



January 7, 2026

**VIA E-FILING**

Debbie-Anne Reese, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20426

Subject: Little Falls Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2532)  
Sylvan Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2454)  
Pillager Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2663)  
Updated Study Report

Dear Secretary Reese:

In accordance with 18 CFR § 5.15(f), ALLETE, Inc., doing business as Minnesota Power (MP or Licensee), the Licensee of the Little Falls Hydroelectric Project (Little Falls Project) (FERC No. 2532), Sylvan Hydroelectric Project (Sylvan Project) (FERC No. 2454), and Pillager Hydroelectric Project (Pillager Project) (FERC No. 2663), herein collectively referred to as the “Projects,” electronically files with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) the Updated Study Report (USR) for the relicensing of the Projects.

The USR describes the Licensee’s progress in implementing the study plan and schedule approved by the FERC in their January 31, 2024, Study Plan Determination (SPD). The USR includes the results of the studies conducted since the ISR. These studies are listed below.

- Sylvan Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report
- Pillager Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report
- Revised Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (Privileged)
- Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (Privileged)
- Revised Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (Privileged)
- Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (Privileged)
- Revised Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (Privileged)

- Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (Privileged)

The architectural history and archaeological resources studies for the Projects are being filed as privileged due to the sensitive cultural resource information contained therein.

The Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 5.15 require the Licensee to hold an USR Meeting with participants and FERC staff within 15 days of filing the USR. Accordingly, MP will hold a virtual **USR Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Central Time on January 14, 2026**. The purpose of the USR Meeting is to provide an opportunity to review the contents of the USR and to discuss the study results and proposals, if any, to modify the study plan in light of the progress of the study plan and data collected. The meeting is a public meeting; interested agencies, Tribes, stakeholders, and individuals are invited to attend. The virtual USR Meeting invitation can be requested by sending an email to [lesley.brotkowski@kleinschmidtgroup.com](mailto:lesley.brotkowski@kleinschmidtgroup.com).

Please direct any questions pertaining to the Projects to me by phone at (218) 355-3191 or e-mail at [gprom@allete.com](mailto:gprom@allete.com).

Best Regards,



Greg Prom  
Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist  
ALLETE, Inc., d.b.a Minnesota Power  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802-2093

Attachments: Distribution List  
Updated Study Report for the Little Falls Project (FERC P-2532), Sylvan Project (FERC P-2454), and Pillager Project (FERC P-2663)

## **Distribution List**

**Updated Study Report for the Little Falls Project (FERC P-2532),  
Sylvan Project (FERC P-2454), and Pillager Project (FERC P-2663)**

**Little Falls (P-2532), Sylvan (P-2454), Pillager (P-2663) Hydroelectric Projects  
Relicensing Distribution List**

**Federal Agencies**

James Redman  
Midwest Regional Office  
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs  
5600 West American Blvd, Suite 500  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437

Bob Edstrom  
FERC Coordinator  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Saint Paul District  
190 5th St East Suite 700  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638

Darin Simpkins  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2661 Scott Tower Drive  
New Franken, Wisconsin 54229-9565

David Thomson  
Hydropower Coordinator  
National Park Service  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226

**Tribes**

Durell Cooper III  
Chairman  
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 1330  
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

Robert Blanchard  
Chairman  
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
Indians of the Bad River Reservation,  
Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 39  
Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Larry "Moose" Plucinski  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
Indians of the Bad River Reservation,  
Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 39  
Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Gavin D'Acquisto  
Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
Indians of the Bad River Reservation,  
Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 39  
Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Reggie Wassana  
Governor  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 38  
Concho, Oklahoma 73022

Max Bear  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma  
700 Black Kettle Boulevard  
Concho, Oklahoma 73022

Anthony Reider  
President  
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South  
Dakota  
P.O. Box 283  
Flandreau, South Dakota 57028

Garrie Kills-A-Hundred  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South  
Dakota  
P.O. Box 283  
Flandreau, South Dakota 57028

Jeffery Stiffarm  
President  
Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort  
Belknap Reservation of Montana  
158 Tribal Way  
Harlem, Montana 59526

Michael Blackwolf  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort  
Belknap Reservation of Montana  
656 Agency Main Street  
Harlem, Montana 59526

Misty Slater  
Chairwoman  
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska  
3345 Thrasher Road  
White Cloud, Kansas 66439

Alan Kelley  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska  
3345-B Thrasher Road  
White Cloud, Kansas 66094

Robert R.D. Curtis Jr.  
President  
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Michigan  
16429 Beartown Road  
Baraga, Michigan 49908

Paul Halverson  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Michigan  
16429 Beartown Road  
Baraga, Michigan 49908

Sarah Thompson  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau  
Reservation of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 67  
Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin 54538

James Williams, Chairman  
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians of Michigan  
P.O. Box 249  
Watersmeet, Michigan 49969

Alina Shively  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians of Michigan  
P.O. Box 249  
Watersmeet, Michigan 49969

Lisa Brunk  
Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians of Michigan  
P.O. Box 249  
Watersmeet, Michigan 49969

Robert Larsen  
President  
Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State  
of Minnesota  
P.O. Box 308  
Morton, Minnesota 56270

Cheyenne St. John  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State  
of Minnesota  
P.O. Box 308  
Morton, Minnesota 56270

Gena Kakkak  
Chairperson  
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 910  
Keshena, Wisconsin 54135

David Grignon  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 910  
Keshena, Wisconsin 54135

Carlos Hernandez  
Chairperson  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Bois Forte Band  
(Nett Lake)  
5344 Lake Shore Drive  
Nett Lake, Minnesota 55772

