

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Commissioner's Order

Undesignation of state forest road #0253 in Stearns County.

Effective Date: December 15, 2010

Statutory authority: *Minnesota Statutes*, section <u>89.71</u>, subd. <u>1</u>

Supplements: Forest Classification and Forest Road/Trail Designations for the Southern Minnesota State Forest Access Planning Unit (Final Plan 11-06-08).

BACKGROUND

Minnesota Statutes, Section 89.002, subdivision 3, directs the Commissioner of Natural Resources to provide a system of state forest roads for access to state forest land and other forest land under the Commissioner's authority, which is adequate to permit the Commissioner to manage, protect, and develop those lands and their resources consistent with the forest resource management policy, and to meet demands for forest resources.

Minnesota Statutes, Section 89.71, subdivision 1, provides that the commissioner must designate and undesignate state forest roads by written order published in the State Register.

All notice and procedural requirements in Minnesota Statutes, and other applicable rules and law have been complied with.

The primary use of the road identified in *Exhibit A* is for access to the campground, boat landing and day use area in the Birch Lakes State Forest. The road has been gated and has been closed to public use for the portion of the year when the campground is not open. A letter of agreement has been drafted between Parks and Forestry that states Parks will be responsible for routine road maintenance to provide access for recreational users. Parks and Trails personnel are in agreement that the policies regarding gating of forest roads and the established pattern of vehicle use are best reconciled if the road becomes part of the campground facility.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to authority vested in me by law,	
including but not limited to Minnesota Statutes, section 89.71, subdivision 1, that the	
undesignation the state forest road identified in Exhibit A shall become effective on December 15, 2010).

Mark Holsten Commissioner

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Date signed: 12-17-10

