



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

5C

Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: February 8, 2022

Title of Item: Discretionary EAW - Gun Lake Family Campground

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing* <small>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</small>
Submitted by: Andrew Carlstrom		Department: Environmental Services
Presenter (Name and Title): Andrew Carlstrom, Environmental Services Director		Estimated Time Needed: 15 minutes
Summary of Issue: <p>On January 21, 2022, the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) received a Citizen's Petition requesting an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed Gun Lake Family Campground. When a petition is filed, MN Rules 4410.1100 Subp. 5 directs EQB to designate a Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) pursuant to MN Rules 4410.0500. EQB determined Aitkin County is the appropriate responsible governmental unit to decide the need for an EAW.</p> <p>The EAW Committee (which is a working group with no authority to decide or take action) met for 2.5 hours on January 31, 2022. The Committee reviewed letters from attorneys representing Gun Lake Environmental Alliance and the Gun Lake Family Campground as well as reviewing and discussing the EAW Citizen Petition (findings attached to sample resolution).</p> <p>The EAW Committee is recommending to the Board of Commissioners to adopt a resolution to approve the Citizen Petition for an EAW for Gun Lake Family Campground. EQB notification is time sensitive and decision is due within 15 days of notification (minus weekends).</p> <p>....</p>		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments: Board could deny, table, or extend request with EQB for additional 15 days for more deliberation.		
Recommended Action/Motion: The EAW Committee is recommending a motion to adopt a resolution requiring an EAW for Gun Lake Family Campground proposal.		
Financial Impact: <i>Is there a cost associated with this request?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$</i> <i>Is this budgeted?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i>		

Legally binding agreements must have County Attorney approval prior to submission.

By Commissioner:

20220208-xxx

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CITIZEN'S PETITION REQUESTING AN EAW FOR THE PROPOSED GUN LAKE FAMILY CAMPGROUND

WHEREAS, a citizens petition requesting the preparation for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed commercial planned unit development of "Gun Lake Family Campground" was submitted by Steve Massey with the Gun Lake Environmental Alliance on January 21, 2022 with 166 signatures. The petition was verified by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) and assigned to Aitkin County as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) to decide on the need for an EAW on January 24, 2022; and

WHEREAS, no governmental approvals may be given to the project named in the petition, nor construction initiated, until the need for an EAW has been determined. Construction includes any activities which directly effect the environment, including the preparation of land. If the decision is to prepare an EAW, approval must be withheld until either a Negative Declaration of the need for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is issued or an EIS is completed (per MN Rules 4410.3100); and

WHEREAS, the proposed campground of Gun Lake Family Campground includes 16.1 of useable acres, including utilizing 1130 feet of 1610 property owned shoreline on Gun Lake, which is classified as a Recreation Development Lake within Fleming Township, Aitkin County. The property address is listed as 43016 328th Place, Palisade MN (PID 08-0-027400). The developers, Mike and Jennifer Hagel, are proposing to create recreational vehicle campground for commercial development on the property consisting of 22 individual campsites within Tier 1 shoreland and 27 individual campsites within Tier 2 shoreland with no variances requested; and

WHEREAS, the project, as currently proposed, does not meet the mandatory threshold for an EAW according to MN Rules 4410.4300, and therefore the decision on the need for an EAW is subject to the discretion of the Responsible Government Unit (RGU) as per MN Rules 4410.1000 subpart 3, Item B.

Significant Environmental Impact Findings of the Aitkin County EAW Committee:Findings for a Discretionary EAW:

1. The Committee agrees that the proposal is a "Permanent Conversion".
2. The "Permanent Conversion" affects an estimated 1130 feet or more of shoreline.
3. The impact of an anticipated 32.67% increase in potential lake users.
4. Conversion of forestland to high density seasonal travel trailer campground use within shoreland.
5. The impact of an additional 49 users to a 711.9 acre lake.

Permanent Conversion. In accordance with MN Rules 4410.0200 Subp. 57 it is the RGU's determination if the proposal fits the definition. "Permanent conversion" means a change in use of agricultural, naturally vegetated, or forest lands that impairs the ability to convert the land back to its agricultural, natural, or forest capacity in the future. It does not include changes in management practices, such as conversion to parklands, open space, or natural areas. The Committee recognizes that the 1130 of 1610 feet of shoreline being proposed for the Tier 1 campsites is less than the 1320 feet mandatory EAW threshold of MN Rules 4410.4300 Subp. 36a. However, the irreversibility of the construction proposal, affecting a significant amount of shoreline is a factor to consider as to whether the petition for a discretionary EAW should be approved.

Potential Lake Users. Aitkin County Assessor's Office reports 150 parcels with building values over zero. Adding 49 seasonal sites could bring potential lake users to an overall increase of 32.67% which is a substantial increase the Committee believes.

Conversion of Forestland. There is warranted concern of the transformation of a current forestland within Tier 1 to a high density travel trailer campground. Concerns are additional compaction, creation of more impervious surface as paths and road radius' increase with use.

Impact of Additional 49 Users to Lake. Proposed campground will entail approximately 1130 feet of a total 1610 feet of shoreline owned by proposer. Gun Lake has 292 acres of littoral (or shallow waters of 15 feet or less) of a total 711.9 total lake acres. Gun Lake has 8.68 miles of shoreline with an average depth of 18 feet and maximum depth of 44 feet. The Committee believes the summer seasonal impact to the quality of the lake could be of significant environmental impact.

Drastic Altering of Land Surfaces. The Committee expressed concerns at the validity of the potential densities proposed by the surveyor. Concerns that footprint of gravel and compaction could result in increased impervious surface especially in the Tier 1. Radius of internal roads and travel trailer sites are a concern in that they will most likely will increase to accept travel trailers of various size width and the larger recreational vehicles will need significant turning radius.

Infrastructure. The Committee expressed concerns of impact to pine trees during installation of water, sewer, electrical lines, structures, and roads within campground.

Road. The Committee expressed concern on width of township road and wetland impacts on the likely widening of the road. The county engineer reviewed the current road (328th Place) width and noted what appears to areas of 15 feet wide with "single lane road" signs placed in each direction, with other parts of the road slightly wider at 18-20 feet in width. However, the Committee would defer to the township board and its concerns about the road.

Dock. The Committee expressed concern about parking in the vicinity of the docking area for campers/residents off-loading boating equipment and the impact vehicle/recreational vehicle parking could have on the shoreline.

Campfires. The Committee's only concern regarding campfires was the maximum size of fire ring proposed.

Water Quality. The Committee's concerns are noted above, however as relating to topography, the Committee expressed minimal concern as proposed area is flat in elevation to lake, with ample vegetation to act as a buffer, minimizing water run-off.

Effect on Wildlife. The Committee would defer to the DNR Wildlife department.

Effect on Fish. The Committee would defer to the DNR Fisheries department.

Findings against a Discretionary EAW:

1. The Committee agrees that the proposal is not in a "Sensitive Shoreland Area"

Sensitive Shoreland Area. MN Rules 4410.0200 Subp. 79a defers to the RGU in designating an area a "Sensitive Shoreland Area", which is defined as: "shoreland designated as a special protection district pursuant to 6120.3200 or shoreland riparian to any of the following types of public waters:

A. lakes or bays of lakes classified as natural environment pursuant to part 6120.3000;

B. trout lakes and streams designated pursuant to part 6264.0050;

- C. wildlife lakes designated pursuant to MN Statutes, section 97A.101, subdivision 2;
- D. migratory waterfowl feeding and resting lakes designated pursuant to MN Statutes, section 97A.095, subdivision 2; or
- E. outstanding resource value waters designated pursuant to part 7050.0335.

Aitkin County has not adopted any type of local "Sensitive Shoreland" districts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, based on information submitted in the project application, on the written submissions, and given all of the above findings, the project may have the potential for significant environmental effects. Any effects to the environment will be mitigated through an EAW and the normal public hearing and permitting process. Therefore, Aitkin County, as the responsible government unit, approves the citizen's petition for an EAW for the proposed commercial planned unit development of "Gun Lake Family Campground."

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting

STATE OF MINNESOTA}
COUNTY OF AITKIN}

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 8th day of February 2022 and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 8th day of February 2022

Jessica Seibert
County Administrator

JAN 21 2022

January 17, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC AND HAND DELIVERY

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
300 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155


Re: Citizens' Petition for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for a private campground along the shoreline of Gun Lake

Dear Ms. Kelliher,

Enclosed for the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MEQB) is the Citizens' Petition for an EAW for the private campground proposed by Michael and Jennifer Hagel along 328th Place and Gun Lake in Fleming Township. The Petition satisfies each of the requirements of Minn. R 4410.1100, subs.1-2. By copy of this letter, the Petitioners are sending notice of the Petition to the Proposers in compliance with Minn. R. 4410.1100, sub 4. The Petitioners are also sending this letter and the attachments directly to the anticipated Responsible Government Unit (RGU), Aitkin County.

Pursuant to Minn R. 4410.1100, sub 5, MEQB must forward this Petition to the Responsible Government (RGU) within five days.

Sincerely,



Steven Massey

cc:

Brian Napstad District 4 Aitkin County Commissioner
Aitkin County Planning & Zoning/ Environmental Services
Aitkin County DNR

1. PETITIONERS' REQUEST

The Petitioners listed below submit the petition requesting an environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) to be prepared pursuant to Minn. R. 4410.1100 for the 50-acre private campground proposed for development on the southwest corner of Gun Lake, an area with known wetlands and wildlife presence.

Petitioners also request that the MEQB assign an appropriate RGU to prepare the EAW

Petitioners further request that MEQB immediately notify all governmental bodies with jurisdiction over the proposed project that they are "prohibited" under Minn. R. 4410.31007 sub. 1 from taking "[a]ny discretionary step in an approval process that conveys rights to the proposer and is not subject to further review or change."

Petitioners' Representative:

Steven Massey

Property Address:

43152 325th Place

Palisade, MN 56469

Mailing Address:

1762 144th St

New Richmond, WI 54017

(763) 458-7553 | smmassey0185@gmail.com

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The Gun Lake Family Campground proposes to build a private campground on the southwest corner of Gun Lake, along both sides of 328th Place, a one-lane, dead end road that leads to the Wonderland Point community of cabins. The parcels of land on which the proposed campground is to be built are a combination of shoreland, wetland, pasture, and forest (Exhibit 1). The proposed area for the campground is one of the longest stretches of shoreline without a dock on the lake. This land is part of the Mississippi River (Brainerd) Watershed and Gun Lake has been identified as having wild rice beds.

