STATE OF MINNESOTA

Service Marine

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMISSIONER'S SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREA ORDER NO. 115

UNCAS DUNES SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREA;

SUPERSEDING SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREA ORDER NO. 51

WHEREAS, certain lands in Sherburne County, Minnesota, described as:

The Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4 NW 1/4) of Section Thirty-five (35), AND those lands in Sections Twenty (20), Twenty-one (21), Twenty-two (22), Twenty-eight (28) and Twenty-nine (29) ALL IN Township Thirty-four (34) North, Range Twenty-seven (27) West, as shown on Exhibit "A" and as posted.

are under the control and possession of the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, such lands contain rare sand prairie and dry sand savanna communities, which contain the following rare, threatened or endangered animal and plant species: Uncas Skipper (Hesperia uncas), Blanding's turtle (Emydoidea blandingii), annual skeleton-weed (Lygodesmia rostrata), small-leaved pussytoes (Antennaria aprica), and sea beach needlegrass (Aristida tuberculosa); and

WHEREAS, the most effective means by which such lands can be protected and perpetuated in their natural state and used for educational and research purposes in such a manner as will leave them conserved for future generations is by designation as a Scientific and Natural Area; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on July 31, 1996 regarding opening Uncas Dunes Scientific and Natural Area to public hunting; and

WHEREAS, the hearing examiner by order recommended that Uncas Dunes Scientific and Natural Area be open to public hunting to ensure proper management of natural resources; and

COMMISSIONER'S S.N.A. ORDER NO. 115

WHEREAS, all requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 86A.05, subd. 5(d) and 97A.093 have been satisfied;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rodney W. Sando, Commissioner of Natural Resources, pursuant to authority vested in me by Minn. Stat. §§ 84.033, 86A.05, subd. 5, 97A.093, and other applicable law, do hereby designate the above-described lands as Uncas Dunes Scientific and Natural Area. Furthermore, the Uncas Dunes Scientific and Natural Area is designated as a Public Use unit, open to the public for nature observation and general educational and research activities.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the provisions of Minn. Rules pts. 6135.4500 through 6135.5000 shall apply to the above-designated area, except that dogs are permitted, and public hunting is permitted during the open season subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and use of the existing snowmobile and vehicle trails located in Sections 21 and 28, Township 34 North, Range 27 West, as shown on Exhibit A is permitted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Scientific and Natural Area Order No. 51 is hereby superseded.

Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, this 30th day of 1997.

RODNEY W. SANDO, Commissioner Department of Natural Resources

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND EXECUTION

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY III Attorney General

STEPHEN B. MASTEN Assistant Attorney General

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