

Executive Committee:

Marcia Larson - Chair, Bemidji City
Chuck Wocken – Vice Chair, Stearns County;
Marc Mattice - Secretary, Wright County;
Dave Aker – Region 1, East Grand Forks City
Mark Ostgarden – Region 2, Brainerd City
Laird Mork – Region 3, Chisago County
Rick Anderson – Region 4, Lyon County.



Communications Committee:

Barry Wendorf- Chair, Isanti County
Al Lieffort, Douglas County
Greg Bernu, Carlton County
Gordon Olson, Jackson County

Improving the quality of life for the citizens of Minnesota by providing recreational opportunities, promoting legislative funding opportunities, and networking regional parks and trails throughout Greater Minnesota.

The Greater MN Regional Parks & Trails Coalition came together as a group that will speak with one clear voice for the needs of regional parks and trails throughout Greater Minnesota.

Our Coalition has offered substantial support and assistance to the U of M and MN/DNR on the “**10 year Strategy/25 year Framework project,**” and has been integrally involved in the process having five members of the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks & Trails Coalition chosen to be on the steering committee in order to gain public input on how the Park & Trail Legacy Funding should be spent.

According to the U of M inventory In Greater Minnesota there are currently:

One Hundred Twenty-Eight Regional Parks **Totaling 41,474 acres**
Administered by Greater Minnesota Cities & Counties

Thirty-Five Regional Trails **Totaling 489 Miles**
Administered by Greater Minnesota Cities and Counties

With 67% of all outdoor recreation hours happening within 30 minutes of your home, Greater Minnesota helps fill out the State’s Outdoor Recreation System needs by providing close-to-home nature opportunities in regional parks and on regional trails.

Park and Trail Legacy funding distribution for 2010:

Met Council - 42%

DNR - 42%

Statewide Regional Park Grant Program - 5.7%

Statewide Regional Trail Grant Program - 5.7%

Greater MN Regional Parks & Trails were awarded \$3.5 million through the Statewide Park & Trail Grant Program in 2010 while grant requests totaled \$18.9 million

We would like the Legislature to recognize the role that Greater MN fills in acquiring, developing and maintaining regional parks and trails and set aside 33% from the PARK & TRAIL FUND for each of the three entities: Greater MN Regional Parks & Trails, State Parks, and Metro Parks. Greater MN would use its share for capital acquisition, development and restoration of regional parks & trails in Greater MN.

Marcia Larson, Chair – GMRPT marcia.larson@ci.bemidji.mn.us

(Membership Listed on Reverse Side)

GREATER MINNESOTA REGIONAL PARKS & TRAILS

Beltrami County, Benton County, Big Stone County, Brown County, Carlton County, Chisago County, Crow Wing County, Douglas County, Isanti County, Itasca County, Jackson County, Kandiyohi County, Kittson County, Koochiching County, Lac Qui Parle County, Le Seur County, Lyon County, Marshall County, McLeod County, Meeker County, Murray County, Norman County, Olmstead County, Pennington County, Polk County, Red Lake County, Renville County, Rice County, Roseau County, Sherburne County, Sibley County, Stearns County, Todd County, Wadena County, Wright County,

Cities of Atwater, Baudette, Bemidji, Brainerd, Cambridge, Cold Spring, Detroit Lakes, Duluth, East Grand Forks, Fergus Falls, Hutchinson, Lake City, Milaca, Monticello, New Ulm, North Mankato, Olivia, Perham, Princeton, Richmond, Rochester, Rockford, Rockville, Spring Grove, St. Charles, St. Cloud, and Staples

Townships of Baldwin, Greenbush & Princeton

Other Supporting Agencies - 1000 Friends of Minnesota, Bonestroo, MMDC, Rocori Trail Construction Board - SEH,

Northwest Regional Development Commission

Rev.6/04/10

A Coalition of Greater Mn Regional Park & Trail Providers