Jaylen Strong  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
1500 Bois Forte Road  
Tower, Minnesota 55790  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Bois Forte Band

Bruce Savage  
Chairman  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Fond du Lac  
Band  
1720 Big Lake Road  
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Evan Schroeder  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Fond du Lac  
Band  
28 University Road  
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Robert Deschampe  
Chairman  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Grand Portage  
Band  
P.O. Box 428  
Grand Portage, Minnesota 55605

Rob Hull  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Grand Portage  
Band  
P.O. Box 428  
Grand Portage, Minnesota 55605

Faron Jackson Sr.  
Chairman  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Leech Lake  
Band  
190 Sailstar Drive NW  
Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633

Gina Lemon  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Leech Lake  
Band  
190 Sailstar Drive NE  
Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633

Virgil Wind  
Chief Executive  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Mille Lacs Band  
43408 Oodena Drive  
Onamia, Minnesota 56359

Mike Wilson  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Mille Lacs Band  
43408 Oodena Drive  
Onamia, Minnesota 56359

Susan Klapel  
Executive Director of Natural Resources  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - Mille Lacs Band  
43408 Oodena Drive  
Onamia, Minnesota 56359

Michael Fairbanks  
Chairman  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - White Earth  
Band  
P.O. Box 418 (Hwy 224)  
White Earth, Minnesota 56591

Jaime Arsenault  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - White Earth  
Band  
P.O. Box 418 (Hwy 224)  
White Earth, Minnesota 56591

Michael LaRoque  
President  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota  
P.O. Box 217  
Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633

Jane Rea-Bruce  
Executive Assistant  
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota  
P.O. Box 217  
Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633

Sarah Bartell  
Office Manager  
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State  
of Minnesota  
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road  
Welch, Minnesota 55089

Noah White  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State  
of Minnesota  
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road  
Welch, Minnesota 55089

Nicole Boyd  
Chairman  
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
Indians of Wisconsin  
88385 Pike Road Highway 13  
Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814

Marvin DeFoe  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa  
Indians of Wisconsin  
88385 Pike Road Highway 13  
Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814

Darrell Seki  
Chairman  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians  
P.O. Box 550  
Red Lake, Minnesota 56671

George Branchaud  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians  
P.O. Box 274  
Red Lake, Minnesota 56671

Alonzo Denney  
Chairman  
Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska  
108 Spirit Lake Avenue West  
Niobrara, Nebraska 68760-7219

Larry Thomas  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska  
425 Frazier Avenue North, Suite 2  
Niobrara, Nebraska 68760

Cole Miller  
Chairman  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
of Minnesota  
2330 Sioux Trail, NW  
Prior Lake, Minnesota 55372-9077

Leonard Wabasha  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
of Minnesota  
2330 Sioux Trail, NW  
Prior Lake, Minnesota 55372-9077

J. Garret Renville  
Tribal Chairman  
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake  
Traverse Reservation, South Dakota  
P.O. Box 509  
Agency Village, South Dakota 57262

Dianne Desrosiers  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake  
Traverse Reservation, South Dakota  
P.O. Box 709  
Agency Village, South Dakota 57262

Robert VanZile  
Chairman  
Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin  
3051 Sand Lake Road  
Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

Michael LaRonge  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin  
3051 Sand Lake Road  
Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

Lonna Jackson-Street  
Chairperson  
Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota  
P.O. Box 359  
Fort Totten, North Dakota 58335

Kenneth Graywater  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota  
P.O. Box 198  
Fort Totten, North Dakota 58335

Janet Alkire  
Chairperson  
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South  
Dakota  
P.O. Box D  
Fort Yates, North Dakota 58538

Courtney Yellow Fat  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South  
Dakota  
P.O. Box D  
Fort Yates, North Dakota 58538

Kathleen Wooden Knife  
President  
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian  
Reservation, South Dakota  
P.O. Box 430  
Rosebud, South Dakota 57570

Ione Quigley  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian  
Reservation, South Dakota  
P.O. Box 750  
Rosebud, South Dakota 57570

Jamie Azure  
Chairman  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians  
of North Dakota  
P.O. Box 900  
Belcourt, North Dakota 58316

Larus Longie  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians  
of North Dakota  
P.O. Box 900  
Belcourt, North Dakota 58316

Kevin Jensvold  
Chairman  
Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota  
P.O. Box 147  
Granite Falls, Minnesota 56241

Samantha Odegard  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota  
P.O. Box 147  
Granite Falls, Minnesota 56241

**State Agencies**

John Jaschke, Executive Director  
Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources  
520 Lafayette Road North  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-0001

Lucy Harrington  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Minnesota Department of Administration  
203 Administration Building  
50 Sherburne Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Shannon Geshick  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council  
161 Saint Anthony Avenue, Suite 919  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103

George Googleye, Jr.  
Cultural Resource Manager  
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council  
161 Saint Anthony Avenue, Suite 919  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103

Jill Townley  
Environmental Review Supervisor  
Minnesota Department of Natural  
Resources  
500 Lafayette Road  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

Dan O'Shea  
River Ecology Unit/Ecological and Water  
Resource Division  
Minnesota Department of Natural  
Resources  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

Jason Boyle  
Dam Safety Engineer  
Minnesota Department of Natural  
Resources  
500 Lafayette Road  
Eco. Resources - Box 25  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025

Eric Altena  
Area Fisheries Supervisor  
Minnesota Department of Natural  
Resources  
16543 Haven Road  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345

