

# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

This Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) form and EAW Guidelines are available at the Environmental Quality Board's website at:

<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/EnvRevGuidanceDocuments.htm>. The EAW form provides information about a project that may have the potential for significant environmental effects. The EAW Guidelines provide additional detail and resources for completing the EAW form.

**Cumulative potential effects** can either be addressed under each applicable EAW Item, or can be addresses collectively under EAW Item 19.

**Note to reviewers:** Comments must be submitted to the RGU during the 30-day comment period following notice of the EAW in the *EQB Monitor*. Comments should address the accuracy and completeness of information, potential impacts that warrant further investigation and the need for an EIS.

1. **Project title:** [Camden State Park Instructor's Cabin Removal](#)
2. **Proposer:** [MN Department of Natural Resources](#)  
 Contact person: [Bill Dinesen](#)  
 Title: [Park Manager](#)  
 Address: [1897 Camden Park Road](#)  
 City, State, ZIP: [Lynd, MN 56157](#)  
 Phone: [\(507\) 865-4530](#)  
 Fax:  
 Email: [bill.dinesen@state.mn.us](mailto:bill.dinesen@state.mn.us)
3. **RGU:** [MN Department of Natural Resources](#)  
 Contact person: [Ronald Wieland](#)  
 Title: [Environmental Review Planner](#)  
 Address: [500 Lafayette Road](#)  
 City, State, ZIP: [St. Paul, MN 55155](#)  
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 Email: [ronald.wieland@state.mn.us](mailto:ronald.wieland@state.mn.us)
4. **Reason for EAW Preparation:** (check one)  

<u>Required:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> EIS Scoping <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Mandatory EAW</b>	<u>Discretionary:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen petition <input type="checkbox"/> RGU discretion <input type="checkbox"/> Proposer initiated
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If EAW or EIS is mandatory give EQB rule category subpart number(s) and name(s):

[Minnesota Rules, part 4410.4300, subpart 31, \(Historical places\)](#)

5. **Project Location:** County: [Lyon](#)  
 City/Township: [Lyons Township](#)  
 PLS Location (1/4, 1/4, Section, Township, Range):

Subsection	Section	Township	Range
NENW and NWNE	5	110 N	42 W

Watershed (major watershed scale): [Redwood River - 07020006](#)

GPS Coordinates:

Latitude & Longitude: [44.369355, -95.925943](#)  
(NAD83) UTM ZONE 15 Easting and Northing: (X) [266873](#), (Y) [4917062](#)

Tax Parcel Numbers: [12-005001-0](#)

**At a minimum attach each of the following to the EAW:**

- County map showing the general location of the project;

Figure 1. Camden State Park Instructor's Cabin Removal, Lyon County

- U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale map indicating project boundaries (photocopy acceptable); and

Figure 2. Camden State Park Instructor's Cabin Removal, USGS 1:24,000

Site plans showing all significant project and natural features. Pre-construction site plan and post-construction site plan.

Figure 3. Camden State Park Visitor Map with Project Location

Figure 4. Camden State Park Instructor's Cabin Removal, Project Site

Figure 5. Camden State Park Instructor's Cabin Removal, Historic District Boundary

Figure 6. Camden State Park Instructor's Cabin Removal, Photos

- Attachments

A. MDNR Natural Heritage Information System Correspondence

B. State Historic Preservation Office Correspondence (Dated September 4, 2015)

C. State Historic Preservation Office Concurrence Letter (Dated June 3, 2015)

**6. Project Description:**

- a. Provide the brief project summary to be published in the *EQB Monitor*, (approximately 50 words).

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is planning the demolition of a former swimming Instructor's Cabin at Camden State Park. The Instructor's Cabin is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building to the Camden State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic District. The building has been vacant since 1997, and sustained damage in two separate storm events in 2009 and 2011.

- b. Give a complete description of the proposed project and related new construction, including infrastructure needs. If the project is an expansion include a description of the existing facility. Emphasize: 1) construction, operation methods and features that will cause physical manipulation of the environment or will produce wastes, 2) modifications to existing equipment or industrial processes, 3) significant demolition, removal or remodeling of existing structures, and 4) timing and duration of construction activities.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is planning the demolition of a former swimming Instructor's Cabin at Camden State Park (Figures 1, 2, and 3). The swimming Instructor's Cabin was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building to the Camden State Park Civilian Conservation Corps/Works Progress Administration (CCC/WPA) Rustic Style Historic District established in 1991. It is located in the southwest portion of the historic district (Figures 4, 5, and 6).

The Instructor's Cabin was constructed in 1938 by the WPA and was originally built as a residence for the swimming instructor at the park. It was converted into an interpretive center at some point prior to 1991 and has been vacant since 1997. In 2009 the building sustained storm damage that was repaired but more extensive storm damage occurred in 2011. After the 2011 storm, the building remained in disrepair and was fenced off for public safety.

Camden State Park is located in southwest Minnesota, approximately ten miles southwest of Marshall, and ten miles north of U.S. Highway 14, in Lyon County. Camden State Park was authorized in 1935

and currently consists of 2,237 acres in the Redwood River Valley and has over 84,000 visitors annually. The following enumeration refers to questions outlined under this EAW Item.

1. No new construction will be undertaken as part of this project.
2. No modifications to existing equipment or industrial processes will be undertaken as part of this project.
3. The proposed demolition is limited to the Instructor's Cabin. The wood-frame building measures 21-feet x 13½-feet and rests upon a 10-inch wide concrete foundation faced with local fieldstone. A crawl space is located beneath the floor. The building is clad up to the window sill with clapboard siding, a series of thin, overlapping wood planks that lay horizontally up to the window sill level. Above the sill level, 1-inch x 6-inch rough boards with 1-inch x 2-inch battens are placed vertically. Battens are a thin strip of trim, typically with a rectangular cross-section, used to cover seams between boards, sometimes referred to as batten trim. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Most of the front gable roof of the cabin has caved inward onto the cabin floor. The building is fenestrated with single and paired, double-hung, wood sash windows and a wooden screen door. A wooden ramp (added at a later date) and porch lead to the front door (Figure 6).

The entire structure above the foundation walls will be removed and hauled to the Lyon County Landfill for disposal. Building materials will be loaded into a dump truck with a clam-shell backhoe and by hand. Equipment will access the site only from the front side of the cabin using existing park roads and trails. The concrete and stone foundation wall will remain in place, remaining visible with a six inch exposure. The interior crawlspace will be filled with several feet of clean fill and planted with native vegetation. The MDNR Division of Parks and Trails is following processes and policies in accordance to MDNR Operational Order 99, Building Disposal.

4. The demolition and removal of the structure will likely take less than four hours to complete.

Background. The Redwood River Valley has long provided a refreshing interlude for travelers crossing the expansive prairies. It provided Native Americans and pioneers with food, free-flowing spring water, shelter from the prairie sun, and protection from winter gales.