The proposed campground will initially have 14 weekend sites along the lake, with 50 acres available for seasonal sites on the west side of 328th Place. The plans include a dock allowing public access to the lake, full sewer, water, and electricity hookups for each site, and an office building with restrooms and showers.

3. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

a. Drastic altering of land surface

The proposed campground will require a drastic altering of the current land. The introduction of gravel, lawn, or even just the leveling of campsites will create more impervious land, leading to increased runoff into the lake and sensitive wetland areas. As the campsites are used, the ground will become compacted, intensifying these effects, and further damaging the plants around the sites (Exhibits 2 and 3). Areas around the campground, including areas featuring a variety of sensitive species of lichen and mushroom, could be heavily affected by a campground.

b. Infrastructure

i. Sewer

The installation of sewer systems in the proposed campground poses a threat beyond a potential breach of the tanks. Digging up the land for even fourteen sewer tanks will require the removal of a massive amount of soil and massively disrupt important ecosystem functions near the lake. The removal of land from the area will further reduce the hydrologic storage capacity (Exhibit 4). This also increases runoff into the lake. Sewer and septic contamination is a concern around Gun Lake (Exhibit 5).

ii. Road

There is only one road that leads to the proposed campground site. This one-lane gravel road also serves the Wonderland Point area of Gun Lake. Heavy traffic on this road (both during construction and from campers) will put stress on the already fragile state of the road. Dust is already a concern, which will only be exacerbated.

iii. Dock

The proposed area of the bay is one of the longest stretches along the lake with no dock (Exhibit 6). It has become a haven for wildlife and if a dock is put in it will disturb their habitat and stir up the lake bed when the dock is put in and taken out. Docks block sunlight, which can reduce the density of plants. This in turn, can lead to faster erosion.

c. Campfires

According to the "Aitkin County Shoreland Homeowner's Guide to Lake Stewardship," campfire ash is high in phosphorus (Exhibit 7). While the sites will likely be more than the recommended 50 feet from the lake, the number of campfires, along with the increase in runoff previously mentioned, make this a concern. Campfires also create light and air pollution that will affect both people and wildlife nearby.

d. Water quality

Each of the above four concerns also have the potential to affect the water quality on Gun Lake. The construction process and increase in impervious land will lead to an increase in runoff

that will carry possible contaminants and nutrients into the lake. The most recent water quality data for Gun Lake (from 2018) shows healthy dissolved oxygen levels and fairly healthy phosphorus levels although, the MPCA described the overall condition of the lake as:

Not always suitable for swimming and wading due to low clarity or excessive algae caused by the presence of nutrients such as phosphorus in the water. Concentrations of Mercury in fish tissue exceed the standard; fish and aquatic organisms are not always suitable for consumption by humans or wildlife” (Exhibit 8).

Any major addition of human activity, especially involving campfires, land alteration, or the use of fertilizers on lawn could worsen this assessment. While wild rice is not present near the bay, it is on the lake. Any major change to water quality could affect the wild rice.

e. Effect on wildlife

A number of vital species live in the bay that the campground will have direct access to. In particular, a pair of loons has nested in the bay for the last three years (Exhibit 9). In addition to the loons, cabin owners have reported the presence of trumpeter swans, bald eagles, black bears, muskrats, deer (Exhibit 10), and turkeys, among other species in the area along 328th Place near the bay. The presence of a campground and the subsequent increase in light and noise pollution, vehicles, and boats, and the decrease in habitat that come with it pose a threat to these animals. The terrestrial habitat quality is already considered poor in the area, and the introduction of a campground will only make it worse (Exhibit 11).

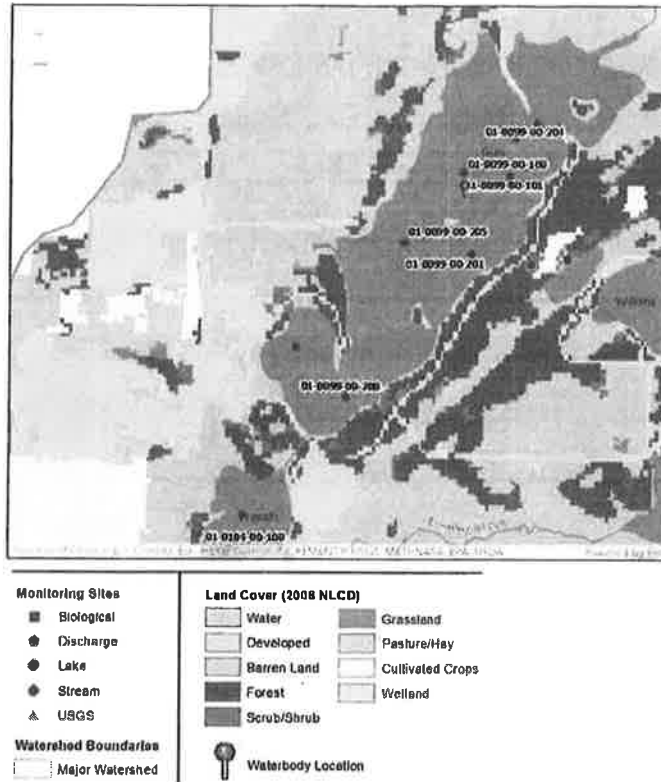
f. Effect on fish

The bay next to the proposed campground has a very shallow shoreline with a large number of weeds (Exhibit 12). Many fish spawn in this area, including sunfish and yellow perch. Gun Lake has a stricter limit on sunfish than the state regulation (a daily limit of 10, rather than 20) (Exhibit 13). This indicates that the sunfish population in the lake is lower than it should be. An increase in fishing, especially where these fish spawn would be extremely harmful. Yellow perch are considered a keystone species and are vital to the success of other fish species in the lake (Exhibit 14).

4. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Exhibit 1:

MN Pollution Control Agency Land Cover Map



via: <https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/surface-water/impairment/01-0099-00>

Exhibit 2:

“Sustainable campsite management in protected areas: A study of long-term ecological changes on campsites in the boundary waters canoe area wilderness, Minnesota, USA”

https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd574857.pdf

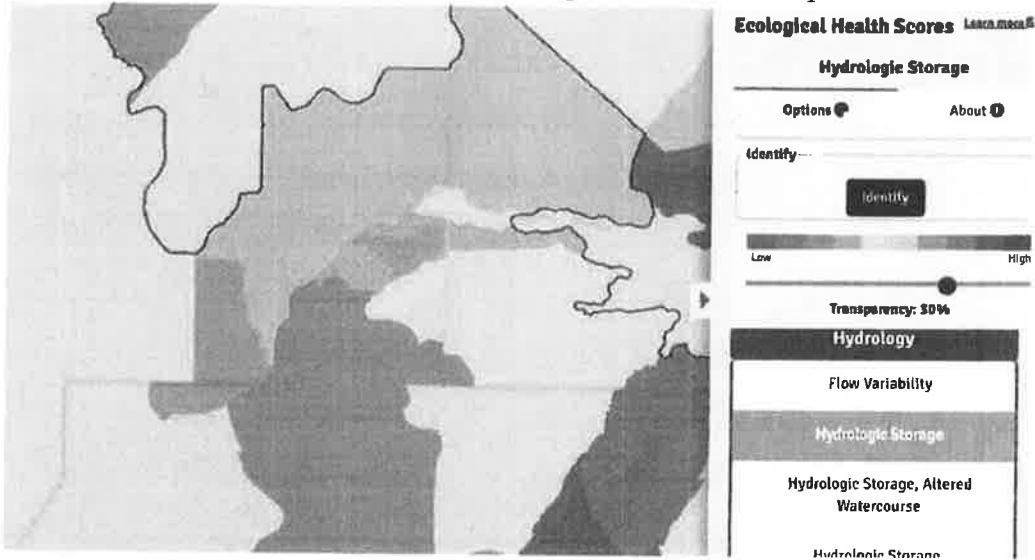
Exhibit 3:

“Aitkin County Shoreland Homeowner’s Guide to Lake Stewardship” (p. 7)

<https://www.co.aitkin.mn.us/departments/enviro-svcs/pdf-files/2015-Shoreland-Guide.pdf>

Exhibit 4:

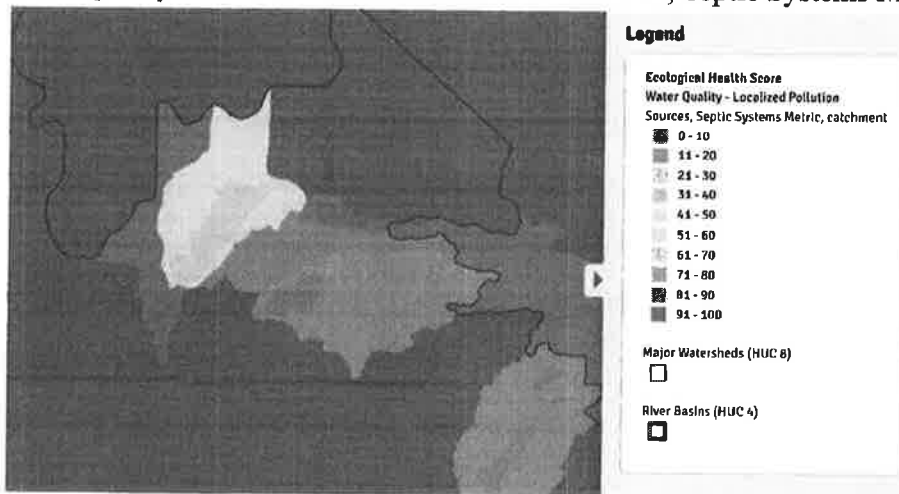
MN DNR Hydrologic Storage Health Score Map



via: <https://arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaf2/>
<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/whaf/about/scores/hydrology/storage.html>

Exhibit 5:

Water Quality Concerns - Localized Pollution Sources, Septic Systems Map



via: <https://arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaf2/>

Exhibit 6:

GIS Aitkin County

<https://gisweb.co.aitkin.mn.us/link/wab/>

Exhibit 7:

“Aitkin County Shoreland Homeowner’s Guide to Lake Stewardship” (p. 3)
<https://www.co.aitkin.mn.us/departments/enviro-svcs/pdf-files/2015-Shoreland-Guide.pdf>

Exhibit 8:

Lakes and Streams Water Quality Dashboard
<https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/surface-water/impairment/01-0099-00>

Exhibit 9:



Brenda Mehr



Jun 5, 2021 · 🌐

Heads up: there are loons nesting on the west side of Wonderland Point. Please be aware & alert of our loon neighbors so we can look forward to meeting their little one. Please be cautious of them!



