

LCCMR Southwest/ South Central Site Visits

Tuesday June 18, and Wednesday June 19, 2013

Times are estimates – subject to change

Tuesday June, 18, 2013				
Time	Miles	Site	Topics	Directions
8:00 a.m.		State Office Building, St. Paul, MN	Bus departs from the front of State Office Building, St. Paul, MN	
LV 8:00 a.m.	98	SOB to Rapidan Dam		
AR 10:30 a.m.		1- Rapidan Dam (Southwest of Mankato) 1 hour Pie and coffee from Dam Store	Blue Earth River <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality, water quality monitoring, impoundment, sedimentation, high/low flows, Greater Blue Earth Watershed - Drinking water – Mankato water supply - Hydropower energy generation/dam maintenance - Blue Earth River State Water Trail - kayaking, potential expansion of water access to accommodate increasing outfitter use. Rapidan Dam County Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LCCMR funding -1975 \$6,000 – develop playground, picnic area , canoe portage (Future Resources Fund) - LCCMR funding - 2004 Natural and Scenic Areas grant \$100K for acquisition downstream 32.4 acres on the river ENRTF 	35 E south 13 miles to exit 93 (Cliff Road), turn right 2 miles to Hwy 13, go 7.7 miles, take ramp to HWY 169 (Mankato), 67 miles, past downtown Mankato, turn left to stay on HWY 169 South about 4 miles, turn left onto County Rd 9 (188 th Street) go about 1.3 miles, turn left on Glory Lane go in to park and dam site. Travel Est.: 1 hr 46 min. / 98 mi. <u>State Office Building, St. Paul</u> Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.954276,-93.104517 <u>Rapidan Dam Cafe</u> 54116 Glory Ln., Mankato, MN 56001 Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.092761,-94.110224
LV 11:30 a.m.	53	Rapidan Dam to Jeffers Petroglyphs		
AR 12:30 p.m.		2 - Jeffers Petroglyphs MN Historic site	Petroglyphs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World renown Indian rock carvings in native prairie setting - Petroglyphs (concentration of carvings 1,800 -5000 years old) - MN historic site geology, prairie, Native American involvement – prairie remnants and restorations Rock Ridge SNA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 200 acres, 165 remnant prairie that was previously hayed for many years. Was one of the earlier Native Prairie Bank easements acquired by the DNR in the 1990s. - One of a few prairie bank easements subsequently acquired in fee-title to be managed as an SNA. - Native Prairie Bank easement program Water Supply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling water from nearby quarry for ethanol 	Go back to Cty. Road 9, turn right and go about 6 miles to South Main Street (Cty. Rd.76) in Lake Crystal, turn right and go about 3 blocks and turn left on West Blue Earth St, go about 6 blocks and turn right on Co. Rd. 6 follow under Hwy. turn left onto entrance ramp to MN Hwy 60 and go about 10 miles, exit on MN Hwy. 15 N to New Ulm, turn right go about 1 mile and turn at second left on to Cty. Hwy 3 and go about 9 miles, turn right to stay on Hwy. 3 continue straight on to MN 30 and go about 21 miles to Cty. Road 2 (510th Avenue), turn right and go about 3 miles to entrance road to the visitor center on left hand side of the road. Travel Est.: 1 hr 9 min. / 53 mi. <u>Jeffers Petroglyphs</u> 27160 County Road 2, Comfrey, MN 56019 Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.090812,-95.060108