The Redwood River Valley was home to prehistoric and historic people. Archaeological research has revealed that people used this valley 8,000 years ago for hunting and fishing. An American Fur Company trading post was established in the valley in the middle 1830s. A Frenchman, named LaFramboise, was hired to trade with the local American Indians from the new post and manage the company's affairs in this part of the Coteau des Prairies, a morainic plateau dividing the Mississippi and Missouri River watersheds. American and European settlers began coming to the valley by the late 1850s. In 1874, the village of Camden was established. By the late 1880s, Camden was thriving with a general store, hotel, blacksmith shop, and a saw-mill which was later converted to a grist mill. The town grew until 1888, when the railroad company decided not to place a depot in Camden. By the early 1930s, the town of Camden was just a memory. Still, the area then known as Camden Woods continued to be used by the local community for picnics and family gatherings. It was from this use that Camden State Park was established.

Development of the state park was largely completed by 1936, primarily under the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a federal program created to relieve widespread unemployment during the Great Depression. The CCC comprised of World War I Veterans occupied Camden State Park in 1934. The CCC camps like this were often known as the Veterans Conservation Corps (VCC). The group was responsible for landscape development as well as the construction of various structures classified as Rustic Style. The buildings constructed by the CCC/VCC and Works Progress Administration (WPA) in Minnesota's state parks typically feature log construction, local stone, rough wood siding, large stone

chimneys, natural colors, and traditional building techniques. They were meant to be as unobtrusive to the surrounding natural landscape as possible. Currently, nine of these structures are classified as contributing structures to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) historic district established in 1991.

By early fall of 1936, development in Camden State Park was completed and the VCC relocated to Fort Ridgely State Park. The WPA workers moved into the park soon after and undertook their own projects, including dismantling some of the rudimentary VCC camp buildings. The WPA also constructed two new buildings, including the Instructor’s Cabin, and one additional structure that are also included as contributing features of the NRHP historic district (Figure 5).

Camden State Park’s operational facilities include: 80 semi-modern campsites (34 with electric hook-ups); equestrian camp (12 sites); a recreational vehicle (RV) dump station; restrooms with flush toilets and showers; a primitive group camp (with capacity of 50); three picnic grounds (two with shelters); an amphitheater; Lake Brawner boat ramp and fishing pier; a playground; and a spring-fed swimming pond with a beach area near the Instructor’s Cabin.

Camden State Park is open year round and provides nearly 16 miles of hiking trails, 4.25 miles of mountain bike trails (natural surfaced trails) and ten miles of horse trails during the summer; in the winter season, skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling are allowed activities in the park. There are five miles of cross-country ski trails, 1.4 miles of skate-skiing trails and 7.6 miles of snowmobile trails. Snowshoeing is allowed anywhere in the park, except on groomed trails.

c. Project magnitude:

Total Project Acreage	1/100 <sup>th</sup> ac.
Linear project length	N/A
Number and type of residential units	N/A
Commercial building area (in square feet)	N/A
Industrial building area (in square feet)	N/A
Institutional building area (in square feet)	N/A
Other uses – specify (in square feet)	400 Sq. Ft, Historic cabin
Structure height(s)	< 15 feet

d. Explain the project purpose; if the project will be carried out by a governmental unit, explain the need for the project and identify its beneficiaries.

The purpose of the proposed project is to eliminate a public safety hazard. The cabin is a safety hazard due to its state of disrepair and proximity to popular park attractions and amenities. The presence of the dilapidated structure also detracts from local scenery. The Instructor’s Cabin has been vacant since 1997. Since that time, various damage and repairs have occurred. In 1998, the roof was replaced, including new shingles, some new decking, and rafter replacement and reinforcement; some floor joist replacement and reinforcement also occurred at that time. In 2009, the roof required patching after a large branch fell and damaged it during a storm. Repairs were made with the replacement of some decking and shingles.

The Instructor’s Cabin has been in disrepair since 2011, when the building was hit again by a tree during a storm causing more extensive damage than in 2009. Over the ensuing years, the building remained unused and continued to deteriorate with no other repairs provided. The roof and floor have both collapsed and the side walls have bowed in or out. They have separated at the corners and shifted slightly on the foundation. Most of the wall studs are hidden behind interior and exterior sheathing. Those that are visible show evidence of rot from the prolonged exposure to the elements.

- e. Are future stages of this development including development on any other property planned or likely to happen?  Yes  No

If yes, briefly describe future stages, relationship to present project, timeline and plans for environmental review.

In 2016, the MDNR proposes to renovate the historic Park Manager’s Residence into a lodging facility. The renovation would use the existing building foundation and structure and no portion of the building would be demolished. Legacy and State Park Funds have been secured and the SHPO has reviewed and approved the plan. According to the rules of the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) (*Minnesota Rules*, Chapter 4410), which administer the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) requirements, no environmental review is anticipated.

- f. Is this project a subsequent stage of an earlier project?  Yes  No

If yes, briefly describe the past development, timeline and any past environmental review.

In the fall of 2014, the swimming pond (NRHP Contributing Element No. 4) was cleaned of sediments and debris (Figure 5).

Other routine park facilities management and repairs have been completed within the park, including areas within the historic district.

The past developments at Camden State Park did not require MEPA environmental reviews.

7. **Cover types:** Estimate the acreage of the site with each of the following cover types before and after development:

	Before	After		Before	After
Wetlands	0	0	Lawn/landscaping	.0024	.0024
Deep water/streams	0	0	Impervious surface	.0067	0
Wooded/forest	0	.0067 <sup>1</sup>	Stormwater Pond	0	0
Brush/Grassland	0	0	Other (describe)		
Cropland	0	0			
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>.01</b>	<b>.01</b>

<sup>1</sup>Building footprint will be filled with soil and seeded with a native seed mix. The area will be allowed to return to a wooded and/or natural landscaping setting, including mowing in front of the foundation and some understory tree and brush removal to maintain clearance for the foundation as needed.

8. **Permits and approvals required:** List all known local, state and federal permits, approvals, certifications and financial assistance for the project. Include modifications of any existing permits, governmental review of plans and all direct and indirect forms of public financial assistance including bond guarantees, Tax Increment Financing and infrastructure. *All of these final decisions are prohibited until all appropriate environmental review has been completed. See Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4410.3100.*

Unit of government	Type of application	Status
MDNR, Parks and Trails	Construction/Demolition Contract	Pending
MDNR, Parks and Trails	Funding	Pending
Minnesota Department of Administration, Surplus Services	Approval for Demolition	Pending

The MDNR is responsible for all disposal and site restoration expenses. The MDNR pays professional services fees to offset the cost of handling the disposal and site restoration. The demolition bid process follow the Commissioner’s bid procedures.

