



Aitkin
County

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

48
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: February 26, 2019

Title of Item: Resolution Accepting Mille Lacs East ATV Trail Bonding

<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) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
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Submitted by: Ross Wagner	Department: Economic Development & Forest Ind
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Presenter (Name and Title): Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator	Estimated Time Needed: 20 Minutes
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Summary of Issue:
 In the 2018 Legislative Session, Aitkin County was awarded \$1,500,000.00 in bonding to design and build the Mille Lacs East ATV Trail addition to the Northwood's ATV Trail system. We have recently received information from the State of MN on carrying out the process. The first step in the process is a Resolution agreeing to be the legal sponsor for the project. Just as we were for the original Northwood's ATV Trail. The Resolution also gives the County Administrator ability to sign agreements and names myself as the contact person. I have attached the supporting resolution adopted January 2018 in support of HF 492 for reference. As we progress, we will be developing a work plan and a grant agreement with the MN DNR which is the agency tasked with overseeing the bond proceed requirements. For now we just need the resolution.

Other information

- * We have held a few informational meetings as well as meeting with Malmo, Lakeside and Glen Townships.
- * An open house type meeting for the public will be held in April.
- * A local match of \$150,000.00 is required and that is being worked on.
- * The project is expected to be done in 3 phases, "Connect the Lake" "Connect the Communities" "Create 1st Class Trails"
- * Phase 1, connect the lake, is the immediate focus so that the East side of Mille Lacs Lake will have access to the Northwood's ATV Trail as soon as possible.
- * Highway 47 ROW and existing county and township roadways are expected to be used for phase 1.

Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:

Recommended Action/Motion:
 Approve Resolution

Financial Impact:
Is there a cost associated with this request? Yes No
What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$
Is this budgeted? Yes No *Please Explain:*

By Commissioner: xx

20190312-0xx

Acceptance of Mille Lacs East ATV Trail Bonding

WHEREAS, Aitkin County has been awarded 2018 Funds in the amount of \$1,500,000, from the 2018 bonding bill by the State of Minnesota to predesign, design, acquisition, and development of a trail to connect the Northwood's ATV trail system with the Mille Lacs-Malmo East Loop trail system. The appropriation is not available until the commissioner of management and budget determines that \$150,000 has been committed to the project from nonstate sources.

BE IT RESOLVED the Aitkin County act as legal sponsor for the project Aitkin County - Northwood's ATV Trail and that Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator is hereby authorized to be the project contact to the Department of Natural Resources for funding of this project on behalf of the Aitkin County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Aitkin County has the legal authority to receive financial assistance, and financial capability to meet the match requirement (if any) and ensure adequate construction, operation, maintenance and replacement of the proposed project for its design life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Aitkin County has not incurred any acquisition or development costs described in the Cost Breakdown section on this application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Aitkin County has or will acquire fee title or permanent easement over the land described in the site plan included in the project proposal and the contemplated use thereof are permitted by and will comply with all applicable use or other restrictions and requirements imposed by applicable zoning ordinances or regulations, and, if required by law, have been duly approved by the applicable municipal or governmental authorities having jurisdiction there over.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Aitkin County has read the Conflict of Interest Policy and certifies it will report any actual, potential, perceived, or organizational conflicts of interest upon discovery to the state related to the application or grant award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon approval of its project proposal by the state, Aitkin County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above-referenced project, and that the Aitkin County certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws, environmental requirements, regulations, terms and conditions as stated in the grant agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Administrator is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Aitkin County.

Commissioner xx moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

**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 12th day of March 2019, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 12th day of March 2019

Jessica Seibert
County Administrator

Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System

Mille Lacs-Malmo East ATV Loop Trail Project

This project requests a \$1,500,000 appropriation from bond proceeds to be provided to the Commissioner of Natural Resources for predesign, design, acquisition, and development of a trail to connect the Northwoods Regional ATV trail system with the MilleLacs-Malmo East Loop trail system.

