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RECOMMIT TO RECREATION

A Report on Minnesota's Future Outdoor Recreation Needs

Summary Findings and Recommendations of the
Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors

Submitted to the State of Minnesota
and the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors

June 27, 1986

Being outdoors is important to me
because it makes me feel like I'm
important to this world.

--David Broman
Fridley, MN

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INTRODUCTION

Americans have a long-standing attraction to the outdoors and, since the 1940s, have been taking to the outdoors as never before. The population increases, rising incomes, better transportation and increased leisure time that followed World War II led to a surge in demand for outdoor recreation. Each year saw record numbers of Americans using the nation's lakes, streams, parks, forests and other outdoor recreation areas. By all indications, the more recreation people "consumed", the more they appeared to want.

By the 1950s, policy-makers and the American public were becoming concerned about the ability to continue providing quality outdoor opportunities in sufficient quantity to meet ever-growing demands. In 1958, Congress responded to these concerns by establishing the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (ORRRC) to conduct an intensive nationwide study of outdoor recreation. ORRRC's mission was threefold:

- * To determine the outdoor recreation needs of the American people between 1958 and the year 2000
- * To identify the recreation resources available to satisfy those needs
- * To recommend policies and programs to ensure needs are met.

ORRRC was a landmark effort in the history of outdoor recreation. It is the most comprehensive outdoor recreation assessment ever undertaken in the United States. It resulted in creation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund to help finance outdoor recreation and policy to guide development of a national outdoor recreation system. And, it gave stimulus to state efforts to address outdoor recreation needs.

At the same time that ORRRC was at work, the Minnesota electorate and public officials were grappling with similar recreation issues and concerns. In 1963, the Minnesota Legislature passed the Omnibus Resources and Recreation Act, which established the Minnesota Outdoor Recreation Resources Commission (whose mission was similar to ORRRC's), an outdoor recreation program, and a cigarette tax to fund the program. Many existing state recreation programs grew out of recommendations of the Minnesota commission. That commission later became the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Today, more than twenty-five years after ORRRC made its recommendations, there is a need to reexamine the status of outdoor recreation. Numerous economic, political and social changes have occurred since the 1950s and 1960s, affecting outdoor recreation needs. In the face of budget deficits, Congress is appropriating fewer and fewer dollars for outdoor recreation. As a consequence, state and local governments and private organizations have become increasingly responsible for providing outdoor recreation opportunities. At the same time, a growing and increasingly diverse population is demanding not only more outdoor recreation, but also greater variety of opportunities.

In 1985, President Reagan formed the Commission on Americans Outdoors to reassess the nation's outdoor recreation needs and recommend policy for meeting needs between now and the year 2000. A state counterpart to the President's Commission, the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors, was established by Governor Rudy Perpich in 1985.

Over the last six months, the seven-member Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors has held public hearings throughout the state to gather testimony on outdoor recreation needs. Close to 300 Minnesotans of all ages and walks of life shared their concerns for a wide range of recreation issues and offered ideas on action that will be needed in the future. More than 1,500 young people in Minnesota wrote letters telling what they want to be able to do outdoors in the year 2000. This report presents the findings and recommendations of the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors.

BACKGROUND

Outdoor Recreation Financing

Creation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, financed with offshore oil revenues, was one of the most significant outcomes of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. Along with funding federal recreation programs, LWCF (or LAWCON, as it is known in Minnesota) provided federal grants to state and local government for recreation facility planning and development. The grants have enabled states to leverage federal dollars with matching recreation grants. Since the early 1960s, LWCF has been a primary force in stimulating state and local government efforts to meet burgeoning outdoor recreation demands.

In Minnesota, LWCF dollars, as well as revenues from the state cigarette tax, are administered by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. To date, LCMR has invested well over \$100 million dollars in outdoor recreation. It has funded acquisition and development of parks, trails, access sites and other facilities; forest, fish and wildlife projects; and development of information systems.

Since 1965, the federal government and State of Minnesota have provided nearly \$250 million in funding for state recreation projects and \$190 million for local projects--an investment of more than \$100 dollars for every Minnesotan (just over \$5 per person per year). Sources of funding for state and federal projects are as follows:

State Projects (\$250 million)

Resource 2000 bonding: \$100 million
LCMR and federal matching grants: \$63 million
 (\$29 million from LWCF;
 \$34 million from LCMR)
Federal equipment excise taxes: \$52 million
 (Dingell-Johnson, Pittman-Robertson funds)
Various state user fees: \$30 million

Local Projects (\$190 million)

Metropolitan parks and open space bonding: \$120 million
LCMR grants to local governments: \$63 million
Federal grants: \$40 million
 (\$27 million from LWCF)

Recent years have brought funding declines. Nationwide, LWCF funding for federal projects has dropped from a peak of about \$790 million (real 1985 dollars) in 1978 to \$185 million in 1985; funding for state projects decreased from a high of \$630 million (real 1985 dollars) in 1972 to \$72 million in 1985.

Outdoor Recreation Providers

Our outdoor recreation opportunities are supplied through a mix of public and private developments, and the private sector and various levels of government historically provide certain types of facilities. For example, nearly all wildlife areas and the majority of parkland, trails, athletic fields, and picnic grounds are supplied by federal; state, county and local governments. Virtually all resorts, and the majority of golf courses, beaches and marinas are privately operated facilities. Figure 1 shows the share of key outdoor recreation facilities in Minnesota supplied by the public and private sectors.

This pattern of development, which is likely to continue in the future, indicates that different levels of government will be called upon to supply different types of facilities and that the private sector will supply much of Minnesota's recreation opportunities. Today, outdoor recreation is truly a public-private partnership--one that should be recognized in public policy guiding future recreation planning and development.

Recreation Use in Minnesota

In 1980, the average Minnesotan spent close to 10 percent of his or her annual leisure time (or over 100 hours each year) pursuing some sort of outdoor recreation. Sixty-nine percent of all recreation in Minnesota takes place within a half-hour drive from a person's home.

Three-fourths of outdoor recreation use in Minnesota occurs in summer. Bicycling is the most popular outdoor activity of Minnesotans, accounting for 19.7 percent of total summer recreation use. Water-related activities, including fishing, swimming, boating, and camping, are the other most popular summer activities, accounting for 13.6, 11.9, 11.2 and 9.3 percent of summer use, respectively. Of winter activities, snowmobiling, skiing, ice fishing and skating are the most popular; all account for near-equal shares of use. Figure 2 shows these and other major seasonal outdoor activities of Minnesotans.

The activities of nonresident summer recreationists in Minnesota is very similar to that of resident vacationers. Fishing is the most popular activity of visitors to our state, accounting for close to 40 percent of summer nonresident recreation time. Camping, swimming, boating and canoeing are other popular nonresident summer activities (see figure 3). The large share of use in water-related activities, along with the concentration of nonresident use in northern Minnesota, illustrates the outdoor recreation resources for which Minnesota is widely known: inland lakes and a primitive, northwoods setting.