**Cumulative potential effects may be considered and addressed in response to individual EAW Item Nos. 9-18, or the RGU can address all cumulative potential effects in response to EAW Item No. 19. If addressing cumulative effect under individual items, make sure to include information requested in EAW Item No. 19**

**9. Land use:**

a. Describe:

- i. Existing land use of the site as well as areas adjacent to and near the site, including parks, trails, prime or unique farmlands.

The project area lies within Camden State Park and is owned by the State of Minnesota. Over 84,000 people visit Camden State Park each year to camp, fish, swim, hike and picnic or participate in other forms of outdoor recreation. The Instructor's Cabin is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as one of 13 resources to the Camden State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources Historic District (Figure 5). The Instructor's Cabin is located within the day use area, situated mostly within the park's historic district. The park's Lower Campground is located just outside of the historic district. Several park facilities are in the vicinity of the Instructor's Cabin, including the Amphitheater (50 ft), Playground (150 ft), Swimming Area (260 ft) and the Lower Campground (600 ft). The day use area is maintained by mowing. The Basswood-Bur Oak-Green Ash forest community (MHs38b) surrounds the day use area. The nearby forest land is conserved in its natural state with occasional shrub and tree removal. When used to maintain ecosystem health, timber harvesting is allowed as a resource management tool. The reintroduction of bison is being considered in Camden State Park and several other state parks in southern and western Minnesota.

Agricultural land and a few areas of rural residential development surround the state park. The nearest private residences are about 2000 feet from the project site. Several Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), such as the Brawner Lake WMA (abuts the southern park boundary), and waterfowl production areas (WPAs) are located nearby.

- ii. Plans. Describe planned land use as identified in comprehensive plan (if available) and any other applicable plan for land use, water, or resources management by a local, regional, state, or federal agency.

The Camden State Park Management Plan (1978) included a zoning scheme for planning development of park facilities and key policies for protecting its natural and cultural resources. The Instructor's Cabin site is located near the boundary of several zones (recreation/historic/ecological protection). In the 1978 management plan, the condition of the seasonal cabin (Instructor's Cabin) was rated poor. In 2012 the management plan was amended to include updates to trail use, resource management and facility development in Camden State Park. The amendment recommended the Instructor's Cabin, adjacent to the park's amphitheater, be demolished and rebuilt in the style of the original building to provide a camper cabin-like overnight lodging opportunity.

The Lyon County Comprehensive Plan (2002) included an inventory of county facilities and guiding principles. The plan identified Camden State Park as a community facility and an environmental resource.

- iii. Zoning, including special districts or overlays such as shoreland, floodplain, wild and scenic rivers, critical area, agricultural preserves, etc.

Camden State Park and much of the surrounding area is zoned by Lyon County as an Agricultural District. Some portions to the north of the park are zoned as Rural Residential. Lowland areas along the Redwood River and parts of the park's access road are in the Floodway District. At an elevation of

approximately 1,355 feet above mean sea level, the project area is not located in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain of the Redwood River.

The Lyon County Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 17) has been evaluated to determine whether the project is in compliance with the local shoreland ordinances. The project area lies within its shoreland district, approximately 100 feet from a designated public water (M-055-126-046). The area is not within the shoreland district of the Redwood River, classified as a Transition River within Section 5, where the project is located. Brawner Lake, classified a Natural Environment Lake, is several miles from the project area.

No construction setback restrictions apply because no structures are proposed. No steep slope ordinances apply because there are no steep slopes within the project area. Section 17.6.C.2(c)(2) of the Ordinance might apply because the project area is within a shoreland zone but outside the shore and bluff impact zones and some fill material would be brought into the project area. The material would be used to fill the depression inside the foundation walls to a level equivalent to the outside wall (about six inches of foundation would remain exposed). About 23 cubic yards of fill would be used to stabilize the foundation.

In 1991, the Instructor's Cabin and 12 other historic resources in the Camden State Park were listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources Historic District. This historic district is an additional designation, complementing the cultural/historic zones identified in the 1978 Camden State Park Management Plan (Figure 5).

- b. Discuss the project's compatibility with nearby land uses, zoning, and plans listed in Item 9a above, concentrating on implications for environmental effects.

The project is compatible with neighboring land uses, Lyon County Comprehensive Plan, Lyon County Zoning Ordinances, and park operations. Coordination with Lyon County is ongoing. The project is compatible with the goals and recommendations in the Camden State Park Management Plan (1978) and the Management Plan Amendment (2012).

- c. Identify measures incorporated into the proposed project to mitigate any potential incompatibility as discussed in Item 9b above.

Proposed mitigation for demolition of a historic property in a designated historic district is described under Item No. 14 of this EAW (Historic Properties). The cabin foundation will remain onsite as an interpretive feature. After removal of the cabin, ground cover onsite will be restored to native vegetation to enhance the environmental quality of the surrounding area. Reconstruction of the Instructor's Cabin is not planned at this time. As noted in Item No. 14, archival photographs of the historic structure and an architectural report have been retained, should reconstruction be desired in the future. No other potential incompatibility with nearby land uses, zoning, and plans has been identified.

## **10. Geology, soils and topography/land forms:**

- a. Geology - Describe the geology underlying the project area and identify and map any susceptible geologic features such as sinkholes, shallow limestone formations, unconfined/shallow aquifers, or karst conditions. Discuss any limitations of these features for the project and any effects the project could have on these features. Identify any project designs or mitigation measures to address effects to geologic features.

Camden State Park lies in an area of southwestern Minnesota called Coteau des Prairies, a high plateau rising 900 feet at its summit. During the last Ice Age, glaciers covered the shale and sandstone bedrock

of this area with layers of till. Where the glaciers ended their advances or held steady, till piled up into long, high ridges called moraines. Camden State Park lies atop the Altamont moraine, the second highest and most eastern moraine in the Coteau. The Redwood River Valley was formed after the glaciers had receded to the north. Water draining and flowing off the land cut into the till and carved out the Redwood River Valley.

Camden State Park is located in the Coteau Moraines Ecological Subsection, a subtype of the Ecological Classification System used in mapping landscapes in Minnesota. Bedrock is generally covered by 600 to 800 feet of glacial till throughout most of the subsection. There are two distinct landforms in the Coteau Moraines: the middle Coteau, a landscape of rolling moraine ridges of late-Wisconsin drift that is covered with loess (wind-blown silt) 1 to 3 feet thick; and the outer Coteau, a series of steep or rolling terminal moraines separated by ground moraines. A steep escarpment marks the northeast edge of the subsection. Several streams including the Redwood River cut through the escarpment and form narrow, straight ravines.

Susceptible geologic features as listed above were not identified in the vicinity of the project area. No geologic conditions are known to create limitation to the proposed developments. No project activities will have an effect on local geologic features.

