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RECOMMIT TO RECREATION

A Report on Minnesota's Future Outdoor Recreation Needs

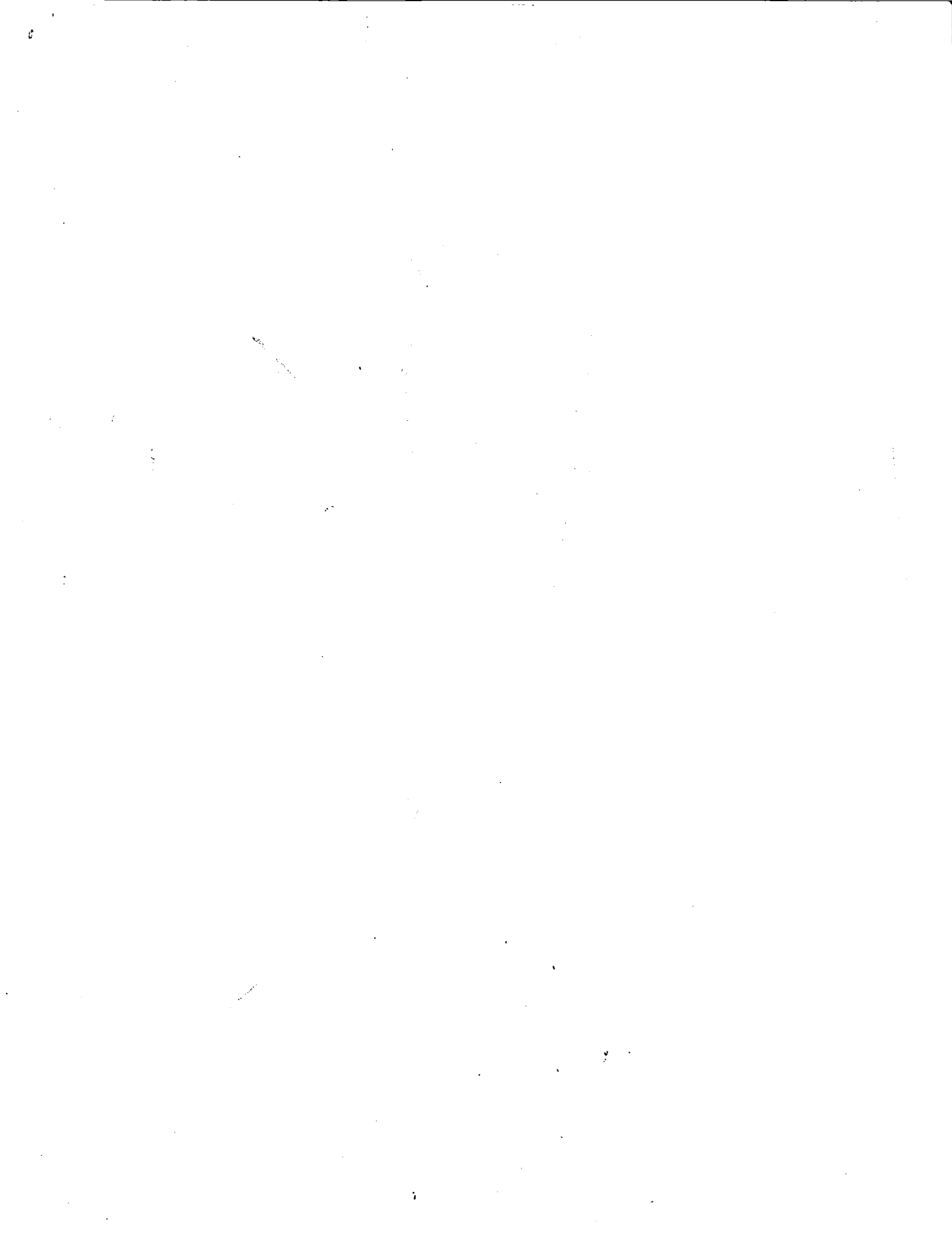
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**Summary Findings and Recommendations
of the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors**



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

1

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

—David Broman
Age 13
Fridley, Minn.

CREDITS

Funding for the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors was provided by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Department of Energy and Economic Development and the State Planning Agency.

Funds for printing this report were furnished by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. Printed at state printing facilities.

Photos courtesy of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Hennepin Parks and Minnesota Office of Tourism. Page v by Paul Stafford.

Cover Art by Nicole Carpenter, age 8.

For further information on the Commission or for copies of the report, please contact the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Room 122, State Capitol, Aurora Ave., St. Paul, MN 55155, (612) 296-2374.

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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 enough quality outdoor opportunities 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, which 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

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
Gonvick Trail School
Gonvick, MN

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.

From February to May 1986, the seven-member Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors 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.



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.

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

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.

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.

—Sara Wilander,
Age 12
Becida, MN

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.