👍👍 26

2 Comments · Seen by

via: Gun Lake Cabins Facebook page

Exhibit 10:

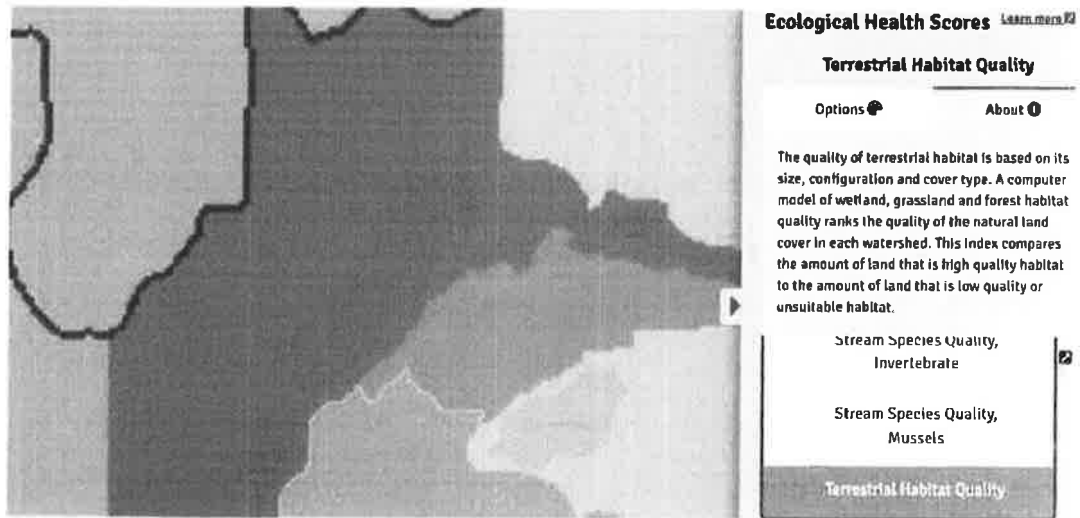
Deer along 328th Place



via: Lynn Guimont

Exhibit 11:

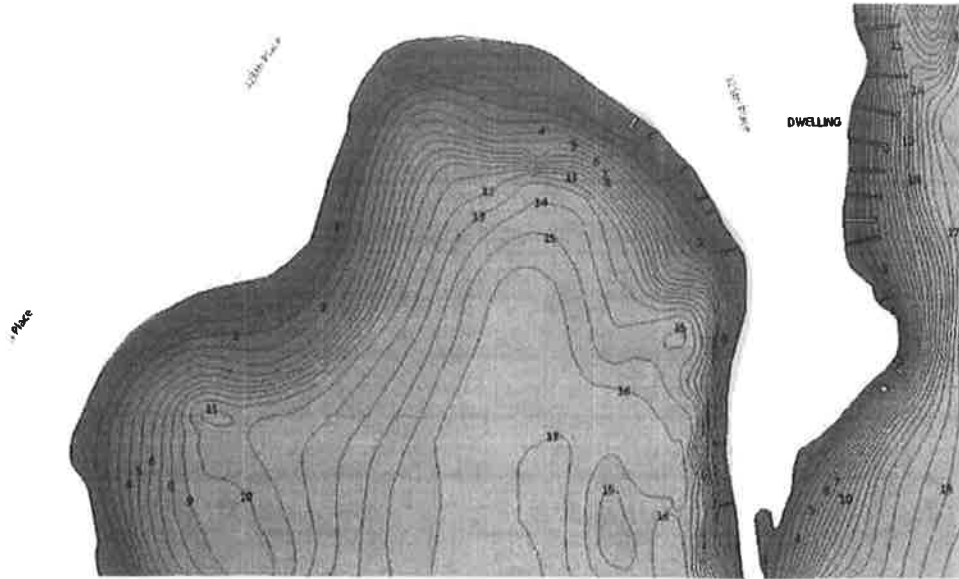
MN DNR Terrestrial Habitat Quality Health Score Map



via: <https://arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaf2/>

Exhibit 12:

Water Depth Map of Gun Lake



via: <https://usa.fishermapper.org/depth-map/gun-lake-aitkin-mn/#top-content>

Exhibit 13:

MN DNR Lake Report - Gun Lake

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/lake.html?id=01009900>

Exhibit 14:

Myers, John. "Minnesota has a problem with perch, its 'keystone species,' and causes may vary"

<https://www.pinejournal.com/sports/northland-outdoors/minnesota-has-a-problem-with-perch-its-keystone-species-and-causes-may-vary#:~:text=Across%20Minnesota%2C%20from%20the%20prairie,may%20catch%20most%20off%20docks.>

5. CLOSING

Thank you for your consideration of this Petition for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the proposed campground on the southwest end of Gun Lake. This project warrants an EAW due to the significant negative effects the project will have on the wildlife and water quality, as well as the drastic alteration of the land surface and use.

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Steven Massey
1762 144 St
New Richmond, WI 54017

Jennifer and Michael Hagel
7694 Stevens Rd,
Onamia, MN 56359

43016 328th Place,
Palisade, MN 56469

January 17, 2022

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hagel,

This letter is to serve as official notice of the Citizens' Petition for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the Gun Lake Family Campground. In compliance with Minn. R. 4410.1100 sub. 4, you are receiving this notice at the time of the petition filing.

This petition asks the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MEQB) and Responsible Government Units (RGU) to complete an Environmental Assessment Worksheet to ensure that the campground will not harm any aspect of the terrestrial or hydrologic environment and that all proper precautions are taken to protect local flora and fauna.

Sincerely,

Steven Massey

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Steven Massey
1762 144 St
New Richmond, WI 54017

Jennifer and Michael Hagel
7694 Stevens Rd,
Onamia, MN 56359

43016 328th Place,
Palisade, MN 56469

January 17, 2022

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Massey", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Steven Massey

• 1166 on PETITION
 • CONSIDER THESE PEOPLE?

We, the undersigned, live in and/or own property in the state of Minnesota and request the preparation of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the Gun Lake Family Campground, located in Aitkin, Minnesota. By signing below, I support the material evidence submitted in the attached petition and believe that, because of the nature or location of the proposed project, there may be potential for significant environmental effects including, but not limited to:

- ◆ Removing or threatening vital habitats for a number of species, including loons, surfscot, and deer
- ◆ Altering of the land's surface that could lead to runoff and changes in water quality
- ◆ Increased fishing in a bay where many fish spawn could lead to decreasing fish populations

Minnesota's Environmental Review Program rules require that a citizen petition contain the (legible) signatures and mailing addresses of at least 100 individuals who reside or own property in the state. The EQB has the responsibility to monitor the effectiveness of Minnesota's Environmental Review Program and to make improvements to the process when needed (MR 4410.0400). Please include your phone number if you are willing to have EQB staff contact you to talk about your experience with the petition process.