Robert Tipping  
Director  
Minnesota Geological Survey  
2609 Territorial Road  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55114-1032

Deborah A. Erickson  
County Administrator  
Crow Wing County, Minnesota  
326 Laurel Street, Suite 13  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Jennifer Tworzyanski  
Assistant to the State Archaeologist  
Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist  
328 West Kellogg Boulevard  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Matt LeBlanc  
Administrator  
Morrison County, Minnesota  
213 1st Avenue SE  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345

Jesse Anderson  
Research Scientist  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
525 South Lake Avenue, Suite 400  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Wendy Zylka  
City Clerk  
City of Little Falls, Minnesota  
100 Northeast Seventh Avenue  
P.O. Box 244  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345-0244

Bonnie Finnerty  
Watershed Project Manager  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
7678 College Road, Suite 105  
Baxter, Minnesota 56425

Alex Smith  
City Administrator  
City of Little Falls, Minnesota  
100 Northeast Seventh Avenue  
P.O. Box 244  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345-0244

Bill Wilde  
Pollution Control Specialist  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Rd. N.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Greg Kimman  
Public Works Director/Engineer  
City of Little Falls, Minnesota  
100 Northeast Seventh Avenue  
P.O. Box 244  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345-0244

Sasha Bergman  
Executive Secretary  
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7th Place East, Suite 350  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2163

Mike LeMieur  
District 1 Commissioner  
Green Prairie Township, Minnesota  
19227 Ginger Road  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345

**Local Governments**

Josh Stevenson  
Administrator  
Cass County, Minnesota  
P.O. Box 3000  
Walker, Minnesota 56484

Amy Walker  
Clerk  
Rosing Township, Minnesota  
8497 Azalea Road  
Pillager, Minnesota 56473

Jenna Ruggles  
Clerk  
Sylvan Township, Minnesota  
12956 24th Avenue SW  
Pillager, Minnesota 56473

Dave Kavanaugh  
Mayor  
East Gull Lake City, Minnesota  
10790 Gull Point Road  
East Gull Lake, Minnesota 56401

Lori Blumke  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
City of Pillager, Minnesota  
306 Elm Avenue West  
Pillager, Minnesota 56473

Bianca Wyffels  
Clerk  
May Township, Minnesota  
5834 112th Street SW  
Pillager, Minnesota 56473

Ken Swecker  
Clerk  
Motley Township, Minnesota  
P.O. Box 381  
Motley, Minnesota 56466

Darrel Olson  
Mayor  
City of Baxter, Minnesota  
13190 Memorywood Drive  
Baxter, Minnesota 56425

Dave Badeaux  
Mayor  
Brainerd, Minnesota  
501 Laurel Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

**Non-Governmental Organizations**

Tim Terrill  
Mississippi Headwaters Board  
Land Services Building  
322 Laurel Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Morrison County Historical Society  
2151 South Lindbergh Drive  
P.O. Box 239  
Little Falls, Minnesota 56345

Crow Wing County Historical Society  
320 Laurel Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Cass County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 505  
205 Minnesota Avenue W.  
Walker, Minnesota 56484

Ray Nelson  
Friends of Old Crow Wing  
320 Laurel Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Roy Luukkonen  
Friends of Old Crow Wing  
320 Laurel Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Don Wedll  
Friends of Old Crow Wing  
320 Laurel Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Stephen Schaitberger  
Friends of Old Crow Wing  
1402 S 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

**Licensee**

Mark Kayser  
Manager-Renewable Business Operations  
ALLETE, Inc., d.b.a. Minnesota Power  
360 State Highwater 210  
Jay Cooke State Park  
Carlton, Minnesota 55718  
218-725-2101

Greg Prom  
Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist  
ALLETE, Inc.  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Jackson Evans  
Attorney  
ALLETE, Inc.  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Matthew Radzak  
ALLETE, Inc.  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Lesley Brotkowski  
Senior Regulatory Advisor  
Kleinschmidt Associates  
233403 Stettin Ridge Court  
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401

# UPDATED STUDY REPORT

LITTLE FALLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT  
FERC P-2532

SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT  
FERC P-2454

PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT  
FERC P-2663

Prepared for:

**ALLETE, Inc.**

Prepared by:

**Kleinschmidt Associates**

January 2026

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- Appendix B: Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project **(Privileged)**
- Appendix C: Sylvan Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report
- Appendix D: Revised Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project **(Privileged)**
- Appendix E: Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project **(Privileged)**
- Appendix F: Pillager Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report
- Appendix G: Revised Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project **(Privileged)**
- Appendix H: Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project **(Privileged)**

## **DEFINITIONS OF TERMS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS**

APE	Area of Potential Effects
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
Commission	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
DLA	Draft License Application
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
ILP	Integrated Licensing Process
ISR	Initial Study Report
Licensee	ALLETE, Inc., doing business as Minnesota Power
Little Falls Project	Little Falls Hydroelectric Project, FERC P-2532
MP	Minnesota Power
MW	megawatt
NOI	Notice of Intent
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
PAD	Pre-Application Document
Pillager Project	Pillager Hydroelectric Project, FERC P-2663
PSP	Proposed Study Plan
RSP	Revised Study Plan
SD1	Scoping Document 1
SD2	Scoping Document 2
SPD	Study Plan Determination
Sylvan Project	Sylvan Hydroelectric Project, FERC P-2454
USR	Updated Study Report

## 1.0 OVERVIEW

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### 1.1 Background

ALLETE, Inc, doing business as Minnesota Power (MP), is the Licensee, owner, and operator of the Little Falls Hydroelectric Project (P-2532) (Little Falls Project), Sylvan Hydroelectric Project (P-2454) (Sylvan Project), and Pillager Hydroelectric Project (P-2663) (Pillager Project), herein collectively referred to as the “Projects.” The Little Falls Project is a 4.72-megawatt (MW) run-of-river (ROR) facility located on the Mississippi River in Morrison County, Minnesota. The Sylvan Project is a 1.80 MW ROR facility located on the Crow Wing River in Cass, Crow Wing, and Morrison counties, Minnesota. The Pillager Project is a 1.52 MW ROR facility located on the Crow Wing River in Cass and Morrison counties, Minnesota.

