Fond du Lac Reservation

Resource Management

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September 7, 2012



Administration Conservation Environmental Fisheries Forestry Natural Resources Wildlife Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. State Office Building, Room 95 St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Fond du Lac Band Grant Application

Members of the Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to make a presentation to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) in support of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa grant application for our project, *Preventing Forest Fragmentation and Protecting and Restoring Lake and Stream Habitat in the St. Louis River Watershed.*

I am pleased to provide the following responses to issues raised during our presentation:

Hunting and fishing requirements.

This project will open up 720 acres to tribal and non-tribal members for hunting and fishing that is currently not publicly accessible. Non-tribal members would be subject to state regulations and have access to the project site for hunting and fishing to the same extent that they do on other public lands. Tribal members would be subject to tribal regulations. The Fond du Lac Band manages natural resources to protect them for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities. What we feel is most important is that our project achieves the objectives of the LSOHC to protect game, fish, and wildlife habitat.

Archery range.

The Fond du Lac Band proposed an archery range to expose children to traditional outdoor skills. We do not want to have activities that damage the wildlife qualities or natural resources of the property. We can eliminate the archery range or, as an alternative, we could have an archery range that is set up periodically for youth groups and then taken down. The idea for this archery range is that it would be a part of an outdoor nature learning program that would include the public school systems in Cloquet, Carlton, and other towns to bring various grades for site field trips. Separate non-LSOHC funds would be used to pay for the archery range and outdoor nature program.

Boat launch.

An old farm road leads from a public road to the northern shore of the 80-acre lake on the 440-acre Priority Parcel. We would upgrade this old road sufficiently to allow for general public access to the lake. The boat launch will have a minimal footprint and provide public access to this wonderful resource for fishing. Separate non-LSOHC funds would be used to pay for the boat launch.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to make our presentation. We would be pleased to answer any additional questions that you may have regarding our exciting project.

Sincerely,

Reginald DeFoe

Director