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 governments 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 (LCMR). To date, LCMR has invested well over \$100 million 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 1963, the federal government and State of Minnesota have provided \$245 million in funding for state recreation projects and \$222 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 (\$245 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 (\$222 million)

Metropolitan parks and open space bonding: \$108 million

LCMR grants to local governments: \$63 million

Federal grants: \$51 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.

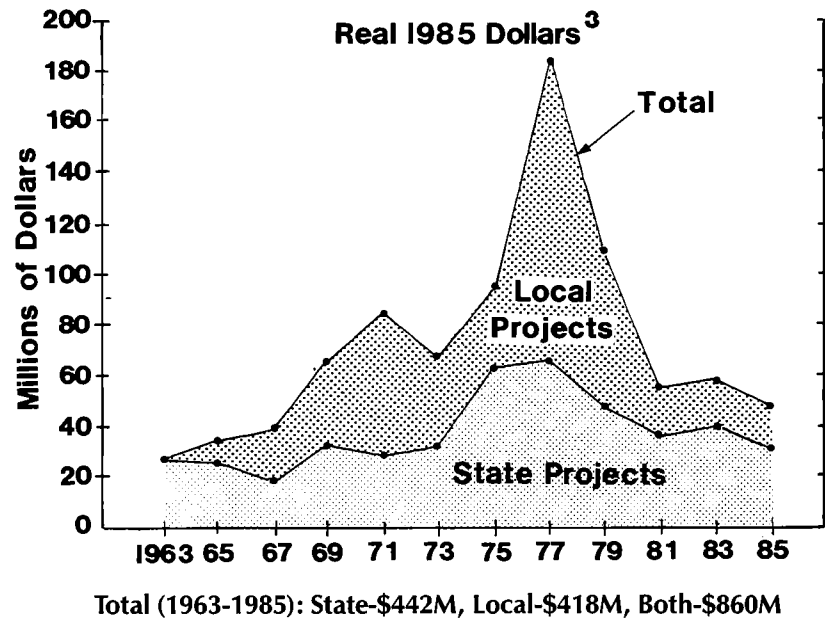
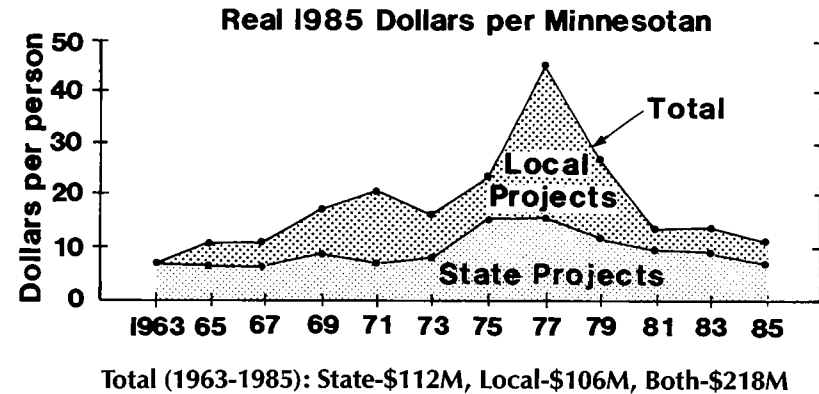
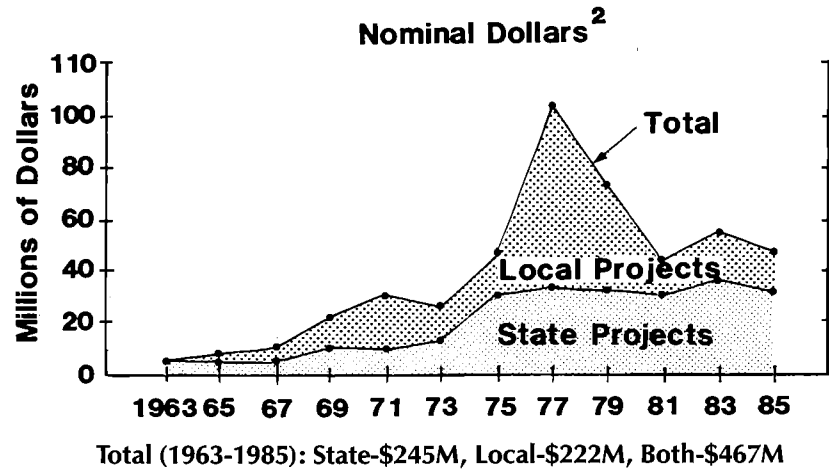
In Minnesota, there has been a similar decline in all major sources of federal and state funding, including LWCF. Funding increased substantially in the 1960s and early 1970s, but began to decline in the late 1970s. Present funding levels, when measured in real dollars, are equivalent to those of the late 1960s.

Figure 1 shows the history of state and federal investment in acquisition and development of local and state outdoor recreation facilities in Minnesota since 1963, in terms of both nominal and real dollars. It also shows percapita investment in recreation facilities.

