

January, 2014

### **Master Plan Variance**

**Variance:** Snowmobile Trail Extension

**Property Name:** Kettle Moraine State Forest – Pike Lake Unit

**Proposed Change to the Master Plan:**

Increase the snowmobile trail mileage by 0.4 miles, for a total mileage not to exceed 2.4 miles in length. The location of this mileage increase is shown on Figures 1 and 2.

Operational aspects will include the development a snowmobile land use permit that will require:

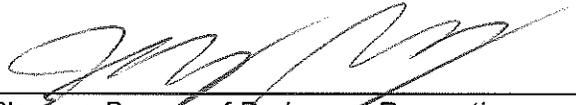
- A snowmobile club to be responsible for the development of the 0.4 mile addition.
- A snowmobile club to be responsible for the maintenance of the trail.
- A snowmobile club not to remove vegetation without arrangements with the superintendent.
- Any timber sales to be conducted and managed by the Department.
- That the trail will be open December 17<sup>th</sup> and close by Mid-March.
- Access to Pike Lake will only be allowed when the ground is frozen and at least six inches of snow on the trail.
- A snowmobile club to be responsible for supplying signs and maintain the trail in safe condition at all times.
- Any temporary opening and closing of the trail will occur by the Washington County Snowmobile Club Association.

The estimated total project cost is up to \$1,000 with the Hartlake Snowmobile Club providing all materials and funds.

*Maps, designs and background materials provided on the following pages.*

**Supporting Approvals**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent, Pike Lake Unit Date: 1/14/2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Planner, Bureau of Parks and Recreation Date: 1/2/14

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
District Manager, Bureau of Parks and Recreation Date: 2/10/14

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Bureau of Parks and Recreation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator, Division of Lands Date: 2/13/14

**Others with a special interest;**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Unavoidable Adverse Impacts:**

None

**Summary of any Alternatives Considered:**

Alternative 1: Status Quo - Do not build the trail extension

This alternative of not building the trail connection would lessen the opportunities for regional trail connections.

Alternative 2: Reroute off the property

This alternative reviewed other routes and found it difficult to get around the perimeter of the Pike Lake Unit because of site limitations and automobile traffic.

**Summary of Public Comments:**

The draft variance was available for public review and comment from December 20, 2013 – January 10, 2014. This draft was posted to the Kettle Moraine State Forest – Pike Lake Unit webpage and a press release was sent to local media outlets. A total of 15 written comments were received. All comments were in support of the draft variance.

**Compatibility with Statutes, Codes, and Department Policies:**

This variance to the Kettle Moraine State Forest – Pike Lake Unit 2009 Master Plan meets the requirements of ch. NR44.04, Wis. Adm. Code.

**Federal Aid Limitations:**

Kettle Moraine State Forest – Pike Lake Unit received Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON) dollars in the 1960s.



## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### **Purpose and Need for the Proposed Variance:**

The proposal is to add 0.4 miles of snowmobile trail, from the Hwy 60 road crossing, toward Franklin Road and angle to the southwest and enter Pike Lake as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

The purpose for the trail extension is to connect regional trail systems along the north and south sides of the lake. Snowmobiling is currently allowed on the Pike Lake Unit through the use of a Snowmobile Land Use Permit and this extension will allow for connections to local services

The proposed snowmobile trail would not impact any winter season recreational user. The proposed trail is located within the Master Plan's designated recreation management area boundaries.

### **How is the proposed change supported by the property's vision, goals, and objectives?**

#### Goal Statement (page 3)

Provide compatible year-round, primarily non-motorized outdoor day-use recreational opportunities, including but not limited to hiking and skiing, picnicking, swimming, and fishing.

