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|  Minnesota Trail Grant Program **Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS)**Project Title: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** Project # **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  |

An EAS is required for your project by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) prior to completing the grant agreement. The EAS information is necessary to determine the impacts of the project, if any, on the environmental and cultural resources of the area and whether any measures must be undertaken to mitigate these impacts. In some cases, the EAS may provide information that may result in some modifications to the project scope or design or inclusion of special conditions in the grant agreement. It is very important, therefore, that the EAS be completed carefully and that all pertinent information be supplied.

Please prepare the EAS using the following format and subject categories. Attach additional information as necessary and reference accordingly.

Project Description (with attached map):

What would be the overall consequence/impact of not completing the proposed activity? What alternatives exist to the proposed activity?

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| **SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS** |
| ISSUES | **QUESTION** | **ANSWER** | **DEGREE OF IMPACT** |
|  | **WILL THE PROJECT…?** | **YES** | **NO** | **?** | **IMPACT DESCRIPTION OR PAGE REFERENCE FOR ALL “YES” ANSWERS** |
| Access Control | Change access to property?(Close, change location, make a one way) |  |  |  |  |
| Accessibility | Assist persons with disabilities in the design of facility, sidewalk, curb or gutter? |  |  |  |  |
| Air Quality | Degrade air quality? |  |  |  |  |
| Bicycle and Pedestrians | Impact bicycle and/or pedestrian movement? |  |  |  |  |
| Bridge | Involve a bridge replacement over water? |  |  |  | If yes, have you contacted the appropriate water authority? |
| Coastal Zone Management | Located within or affect land/water uses within area covered by State Coastal Zone Management program? |  |  |  |  |
| Construction Impacts | Cause construction impact? (erosion, noise, air, vibration, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
| Controversy | Have controversy or be likely to cause controversy? |  |  |  |  |
| Endangered Species: Federal and State | Impact any endangered or threatened species of special concern due to the project location or design?  |  |  |  | Please attach the clearance letter from the Federal review |
|  |  |  | Please attach the clearance letter from the State review  |
| Energy Impacts | Have major energy implications? |  |  |  |  |
| Erosion | Involve major soil disturbance (depth and volume) or have erosion potential due to landform, wind patterns or water volume? |  |  |  |  |
| Excess Materials | Involve disposal of excess material outside planned construction limits? |  |  |  |  |
| Farmlands | Require any right-of-way? |  |  |  |  |
| Floodplain | Cross or lie adjacent to any floodplain area? |  |  |  | If yes, have you contacted the appropriate water authority? |
| Groundwater, Geology, Earthborne | Impact groundwater, geology, or cause earthborne vibrations? |  |  |  |  |
| Hazardous Wastes | Involve a bridge replacement over water, former disposal or storage site, or hazardous materials route? |  |  |  |  |
| Historical, Archeological, Cultural | Impact any structures developed prior to 1950? Require excavation/regrading? |  |  |  | Please attach the **clearance letter** from the SHPO |
| Land Use | Inconsistent with local and regional use plans? |  |  |  |  |

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| **SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS** |
| ISSUES | **QUESTION** | **ANSWER** | **DEGREE OF IMPACT** |
|  | **WILL THE PROJECT…?** | **YES** | **NO** | **?** | **IMPACT DESCRIPTION OR PAGE REFERENCE FOR ALL “YES” ANSWERS** |
| Minerals | Impact commercial minerals and/or peat resources present? |  |  |  |  |
| Noise | Impact noise sensitive receptors? |  |  |  |  |
| Parks, Recreation 4(f), Recreation 6(f), (LAWCON) | Use significant public parkland, recreational, wildlife, waterfowl refuges, scientific and natural areas or any historic site? Will the project impact any LAWCON land? |  |  |  |  |
| Right-of-Way (R/W) | Require any R/W? (easements) |  |  |  |  |
| Relocation | Require any relocation of homes or businesses? |  |  |  |  |
| Section 404 | Dies action involve placement of fill into waters of the United States? |  |  |  |  |
| Stream/River Modifications | Change the course, current, or cross section of any stream/river? |  |  |  | If yes, have you contacted the appropriate water authority or obtained the proper permits? |
| Social | Impact public safety (i.e. police/fire protection) |  |  |  |  |
| Impact sensitive groups? (children, handicapped, minorities, poor, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
| Impact accessibility to schools, churches or recreation facilities? |  |  |  |  |
| Impact community cohesion? |  |  |  |  |
| Soil | Involve major soil disturbance (depth or volume), resulting in the widening of the overhead canopy? |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation | Require road rerouting, closing, or redevelopment? |  |  |  |  |
| Be accessible by mass transportation? |  |  |  |  |
| Vegetation and Wildlife | Impact vegetation, fish or wildlife? |  |  |  |  |
| Visual Quality | Impact visual qualities? (view to or from facility) |  |  |  |  |
| Water Quality | Impact water quality of lakes, streams, wetlands, etc.? |  |  |  | If yes, have you contacted the appropriate water authority? |
| Wetlands | Have wetlands present within construction limits been impacted? |  |  |  | If yes, have you contacted the appropriate water authority? |
| Destroy or improve/create wetland habitat? |  |  |  | If yes, have you contacted the appropriate water authority? |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers/ Canoe and Boating Rivers | Impact a state or federal wild and scenic river, federal candidate wild and scenic river or state canoe and boating route? |  |  |  |  |

**PREPARED:**

"I certify that I am familiar with the information contained within this assessment and that to the best of my knowledge and belief such information is true, complete and accurate."

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Signature of Applicant

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Phone Number Date

**CONCURRENCE (By all public administrators whose property is utilized for this project):**

"We have reviewed the plans for development on lands that are under our administrative jurisdiction. We agree with the conclusions contained within this Environmental Assessment Statement. We find that the project creates no undue environmental impact and that there is no prudent and feasible alternative to the project."

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Signature of Reviewer

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Phone Number Date

***Attach additional concurrence statements if necessary.***

**CONCURRENCE by the DNR/ Parks and Trails Division**

"I have reviewed the plans for development and agree with the conclusions contained within this Environmental Assessment Statement. I do not believe that the project creates undue environmental impact and that there is no prudent and feasible alternative to the project."

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Signature of Area Parks and Trails Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date

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|  **COMPLETING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STATEMENT** |

*The following may be helpful in completing the EAS.*

Wetlands:

Minnesota has adopted a "no-net-loss" Wetlands Policy. Each state agency must ensure that its activities, including state-sponsored, financed or assisted projects, do not contribute to the loss or diminishment of the many important values of wetlands. Unavoidable impacts must be minimized and compensatory mitigation must be provided for all values that have been lost or diminished. It is very important, therefore, that the EAS identify all possible wetlands impacts of the proposed project. This will help in determining whether any changes in project scope or design may be required or whether mitigation measures must be undertaken.

The basic reference for wetland determination will be the National Wetlands Inventory produced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and available at the Department of Natural Resources. Questions regarding implementation of the "no-net-loss" policy and identification of wetlands may be directed to the Ecological Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, (651) 259-5125.