Figure 1

Providers of Minnesota Recreation Facilities

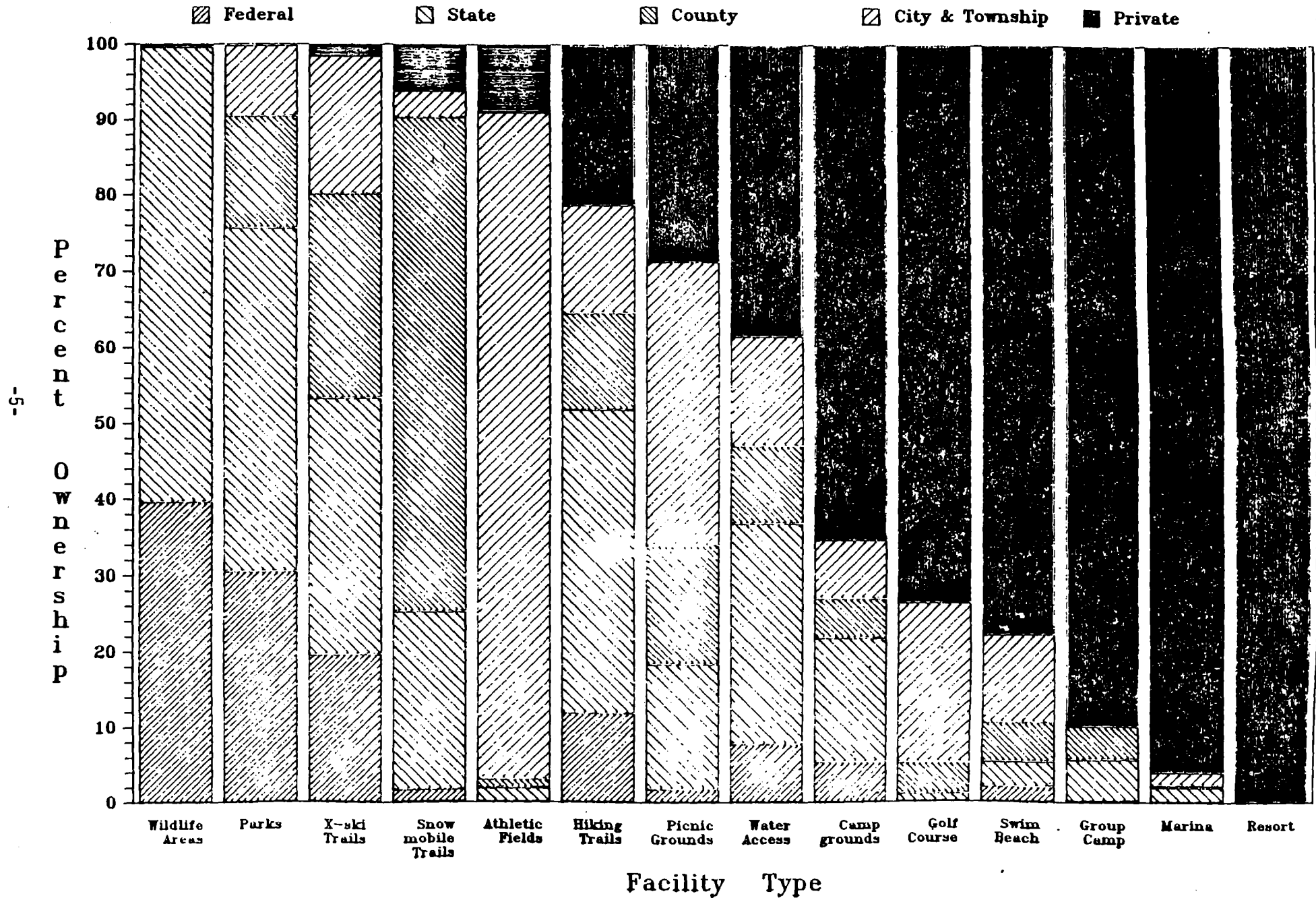


Figure 2

In-State Outdoor Recreation Time of Minnesotans in 1980

Annual Recreation Hours = 480,000,000

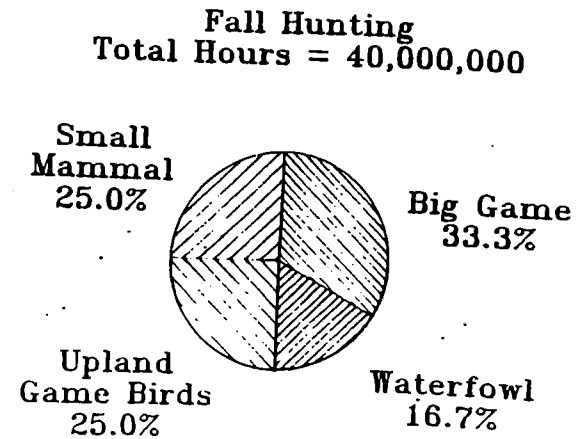
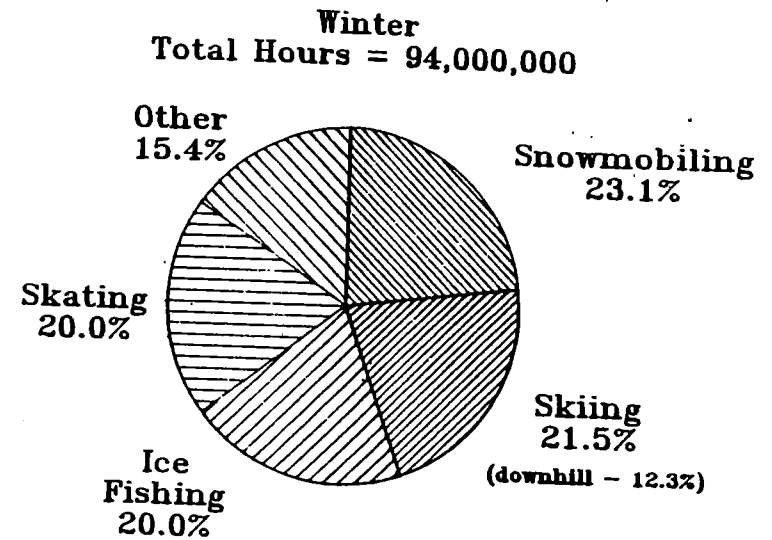
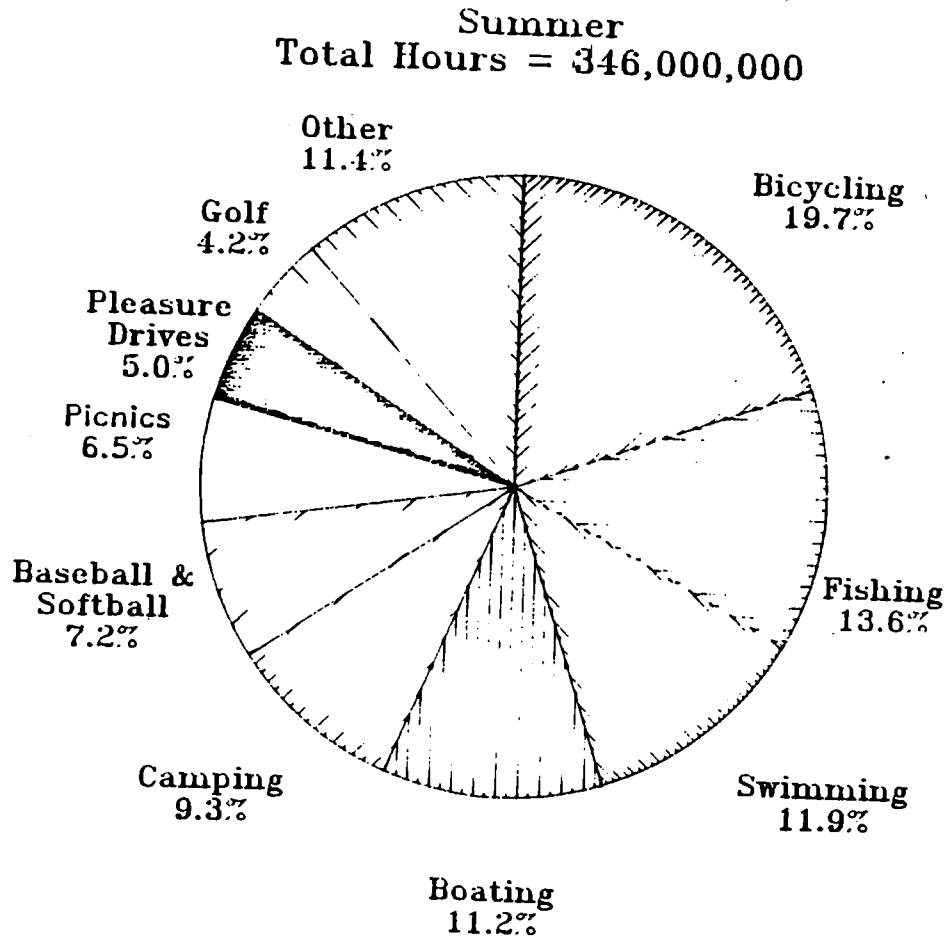
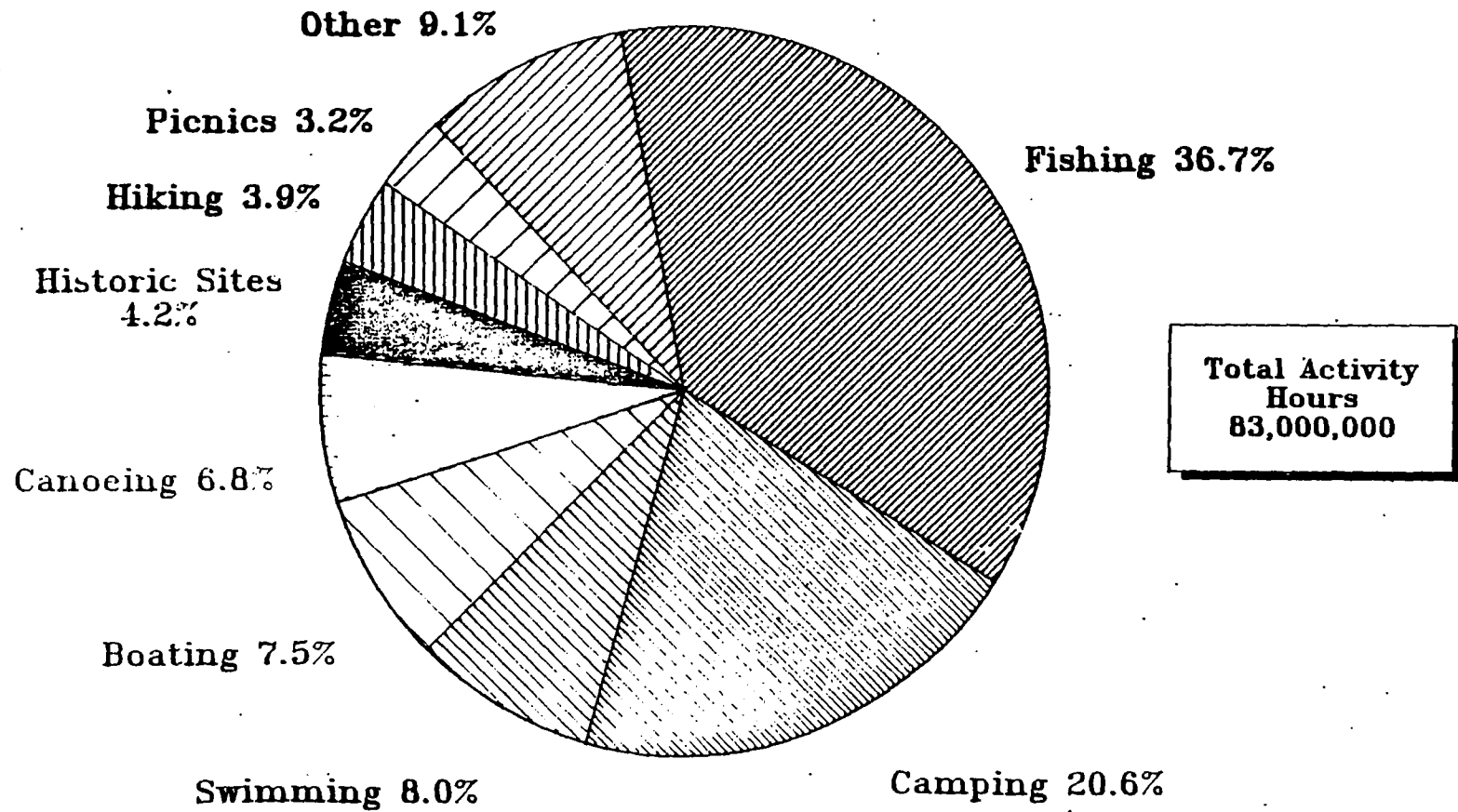