Number	Date Sign	Last Name	First Name	Full MN Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code)	Email	Phone	Environmental Concerns/Comments	Other Comments
1	1/16/2022	Massey	Nicole	43152 325th Place, Palisade MN 56468	nicoleduenow@gmail.com	507-217-1404		
2	1/16/2022	Massey	Steven	43152 325th Place, Palisade, MN 56468	stmmassey0185@gmail.com	763-468-7553		
3	1/16/2022	Kovaleski	Tiffany	3840 Abbott Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55422	tiffanykovaleski@gmail.com	612-227-2381		
4	1/16/2022	Kovaleski	Derek	3841 Abbott Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55422	derekkovaleski@gmail.com	612-701-8276		
5	1/16/2022	Brown-Spindler	Karen	861 114th Lane NE, Blaine, MN 55434	karenspindler@gmail.com	763-439-1076		
6	1/16/2022	Spindler	Mark	861 114th Lane NE, Blaine, MN 55434	marksp1951@gmail.com	763-340-6379		
7	1/16/2022	Brown	Adam	9395 9th St NE, St. Michael, MN 55376	adam.b09@yahoo.com	763-843-7895		
8	1/16/2022	Brown	Julie	9395 9th St NE, St. Michael, MN 55376	juliebrown@edinarealty.com	612-819-1455		
9	1/16/2022	Taurer	Emily	3432 Steele St, Minnetonka, MN 55345	emily.taurer@outlook.com	763-639-6885		
10	1/16/2022	Digatono	Lori	6825 Unity Ave N, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429	loridigatono@yahoo.com	763-561-4204		
11	1/16/2022	Nelson	Stephanie	9161 E Staring Lane, Eden Prairie, MN 55347	stephnelson@yahoo.com	612-709-6314		
12	1/16/2022	Koernig	Ganella	3924 44th Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55406	granmami@msn.com	612-483-2334		
13	1/16/2022	Koernig	Durvid	3924 44th Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55406	koernig@msn.com	612-722-9763		
14	1/16/2022	Massey	George	38080 Long Shore Trail, Frazee MN 56544	bassman@arvig.net	218-342-3233		
15	1/16/2022	Spindler	Molly	6010 Radium Circle NW, Ramsey, MN 55303	m02spindler@yahoo.com	763-438-8600		
16	1/16/2022	Knoke	Mark	6010 Radium Circle NW, Ramsey, MN 55303	markknoke@hotmail.com	763-443-3571		
17	1/16/2022	Bisodueau	Chuck	9300 195th Lane, Nowthen, MN 55330	chuck@cmbconcrete.com	612-481-5581		
18	1/16/2022	Engle	Katherine	42817 320th Place, Aitkin MN 56431	englek16@gmail.com	612-873-0248		We are very concerned for all the wild life. Not only the land creatures but nesting loons that return to woodland point to nest every year. To the family of otters that live here as well. The migrating swans that live on the lake every spring early summer and return early fall for weeks before their journey south.
19	1/16/2022	Guimont	Lynn	9432 Nelmark Ave NE, Otsego, MN 55330	gumbjyndlynn@msn.com	763-274-8512		I am concerned about environmental impact on fish, deer, and other animals.
20	1/16/2022	Guimont	Chris	9432 Nelmark Ave NE, Otsego, MN 55330	gumbjyndlynn@msn.com	763-274-8510		
21	1/16/2022	Nelson	Madeline	4412 Cedar Lake Road S, Unit 3, Saint Louis Park, MN 55347	Madeline.abby@gmail.com	952-913-9420		
22	1/16/2022	Guimont	Riley	13818 288th Ave Princeton mn 55371	guimont2315@gmail.com	763-568-6334		
23	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	Wendy	10271 Karston Ave NE Albertville MN 55301	jorgwer@gmail.com	763-219-7635		Environmental impact
24	1/16/2022	Pederson	Mary	30513 180th street, Starbuck MN 56381	M.pederson@yahoo.com	952-217-3449		Environmental effect
25	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	Cynthia	32277 Channel Road, Brezzy Point MN 56472	CynthiaJorgenson12@yahoo.com	218-429-2140		Environmental impact
26	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	LeAnne	14979 96th St NE Elk River Mn 55330	leannejorgensen@rocketmail.com	612-237-5532		Environmental impact
27	1/16/2022	Engelmeyer	Jay	32277 Channel Road, Brezzy Point MN 56472	Jay@Creativecabinsandremodeling.com	320.241.3628		Environmental impact
28	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	Lyla	14979 96th St NE Elk River Mn 55330	leannejorgensen@rocketmail.com	612-237-5532		Environmental impact
29	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	James	13013 9th Ave N Zimmerman Mn 55398	jorgensenjames@gmail.com	763-310-9793		Environmental impact
30	1/16/2022	Klehr	Beth	630 Bluebill Circle, Shakopee MN 55379	bethklehr@gmail.com	952-564-1887		Very concerned about the environmental impact of cur lake and wildlife. We have owned property on this lake for nearly 20 years.
31	1/16/2022	Klehr	Al	630 Bluebill Circle, Shakopee MN 55379	bethklehr@aol.com	612-396-8547		Environmental impact on the lake and wildlife
32	1/16/2022	Cable	Erin	11424 Valley Ct, Burnsville, MN 55337	Erin.Alex.11424@gmail.com	218-232-5198		Environmental impact
33	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	John	10271 Karston Ave NE Albertville MN 55301	jorgjohn1972@gmail.com	763-219-7635		Environmental impact
34	1/16/2022	Aubin	Lucas	15737 Madison St NE Ham Lake, MN 55304	lucassaubin10@gmail.com	763-233-2966		Environmental Impact
35	1/16/2022	Engle	Todd	42817 320th Place, Aitkin, MN 56431	toddse5856@gmail.com	612-210-2901		
36	1/16/2022	Nelson	stephanie	42777 320th pl, Aitkin, MN 56432	snelson1865@gmail.com	651-380-4808		environmental impact
37	1/16/2022	Nelson	Nathan	42777 320th pl, Aitkin, MN 56431	snelson1865@gmail.com	651-380-5938		environmental impact
38	1/16/2022	Hite	Deborah	23045 142nd St NW Elk River MN 55330	deborahhite44@icloud.com	(763)607-4742		Environmental impact
39	1/16/2022	Wade	Greg	15608 University Ave NW Andover MN	wades96@msn.com	763-438-6106		
40	1/16/2022	Wade	Laura	43170 325th Place, Palisade MN 56431	flwade96@gmail.com	763-464-6255		Very concerned with impact of 80acre campground with impact on lake including pollution and wildlife
41	1/16/2022	Mazal	Paige	1530 Zarthan Ave S St. Louis Park, MN 55446	pmazal@comcast.net	612-860-4159		Environment Impact
42	1/16/2022	Huther	Karl	1530 Zarthan Ave S St. Louis Park MN 55446	khuth88@gmail.com	612-287-8535		
43	1/16/2022	Stornts	Jacob	235 Nathan lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441	jsstornts09@live.com	715-864-0158		
44	1/16/2022	Foster	Julie	5016 W 106th St, Bloomington, MN 55437	Julie.foster@me.com	7632579409		Environmental Impact
45	1/16/2022	Schom	Jonathan	14293 Duming Ave, Apple Valley, MN 55124	dr.schom@hotmail.com	9523340353		Environmental Impact
46	1/16/2022	Heiss	Beth	1945 60th St E, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077	beth.heiss@chicinc.com	651-724-5428		Environment Impact
47	1/16/2022	Heiss	Mathew	1945 60th St E, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077	mathewheiss04@gmail.com	651-724-2051		Environment Impact
48	1/16/2022	Heiss	Noah	1945 60th St E, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077	noah.heiss@gmail.com	651-724-7134		Environment Impact
49	1/16/2022	Heiss	Hannah	1945 60th St E, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077	hannah.heiss@draka.edu	651-724-7153		Environment Impact

50	1/16/2022	Halley	Wayne	43106 325th Place, Palisade MN 56431	waynehalley115@gmail.com	651-483-5141	Environment Impact
51	1/16/2022	Moranicy	RuthAnn	2322 Birch, White Bear Lake, MN 55110	mbheiss@msn.com	651-426-2323	Environment Impact
52	1/16/2022	Halley	Thomas	43130 325th Place, Palisade MN 56431	heiss1945@gmail.com	763-866-4038	Environment Impact
53	1/16/2022	Decorsey	Beth	43130 325th Place, Palisade MN 56431	bethislucky@gmail.com	612-644-0586	Environment Impact
54	1/16/2022	Guimont	Randi	9432 Nelmark Ave NE, Otsego, MN 55330	randi_lynn28@hotmail.com	763-242-6146	Environmental Impact
55	1/16/2022	Bourgeault	Shirley	4930 Birchwood Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55343	bourgeas@comcast.net	952-994-2958	Environmental Impact
56	1/16/2022	Stevenson	Terri	43206 325th Place, Palisade, MN 56469	landstevenson@man.com	763-233-9043	
57	1/16/2022	Johnson	Susan	43177 325th Place, Palisade MN 56469	Splutzer@gmail.com	651-470-1101	Environmental Impact
58	1/16/2022	Bourgeault	Joseph	4930 Birchwood Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55343.	Bourgea@comcast.net	952-201-3976	Environmental Impact
59	1/16/2022	Bourgeault	Grace	4930 Birchwood Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55343.	Graciebdandn@comcast.net	612-443-8956	Environmental Impact
60	1/16/2022	Meihofer	Gina	17628 Fair Isle Path, Farmington, MN 55024	gandm@charter.net	952-913-6789	Environmental Impact
61	1/16/2022	Meihofer	Matt	17628 Fair Isle Path, Farmington, MN 55024	meihofer@icloud.com	952-913-0172	Environmental Impact
62	1/16/2022	Meihofer	Garrett	17628 Fair Isle Path, Farmington, MN 55024	Garrot, 51@icloud.com	612-704-3614	Environmental Impact
63	1/16/2022	Meihofer	Blake	17628 Fair Isle Path, Farmington, MN 55024	meihofer@icloud.com	952-460-0719	Environmental Impact
64	1/16/2022	Meihofer	Virginia	1200 Lakewood Drive North #209 Maplewood, MN 55119	ginmeihofer@comcast.net	651-773-7209	Environmental Impact
65	1/16/2022	Meihofer	Gerald	1200 Lakewood Drive North #209 Maplewood, MN 55119	ginmeihofer@comcast.net	651-773-7209	Environmental Impact
66	1/16/2022	Stevenson	Jack	43206 325th Place, Palisade, MN 56469	juststevenson55@gmail.com	763-218-6457	Environmental Impact
67	1/16/2022	Shepherd	Tracy	4400 Nawadaha Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55406	mpls.shept@gmail.com	612-759-5175	Environmental Impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
68	1/16/2022	Reyes	Dominic	Forest Lake, MN		851-328-1800	
70	1/16/2022	Shepherd	David	4400 Nawadaha Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55406	harti_maple2000@yahoo.com	612-247-8520	Environmental Impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
71	1/16/2022	Shepherd	Maya	4400 Nawadaha Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55406	mois.mays@gmail.com	612-900-9504	Environmental Impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
72	1/16/2022	Gray	Mariya	4562 Edmund Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55406	grayjama@hotmail.com	612-805-4821	Environmental Impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
73	1/16/2022	McGuffee	Diane	7365 157th Street West, #314 Apple Valley, MN, 55124	bdybug45@yahoo.com	952-807-8224	Environmental Impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
74	1/16/2022	Fischer	Jane	7410 Jordan Ave S, Cottage Grove MN 55016	jmfischer@icloud.com	651-408-4301	Environmental Impact
75	1/16/2022	Fischer	Thomas	7410 Jordan Ave S, Cottage Grove MN 55016	tfischers@comcast.net	651-428-3540	Environmental Impact
76	1/16/2022	Morris	Laura	3937 38th Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55406	lolacm_73@hotmail.com	612-203-1575	Environmental impact, increase traffic, wildlife impact
77	1/16/2022	Morris	Michael	3937 38th Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55406	m.morris.89@hotmail.com	612-703-7602	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
78	1/16/2022	Morris	Lindsey	3937 38th Avenue South Minneapolis MN 55406	monfnds@gmail.com	612-310-3217	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
79	1/16/2022	Morris	Roslynn	1204 Black Oak Drive New Brighton, MN 55112	cheetah.ros@hotmail.com	612-396-5421	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
80	1/16/2022	Jorgensen	Julie	8334 Padgett Ave Ne Otsego MN 55330	ju1218@gmail.com	763-441-6549	Environmental impact
81	1/16/2022	Kalla	Gary	184 Eldarberry Rd Clearwater, MN 55420	Kallagary@yahoo.com	320-266-9854	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
82	1/16/2022	Kalla	Merly	8320 3rd Ave S Bloomington, MN 55420	Merkalla88@gmail.com	320-267-6689	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
83	1/16/2022	Sackett	Yany	6320 3rd Ave S Bloomington, MN 55420	asackett7@gmail.com	507-261-4640	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
84	1/16/2022	Johnson	Andy	43177 325th Place, Palisade MN 56469	Andy27johnson@gmail.com	651-587-7952	Fishing, water quality, noise pollution
85	1/16/2022	Friese	Julie	577 Stonewood Way, Burnsville, MN 55306	juliefriese@hotmail.com	651-356-5724	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
86	1/16/2022	Larson	Christina	9370 Gander LN Minnetrista MN 55375	christina.larson@mchsi.com	612-741-2389	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact
87	1/16/2022	Jared	Hughes	1204 Black Oak Drive New Brighton, MN 55112	jaredhughes5@gmail.com	612-436-3566	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
88	1/16/2022	Larson	Andrea	10413 Wensworth Ave S Bloomington, MN 55420	larson.m.andrea@gmail.com	701-331-1739	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact
89	1/16/2022	Ferrian	Michaela	10413 Wensworth Ave S Bloomington, MN 55420	m.ferrian@hotmail.com	763-670-9328	Environmental impact, increased traffic, wildlife impact, water quality
90	1/16/2022	Moore	Lisa	16197 Ilasca Ave SE, Prior Lake MN 55372	71leemore@gmail.com	952-960-4616	Environmental Impact, increased traffic, wildlife Impact, water quality
91	1/16/2022	Harrington	Phobe	43067 825th Place, Palisade, MN 56469	Mincbrievr@hotmail.com	612-396-3292	Wildlife impact, increased traffic, Noise and light pollution.
92	1/16/2022	West	Curt	2096 21st Ave S, Lino Lakes MN 55038	cl123058@yahoo.com	763-234-7241	Wildlife and environmental impact. Light and noise pollution. Safety on the roads and in water.
93	1/16/2022	Harrington	Hannah	5067 Holiday Rd, Minnetonka, MN 55345	Hannahharrington@yahoo.com	612-501-9291	Noise and light pollution. Traffic on a quiet road. Impact on loons that nest nearby. Beavers that swim in the bay. increased water traffic in a quiet bay.
94	1/16/2022	Zaycheck	Jason	5067 Holiday Rd., Minnetonka, MN 55345	Jzaycheck@yahoo.com	612-910-9236	Loud water traffic with increased traffic on quiet road and bay.
95	1/16/2022	Crump	Jarline	3230 Alabama Av. S., St. Louis Park MN 55416	jarlinecrumps@gmail.com	612-578-0779	Environmental impact. Concerned the soil type in this area can not support recreational use & septic load.
96	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Mark	15622 Lana Street Ext., Minnetonka MN 55345	mark-doinstallation@hotmail.com	(612) 309-2047	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact
97	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Danise	15622 Lake Street Ext., Minnetonka MN 55345	Cubby22252@msn.com	(612) 232-0858	Environmental Impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact
98	1/16/2022	Anderson	Priscilla	17205 Grays Bay Blvd, Wayzata, MN 55391	skitzanderson@aol.com	612-812-5754	
99	1/16/2022	Harrington	Jonah	6940 Hillcrest Rd, Mound, MN 55364	jonah8743@gmail.com	612-996-7294	
100	1/16/2022	Hempel	Heidi	17320 Shawler Lane, Wayzata, MN 55381	hahempel@icloud.com	612-670-9568	
101	1/16/2022	Drusch	Jenny	438 Lake Trail, Winnetka, MN 55395	jennydrusch@yahoo.com	763-248-8503	
102	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Lindsay	13825 Excelsior Blvd Minnetonka MN 55345	Lindzdvorak@gmail.com	763-300-3781	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact
103	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Matt	13825 Excelsior Blvd Minnetonka MN 55345	Maddv91C@gmail.com	612-203-9996	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact
104	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Kati	9808 Lily Pond Lane Corcoran MN 55340	kdvorak7@hotmail.com	952-412-2614	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact
105	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Rick	9808 Lily Pond Lane Corcoran MN 55340	Rick-dvo@hotmail.com	(612) 228-2525	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact