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

Figure 1
Federal and State Funding for Acquisition and Development of
State and Local Outdoor Recreation Facilities in Minnesota (1963-1985)¹



1. Federal Funding Sources Included: Dingle-Johnson and Pittman-Robertson Funds; Housing and Urban Development Grants; Land and Water Conservation Fund; Urban Park and Recreation Grants; and Others (EPA, UGLRC, CAP, EDA, SCS and OEO).

State Funding Sources Included: Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources; State Bonding for Metropolitan Parks and Open Space*; State Bonding for Resource 2,000; State Bonding for SMSA Parks, Trails and Athletic Courts; and User Fees from Cross-Country Ski License Revenue, Dedicated Snowmobile Fuel Tax and Dedicated Watercraft Fuel Tax.

*Charted values exclude \$27 million interest earned on investment of State bonding monies by Metropolitan Council.

2. Not adjusted for inflation.

3. Real dollars are the amount of 1985 dollars that would be required to purchase the same goods and services bought in previous years. Because of inflation, it costs more of today's dollars to buy the same good or service than it did in the past. The adjustment to real dollars is made to permit comparison of buying power of a dollar in different years.

Information compiled by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Office of Planning, 1986.

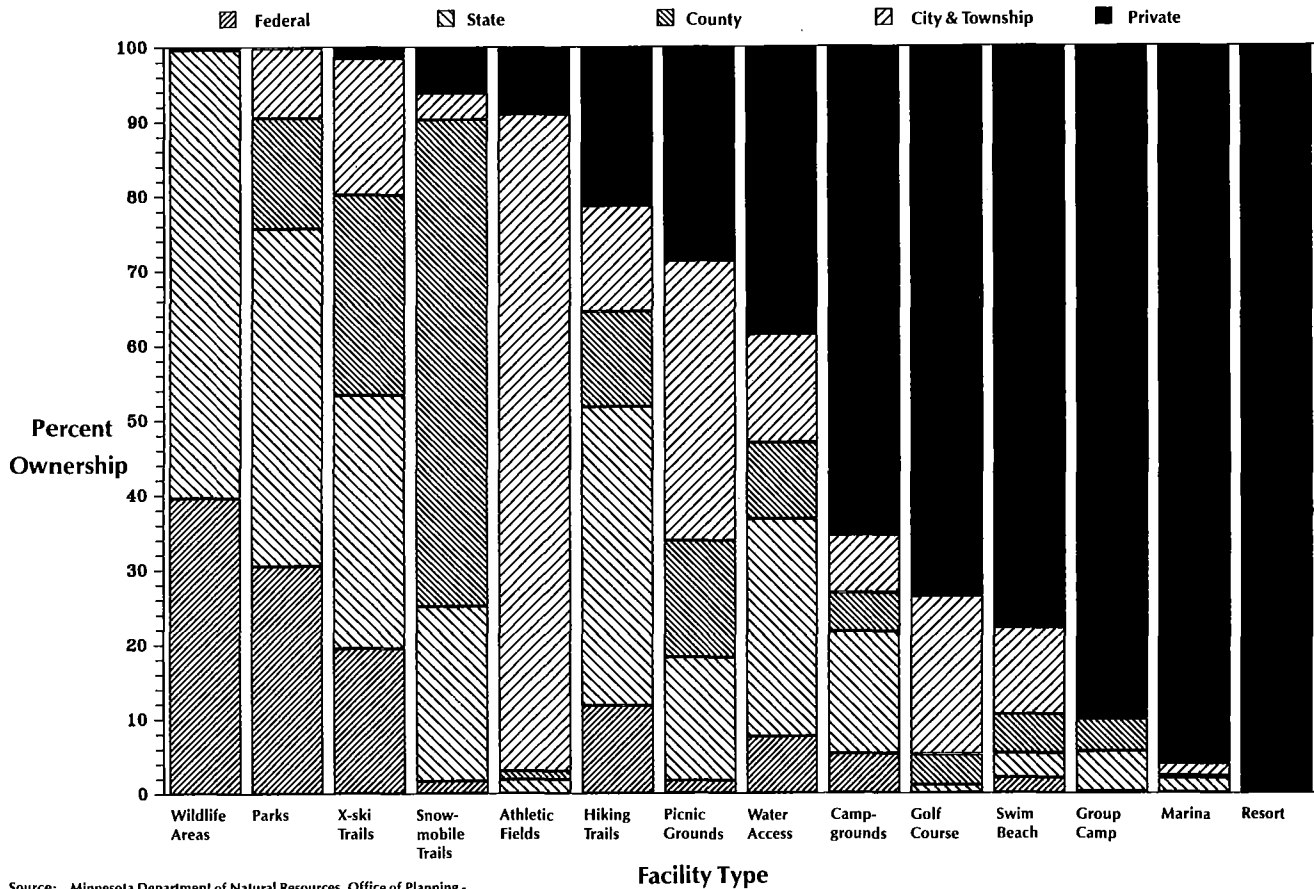
Outdoor Recreation Providers

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 2 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.