- b. Soils and topography - Describe the soils on the site, giving NRCS (SCS) classifications and descriptions, including limitations of soils. Describe topography, any special site conditions relating to erosion potential, soil stability or other soils limitations, such as steep slopes, highly permeable soils. Provide estimated volume and acreage of soil excavation and/or grading. Discuss impacts from project activities (distinguish between construction and operational activities) related to soils and topography. Identify measures during and after project construction to address soil limitations including stabilization, soil corrections or other measures. Erosion/sedimentation control related to stormwater runoff should be addressed in response to Item 11.b.ii.

NOTE: For silica sand projects, the EAW must include a hydrogeologic investigation assessing the potential groundwater and surface water effects and geologic conditions that could create an increased risk of potentially significant effects on groundwater and surface water. Descriptions of water resources and potential effects from the project in EAW Item 11 must be consistent with the geology, soils and topography/land forms and potential effects described in EAW Item 10.

Alluvial and outwash soils make up the project site and access route (Natural Resources Conservation Service, Web Soil Survey). Alluvial soils, primarily Lamoure-La Prairie complex, are prevalent within the Redwood River channel. Outwash soils, comprised of Sverdrup sandy loams, are found on the flats along the Redwood River including the project site. Other park facilities in the vicinity are located on Sverdrup and Darnen loam soils.

The Instructor's Cabin is located within the Redwood River valley near the base of the bluff lands. The project site and access route contain gentle slopes that are less than 10 percent. The wooded bluffs to the west have steeper slopes, ranging from 20 to 70 percent.

Once the structure has been removed, the crawl space below the level of the cabin floor will be filled with about 23 cubic yards of clean gravel and soil to match the surrounding ground level.

The soil and topographic conditions are not restrictive to achieving the proposed project activities and will not worsen the environmental effects of the project. No soil features are known to cause limitations on the proposed development.

**11. Water resources:**

- a. Describe surface water and groundwater features on or near the site in a.i. and a.ii. below.
  - i. Surface water - lakes, streams, wetlands, intermittent channels, and county/judicial ditches. Include any special designations such as public waters, trout stream/lake, wildlife lakes, migratory waterfowl feeding/resting lake, and outstanding resource value water. Include water quality impairments or special designations listed on the current MPCA 303d Impaired Waters List that are within 1 mile of the project. Include DNR Public Waters Inventory number(s), if any.

The designated public waters in the vicinity of the project area include: the Redwood River (Kittle Number M-0550126), three unnamed tributary streams that flow through the park (north side [M-055-126-046], middle [M-055-126-047], and south side [M-055-126-048]), and Brawner Public Water Basin (south side) [42005400]. The northerly stream flows near the project site and into swimming pond just below the project site. The Unnamed Stream (M-055-126-045) located about one-half mile north of the park boundary is also a public water. The portion of the Redwood River within Town 110N, Range 42W, Section 5, 8, and 17 and Town 111N Range 42W, Section 32 is a designated trout stream. The four unnamed streams tributaries are considered important aquatic habitats that support the local trout restocking efforts in the Redwood River. There are no MPCA impaired waters, MDNR wildlife lakes, or calcareous fens within one mile of the project site. The access road runs along the Redwood River (Figure 2).

- ii. Groundwater – aquifers, springs, seeps. Include: 1) depth to groundwater; 2) if project is within a MDH wellhead protection area; 3) identification of any onsite and/or nearby wells, including unique numbers and well logs if available. If there are no wells known on site or nearby, explain the methodology used to determine this.

Multiple wells are located within one mile of the project area are identified in the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) well list in the table below. The water depth of the wells ranges from 90 to 345 feet. Depth to groundwater is over six feet (NRCS Soil Survey information). No information has been identified that shows a potential effect on groundwater due to project activities.

Unique Number	Well Name	Depth (ft)	Use	Elevation (ft)	Depth Cased (ft)	SWL	Casing Diameter	Aquifer
102725	CAMDEN SP	87	Ab	1410	87	67	6	QB, AA
102742	CAMDEN SP	277	Ab	1377	273	1	4	QB, AA
133029	GUZA, D.	365	DU	1455	361	50	5	CU
133168	CSP	345	DU	1505	335	80	6	CU
177001	SCHULTZ, S.	85	DU	1491	81	48	5	QB, AA
212762	CAMDEN SP	237	Ab	1345	231	0	8	CU
212780	BLOMME, H.	230	DU	1348				
222486	NELSON, V.	190	DU	1553	183	100	6	QB, AA
264638	CAMDEN SP 2		Ab	1415	SEALED			
467208	DEMUTH, D.	125	DU	1535	105	78	5	QB, AA
651867	WELCAERT, P.	212	DU	1473	200	60	5	

Abbreviations for Table--Aquifer: QB – Quaternary Buried, AA – Artesian, and CU – Cretaceous Undifferentiated Water Use: Ab – Abandoned, DU – Domestic.

- b. Describe effects from project activities on water resources and measures to minimize or mitigate the effects in Item b.i. through Item b.iv. below.
  - i. Wastewater - For each of the following, describe the sources, quantities and composition of all sanitary, municipal/domestic and industrial wastewater produced or treated at the site.

- 1) If the wastewater discharge is to a publicly owned treatment facility, identify any pretreatment measures and the ability of the facility to handle the added water and waste loadings, including any effects on, or required expansion of, municipal wastewater infrastructure.
- 2) If the wastewater discharge is to a subsurface sewage treatment systems (SSTS), describe the system used, the design flow, and suitability of site conditions for such a system.
- 3) If the wastewater discharge is to surface water, identify the wastewater treatment methods and identify discharge points and proposed effluent limitations to mitigate impacts. Discuss any effects to surface or groundwater from wastewater discharges.

The project will not generate or release wastewater during construction or operation.

- ii. Stormwater - Describe the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff at the site prior to and post construction. Include the routes and receiving water bodies for runoff from the site (major downstream water bodies as well as the immediate receiving waters). Discuss any environmental effects from stormwater discharges. Describe stormwater pollution prevention plans including temporary and permanent runoff controls and potential BMP site locations to manage or treat stormwater runoff. Identify specific erosion control, sedimentation control or stabilization measures to address soil limitations during and after project construction.

The demolition activity will not cause an increase in erosion and sedimentation that could affect the tributary stream and nearby wetlands where the rare plant is located. No changes to stormwater quantity and quality will occur as a result of the proposed project. Due to the small project footprint, no construction or operations stormwater permits or management plans are needed.

- iii. Water appropriation - Describe if the project proposes to appropriate surface or groundwater (including dewatering). Describe the source, quantity, duration, use and purpose of the water use and if a DNR water appropriation permit is required. Describe any well abandonment. If connecting to an existing municipal water supply, identify the wells to be used as a water source and any effects on, or required expansion of, municipal water infrastructure. Discuss environmental effects from water appropriation, including an assessment of the water resources available for appropriation. Identify any measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental effects from the water appropriation.

The project will not appropriate water for construction or operation and no modifications of existing water infrastructure will be made.