106	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Nick	2415 County Road 92 Independence MN 55359	Nicdvo@hotmail.com	(612) 967-3852	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact	
107	1/16/2022	Dvorak	Jenna	2415 County Road 92 Independence MN 55359	Jrdvork85@gmail.com	(612) 423-4456	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact	
108	1/16/2022	Green	Pam	13228 Spencer Sweet Pea Lane Eden Prairie MN 55344	Pamgreen110@gmail.com	812-940-9728	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact	
109	1/16/2022	Kjorness	Zach	4701 Church Road Hopkins MN 55343	zkjorness@gmail.com	952-485-1422	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact	
110	1/17/2022	Ahlbrecht	Robert	335 19 1/2 ave n St. Cloud MN 56303	rodybud@hotmail.com	320-339-0107	Environmental impact, traffic increase and wildlife impact	
111	1/17/2022	Olmscheid	Bruce	2601 Euclid Place Minneapolis MN 55408	bruce.olmscheid@gmail.com	650-995-4912		
112	1/17/2022	Reichert	Stacy	1254 133rd Lane NE Ham Lake MN 55304	stacey328@comcast.net	763-229-0519	environmental impact, traffic increase, and wildlife impact	
113	1/17/2022	Nelson	Scott	9161 East Starling Lane, Eden Prairie, MN 55347	snelson9761@gmail.com	952-412-8417	environmental impact, traffic increase, and wildlife impact	
114	1/17/2022	Kohout	Matthew	800 41st Ave Anoka Mn 55303	Mkohout@yahoo.com	612-310-9540	environmental impact, traffic increase, and wildlife impact	
115	1/17/2022	Kanthak	Julie	208 W 3rd St. Carver Mn 55315	jkanthak@edenpr.org	952-368-3874		
116	1/17/2022	Lueck	Eric	2601 Euclid Place Minneapolis MN 55408	lueck.eric@gmail.com	650-743-9443	Environmental impact, traffic increase,	
117	1/17/2022	Giese	David	2198 Rocky Rapids Way, Eagan MN 55122	David.Giese.365@gmail.com	651-707-9154	environmental impact, traffic increase, and wildlife impact	
118	1/17/2022	Duenow	Steven	8544 Nicollet Ave S, Bloomington MN 55420	stevduenow@hotmail.com	612-644-7432		
119	1/17/2022	Duenow	Karla	8544 Nicollet Ave S, Bloomington MN 55420	karladuenow@hotmail.com	612-999-0664		
120	1/17/2022	Massey	Kevin	11375 Parkview Dr. Becker, MN 55308	usmc9696@yahoo.com	952-250-3528		
121	1/17/2022	Massey	Angie	11375 Parkview Dr. Becker MN 55308	kevin_massey@frontier.net	402-517-7253		
122	1/17/2022	Slavik	Nathan	4040 Painted Sky Trl, Chaska, MN 55318	slaviko@hotmail.com	952-393-7169		
123	1/17/2022	Wronski	Tracy	9348 Sycamore Court N, Maple Grove, MN 55369	twron@comcast.net	612-875-3288		
124	1/17/2022	Stagle	Darlene	1217 Myrtle Street West, Stillwater, MN 55082	rt0938@min.com	612-987-1193		
125	1/17/2022	Weseman	Sarah	15775 Highview Drive, Apple Valley, MN 55124	Sarah.Weseman@gmail.com	651-788-0529	Environmental Impact and Wild life impact	
126	1/17/2022	Konietzko	Earl	1825 Clinton Ave Minneapolis MN 55404	earl.kon@gmail.com			
127	1/17/2022	Peterson	Dale	30725 427th St, Aitkin MN 56431	daalpe@gmail.com	651-600-7932	traffic increase, wildlife impact	
128	1/17/2022	Johnson	Ben	10566 Packard Street NE, Blaine, MN 55014	runner383@yahoo.com	785-486-5909	Traffic and ATV increase and wildlife impact	
129	1/17/2022	Peterson	Connie	30725 427th St, Aitkin MN 56431	connanpet@yahoo.com	612-508-2934	Traffic and ATV increase and environmental impact	
130	1/17/2022	Dungan	Brian	988 carriage Lane Chaska mn 55318	b.t.dungan@gmail.com	952-941-5443		
131	1/17/2022	Dindorf	Ciaudia	45 1st St N Waite Park MN 56387	cmdindorf@gmail.com	320-248-6975		
132	1/17/2022	Peterson	Whitney	2631 Brookview Ln SW, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472	walpeterson@gmail.com	651-675-6513	Environmental impact and Wild life impact	
133	1/17/2022	Peterson	Justin	2631 Brookview Ln SW, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472	j3hd@gmail.com	651-675-8632	Environmental impact and Wild life impact	
134	1/17/2022	Crump	Alyssa	3230 Alabama Ave S, St. Louis Park, MN 55416	alyssa.crump2000@gmail.com	612-479-2685	Environmental Impact	
135	1/17/2022	Guilmont	Tim	6512 Packard Ave, Osage, MN 55330	guilmontdad@gmail.com	612-490-6330		
136	1/17/2022	Barnett	Deanna	10577 80th St. NE Osage, MN, 55362	deannabarnett511@gmail.com	612-505-1026		
137	1/17/2022	Johnson	Ashia	10577 80th St. NE Osage, MN, 55362	deannabarnett511@gmail.com	507-298-0405		
138	1/17/2022	Vinje	Rakanna	44200 317th Pl., Palisade MN 56469	rock111517@hotmail.com	218-670-0429		
139	1/17/2022	Peterson	Kirston	31215 N Heath St Act 103, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472	korlyduky@yahoo.com	651-895-3255	Environmental and wildlife impact	
140	1/17/22	Koernig	Scott	935 Westchester Ave Shakopee, MN 55378	Korns3@msn.com	612-239-8047	Environmental and wildlife impact	
141	1/17/2022	Young Koernig	Erin	935 Westchester Ave Shakopee, MN 55379	Eayoung31@yahoo.com	952-888-0928	Environmental and wildlife impact	
142	1/17/2022	Koernig	Kevin	6246 Karston Dr NE Albertville, MN 55301	Kevinkoernig@gmail.com	612-532-0319	Environmental and wildlife impact	
143	1/17/2022	Duenow	Michael	6203 38th Ave N, Crystal MN 55422	mikeduenow@gmail.com	763-614-9834		
144	01/17/2022	Johnson	Sheryl	2259 138th Ln NE Ham Lake Mn 55304	sheryl87@yahoo.com	763-269-2961	Environment and wildlife impact	
145	1/17/2022	Johnson	Wesley	2259 138th Ln NE Ham Lake, Mn 55304	wes.johnson54@yahoo.com	612-960-5221	Environment and wildlife impact	
146	1/17/2022	Satherlie	Meggan	31215 N Heath Street Pequot Lakes, MN 56472	meggansatherlie@gmail.com	218-821-8987		
147	1/17/2022	Johnson	Ben	2256 Liberty Glen loop, St. Cloud, MN 56301	bjohn215@gmail.com		Environment and wildlife impact	
148	1/17/2022	Johnson	Owen	11558 Shady View Lane, Maple Grove, MN 55311	o07owen@gmail.com	763-218-0746		
149	1/17/2022	Peterson	Delores	5086 Crossroads, Nisswi MN 56468			Environment, wildlife	
150	1/17/2022	Johnson	Carol	11558 Shady View Lane, Maple Grove, MN 55311	cabinocarh@gmail.com	763-772-4580		
151	1/17/2022	Johnson	Wayne	49791 297th Place, Palisade MN 56469	superior@emly.net	218-244-8046	environment and wildlife	
152	1/17/2022	Guilmont	Thomas	28827 116th St, Princeton, MN 55371	tgil260@gmail.com	763-528-0737		
153	1/17/2022	Guilmont	Christina	28827 116th St, Princeton, MN 55371	clgmn@gmail.com	763-227-6087		
154	1/17/2022	Bentson	Leah	8515 Skunk Hollow Trail, Cannon Falls MN 55009	lbentson@frontier.net	507-298-1955		
155	1/17/2022	Bentson	Derek	8515 Skunk Hollow Trail, Cannon Falls MN 55009	dbentson@chicago.lube.com	651-260-9607		
156	1/17/2022	Kepp	Diane	11301 Raleigh Ct., Burnsville MN 56337	litedity63@gmail.com	952-894-4558		
157	1/17/2022	Kepp	John	11301 Raleigh Ct., Burnsville MN 56337	litedity63@gmail.com	952-894-4558		
158	1/17/2022	Kepp	Matt	9253 West 125th Sargeant MN 55378	mattkepp333@gmail.com	952-445-0389		
159	1/17/2022	Kepp	Pete	1401 68th St. E Bloomington MN 55425	petekepp@gmail.com	952-851-9204		
160	1/17/2022	Anderson	David	29509 430th Lane, Aitkin, MN 56431	braindas@aol.com	612-812-6754		
161	1/17/2022	Patterson	Dave	4558 Edmund Blvd, Minneapolis, MN, 55408	patterosch@msn.com	612-729-3861	Am particularly concerned about impact of increased septic and traffic on the water quality of Gun Lake and connected wetlands.	Family has been on Gun Lake since 1952.
162	1/17/2022	Roach	Polly	4558 Edmund Blvd, Mpls, MN 55408	pmroach@gmail.com	612-865-6932	Concerned about impact on wetlands and negative consequences of increased boat traffic on wildlife.	