Figure 2

Providers of Minnesota Recreation Facilities



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Office of Planning - State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 1985

Recreation Use

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 3 shows these and other major seasonal outdoor activities of Minnesotans.

The activities of nonresident summer recreationists in Minnesota are very similar to those 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 4). 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.

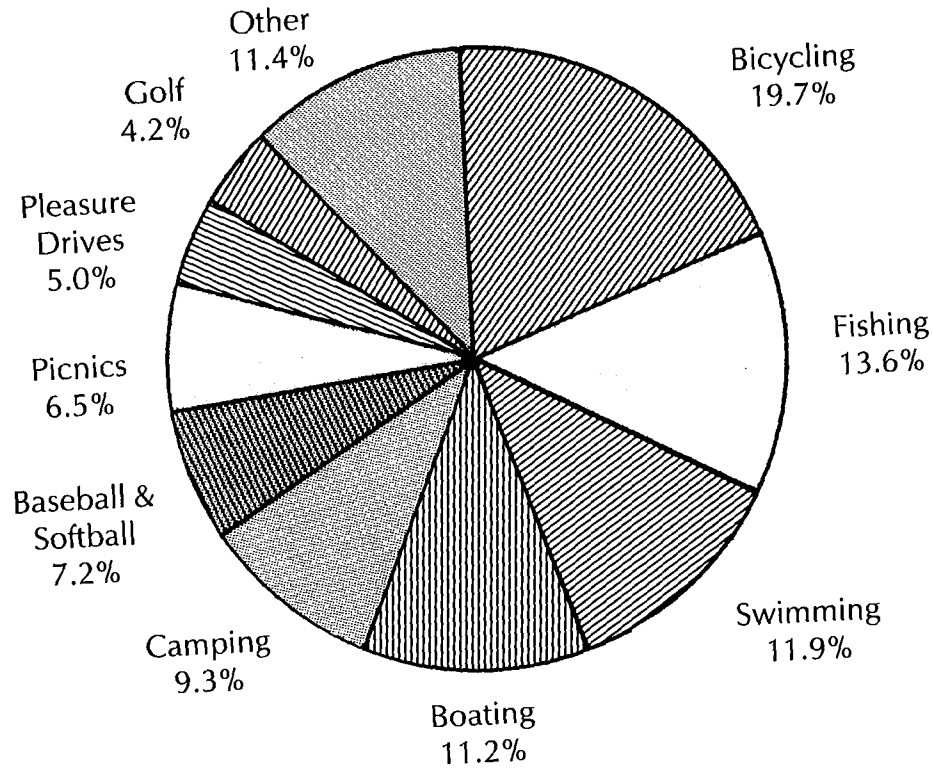


Figure 3

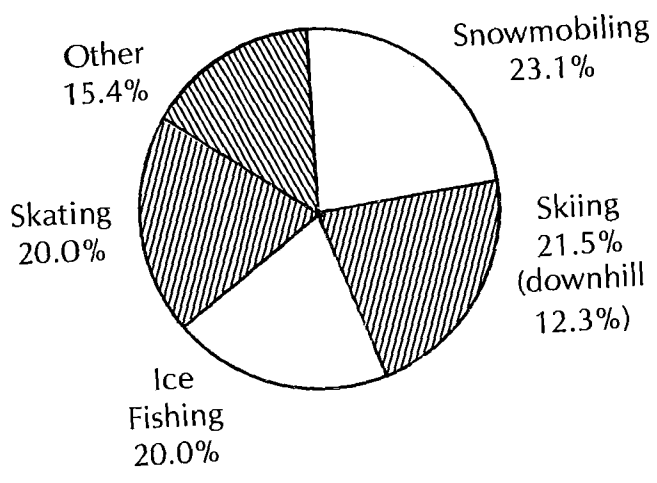
In-State Outdoor Recreation Time of Minnesotans in 1980