Figure 3

Summer Outdoor Recreation Time of Nonresidents in Minnesota, 1980



RECOMMENDATIONS

Many people love to be outside and they
have many things to do. Maybe things
will change all though maybe they won't.
But in the year 2000 we will find out.

--Heather Trowbridge
Age 13
Blaine, MN

Between February and May 1986, the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors held public hearings in Duluth, Mankato, Moorehead, St. Paul and Bloomington, Minnesota, to gather testimony on outdoor recreation issues. The hearings focused on the questions:

- * What will Minnesotans want to do outdoors in the year 2000?
- * What action needs to be taken to ensure outdoor recreation needs are met?

Many Minnesotans participated in this statewide reassessment of outdoor recreation, taking time to prepare reports and travel to hearings. More than 150 individuals with a broad range of outdoor interests testified at the hearings, and written testimony was received from many more. More than 1,500 young people from around the state sent letters with their ideas on future outdoor recreation needs. Ten of the most creative letters appear in Appendix A and portions of other letters are quoted throughout this report. Hearing participants are listed in Appendix B.

The ideas of all of these individuals, along with background information provided by state and federal resource management agencies, guided the deliberations of this Commission and form the basis of our recommendations.

From verbal and written testimony, seven general areas of concern emerged: protection of natural resources, outdoor recreation financing, acquisition of recreational lands, outdoor recreation programs and facilities, marketing, education, and coordinated planning and management.

The skyrocketing cost of liability insurance was also a topic of considerable concern. Insurance costs pose a significant barrier to recreational use and threaten closure of private and public recreation facilities throughout the country. The Commission recognizes the urgency of this problem. However, we have made no recommendations regarding liability insurance because the problem is not specific to outdoor recreation; it requires prompt national attention but in a broader context than outdoor recreation alone.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Resource Conservation

1. Continue the REINVEST IN MINNESOTA PROGRAM, with maximum funding.
2. Continue and strengthen the federal Conservation Reserve Program, with more stringent requirements for soil and water conservation.
3. Establish a national emission control plan for acid rain, with deposition standards adequate to protect sensitive aquatic and terrestrial resources.
4. Intensify efforts to control water pollution and improve water quality of lakes and streams.
5. Acquire additional public shorelands, conserve privately owned shorelands and enforce state standards for shoreland management.

Financing

1. Distribute federal Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars according to the following formula: one-third to federal projects and two-thirds to states, with one-half of state funds to be distributed to local governments. Allocate unused state and local LWCF dollars to states that will provide matching funds.
2. Continue the Land and Water Conservation Fund program. In addition, create a dedicated recreation trust, financed by new sources, to provide a consistent and adequate source of funding in the future.
3. Expand existing state outdoor recreation funding by increasing dedicated revenues.

Acquisition

1. Outdoor recreation capital investment priorities should be acquisition of key lands and preservation of existing facilities.
2. Designate consolidated conservation lands as state wildlife management areas.
3. When surplus lands of a public agency are offered for sale, give other public agencies the right of first refusal for their purchase.
4. Place abandoned railroad rights-of-way in public ownership.
5. Establish uniform requirements for setting aside recreational lands in areas of urban development.

Programs and Facilities

1. Provide a spectrum of choices in programs and facilities to meet the needs brought about by changing family structure, demographics and user trends.
2. Expand capacity for program development and facility use by providing incentives for the public and private sectors to share expertise and resources.
3. Improve access to outdoor recreation by removing physical barriers and providing adequate information and transportation.

Marketing

1. Fund a comprehensive recreation marketing effort by the Department of Natural Resources.
2. Coordinate marketing efforts of local, state and federal agencies with those of the private sector.
3. Provide funds for the marketing of federal outdoor recreation facilities.

Education

1. Broaden the focus of existing environmental education programs to include experiential learning opportunities as well as a conservation ethic.
2. Coordinate environmental education efforts through the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board, and appropriate funding for coordination.

Coordination

1. Establish a statewide Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Council.

After all, when the natural resources
are gone, what will be left? So
please save the nature!

--Jennifer Hasselberger
Shoreview, MN

My favorite thing to do outside is waterski.
I like the feel of the wind rushing against
me as I come out of the water and to just look
at a lake gives me the feeling that here is
one thing in nature that fills a lot of needs,
like for something to drink to relaxing. But
most of all, the best thing is, for fun. It
makes me sad to see lakes that are full of garbage.
I like to see a clean lake that gives you the
feeling of just stopping and jumping in. I would
like to live to be old and also to see those
funfilled things in nature.

--Sara Fillman, Age 13
Bemidji, MN

I like the fresh, clean quietness of being at
Itasca State Park. I find it relaxing to go
for a walk to the river, down a 1/2 mile from
our house. The river is so peaceful and
undisturbed it carries me away. When I am at
the river I soon lose all my problems and cut
out the rest of the world, like my teachers,
homework, parents and sister.

--Teri Gustafson
Beltrami, MN

RESOURCE CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Natural resources provide the base of outdoor recreation in our nation. Continued conservation and wise management of natural resources on both public and private lands will be essential to our ability to maintain quality outdoor recreation opportunities and meet future demands for use. In Minnesota, where water is a focal point of a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities, protection of water resources is of particular importance.

Minnesota has a record of commitment to wise management of outdoor recreation resources. Our statewide recreation system is among the most extensive and innovative in the country; our positions regarding environmental concerns such as air and water quality are among the nation's most stringent.

