

# MN Outdoor Recreation System



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February 13, 2014



# Outdoor Recreation System

- Passed as Outdoor Recreation Act in 1975; M.S. 86A
- Classifies land management units and outlines purposes, scope, recreation, and administration.
- Provides guidance on establishment/development, rules, authorization, and acquisition.



# Land Management Units – 86A.05

- State Scientific and Natural Areas
- State Wilderness Areas
- State Forests
- State Wildlife Management Areas
- State Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers
- Aquatic Management Areas



# Land Management Units – 86A.05, cont.

- State Parks
- State Recreation Areas
- State Trails
- State Water Access Sites
- State Historic Sites
- State Rest Areas
- State Boater Waysides



# Other Important Management Guidance/Requirement

- Federal Law
- State Master Planning
- Rules/Rulemaking
- Commissioner's Operational Orders
- Local Ordinances



# Wildlife Management Areas

- Established to protect lands and waters which have a high potential for wildlife production and to develop and manage these lands and waters for the production of wildlife, for public hunting, fishing and trapping, and for other compatible outdoor recreational uses
- Development may provide access, but minimize intrusion on the natural environment.
- 1,440 Units totaling about 1.3 million acres



# Wildlife Management Areas

- Statutory authorities (use protection; portable stand use for bear hunting; coop farming)
- Minnesota Administrative Rule 6230 (general and special provisions)
- Formal plans on major units and where need dictates
- Management Guidance Documents
- WMA System Handbook/Directives
- Operational Orders
- Delegated Authorities



# Wildlife Management Areas

## ➤ Outdoor Heritage Funding for WMAs:

- ML09           \$ 1.7 million
- ML10           \$12.0 million
- ML11           \$11.2 million
- ML12           \$13.1 million
- ML13           \$ 9.7 million





# Aquatic Management Areas

- AMAs are established to protect, develop, and manage lakes, rivers, streams, and adjacent wetlands and lands that are critical for fish and other aquatic life, for water quality, and for intrinsic biological value, public fishing, and other compatible outdoor recreational uses (MS 86A.05, subd. 14).
- AMAs are managed to perpetuate or reestablish high quality aquatic habitat for production of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic species.



# Aquatic Management Areas

- DNR holds AMA angling easements covering 7868 acres, and AMAs in fee title encompassing 34,320 acres.
- General provisions for use of AMA's in Minnesota Rules Chapter 6270.
- Easements protect habitat and allow angling and management access. 885 easements in 183 AMA's.
- Other prohibited and permitted activities are described in easement rights purchased from the landowner. Activities other than angling permitted only where posted.



# Aquatic Management Areas

- Fee title AMAs are open to non-motorized recreational use. 266 general use AMAs are open to public hunting and trapping. 69 restricted use AMA's have situations incompatible with hunting.
- Fisheries properties acquired before Aug 2000 authorized as AMA's. These properties include northern pike spawning marshes, water control structures, and grounds of some facilities.



# Aquatic Management Areas

## ➤ Outdoor Heritage Funding for AMAs

- ML2009 \$5,748,000
- ML2010 \$2,015,000
- ML2011 \$6,475,000
- ML2012 \$1,608,165
- ML2013 \$1,488,165



# Scientific and Natural Areas

- SNAs are established to protect and perpetuate in an undisturbed natural state those natural features which possess exceptional scientific or educational value
- 159 SNAs encompass 184,000 acres
- SNAs are managed for native plant communities supporting high quality wildlife habitat



# Scientific and Natural Areas

- Mn Rules 6136 guide SNA use
- SNAs are open to the public for:
  - ✓ hiking, bird-watching, nature photography, & snowshoeing;
  - ✓ plus – if allowed by Designation Order – hunting, trapping, dogs, & other uses.
- 88% (165,700 acres) of SNAs are open to most public hunting



# Scientific and Natural Areas

## ➤ Outdoor Heritage Funding for SNAs:

- ML10            \$2,116,000
- ML11            \$1,157,900
- ML12            \$ 461,600
- ML13            \$ 440,300



# State Forests

- SFs are established, maintained and protected for forestry purposes (economic, environmental & social purposes) using principals of multiple use and sustained yield of forest resources (Chapter 89).
- 58 SFs encompass 3,125,250 state forest acres + 722,500 acres outside state forest administered by DOF (3,847,750 total acres).
- General land uses include: Forest management (timber sales), roads and trails, leases including surface and mineral leases, and recreation.





# State Forests

- SFs are managed for the sustainable production of timber and other forest products, to provide for outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat and watershed purposes.
- Trust acres are managed for maximum long-term economic return consistent with the fiduciary responsibilities imposed by the trust relationship established in the Minnesota Constitution, with sound natural resources conservation and management principles.