The Projects are licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission). There are no federal lands associated with the Projects. The Little Falls Project FERC license was issued October 27, 1993.<sup>1</sup> The Sylvan Project FERC license was issued October 29, 1993.<sup>2</sup> The Pillager Project FERC license was issued April 27, 1998.<sup>3</sup> The current operating licenses for each of the Projects expire on March 31, 2028. In accordance with FERC’s regulations at 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §16.9(b), the Licensee must file its applications for new licenses for the Projects with FERC no later than March 31, 2026. The Licensee is using the Commission’s Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) for the relicensing of the Projects.

On March 30, 2023, the Licensee filed with the Commission a Pre-Application Document (PAD) and three Notice of Intents (NOIs) for the Projects. The NOIs and PAD were distributed to Federal and state resource agencies, local governments, Native American tribes, non-governmental organizations, and others likely to be interested in the relicensing proceeding. FERC issued Scoping Document 1 (SD1) on May 26, 2023. FERC held scoping meetings on June 21 and June 22, 2023. Site visits to the Projects were held on June 21, 2023. FERC issued Scoping Document 2 (SD2) on September 8, 2023. SD2 includes the ILP Process Plan and Schedule for the relicensing of the Projects.

The Licensee filed a Proposed Study Plan (PSP) on September 8, 2023, and held a Study Plan Meeting on October 11, 2023. A Revised Study Plan (RSP) was submitted on January 9, 2024, and FERC issued its Study Plan Determination (SPD) on January 31, 2024, approving the studies described in the RSP. The approved studies include, for the Little Falls Project: Water Quality Study, Desktop Fish Entrainment and Impingement Study, and Cultural Resources Study; for the Sylvan

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<sup>1</sup> 65 ¶ 62,084 (1993).

<sup>2</sup> 65 ¶ 62,094 (1993).

<sup>3</sup> 83 ¶ 62,073 (1998).

Project: Water Quality Study, Desktop Fish Entrainment and Impingement Study, Recreation Use and Facility Inventory Study, and Cultural Resources Study; and for the Pillager Project: Desktop Fish Entrainment and Impingement Study, Recreation Use and Facility Inventory Study, and Cultural Resources Study.

The approved studies were conducted during the 2024 study season and included in the Initial Study Report (ISR) was filed with FERC on February 7, 2025.<sup>4</sup> An ISR meeting to review the study results was held on February 19, 2025, and the meeting summary was submitted on February 27, 2025.

On April 4, 2025, FERC issued comments on the ISR, requesting that additional survey dates be conducted for the Recreation Use Survey for the Sylvan Project and Pillager Project. In response, the Licensee submitted a letter on May 1, 2025, confirming that the requested additional survey dates would be completed during the 2025 study season. On May 16, 2025, MP received a comment letter from the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Surveys, Phase I Archaeological Investigations, and the Conditions Assessment for Archaeological Sites included in the ISR. The Licensee filed a response to SHPO's comments on June 2, 2025. No other comments or requests to amend the study plan were received by the April 8, 2025 deadline. On July 2, 2025, the Crow Wing County Historical Society submitted comments in support of SHPO's May 16, 2025 letter. In 2025, cultural resource reports were revised to address comments and additional recreation use sampling was conducted.

On October 24, 2025, MP filed the Draft License Applications (DLAs) for the Projects.<sup>5</sup> The DLA included descriptions of the studies and appended copies of the study reports described in this USR.

## **1.2 Purpose of Updated Study Report**

This Updated Study Report (USR) was developed pursuant to 18 CFR § 5.15(f). The purpose of the USR is to (1) describe the overall progress in implementation of the approved study plan, (2) update the schedule for implementing the studies, and (3) describe the data collected. This

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<sup>4</sup> Accession Number 20250207-5138 (Available online: [https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession\\_num=20250207-5138](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_num=20250207-5138))

<sup>5</sup> Little Falls Project DLA Accession Number 20251024-5243 (Available online: [https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession\\_num=20251024-5243](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_num=20251024-5243)); Sylvan Project DLA Accession Number 20251027-5043 (Available online: [https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession\\_num=20251027-5043](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_num=20251027-5043)); Pillager Project DLA Accession Number 20251024-5240 (Available online: [https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession\\_num=20251024-5240](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_num=20251024-5240))

purpose of the USR is also to provide an explanation of variances, if any, from the approved study plan and schedule and rationale for proposed modifications to ongoing studies or new studies being proposed, if any. The USR focuses on studies and resource report revisions conducted in 2025. Studies previously conducted and filed with the ISR are not repeated herein.