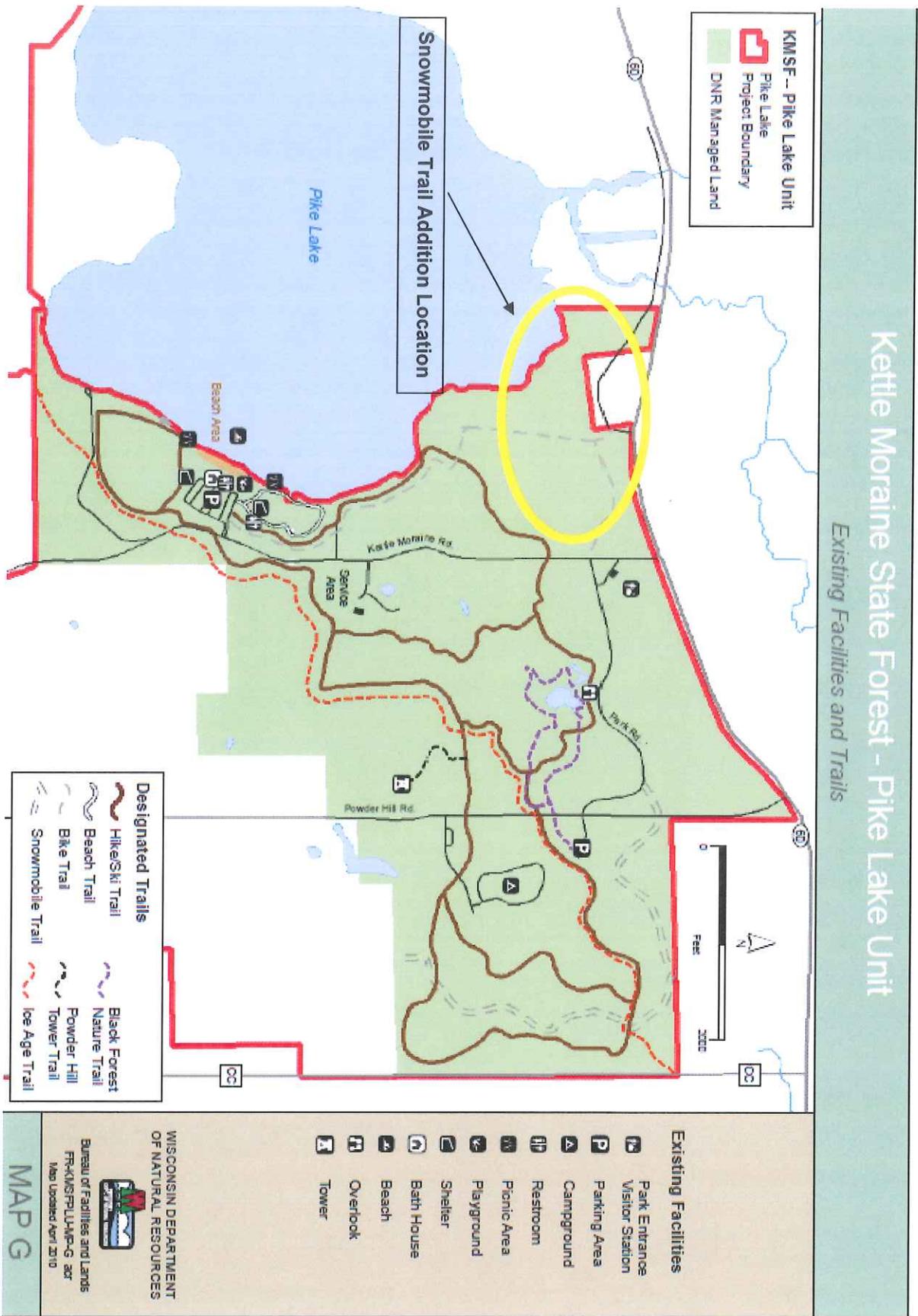
#### Trail Objectives (page 5)

Accommodate a short, pass-through segment of snowmobile trail in a location that does not conflict with the primary uses of the property.

### **Anticipated Primary Benefits of the Proposed Variance:**

- The new section of trail will give snowmobilers direct access to regional trail networks and local services.
- Safety will be improved by not having cross State Highway 60
- The trail will connect to the Hwy K/Brown property trail that connects to south end of the Pike Lake Unit boundary

