

Ryan Lisson

From: Holmstrom, Rebecca (DNR) [Rebecca.Holmstrom@state.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:58 AM
To: Ryan Lisson
Cc: Converse, Carmen K (DNR); Joyal, Lisa (DNR); Gerdes, Lawson (DNR); Anderson, Chel (DNR); Carlson, Bruce (DNR); Rusterholz, Kurt A (DNR); Wilson, Steve G (DNR)
Subject: RE: SNA Location Request
Attachments: GRPPA_April_2_2012_EEoutline_RMH.docx; Metadata_Preliminary MCBS Survey Sites_120124.docx

Hi Ryan-

Please reference the attached draft resource when referring to Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) data for the area you mention below. The document can be cited as follows:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. *In progress*. An Evaluation of the Ecological Significance of the Giants Range and Pike Peatlands Area. Minnesota Biological Survey, Division of Ecological and Water Resources. St. Paul: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

The area is collectively being referred to as the Giants Range and Pike Peatlands Area (GRPPA) and it is composed of four contiguous Preliminary MBS Survey Sites with preliminary Statewide Biodiversity Significance Ranks of either "High" or "Outstanding". This includes the "Pike Range and Peatlands" preliminary site which contains the "Pike Mountain" area. I think it is fine to use Site names and Site numbers, however, all boundaries and ranks will remain **preliminary** until surveys are completed for the subsection this year. See attached metadata for more clarification on the MBS process (please note, our program was formerly known as the Minnesota County Biological Survey (MCBS)).

I think Lisa Joyal would be the best initial contact regarding MBS data for preliminary survey sites near the "Headwaters Site". She can access general site description information for your areas of interest and can then refer you to the lead ecologist if more detailed information is desired.

Hope that helps- please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,
Rebecca

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From: Ryan Lisson [mailto:Ryan.Lisson@erm.com]

4/30/2012

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Holmstrom, Rebecca (DNR)
Subject: RE: SNA Location Request

Good morning Rebecca,

I have been forwarded several pieces of information about the "Pike Mountain" area, in regards to preliminary MCBS sites, native plant communities, potential SNAs, etc. I have received this information from Steve Wilson (below), but also from Dan Ryan of the Forest Service. You mentioned it was fine for both to share this information with others, provided that we understand the data is "preliminary" or "potential." When including this preliminary data in the Supplemental Draft EIS analysis of the land exchange portion of the NorthMet Project, is it sufficient to use these terms (potential, preliminary) to stress that they are not finalized? Or does the DNR have a different protocol we should follow? Also, should I refer to the MCBS site as the Pike Range and Peatlands preliminary MCBS Site, or exclude the name and keep it general? Between all the emails I've seen to Steve or Dan, it seems there is plenty of very insightful information to include as baseline data that we did not have before, so thank you for distributing it to them.

I am also curious if you have any additional information about some other preliminary MCBS Sites that I found within a MDNR document, "An Evaluation of the Ecological Significance of the Headwaters Site" from March 2007. The land exchange has parcels located within the Seven Beavers preliminary MCBS Site according to Figure 4 of the above document. There are also parcels located just east of the map on Figure 4 (T59N R9W Sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 30 and 31) on a preliminary site, but I cannot see its name. Any additional information you have on these sites would be greatly appreciated. Have a good weekend.

Thank you,

Ryan J. Lisson

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