### **1.3 Updated Study Report Meeting**

The Licensee has scheduled the USR Meeting for January 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Central Time. The meeting will be a virtual meeting. The purpose of the ISR Meeting is to review the contents of the USR and discuss the study results. The meeting is a public meeting; interested agencies, Tribes, stakeholders, and individuals are invited to attend. The virtual meeting invitation can be requested by sending an email to [lesley.brotkowski@kleinschmidtgroup.com](mailto:lesley.brotkowski@kleinschmidtgroup.com).

The Licensee will file a USR meeting summary with the Commission within 15 days of the USR meeting. Within 30 days of the filing of the USR meeting summary, stakeholders may file any disagreements concerning the USR meeting summary, as well as any recommendations and associated justifications for modifications to the study plan.

### **1.4 Study Plan Modification**

Recommendations for modified or new studies must be accompanied by justification in accordance with FERC's regulations section 5.15(c)(4), and meet the applicable criteria as defined by 18 CFR § 5.15(d) and § 5.15(e). The Licensee subsequently has 30 days to file a response to comments. FERC will then have an additional 30 days to resolve any disagreements and/or modifications to the study plan and to issue a determination regarding any disagreements and/or modifications to the approved study plan.

## **2.0 LITTLE FALLS UPDATED STUDY REPORTS**

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Provided below are summaries describing the overall progress in implementing the study plan for the Little Falls Project. At the Little Falls Project, a Cultural Resources Study was revised in 2025. The completed reports are appended. Key findings are provided herein, particularly for the Cultural Resource Study, as the reports are being filed as privileged. Variances from the study plan and schedule, if any, for each of the studies are described. There are no proposed new studies or proposed modifications to studies for the Little Falls Project.

### **2.1 Cultural Resources Study**

#### **2.1.1 Study Status**

The Cultural Resources Study for the Little Falls Project included a Historic Architectural Resources Study and an Archaeological Resources Study.

The Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, originally submitted with the ISR on February 7, 2025, has been revised to address stakeholder comments. The updated report is included as Appendix A.

The Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, originally submitted with the ISR on February 7, 2025, has been revised to address stakeholder comments. The updated report is included as Appendix B.

The information contained in these reports is considered sensitive, thus the reports are filed with the FERC as privileged.

There were no variances to the study plan. The Licensee believes that the information collected is sufficient and no modifications to the study plan pertaining to the Cultural Resources Study are proposed by the Licensee. No additional studies pertaining to cultural resources are proposed.

#### **2.1.2 Study Summary**

The summaries below address revisions made to the reports in 2025 and provide an overview of the study results. For complete study details, refer to the ISR, and for a full description of study results, context, and discussion of potential effects, see the DLA.

##### **2.1.2.1 Historic Architectural Resources Study**

The Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project was revised in 2025 to address stakeholder comments. In addition to

correcting minor errors/inconsistencies, Section 4 (Survey Results) was edited to provide supporting information on the assessments of effects on historic architectural resources. Section 5 (Summary and Recommendations) was updated to reflect changes within the revised report. In addition, updated SHPO inventory forms were included in the revised report.

Table 2-1 summarizes the historic architectural resources surveyed by Merjent during the 2024 fieldwork and associated recommendations for listing on the NRHP within the existing Little Falls Project APE. Merjent recommended a finding of no effect to historic properties related to the relicensing of the Little Falls Project, and no further investigation or mitigation was recommended.

**Table 2-1: Historic Architectural Resources Surveyed by Merjent within the Existing Little Falls Project APE**

Inventory Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
MO-GRE-00191	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
MO-GRE-00196	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
MO-LFC-00026	Eligible	Not Eligible
MO-LFC-00076	Listed	Listed
MO-LFC-00130	Eligible	Eligible
MO-LFC-00161	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
MO-LFC-00837 <sup>1</sup>	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
TO-RRD-00001	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
XX-ROD-00040	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
XX-ROD-00180	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
XX-RRD-NPR022	Not Eligible	Not Eligible

Source: Merjent 2025a (Appendix A)

<sup>1</sup> This resource was later determined in September 2025 to have been demolished and replaced by a modern structure (Merjent 2025a).

### 2.1.2.2 Archaeological Resources Study

The Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project was revised to address stakeholder comments. The revisions to the 2025 report included the following:

- Clarified definitions of effects, including “Project effects” and “Non-Project effects”.
- Added details on shovel test strategy, results, profiles, and representative photos.
- Updated monitoring recommendations with additional rationale for each recommendation.

- Provided further site-specific explanations regarding how portions of sites were classified as non-contributing without formal evaluation.
- Improved photographic documentation, including captions.
- Corrected and updated site forms and submitted them to the Office of the State Archaeologist.
- Addressed minor errors and inconsistencies throughout the report.

Table 2-2 summarizes the archaeological resources surveyed by Merjent during the 2024 survey within the existing Little Falls Project APE, associated NRHP eligibility recommendations, and potential Project effects.<sup>6</sup>

**Table 2-2: Archaeological Resources Surveyed by Merjent within the Existing Little Falls Project APE**

Site Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendations	Potential Project Effects <sup>1</sup>
21MO0006	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Non-adverse effect
21MO0007	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0020	Listed	Listed	No effect
21MO0033	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0034	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0035	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0036	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0037	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0038	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0102	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Non-adverse effect
21MO0103	Unevaluated	Not Eligible	Non-adverse effect
21MO0108 <sup>2</sup>	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0111	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0115	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0116	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MOad	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MOaf	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Non-adverse effect
21MOag	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MOah	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MOo	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Non-adverse effect

<sup>6</sup> Project effects are defined as impacts or alterations to archaeological sites such as but not limited to shoreline erosion, land development and management, pedestrian trails, recreational use and development, or vandalism on properties caused by project-related activities, regardless of land ownership.