The need for resource protection was a frequent theme of individuals testifying before the Commission and is an underlying theme of all Commission recommendations. To ensure an adequate base of outdoor opportunities in the future, we must protect the existing base of recreation resources, guarding against environmental threats and unwise resource use.

1. Continue the REINVEST IN MINNESOTA PROGRAM, with maximum funding.

Fish and wildlife resources are a critical component of outdoor recreation in Minnesota. By itself, fishing accounts for 14 percent of all time spent in outdoor recreation in Minnesota. Annual fishing and hunting expenditures in Minnesota are estimated to be \$1 billion. The lands and waters supporting fish and wildlife populations form an important base of opportunity for numerous activities other than fishing and hunting--such as camping, boating, nature observation and a variety of trail uses.

While many users have long benefitted from our fish and wildlife resources, dollars for fish and wildlife management have come primarily from hunters and anglers through license fees and federal excise taxes on sporting goods and equipment. The Reinvest in Minnesota Resources Act of 1986 (RIM), which grew out of recommendations of the Governor's Citizen Commission to Promote Hunting and Fishing in Minnesota, provides additional fish and wildlife funding through bonding authority. It also provides incentives to take marginal agricultural lands out of production and manage them for the benefit of fish and wildlife.

RIM represents an important step toward protecting the integrity of critical natural resources that support numerous outdoor pursuits. The Commission supports the work of the Governor's Citizen Commission to Promote Hunting and Fishing in Minnesota and urges long-term financial commitment to RIM.

2. Continue and strengthen the Federal Conservation Reserve Program, with more stringent requirements for soil and water conservation.

Farm policies that encourage the conversion of noncroplands to croplands and continued cropping of marginal or highly erodible farmland have been detrimental to natural resources, contributing to loss of key wildlife habitat, soil erosion and degradation of water quality in lakes and streams. The national Food Security Act of 1985 addresses these problems through a Federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Swampbuster, Sodbuster and conservation cross compliance provisions.

The Commission endorses continuation of these vitally important long-term conservation provisions and encourages further refinement in CRP to require that highly erodible lands must be enrolled in the CRP to maintain eligibility for commodity set-aside programs. Furthermore, lands retired into the commodity set-aside program must receive conservation treatments that meet wildlife and soil and water conservation goals.

3. Establish a national emission control plan for acid rain, with deposition standards adequate to protect sensitive aquatic and terrestrial resources.

Acid rain poses a serious threat to Minnesota's waters, especially lakes. The problem of acid rain has been the subject of extensive study at both the state and national level. While continuing study will be needed, the Commission urges that efforts to address acid rain move beyond the study phase toward action to reduce its adverse effects. Because emissions contributing to acid rain cross state and international boundaries, a national program is needed.

4. Continue to control water pollution and improve water quality of lakes and streams.

Recent years have brought extensive efforts to clean up the nation's waters and institute pollution control standards to protect from further degradation. High-quality water resources are critical to Minnesota's fisheries and a variety of outdoor recreation pursuits; continued commitment to preserving water quality is key to maintaining quality opportunities in the future.

5. Acquire additional public shorelands, conserve privately owned shorelands and enforce state standards for shoreland management.

Shorelands are among the most valuable recreational property in Minnesota, and the way in which shorelands are used will significantly affect the future quality of surface waters and the availability and quality of water-related recreation opportunities. To maintain quality resources and meet public demands for use, we must retain shorelands in public ownership, acquire shorelands in key locations, and wisely manage

both public and private shorelands. While minimum state standards and criteria have been established for the subdivision, use and development of shorelands, there currently is inconsistency in the extent to which guidelines are enforced.

I know that we spend millions of dollars on state parks and state game refuges, which is really great. But as I see it, we should spend some money on cleaning air pollution. With the recent nuclear reactor accident in Russia melting down there are molecules of nuclear waste going in our lakes and streams and over our woods. And with local cars and their exhaust flaring we are slowly killing our wildlife. So I strongly feel that we Minnesotans should put our money to keep our state beautiful.

-- John Richards
Age 14 1/2
Cass Lake, MN

I wish there was more money given for beer and pop cans. Because by the year 2000 we will have cans up to our armpits! If we put cans and bottles at a nickle a piece we wouldn't have that problem.

--Buddy Guinn, Age 13
Le Sueur, MN

I feel there should be some kind of grant sent to communities like ours that don't have many facilities for outdoor recreation. Many people want public tennis courts, a public swimming pool, and outdoor basketball courts. People have donated, and tried to raise money for these kinds of things. But there is never enough. I hope you understand why I feel as I do.

--Ben Borgen, Age 12
Badger, MN

FINANCING RECOMMENDATIONS

Outdoor recreation is a basic public good of benefit to all members of society, and the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors strongly supports the continuing role of federal and state government in providing opportunities for outdoor recreation.

The availability of future funding for outdoor recreation was a topic of considerable concern among individuals testifying before the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors. People repeatedly stressed that much of the existing facility development in Minnesota has been made possible by the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the matching grant program of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR). They emphasized the need for continued funding to meet demands of the future.

Over the last twenty years, LWCF has provided more than \$55 million for development of recreation facilities throughout Minnesota. These funds have been matched with state and local grants. Recent cutbacks in federal funding and use of LWCF funds for reduction of the national debt threaten the ability to continue financing outdoor recreation at an adequate level and diminish Minnesota's ability to leverage federal dollars.

1. Distribute Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars according to the following formula: one-third to federal projects and two-thirds to states, with one-half of state funds distributed to local governments. Allocate unused state and local LWCF dollars to states that will provide matching funds.

Since 1982, the federal share of LWCF appropriations has been about three-quarters of total appropriations; the states' share (including funds for local projects) has been about one-quarter of the total. Distribution of equal shares to federal, state and local governments would enhance the ability of states to multiply funds through matches at both the state and local level and ensure that LWCF dollars reach local communities. Additionally, this formula would encourage development of local networks of leadership and foster continued local commitment to outdoor recreation.

At present, LWCF dollars that go unused by states are directed to the Secretary of the Interior. Frequently, these funds are directed to the general treasury or made available for federal projects. Allocation of dollars that go unused by a state to other states providing matches would permit acceleration of programs in states with a demonstrated commitment to outdoor recreation.

2. Continue the Land and Water Conservation Fund program. In addition, create a dedicated recreation trust, financed by new revenue sources, to provide a consistent, adequate source of funding in the future.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund, scheduled to end in 1989, has been critical to development of an outdoor recreation system. Our future financing needs will be as vital as those of the past: the LWCF program should be continued.

The idea of establishing a recreation resource endowment is being widely discussed in conjunction with the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors. The Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors endorses the trust fund concept; the endowment would establish a long-term funding reserve to supplement LWCF.

Proceeds of the trust should be dedicated to outdoor recreation and distributed one-third to federal projects and two-thirds to states, with states distributing one-half of their share to local projects. The trust should be funded from new federal revenue sources. It should not draw upon existing dedicated funds such as Pittman-Robertson or Wallop-Breaux.

3. Expand existing state outdoor recreation funding by increasing dedicated revenues.

It is clear that new sources of state funding are needed to protect existing investments and meet future needs. Recent years have seen movement to replace broad-based funding with narrower sources such as user fees and taxes on gasoline used in some recreational vehicles. User fees are an important revenue source and are supported by a wide majority of recreationists; however, they do not finance the total costs of operation and maintenance and not all outdoor recreation financing needs lend themselves to user fees.

The Commission heard a great deal of testimony in favor of user-supported funding of outdoor recreation. This concept has also received considerable support at the national level. A nationwide opinion poll conducted in conjunction with the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors indicates that 78 percent of adults believe outdoor recreation should be paid for by a mix of taxes and user fees. Only 13 percent think everything should be paid by taxes, and only 9 percent think everything should be paid by user fees.

A state surtax on recreation is an attractive new funding option. It could be easily absorbed by equipment purchasers. It would boost broad-based funding for outdoor recreation in Minnesota. There is precedent for such a tax: national taxes on hunting and fishing equipment have provided \$52 million since 1960 for acquisition and management of fish and wildlife resources in Minnesota.

An increase in the state cigarette tax and a broadening of that tax to include all tobacco products is another potential source of new funding that merits consideration.

The Commission has recommended further study of a recreation equipment surtax and increased cigarette tax to the Governor's tax study group, which is considering options for state tax reform.

When I am grown up, I would like
you to please keep all the swings,
parks and lots available for my
children. Please don't put
buildings in all the empty spots.