Annual Recreation Hours = 480,000,000

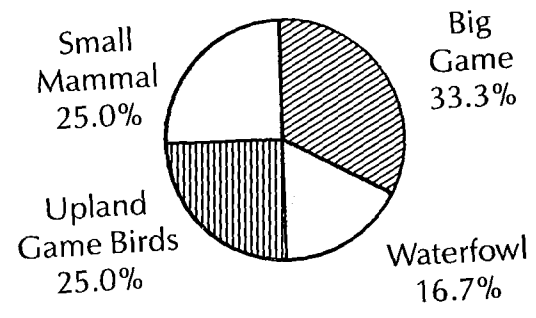
Summer Total Hours: 346,000,000



Winter Total Hours: 94,000,000



Fall Hunting Total Hours: 40,000,000

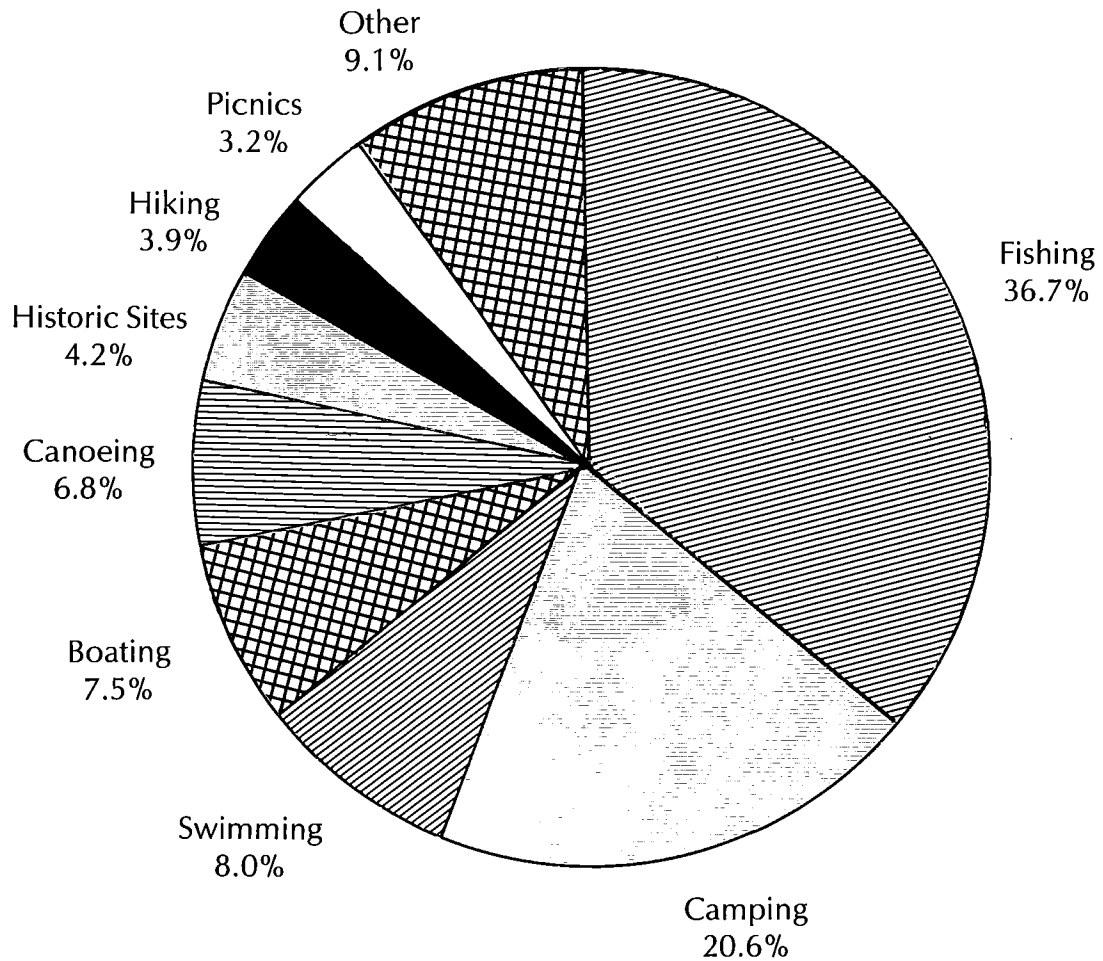


Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Office of Planning
State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 1985

Figure 4

Summer Outdoor Recreation Time of Nonresidents in Minnesota, 1980

Total Hours: 83,000,000



Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Office of Planning
State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 1985

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Between February and May 1986, the Commission on Minnesotans Outdoors held public hearings in Duluth, Mankato, Moorhead, 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.

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 half 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
9th Grade
Beltrami, MN

Resource Conservation

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 critical to outdoor recreation in Minnesota. By itself, fishing accounts for 14 percent of all time spent in outdoor recreation in the state. 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 non-croplands 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.

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 fun-filled things in nature.

—Sara Fillman,
Age 13
Bemidji, MN

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.

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

—Jennifer Hasselberger
Snail Lake School
Shoreview, MN



Financing

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.

