

February 19, 2026

Jess Richards

Assistant Commissioner, Ecological and Water Resources and Lands and Minerals

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area (CCSRA) –
Tenant in Common Undivided Interest, Parcel SW1/4 SW1/4 09-26-29 (the “Parcel”)
Crow Wing County, Minnesota**

Dear Assistant Commissioner Richards,

My wife, Dawn Prinsen, and I are the owners of June Lake LLC. June Lake LLC holds a Leasehold Interest in the 1/24th undivided interest in the above-referenced Parcel. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) holds the remaining 23/24th interest. Enclosed are a current survey of the Parcel and the certificate of title for the 1/24th interest.

For many years, the DNR and the State of Minnesota have asserted ownership or control over a diagonal strip of land within the Parcel (known as “Overburden Road”), either through a permanent easement or right-of-way. This strip has been developed with a road, parking lot, signage, and a segment of the “Galloping Goose” mountain bike trail. I understand that CCSRA receives approximately 400,000 visitors annually, with the Galloping Goose trail serving as a primary connector for much of the Rec Area’s mountain biking network.

Since our surveyor contacted the DNR on December 18, 2024 requesting documentation demonstrating the DNR’s ownership of Overburden Road, we have made repeated requests for the DNR to present documentation proving ownership. While the DNR has pointed to a 1915 Right of Way Easement running east to west (long since terminated via rights of reversion) and various Quit Claim Deeds as proof of ownership, these documents do not establish an easement, right-of-way, or any other legal interest beyond the undivided ownership we share as tenants in common.

As tenants in common, each co-owner has the right to occupy the property but also retains the right to exclude third parties (*United States v. Craft*, 535 U.S. 274, 280, 122 S. Ct. 1414, 1421 (U.S. Sup. Ct. 2002) (citations omitted). Neither the owner of the Parcel nor June Lake LLC have ever granted consent for the construction of these improvements or for public use of the Parcel. The ongoing presence of hundreds of

thousands of visitors on this land raises serious liability and property management concerns.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the DNR **close all public access points** to the Parcel and **post “No Trespassing” signage by March 3, 2026**. Should this not occur by that date, June Lake LLC, as lessee, will post signage consistent with the DNR’s own trespass-posting guidance:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hunting/trespass-law.html>.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to coordinate these efforts or to discuss any related matters.

Sincerely,



Tim Prinsen
June Lake LLC



Dawn Prinsen
June Lake LLC

CC:

- Sara Strommen, Commissioner, DNR
- Ann Pierce, Director, Parks and Trails
- Joseph Henderson, Director, Lands and Minerals
- Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner
- Barry Osborne, CCSRA Manager
- Carrie Tretter
- Paul Kirkman, Chair of CCSRA CAC
- Eric Craine, CLMTB Crew
- Jamie Lee, Crow Wing County Commissioner, District 5
- Josh Jacobson, Ironton Mayor
- Senator Foug Hawj
- Representative Josh Heintzeman
- Representative Peter Fischer
- Senator Keri Heintzeman
- Representative Ben Davis
- Kelsey Hopps, Crow Wing County Attorney
- Stephanie Shook, Assistant Crow Wing County Attorney
- Eric Klang, Crow Wing County Sheriff
- Jim Erickson
- Carrie Ruud
- Tom Streit