Figure 1



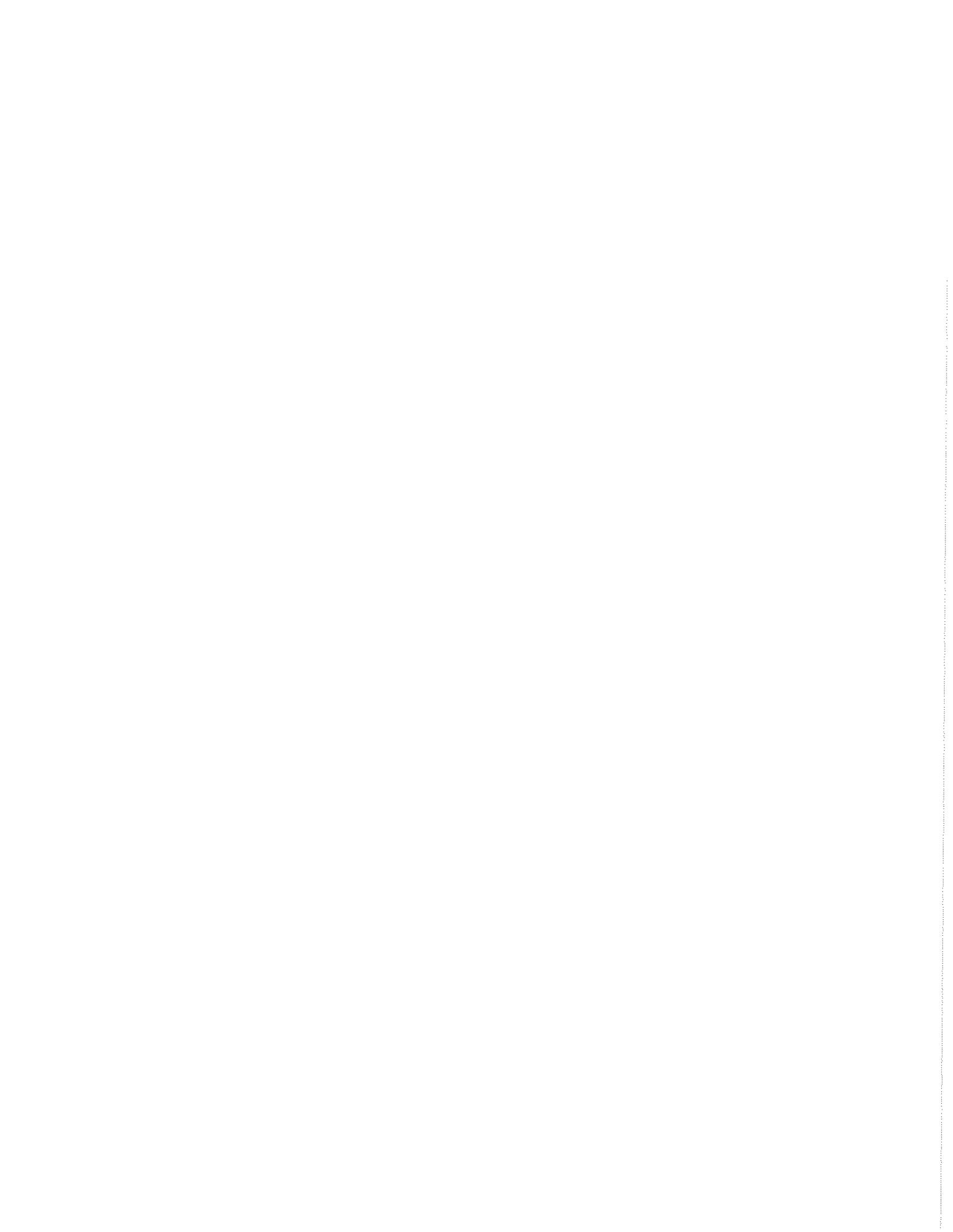
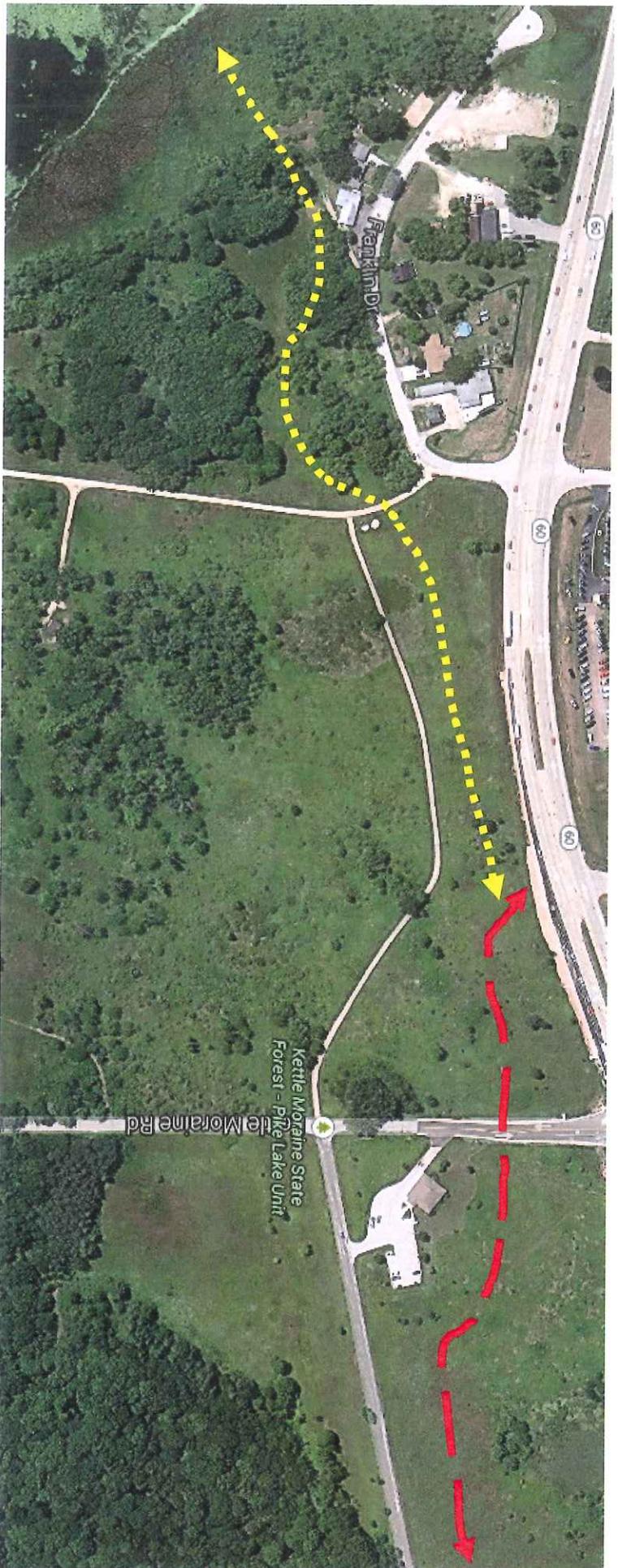