--Amy Marie Marr, Age 10
Bloomington, MN

In the year 2000 probably there will be
no walking, hiking and swimming in lakes.
People will be riding three-wheelers and
staying inside watching T.V. Keep the
property where the campgrounds, trails
and other natural resources are.

--Jennifer Sundberg, Age 10
Kennedy, MN

Have more state wildlife refuges, to
increase animals for hunting. Or buy
wetlands, too many are getting disturbed
or wrecked. Most animals need wetlands.
For fishing, have spawning process done by
people, so more fish live. For cycling,
leave ditches for public use.

--Greg Staffer
Marine, MN

ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS

Availability of recreational lands and facilities is the single most important factor influencing ability to meet existing and future outdoor needs. An adequate land base will afford the flexibility needed to meet existing and changing user demands (none of which can be predicted with certainty) and make possible the mix of development required to offer diversity in opportunity.

Providing an adequate base of opportunities requires attention to both our existing recreation system and future system needs: we must retain existing recreational lands for purposes of outdoor recreation and acquire additional parcels in key locations.

Hearing testimony highlighted the need to provide outdoor opportunities in developing areas, near people's homes, near urban and rural population centers and in areas that serve large recreational markets (particularly southern Minnesota). Other key areas for acquisition and development include: shorelands, unique and outstanding recreational resources, private inholdings in public recreation areas, high-use areas and wildlife habitat.

1. Outdoor recreation capital investment priorities should be acquisition of key lands and preservation of existing facilities.

To meet future outdoor needs, we must both preserve our existing base of outdoor opportunities and provide additional opportunities in areas where they are needed. To protect existing investments, preservation of already-developed facilities should take precedence over development of facilities on newly-acquired land. At the same time, new recreational lands must be acquired in key areas (many of which are identified above).

2. Designate consolidated conservation lands as state wildlife management areas.

Consolidated conservation lands are tax-forfeited lands placed in state ownership, primarily in the 1920s and 1930s. These lands provide valuable wildlife habitat and public hunting areas, but their future availability is threatened by pressures to return them to private use.

3. When surplus lands of a public agency are offered for sale, give other public agencies the right of first refusal for their purchase.

At present, public lands, many of which are of value for outdoor recreation, are offered for sale to the highest bidder. Giving other public agencies the right of first refusal would provide a mechanism for retaining recreation lands in public ownership.

4. Place abandoned railroad rights-of-way in public ownership.

A number of user groups gave testimony on the need for long-distance corridors for hiking, skiing, snowmobiling, horseback riding and other trail activities. In some cases, acquisition of railroad rights-of-way would provide for these uses and enhance the existing trail system network.

5. Establish uniform requirements for setting aside recreational lands in areas of urban development.

Requirements and mechanisms for setting aside recreation lands in developing areas vary greatly across the state. Some communities have construction or development fees or requirements to set aside open space; others make no provision for open space. Uniform requirements would help ensure sufficient lands are set aside in population growth centers.

My friend and I have come up with a few ideas for public parks in the future. Have check points along bike trails every once in a while that have food and bathrooms--with information on what you will be seeing on the next part of the trail. We should have more water fountains on the trails. We should get horse trails which go through the woods or an open area. Public bussing would also be a great asset. Another idea is for the parks to have day care centers that are a real learning experience for the children as well as a relaxing time for the parents.

--Nancy Shepherd and Meredith Rooze
Edina, MN

In 15 years Minnesota's lifestyle with the outdoors will not change very much. It will be very technologized. I think people will be living more active lifestyles. People will be in Physical Fitness. The people in the country will be jogging and city people will want to get back into the country and discover nature. The campgrounds will be very modernized. There will be very plush campers that you could live in for months. The trails for riding bikes and for jogging will be all over the state and will be paved.

--Eric Graflaas
Convick, MN

In the year 2000 our trails will have new steps going up and down on a hill. The campgrounds will have things that look like lightswitches and you can flip on if you want a fire and off when you want the fire to shut off. Being outdoors is important to me and I think that it will stay that way.

--Matthew Nelson, Age 11
Kennedy, MN

PROGRAM AND FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Many testifying before the Commission emphasized that while Minnesota has a solid base of outdoor recreation resources, more could be done to enhance the availability of outdoor opportunities by developing facilities and programs tailored to the interests and needs of various user groups.

Numerous trends are creating demands for innovative facilities and programs. Greater interest in health and fitness has brought demand for physically challenging opportunities. More affordable and comfortable means of transportation enable us to travel farther for recreation. The rise in dual-income households with more restricted leisure time is creating demand for more frequent, shorter vacations. The number of special-interest user groups is growing, and more people are seeking a wider range of services and facilities. There are more single parents, the majority of whom are women, who often have little time for recreation and who may lack outdoor experience. A larger percentage of our population is comprised of senior citizens, who have traditionally displayed different activity preferences than a younger population.

The quality and availability of recreation in the future will be significantly influenced by response to these trends. We must provide opportunities for a wide range of user groups and develop programs that ensure all Minnesotans have access to outdoor recreation.

1. Provide a spectrum of choices in programs and facilities to meet the needs brought about by changing family structure, demographics and user trends.

Innovation in programming and facility development is needed to answer the needs of diverse user groups and provide the range of opportunities recreationists are demanding. For example, there are an increasing diversity of groups interested in specialized uses, such as all-terrain vehicle use and challenging, long-distance trips. Packaged activities appeal to those who seek frequent, short vacations and who lack knowledge of available opportunities or time to plan trips.

Different levels of facility development are needed to serve different user groups. For example, highly developed campgrounds with services such as babysitting may appeal to families with small children. Other may prefer wilderness settings. Programs that teach outdoor skills are needed for those who lack outdoor experience. Other programs are needed to satisfy people's interest in learning about the history and natural environment of the area they visit.

2. Expand capacity for outdoor recreation program development and facility use by providing incentives for the public and private sectors to share expertise and resources.

Partnerships enable private facility operators to take advantage of public recreation resources; in like manner, they enable public providers to draw upon resources more readily available through the

private sector. Such innovation in programming is beginning to occur in Minnesota--with great success. For example, the U.S. Forest Service has helped establish a naturalist program for resorts along the North Shore, helping train naturalists who work at resorts in return for room and board.

Public agencies, resorts and user groups have also cooperated in development and maintenance of trails throughout the state. Numerous user groups testifying before the Commission voiced willingness to contribute to development of programs and facilities. The Commission strongly recommends incentives to encourage public-private joint ventures and urges that public recreation programs be designed to foster private-sector involvement.

3. Improve access to outdoor recreation by removing physical barriers and providing adequate information and transportation.

Many existing recreational resources are not accessible to segments of the public because of lack of transportation, on-site physical access or appropriate information. For example, individuals with physical handicaps may be denied access not only by physical barriers, but also because of lack of sufficient information on what is available at a particular facility. Lack of public transportation to recreation facilities limits opportunities for individuals who have no personal means of transportation.

One thing I think we can do would be
to advertise our recreation facilities
like state parks and camp grounds.
Then we can promote the things you
can do such as fishing, hunting, boating
or just plain relax.

--Chris Pearson
Eagan, MN

I am very interested in horses. But
the problem is, I don't have one. And
I can't find any place that rents
out horses. My question is, do you
know of anybody that rents horses in
Bemidji--if not, is there any way you
can get a place set up that does?

--Jody (horse lover) Whittington
Bemidji, MN

MARKETING RECOMMENDATIONS

Marketing is an increasingly important function of both public and private outdoor recreation providers. Effective marketing enables public land managers and private operators to develop facilities and programs in response to public needs, to furnish information on available opportunities, and to direct recreationists to sites that offer the facilities they desire.

Many people testifying before the Commission voiced support for Office of Tourism budget increases in the last two years and spoke to the need for increased outdoor recreation marketing by other public agencies and the private sector. We urge support for increased marketing--both as a means to let people know about available opportunities and to make the best use of our recreational resources.

1. Fund a comprehensive recreation marketing effort by the Department of Natural Resources.

The Department of Natural Resources is one of the largest providers of outdoor recreation in Minnesota. As such, it is faced with demands for outdoor recreation from an increasing number and diversity of users. However, the agency lacks sufficient resources to undertake an effective marketing effort.

Expanded, more aggressive marketing would enhance DNR's ability to pinpoint recreation needs, develop programs and facilities to meet the needs of particular user groups, and inform users of opportunities. It would also lead to more effective management of recreational resources: not only would DNR be better able to meet public needs, it would also be better able to protect recreational resources (for example, by redistributing use from heavily used to underused facilities).

