

North-East Minnesota LCCMR Site Visits

Monday - August 17, Tuesday - August 18, and Wednesday - August 19, 2009

Agenda items and times are subject to change

Day 1: Focus on State Parks, St. Louis River, hydropower, Scientific and Natural Areas, County Biological Survey

Day 2: Focus on wind power, mapping of geology, hydrogeology and soils, surface and underground mining, water quality and underground research laboratories

Day 3: Focus on State Parks and Trails, moose decline, forestry, Lake Superior water quality and research, ballast water, water treatment plants and endocrine disrupting compounds

AR – Arrive LV - Leave

Monday August 17, 2009

3:00 pm	LV	State Office Building for St. Louis River
5:15 pm	AR	St. Louis River -Thomson and Fond Du Lac dams - Topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hydro power, peak storage, pumped hydro, minimum flows through the park for fish, recreation and aesthetics 2. Lake Sturgeon restoration on St. Louis River
6:00 pm	LV	Depart for the swing bridge and picnic shelter Jay Cooke State Park (SP)
6:15 pm	AR	Jay Cooke State Park picnic shelter
6:45 pm	LV	Depart for Hemlock Ravine Scientific and Natural Area (SNA)
7:00 pm	AR	Hemlock Ravine Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) –Topic: Rare forest type and potential effects of invasive species and climate change

Tuesday August 18, 2009

8:00 am	LV	Depart for Taconite Ridge Wind Farm
8:10 am	AR	Taconite Ridge Wind Farm – Topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing wind farm; brief discussion about biofuels 2. Talk about other potential wind sites on the Northshore and School Trust Fund lands and related issues 3. Geology/ hydro geology of the area 4. Soils Survey 5. Laurentian vision – reuse of mined lands
9:25 am	LV	Depart for Eveleth
9:45 am	AR	Eveleth Mine - United Taconite Exterior mine pit tour
10:45 am	LV	Depart for Soudan State Park
11:45 pm	AR	Soudan Underground Mine – Topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Above ground park tour 2. Water quality–disposal of water pumped continuously from mine 3. Underground tour 4. U of MN lab and Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory 5. Proposed Trust Fund research on unique micro organisms
2:45 pm	LV	Depart for Hoyt Lakes
3:45 pm	AR	LTV/Polymet Copper Nickel – precious metals mining/processing
4:45pm	LV	Depart for Mesabi Iron Nugget facility
5:00 pm	AR	Mesabi -Iron Nugget - Process to make iron nuggets that are 94-98% iron for mini mills; also information on new technology to reprocess old tailings to recover more of the remaining iron

Wednesday August 19, 2009		
8:00 am	LV	Depart for Split Rock Light House State Park
8:15 am	AR	Parks, trails, history, interpretation, recreation – Topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-holding property acquisition and adjacent new campground funded with bonding 2. Trail Center - Info on Superior hiking, North Shore State Trail – (Snowmobile), Gitchi-Gami bike trail , Lake Superior water trail 3. Lakeside view of the light house - talk about relationship with the historical society 4. Walk and talk about geology of the area 5. Moose decline in MN
10:15	LV	Depart for Encampment Forest (About 13 miles south of Split Rock Light House State Park – just north of the Encampment River)
10:35 am	AR	Encampment Forest Association – Topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Nature Conservancy forest conservation easement, forest restoration to reflect presettlement mix/conditions 2. DNR private forest lands outreach efforts 3. Ecological approach to reforestation 4. CBS (County Biological Survey) info of the site 5. Gypsy moth threat on the northshore 6. Consolidating forest ownership project
11:35 pm	LV	Depart for Duluth waterfront – on the way drive through McQuade Road Public water access/harbor
12:15 pm	AR/LV	Board L.L. Smith Research Vessel at Duluth waterfront Travel through the bay and under lift bridge into the lake return to the bay go past Minnesota Point SNA and then dock at Ballast water facility Topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lake Superior water quality research 2. Coastal Zone management 3. Ballast water invasive species issues – Great Ships Initiative
2:00 pm	AR	L.L Smith docks at Ballast water - tour facility
2:15 pm	LV	Depart for Western Lake Superior Sanitation District (WLSSD)
2:30 pm	AR	WLSSD – Water treatment plant – Topic: Water quality treatment including addressing endocrine disruptors
3:15 pm	LV	Depart for State Office Building