Figure 2

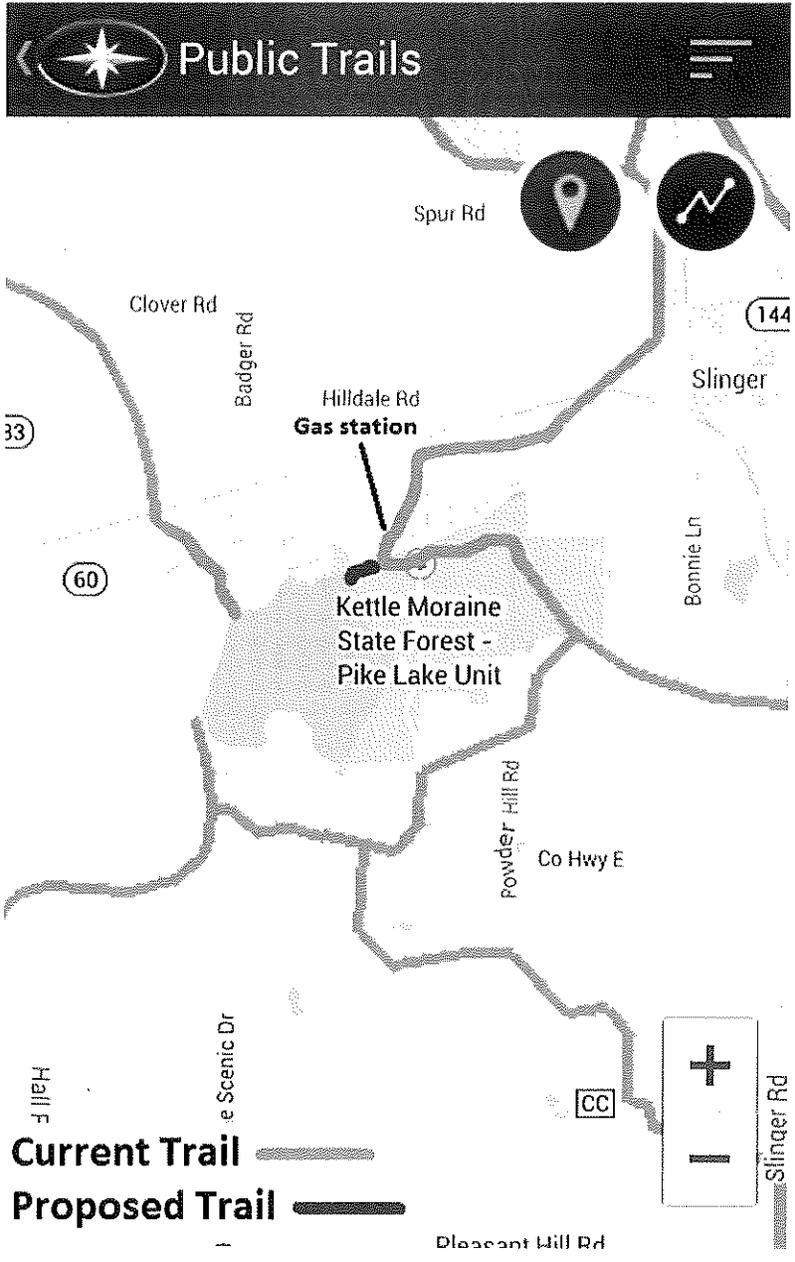
Kettle Moraine State - Pike Lake Unit  
Snowmobile Trail Addition

