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State Review Board Approves Milford Mine Historic District Nomination

The Minnesota Historical Society's State Review Board unanimously approved the Milford Mine Historic District for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on March 22.

Next steps in the nomination process will include a final review by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the National Park Service in Washington DC. The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places and can include districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects. These places must meet strict criteria in order to be listed in the National Register.

"I am very excited about the Milford Mine nomination to the National Register and I look forward to the final approval from the National Park Service sometime in June" said County Commissioner Doug Houge. "The Milford Mine is a significant part of our culture and history in Crow Wing County."

The Milford Mine Historic District is the site where forty-one miners lost their lives in the worst mining disaster in Minnesota history in 1924. The site is located on the Cuyuna Iron Range, northwest of Crosby and covers approximately 180 acres of Crow Wing County managed land. It is located within the boundaries of the Milford Mine Memorial Park.

Crow Wing County is currently working on a four phase project to complete the memorial park. Phase one, which was completed last fall, included the construction of an access road, parking lot and canoe launch. Future construction phases will include walking trails, a picnic shelter and interpretive and educational signs.

The County manages 103,000 acres of forest land for timber production and diverse recreational opportunities for multiple users. The sale of timber at public auctions during the year funds the County's management of these lands, while providing revenues to local communities. County forest lands are managed to strict environmental standards established by both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative™ and the Forest Stewardship Council™ certification standards.

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