The appropriation would not be available until the commissioner determines that \$150,000 has been committed to the project from non-state sources.

This request would fund the addition of a major ATV trail loop to the existing Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System, which serves Aitkin, Mille Lacs, Crow Wing, Itasca and Cass Counties, as well as counties further north. See Map #1 for details.

The project would add about 58 miles of trail to the existing Northwoods Regional ATV trail system. Major portions of the proposed Mille Lacs-Malmo East Loop would be located on existing county and state lands, with many already existing forestry roads that would be incorporated into the new trail.

Map #2 shows the general location of the proposed addition relative to the existing Northwoods Regional ATV trail system and how it would connect the communities of Malmo, Glen, and Isle along the existing South Soo Line ATV Trail.

In addition to adding a significant new section to the Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System, this project would also provide a long term and much needed diversification to the east and northern side of Mille Lacs Lake due to the on-going issue with the walleye fishery.

The project would be constructed in phases, with the northern leg which would connect Malmo and Glen east to the existing Soo Line Trail east of the Solana ATV Loop. The second phase would focus a direct connection between Malmo and Isle to the south. That route would generally parallel with the east side of Mille Lacs Lake.

Map #3 illustrates the large expanse of territory that the Northwoods Regional ATV Trail covers and highlights the lack of ATV trail presence on east and north side of Mille Lacs Lake.

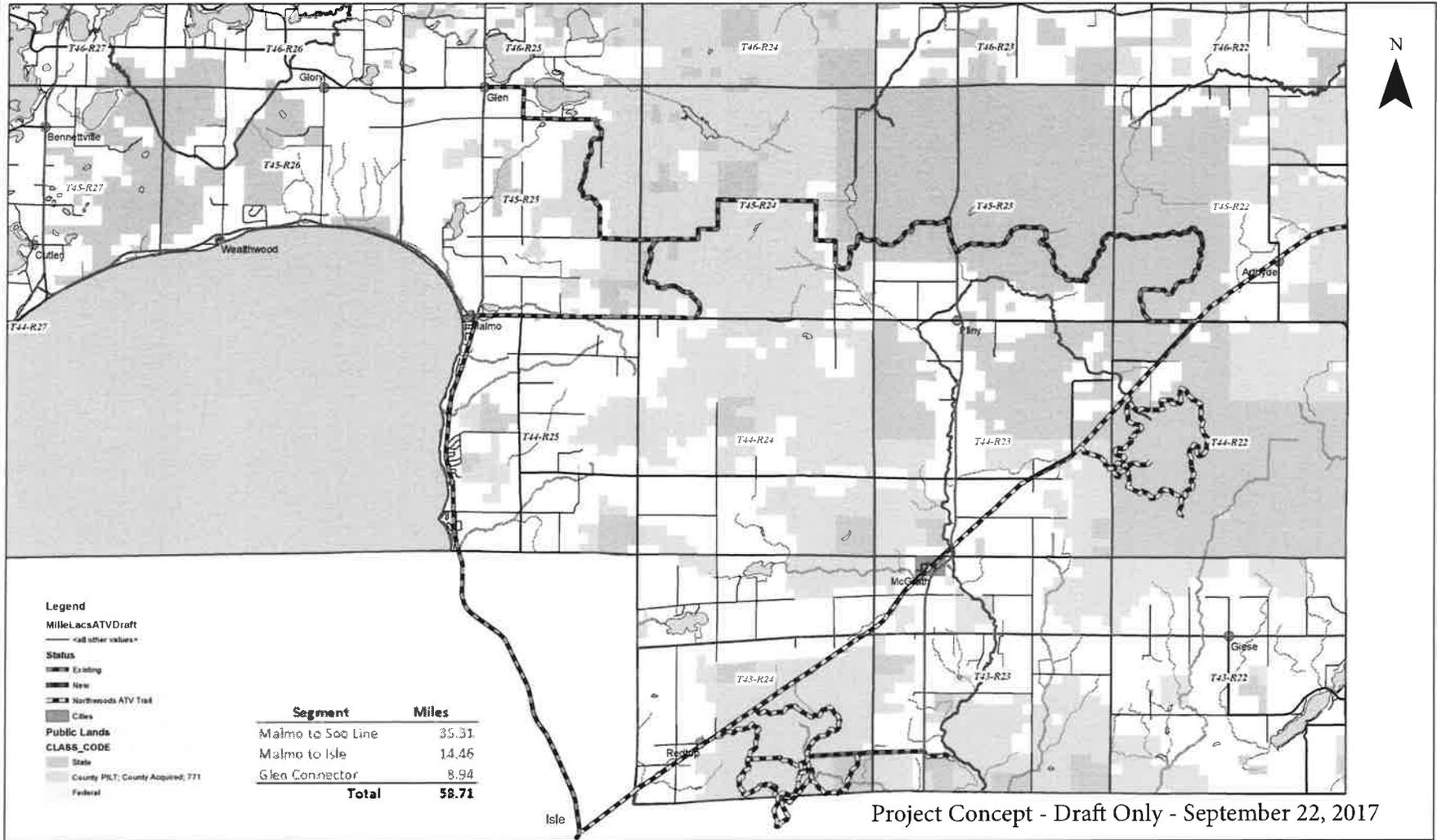
Over the past two years the State of Minnesota has provided almost \$4 million dollars in direct local economic aid in the form of low interest loans, grants and promotional funds to help mitigate the severe economic impact the Mille Lacs Lake fishery issue has had on the area.