DNR needs substantial funding for comprehensive marketing, which will require research, program development and information dissemination. A portion of this funding should be directed to joint marketing-strategies with other public and private sector providers.

2. Coordinate marketing efforts of local, state and federal agencies with those of the private sector.

Numerous public agencies, resorts and other private-sector providers are individually marketing outdoor recreation. People seeking outdoor opportunities care little, if at all, about whether they recreate at a public or private facility--they simply seek a place that will accommodate their interests.

Coordinated public-private marketing will result in better planning and development of recreation facilities, more comprehensive information on opportunities, and improved ability to attract recreationists. Representatives of federal and state agencies and tourism groups testified on the need for joint marketing and cited cases where joint strategies have benefited all parties involved. Such undertakings should receive increased support in the future.

3. Provide funds for the marketing of federal outdoor recreation facilities.

Aggressive marketing of all federal recreation facilities is needed to inform the American public about outdoor opportunities and redistribute use from heavily used to underused facilities. To achieve the best use of recreational resources nationally, regionally, statewide and locally, it is also imperative that federal marketing is carried out in cooperation with other public and private providers.

We can't make new land so I think we should plan and think before we act. I think we could start this awareness with children. We could have clubs that would make the children directly involved in conservation. They could do fun things relating to national conservation.

--Carie LaRock, Age 14
Bloomington, MN

My favorite outdoor activity is horseback riding because, as I ride, I learn about the landscape and about my ancestors from my father, who rides with me. My feelings toward this sport are very intense because I seem to be brought back in time--the time of my grandfather's life in the early twentieth century. To me these times are magical, and to preserve them, we must teach future generations to appreciate both nature and their elders who used nature properly. A very effective way to do this would be to make classic outdoor activities available to the youth.

--Sara Wilander, Age 12
Becida, MN

EDUCATION

Environmental education is key to building a conservation ethic. It creates awareness of the importance of natural resources, knowledge of resource management and understanding of resource issues. A wealth of environmental education programs have been established in Minnesota through resource management agencies, the public schools and private organizations. However, the effectiveness of these programs is diminished by inconsistent funding--which in turn affects ability to coordinate efforts. Many people testified on the importance of environmental education and the need to expand programs to provide better learning opportunities.

1. Broaden the focus of existing education programs to include experiential learning opportunities as well as a conservation ethic.

Along with building understanding of conservation principles, education programs should use the outdoors as a learning environment for teaching such life skills as leadership, decision-making, problem-solving, communication, cooperation and responsibility.

Additionally, programs should provide opportunities to learn hunting, fishing, camping and other outdoor skills that will enhance a person's enjoyment of the outdoors throughout life. Such programs are particularly needed by people who do not have access to or knowledge of the outdoors, such as single parents and their children. Many single parents have little time to pursue outdoor interests; furthermore, the majority of single parents are women who may have little outdoor experience to pass on to their children.

2. Coordinate environmental education efforts through the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board, and appropriate funding for coordination.

Coordination will reduce duplication of programs and permit sharing of knowledge and resources, enhancing the overall effectiveness of environmental education statewide. There is considerable support for coordination among agencies and organizations involved in education. Responsibility for coordination should rest with the Environmental Quality Board, which currently is working with other groups to develop statewide programs. To achieve long-term effectiveness, coordination must be adequately funded on an ongoing basis.

For this state to become a better one we should all participate in these ideas. With enough participation and cooperation, we all could have a better world to live in.

--Toni VanKampen
St. Paul, MN

Minnesota has lots of things to offer and be glad about what things we do have. I feel it is being kept up as good as possible and if there is anything that needs to be changed we could work together as one big team and get it worked out one way or another.

--Melissa Benbo
Fertile, MN

COORDINATION

Better coordination among outdoor recreation providers is needed to foster a common state perspective on our outdoor recreation system. Coordination would further efforts to provide an appropriate mix of outdoor opportunities in Minnesota and make the best use of recreation resources.

Numerous public agencies are involved in the planning, development and marketing of outdoor recreation; all would benefit from the increased sharing of information and expertise brought about by coordination. The private sector would also benefit from increased knowledge of public recreation resources. Many opportunities exist in Minnesota to form recreation-related businesses (such as canoe rentals), but people need to be encouraged to take advantage of public resources.

1. Establish a statewide Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Council.

A statewide council is needed to coordinate ongoing activities of outdoor recreation providers. The council should be a small group, appointed by the governor, consisting of private sector representatives and the heads of federal, state, regional and local agencies involved in outdoor recreation. To be effective, it will require a small administrative staff.

In addition to coordinating flow of information among agencies, the council could encourage private-sector involvement in outdoor recreation--for example, through business development and participation in volunteer programs.

APPENDIX A

What Minnesota Youth Say About
the Future of Outdoor Recreation

LT. GOVERNORS OFFICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

MAY 2 1986

File

Gullup 5/2/86

April 29, 1986

Marlene Johnson
122 State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms Johnson,

I really enjoy alot of sports, volleyball, tennis, bike riding, swimming, hiking, and skiing.

I think in the year 2000 volleyball courts will be paved and the nets will be like they are now. There will be robots for coaches. I think there will be courts in everybodys yard.

Tennis will be played with different rules. The courts will be able to catch the balls, if you push a button.

I think bike riding will only be allowed at certain times of the day. There will be just trails that you will go on. Only bikes. I think you will only be allowed certain things.

Swimming will be all outdoors. I think there will be 7 out of 10 swimming pools in peoples yards. They will be made out of something very soft. If you want a lawn,

medium, or high diving board you will just have to push one of the - red buttons.

I think there will be certain times, to some or trails to go hiking on. The days will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday. Also certain hours. I think you will have to pay to go hiking, depending on the hours. The mountains will not be real ones. The real ones will be only for professional people.

Skating, I think will be still all out there. There will be motorized skis so you will not have to use poles. All you will have to do is push a button and you can push slow, medium, or fast. If you fear a big kangaroo will surround you so you will not hurt yourself.

Sincerely,
Tom Swann

APR 21 1986

Outdoors - Now and in the Future

File

In this day and year, I enjoy riding my bike - I hope soon to be a BMX rider. I also enjoy sports such as football & hockey. A couple more I like are ice & roller skating. I like also camping.

I would like to do most of the same things except camping might not be my favorite. But, of course, the year 2000 is a few years away yet. If you catch my drift, my feelings may change before the year 2000. But bike riding, ice & roller skating, football, & hockey I think I will still enjoy. And we never know, but, at the year 2000 we may live on the moon.

Campgrounds could have sewage treatment plants. We could pump water from the ground, use it as we need it - showers, toilets, & sinks, or just for drinking. Anyway, the water we use could be piped to a nearby sewage treatment plant, cleaned out, and dumped back into lakes & rivers to be used again. Ice skating may be done with normal skates, but the ice could be substituted with a revolutionary plastic so that we may ice skate year-round.

I feel that being outdoors is very important to

everybody because with the cities now, people are polluting our environment, and not even know it because they are locked away in these cities. And it should be important in the future because people are taking for granted our plant life which provides our oxygen. Without our plants us the animal life and the plants themselves would all be gone because our waste product - carbon dioxide is vital to them, and without them we would not have oxygen.

Mike Chase

Rt. 2 Box 85 Park Rapids, MN. 56470

5th grade

11½ years old

Mr. Prenevost

732-3333

221 Regency Rd.
Le Sueur, MN 56058
March 25, 1986

Marlene Johnson
State of Minnesota
Office of Lieutenant Governor
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. Johnson:

My name is Jennifer Miller.
I am a thirteen year old seventh grader at
Le Sueur High School. My family and I
often spend sunny, summer, Sundays
picnicing or fishing. This time is very family-
oriented. It gives us time to get away from
telephones and televisions, and experience wildlife.
Many memories have been made on those
Sundays.

In the future as our nation
becomes more computerized, I believe family
time will be important for good mental
health. In the year 2000 time for
my family will include such activities
as fishing, walking through nature

parks, strolling through the woods picking more mushrooms and maybe even picnicing. I believe every person needs some wildlife.

One of my close friends lives in a town that has a nature trail. Whenever I visit that friend I really, really enjoy walking along that nature trail. Seeing the wild ducks fly is a thrill for me. In the future I would enjoy walking through more nature trails.

Wildlife and outdoors play an important role in my life now and hopefully in the future

Sincerely,
Jenny Miller
Jenny Miller

APRIL 11, 1986

MRS. Marlene Johnson
State Capitol
St. Paul, MN.

