



IN REPLY REFER TO

L3303

## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Mississippi National River and Recreation Area  
111 E. Kellogg Blvd., Ste 105  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1256

September 24, 2019

Lisa Fay  
EAW Project Manager  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Upper Post Flats Affordable Housing, Fort Snelling State Park EAW

Dear Ms Fay:

The National Park Service (NPS) is providing comments on the Upper Post Flats Affordable Housing, Fort Snelling State Park EAW. The proposed project lies completely within the boundary of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (NRRRA). Congress established the Mississippi NRRRA in 1988 to preserve, protect, and enhance the significant values of the Mississippi River Corridor in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Our comments are as follows:

Page 9 Third paragraph; Minnehaha Trail description

Amend the second bullet describing the Minnehaha Trail for greater clarity as follows:

“- a paved recreational trail that travels from Minnehaha Regional Park to the Fort Snelling State Park Fred Savage Visitor Center located on a former railroad grade along the Mississippi River eventually connecting to the Minnesota Valley State Trail.”

Page 9 Fourth paragraph; insert a new bullet point

- **Mississippi National Water Trail** - the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area 72 mile Mississippi River corridor and 4 miles of the Minnesota River corridor at the confluence is designated a National Water Trail and provides coordinated opportunities for access and paddle sports in urban and natural landscapes.

Page 11 Mississippi National River and Recreation Area description, mid-page

Replace the second sentence in the description to read:

This designation stretches a total of 72 miles along the Mississippi River corridor and along the last 4 miles of the Minnesota Rive at the confluence in the Twin Cities metro area and was designated to protect, preserve and enhance the nationally significant resources of the river.

Page 35 Second full paragraph, first sentence. The NPS is not leading the tribal consultation process. Replace the sentence to read:

The DNR under agreement by the project coordinating partners would share the findings of the final Phase I survey report with the federally recognized tribes as part of the tribal consultation for the project

Page 42 Second full paragraph, last sentence: Replace the entire sentence with

The DNR, as agreed to, would lead consultation with the federally recognized tribes for the proposed work.

Page 43 Fourth full paragraph

Recommend to add a statement that down-cast lighting would be employed as a best management practice to reduce light pollution and over-lighting of the residential area.

If you any questions regarding these comments, please contact my staff, Alan Robbins-Fenger at [alan\\_robbsin\\_fenger@nps.gov](mailto:alan_robbsin_fenger@nps.gov) or by calling 651-293-8438.

Sincerely,



*For* John O. Anfinson  
Superintendent