

C.J. Ramstad/Northshore State Trail: Lake Co. ATV Proposal

Talking Points

1. Lake County is pursuing this action at the request of County residents who seek recreational motor vehicle access to Lake County's tax-forfeited forest lands.
 2. The DNR will assist and cooperate as we can, should this proposal move forward.
 3. Lake County currently allows DNR to 'occupy and use' this corridor alignment for purposes of the State Trail. The DNR owns very little of the trail right-of-way within Lake County.
 4. ATV use is inconsistent with the current Master Plan for the North Shore State Trail along the present alignment (except for the 6-mile segment which is part of the Moosewalk ATV Trail).
 5. Lake County has asked that DNR amend this Master Plan (circa 1981) to permit ATV use of that portion of the trail within Lake County. Lake County intends to follow-up on the DNR's 2006 feasibility study which identified specific physical improvements needed to make this state snowmobile trail suitable for summer-season ATV use.
 6. It's too soon to know whether an EAW is warranted or not, or whom the appropriate Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) would be for preparing an EAW – Lake County or the DNR. Envir Review questions should be referred to Steve Colvin, DNR Envir Review Section Supv. @ 651/259-5082 (direct) or Toll Free 1-888-MINNDNR.
-