<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility</b>	<b>Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendations</b>	<b>Potential Project Effects<sup>1</sup></b>
21MOp	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MOq	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Non-adverse effect
21MOr <sup>2</sup>	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect

Source: Merjent 2025b (Appendix B)

<sup>1</sup> The table does not include non-Project effects identified by Merjent 2025b. No effect indicates that no Project effects were identified by Merjent 2025b.

<sup>2</sup> Conditions assessment was inferred as there was no land and/or river access for close inspection of shoreline.

## **3.0 SYLVAN UPDATED STUDY REPORTS**

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Provided below are summaries describing the overall progress in implementing the study plan for the Sylvan Project. At the Sylvan Project, the Recreation Use Study and Cultural Resources Study reports were revised in 2025. The completed reports are appended. Key findings are provided herein, particularly for the Cultural Resource Study, as the reports are being filed as privileged. Variances from the study plan and schedule, if any, for each of the studies are described. There are no proposed new studies or proposed modifications to studies for the Sylvan Project.

### **3.1 2025 Recreation Use Study**

#### **3.1.1 Study Status**

The initial Recreation Use and Facility Inventory Study for the Sylvan Project was conducted in 2024 and the report was filed with the ISR on February 7, 2025. On April 4, 2025, FERC issued comments indicating that the recreation use survey was not fully consistent with the approved study plan and requested additional survey dates. In response, MP filed a letter with FERC on May 1, 2025, committing to conduct additional recreational use observations and surveys on six separate days in 2025, with two hours of observation per site per survey day. The surveys were conducted on one weekday and one weekend day in June, July, and August 2025. The results of these additional survey dates, along with a summary of the overall recreation use study conclusions, are presented in the Sylvan Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report, included as Appendix C.

There were no variances to the study plan. The Licensee believes that the information collected is sufficient and no modifications to the study plan pertaining to the Recreation Use and Facility Inventory Study are proposed by the Licensee.

#### **3.1.2 Study Summary**

The Recreation Study conducted in 2025 was specific to the Recreation Use Assessment portion of the study. The Recreation Use Assessment included field observations (spot counts) and user surveys.

The results of the 2025 recreation use sampling dates were similar to those of the 2024 sampling dates. Results of the 2024 and 2025 recreation usage observations, spot counts, and visitor surveys indicate that there is moderate usage of the Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area, which primarily consisted of fishing and boating activities. Recreation usage at the Sylvan Canoe Portage was underutilized, with no usage for canoe portaging observed during the 2025 survey. The Wilder's Landing varied during the survey period from underutilized to moderate usage. The observed activities consisted of fishing, boating and hiking at this location. The most usage was

observed at the Fisherman’s Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area, with up to 14 visitors reported during one site visit. Activities at this site include boating, fishing, hiking, and wildlife watching.

Of the user surveys completed, they all indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered. The sites were typically categorized as slightly under to moderately utilized. Overcrowding does not appear to be a concern at the recreation sites. The analysis of the user survey data indicates sufficient capacity at all recreation sites for both current and projected usage at the end of the license period. There is adequate capacity to accommodate potential increases in recreation demand.

## **3.2 Cultural Resources Study**

### **3.2.1 Study Status**

The Cultural Resources Study for the Sylvan Project included a Historic Architectural Resources Study and an Archaeological Resources Study.

The Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, originally submitted with the ISR on February 7, 2025, has been revised to address stakeholder comments. The updated report is included as Appendix D.

The Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, originally submitted with the ISR on February 7, 2025, has been revised to address stakeholder comments. The updated report is included as Appendix E.

The information contained in these reports is considered sensitive, thus the reports are filed with the FERC as privileged.

There were no variances to the study plan. The Licensee believes that the information collected is sufficient and no modifications to the study plan pertaining to the Cultural Resources Study are proposed by the Licensee. No additional studies pertaining to cultural resources are proposed.

### **3.2.2 Study Summary**

The summaries below address revisions made to the reports in 2025 and provide an overview of the study results. For complete study details, refer to the ISR, and for a full description of study results, context, and discussion of potential effects, see the DLA.

### 3.2.2.1 Historic Architectural Resources Study

The Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project was revised in 2025 to address stakeholder comments. In addition to correcting minor errors/inconsistencies, Section 4 (Survey Results) was edited to provide supporting information on the assessments of effects on historic architectural resources. Section 5 (Summary and Recommendations) was updated to reflect changes within the revised report. In addition, updated SHPO inventory forms were included in the revised report.

Table 3-1 summarizes the historic architectural resources surveyed by Merjent during the 2024 fieldwork and associated recommendations for listing on the NRHP within the existing Sylvan Project APE.<sup>7</sup> Merjent recommended a finding of no effect to historic properties related to the relicensing of the Sylvan Project, and no further investigation or mitigation was recommended.

**Table 3-1: Historic Architectural Resources Surveyed by Merjent within the Existing Sylvan Project APE**

Inventory Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
CA-SLV-00003	Eligible	Eligible
CA-SLV-00005	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
CW-UOG-00001	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
CA-SLV-0012	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-0013	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-0014	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-0015	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-0016	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-0017	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-0018	-	Unevaluated
XX-ROD-00153	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
XX-RRD-NPR007 <sup>1</sup>	Unevaluated	Eligible
XX-RRD-NPR021 <sup>1</sup>	Eligible	Eligible

Source: Merjent 2025c (Appendix D)

<sup>1</sup> XX-RRD-NPR021 is a duplicate of XX-RRD-NPR007.