# State Forests

- SF Rules under 6100 address:
  - Non-motorized uses including hiking, skiing, horseback riding, biking;
  - Camping including dispersed camping;
  - Motorized uses based on SF classification (managed, limited, closed) and motor use designation.
- SFs are open to public hunting and trapping.
- Outdoor Heritage Funding for SFs:
  - ML13                      \$1,205,000



# Master Planning

- **Statutory Requirement (*Minn Stat 86A.09*)**  
Except for WMAs without resident managers, SNAs, water access sites, AMAs, rest areas, and boater waysides
- **What does the plan do?**  
A long-range vision that guides development of facilities and management of resources



# Master Planning

## ➤ How are master plans developed?

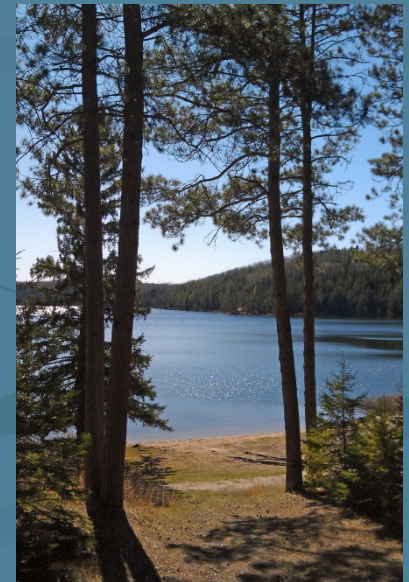
- Division leadership & facilitation
- Department expertise  
*Technical Advisory Group*
- Public Involvement  
*Citizen Advisory Committee*  
*Open houses & public review*



# Master Planning

## ➤ La Salle Lake SRA

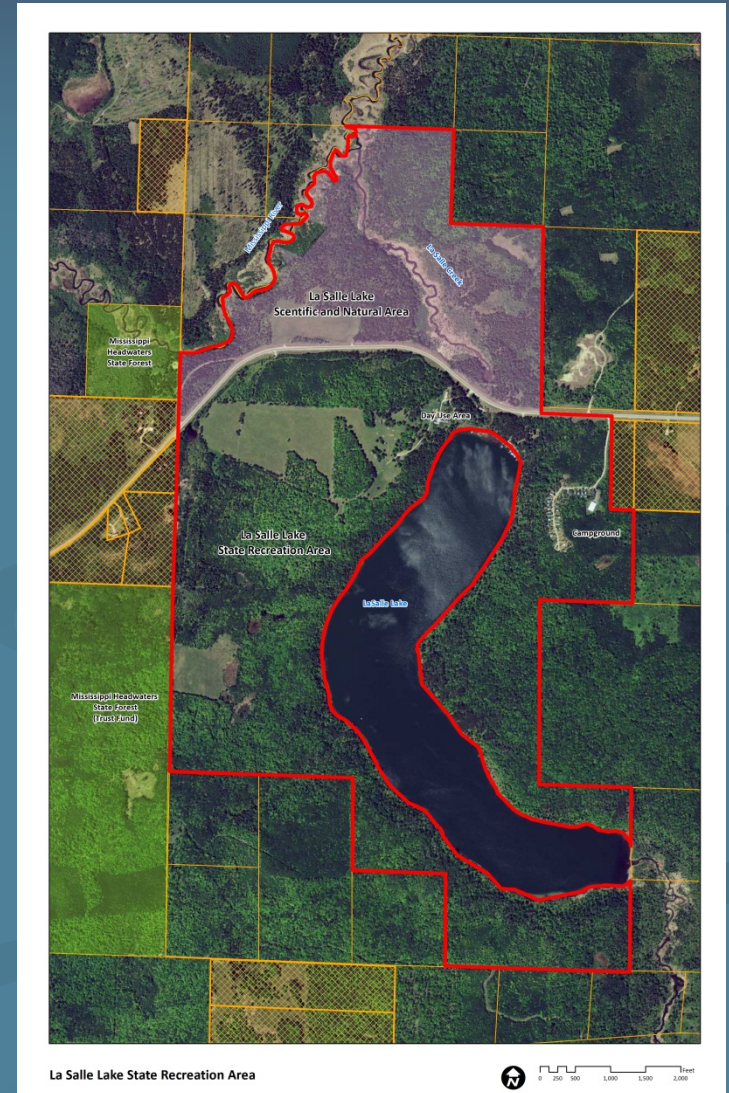
- Broad range of Department values  
*Multiple management goals*  
*One secondary unit*
- Collaborative planning  
*Long-Range Resource Management Plan*  
*State Recreation Area Master Plan*
- Collaborative management  
*Multi-discipline oversight and decision-making*  
*Providing experiences & minimizing barriers*





# Master Planning

- La Salle Lake SRA
  - SRA with SNA secondary unit
  - Minimizing barriers  
*Permit required only for  
campground & day use area*



# Questions & Discussion

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<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=86A>