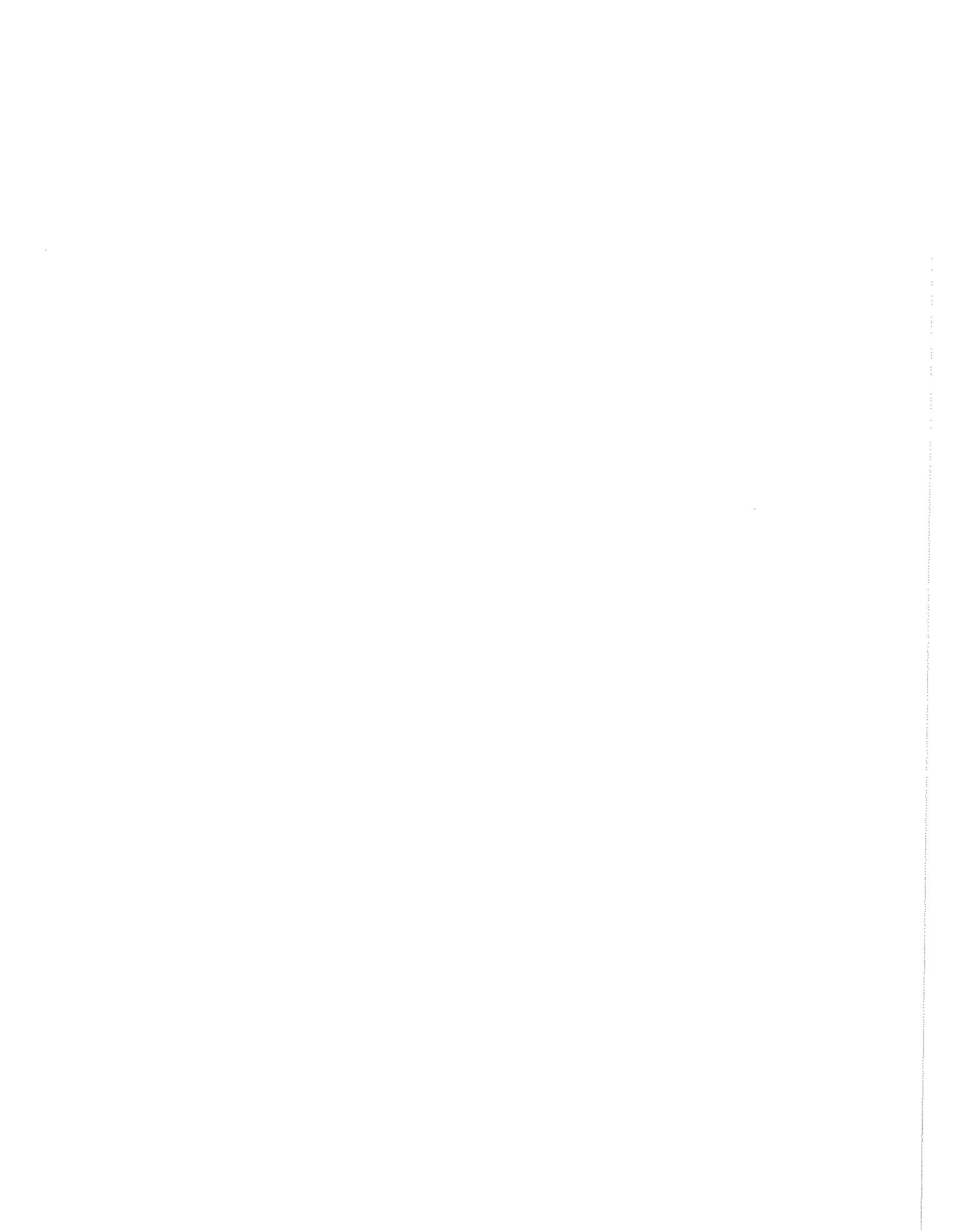


- Snowmobile Trail
- Existing ———
  - Addition - - - - -



# Map 1 Existing Trail





## **Wessberg, Robert S - DNR**

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**Subject:** Master Plan Variances  
**Location:** Central Office, Room 624

**Start:** Tue 07/22/2014 10:30 AM  
**End:** Tue 07/22/2014 12:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

**Organizer:** Buckler, Daniel C - DNR  
**Required Attendees:** Brown, Brigit E - DNR; Bump, Cameron M - DNR; Wessberg, Robert S - DNR

To discuss Master Plan variances for Tuscobia, Buffalo River, and Badger State Trails, as well as for parts of the Kettle Moraine State Forest.

