated 242 trips. Results are summarized in Table 21-2.

Table 21-2: Estimated Existing Employee Trip Generation				
Employee	**# of Employees/day**		**# of vehicle trips/day**	
Shift	**Current**	**Current**	**Current**	**Current**
	M-F	Sat-Sun	M-F	Sat-Sun
7:00am-3:00pm	160	45	320	90
3:00pm-11:00pm	55	36	110	72
11:00pm-7:00am	20	20	40	40
Lunch	20	20	40	40
Total	255	121	510	242

The expansion of the MSOP facility is estimated to result in 1,224 additional trips during an average weekday and 580 trips during an average weekend. Table 21-3 depicts the daily trips for the average weekday and weekend for the existing condition as well as for the expanded facility. It is assumed the new facility will add staff to each shift in proportion to the existing distribution. It should be noted that although this assumption may affect the actual conditions during the AM and PM peak hours, it does not affect the daily trip generation.

Table 21-3: Estimated Trip Generation – Existing and Proposed Expansion						
Shift	**# of vehicle trips/day**		**# of vehicle trips/day**		**# of additional trips/day**	
	Current	**Current**	**Expansion**	**Expansion**		
	M-F	**Sat-Sun**	**M-F**	**Sat-Sun**	**M-F**	**Sat-Sun**
7:00am-3:00pm	320	90	1090	308	770	218
3:00pm-11:00pm	110	72	376	246	266	174
11:00pm-7:00am	40	40	134	134	94	94
Lunch	40	40	134	134	94	94
Total	510	242	1734	822	1224	580

Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services

The additional daily trips were added to the existing traffic volumes for the road segments listed in table 21-1. The existing and additional trips added to the roadway segments are documented in Table 21-4.

Table 21-4: Average Annual Daily Traffic - Existing and Proposed							
			AADT	**Additional AADT**		**AADT Total**	
Road	**From**	**To**		**M-F**	**Sat-Sun**	**M-F**	**Sat-Sun**
State Highway 73	I-35	County Rd 10	4,400	1,224	580	5,624	4,980
John Riley Mem Dr.	S.H. 73	MSOP-Moose Lake	510	1,224	580	1,734	1,090

Source: MN/DOT Traffic Volume Map – Carlton County, 2004 Analysis

Examination of Table 21-4 reveals that the increase in vehicle trips is approximately 30 percent greater than the existing volumes on State Highway 73 between I-35 and County Road 10. On John Riley Memorial Drive, the traffic volumes more than double.

It is important to note that some of the increase in traffic is expected to occur outside of the AM and PM peak periods. Two of the shift changes occur at 3:00 pm and 11:00 pm. In addition, visiting hours during the week are in the evenings. The majority of the visits occur during the weekend.

The expansion of the MSOP facility is not expected to have any impacts on traffic that would require mitigation. Although the State Highway 73 road segment is expected to see a 30 percent increase in traffic, the total of 5,600 vehicles is well below the Highway Capacity Manual estimated capacity (for a two-lane roadway) of 6,500 vehicles. The same situation applies to the access road between the MSOP facility and State Highway 73 (John Riley Memorial Drive).

22. **Vehicle-related air emissions.** Estimate the effect of the project's traffic generation on air quality, including carbon monoxide levels. Discuss the effect of traffic improvements or other mitigation measures on air quality impacts. Note: If the project involves 500 or more parking spaces, consult *EAW Guidelines* about whether a detailed air quality analysis is needed.

During construction varying numbers of vehicle will be involved in construction activities and the delivery of construction materials and fill. These vehicles may have short-term impacts on local air emissions due to construction equipment exhaust and fugitive emissions. Post construction vehicle traffic increases are expected to be about1734 trips per day for staff, visitors, and deliveries. Carlton County is in attainment for all pollutants. It is anticipated that the long-term impacts to air quality in the project area will not cause or contribute to a violation of ambient air quality standards for any pollutants. Projects of this size do not require detailed air quality analyses.

23. **Stationary source air emissions.** Describe the type, sources, quantities and compositions of any emissions from stationary sources of air emissions such as boilers, exhaust stacks or fugitive dust sources. Include any hazardous air pollutants (consult *EAW Guidelines* for a listing) and any greenhouse gases (such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide) and ozone-depleting chemicals (chloro-fluorocarbons, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons or sulfur hexafluoride). Also describe any proposed pollution prevention techniques and proposed air pollution control devices. Describe the impacts on air quality.

The MSOP Expansion Project will be heated by a new boiler plant located in the Central Plant building. The boiler will have emissions of criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases associated with combustion. The system will use natural gas as the primary fuel source. The back-up source will be No. 2 fuel oil that will be stored on site. The fuel oil will be used to power two 1500-kw generators that will be able to operate the facility for peak controlled purposes. The specific make and model of the heating unit has not been determined at this stage of the planning process.

As part of the project, the facility will obtain an air quality permit from the MPCA for the new point source emissions. In issuing the permits, the MPCA will ensure that the facility meets applicable regulations. The MPCA permit will detail the air emissions from the facility and describe the proposed pollution prevention techniques and proposed air pollution control devices.

24. **Odors, noise and dust.** Will the project generate odors, noise or dust during construction or during operation? _X_Yes __No
If yes, describe sources, characteristics, duration, quantities or intensity and any proposed measures to mitigate adverse impacts. Also identify locations of nearby sensitive receptors and estimate impacts on them. Discuss potential impacts on human health or quality of life. (Note: fugitive dust generated by operations may be discussed at item 23 instead of here.)

Dust: *Construction activities require excavating and handling of large volumes of soils and the delivery of building supplies and fill. Paved roads will be used to access construction areas in an effort to minimize dust from construction equipment. Water trucks will be used to wet soil storage areas during dry and/or windy conditions. Permanent vegetation will be established both as an erosion control measure and to minimize dust generation after construction is complete.*

Noise*: Typical construction equipment noise will be generated during construction but contractors must abide by City noise ordinances. In areas where noise-sensitive receptors (recreational facilities) are close to construction, or where deliveries and construction traffic use public roads, noise limiting techniques will be implemented such as scheduling construction during daylight hours, and specification of OEM mufflers for equipment and trucks.*

Noise generated during operation of the new facilities includes vehicular traffic, boiler operations, and paging systems. Noise generated by the new facilities will be similar to current noise generated by operations of the existing facility

Odors: *Odors are not expected to be an issue during or after construction.*

25. **Nearby resources.** Are any of the following resources on or in proximity to the site?
Archaeological, historical or architectural resources? _ _Yes __No If yes, describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resource. Describe any measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

A letter dated September 22, 2006, was provided to the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), describing the project and requesting input on the project's potential to affect cultural resources. On October 23, 2006, HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) followed-up with the Minnesota SHPO regarding the project and the status of its response to the initial consultation letter. The Minnesota SHPO stated that it would provide a response letter on October 25, 2006. To date, no response has been received from the Minnesota SHPO.

Prime or unique farmlands or land within an agricultural preserve? _X_Yes __No If yes, describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resource. Describe any measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

Prime farmland is described by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) as land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is also available for these uses. According to the NRCS data, there are about 20 acres of soils that are classified as prime farmland and about 1 acre of soil classified as prime farmland if it is drained within the project area. However, this land is used for institutional and recreational purposes and has not recently been used for agricultural purposes. Construction and operation of the MSOP Expansion Project is not expected to significantly impact farmland resources.

Designated parks, recreation areas or trails? _X_Yes __No. If yes, describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resource. Describe any measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

The Moose Lake State Park is a state-run park located adjacent to the existing MSOP facilities to the east. The park was established in 1971 and is about 1,200 acres. The park stretches from Moosehead Lake south to Echo Lake. The park provides opportunities for camping, fishing, biking, hiking, canoeing, and swimming. There is also an interpretive center and gift shop. The area adjacent to the existing MSOP facility is a combination of plantation red and white pine, shrubland, herbaceous wetland, and early successsional abandoned farm fields. There is a 3-mile-long bike path the runs from the park boundary on the north side of State Highway 73 north to outside the park boundaries where it eventually connects to the Willard Munger Trail. About 1.2 miles of the path crosses the state park. The path is partially visible from the existing MSOP boundary.