GOVERNORS OFFICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

APR 16 1986

File

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

First, I want to thank you for offering this opportunity for Minnesotans, students and adults alike, to express their wants and views for the future. I feel that all projects like this one increase public awareness and participation in government. This participation can only help our state.

I'm sure you've already received hundreds of letters on the usual tourist type attraction. This is why I've chosen to write about the roads these travelers traverse on all around Minnesota.

Some tourists from other states seem to think that Minnesota has ^{some} very ugly, drab and boring country scenes. I think a good way to remedy this problem would be to try and beautify our state's road sides as much as possible.

This could be accomplished by planting trees and flowers along the roads, in or near the ditches. In a few years, the trees would grow to provide a noise screen, shade, shelter for birds and would cleanse the atmosphere of harmful exhaust gases while providing a renewable natural resource. I would especially like to see the North Shore Drive kept up. This was once a major tourist attraction and I think it could still be one.

Minnesota is a great and beautiful state that is attractive to people all over the U.S. So, we should try to keep up all of our roads, parks and cities to preserve our state's pure image.

Sincerely,

J. Andrew Vaseuden

J. ANDREW VASENDEN
P.O. BOX 337
Fertile, MN 56540

Dear Marlene Johnson -

April 4, 1986

APR 14 1986 There are many things I like to do outdoors. Most

file of them are sports and physical activities. In the fall, I play on the JV tennis team for Edina High School. When I'm outside in the winter, I'll usually be gliding down the slopes or going sledding. In the spring, I like to play golf and run. Summer-time is as busy as ever! Just about all the things I do are outside. I like to go to tennis, basketball, and church camps. I play a lot of golf and I love waterskiing also. Of course there's always laying out in the sun to achieve the "perfect tan."

In the year 2000, many activities will probably have drastic changes. For instance, if you go fishing in fifteen years someone will probably have invented a rod with a little radar screen attached to it. It will tell how far down the line is and where the fish are in relation to it. Maybe they will have ~~year-round~~ year-round parks. What I mean is it would be really neat if they invented "domed" parks. It would be a big advantage for everyone, but especially those who live in cold climates. They would be able to use it all the time. It would have running tracks, basketball courts, a baseball field and a playground for the kids.

Being outdoors in the future will be a big priority in almost everyone's lives. The reason being people will realize they need exercise for a good, strong and healthy body. They will enjoy being outside and take advantage of the beauty of nature. The people who do this will have a big advantage over the others. I'm glad I take advantage of all the beautiful things God gives to us.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Lester Age 15

5850 Creek Valley Rd.

Edina, MN, 55435

941-2395

P.S. I am a Junior Naturalist at the Richardson Nature Center. Don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any help in your reassessment of outdoor recreation needs.

10351 Virginia Rd.
Bloomington, Mn.
April 24, 1986 55438

Marlene Johnson
Lieutenant Governor
State of Minnesota
St. Paul, 55155

LT. GOVERNOR OFFICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

APR 29 1986

File

Dear Marlene,

The outdoors is special to me. I love being outside, I like to ski, swim, ride bikes, play tennis, ice skate and all sports, almost everything.

In the year 2000 parks should be huge with every outdoor activity available there. Jungle jims should have a gigantic motor sponge under them for safety and fun. If children fell off they would spring back up. Set up a music system so everyone could listen to music. Have a small lake where people could canoe or waterski. Have a special area where they had an enormous raft on the

water for sun tanning.

Some other ideas are telephones in parks for emergencies and so people can notify parents when they're coming home. Another idea is a big white board where people could draw or write or (pictures) so park owners wouldn't have to worry about graffiti. It would be neat to have hammocks on some trees so people could take a nap comfortably. Maybe it would be good to have something that provides shade for people. Also more picnic benches and grills. Outdoors is important to me and I hope everyone else feels the same.

Sincerely yours
Shannon Peter

As part of our letter writing activities, we will answer this letter and send them in as a class. Please use this form and return April 11th. Thanks. It is important for the children to know their voice is important in Minnesota's affairs!

LT: GOVERNORS OFFICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

APR 16 1986

Mrs. Newstrom's First Grade Class, Hale School
1220 E. 54th St, Mpls 554

File:

My name is Nen Redman

My address is 4936 Harriet Av. S., Mpls 55409

I am 7 years old.

Dear Lieutenant Governor, Marlene Johnson

Outdoor's is a very important part of my

life. Now I like to fish and go on Nature

hikes, watching wildlife and growing things

I want Nature places with lakes and creeks

In 2000 I hope to be studying how to dig

for fossils and dinosaurs. The outdoors will

be important to my work.

When I'm 21, I will still want to learn from the animals and plants. Everyone should get away from the city sometimes.

April 16, 1936

Dear Ms Johnson,

I'm 8 years old and here's what I like: to go swimming in my front yard I like to go to Lake Ossawinnamakee and fish and go boating. I really like to go talking on the streets.

In the year 2000 I will probably be graduating. I would like to go campin

grand have the tents right there.

The real neat thing that my kids would like to have is steam steam shovels and lit the stuff like that at the parks and to go to tennis courts and have balls and rackets already there.

I'd like to have someplace where anybody can plant things. I'd like a park near my house. The last thing

11

would be to have apple orchards in
your front yard!

Sincerely,

Kelly Stursa

IN GOVERNORS OFFICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

APR 9 1986

The bicycle roadway is awesome. It has ~~reduced~~ the rate of heart disease by 50% in Minnesota alone. The bicycle roadway is a huge amount of pavement over all the city to bike on.

Camping is beautiful here. We were surprised to find we had passed a bill giving a good selection of campgrounds. You have a choice of wooded or scrubby or neither. The terrific thing about this is they're all for the same price.

Camping will always be important to me ever since I was a young man and my father took on my first canoe trip those 15 yrs. ago. I can believe in those things so dear to me were left away and I moved with comics, ten dollars, a fast food joint & I don't think I would need more to live in this country.

672 Ballantyn
Spring Lk Pk, N
55432

Dear Lt. Governor,

I like backpacking, hiking, bicycling, swimming, and jogging. When I grow up, I'll probably like the same things.

In the year 2000, I hope that the so-called "conveniences" of our modern age don't ruin the outdoors. I think we are stretching toward "perfectness" thereby destroying our wild life & wilderness.

The outdoors is important to me because sometimes I need a place to myself. To get away from radios & T.V.s, books & newspapers. So I go to the forests.
(over)

the steans. And that's why
the outdoors is important to
me.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Stearns

APPENDIX B

Individuals and Organizations Who Testified
Before the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors

ROSTER OF HEARING PARTICIPANTS
Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors

Duluth, Minnesota; February 4, 1986

Jim McCord, City of Duluth

Bill Majewski, City of Duluth

Tom Swenson, City of Grand Marais

Robert Anderson, Mayor, City of International Falls

Michael Hendricks, City of Grand Rapids

Ron Luoma, McGregor Public Schools

H.D. Odden, Park Department, Itasca County

Mike Naylor, Deep Portage Conservation Reserve

Tom Wood, University of Minnesota, Duluth
Director, Tourism, Management & Development

Dr. Larry Simonsen, University of Minnesota Extension Service
Extension Specialist, Tourist Services

Dave Tuttle, Owner, Bearskin Lodge

Louise Leoni, Ely Area Development Council

Don Kottke, Minnesota Association of Campground Operators

Joe Egge, Minnesota Heartland, Inc.

