

Draft – to be reviewed for approval at the 6/29/10 meeting

Crow Wing County Comprehensive Recreation Trails Plan and High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Assessment Project

Project Advisory Meeting

Wednesday, April 21st at 6pm in conference room of the Land Services Building
(322 Laurel Street, Brainerd, MN 56401)

In attendance: Mervin Eisel, George Wetherber, Jacob Frie***, Clement Roden, Roger Bentley, Jon Henke, Bernie Doucette, Gary Drotts, Jerry Wolters, Linda Lawrie, William Durham, Mary Straka, Karl Samp, Lowell Jaeger, Bill Keefe*, Bob Manning*, Kathy Bernier*, Brett Hardy*, Larry Moses*, Rosemary Franzen*, Russell Heittola*, Alan Steiff*, Paul Thiede*, Tom Whitehead*, Katie Fernholz**, Bryan Pike***, Kirk Titus***

* - advisory group member, ** - project coordinator , ***-Land Services Department Staff

Meeting Notes

6 pm Meeting Start

Approval of notes from March 23rd meeting with edit to a public question and completion of the list of attendees (Motion L. Moses, Second R. Heittola, Approved)

Old Business:

Advisory group members are reminded to provide brief bios to the project coordinator. Once bios are received from the majority of members, the information will be posted at the project webpage.

(Bios are now available at: <http://dovetailinc.org/files/AdvGroupMbrs.pdf>)

Review of Monthly Meeting Schedule

The monthly meeting schedule has been updated based upon discussions at the March meeting and will now be posted at the project webpage.

Schedule of Meetings:

March 23 rd	August 25 th
April 21 st	September 28 th
May 27 th (daytime field tour)	October 26 th
June 29 th	November 30 th
July 27 th	December 14 th

With the exception of the May 27th field tour, each meeting will be at 6pm at the Land Services Building in Brainerd. Each evening meeting will be open to the public with time on the agenda for public comment.

Draft – to be reviewed for approval at the 6/29/10 meeting

Next Steps of the HCVF Assessment

Bryan Pike made a presentation about the internal assessment for high conservation values and the resulting candidate sites. Gary Drotts with the DNR also shared information about HCVF areas they have identified in Crow Wing County and the opportunity to coordinate efforts related to identifying, managing and monitoring HCVF areas. The Land Services Department's presentation has been posted at the project webpage:

<http://dovetailinc.org/files/HCVF42110sm.pdf>

The next step of the HCVF process will be to prepare a written summary of the sites identified and nominated by the Land Services Department and to post this summary for public review and comment.

7:15 Q & A and Public Comment

Q: The county should not be giving away or vacating right-of-ways that provide public access.

A: The county is not in the business of giving away land and avoids this practice. The DNR also works to prevent and reject vacate requests.

Q: How does Dovetail review sources of funding to avoid being influenced?

A: A list of Dovetail's sources of support is available at Dovetail's website and includes donations from individuals, private entities, and government and foundation grants. Dovetail has declined to do projects that didn't fit our expectations for independence.

Q: Is the county thinking of selling land?

A: The county will trade or do land exchanges to help consolidate parcels. There are also platted parcels and other miscellaneous tracts for sale that don't fit management objectives for recreation, timber and wildlife.

Q: As private lands are leased, it increases demands for recreation, hunting, etc on public lands.

A: Yes, there has probably been some impact but it is difficult to measure.

8:15 pm Adjourn

For more information about the project visit:

<http://www.dovetailinc.org/content/crow-wing-county-recreation>

Or contact:

info@dovetailinc.org

612-414-8041