#### iv. Surface Waters

- a) Wetlands - Describe any anticipated physical effects or alterations to wetland features such as draining, filling, permanent inundation, dredging and vegetative removal. Discuss direct and indirect environmental effects from physical modification of wetlands, including the anticipated effects that any proposed wetland alterations may have to the host watershed. Identify measures to avoid (e.g., available alternatives that were considered), minimize, or mitigate environmental effects to wetlands. Discuss whether any required compensatory wetland mitigation for unavoidable wetland impacts will occur in the same minor or major watershed, and identify those probable locations.

The small project area (0.01 acre) defines the whole zone of construction. Springs and seeps are located within the park boundary. Marsh habitat is found along the Unnamed Tributary Stream (M-055-126-046), within 65 feet of the project area. The nearby marsh and other natural upland habitats are isolated from the project site by a wooded perimeter that prevents material placement or vehicular encroachment on the nearby wetlands. No project activities will have an effect on the nearby wetlands.

- b) Other surface waters- Describe any anticipated physical effects or alterations to surface water features (lakes, streams, ponds, intermittent channels, county/judicial ditches) such as draining, filling, permanent inundation, dredging, diking, stream diversion, impoundment, aquatic plant removal and riparian alteration. Discuss direct and indirect environmental effects from physical modification of water features. Identify measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental effects to surface water features, including in-water Best Management Practices that are proposed to avoid or minimize turbidity/sedimentation while physically altering the water features. Discuss how the project will change the number or type of watercraft on any water body, including current and projected watercraft usage.

Several public waters are located in the vicinity of the project area. No physical effects on or alterations to surface water features would occur. The mature woodland located north and west of the project site provides a barrier that prevents vehicular encroachment during construction into areas along the tributary stream. Project activities will not have an effect on public waters in the vicinity.

## 12. Contamination/Hazardous Materials/Wastes:

- a. Pre-project site conditions - Describe existing contamination or potential environmental hazards on or in close proximity to the project site such as soil or ground water contamination, abandoned dumps, closed landfills, existing or abandoned storage tanks, and hazardous liquid or gas pipelines. Discuss any potential environmental effects from pre-project site conditions that would be caused or exacerbated by project construction and operation. Identify measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects from existing contamination or potential environmental hazards. Include development of a Contingency Plan or Response Action Plan.

Based on MPCA's *What's in my Neighborhood* (WIMN) database and MDNR Camden State Park operations information, no existing contamination or potential hazards on or in close proximity to the project site are known. Contamination has been identified in the building structure itself.

- b. Project related generation/storage of solid wastes - Describe solid wastes generated/stored during construction and/or operation of the project. Indicate method of disposal. Discuss potential environmental effects from solid waste handling, storage and disposal. Identify measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects from the generation/storage of solid waste including source reduction and recycling.

Solid wastes composed of the demolition debris from the wooden structure will be hauled by dump truck to a Lyon County solid waste landfill located less than five miles from the project area.

If the estimated salvage value is low or the salvage effort would likely damage significant natural resource features, the MDNR recommends that the structure is not sold through a costly sale bid process but is designated for demolition (Operational Orders No. 99). All building demolitions require the approval of the Minnesota Department of Administration (MDA). When the MDA approves demolition of a building the Facilities Advisor makes arrangements to have all hazardous materials identified and removed. A Hazardous Materials Survey was completed for the Instructor's Cabin (MDNR Building No. 40149) to achieve compliance with *Minnesota Rules*, part 7035.0805. The hazardous materials that would be generated as a result of the project were characterized.

The results indicated that some lead is present in the brown interior trim paint that was likely applied prior to 1980. If any scaling or peeling of lead paint is identified, it will be necessary to apply a coat of new paint to the peeling surface prior to demolition, unless: the structure is unsafe to enter as determined by a local government authority, the hazardous materials were unidentifiable prior to demolition, or other potential exemptions. Treatment is not required on the stable paint layers. Some building appurtenance, such as switches and lamps, may contain mercury. If these items are present and conditions allow, they would be removed and properly disposed prior to demolition. No asbestos

containing building materials (ACBMs) or polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were found within the building. The survey identified no other materials that would require further abatement.

Once the approvals are secured, the Facilities Advisor prepares the demolition contract. Ten working days prior to commencing with removal, the contractor needs to notify the MPCA of intent to perform a demolition. It is at the discretion of the demolition contractor whether to salvage and recycle materials or place them in a land fill.

- c. Project related use/storage of hazardous materials - Describe chemicals/hazardous materials used/stored during construction and/or operation of the project including method of storage. Indicate the number, location and size of any above or below ground tanks to store petroleum or other materials. Discuss potential environmental effects from accidental spill or release of hazardous materials. Identify measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects from the use/storage of chemicals/hazardous materials including source reduction and recycling. Include development of a spill prevention plan.

No hazardous materials related to the proposed project will be used or stored.

- d. Project related generation/storage of hazardous wastes - Describe hazardous wastes generated/stored during construction and/or operation of the project. Indicate method of disposal. Discuss potential environmental effects from hazardous waste handling, storage, and disposal. Identify measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects from the generation/storage of hazardous waste including source reduction and recycling.

The project will not generate or store hazardous wastes during demolition.

### **13. Fish, wildlife, plant communities, and sensitive ecological resources (rare features):**

- a. Describe fish and wildlife resources as well as habitats and vegetation on or in near the site.

The Instructor's Cabin site is located in a public use/recreation area of Camden State Park. The park is in the Coteau Moraines ecological subsection that rises abruptly towards the southeast from the Minnesota River Prairie subsection. It is a high landform that includes the Buffalo Ridge along its western edge. Shallow lakes are common, including mostly small and a few large ones. Prairie wetlands are numerous, making this subsection important for waterfowl. The Redwood River valley contains rolling to steep forested hills and floodplains.

Before settlement by people of European descent, prairie covered virtually all of the landscape. Fires were common and critical to maintaining the prairie. Today, agriculture is the predominant land use. Gravel and boulder mining occurs in the subsection and large-scale wind-power production is expanding. Many of the remaining prairie-grassland complexes are in private ownership and often used for grazing.

One hundred fifty years ago, buffalo, elk, wolves, prairie chickens, and golden eagles were an integral part of life near Camden State Park. Today, songbirds, hawks, mink, raccoons, coyotes, and a large winter herd of whitetail deer flourish in the park. Bass and bluegill are found in Brawner Lake, and brown trout are stocked in the Redwood River each year.

- b. Describe rare features such as state-listed (endangered, threatened or special concern) species, native plant communities, Minnesota County Biological Survey Sites of Biodiversity Significance, and other sensitive ecological resources on or within close proximity to the site. Provide the license agreement number (LA-\_\_\_\_) and/or correspondence number ([ERDB #20150233](#)) from which the data were obtained and attach the Natural Heritage letter from the DNR. Indicate if any additional habitat or species survey work has been conducted within the site and describe the results.