Mary Mudra, Grand Rapids Chamber Resorts Committee

Tony Anderson, National Park Service
Grand Portage National Monument

Dave Tucci, Acting Recreation Staff Officer
U.S. Forest Service

Charles G. (Chuck) Anderson, Retired
U.S. Forest Service Recreation and Wilderness Staff

Mayon Wait, Carlton County Sportsmen Club

Christopher James, Lake Superior Steelhead Association

John M. Ek, Vice President, Lake Superior Steelhead Association

Robert Belluzzo, President, Chisholm Sportsman's Club

Ann Schimpf, Duluth Audobon Society

Arild D. Frederiksen, Banning Park Advisory Board

Dan Smestad, Department of Veterans Affairs

A. J. Schweiger, Nemadji Sportsboosters

Loren LeSavage, 4 X 4 Cowboys

John Chell, Regional Administrator, Region II
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Dorothy Pramann, Duluth Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Kurt Soderberg, Duluth Ski Touring Cross Country Club

Axel Johnson, Western Lake Superior Trolling Association

Mankato, Minnesota; February 11, 1986

Floyd D. Roberts Jr., Parks and Forestry Superintendent
City of Mankato

Dianne D. McPherson, City of North Mankato

Leo G. Rudolph, Director, Parks and Recreation
City of Owatonna

Joseph Fleischman, Convention & Visitors Bureau, Winona, MN

Craig Shirk, Region 9 Development Commission

Roger Lenzmeier, Hiawatha Valley Resource, Conservation and Development

Jim Miller, Chairman, Cottonwood County Commissioners

Willard Krietlow, Chairman, Wright County Park Advisory Board

James Foote, Director, Olmsted County Parks and Recreation

James Jack, Mankato State University

Dr. Jasper Hunt, Assistant Professor
Department of Experiential Education

Lloyd Vollmer, Key Cities Conservation Club

J. Mauritz Nelson, President, Sibley State Park Improvement Association

Judy Ibberson, Minnesota Trail Riders Association

Frank Star, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Bill Morrissey, Administrator, Region V
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Jim Schneider, Administrator, Region IV
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Ron Warman, Minnesota Go-4 Wheeler

Darrell Apelgrain, Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Board

Moorhead, Minnesota; April 8, 1986

Bob Greeley, City of Breckenridge

Bob Klinge, City of Benson

Paul Sanford, President, Grant County Sportsmen's Association

Moorhead Middle School, 8th Grade Students

Jason Babler
Jennifer Behan
Andrea Berninger
Andrew Byrnes
Mariya Erickson
Nicole Hanson
Nathan-Hastad
Chris Heimarck
Kim Nokleberg
Chris Wanner

Dale Harthan, U.S. Forest Service/Chippewa National Forest

Russ Berry, National Park Service
Superintendent, Voyageurs National Park

Robert Hance, Administrator, Region II
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Marilyn Wesloh, Administrator, Region I
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Nancy Harger, Regional Science Center, Moorhead State University

Pam Landers, Minnesota Environmental Education Board

Jim Ellingson, Elementary Teacher

John A. Adams, President, Cormorant Lakes Sportsman Club
Director, Big Cormorant Lakes Association

Albert Fisher, Frazee, MN

Carl Madsen, The Wildlife Society, Minnesota Chapter

Bob Ross, Bemidji Ski Touring Club

Chris Bredlow, North Country Trail Association

Earl Brown Center, St. Paul; April 16, 1986

Timothy B. Knopp, Professor, College of Forestry
University of Minnesota

Ellen M. Lawler, St. Paul Audubon Society

Kevin Proescholdt, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

Bob Nethercut, Metropolitan Parks and Open Space

Gary Mattson, Public Works Director, City of Buffalo

Lansin Hamilton, Crow Wing County Land Commissioner

Robert L. Schwaderer, Long Lake Conservation Center

Bill Chiat, Division of Parks & Recreation
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Kurt Strom, Community Program Specialist
Minnesota State Council for the Handicapped

Rollis Bishop, Itasca State Park Advisory Board

Richard Nelson, Mayor, City of Preston

Dale Maul, Commissioner of Development Assistance
City of Faribault

Jim Sutton and Arnold Steinberg, Southside Services Center

Elizabeth Fetter, Wilderness Inquiry II

Steve Earley, Minnesota Society of American Foresters

Lawrence C. Merriam, Professor, College of Forestry
University of Minnesota

Tom Dwight, Minnesota Council of Parks

Al Brodie, Minnesota Association of Campground Operators
Minnesota Motel Association

Gary Noren, Ski Minnesota

Terry Hendrikson, Minnesota Trailriders Association

David Jones, Minnesota 4 Wheel Drive Association

Roy H. Shumway, Western Saddle Club Association
Minnesota Trail Rider Association

Judith Neimi, Woodswomen

Bill Holden, Minneapolis, MN

Peggy Lynch, Friends of St. Paul and Ramsey County Parks

Bloomington, Minnesota; April 23, 1986

Jon Gurban, City of Apple Valley

Greg Konat, City of Burnsville

Ken Vraa, City of Eagan

Ed Martin, Friends of the Minnesota Valley

Dr. Garry Peterson, Chair, State Bicycle Advisory Board

Ken Buckeye, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Marsha Berry, Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI)

Steven P. Johnson, Minnesota/Wisconsin Boundary Area Commission
Lorraine Hostetler, Mayor, City of Anoka
Tom Fischer, Park Board Chairman, City of Anoka
Jim Fitzpatrick, Carpenter Nature Center
Marcia Teal, Woodswomen
Cindy Pudewell, City of Bloomington
Eric Blank, City of Plymouth
Charles K. Smith, President, Minnesota Recreation & Park Association
Bill Bryson, President, Minnesota Council of Parks
Senator Eugene Waldorf, Vice Chair, River Parkway Commission of MN
Barbara Koth, Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
Tom Worthington, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kathleen Wallace, Administrator, Region VI
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Harriet Mason, President, MN Native Plant Society
Donald E. Anderson, Owner, DunRomin Park
Jack Pichotta, Director, Environmental Learning Center
Gordon Mikkelsen, Deep Portage Conservation Reserve
Bobbie Gallup, Visitor Services Coordinator, Division of Parks
and Recreation, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Al Farnes, MN Conservation Federation
Dan Steward, Water Resources Board
Cheryl Homburg, MN Special Olympics
Linda Johnson, Camalia Rose Group Home and Delmar's Childrens Home
Carol Klitzke & Tim Zbikowski, Northern Lights Running Club,
Minnesota Distance Running Association
Albert Gustaveson, Minnesota Canoe Association
John Holmquist, President, North Star Ski Club

Virginia Black, Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis

Michael Sullivan, MN 4 Wheel Drive Association

Dale F. Peters, Minnesota Valley ATV

Terry Purcell, Orchard Rangers Saddle Club

Mary Violet, MN United Snowmobilers Association

Herb Schulte, Minnesota Waterski Association

Joan Berquist, Bloomington, MN

Judith Anderson, Hennepin Parks

Barb Soukup, MN Horse Council

St. Paul; May 6, 1986

Roger Holmes, Chief, Division of Wildlife,
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Raymond Hitchcock, Director, Division of Forestry
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Wayland Porter, Park Systems Manager
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Paul Swenson, Director, Trails and Waterways Unit
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Larry Shannon, Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

APPENDIX C

Members, Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors

MARLENE JOHNSON, Lieutenant Governor, State of Minnesota
Chair, Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors

Coordinates state tourism program and chairs Minnesota Tourism Advisory Council. Board of Directors Minnesota Outward Bound. Led negotiations on Minnesota-Ontario border fishing and hunting regulations. Ms. Johnson has been Minnesota's Lieutenant Governor since January 1983.

BEVERLY ANDERSON

Minnesota Distance Running Association, Northern Lights Running Club, American Youth Hostel, American Lung Association of Hennepin County, Twin Cities Marathon, Bat Conservation International. Ms. Anderson is a biomedical researcher at 3-M.

ROBERT DUNN

Former member, Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives. Served on the Natural Resources Committee of the house and senate and the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. Chairman, Waste Management Board. Minnesota Historical Society. Mr. Dunn is a retail lumber dealer.

MARY KENNY

Association manager, Minnesota Council of Parks. Member, Bloomington Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Upper Minnetonka Yacht Club, Friends of the Minnesota River Valley, Minnesota Recreation and Parks Foundation, Minnesota Council of Parks, Minnesota Parks Foundation, Metropolitan Parks Foundation, National Parks and Conservation Association, Voyageurs National Park Association.

WILLIAM KIRCHNER

Former member, Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives. Served on the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources and the Finance, Appropriations, Urban Affairs and Government Operations committees, among others. Director and past president, Voyageurs National Park Association. Treasurer, State Park Association. Director, Minnesota Environmental Services Association. Member, Minnesota Valley Trail Association, Nature Conservancy, Isaak Walton League. Active with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and numerous other community groups. Mr. Kirchner is chair of Richfield Bank & Trust Company.

WAYNE OLSON

Former Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Member, Minnesota Council of Parks, Voyageurs National Park Association, Citizens League. Mr. Olson is an attorney in Minneapolis.

ROD SEARLE

Former Speaker, Minnesota House of Representatives. Served on the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resource and was vice chair of the Commission from 1979-1980. Minnesota Tree Farmer of the Year, 1978. Minnesota Farmer-Sportsman, 1963 and 1965. Waseca Farmer-Sportsman, 1960, 1961 and 1962.