



# Department of Natural Resources Fact Sheet



## 2008 POLICY FACT SHEET DNR Technical Bill

### **It is needed because**

This initiative serves as the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) technical bill. It is comprised of several components outlined below. The changes made to Minnesota Statute in this initiative provide streamlined procedures and smoother implementation of the respective sections of law.

### **Major elements**

Historically, state monuments were listed in M.S. 85.013 along with state recreation areas and waysides.

#### **Sec. 1 and Sec. 4:**

Current Minnesota statutes have them separated out and listed in M.S. 138.585. The language in Chapter 85 requires the following clarification:

- ◆ The words monuments and state monuments should be removed from M.S. 85.011 and M.S. 85.013, since these sections no longer contain information pertaining to these entities.

#### **Sec. 2 and Sec. 5:**

Statutory name clarification required for Interstate Park:

- ◆ Interstate Park should be changed to Interstate State Park in M.S. 85.012, subd. 28 and M.S. 85.054, subd. 3.

#### **Sec. 3:**

Statutory name clarification required for St. Croix Wild River State Park:

- ◆ St. Croix Wild River State Park should be changed to Wild River State Park in M.S. 85.012, subd. 49a.

#### **Sec. 6:**

Clarifies that a state park permit is not required at Grand Portage State Park, similar to Gooseberry Falls State Park, as it is also a MNDOT Highway Rest Area.

#### **Sec. 7:**

This is a technical language change to the title of a citizen oversight committee for consistency.

#### **Sec. 8: Repealer Language**

#### **M.S. 84.961, subd. 4:**

##### Prairie Land Management

The language requiring the DNR to have a prairie biologist is outdated. The proposal is to repeal M.S. 84.961, subd. 4, which requires the DNR to have a prairie biologist position within the scientific and natural area program, located in the central part of the prairie region. The DNR currently has six prairie positions, five of which are located in the prairie region, making this statute unnecessary and obsolete.

#### **M.S. 85.013, subd. 21b:**

##### Rush River State Wayside, Sibley County

The Rush River State Wayside was deleted from the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area in the 2006 legislative session and turned over to Sibley County.

#### **Laws 1989, C. 335, Article 1, Sec. 21, Subd. 8, and as amended by Laws 2002, C. 323, Sec. 19:**

##### Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Financial Reports

The requirement for an annual financial report to the legislature was first required in 1989 when the Enforcement Division was provided additional funding for investigations focusing primarily on commercial utilization and exploitation of the state's game and fish resources.

In 2002, the report requirement was amended to a biennial financial report. To our knowledge, this mandated report is rarely, if ever, reviewed or utilized.

**For further information contact:**

John Lilly  
Legislative and Human Resources Manager  
Division of Parks and Recreation  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
651-259-5589  
[john.lilly@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:john.lilly@dnr.state.mn.us)

COL Michael R. Hamm  
Director/Chief Conservation Officer  
Division of Enforcement  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
651-259-5042  
[mike.hamm@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:mike.hamm@dnr.state.mn.us)

Steve Hirsch  
Assistant Director  
Division of Ecological Resources  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
651-259-5106  
[steve.hirsch@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:steve.hirsch@dnr.state.mn.us)