The project area is located within an area designated as an outstanding Site of Biodiversity Significance (SBS), which encompasses a large portion of Camden State Park. Sites containing the best occurrences of the rarest species, the most outstanding examples of the rarest native plant communities, and/or the largest, most intact functional landscapes are classified as outstanding. High quality native plant communities, including most of the forested Redwood River valley and several upland prairies are contained within the SBS. An additional moderate SBS encompasses a forested area in the northeast corner of the park near the project area. The SBS areas represent broad scale delineations that often contain inclusions of areas used for human development, such as the day use area.

The Natural Heritage Information System database (MDNR) identified that the Instructor's Cabin project area is within a Basswood–Bur Oak–(Green Ash) Forest (MHs38b), which is recognized as an element of biodiversity and considered vulnerable to extirpation in Minnesota. A state-listed threatened plant species, cutleaf waterparsnip (*Berula erecta*), occurs just upstream of the swimming pond in the seep area, about 65-feet from the project site. The creek heelsplitter (*Lasmigona compressa*), a state-listed mussel species of special concern, has been documented in the Redwood River in the vicinity of the proposed project. Also considered as a species potentially affected by the project is the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state-listed species of special concern that can be found throughout Minnesota. No known occurrences of northern long-eared bat roosts or hibernacula are found within an approximate one-mile radius of the project area (Attachment A).

Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) are species identified as rare, declining, or vulnerable in Minnesota and their available habitats are declining in quality or extent. The Coteau Moraines subsection contains 78 SGCN according to the Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife (MDNR 2006). These include 30 species that are federal or state endangered, threatened, or of special concern.

- c. Discuss how the identified fish, wildlife, plant communities, rare features and ecosystems may be affected by the project. Include a discussion on introduction and spread of invasive species from the project construction and operation. Separately discuss effects to known threatened and endangered species.

The demolition would not affect the management or cause other disturbances to the special forest community as all work would take place on the day use area, within a mowed lawn adjacent to the front side of the building. The building demolition would improve the aesthetics of the forested area. The project will include only bridge traffic across Redwood Creek and will not affect the creek habitat essential for the creek heelsplitter mussel because no increases in sedimentation is anticipated.

The project's small size of a few hundred square feet and brief duration of less than a day indicate that no effects are likely to wildlife, the adjacent native woodland, or rare features. Some management of the restored area may be necessary if invasive species spread into the seeded area.

- d. Identify measures that will be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to fish, wildlife, plant communities, and sensitive ecological resources.

If the cabin would be removed during April-October, the project is not exempted by the USFWS Interim 4(d) Rule and an incidental take permit may be necessary. If the building is demolished within those months, the MDNR would contact the USFWS to discuss the project according to the guidelines.

The contractor and construction crew will be instructed to approach the building from the mowed turf area, exercise care to prevent damage to nearby trees, and be advised of the existence of the special seep area. The adjacent wooded area forms a barrier to vehicular encroachment near and into the stream bottom and wetlands, where cutleaf waterparsnip plants are located. The area within the foundation will receive base fill that is overlain with a weed blanket, covered with four to six inches of

clean, weed free top soil, and reseeded to native vegetation. Invasive species will be monitored on site as the native vegetation planting becomes established. The MDNR Facilities Manager will ensure equipment comes in clean and follows MDNR Operational Order 113 Invasive Species, Operational Orders 59 (Pesticides and Pest Control) and Divisional guidelines to prevent and manage the spread of invasive species. Periodically staff will monitor the seeded area for weedy/invasive species growth and mow or apply weed control treatment, if necessary. The general area of managed lawn that has been compacted by construction traffic will be reseeded with a lawn mixture, if needed. The foundation will remain visible for viewing and cultural interpretation.

#### **14. Historic properties:**

Describe any historic structures, archeological sites, and/or traditional cultural properties on or in close proximity to the site. Include: 1) historic designations, 2) known artifact areas, and 3) architectural features. Attach letter received from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Discuss any anticipated effects to historic properties during project construction and operation. Identify measures that will be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to historic properties.

The history of construction and use of the Instructor's Cabin has been provided under Item No. 6b in the background section. In 1978 the condition of the cabin was listed as poor in the Camden State Park Management Plan. In the 2012 Park Management Plan Amendment, the MDNR recommended the Instructor's Cabin be demolished and rebuilt in the style of the original building to provide a camper cabin-like overnight lodging opportunity.

The building sustained significant damage in 2009 and again in 2011. Following storm damage in 2009, the cabin roof was repaired by replacing damaged joists with new ones and by installing new sheathing. Some damaged floor joists and floor sheathing were also replaced at that time. No repairs or replacement of materials was undertaken after the 2011 storm. Due to the present unsafe and dilapidated condition of the Instructor's Cabin, the MDNR proposes to demolish the wooden structure, while retaining the stone foundation onsite for context and historical interpretation (Figure 6).

The MDNR will manage the contract for removal of the Instructor's Cabin according to the *Minnesota Rules*, Chapter 1255, State Surplus Proper Sales Section, as described in the State of Minnesota Property Management Policy and User Guide (2014), and the MDNR Operational Orders No. 99, Building Disposal. The numbers below relate to the information requested under this EAW item.

1. The Instructor's Cabin is one of 13 contributing resources to the Camden State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1991. The district includes seven contributing buildings, three contributing structures, and three contributing objects. The contributing structures include: the diversion dam, recreational dam and lake, and a bridge and the contributing objects are drinking fountains. Contributing resources are those which illustrate the significance of the historic district. They were constructed within the period of significance and have maintained a level of integrity adequate to convey the historical significance of the district. These resources are located in the northern portion of the park along the Redwood River and are divided between a public use area and a service yard. The district also includes one non-contributing building, a wood shed that was constructed in 1971 (Figure 5) (Attachment B).

The historic district is historically significant for its association with the social, political, and economic impact of the Great Depression and the subsequent development of the various Federal Relief Programs which were responsible for construction of these resources. The park was developed by both the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration, two of the most popular and successful relief programs from the period.

The historic district is architecturally significant as an outstanding collection of rustic style buildings featuring split stone construction. The landscape design for Camden State Park is a notable example of National Park Service master planning which allowed the natural topography of the winding Redwood River to determine the location of the various functional areas in the park.

2. No known archaeological sites are located in close proximity to the cabin. Further, the site on which the cabin is located was extensively disturbed during its construction and the existence of unrecorded archaeological deposits in the project area is unlikely.
3. The Instructor's Cabin is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building to the Camden State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic District. The instructor's cabin was constructed in 1938 by the WPA and was originally built as a residence for the swimming instructor at the park. It is located in the southwest portion of the historic district (Figures 4 and 5). The descriptions below are referenced directly from the Minnesota Historic Property Record, Level II documentation for the Instructor's Cabin at Camden State Park (MHRP LY-LYT-014).