This project will provide lasting public infrastructure that will support a healthy and diverse tourism industry well into the future for the Mille Lacs Lake area.

Map #3 illustrates that Aitkin County and the area ATV/Snowmobile Clubs have a long successful history of building and maintaining summer and winter recreational use trails. This project will build on an already successful program of 200 miles of trails.

Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System (Map #1)

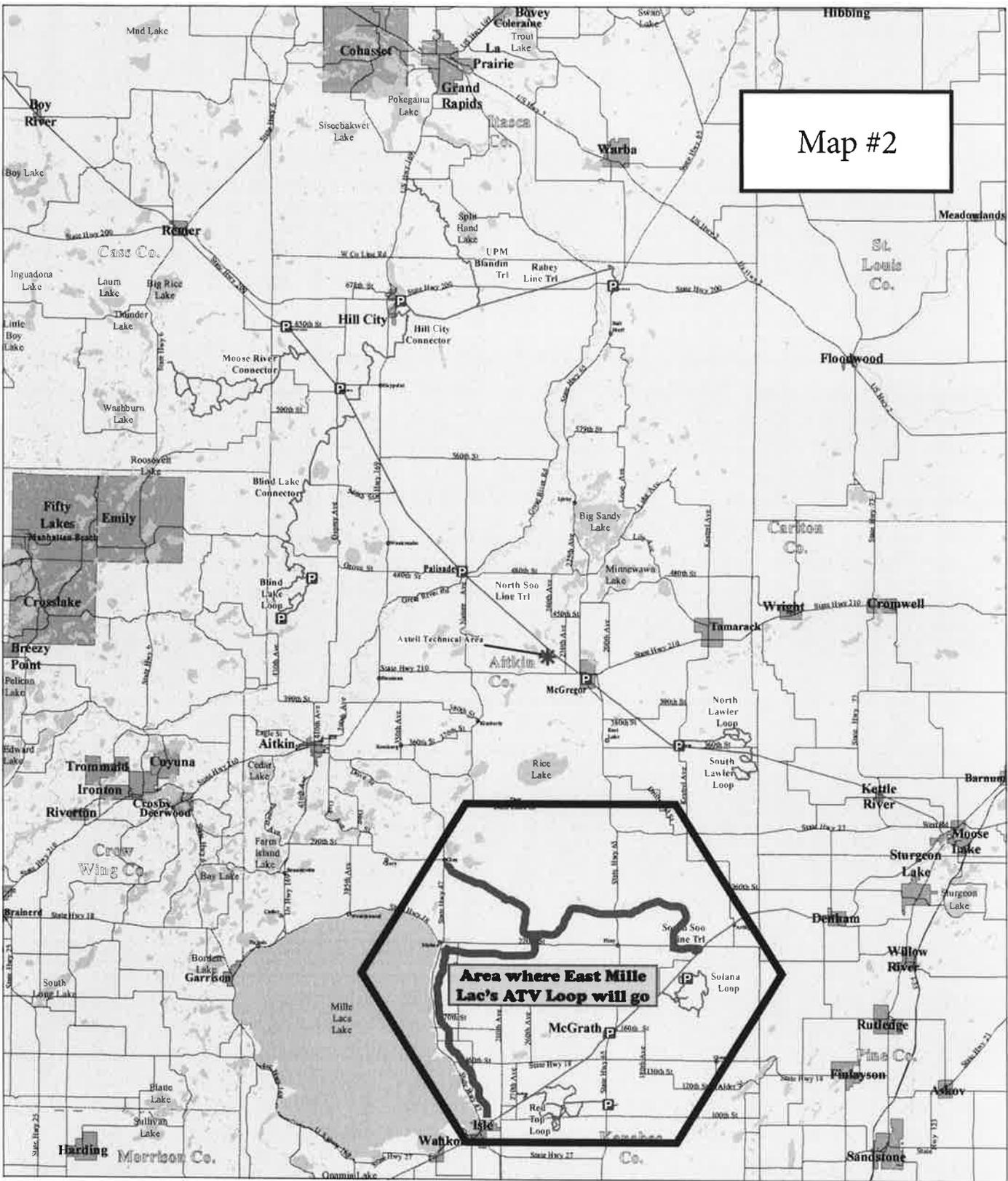
Mille Lac-Malmo East ATV Trail Loop - Project Concept - Draft Only