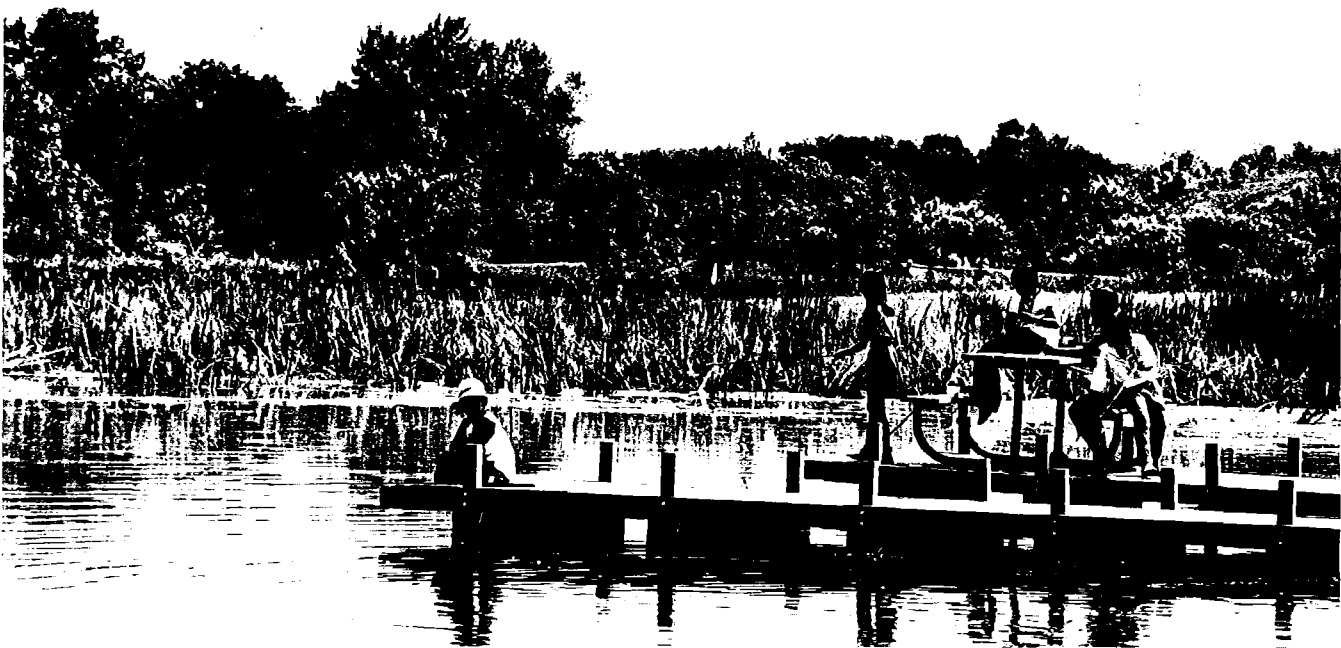
2. Continue the Land and Water Conservation Fund program. In addition, create a dedicated recreation trust, financed by new revenue sources, to provide a consistent, adequate source of funding in the future.

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.

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



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 equipment 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.

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*

Acquisition

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.

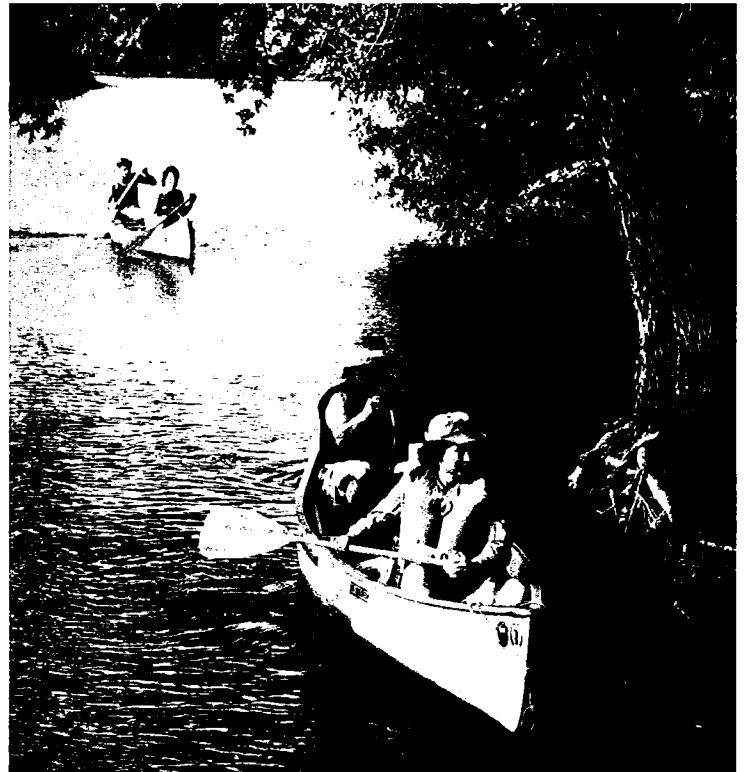
Hearing testimony highlighted the need to provide outdoor opportunities in developing areas, near people's homes, near urban and rural population centers and in areas that serve large recreational markets (particularly southern Minnesota). Other key areas for acquisition and development include: shorelands,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

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 the spawning process done by people, so more fish live. For cycling, leave ditches for public use.

—Greg Staffer
Age 12
Marine, MN

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.