As part of the MSOP Expansion Project, the DHS and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources have agreed to a land swap. The MSOP will acquire a portion of the currently designated park land to the north and to the east of the existing facility. As part of the land swap the existing bike path must be realigned during Phase II of the project. The DHS will be responsible for designing and constructing the new bike path alignment so that it maintains connectivity to the Willard Munger Trail and equivalent aesthetic appeal of the existing trail.

Scenic views and vistas? __Yes _X_No. If yes, describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resource. Describe any measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

Other unique resources? __Yes _X_No
If yes, describe the resource and identify any project-related impacts on the resource. Describe any measures to minimize or avoid adverse impacts.

26. **Visual impacts.** Will the project create adverse visual impacts during construction or operation? Such as glare from intense lights, lights visible in wilderness areas and large visible plumes from cooling towers or exhaust stacks? _X_Yes __No
If yes, explain.

The MSOP Expansion Project will include the addition of high intensity discharge source of high-pressure sodium lamps. The lamps will use internal glare control and will be designed to minimize light intrusion into the surrounding area. The lamps will be installed around the perimeter of the facility and open areas within the fenced-in area. Some of the new lighting will be located along the eastern edge of the expansion, adjacent to the Moose Lake State Park. The proposed lighting is not anticipated to cause any impacts. The lighting will be similar to the existing lighting around existing facilities.

The MSOP Expansion Project will include cooling towers as a part of the Phase I construction. The cooling towers would produce plumes similar to the existing MSOP facilities and the MN DOC facilities to the east.

27. **Compatibility with plans and land use regulations.** Is the project subject to an adopted local comprehensive plan, land use plan or regulation, or other applicable land use, water, or resource management plan of a local, regional, state or federal agency?
_X_Yes __No. If yes, describe the plan, discuss its compatibility with the project and explain how any conflicts will be resolved. If no, explain.

28. **Impact on infrastructure and public services.** Will new or expanded utilities, roads, other infrastructure or public services be required to serve the project? _X_Yes __No. If yes, describe the new or additional infrastructure or services needed. (Note: any infrastructure that is a connected action

with respect to the project must be assessed in the EAW; see *EAW Guidelines* for details.)

As described under question 6.d., increased capacity of the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility will be necessary for operations of Phase II of the MSOP Expansion Project (starting in 2010). The Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility is nearing capacity and is in the process of identifying needs within the service area. The needs of the MSOP Expansion Project have been included with the 20-year planning process and the City of Moose Lake expects to have increased capacity of their facility by 2008. As a part of their planning and design process, the City of Moose Lake will be required to prepare an EAW for changes to the existing Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility.

29. **Cumulative impacts.** Minnesota Rule part 4410.1700, subpart 7, item B requires that the RGU consider the "cumulative potential effects of related or anticipated future projects" when determining the need for an environmental impact statement. Identify any past, present or reasonably foreseeable future projects that may interact with the project described in this EAW in such a way as to cause cumulative impacts. Describe the nature of the cumulative impacts and summarize any other available information relevant to determining whether there is potential for significant environmental effects due to cumulative impacts *(or discuss each cumulative impact under appropriate item(s) elsewhere on this form).*

Consideration was given to cumulative impacts as defined by the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) and subsequent CEQ guidance (1997). In particular, consideration was given to past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions and connected actions that may lead to cumulative impacts. There are no cumulative impacts associated with this MSOP Expansion Project since the project is being undertaken to accommodate growth of the MSOP facility program for the DHS planning cycle. As discussed previously, the expansion of the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility is in the process of determining anticipated capacity needs within the service area over the next 20 years. The environmental impacts resulting from this action will be addressed in a separate EAW prepared as part of the Moose Lake Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facility Planning process being conducted by the City of Moose Lake.

30. **Other potential environmental impacts.** If the project may cause any adverse environmental impacts not addressed by items 1 to 28, identify and discuss them here, along with any proposed mitigation.

No environmental impacts other than those noted in the previous responses are anticipated.

31. **Summary of issues.** *Do not complete this section if the EAW is being done for EIS scoping; instead, address relevant issues in the draft Scoping Decision document, which must accompany the EAW.* List any impacts and issues identified above that may require further investigation before the project is begun. Discuss any alternatives or mitigative measures that have been or may be considered for these impacts and issues, including those that have been or may be ordered as permit conditions.

- Wastewater Treatment
- Traffic
- Path Realignment in State Park
- Wetlands
- Surface Water Runoff

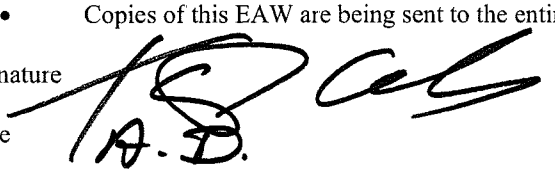
RGU CERTIFICATION. The Environmental Quality Board will only accept **SIGNED** Environmental Assessment Worksheets for public notice in the EQB Monitor.

I hereby certify that:

- The information contained in this document is accurate and complete to the best of my

knowledge.

- The EAW describes the complete project; there are no other projects, stages or components other than those described in this document, which are related to the project as connected actions or phased actions, as defined at Minnesota Rules, parts 4410.0200, subparts 9b and 60, respectively.
- Copies of this EAW are being sent to the entire EQB distribution list.

Signature  Date 11.27.06

Title A.D.

Environmental Assessment Worksheet was prepared by the staff of the Environmental Quality Board at the Administration Department. For additional information, worksheets or for *EAW Guidelines*, contact: Environmental Quality Board, 658 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-296-8253, or http://www.eqb.state.mn.us