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January 31, 2022

Aitkin County EAW Committee
ATTN: Andrew Carlstrom, Environmental Services Director
307 2nd Street NW
Room 219
Aitkin, MN 56431

BY EMAIL

*Re: Petition to approve Environmental Assessment Worksheet for Gun Lake Family
Campground*

Dear Members of the Aitkin County EAW Committee:

On behalf of the Gun Lake Environmental Alliance (the "Alliance") an entity formed by Gun Lake property owners, we respectfully ask the EAW Committee to **support** the petition of the Alliance and recommend the County Commission order an Environmental Assessment Worksheet ("EAW") to ensure appropriate consideration of potential adverse impacts of the Campground Project (the "Project") to the lake.

A detailed discussion of the legal basis for our request follows, but what we are asking is very simple: we are asking for an investigation of the potential impacts of the Project on the lake, the impacted wetlands, and finite natural resources by experts qualified to make recommendations to the County. Had the developer proposed just one more campsite, a mandatory EAW would be required. The members of the Alliance have a vested interest in the long-term sustainability of the Lake. The Alliance is not opposed to development of a campground but are concerned that a thorough environmental review of the Project has not been undertaken by the developer. To be clear, the Alliance is only asking for an investigation. Members of the Alliance have been asking for this investigation since the developer first announced the Project. The purpose of the EAW is to provide the County with the opportunity to solicit expert advice on which to base its decisions surrounding review and approval of the Project.

I. INTRODUCTION

Ordering an EAW is an important step to determine the potential for damage from construction activities and ongoing use on the Project site. The proposed campground will require a drastic altering of the current land. The introduction of gravel will create more impervious land, leading to increased runoff into the lake and sensitive wetland areas. As the campsites are used, the ground will become compacted, intensifying these impacts. The installation of sewer systems in the proposed campground poses a threat beyond a potential breach of the tanks. The removal of

land from the area will further reduce the hydrologic storage capacity, thereby increasing runoff into the lake. Sewer and septic contamination has long been a concern around Gun Lake. A small increase in nutrients caused by the production of additional wastewater from the shore can cause a dramatic decrease in lake transparency. The most recent water quality data for Gun Lake shows healthy dissolved oxygen levels and fairly healthy phosphorus levels, although the MPCA described the overall condition of the lake as, "Not always suitable for swimming and wading due to low clarity or excessive algae caused by the presence of nutrients such as phosphorus in the water." The Alliance contends that any major addition of human activity can worsen this assessment. The preparation of an EAW would determine the likely scale of such damage and whether and how it could be mitigated.

II. ANALYSIS

The Minnesota Legislature passed the Minnesota Environmental Protection Act ("MEPA") to ensure informed decision making by state agencies, including Counties. Under MEPA, a county must consider the impact of its decisions on natural resource, using "all practicable means and measure, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which human beings and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of the state's people." Minn. Stat. §116D.02.

If this project was proposed to incorporate one more campground, an EAW would be mandatory, but the Alliance's petition presents the County with the opportunity to order a discretionary EAW. The County may order a discretionary EAW if the County determines the nature or location of a proposed project has the potential to significantly affect a natural resource. In reviewing a citizen petition, a County must decide whether the proposed project "*may* have the potential for significant environmental effects" by considering the following four criteria (Criteria) under Minn. Rules 4410.1700:

- Type, extent, and reversibility of environmental effect;
- Cumulative potential effects;
- The extent to which the environmental effects are subject to mitigation by ongoing public regulatory authority. The RGU may rely only on mitigation measures that are specific and that can be reasonably expected to effectively mitigate the identified environmental impacts of the project; and
- The extent to which environmental effects can be anticipated and controlled as a result of other available environmental studies undertaken by public agencies or the project propose, including other EISs.

If, based on consideration of these factors, a County decides that the petitioner has presented material evidence that the project *may* have the potential for significant environmental effects, then it must order an EAW. Minn. Rules §4410.1000, subp. 3(B). We urge the Committee to recommend an EAW based on the following analysis.

1. An EAW can inform future decisions.

The County Commission is empowered to draft conditions of approval in reviewing the Project application for a Conditional Use Permit (“CUP”). Section 16 of the County Zoning Ordinance requires compliance with statutory conditions governing minimum campsite area, roadway surface, internal traffic controls, setbacks from the lake and sanitary facilities. Aside from this, the County ordinance defers to the zoning controls established in the CUP process to mitigate environmental damage. The Alliance believes that without further investigation the County is at an informational disadvantage to craft conditions that will ensure that the proposed use will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of the environment. Without such consideration, conditions imposed will not be sufficiently tailored to address the harm posed to the Lake. The EAW is the proper forum for that review.

2. The Alliance need only show that the Project *may* have the *potential* to significantly harm Gun Lake.

Although the Alliance as petitioners, must present material evidence to support its argument in a petition, the County must consider *all* of the evidence presented by the petitioners, proposers, and other persons or otherwise known to the County to determine that “because of the nature or location of the proposed project, the project may have the potential for significant environmental effects.” Minn. Rules. 4410.1100 Subp.6. The County must apply this evidence to all four criteria to determine whether the Project may have the potential for significant environmental effects. If, based on the consideration of the Criteria, the County decides that the petition has presented material evidence that the Project *may* have the potential for significant environmental effects, then the County *must* order an EAW. The following considerations of the Criteria demonstrates that the Project may, and almost certainly does, have the potential to significantly harm the Lake. The County should therefore order the EAW based on the following considerations:

A. Type, extent, and reversibility of environmental effects.

Most properties on Gun Lake are subject to the residential requirements of the Aitkin County Zoning Ordinance. These provisions require minimum lot sizes of 7,000 to 20,000 square feet and lot widths of 100 feet, with maximum lot coverage of 35 percent. There are currently approximately 120 homesites on Gun Lake. Adding 49 families to the lake should not be disregarded. The density proposed by the Project is significant in comparison to these more protective residential standards and therefore the type, extent, and potential for harm is greater.

The use proposed by the developer is a transient one, with the potential for different users in a compact area. Campers must leave the campsite, because otherwise more restrictive County ordinances governing the use and maintenance of “structures” would apply. Accordingly, campers can stay at the proposed site for no more than 15 days and must be “gone from the area” for at least 30 days. With this transient use in mind, the property

owners of the Lake will bear the burden and hardship of a decision to not require an environmental review. Now, before the impacts to the Lake are not reversible, is the time to further analyze the Project.

B. Cumulative potential effects.

If constructed, the Project could be the first in a trend of recreational tourism expansion without significant environmental review. Noise and dust pollution will result not only from construction activity but also the increased vehicle activity necessitated by the propose use. The substantial intensification of concentrated traffic will increase the potential of harm to the lake. The County's decision here will set precedent for future decisions, and we urge the County to pause now and use the EAW process as an opportunity to investigate the value of the natural resources that are at stake.