The Instructor's Cabin measures 21-feet x 13-feet, 6-inches and was originally built as a residence for the swimming instructor at the park. It is located near the bath house and lake. The wood-framed structure rests upon a 10-inch wide concrete foundation walls that are faced with local fieldstone. The building is clad with clapboard siding to the sill level (approximately 3-feet up) and 1-inch x 6-inch rough boards with 1-inch x 2-inch battens above the sill level. The building has a front gable roof that is covered with asphalt shingles and features a metal ridge pole with a ball finial, exposed rafter tails, and 6-inch x 6-inch projecting lookouts (faux purlins) on the front gable. A smaller, front gable roof is located over the entrance and, again, features a metal ridge pole with ball finial, 6-inch x 6-inch timber brackets, and another faux purlin. Fenestration consists of single and paired, double-hung, wood sash windows and a wooden screen door. A wooden ramp and porch lead to the front door.

The interior of the Instructor's Cabin consists of a single open space. The floor structure consists of 2-inch x 8-inch floor joists spaced 24-inches on center, that bear on pockets in the top of the concrete foundation wall. The joists were covered with 1-inch thick sheathing and 1-inch thick wood floorboards. A 4-foot deep crawl space is located beneath the floor and is ventilated with 4-inch square vents in the foundation walls on the north and south elevations.

The wall framing consists of 2-inch x 4-inch studs spaced 16-inches on center on top of a 2-inch x 4-inch sill plate on the concrete foundation wall. Wall sheathing consists of 1-inch thick, V-joint, vertical boards. The roof framing consisted of 2-inch x 4-inch rafters spaced 24 inches apart on center, and a 2-inch x 4-inch ridge beam. The original plan does not specify the size of the original roof sheathing but does indicate that shingles were cedar. The 6-inch x 6-inch outlooks are not structural; they are toenailed to blocking in the stud wall.

According to original blueprints, the cabin's original design has been altered a fair amount throughout its history. The exterior underwent the least amount of change. The cabin still features its original foundation, siding materials and configurations, as well as details such as brackets, lookouts, rafter tails, and ridge poles. Originally, the building featured two, paired sets of double-hung, wood sash windows on the south elevation; a single paired set of double-hung, wood sash windows on the north elevation as well as the façade, which also included a wood panel door; and two, single, double-hung, wood sash windows on the west elevation. The current window configuration is the same as the original on the south elevations and east façade.

However, the north elevation now features one paired set of double-hung, wood sash windows and one, single-light, fixed or awning, wood sash window; the west elevation features just one, single-light, fixed or awning, wood sash window. Originally, the front entrance door was a wood

and glass panel style but was replaced at some point with one that contained an insulated glass window; a wooden screen door was also added. Other exterior alterations include the construction of the wooden ramp and porch along the façade as well as the replacement of the original cedar shingles with asphalt shingles.

The interior of the cabin originally contained a living room, kitchen, and bath and featured partial height room dividers covered with V-joint vertical boards. The interior was completely altered at some point prior to 1991; the date, unfortunately, is unknown. At that time, the building was converted into an interpretive center and that is also when the construction of the ramp and porch occurred. In addition, the original roofing materials have been removed and replaced. Original flooring materials have been replaced as well. The wood panel front door was replaced at least once and the most current front door has been completely removed from the building.

Remaining original materials vary between fair to severely damaged condition. Following storm damage in 2009, the roof was repaired with new joists replacing damaged ones and new sheathing. Some damaged floor joists and floor sheathing were also replaced at that time. In 2011, the building sustained major storm damage again. The roof and floor joists were broken and both have completely caved in as a result. The walls have bowed both in and out- one as much as about one-foot out from the mid-point near the top- as a result of the damage. The porch roof separated from the building as well. The building assessment confirmed that many of the remaining materials are too heavily damaged to be reused. Wall studs have rotted; window glass is missing or broken; porch framing is rotted; some exterior siding boards are cracked and splitting; and interior v-board siding is deteriorated at the top of the walls. Some elements, such as some siding boards, the 6" x 6" outlooks, and the windows and their casings have sustained a little damage. No repairs or replacement of materials has occurred since 2011 (Figure 6).

The remaining character-defining, historical features of the building include: the timber outlooks (faux purlins), entry gable roof, siding, windows, and the stone veneer on the foundation.

Minnesota Historic Sites Act (MS 138.661-138.669) requires that state agencies consult with the Minnesota Historical Society State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) before undertaking or licensing projects that may affect properties on the State or National Registers of Historic Places. It is customary to prepare Minnesota Historic Property Record (MHPR) documentation during the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 (Section 106) process or during other State determinations as mitigation for demolition of, or significant alteration to a historic property. Minnesota Historic Property Record guidelines for completing Level II reports define the documentation necessary for the record and the required means of preserving it (Attachment C).

The MDNR proposal of intent to demolish the Instructor's Cabin was sent to the SHPO office and requested the SHPO's concurrence for the proposal. The SHPO agreed that the proposed demolition would result in an adverse effect to the National Register of Historic Places-listed building and the historic district. As mitigation for the adverse effect on the cabin, the SHPO required that a Level II MHPR be completed prior to its removal. The MDNR provided the SHPO an archival copy of the MHPR for the Instructor's Cabin. The documents will be incorporated into the MHS Manuscripts Collection and maintained in the MDNR Engineer's permanent storage file. The foundation for the Instructor's Cabin will be left intact for future reference, with additional fill material provided along the interior foundation walls to reduce its exposure height. The foundation will remain visible for viewing and cultural interpretation.

The MDNR does not intend to rebuild the cabin at this time but has an interest in rebuilding a comparable structure in the future. If reconstruction of the cabin is considered a viable option in the future, the MDNR will have the information necessary for building a replica of the original structure.

Reconstruction may be pursued in the future if project funding is available and if the structure is deemed to be compatible with park operations. Architectural documentation as recommended by the SHPO has been completed to mitigate for the loss of the cabin structure.

#### **15. Visual:**

Describe any scenic views or vistas on or near the project site. Describe any project related visual effects such as vapor plumes or glare from intense lights. Discuss the potential visual effects from the project. Identify any measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate visual effects.

The disrepair of the cabin reduces the aesthetic value of the day use area and surrounding woodlands. Construction equipment and demolition activities will cause temporary disturbance to scenery in the area. Demolition of the Instructor's Cabin and replanting the site with native seed will enhance the aesthetics of the local area. No environmental effects associated with visual glare or vapor plumes will occur during demolition and debris removal.