Figures

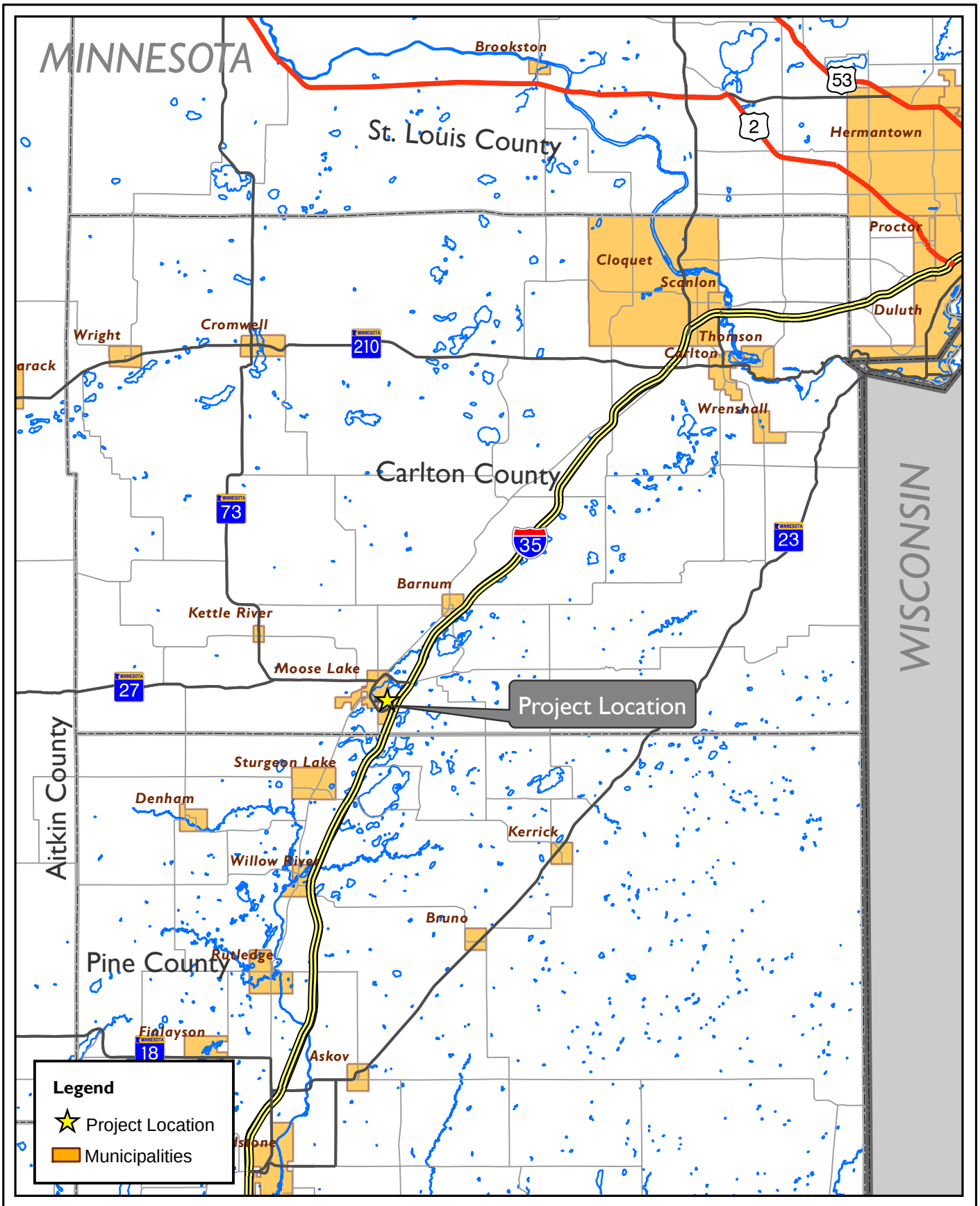


Figure 1: General Project Location
MSOP Expansion Project
Moose Lake, Minnesota

Map Document: (N:\gisproj\BVBR\44123\map_docs\mxd\ProjectGeneralOverview.mxd)
10/12/2006 -- 9:47:59 AM

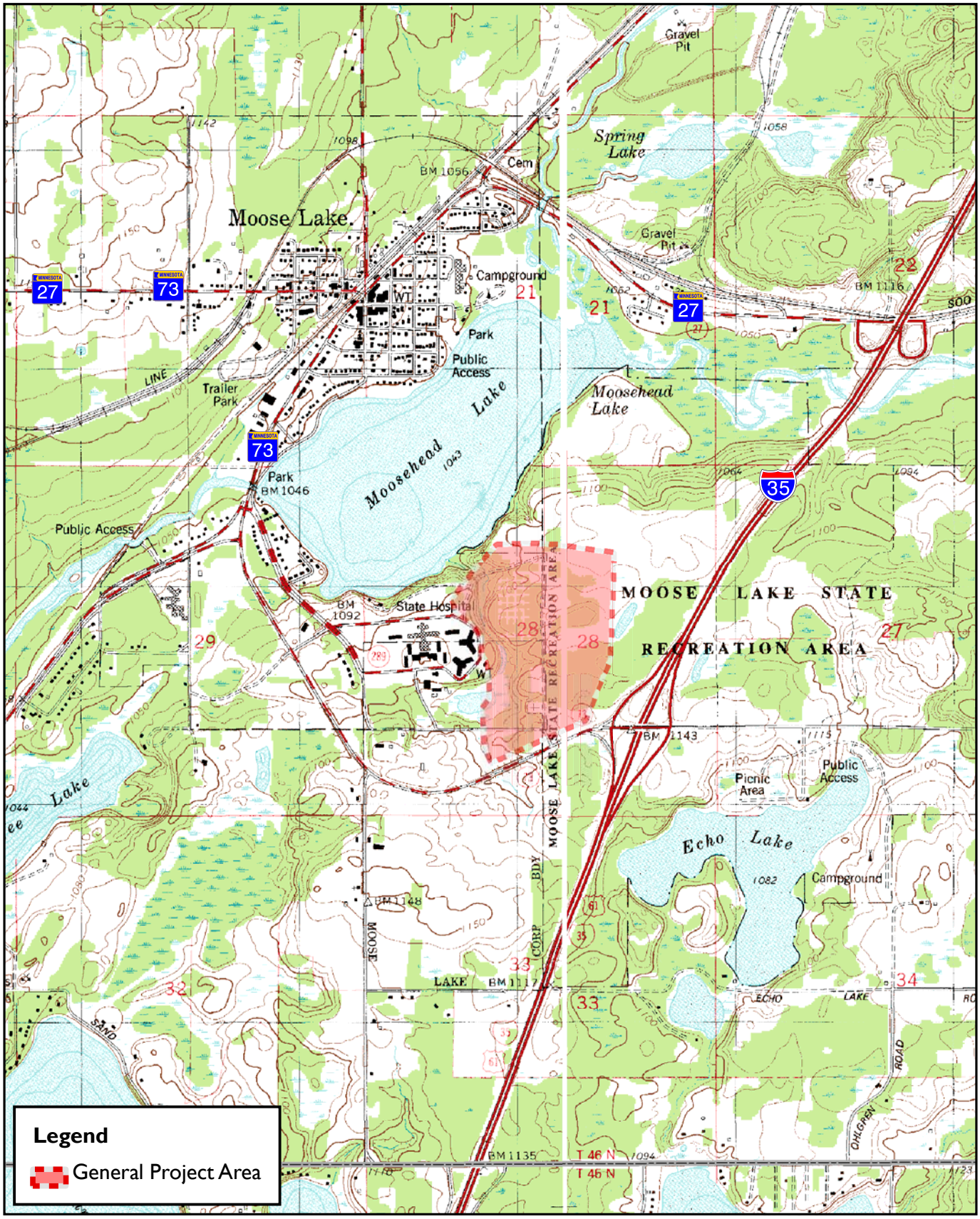
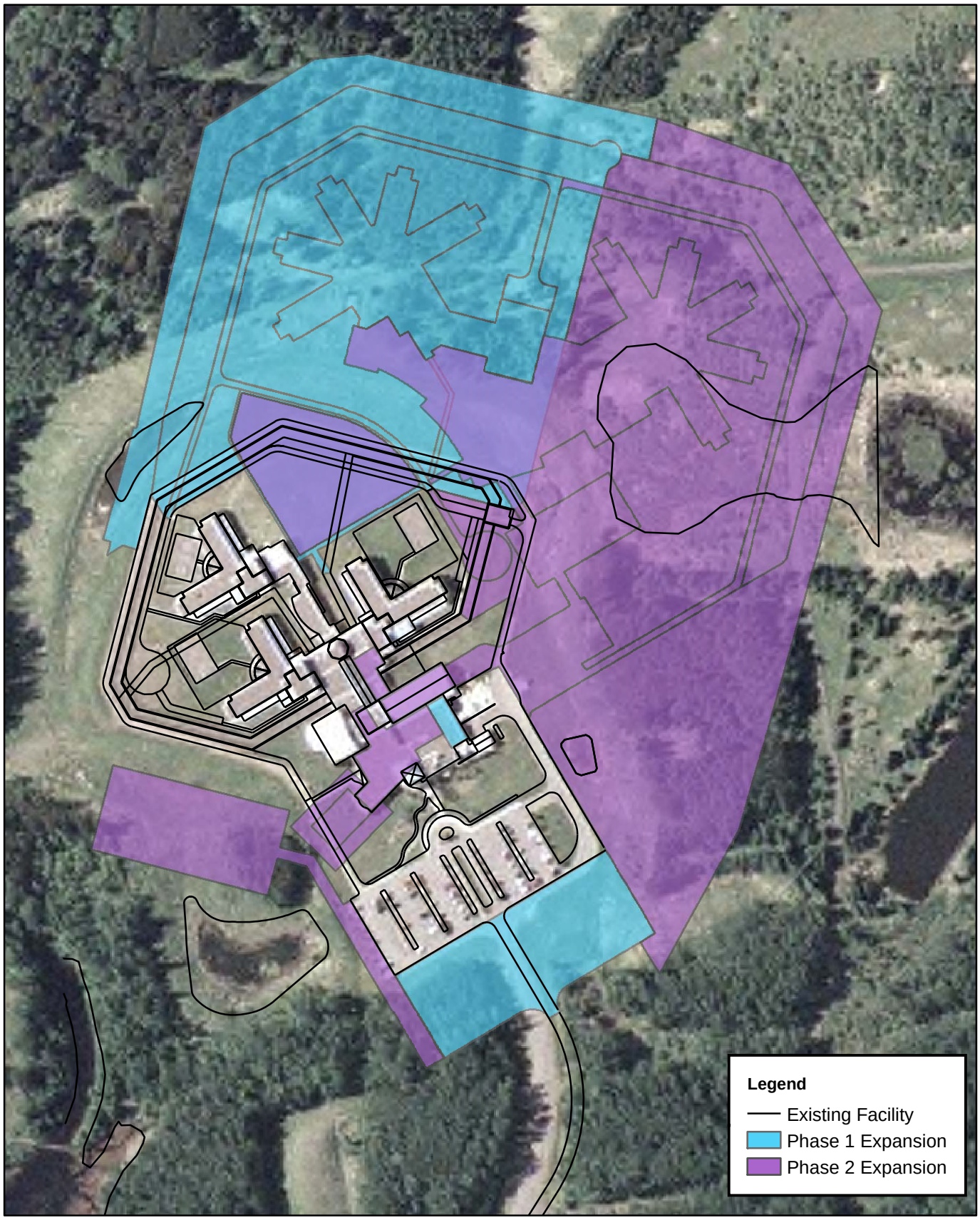


