

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of the High Cliff State Park Master Plan

**FOR:** October 2013 Board meeting

**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** Jeff Prey, Program and Policy Analyst - Bureau of Parks and Recreation

**SUMMARY:**

High Cliff State Park was established in 1955 and has 417,000 visitors a year, making this the fifth busiest Wisconsin State Park. This update of the 1982 master plan sets the guiding principles and development for the property that will preserve, protect and manage ecological communities while providing a range of low impact land and water based recreation activities.

Several additional camping opportunities are planned, including a redesigned group campground and additions to the modern family campground. The primary modification to recreational trails will be the separation of equestrian and bike uses with additional trails to be developed in the upland areas and along the Lake Winnebago shoreline. Changes will also occur at the marina and beach areas with the educational and interpretative functions being moved to a new building located within this area.

The park has been divided into three land management areas that will include the expansion of the State Natural Area for protection of Niagara Escarpment features. Each of these units offers a different type of outdoor recreation experience and management objectives.

The plan recommends an expansion to the project boundary of 1,820 acres that provides a connection to a Calumet County park to provide expanded recreation opportunities while protecting the Niagara Escarpment.

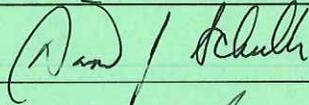
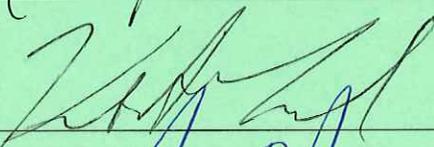
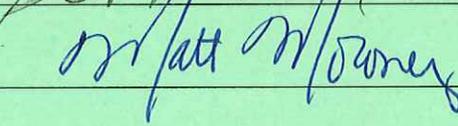
There has been an extensive public involvement process, including three public open houses and two comment periods.

The Draft Master Plan and Environmental Assessment are located on-line at:  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/masterplanning/highcliff/>

**RECOMMENDATION:** Board Approval per NR 44.04(3) Master development, adoption and public involvement. Plan Approval.

**LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS (check all that are applicable):**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Background memo                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Type name of attachment or type N/A if not applicable |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Type name of attachment or type N/A if not applicable |

Approved by	Signature	Date
Dan Schuller, Bureau Director		10-7-13
Kurt Thiede, Administrator		10-9-13
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		10/10/13