Project Concept - Draft Only - September 22, 2017



Map #2



Legend

- ATV Trail Parking
- ATV Trail
- Major Road

Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System General Trail Map

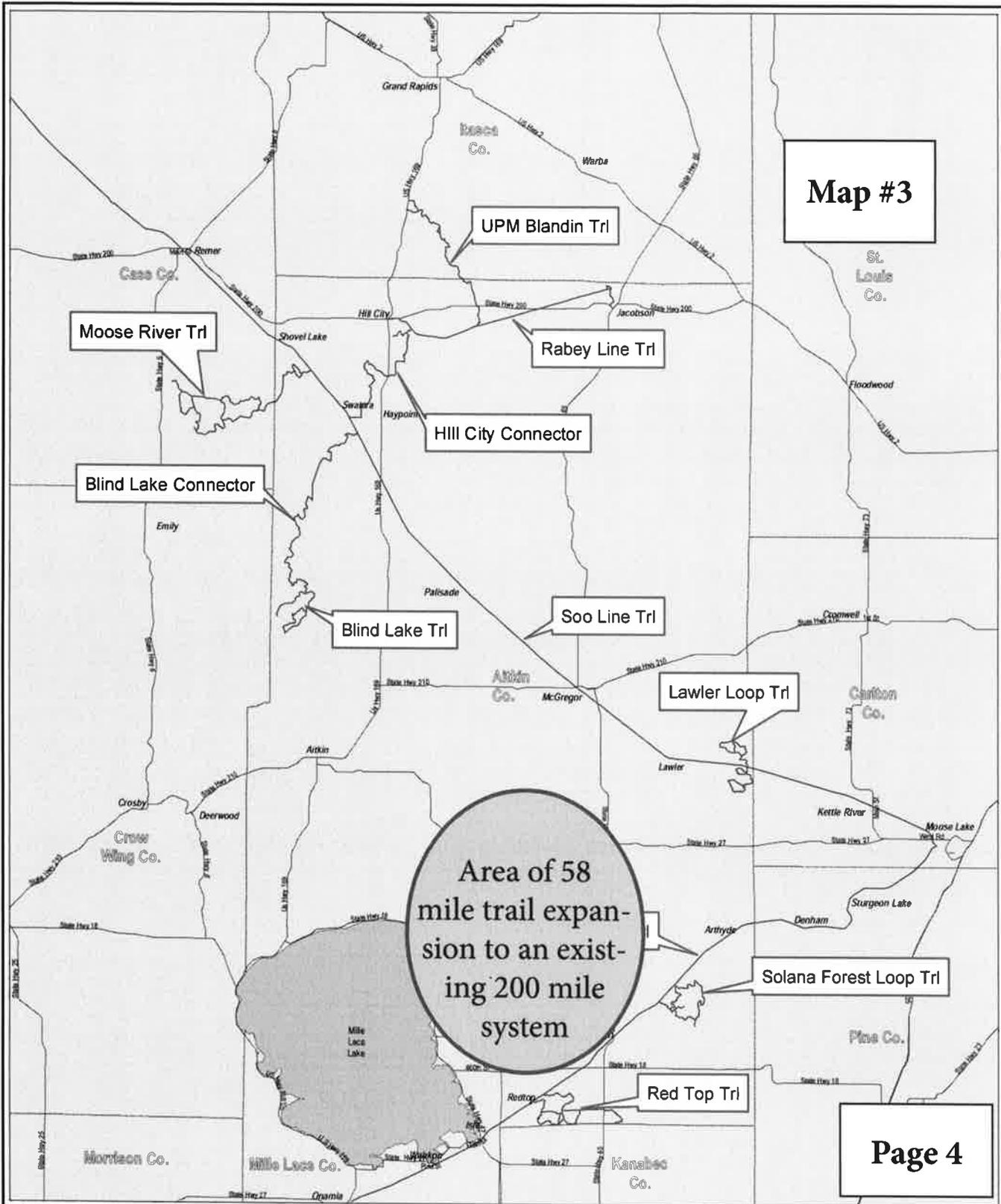
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Map prepared by Aitkin County's GIS for graphic display purposes only.

Date: 4/13/2017

Map #3



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Legend	
	ATV Trail
	Major Highway
	County Boundary

Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System Trail Map



CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED January 23, 2018

By Commissioner: Pratt

20180123-009

In Support of HF 492

Relating to capital improvements; appropriating money for an ATV trail connection; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

WHEREAS, Aitkin and Itasca Counties along with numerous regional partners has built and developed the Northwood's ATV Trail System which has been greatly successful in attracting ATV riders and ATV related events to Aitkin County and the surrounding region, and

WHEREAS, Aitkin County and surrounding counties have seen a noticeable, positive impact on the local economy due to the ATV riders and events, and

WHEREAS, due to mitigating factors beyond our control, the Mille Lacs Lake area in Aitkin, Mille Lacs and Crow Wing Counties is suffering economic losses because of a major reduction in resort patrons and visitors to the area, and

WHEREAS, it is Aitkin County's desire to help add to the Mille Lacs Lake area economy by constructing a connection to the existing Northwood's ATV Trail System with a segment known as Mille Lacs-Malmo East ATV Loop, and

WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs-Malmo East ATV Loop will become full segment of the Northwood's ATV Trail System and will be maintained and promoted as such.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners is in support of HF 492 for the positive effects and impacts on the Mille Lacs Lake area and the surrounding region.

Commissioner Wedel moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

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 23rd day of January 2018, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 23rd day of January 2018



Jessica Seibert
County Administrator