Figure 2: Project Boundary
MSOP Expansion Project
Moose Lake, Minnesota

Map Document: (N:\gispro)\BVBR\44123\map_docs\mxd\ProjectBoundary.mxd)
10/12/2006 -- 9:49:50 AM



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1 inch equals 268 feet

Figure 3: Site Plan
MSOP Expansion Project
Moose Lake, Minnesota

Map Document: (N:\gisproj\BWBR\44123\map_docs\mxd\ProjectSitePlan2.mxd)
10/24/2006 -- 1:09:41 PM

Figure 4: National Register of Historic Place Property
MSOP Expansion Project
Moose Lake, Minnesota

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1 inch equals 700 feet

Map Document: (N:\gisproj\BWBR\44123\map_docs\mxd\Hx_NRHP.mxd)
11/9/2006 -- 1:11:51 PM

Attachment 2

Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program Correspondence

August 22, 2006

Mr. Dennis Gimmestad
State Historic Preservation Office
345 Kellogg Boulevard West
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1906

SUBJECT: Proposed MSOP Expansion Project
City of Moose Lake, Carlton County, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Gimmestad:

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is in the process of planning an expansion of the Minnesota Sex Offenders Program (MSOP) in Moose Lake, Minnesota. HDR, Inc. is currently gathering data to prepare an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the expansion. This letter is a request for your review for significant cultural resources in the project area.

The proposed project is located in the area north of US Highway 73 and southeast of Moosehead Lake in Carlton County, Minnesota; in Section 28, Township 46 North, Range 19 West. The DHS is planning for a two-phased expansion to house a total of 800 patients. The expansion would include the following facilities: administrative office space; mental, dental, and medical counseling services; recreational space; food services; educational programming space; security services; visitation; and housing.

If you need any additional information for your review, please contact me at 763-278-5916 or via e-mail at Kristian.knudsen@hdrinc.com.

Thank you for your assistance on this project.

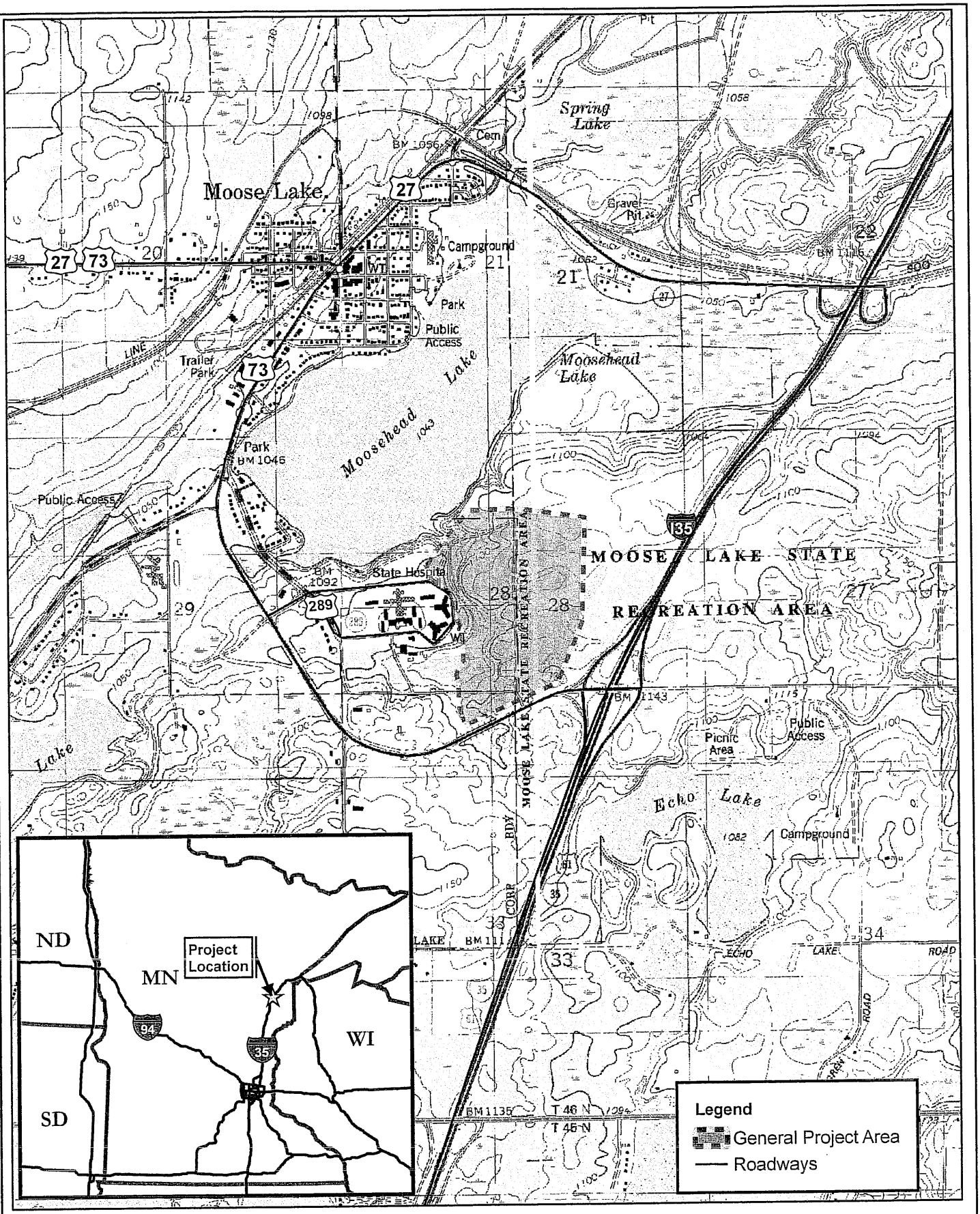
Sincerely,

HDR Engineering, Inc.

Kristian A. Knudsen,
Project Manager

Enclosures: Project Location Map

cc: Melanie Schramm – BWBR Architects
Mark Ludgatis – BWBR Architects
File



Project Overview Map
MSOP Expansion Project
Moose Lake, Minnesota

HDR

Map Document: (N:\gisproj\BWBR\44123\map_docs\mxd\ProjectOverviewMap.mxd)
8/9/2006 – 1:27:23 PM

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

State Historic Preservation Office

November 1, 2006

Ms. Kristian Knudsen
HDR Engineering, Inc.
6190 Golden Hills Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55416-1518

Re: Expansion of the Minnesota Sex Offenders Program
Moose Lake, Carlton County
SHPO Number: 2007-0157

Dear Ms. Knudsen:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Minnesota Historical Society by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act and the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act.

We have the following comments on this proposal:

1. The Moose Lake State Hospital Historic District has been formally evaluated as meeting the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. A copy of the boundary map for the district is enclosed. New construction should take this potential historic district into account.

2. We believe that there is a good probability that unreported archaeological properties might be present in the project area. Therefore, we recommend that a survey of the area be completed. The survey must meet the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation, and should include an evaluation of National Register eligibility for any properties that are identified. For your information, we have enclosed a list of consultants who have expressed an interest in undertaking such surveys.

If the project area can be documented as previously disturbed or previously surveyed, we will re-evaluate the need for survey. Previously disturbed areas are those where the naturally occurring post-glacial soils and sediments have been recently removed. Any previous survey work must meet contemporary standards.

If you have any questions on our review of this project, please contact me at (651) 205-4205.