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

Programs and Facilities

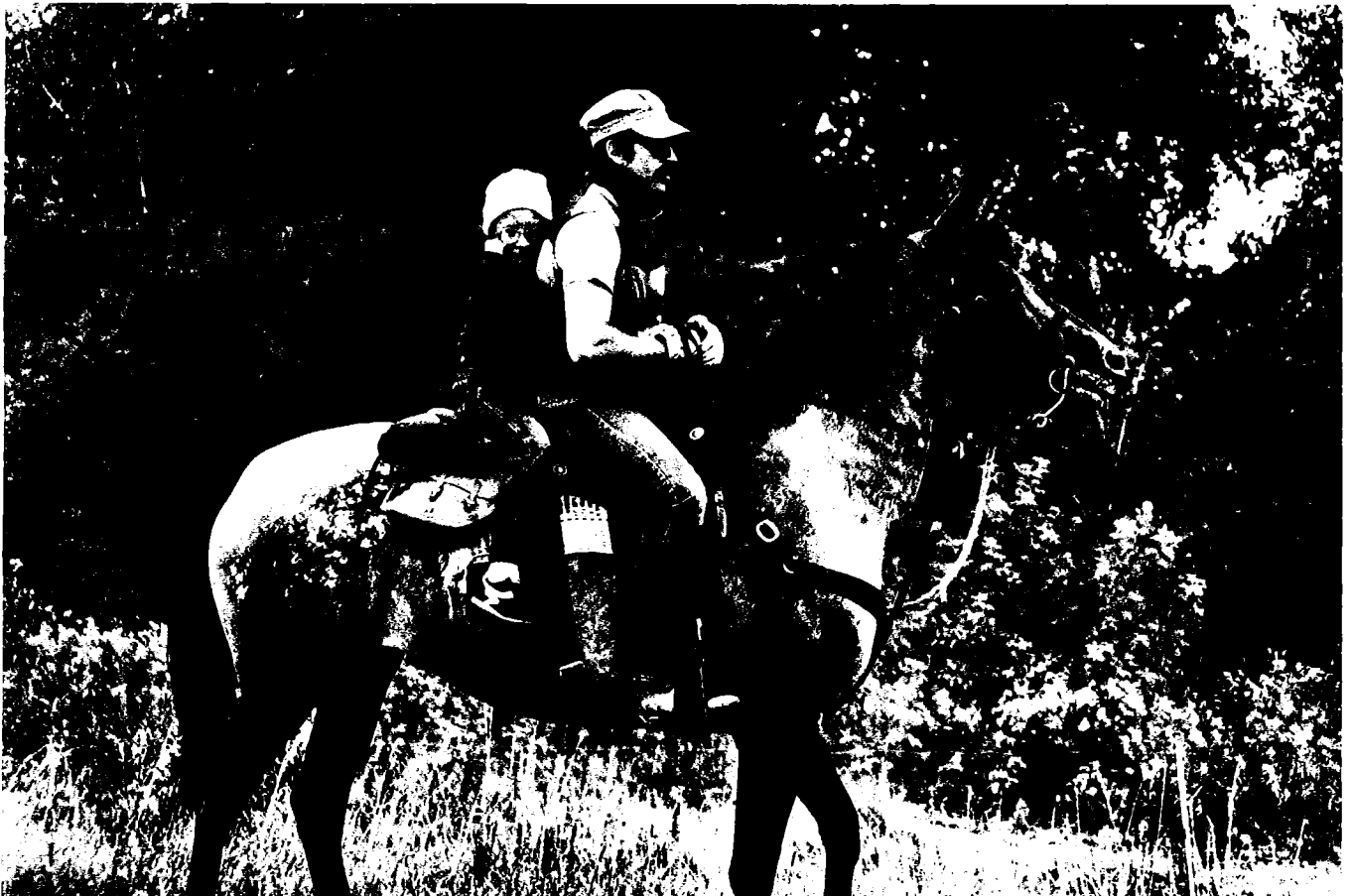
In the year 2000 our trails will have new steps going up and down on a hill. The campgrounds will have things that look like lightswitches and you can flip on if you want a fire and off when you want the fire to shut off. Being outdoors is important to me and I think that it will stay that way.

—Matthew Nelson,
Age 11
Kennedy, MN

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. Others 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. The newly formed Superior Hiking Trail Association is a prime example of this type of cooperative effort. The association is a nonprofit organization of public agencies, resorts and individual members formed to develop and promote a hiking trail along the ridgeline of Lake Superior, with spur trails to adjacent communities and facilities. The project is being funded by private contributions and donations of labor and land, along with state matching funds.

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.

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.

*—Nancy Shepherd
and Meredith Rooze
Calvin Christian School
Edina, 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 Middle School
Bemidji, MN*

Marketing

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.

For example, the U.S. Forest Service, the state departments of Natural Resources and Transportation, local units of government and trail user associations are jointly marketing trail opportunities statewide through the DNR-administered Trail Explorers Club. 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.

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
Age 13
Eagan, MN

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



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.

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.

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.

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
10th Grade
Fertile, MN





What Minnesota Youth Say About the Future of Outdoor Recreation

Spring Lake Park, MN

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 & news papers. So I go to the forests, the streams. And that's why the outdoors is important to me.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Stambaugh

APRIL 11, 1986

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

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.