C. The extent to which the environmental effects are subject to mitigation by ongoing public regulatory authority.

MEPA requires the County to consider the impact of its decisions on the environment. While the County Zoning Ordinance and Shoreland Ordinance (the "Ordinance") regulates campground uses through the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application process, the proposed project is of a density not contemplated by the current Ordinance. The Ordinance was designed to accommodate approval for campgrounds of a minimum 3 acres for at least 2 campsites, potentially accommodating sites of 1.5 acres per campsite. For the County to appropriately develop conditions for this more intense use of 49 campsites, it needs the additional information available through the preparation of an EAW to develop conditions that are reasonably expected to mitigate the environmental impact of this project.

Based on the developer's narrative and application, minimal assessment of environmental impacts has taken place except to survey the property and sidestep the requirements for a mandatory EAW by proposing 49 campsites rather than 50. For the County to sufficiently review this project and impose appropriate conditions on development and operations, it must conduct an EAW. The Alliance is not opposed to the Project. The Alliance desires to see the County expand opportunities for tourism and shared enjoyment of the tremendous natural resource that is Gun Lake. The Alliance desires that if the County choses to approve the Project or form of the Project that it develop appropriate conditions targeted to address the environmental concerns raised by this development. Without further investigation and authority to order to changes to the Project after such consideration, the County will not be able to protect the lake. The EAW provides the proper forum for such review.

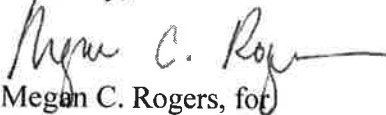
D. The extent to which environmental effects can be anticipated and controlled as a result of other available environmental studies undertaken by public agencies or the project proposers.

Similar to the logic applied to Criteria C, under Criteria D, an EAW is required if a project is not subject to review by other agencies that will anticipate and control the environmental effects of the project. Based on the CUP process here, an EAW will ensure that review by such agencies is undertaken if required by the investigation.

III. CONCLUSION

Each of the four required criteria demonstrate that the Project may have the potential to cause significant harm to the value of historical resources. The County should grant an EAW. The Alliance is not asserting that the County must decide now that the Project will have a significant adverse impact on protected resource. We are asking the County to conduct the EAW investigation to gather the information it needs to make that determination and better inform decision making process.

Sincerely,



Megan C. Rogers, for
Larkin Hoffman

Direct Dial: (952) 896-3395
Direct Fax: (952) 842-1847
Email: mrogers@larkinhoffman.com

cc: Jim Ratz, County Attorney (by email)
Jim Gammello, Esq. (by email)

Andrew Carlstrom

From: Jim Gammello <jgammello@gqlaw.net>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 11:47 AM
To: Andrew Carlstrom
Cc: James Ratz; 'mrogers@larkinhoffman.com'
Subject: FW: Gun Lake Family Campground preliminary reply to EAW Petition
Attachments: EAW Preliminary Response from Gun Lake Family Campground.pdf

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of the Aitkin County Mail System -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good Morning Andrew

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a preliminary reply to the Petition for a discretionary EAW. Please share and circulate this reply to the EAW Committee and the Aitkin County Board. Please also acknowledge receipt of this email.

I attach Gun Lake Family Campground's preliminary reply to the EAW. This was prepared by Michael Hagel. His comments are highlighted in red.

As legal counsel to Gun Lake Family Campground, I also request that you please share my following additional comments.

Gun Lake Family Campground's CUP and PUD Campground Applications do not legally require an EAW. The Minnesota legislature has determined that this type of Campground is not likely to have significant environmental impacts. An EAW is therefore discretionary.

Only if specific facts and circumstances justify an EAW, as determined by the Aitkin County Board, should an EAW be required. Concerns such as, more "human activity" (para 3(d) of Petition) are hardly grounds for requiring an EAW.

The Petitioner requesting the EAW also has the burden of proving that that the project warrants an EAW despite the fact that the Mandatory EAW thresholds have not been crossed.

Aitkin County's Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Application process is designed to protect the environment and assure minimal impact to the lake and environment. This process already requires DNR review and comment, Township review and comment and the opportunity for those opposed to present specific facts and evidence to support those concerns.

This EAW Petition lacks sufficient factual basis or scientific support and is nothing more than an attempt to add expense and delay to the Gun Lake Family Campground Zoning Application. The EAW Petition in this case only raises general and common questions and concerns. The general questions and concerns raised could be asserted in virtually every lakeshore related zoning application.

The law requires that the Petitioners requesting an EAW do more than just raise questions or concerns. Petitioners must present facts that demonstrate that something about the location and nature of the project makes it more deserving of review than other typical development projects of the same size." Petitioners have failed to meet their burden of proof and the request for an EAW should be denied.

To require a discretionary EAW, in this case, without supporting facts, based mere upon concerns and questions common to virtually all lakeshore development, would set an untenable standard. It would set a standard of requiring an EAW in Aitkin County merely upon receipt of any EAW Petition regardless of the evidence.

For the above reasons, the requested EAW should be denied.

Thank you

Jim

JAMES M. GAMMELLO



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From: Andrew Carlstrom <andrew.carlstrom@co.aitkin.mn.us>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 4:11 PM
To: Jim Gammello <jgammello@gqlaw.net>; Rogers, Megan C. <mrogers@larkinhoffman.com>
Subject: Gun Lake Family Campground

Hello Jim and Megan,

I just wanted to check-in with you both following a discussion with our county attorney, Jim Ratz. As you both know, we are having an EAW Committee meeting Monday to discuss the proposed Gun Lake Family Campground and the citizen petition for an EAW. This committee is simply a preliminary working group that has no authority to act or decide, but rather provide a general recommendation to the Aitkin County Board. We would welcome your written comments in response to the petition before noon on Monday, January 31, and I will ensure they are read to the committee. I want to thank you for our communication today and I look forward to working with you both in the upcoming weeks. Have a good weekend.

Respectfully,

1. PETITIONERS' REQUEST

The Petitioners listed below submit the petition requesting an environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) to be prepared pursuant to Minn. R. 4410.1100 for the 50-acre private campground proposed for development on the southwest corner of Gun Lake, an area with known wetlands and wildlife presence.

Petitioners also request that the MEQB assign an appropriate RGU to prepare the EAW

Petitioners further request that MEQB immediately notify all governmental bodies with jurisdiction over the proposed project that they are "prohibited" under Minn. R. 4410.31007 sub. 1 from taking "[a]ny discretionary step in an approval process that conveys rights to the proposer and is not subject to further review or change."

Petitioners' Representative:

Steven Massey

Property Address:

43152 325th Place

Palisade, MN 56469

Mailing Address:

1762 144th St

New Richmond, WI 54017

(763) 458-7553 lsnmassev0185@gmail.com

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The Gun Lake Family Campground proposes to *build* a private campground on the southwest corner of Gun Lake, along both sides of 328th Place, a one-lane, dead end road that leads to the Wonderland Point community of cabins. The parcels of land on which the proposed campground is to be built are a combination of shoreland, wetland, pasture, and forest (Exhibit 1). The proposed area for the campground is one of the longest stretches of shoreline without a dock on the lake. This land is part of the Mississippi River (Brainerd) Watershed and Gun Lake has been identified as having wild rice beds.

The proposed campground will initially have 14 weekend sites along the lake, with 50 acres available for seasonal sites on the west side of 328th Place. The plans include a dock allowing public access to the lake, full sewer, water, and electricity hookups for each site, and an office building with restrooms and showers.

3. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

a. Drastic altering of land surface

The proposed campground will require a drastic altering of the current land. The introduction of gravel, lawn, or even just the leveling of campsites will create more impervious land, leading to increased runoff into the lake and sensitive wetland areas. As the campsites are used, the ground will become compacted, intensifying these effects, and further damaging the plants around the sites (Exhibits 2 and 3). Areas around the campground, including areas featuring a variety of sensitive species of lichen and mushroom, could be heavily affected by a campground.

The number of sites (49) proposed does not meet the criteria for a mandatory EAW under MN Rules 4410.4300 (specifically subpart 20). According to Minnesota Rule 4410 by definition the project location does not qualify as a "Sensitive Shoreland Area". Additionally, in tier 1 the project results in only 12.88% impervious surface area of which the County Shoreland Ordinance 7.83 (2) states, "Impervious surface coverage within any tier must not exceed 25 percent of the tier area. . ." Thus, the project is meeting that requirement by having just less than half the impervious coverage that is allowed in Tier 1. Even though Tier 2 has the most impervious coverage at 16.59% it is entirely bound by the Township Road and is still within the 25% requirement. Tier 3 has 12.33% impervious coverage which is under half of the requirement as well. In exhibit 2 the petitioner attempts to compare a campground in a national forest, the Boundry Waters Canoe Area, to the proposed campground on private land. The supposed "sensitive species of lichen and mushrooms" are not protected and since the campground is being built on private not public land the statement that the campground could affect them lacks any merit. Thus, in regards to the size and construction of the project alone, the petitioner has not provided sufficient evidence to demonstrate the potential for significant environmental effects.

b. Infrastructure

1. Sewer

The installation of sewer systems in the proposed campground poses a threat beyond a potential breach of the tanks. Digging up the land for even fourteen sewer tanks will require the removal of a massive amount of soil and massively disrupt important ecosystem functions near the lake. The removal of land from the area will further reduce the hydrologic storage capacity (Exhibit 4). This also increases runoff into the lake. Sewer and septic contamination is a concern around Gun Lake (Exhibit 5).

The sewers for this project will be sealed holding tanks with no drain fields. They will have visual alarms on them and will be monitored daily by campground staff and will be routinely pumped on an as needed basis. According to the 2004 Guide To Lake Protection and Management published by the Freshwater Society in cooperation with the Minnesota

Pollution Control Agency, “. . . These systems (holding tanks) do not pollute the soil or groundwater and should be considered for new or upgraded construction adjacent to surface waters or in areas with high water tables.” Though it is true the installation of sewer tanks will increase the impervious coverage by 66 sq.ft. per tank those numbers were included in the Impervious Calculation as noted in the previous comment. The petitioner has failed to show any evidence that the sewers proposed will contaminate Gun Lake.

11. Road

There is only one road that leads to the proposed campground site. This one -lane gravel road also serves the Wonderland Point area of Gun Lake. Heavy traffic on this road (both during construction and from campers) will put stress on the already fragile state of the road. Dust is already a concern, which will only be exacerbated.