Sincerely,

Kelly Gragg-Johnson

Dennis A. Gimmestad
Government Programs and Compliance Officer

Lakeshore Drive

l Building
l

e Building
ls

'Shop (NC)
nd Paint Shop (NC)
es

Service Road

Moose Lake State Park

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Master

State Highway 73

North

One inch equals approximately 200'

September 22, 2006

Ms. Sarah Hoffman
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155

SUBJECT: Proposed MSOP Expansion Project
City of Moose Lake, Carlton County, Minnesota

Dear Ms. Hoffman:

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) is in the process of planning an expansion of the Minnesota Sex Offenders Program (MSOP) in Moose Lake, Minnesota. HDR, Inc. is currently gathering data to prepare an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the expansion. This letter is a request for identification of threatened or endangered species or sensitive natural resources in the project area.

The proposed project is located in the area north of US Highway 73 and southeast of Moosehead Lake in Carlton County, Minnesota; in Section 28, Township 46 North, Range 19 West. The DHS is planning for a two-phased expansion to house a total of 800 patients. The expansion would include the following facilities: administrative office space; mental, dental, and medical counseling services; recreational space; food services; educational programming space; security services; visitation; and housing.

If you need any additional information for your review, please contact me at 763-278-5916 or via e-mail at Kristian.knudsen@hdrinc.com.

Thank you for your assistance on this project.

Sincerely,

HDR Engineering, Inc.

Kristian A. Knudsen,
Project Manager

Enclosures: Minnesota DNR Data Request Form
Project Location Map

cc: Melanie Schramm – BWBR Architects
Mark Ludgatis – BWBR Architects
File

Please do not staple request documents

For Agency Use Only:
Received _____ Due _____ RUSH
Related ES# _____
Search Radius _____mi. ER/All EOs _____
Quads _____
Map'd ____ C / NoC Let ____ Inv ____ Log out ____

MINNESOTA NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA REQUEST FORM

DATE OF REQUEST ___September 22, 2006__

WHO IS REQUESTING THE INFORMATION?

Name and Title ____Kristian Knudsen – Project Manager___

Agency/Company ___HDR Engineering, Inc._____

Address __6190 Golden Hills Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55416_____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone __(763) 278-5916__ FAX __(763) 591-5413____ e-mail __kristian.knudsen@hdrinc.com____

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF (if applicable): _____Minnestoa Department of Human Services

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED?

__X_ Printouts of known occurrences of federally and state listed plants and animals; native plant communities; and aggregation sites such as bat hibernacula, colonial waterbird nesting sites, and prairie chicken booming grounds.

__X_ Information listed above, plus geological features and state rare species with no legal status.

____ Other (specify): _____

_____

Frequent applicants: Check here if you DO NOT need a copy of the field-by-field explanation of the printouts: ____

WHERE IS THE AREA OF INTEREST? 1) **ENCLOSE A MAP** showing detailed boundaries of the project area (topographic or aerial photos are preferred). 2) If a GIS shapefile of the project area is available, please provide a copy.

For Agency Use Only:

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED PROJECT INFORMATION

REGION	County	Twnshp#	Range#	Section(s) (and half-section, quarter-section, etc., if known)
_____	Carlton	T 46 N	19W	28
_____				
_____				
_____				

Project Name ___MSOP Expansion_____

Project Proposer ____Minnesota Department of Human Services_____

Detailed Project Description (attach additional sheets if necessary) _____

The Minnesota Department of Human Services proposes to expand the Minnesota Sex Offender Program capacity at the existing Moose Lake program site. The proposed expansion would occur in two phases over the next 5 years. _____

Past Land-Use of Project Site ___Forested_____

_____

HOW WILL THE INFORMATION BE USED? Describe the planned use of the information, including in what form and detail you wish to publish this information, if any. __Information will be used for the __completion of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet

TURN-AROUND TIME

Requests generally take 2 to 3 weeks from date of receipt to process, and are processed in the order received. Rush requests are processed in 2 weeks or less.

FEES

For-profit organizations, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee for this service. In addition, a fee may be charged for large requests from any source. A surcharge (currently $50) is applied for rush orders; if this is a rush order, please check the blank below. Fees subject to change. A fee schedule is available upon request. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.

_____ **Rush**

"The information supplied above is complete and accurate. I understand that material supplied to me from the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System is copyrighted and that I am not permitted to reproduce or publish any of this copyrighted material without prior written permission from the Minnesota DNR. Further, if permission to publish is given, I understand that I must credit the Minnesota Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as the source of the material."

Signature _____

Mail or email completed forms to:

Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator *(for project reviews)*
Sarah.hoffmann@dnr.state.mn.us
or
Assistant Database Manager *(for general requests)*
Sharron.nelson@dnr.state.mn.us
at
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

For further information call:

(651) 296-7863 or 296-8279

(651) 296-8324

Or FAX completed forms to: (651) 296-1811

Additional information about the Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program is available at http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/index.html

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For Agency Use Only:

EO's requiring comment _____

Sources contacted	Topic	Response
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

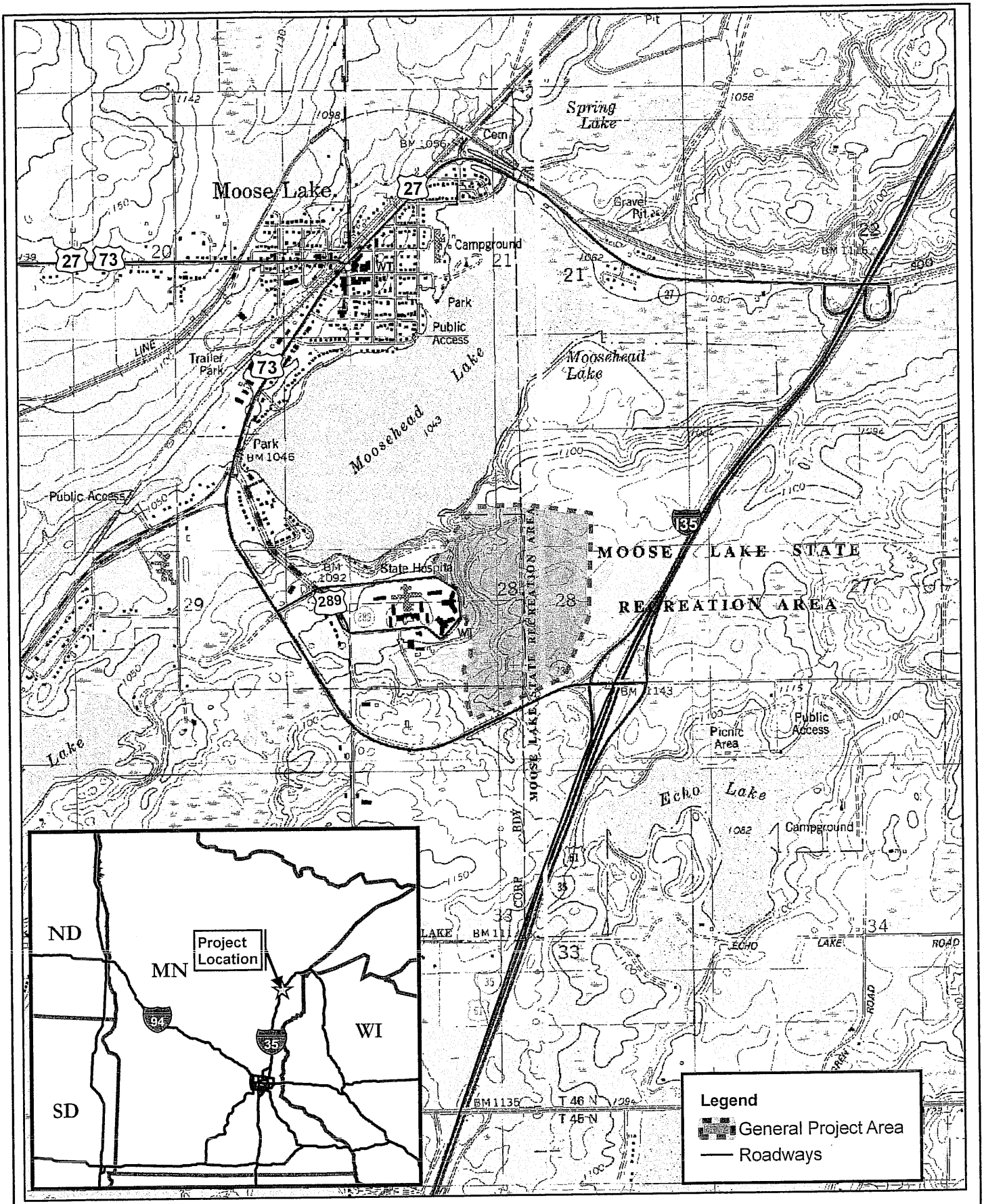
Response Summary _____

_____

_____

_____ Responder _____

Revised 12/04



0 0.4 0.8 Miles

Scale = 1:24,000

Project Overview Map
MSOP Expansion Project
Moose Lake, Minnesota

HDR

Map Document: (N:\gisproj\BWBR\44123\map_docs\mxd\ProjectOverviewMap.mxd)
8/9/2006 – 1:27:23 PM