<sup>7</sup> Merjent identified seven historic-aged resources for survey after reviewing historic aerial imaging. However, Merjent was unable to survey the resources from the public right-of-way due to mature vegetation and trees blocking the buildings from view. Merjent was unable to clearly evaluate their eligibility for the NRHP and are unevaluated.

### 3.2.2.2 Archaeological Resources Study

The Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project was revised to address stakeholder comments. At the Sylvan Project, additional field work was conducted in 2025 within the Chippewa Agency Historic District.<sup>8</sup> Fieldwork conducted in 2024 and 2025 at the Chippewa Agency site and historic district (21CA0055 and CA-SLV-00006) included a conditions assessment with shoreline and trail observations, documenting limited impacts from unmaintained trails and vehicle barriers. A major non-project effect was noted where an access road under an electrical line intersects a burial mound, but this damage is historic and stable. No new archaeological sites were found, and only one limited erosion incident was observed, with no significant project-related impacts detected.

Additional revisions to the 2025 report included the following:

- Clarified definitions of effects, including “Project effects” and “Non-Project effects”.
- Added details on shovel test strategy, results, profiles, and representative photos.
- Updated monitoring recommendations with additional rationale for each recommendation.
- Provided further site-specific explanations regarding how portions of sites were classified as non-contributing without formal evaluation.
- Improved photographic documentation, including captions.
- Corrected and updated site forms and submitted them to the Office of the State Archaeologist.
- Addressed minor errors and inconsistencies throughout the report.

Table 3-2 summarizes the archaeological resources surveyed by Merjent during the 2024 and 2025 surveys within the existing Sylvan Project APE, associated NRHP eligibility recommendations, and potential Project effects.

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<sup>8</sup> The Chippewa Agency Historic District (CA-SLV-00006) has wider/larger boundaries than the Chippewa Agency archaeology site (21CA0055), which was evaluated in 2024.

**Table 3-2: Archaeological Resources Surveyed by Merjent within the Existing Sylvan Project APE**

Site Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Potential Project Effects <sup>1</sup>
21CA0055 (CA-SLV-00006)	Listed	Remain Listed	Non-adverse effects
21CA0065	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	Unassessed; no land access
21CA0189	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	Unassessed; no land access
21CA0190 <sup>2</sup>	Portion of site Listed/ Portion of site Determined Eligible	Remain Listed/ Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0191	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0192	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0193 <sup>2</sup>	Portion of site Listed/ Portion of site Determined Eligible	Remain Listed/ Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0194	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0195	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0196	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0199	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0200	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0202	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21CA0230	Unevaluated	Not Eligible	No effect
21CA0231	Unevaluated	Not Eligible	No effect
21CA0504 <sup>2</sup>	Listed	Remain Listed	No effect
21CA0507	Unevaluated	Not Eligible	No effect
21CAe	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21CAf	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21CAg	Unevaluated	Site not present and/or mis-plotted	No effect
21CADz	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0091	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0099	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access

Site Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Potential Project Effects <sup>1</sup>
21MO0109	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0110	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0144	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0145	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0258	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0260	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0261	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0271	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0318	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0319	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0321	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0322	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0323	Determined Eligible	Remain Determined Eligible	No effect
21MO0335	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0377	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0386	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0387	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0388	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0391	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0392	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0393	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0394	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0395	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0396	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0397	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0399	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0400	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access

Site Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Potential Project Effects <sup>1</sup>
21MO0401	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0402	Unevaluated	Remain Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access

Source: Merjent 2025d (Appendix E)

<sup>1</sup> The table does not include non-Project effects identified by Merjent 2025d. No effect indicates that no Project effects were identified by Merjent 2025d.

<sup>2</sup> Within or partially within the NRHP-listed Chippewa Agency Historic District (CA-SLV-00006).

## **4.0 PILLAGER UPDATED STUDY REPORTS**

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Provided below are summaries describing the overall progress in implementing the study plan for the Pillager Project. At the Pillager Project, the Recreation Use Study and Cultural Resources Study reports were revised in 2025. The completed reports are appended. Key findings are provided herein, particularly for the Cultural Resource Study, as the reports are being filed as privileged. Variances from the study plan and schedule, if any, for each of the studies are described. There are no proposed new studies or proposed modifications to studies for the Pillager Project.

### **4.1 2025 Recreation Use Study**

#### **4.1.1 Study Status**

The initial Recreation Use and Facility Inventory Study for the Pillager Project was conducted in 2024 and the report was filed with the ISR on February 7, 2025. On April 4, 2025, FERC issued comments indicating that the recreation use survey was not fully consistent with the approved study plan and requested additional survey dates. In response, MP filed a letter with FERC on May 1, 2025, committing to conduct additional recreational use observations and surveys on six separate days in 2025, with two hours of observation per site per survey day. The surveys were conducted on one weekday and one weekend day in June, July, and August 2025. The results of these additional survey dates, along with a summary of the overall recreation use study conclusions, are presented in the Pillager Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report, included as Appendix F.

There were no variances to the study plan. The Licensee believes that the information collected is sufficient and no modifications to the study plan pertaining to the Recreation Use and Facility Inventory Study are proposed by the Licensee.

#### **4.1.2 Study Summary**

The Recreation Study conducted in 2025 was specific to the Recreation Use Assessment portion of the study. The Recreation Use Assessment included field observations (spot counts) and user surveys.