#### **16. Air:**

- a. Stationary source emissions - Describe the type, sources, quantities and compositions of any emissions from stationary sources such as boilers or exhaust stacks. Include any hazardous air pollutants, criteria pollutants, and any greenhouse gases. Discuss effects to air quality including any sensitive receptors, human health or applicable regulatory criteria. Include a discussion of any methods used assess the project's effect on air quality and the results of that assessment. Identify pollution control equipment and other measures that will be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects from stationary source emissions.

Stationary source emissions will not be generated by this project.

- b. Vehicle emissions - Describe the effect of the project's traffic generation on air emissions. Discuss the project's vehicle-related emissions effect on air quality. Identify measures (e.g. traffic operational improvements, diesel idling minimization plan) that will be taken to minimize or mitigate vehicle-related emissions.

The proposed project will result in temporary air emissions from construction vehicles during the demolition and debris removal. The duration of the demolition will be limited to approximately four hours. Diesel fuel exhaust emissions contain pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, reactive organic gasses, sulfur dioxide and suspended particulate matter, all of which may carry associated health risks. Proposed debris and gravel hauling distances are very short and efficient, limiting the amount of fuels needed for accomplishing the project.

- c. Dust and odors - Describe sources, characteristics, duration, quantities, and intensity of dust and odors generated during project construction and operation. (Fugitive dust may be discussed under item 16a). Discuss the effect of dust and odors in the vicinity of the project including nearby sensitive receptors and quality of life. Identify measures that will be taken to minimize or mitigate the effects of dust and odors.

Demolition of the structure, debris removal, and the placement of fill material will create minor dust and odors for a short duration, limited to approximately four hours. Provisions for minimizing dust are typically included in the demolition contract.

#### **17. Noise**

Describe sources, characteristics, duration, quantities, and intensity of noise generated during project construction and operation. Discuss the effect of noise in the vicinity of the project including 1) existing noise levels/sources in the area, 2) nearby sensitive receptors, 3) conformance to state noise standards, and 4) quality of life. Identify measures that will be taken to minimize or mitigate the effects of noise.

Sensitive receptors may include wildlife and park visitors which might be temporarily disturbed during the demolition and debris removal. Occasional noise generated by the demolition and removal will be of short duration and is anticipated to stay well within the State noise standards. Provisions for minimizing noise are typically included in the demolition contract.

## 18. Transportation

- a. Describe traffic-related aspects of project construction and operation. Include: 1) existing and proposed additional parking spaces, 2) estimated total average daily traffic generated, 3) estimated maximum peak hour traffic generated and time of occurrence, 4) indicate source of trip generation rates used in the estimates, and 5) availability of transit and/or other alternative transportation modes.

The project construction activities are anticipated to be completed in less than one day. Public use of the roads in the project vicinity will not be affected. Less than five trips will be generated on Lyon County Roads 83 and 68 within the park and State Highway 23 and CSAH 59 outside the park. Movement of the construction crew and transport of debris will occur infrequently throughout the day. No alternative transportation would be required.

- b. Discuss the effect on traffic congestion on affected roads and describe any traffic improvements necessary. The analysis must discuss the project's impact on the regional transportation system. *If the peak hour traffic generated exceeds 250 vehicles or the total daily trips exceeds 2,500, a traffic impact study must be prepared as part of the EAW.* Use the format and procedures described in the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Access Management Manual, Chapter 5 (*available at: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/accessmanagement/resources.html>*) or a similar local guidance.

No impacts to traffic in or near park will occur due to this project.

- c. Identify measures that will be taken to minimize or mitigate project related transportation effects.

Provisions requiring the safe operation of construction equipment are typically included in the demolition contract.

## 19. Cumulative potential effects: (Preparers can leave this item blank if cumulative potential effects are addressed under the applicable EAW Items)

- a. Describe the geographic scales and timeframes of the project related environmental effects that could combine with other environmental effects resulting in cumulative potential effects.

The proposed demolition and removal of the storm-damaged swimming Instructor's Cabin will be an adverse effect on the historic property itself and on the Camden State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic District. The project's effects on the cabin could combine with effects from other construction projects in the historic district of Camden State Park that result in a cumulative potential effect on the historic district, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

- b. Describe any reasonably foreseeable future projects (for which a basis of expectation has been laid) that may interact with environmental effects of the proposed project within the geographic scales and timeframes identified above.

In 2016, a renovation is proposed for the historic Park Manager's Residence to convert the structure into a lodging facility within the historic district. Legacy and State Park Funds have been secured and the SHPO has reviewed and approved the plan. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation provide guidelines on preserving historic properties. For more in-depth information, see the National Park Service's Technical Preservation Services. If the guidelines are followed, the rehabilitation of the historic structure would have a beneficial effect on the historic property and the historic district by stabilizing and improving the condition of the building, while retaining the historic

integrity of the structure itself. Maintaining the usage of a building in its original or converted capacity often ensures that the structure is maintained and repaired over a longer term than if the building is left vacant.

The MDNR is also aware of proposed projects of the Lyon County Highway Department for the replacement of three (3) non-historic river crossing bridges along with a mill and overlay of the county road within the park. The bridges are considered to be resources that contribute to the historic district. As currently proposed, the SHPO has determined that the bridge projects result in an adverse effect to the historic district. Currently the County is consulting with SHPO to seek their concurrence of the proposed bridge designs, which have not been finalized or approved. The MDNR regards these projects as planned but there is not a basis of expectation.

- c. Discuss the nature of the cumulative potential effects and summarize any other available information relevant to determining whether there is potential for significant environmental effects due to these cumulative effects.

Cumulative potential effects are limited to those created by these projects. With the proposed environmental effect on the nearby historic Park Manager's Residence being beneficial, no negative cumulative potential effect on the historic district has been identified. Regarding the proposed bridge replacements, the SHPO is negotiating with the County to prevent or reduce an adverse effect from the bridge construction. The final bridge designs have not been approved and the cumulative potential effects from the bridge projects are unknown at this time. Mitigation for the potential effects of each project is being managed by the ongoing regulatory process of the SHPO.

- 20. Other potential environmental effects:** If the project may cause any additional environmental effects not addressed by items 1 to 19, describe the effects here, discuss the how the environment will be affected, and identify measures that will be taken to minimize and mitigate these effects.

All potential environmental effects associated with the proposed project, the potential effect on the environment, and measures to limit any effects have been addressed throughout this EAW in Items 1 to 19. No other environmental effects are anticipated beyond those already discussed and assessed.

**RGU CERTIFICATION.** *(The Environmental Quality Board will only accept **SIGNED** Environmental Assessment Worksheets for public notice in the EQB Monitor.)*

**I hereby certify that:**

- The information contained in this document is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- The EAW describes the complete project; there are no other projects, stages or components other than those described in this document, which are related to the project as connected actions or phased actions, as defined at Minnesota Rules, parts 4410.0200, subparts 9c and 60, respectively.
- Copies of this EAW are being sent to the entire EQB distribution list.

Signature 

Date December 14, 2015

Title Environmental Review Planner