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Box 25
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-40__
Phone: (651) 259-5107 Fax: (651) 296-1811 E-mail: sarah.wren@dnr.state.mn.us

October 16, 2006

Mr. Kristian Knudsen
HDR Engineering, Inc.
6190 Golden Hills Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55416

Re: Request for Natural Heritage information for vicinity of proposed MSOP Expansion,
T46N R19W Section 28, Carlton County
NHNRP Contact #: ERDB 20070300

Dear Mr. Knudsen,

The Minnesota Natural Heritage database has been reviewed to determine if any rare plant or animal species or other significant natural features are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the area indicated on the map enclosed with your information request. Based on this review, there are 8 known occurrences of rare species or native plant communities in the area searched (for details, please see the enclosed database printouts and the explanation of selected fields). However, standard construction procedures (e.g., runoff prevention) should ensure that these features remain unaffected by the proposed activity.

The Natural Heritage database is maintained by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, a unit within the Division of Ecological Services, Department of Natural Resources. It is continually updated as new information becomes available, and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. Its purpose is to foster better understanding and protection of these features.

Because our information is not based on a comprehensive inventory, there may be rare or otherwise significant natural features in the state that are not represented in the database. A county-by-county survey of rare natural features is now underway, and has been completed for Carlton County. Our information about native plant communities is, therefore, quite thorough for that county. However, because survey work for rare plants and animals is less exhaustive, and because there has not been an on-site survey of all areas of the county, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist on the project area.

The enclosed results of the database search are provided in two formats: short record report and long record report. To control the release of locational information, which might result in the damage or destruction of a rare element, both printout formats are copyrighted.

The short record report provides rare feature locations only to the nearest section, and may be reprinted, unaltered, in an Environmental Assessment Worksheet, municipal natural resource plan, or report compiled by your company for the project listed above. If you wish to reproduce the short record report for any other purpose, please contact me to request written permission. **The long record report includes more detailed locational information, and is for your personal use only. If you wish to reprint the long record report for any purpose, please contact me to request written permission.**

Please be aware that review by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program focuses only on *rare natural features*. It does not constitute review or approval by the Department of Natural Resources as a whole. If you require further information on the environmental review process for other natural resource-related issues, you may contact your Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist, Dave Holmbeck, at (218) 327-4317.

An invoice in the amount of $68.10 will be mailed to you under separate cover within two weeks of the date of this letter. You are being billed for map and database search and staff scientist review. Thank you for consulting us on this matter, and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,

Lisa Joyal

Lisa A. Joyal
Endangered Species Environmental Review Technician

encl: Database search results
Rare Feature Database Print-Outs: An Explanation of Fields

Minnesota Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program
Short Record Report of Element Occurrences within 1 mile radius of:
MSOP Expansion
T46N R19W Section 28
Carlton County

Element Name and Occurrence Number	Federal Status	MN Status	State Rank	Global Rank	Last Observed Date
Carlton County, MN					
Acipenser fulvescens (Lake Sturgeon) #49 Location Description: T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S21, T46N R19W S20, T46N R19W S28		SPC	S3	G3G4	1989-07-20
Actaea pachypoda (White Baneberry) #3 Location Description: T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S27, T46N R19W S22, T46N R19W S21, T46N R19W S20, T46N R19W S15, T46N R19W S16, T46N R19W S17, T46N R19W S28		NON	SNA	G5	1940-08-18
Actinonaias ligamentina (Mucket) #176 Location Description: T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20		THR	S2	G5	1998-08-05
Alasmidonta marginata (Elktoe) #83 Location Description: T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20		THR	S2	G4	1998-08-05
Colonial Waterbird Nesting Area (Colonial Waterbird Nesting Site) #1030 Location Description: T46N R19W S28		N/A	SNR	GNR	2003
Haliaeetus leucocephalus (Bald Eagle) #1734 Location Description: T46N R19W S21	LT,PDL	SPC	S3B,S3N	G5	2005-04-19
Lasmigona costata (Fluted-shell) #128 Location Description: T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20		SPC	S3	G5	1998-08-05
Ligumia recta (Black Sandshell) #228 Location Description: T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20		SPC	S3	G5	1998-08-05

Records Printed = 8

Minnesota Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program
Long Record Report of Element Occurrences within 1 mile radius of:
MSOP Expansion
T46N R19W Section 28
Carlton County

Element Name and Occ. #: Acipenser fulvescens (Lake Sturgeon) #49 **EO ID #:** 15703

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: Unknown
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S21, T46N R19W S20, T46N R19W S28
Site Name: MOOSE LAKE 21
Survey Site #/Name:

Last Observed Date: 1989-07-20
First Observed Date: 1989-07-20
Last Survey Date:
Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s):

MN Status: Special Concern
Federal Status:
State Rank: S3
Global Rank: G3G4
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: 1 SPECIMEN SAMPLED IN MOOSEHEAD LAKE DURING LAKE SURVEY.
EO Data:

Element Name and Occ. #: Actaea pachypoda (White Baneberry) #3 **EO ID #:** 3291

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: Unknown
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S27, T46N R19W S22, T46N R19W S21, T46N R19W S20, T46N R19W S15, T46N R19W S16, T46N R19W S17, T46N R19W S28
Site Name: MOOSE LAKE 21
Survey Site #/Name:
Vegetation Plot:

Last Observed Date: 1940-08-18
First Observed Date: 1940-08-18
Last Survey Date:
Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s): Lakela, O.

MN Status: Tracked, but no legal status
Federal Status:
State Rank: SNA
Global Rank: G5
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: TILIA-ACER ASSOC ON MOOSEHEAD LAKE, CARLTON CO.
EO Data:

Element Name and Occ. #: Actinonaias ligamentina (Mucket) #176 **EO ID #:** 28149

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: Unknown
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20
Site Name: MOOSE HORN RIVER, MOOSE LAKE 29
Survey Site #/Name:

Last Observed Date: 1998-08-05
First Observed Date: 1998-08-05
Last Survey Date:
Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s): Davis, M.

MN Status: Threatened
Federal Status:
State Rank: S2
Global Rank: G5
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: SPECIES FOUND LIVE IN MOOSE HORN RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF THE KETTLE RIVER, DURING QUALITATIVE SAMPLING USING WADING & SNORKELING TECHNIQUES. AREA SURVEYED WAS DOWNSTREAM OF MOOSEHEAD LAKE OUTLET TO THE PUBLIC BOAT LANDING.
EO Data:

Element Name and Occ. #: Alasmidonta marginata (Elktoe) #83

EO ID #: 28148

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: Unknown
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20
Site Name: MOOSE HORN RIVER, MOOSE LAKE 29
Survey Site #/Name:

Last Observed Date: 1998-08-05
First Observed Date: 1998-08-05
Last Survey Date:

Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s): Davis, M.

MN Status: Threatened
Federal Status:
State Rank: S2
Global Rank: G4
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: SPECIES FOUND LIVE IN MOOSE HORN RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF THE KETTLE RIVER, DURING QUALITATIVE SAMPLING USING WADING & SNORKELING TECHNIQUES. AREA SURVEYED WAS DOWNSTREAM OF MOOSEHEAD LAKE OUTLET TO THE PUBLIC BOAT LANDING.
EO Data:

Element Name and Occ. #: Colonial Waterbird Nesting Area (Colonial Waterbird Nesting Site) #1030

EO ID #: 31235

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: MN Department of Corrections
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S28
Site Name:
Survey Site #/Name: Moose Lake Prison

Last Observed Date: 2003
First Observed Date: 1999
Last Survey Date: 2003

Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s): Correctional facility staff

MN Status: N/A
Federal Status:
State Rank: SNR
Global Rank: GNR
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: Moose Lake Prison. Ring-billed gull
EO Data: Moose Lake Prison. Ring-billed gulls

Element Name and Occ. #: Haliaeetus leucocephalus (Bald Eagle) #1734

EO ID #: 25101

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: MN DNR Parks and Recreation
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S21
Site Name: MOOSE LAKE STATE PARK
Survey Site #/Name:

Last Observed Date: 2005-04-19
First Observed Date: 1998
Last Survey Date: 2005-04-19

Managed Area(s): Moose Lake State Park
Survey Type: Qualitative ground survey
Surveyor(s): Olfelt, D., Staffon, R.