LV 1:30 p.m.	34	Jeffers to Heron Lake		
AR 2:30 p.m.		3- Heron Lake WMA 1 hour	WMA/AMA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ducks, birds, wildlife, wetlands, hunter access - Water levels, aquatic vegetation - Water level management Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisheries in Heron Lakes, Des Moines River, MN River - Aquatic Invasive Species - Electric common carp barrier to keep carp out of the Heron lakes installed in 1993 – new carp barrier in Iowa with some OHF funding Water Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PCA Water quality Improvement Project - Sediment and flow control - Conservation farming practices, drainage ditches, drainage tile, drainage control structures 	Turn left out of Jeffers, go south about 3 miles, turn right at MN 30 (W 300 th Street) go about 3 miles, turn left on to HWY 71 go about 12 miles to Windom, the Road becomes HWY 60, continue about 12 more miles to HWY 9 (NW 10 th Street) in Heron Lake, turn left follow thru town and continue south on 380th about 1.0 miles, to 890 th , turn left (gravel road) follow about 1 mile including turn that becomes 390 th Ave. - the road ends at Creekside Farms Travel Est.: 45 min. / 34 mi. <u>Heron Lake WMA</u> Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 43.746388,-95.289488
LV 3:30 p.m.	62	Heron Lake to Touch the Sky Refuge		
AR 4:45 p.m.		4 - Touch the Sky Prairie National Wildlife Refuge 45 minutes	National Wildlife Refuge System in MN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - United State Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) currently owns more than 900 acres of federally land part of the larger Northern Tall Grass Prairie Wildlife Refuge Brandenburg Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Their efforts to establish the Touch the Sky Prairie National Wildlife Refuge. They purchased most of the land and then re-sold to the USFWS. The foundation still owns some land including some with a grass land easement held by Service, 	Follow 380 th Ave. back to city of Heron Lake turn left at 900 th Street follow about 0.5 miles to 2 nd Ave., turn left and follow short distance to Hwy. 60, turn left and head south on Hwy 60 about 13 miles to I-90 west bound exit, go about 32 miles to Hwy. 75 turn right go about 3.5 miles to 141 St. (corner of state park) take a (black topped) and drive 3 miles west, take a right and drive 3 miles north until road ends, turn left and go about 0.3 miles to the USFW parking lot Travel Est.: 1 hour 12 min. / 62 mi. <u>Touch the Sky Prairie Nation Wildlife Refuge</u> Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 43.704086,-96.225557
AR 5:45 p.m.		GrandStay Hotel– Check-in/refresh		
LV 6:15 p.m.	6	GrandStay Hotel - Blue Mounds State Park		
AR 6:30 p.m.		5 - Blue Mound State Park Dinner at park 2 hours	Blue Mounds State Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dinner at the visitor center (Manfred house - - inside or outside depending on weather) - Bison herd - Historic quarry trail – to see the quartzite cliffs 	Proceed north from GrandStay Hotel on Hwy. 75 about 4 mile to County Hwy 8 (141 st St.), turn Right go about 0.5 miles to park entrance, turn left and proceed to Blue Mounds State Park visitor center. Travel Est.: 10 min. / 6 mi.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mystery rock alignment – 150 feet long aligned with summer equinox (WPA infrastructure – dams in park, Mound Creek; upper and lower Mound Lake (2 miles north of visitor center) <p>Hydrogeology/ground water issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The bedrock types there (including the Sioux Quartzite and Morton Gneiss that you will see) are almost exclusively non-aquifers. They are overlain by very clay-rich glacial sediments in which aquifers are generally smaller and less common. Limited water, solid rock with few aquifers. - Rural Water supply/elevated nitrate levels - Lincoln/Pipestone and Red Rock Rural Water System - elevated nitrates 	<p><u>Blue Mound State Park</u> 1410 161st St, Luverne, MN 56156</p> <p>Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 43.703048,-96.196933</p>
LV 8:30 p.m.	6	Return to Grandstay Hotel		<p>Follow Hwy. 75 back to GrandStay Hotel Travel Est.: 10 min. / 6 mi. GrandStay Hotel, 908 S Kniss Ave Luverne, MN 56156 (507) 449-4949 Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 43.645439,-96.213087</p>
AR 8:45 p.m.		GrandStay Hotel		
Wednesday June 19, 2013				
LV 8:15 a.m.	23	Luverne to Pipestone National Monument		
AR 9:00 a.m.		<p>6- Pipestone National Monument</p> <p>45 minutes</p>	<p>National Park Service – National Monument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of site - Circular trail to stone quarry and waterfall (0.75 miles) - Native American importance - Exhibits 	<p>From the GrandStay, head north on Hwy 75 about 25 miles, in Pipestone stay on Hwy 75 by turning left at Hwy 30 (101 1st St.) for 3 blocks and then turning right on to 8th Ave. and go about 1 mile to 111th St., turn left go about 1 mile the monument is on the right. Travel Est.: 35 min. / 28 mi. <u>Pipestone National Monument</u> 36 N Reservation Ave, Pipestone, MN 56164 Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.013263,-96.325641</p>
LV 9:45 a.m.	10	Pipestone NM for Prairie Coteau SNA		

