

# St. Croix State Park Management Plan



## *Initial Public Comment Questionnaire*

Your responses to these questions will be used as input for the development of the management plan for St. Croix State Park. Thank you for your help.

### **Natural and Cultural Resources**

St. Croix State Park is home to a wide range of natural and cultural resources. The park includes many acres of native forests, barrens and prairie, over 1,800 acres of old growth forest, several trout streams, and shoreline along the St. Croix and Kettle Rivers. Since the 2011 windstorm, the division has undertaken significant restoration efforts. Many of the park's buildings were designed by the National Park Service and built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the Great Depression. The park is recognized as a National Historic Landmark, one of 25 in Minnesota. Evidence of American Indian and early settler use can also be found within the park.

*What natural and cultural resource elements in the state park are the most important to you?*

### **Interpretive Services and Programs**

The state park offers staff-led and self-guided (displays, signs, brochures, etc.) interpretive opportunities. Themes for interpretation include geology of the park, river systems, rare animals, early peoples and exploration in the St. Croix River valley, the history of the park's development, and outdoor recreation skills. Staff-led programs are offered primarily on summer weekends. Types of programs include campfire interpretive talks, hikes, bike trips, canoe caravans, walks, craft-making activities and outdoor skill-building activities.

*Have you attended an interpretive program at the park? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_*

*What topics or types of interpretive programming would you like to see offered at the state park?*

### **Recreational Use and Visitor Services**

St. Croix State Park offers many recreational opportunities for park visitors. The park has over 127 miles of roads and trails, three drive-in campgrounds, cabins, a horse campground, group camps, two guesthouses, three group centers, swimming beach, visitor center, and watercraft accesses on the St. Croix and Kettle Rivers. Favorite visitor activities include hiking, biking, horseback riding, camping, boating, fishing and snowmobiling. In 2015, the state park hosted over 272,000 visitors, including over 40,000 people staying overnight in the campgrounds or other park lodging. The Matthew Lourey State Trail crosses through the state park, connecting to state forest trails and other local trails.

*What do you like to do when you visit St. Croix State Park? (check all that apply)*

*Hiking\_\_ Biking\_\_ Horseback Riding\_\_ Skiing\_\_ Snowmobiling\_\_ Fishing\_\_ Camping\_\_ Boating\_\_ Swimming\_\_  
Other\_\_ (please explain)\_\_\_\_\_*

**Recreational Use and Visitor Services (continued)**

*What recreation facilities or opportunities would you like to see improved on or added to the state park?*

**Connections to other Recreational Opportunities**

Other recreational opportunities nearby include the snowmobiling and other trail uses on the Matthew Lourey State Trail, boating and canoeing on the St. Croix and Kettle Rivers (both designated state water trails), and snowmobiling on grant-in-aid trails throughout the area. There are also extensive trail opportunities in the St. Croix and Chengwatana State Forests for hiking, skiing, horseback-riding, snowmobiling and ATV/OHM riding. St. Croix State Park manages the Boulder Campground, Tamarack Horse Campground and day use areas in the St. Croix State Forest.

*Are there connections to other opportunities nearby that would interest you when visiting the state park?*

**Other**

*Do you have any additional comments or questions?*

**General Information**

*Have you visited St. Croix State Park before? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_*

*If yes, about how many times have you visited the park in the past 12 months? 1 to 2\_\_\_ 3 to 4\_\_\_ 5 or more\_\_\_*

**Thank you for your interest in St. Croix State Park and taking the time to fill out this comment form.**

You can submit your comments by mail it to:

Jade Templin, AICP  
DNR Division of Parks and Trails  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Comments can also be emailed to [jade.templin@state.mn.us](mailto:jade.templin@state.mn.us)