MN Status: Special Concern
Federal Status: LT,PDL
State Rank: S3B,S3N
Global Rank: G5
EO Rank: E - Verified extant (viability not assessed)

General Description: Nesting Area. Moose Lake State Park.
EO Data: Nest in a red pine. Nest active when checked in 2000 and 2005.

Minnesota Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program
Long Record Report of Element Occurrences within 1 mile radius of:
MSOP Expansion
T46N R19W Section 28
Carlton County

Element Name and Occ. #: Lasmigona costata (Fluted-shell) #128 **EO ID #:** 28150

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: Unknown
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20
Site Name: MOOSE HORN RIVER, MOOSE LAKE 29
Survey Site #/Name:

Last Observed Date: 1998-08-05
First Observed Date: 1998-08-05
Last Survey Date:
Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s): Davis, M.

MN Status: Special Concern
Federal Status:
State Rank: S3
Global Rank: G5
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: SPECIES FOUND LIVE IN MOOSE HORN RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF THE KETTLE RIVER, DURING QUALITATIVE SAMPLING USING WADING & SNORKELING TECHNIQUES. AREA SURVEYED WAS DOWNSTREAM OF MOOSEHEAD LAKE OUTLET TO THE PUBLIC BOAT LANDING.
EO Data:

Element Name and Occ. #: Ligumia recta (Black Sandshell) #228 **EO ID #:** 28151

Observed Area:
Extent Known?:
Ownership Type: Unknown
Location Description: Carlton County, MN
T46N R19W S29, T46N R19W S20
Site Name: MOOSE HORN RIVER, MOOSE LAKE 29
Survey Site #/Name:

Last Observed Date: 1998-08-05
First Observed Date: 1998-08-05
Last Survey Date:
Managed Area(s):
Survey Type:
Surveyor(s): Davis, M.

MN Status: Special Concern
Federal Status:
State Rank: S3
Global Rank: G5
EO Rank: Not ranked

General Description: SPECIES FOUND LIVE IN MOOSE HORN RIVER, A TRIBUTARY OF THE KETTLE RIVER, DURING QUALITATIVE SAMPLING USING WADING & SNORKELING TECHNIQUES. AREA SURVEYED WAS DOWNSTREAM OF MOOSEHEAD LAKE OUTLET TO THE PUBLIC BOAT LANDING.
EO Data:

The Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program recently [illegible] change, the layout and contents of the database reports have been revised. Many of the fields included in the new reports are the same or similar to the previous report fields, however there are several new fields and some of the field definitions have been slightly modified. We recommend that you familiarize yourself with the latest field explanations.

Rare Features Database Reports: An Explanation of Fields

The Rare Features database (Biotics) is part of the Natural Heritage Information System, and is maintained by the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, a unit within the Division of Ecological Services, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Field Name: [Full (non-abbreviated) field name, if different]. Further explanation of field.

-E-

Element Name and Occ #: [Element Name and Occurrence Number]. The Element is the name of the rare feature. For plant and animal species records, this field holds the scientific name followed by the common name in parentheses; for all other elements (such as native plant communities, which have no scientific name) it is solely the element name. Native plant community names correspond to Minnesota's Native Plant Community Classification (Version 2.0). The Occurrence Number, in combination with the Element Name, uniquely identifies each record.

EO Data: [Element Occurrence Data]. For species elements, this field contains data collected on the biology of the Element Occurrence* (EO), including the number of individuals, vigor, habitat, soils, associated species, peculiar characteristics, etc. For native plant community elements, this field is a summary text description of the vegetation of the EO, including structure (strata) and composition (dominant/characteristic species), heterogeneity, successional stage/dynamics, any unique aspects of the community or additional noteworthy species (including animals). Note that this is a new field and it has not been filled out for many of the records that were collected prior to conversion to the new database system. Some of the information meeting the field definition may be found in the General Description field.

EO ID#: [Element Occurrence Identification Number]. Unique identifier for each Element Occurrence record.

EO Rank: [Element Occurrence Rank]. An evaluation of the quality and condition of an Element Occurrence (EO) from A (highest) to D (lowest). Represents a comparative evaluation of: 1) quality as determined by representativeness of the occurrence especially as compared to EO specifications and including maturity, size, numbers, etc. 2) condition (how much has the site and the EO itself been damaged or altered from its optimal condition and character). 3) viability (the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence - used in ranking species only). EO Ranks are assigned based on recent fieldwork by knowledgeable individuals.

Extent Known?: A value that indicates whether the full extent of the Element is known (i.e., it has been determined through field survey) at that location. If null, the value has not been determined.

-F-

Federal Status: Status of species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act: LE = endangered; LT = threatened; LE,LT = listed endangered in part of its range, listed threatened in another part of its range; LT,PDL = listed threatened, proposed for delisting; C = candidate for listing. If null or "No Status" the species has no federal status.

First Observed Date: Date that the Element Occurrence was first reported at the site in format YYYY-MM-DD. A year followed by "Pre" indicates that the observed date was sometime prior to the date listed, but the exact date is unknown.

-G-

General Description: General description or word picture of the area where the Element Occurrence (EO) is located (i.e., the physical setting/context surrounding the EO), including a list of adjacent communities. When available, information on surrounding land use may be included. Note that the information tracked in this field is now more narrowly defined than it was in the old database system, and some of the information still in this field more accurately meets the definition of the new EO Data field. We are working to clean up the records so that the information in the two fields corresponds to the current field explanations described herein. Also note that the use of uppercase in sentences in this field is not significant but rather an artifact of transferring data from the old database system to the new system.

Global Rank: The global (i.e., range-wide) assessment of the relative rarity or imperilment of the species or community. Ranges from G1 (critically imperiled due to extreme rarity on a world-wide basis) to G5 (demonstrably secure, though perhaps rare in parts of its range). Global ranks are determined by NatureServe, an international network of natural heritage programs and conservation data centers.

-L-

Last Observed Date: Date that the Element Occurrence was last observed to be extant at the site in format YYYY-MM-DD.

Last Survey Date: Date of the most recent field survey for the Element Occurrence, regardless of whether it was found during the visit. If the field is blank, assume the date is the same as the Last Observed Date.

Location Description: County or Counties in which the Element Occurrence was documented followed by Township, Range, and Section information (not listed in any particular order). Each unique Township, Range, and Section combination is separated by a comma. In some cases, there are too many Township, Range, and Section combinations to list in the field, in which case, the information will be replaced with, "Legal description is too lengthy to fit in allotted space".

-M-

Managed Area(s): Name of the federally, state, locally, or privately managed park, forest, refuge, preserve, etc., containing the occurrence, if any. If this field is blank, the element probably occurs on private land. If "(Statutory Boundary)" occurs after the name of a managed area, the location may be a private inholding within the statutory boundary of a state forest or park.

MN Status: [Minnesota Status]. Legal status of plant and animal species under the Minnesota Endangered Species Law: END = endangered; THR = threatened; SPC = special concern; NON = tracked, but no legal status. Native plant communities, geological features, and colonial waterbird nesting sites do not have any legal status under the Endangered Species Law and are represented by a N/A.

-N-

NPC Classification (v1.5): Native plant community name in Minnesota's Native Vegetation: A Key to Natural Communities (Version 1.5). This earlier classification has been replaced by Minnesota's Native Plant Community Classification (Version 2.0).

-O-

Observed Area: The total area of the Element Occurrence, in acres, which is measured or estimated during fieldwork. If null, the value has not been determined.

Ownership Type: Indicates whether the land on which the Element Occurrence was located was publicly or privately owned; for publicly owned land, the agency with management responsibility is listed, if known.