The concerns about the road have been raised to the Fleming Township Board and were discussed briefly during the zoom meeting on December 13, 2021. Road Supervisor Clint DeMenge stated that the Township will monitor the road during and after construction and will address it as the need arises. The Township Board has a meeting on February 9 and once the Conditional Use Permit (C.U.P.) application for the campground is received from the County, it will be put on the agenda for that meeting. Public input/opposition in regards to the road and the construction of the campground should be addressed at the Township Board Meeting not by the insistence of an EAW.

n1. Dock

The proposed area of the bay is one of the longest stretches along the lake with no dock (Exhibit 6). It has become a haven for wildlife and if a dock is put in it will disturb their habitat and stir up the lake bed when the dock is put in and taken out. Docks block sunlight, which can reduce the density of plants. This in tum, can lead to faster erosion.

It is a riparian right of an owner of shoreland property to wharf a boat. The Aitkin County Shoreland Management Ordinances address the installation of docks. In 7.84 Centralization and Design of Facilities. (4) “. . . All shore recreational facilities shall be approved by the Aitkin County Planning Commision;” Aitkin County does not have a “Docking” ordinance however, the MN DNR along with Aitkin County Planning and Zoning will assist in the placement of the proposed dock.

c. Campfires

According to the "Aitkin County Shoreland Homeowner's Guide to Lake Stewardship," campfire ash is high in phosphorus (Exhibit 7). While the sites will likely be more than the recommended 50 feet from the lake, the number of campfires, along with the increase in runoff previously mentioned, make this a concern. Campfires also create light and air pollution that will affect both people and wildlife nearby.

All campsites will be a minimum of 100' from the O.H.W. of the lake. The Aitkin County Ordinance Regulating Manufactured Home Parks and Recreational Camping Area 5.08 Barbecue Pits, Fireplaces, Stoves, and Incinerators. provides regulations for campfires in Recreational Camping Areas. On any given summer night campfires can be seen all across the lake, so campfires at the campground will not be out of the ordinary. Thus, the petitioner has not demonstrated that campfires will cause a significant environmental impact.

d. water quality.

Each of the above four concerns also have the potential to affect the water quality on Gun Lake. The construction process and increase in impervious land will lead to an increase in runoff that will carry possible contaminants and nutrients into the lake. The most recent water quality data for Gun Lake (from 2018) shows healthy dissolved oxygen levels and fairly healthy phosphorus levels although, the MPCA described the overall condition of the lake as:

Not always suitable for swimming and wading due to low clarity or excessive algae caused by the presence of nutrients such as phosphorus in the water. Concentrations of Mercury in fish tissue exceed the standard; fish and aquatic organisms are not always suitable for consumption by humans or wildlife"
(Exhibit8).

Any major addition of human activity, especially involving campfires, land alteration, or the use of fertilizers on lawn could worsen this assessment. While wild rice is not present near the bay, it is on the lake. Any major change to water quality could affect the wild rice.

Upon approval of the Conditional Use Permit a Stormwater Pollution Protection Plan (SWPPP) will be made and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit will be applied for from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The NPDES Permit will be followed and the construction site will be inspected by the County and/or the MPCA during the construction process. The petitioner has not provided any facts to show that the project will affect water quality in Gun Lake.

e. Effect on wildlife

A number of vital species live in the bay that the campground will have direct access to. In particular, a pair of loons has nested in the bay for the last three years (Exhibit 9). In addition to the loons, cabin owners have reported the presence of trumpeter swans, bald eagles, black bears, muskrats, deer (Exhibit 10), and turkeys, among other species in the area along 328 th Place near the bay. The presence of a campground and the subsequent increase in light and noise pollution, vehicles, and boats, and the decrease in habitat that come with it pose a threat to these animals. The terrestrial habitat quality is already considered poor in the area, and the introduction of a campground will only make it worse (Exhibit 11).

The loons pictured in Exhibit 9 nested approximately 1,500 ft East of the project location on the point (Exhibit A). A significant portion of the 50-acre parcel is classified as wetlands and will not be developed, including a large portion of the bay (Exhibit B). This area can be a safe haven for wildlife. Additionally, there are thousands of acres of farmland and undeveloped land that is just West of the proposed campground site. Including several MN Wildlife Management Areas. Wildlife especially deer roam over a large area and will continue to thrive even with the addition of a campground.

F. Effect on fish

The bay next to the proposed campground has a very shallow shoreline with a large number of weeds (Exhibit 12). Many fish spawn in this area, including sunfish and yellow perch. Gun Lake has a stricter limit on sunfish than the state regulation (a daily limit of 10, rather than 20) (Exhibit 13). This indicates that the sunfish population in the lake is lower than it should be. An increase in fishing, especially where these fish spawn would be extremely harmful. Yellow perch are considered a keystone species and are vital to the success of other fish species in the lake (Exhibit 14).

Mike Hagel, one of the proposers of the project, spoke to Heidi Lingren the Area Hydrologist from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) via phone (218-839-9364) on January 25, 2022. She stated that the DNR has looked at the proposed location and has determined that it is not considered to be in a major fish spawning area and that they will not contest the C.U.P. Application at the Planning Commission Meeting.

In conclusion, Environmental Quality Board Guidance (A Citizen's Guide: The Petition Process, EQB 2005) suggests:

“Environmental review is an information gathering process and its purpose is not to stop projects from being built. It is designed to collect information about the likelihood of significant environmental effects and how they can be avoided or mitigated.”

“Every development project has some impacts on environmental conditions. Environmental review is only appropriate, however, when there may be the potential for

significant environmental impacts. Unless there is something out of the ordinary about the project or its setting, and EAW will not be ordered.”

“With environmental review, petitioners bear the burden of demonstrating that the project warrants an EAW despite the fact that the Mandatory EAW thresholds have not been crossed. The petition must do more than raise questions or concerns; it must present facts that demonstrate that something about the location and nature of the project makes it more deserving of review than other typical development projects of the same size. . .”

Therefore, based on information submitted in the project application and given all of the above findings, the project does not have the potential for significant environmental effects. Any effects to the environment will be mitigated through the normal Township Board Meeting, Planning Commission Meeting, and the Conditional Use Permitting Process, thus an EAW should not be required.

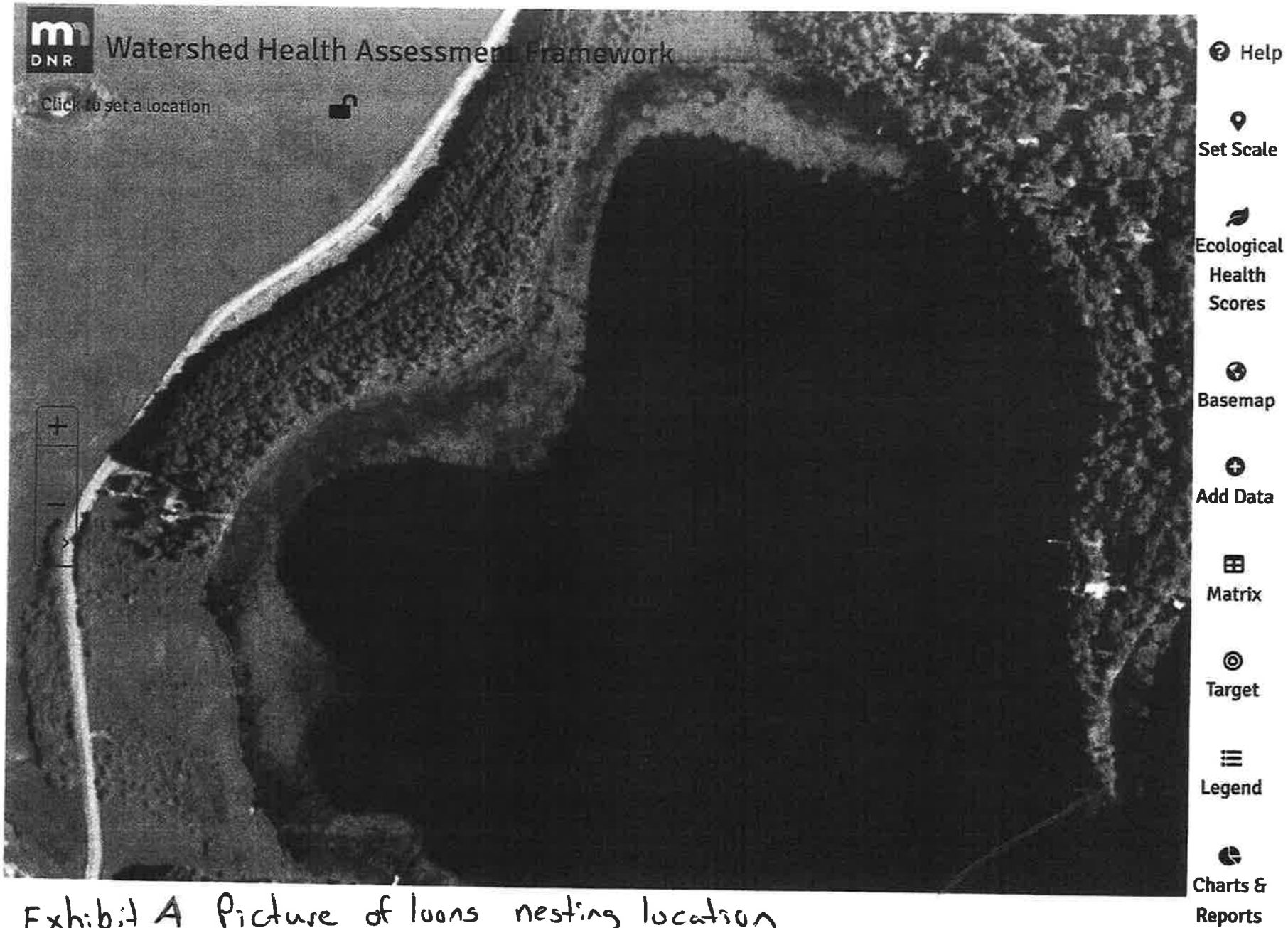


Exhibit A Picture of loons nesting location
e. Effect on wildlife

