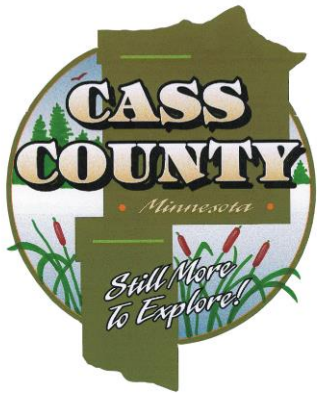


LAND DEPARTMENT



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January 2, 2014

Bill Becker
Executive Director
Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Room G95
State Office Building
100 Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Re: Conversion Confirmation – Woodtick Wheelers GIA ATV Trail Proposal – OHF Funded Acquisition

Dear Mr. Becker,

The Cass County Land Department has been contacted by LSOHC staff regarding the public comment period for the Woodtick Wheelers GIA ATV Trail Proposal. A parcel acquired with outdoor heritage funds, with an existing forest access road, is being proposed as part of the GIA ATV trail. We do not feel this is a conversion as defined under MS 97A.056, Subd. 15. Land acquisition restrictions. We have listed the reasoning for this decision below.

- This is a continuation of an existing use including timber management access and recreational use as listed in the approved accomplishment plan.
- No new construction on the acquired parcel is needed to use the existing forest access road as part of the proposed trail.
- The intended use of the parcel will not be altered.
- We have no evidence that the designation of the existing forest access road will result in fragmentation of the whole habitat.
- No monetary value will be realized by the County as the fee owner, as a result of designated trail status.

If you or any other LSOHC staff feel our interpretation of the statute is incorrect, please advise. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Josh Stevenson".

Joshua Stevenson
Land Commissioner