

Crow Wing County Comprehensive Recreation Trails Plan

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Q: What is the purpose of the plan?

A: The Crow Wing County Comprehensive Recreation Trails Plan is being developed to support the planning, development, monitoring and maintenance of recreation trails in the county. In conjunction with the development of the trail plan, the county will engage in a comprehensive assessment of the county's High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs). To maintain and enhance high quality recreation opportunities in the county, it is important that the Crow Wing County Land Services Department engage in this strategic long-term planning effort that will identify and classify opportunities to provide outdoor trail-based recreation while meeting forest management objectives and protecting, enhancing and restoring high conservation values.

Q: What is the High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) evaluation?

A: The evaluation of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) is a component of the county's participation in forest certification. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification standard includes requirements for the protection, management and monitoring of special sites, such as old-growth forests, water source protection areas, cultural or historic sites and other unique resources.

Q: What lands will be included within the plan?

A: The plan will focus on the approximately 105,000 acres of public land managed by the Crow Wing County Land Services Department.

Q: What types of recreation trails will be included within the scope of the plan?

A: The plan will address recreation trails that serve a full range of motorized and non-motorized uses, including ATV routes, equestrian trails, biking, hiking, dog-sledding, skiing, snowmobiling, and other trail based recreation types.

Q: What is the process going to be for completing the plan?

A: An advisory committee will be convened in early-2010 to provide input and oversight to the development of the plan and to the HCVF evaluation. The committee will include diverse recreation and stakeholder interests. The committee will meet monthly or as needed to review progress on the plan and evaluation. Meetings will be announced and open to the public with time on the agenda for public comment.

Q: How long will it take to complete the plan?

A: The full project is expected to take up to two years to complete, with the preliminary HCVF findings being shared with the public in early 2010 and the first draft of the recreation trail plan being released by the end of 2010.

Q: How can the public provide input to the plan?

A: Individuals with questions or comments about the plan may contact the Land Services Department or the project coordinator (Katie Fernholz, Dovetail Partners, 612-333-0430 or info@dovetailinc.org) at anytime. Meetings of the advisory committee will be open to the public and public meetings will be held as the plan progresses.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: Information about the project is available at the project website where updates and information about the project are posted as it becomes available. The website is linked to the County Land Services Department webpage and the address is: <http://www.dovetailinc.org/content/crow-wing-county-recreation>

For more information:

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This project is being developed with assistance from Dovetail Partners, Inc.

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