



COUNTY OF BECKER

Recreational Advisory Committee

712 Minnesota Ave., Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
218-846-7316, Fax 218-846-7329

RAC Meeting

Tuesday, October 2nd, 2012 @ 4:00 PM

Becker County Court House

1st Floor Board Room

AGENDA

1. Chair Welcome & Introductions
2. September Meeting Minutes: Review/Approval
3. October 2nd Agenda Review/Approval
4. Open Forum

OLD BUSINESS

5. Recreational Needs Survey Final Report Review/Discussion – Kay Schwarzwalter
6. Trails Report/Criteria Discussion - Wiley/Fischer
 - See Q & A information on page 2 (flip side of agenda) per related questions asked at September RAC meeting.
 - Snowmobile Trails: ATV damage to snowmobile trails – repairs/funding .
 - Dunton Locks: Paved trail to Detroit Lakes – exploring repair needs/funding options.

NEW BUSINESS

7. FYI: Exploring Conservation Easement (MN Land Trust) with Fischer Century Farms (Frazee): 2,000 acres; potential routing for Heartland/local bike path - Ludtke/Fischer
8. Wolf Lake Sportsman's Park: boat access; there are actually 3 lots of tax forfeited land there, mostly swamp wetlands. Part of this was designated a county park by board resolution in 1953. Locals requesting an outhouse on site, boat access sign. Trail opportunities if grants available. - Wiley
9. Other Business
10. Agenda Items for Next Meeting



RAC request for answers asked at September RAC meeting:

1) Can ATV's ride on wetlands?

9/12 Email from Colleen Adam, DNR Enforcement, NW Region OHV Officer:

“The answer is generally NO. There is a fine for minimal damage, mandatory court for other damage and gross misdemeanor or vehicle forfeitures for multiple convictions. (See below)

84.773 RESTRICTIONS ON OPERATION.

Subdivision 1. **Restrictions.** A person may not intentionally operate an off-highway vehicle:

- (1) on a trail on public land that is designated or signed for nonmotorized use only;
- (2) on restricted areas within public lands that are posted or where gates or other clearly visible structures are placed to prevent unauthorized motorized vehicle access;
- (3) except as specifically authorized by law or rule adopted by the commissioner, in unfrozen public waters, as defined in section [103G.005](#); in a state park; in a scientific and natural area; or in a wildlife management area; or
- (4) in a calcareous fen, as identified by the commissioner.

Subd. 2. **Wetland disturbance.** A person may not operate an off-highway vehicle in a manner to:

- (1) indicate a willful, wanton, or reckless disregard for the safety of persons or property;
- (2) carelessly upset the natural and ecological balance of a wetland or public waters wetland; or
- (3) impact a wetland or public waters wetland in excess of the amounts authorized in section [103G.2241, subdivision 9](#),

That said, if an ATV operated on a wetland in the winter when everything is frozen solid and damage is not occurring (no impact) then there would not be a violation, but I doubt your question was framed around a winter application.”

2) Could Marty (Wiley) close trails without County Board consent? No, but will close trails first if necessary (as in the case of damage to wetlands) and then report action to the Board.