AR 10:15 a.m.		7- Prairie Coteau SNA 45 minutes	Prairie Coteau SNA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prairie Coteau is one of the most important and stunning prairies in southwestern Minnesota.(329 acres) - SNA program - Prairie bank easement program - Prairie Plan (core area) - Minnesota Biological Survey - Pollinator habitat 	Proceed back to Hwy 75 (8 th Ave.), turn right and go about 3 blocks, turn left on County Hwy. 23 and go about 8 miles to Holland, turn left (north) on Cty. Road 6 (140 Ave.) go about 2.5 miles to 191 st St. then turn right and go 1.5 east to where the road ends in a mowed parking lot. Travel Est.: 17 min. / 16 mi. <u>Prairie Coteau SNA</u> Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.114635,-96.150219
LV 11:00 a.m.	25	Prairie Coteau SNA to Camden State Park		
AR 11:30 a.m. (Lunch at South Picnic Shelter)		8- Camden State Park	Camden State Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Park topics Renewable Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - energy efficiency - solar - wind (10kw Turbine 120 feet tall) - geothermal Buffalo Ridge Wind generation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wind generation - environmental review 	From the SNA follow 191 st St. back to 150 th Ave. turn right (north) 1 mile to 201 st , turn right and go about 2 miles to Hwy 23, turn left on to 23 (north). Continue north on HWY 23. About 22 miles to S. Saratoga Street (County Rd 68), turn left, go about 1 mile the park entrance is on the right. Travel Est.: 28 min. / 25 mi. <u>Camden State Park</u> 1897 Camden Park Rd, Lynd, MN 56157 Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.35563,-95.921159
LV 12:30 p.m.	55	Camden SP to Morton Outcrops SNA		
AR 1:30 p.m.		9- Morton Outcrops SNA 45 minutes	Morton Outcrops SNA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geology/3.3 billion years old exposed at the surface Minnesota River Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blueway/greenways Minnesota River Planning efforts 	Go back to Hwy 23, turn right and head northeast about 11 miles to MN 19 (College Drive) turn right follow MN 42 miles to Morton, after crossing the MN River MN 19 curves to the left, take the first left (Centennial Drive) up to the school and follow around behind to the parking lot adjacent to the SNA Travel Est. 1 hour 8 min.54.7 mi. Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.551518,-94.991646
LV 2:15 p.m.	18	Morton for Fort Ridgely Historic site/ State park		Directions
AR 2:45 p.m.		10 - Fort Ridgely Historic site/ State park 45 minutes	Fort Ridgely State Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Park topics - Recreation opportunities - ENRTF recent park land acquisition Historic Fort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building - Historic significance 	From Morton follow Hwy. 19 east about 14 miles to MN Hwy 4 (480 th St.) in Fairfax, Turn right and go about 6 miles to Cty. Rd 30, to 19/Main street (sharp right) go about) 0.5 miles to the park entrance Travel Est.: 25 min. / 20.14 mi. <u>Fort Ridgely State Park</u> 72158 Cty. Rd 30, Fairfax, MN 55332 Latitude and Longitude (approx.)

			- Recreation	44.448024,-94.726685
LV3:30 p.m.	109	Depart for State Office building, St Paul, MN		<p>Proceed back to MN HWY. 4 turn left and go about 6 miles to Fairfax, turn right at HWY 19 and go about 72 miles to I-35, go north to I-35E split and follow about 18 miles to St. Paul, take the Kellogg Blvd exit. Turn left and go 3 blocks to John Ireland Blvd. turn right and go about 3 blocks to MLK Blvd. turn left go 1 block to the State Office Building.</p> <p>Travel Est.: 2 hrs / 109.11 mi. <u>State Office Building, St. Paul</u> Latitude and Longitude (approx.) 44.954276,-93.104517</p>
AR 5:30 p. m. (estimated)		State Office Building, St Paul, MN		<i>As of June 12, 2013</i>