PAGE 2

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 Brown Drive kept up. This is 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,

Andrew Vaseuden

J. ANDREW VASEUDEN

Fertile, MN

Dear Marlene Johnson-

April 4, 1986

There are many things I like to do outdoors. Most 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 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

Edina, MN.

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.

Bloomington, MN.
April 24, 1986

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

Dear Marlene,

The outdoors is special to me. I love being outside, I like to swim, 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 gym should have a gigantic water sponge under them for safety and fun. If children fall 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 water ski. Have a special area where they could an enormous raft on the

water for sun tanning.

Some other ideas are telephones in parks for emergencies and for people can notify parents when they're coming home. Another idea is a big white board where people would draw or write on (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,
Harrison Foster

Bullington
April 29, 1986

Malene 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 every bodies yard.

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

I think bike-riding will only be allowed at certain times of the day. There will be paved trails that you will go on. Only bikes. No cars.

I think you will only be allowed certain bikes. Swimming will be all outdoors. I think there will be ~~70~~ 10 swimming pools in peoples yards. They will be made out of something very soft. If you want a low,

medium, or high diving board you will just have to push one of the three buttons. I think there will be certain hills, mountains, or trails to go hiking on. The days would be Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and 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.

Skiing, I think will be still all outdoors. There will be motorized skies 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 fall a big balloon will surround you so you will not hurt yourself.

Sincerely,
Kim Carlson

Outdoors - Now and in the Future

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 knowing 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 + 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
Park Rapids, MN
5th grade

11½ years old

Le Sueur, MN
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 television, 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

parkes, strolling through the woods piciking morel 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,
Jennifer Miller
Jennifer Miller

J. Scott Raphael Age 13

Wow, this is the life. I am sure glad I live in Minnesota the way we have preserved this state is fantastic. Now they have sleek hovercraft to water ski on. We thought of that to eliminate engine wastes in the water. If I couldn't ski and fish on my hovercraft I would probably go live with the houseboat people in Japan.

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 smart. We passed a bill giving a good selection of campgrounds. You have a choice of wooded, or sprayed, 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 me on my first canoe trip those 15 yrs. ago today. I believe if these things so dear to me were taken away and replaced with condos, townhouses, and fast food joints I don't think I would really want to live in this country.

Mrs. Newstrom's First Grade Class, Hale School

My name is Neil Redman

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.

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 biking on the streets.

In the year 2000 I will probably be graduating. I would like to go camping and have the tents right there.

The real neat thing that my kids would like to have is steam steam shovels and little 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 would be to have apple orchards in your front yard!

Sincerely,

Kelly Stursa

Appendix B

Hearing Participants

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, Superior National
Forest
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 Audubon Society
Arild D. Frederiksen, Banning Park Advisory
Board
Dan Smestad, Department of Veterans Affairs
A. J. Schweiger, Nemadji Sportsboosters
Loren LeSavage, 4x4 Cowboys
John Chell, Regional Administrator, Region II
Minnesota Department of Natural Re-
sources
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 Recrea-
tion, City of Owatonna
Joseph Fleischman, Convention & Visitors
Bureau, Winona
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,
Mankato State University
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
Merlyn 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
Carl Madsen, The Wildlife Society,
Minnesota Chapter
Bob Ross, Bemidji Ski Touring Club
Chris Bredlow, North Country Trail
Association

St. Paul, Minnesota

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 Conserva-
tion Center
Bill Chiat, White Bear Lake
Kurt Strom, Community Program Specialist
Minnesota State Council for the Handi-
capped
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
 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 Minnesota
 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, Minnesota Native Plant Society
 Donald E. Anderson, Owner, DunRomin Park
 Jack Pichotta, Director, Environmental Learning Center
 Gordon Mikkelson, Deep Portage Conservation Reserve
 Bobbie Gallup, Delano
 Al Farnes, Minnesota Conservation Federation
 Dan Steward, Water Resources Board
 Cheryl Homburg, Minnesota Special Olympics
 Linda Johnson, Camalia Rose Group Home and Delmar's Childrens Home
 Carol Klitzke and 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, Minnesota 4 Wheel Drive Association
 Dale F. Peters, Minnesota Valley ATV
 Terry Purcell, Orchard Rangers Saddle Club
 Mary Violet, Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association
 Herb Schulte, Minnesota Waterski Association
 Joan Berquist, Bloomington
 Judith Anderson, Hennepin Parks
 Barb Soukup, Minnesota Horse Council

**St. Paul, Minnesota*
 May 6, 1986**

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
 Roger Holmes, Chief, Division of Wildlife
 Raymond Hitchcock, Director, Division of Forestry
 Wayland Porter, Park Systems Manager
 Paul Swenson, Director, Trails and Waterways Unit
 Larry Shannon, Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife

* At the Commission's request, testimony of the Department of Natural Resources was deferred from April 23 to May 6 because of time limitations.

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 Committee. 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. Member, 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 Resources 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.