

Land Services Department

Mark B. Liedl.....Land Services Director

Environmental Services

Christopher Pence.....Land Services Supervisor

Douglas R. Morris.....Solid Waste Coordinator

David Landecker, PLS.....Survey Coordinator

Property Valuation and Classification

Gary Griffin.....Land Services Supervisor

Public Land Management

Kirk Titus.....Land Services Supervisor

Office of Public Land Management
Land Services Building
322 Laurel Street, Suite 12
Brainerd, MN 56401

Telephone (218) 824-1115
FAX (218) 824-1070
Kirk.Titus@co.crow-wing.mn.us



CROW WING COUNTY
BRAINERD, MINNESOTA 56401

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Kirk Titus
218-824-1115

Crow Wing County Land Services Department Invites Public Comment on Comprehensive Recreation Trails Plan

30-day Comment Period opens September 26

Crow Wing County is soliciting additional public comments on the draft Comprehensive Trails Plan, which has been developed over the past two years through an extensive public planning process. Written comments on the draft plan will be accepted by the Land Services Department during a 30-day period from September 26 to October 25 2011.

The plan can be accessed through the county website: www.co.crow-wing.mn.us. Copies of the plan also are available from the Land Services Department in Brainerd during business hours or by contacting the office at (218) 824-1115.

Comments may be emailed to: landservices@co.crow-wing.mn.us (Please include "Comp Trails Plan" in the subject line.), or mailed/faxed to:

Crow Wing County Land Services Department
Attn: Comp Trails Plan
Land Services Building, 322 Laurel Street, Suite 12
Brainerd, MN 56401
Fax: (218) 824-1070 Fax

The Comprehensive Recreation Trails Plan focuses on the recreation trails and facilities under the direct management of the County. The document reports the outcomes of the plan development process and focuses on near-term priorities for addressing trail management opportunities on these lands.

Components of the plan include establishing a trail proposal and planning process, activities for trail monitoring and enforcement, evaluation criteria for trail review, and strategies for improved

trail linkages. Crow Wing County Land Services Supervisor, Kirk Titus, stated, “The Comprehensive Recreation Trails Plan aims to ensure that Crow Wing County is able to meet and manage recreation opportunities while maintaining the other forest benefits and services that residents and visitors value.”

Following the public comment period, the plan will be revised in response to comments and prepared for review by the County Board. The goal is to finalize the plan before the end of the year.

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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