-S-

Site Name: The name of the site(s) where the Element Occurrence is located. Sites are natural areas of land with boundaries determined and mapped according to biological and ecological considerations.

Survey Site #/Name: The name of the survey site, if applicable, where the Element Occurrence is located. Survey sites are sites that provide a geographic framework for recording and storing data, but their boundaries are not based on biological and ecological considerations. Minnesota County Biological Survey site numbers, if applicable, are also listed in this field.

Survey Type: Information on the type of survey used to collect information on the Element Occurrence.

Surveyor(s): Name(s) of the person(s) that collected survey information on the Element Occurrence.

State Rank: Rank that best characterizes the relative rarity or endangerment of the taxon or plant community in Minnesota. The ranks do not represent a legal status. They are used by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to set priorities for research, inventory and conservation planning. The state ranks are updated as inventory information becomes available. S1 = Critically imperiled in Minnesota because of extreme rarity or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state. S2 = Imperiled in Minnesota because of rarity or because of some factor(s) making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the state. S3 = Vulnerable in Minnesota either because rare or uncommon, or found in a restricted range, or because of other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation. S4 = Apparently secure in Minnesota, usually widespread. S5 = Demonstrably secure in Minnesota, essentially ineradicable under present conditions. SH = Of historical occurrence in the state, perhaps having not been verified in the past 20 years, but suspected to be still extant. An element would become SH without the 20-year delay if the only known occurrences in the state were destroyed or if it had been extensively and unsuccessfully looked for. SNR = Rank not yet assessed. SU = Unable to rank. SX = Presumed extinct in Minnesota. SNA = Rank not applicable. S#S# = Range Rank: a numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3) is used to indicate the range of uncertainty about the exact status of the element. S#B, S#N = Used only for migratory animals, whereby B refers to the breeding population of the element in Minnesota and N refers to the non-breeding population of the element in Minnesota.

-V-

Vegetation Plot: Code(s) for any vegetation plot data that have been collected within this Element Occurrence (i.e., either Releve Number or the word "RELEVE" indicates that a releve has been collected).

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* Element Occurrence – an area of land and/or water in which an Element (i.e., a rare species or community) is, or was, present, and which has practical conservation value for the Element as evidenced by potential continued (or historical) presence and/or regular recurrence at a given location. Specifications for each species determine whether multiple observations should be considered 1 Element Occurrence or 2, based on minimum separation distance and barriers to movement.

Data Security

Locations of some rare features must be treated as sensitive information because widespread knowledge of these locations could result in harm to the rare features. For example, wildflowers such as orchids and economically valuable plants such as ginseng are vulnerable to exploitation by collectors; other species, such as bald eagles, are sensitive to disturbance by observers. For this reason, we prefer that publications not identify the precise locations of vulnerable species. We suggest describing the location only to the nearest section. If this is not acceptable for your purposes, please call and discuss this issue with the Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator for the Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program at (651) 259-5107.

Please do not staple request documents

For Agency Use Only:
Received _____ Due _____ RUSH
Related ES# _____
Search Radius _____mi. ER/All EOs _____
Quads _____
Map'd ____ C / NoC Let ____ Inv ____ Log out ____

MINNESOTA NATURAL HERITAGE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA REQUEST FORM

DATE OF REQUEST ___September 22, 2006__

WHO IS REQUESTING THE INFORMATION?

Name and Title ____Kristian Knudsen – Project Manager___

Agency/Company ___HDR Engineering, Inc._____

Address __6190 Golden Hills Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55416_____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone __(763) 278-5916__ FAX __(763) 591-5413____ e-mail __kristian.knudsen@hdrinc.com____

THIS INFORMATION IS BEING REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF (if applicable): _____Minnestoa Department of Human Services

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED?

__X__ Printouts of known occurrences of federally and state listed plants and animals; native plant communities; and aggregation sites such as bat hibernacula, colonial waterbird nesting sites, and prairie chicken booming grounds.

__X__ Information listed above, plus geological features and state rare species with no legal status.

____ Other (specify): _____
_____

Frequent applicants: Check here if you DO NOT need a copy of the field-by-field explanation of the printouts: _____

WHERE IS THE AREA OF INTEREST? 1) **ENCLOSE A MAP** showing detailed boundaries of the project area (topographic or aerial photos are preferred). 2) If a GIS shapefile of the project area is available, please provide a copy.

For Agency Use Only:

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED PROJECT INFORMATION

REGION	County	Twnshp#	Range#	Section(s) (and half-section, quarter-section, etc., if known)
_____	Carlton	T 46 N	19W	28
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Project Name ___MSOP Expansion_____

Project Proposer ____Minnesota Department of Human Services_____

Detailed Project Description (attach additional sheets if necessary) _____

The Minnesota Department of Human Services proposes to expand the Minnesota Sex Offender Program capacity at the existing Moose Lake program site. The proposed expansion would occur in two phases over the next 5 years._____

Past Land-Use of Project Site ___Forested_____

_____

(OVER)

HOW WILL THE INFORMATION BE USED? Describe the planned use of the information, including in what form and detail you wish to publish this information, if any. __Information will be used for the __completion of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet

TURN-AROUND TIME

Requests generally take 2 to 3 weeks from date of receipt to process, and are processed in the order received. Rush requests are processed in 2 weeks or less.

FEES

For-profit organizations, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee for this service. In addition, a fee may be charged for large requests from any source. A surcharge (currently $50) is applied for rush orders; if this is a rush order, please check the blank below. Fees subject to change. A fee schedule is available upon request. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.

_____ **Rush**

"The information supplied above is complete and accurate. I understand that material supplied to me from the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System is copyrighted and that I am not permitted to reproduce or publish any of this copyrighted material without prior written permission from the Minnesota DNR. Further, if permission to publish is given, I understand that I must credit the Minnesota Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as the source of the material."

Signature _____

Mail or email completed forms to:		For further information call:
Endangered Species Environmental Review Coordinator Sarah.hoffmann@dnr.state.mn.us	*(for project reviews)*	(651) 296-7863 or 296-8279
or		
Assistant Database Manager Sharron.nelson@dnr.state.mn.us	*(for general requests)*	(651) 296-8324
at		
Natural Heritage and Nongame Research Program Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25 St. Paul, Minnesota 55155		

Or FAX completed forms to: (651) 296-1811

Additional information about the Natural Heritage & Nongame Research Program is available at http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/index.html

For Agency Use Only:

EO's requiring comment _____

Sources contacted	Topic	Response
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Response Summary _____

_____

_____

_____ Responder _____

Revised 12/04

Instructions for the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System Data Request Form

Please read the following!

< Legible **maps** clearly showing the location of the project are required for processing all project reviews.

< We cannot begin processing information requests until we receive all parts of the request, including a map and a completed, signed information request form. Please provide as detailed a description of the project as possible, attaching separate pages to the form if necessary.

< **Responses** are returned to the party which appears in the "Who is requesting the information?" section. This must also be the person who signs the form on the second page, acknowledging the State of Minnesota's copyright on all printouts generated in response to project reviews.

< On the form, note the first sentence under the subheading "**FEES"**. As a courtesy, we provide database searches to other governmental agencies and non-profit entities free of charge. For-profit entities, including consultants working for governmental agencies, are charged a fee. Please do not include payment with your request; an invoice will be sent to you.

< There is a 3 week **turn-around time** on environmental reviews. Rush jobs (2 week turn-around) are charged an additional $50 (only applies to for-profit entities).

< For **large projects** (>30 sections) we request that the township/range/section information be submitted on disk or via e-mail. Please submit the file in Word or ASCII, and in the following format: Township#,Range#,Section#s separated by commas. There should be no ending punctuation, no spaces, no letters, except an "E" after appropriate ranges, and each Township / Range combination should be typed on a separate line. For example, T62N R1W Sections 1-3, 11, 12 and T62N R3E Sections 4-9, 17, 18 should be listed as:

62,1,1-3,11,12
62,3E,4-9,17,18

If a GIS shapefile of the project area is available, please provide a copy.

< **Gray wolf** locations are not tracked in the Natural Heritage databases. Please contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for information on this species.

< An **electronic copy** of the form is available at the DNR's web site – http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/nhnrp/nhis_data_request.pdf

< You may reproduce this form for your own use or to distribute.