The results of the 2025 recreation use sampling dates were similar to those of the 2024 sampling dates. Results of the 2024 and 2025 recreation usage observations, spot counts, and visitor surveys indicate that there is minimal usage of the Alvah's Landing and Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite. No users were observed or completed a survey at the canoe campsite. Recreation usage at the Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage & Shorefishing Access was moderate, with all visitors observed to be fishing at the site. The most usage was observed at the Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch,

with up to 16 visitors reported during one site visit. Activities at this site included boating, fishing, and picnicking.

The user surveys completed indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered. The sites were typically categorized as slightly under to moderately utilized, and minimal to no concerns for safety were identified. Overcrowding does not appear to be a concern at the recreation sites at the Pillager Project. The analysis of the user survey data indicates sufficient capacity at all recreation sites for both current and projected usage at the end of the license period. There appears to be adequate capacity for potential increases in recreation use at these sites.

## **4.2 Cultural Resources Study**

### **4.2.1 Study Status**

The Cultural Resources Study for the Pillager Project included a Historic Architectural Resources Study and an Archaeological Resources Study.

The Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, originally submitted with the ISR on February 7, 2025, has been revised to address stakeholder comments. The updated report is included as Appendix G.

The Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project, originally submitted with the ISR on February 7, 2025, has been revised to address stakeholder comments. The updated report is included as Appendix H.

The information contained in these reports is considered sensitive, thus the reports are filed with the FERC as privileged.

There were no variances to the study plan. The Licensee believes that the information collected is sufficient and no modifications to the study plan pertaining to the Cultural Resources Study are proposed by the Licensee. No additional studies pertaining to cultural resources are proposed.

### **4.2.2 Study Summary**

The summaries below address revisions made to the reports in 2025 and provide an overview of the study results. For complete study details, refer to the ISR, and for a full description of study results, context, and discussion of potential effects, see the DLA.

#### 4.2.2.1 Historic Architectural Resources Study

The Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project was revised in 2025 to address stakeholder comments. In addition to correcting minor errors/inconsistencies, Section 4 (Survey Results) was edited to provide supporting information on the assessments of effects on historic architectural resources. Section 5 (Summary and Recommendations) was updated to reflect changes within the revised report. In addition, updated SHPO inventory forms were included in the revised report.

Table 4-1 summarizes the historic architectural resources surveyed by Merjent during the 2024 fieldwork and associated recommendations for listing on the NRHP within the existing Pillager Project APE.<sup>9</sup> Merjent recommended a finding of no effect to historic properties related to the relicensing of the Pillager Project, and no further investigation or mitigation was recommended.

**Table 4-1: Historic Architectural Resources Surveyed by Merjent within the Existing Pillager Project APE**

Inventory Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
CA-MAY-00003	Unevaluated	Unevaluated
CA-PLC-00002	Eligible	Eligible
CA-SLV-00002	Unevaluated	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-00019	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-00020	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-00021	-	Unevaluated
CA-SLV-00022	-	Unevaluated
MO-MOT-00004	-	Not Eligible
MO-MOT-00005	-	Not Eligible
MO-MOT-00006	-	Unevaluated
MO-ROS-00003	-	Unevaluated
MO-ROS-00004	-	Unevaluated
MO-ROS-00005	-	Unevaluated
MO-ROS-00006	-	Unevaluated
MO-ROS-00007	-	Unevaluated
XX-RRD-NPR007 <sup>1</sup>	Unevaluated	Eligible
XX-RRD-NPR021 <sup>1</sup>	Eligible	Eligible

Source: Merjent 2025e (Appendix G)

<sup>1</sup> XX-RRD-NPR021 is a duplicate of XX-RRD-NPR007.

<sup>9</sup> Merjent identified 10 historic-aged resources for survey after reviewing historic aerial imaging. However, Merjent was unable to survey the resources from the public right-of-way due to mature vegetation and trees blocking the buildings from view. Merjent was unable to clearly evaluate their eligibility for the NRHP and are unevaluated.

#### 4.2.2.2 Archaeological Resources Study

The Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project was revised to address stakeholder comments. The revisions to the 2025 report included the following:

- Clarified definitions of effects, including “Project effects” and “Non-Project effects”.
- Added details on shovel test strategy, results, profiles, and representative photos.
- Updated monitoring recommendations with additional rationale for each recommendation.
- Provided further site-specific explanations regarding how portions of sites were classified as non-contributing without formal evaluation.
- Improved photographic documentation, including captions.
- Corrected and updated site forms and submitted them to the Office of the State Archaeologist.
- Addressed minor errors and inconsistencies throughout the report.

Table 4-2 summarizes the archaeological resources surveyed by Merjent during the 2024 survey within the existing Pillager Project APE, associated NRHP eligibility recommendations, and potential Project effects.

**Table 4-2: Archaeological Resources Surveyed by Merjent within the Existing Pillager Project APE**

Site Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Potential Project Effects <sup>1</sup>
21CA0237	Unevaluated	Not eligible	Non-adverse effect
21CA0238	Unevaluated	Potentially eligible	No effect
21CA0239	Unevaluated	Not eligible	Non-adverse effect
21CA0240	Unevaluated	Unevaluated <sup>2</sup>	No effect
21CA0241	Unevaluated	Potentially eligible	No effect
21CA0242	Unevaluated	Unevaluated <sup>2</sup>	No effect
21CA0243	Unevaluated	Not eligible	No effect
21CA0244	Unevaluated	Unevaluated <sup>2</sup>	No effect
21CA0245	Unevaluated	Not eligible	No effect
21CA0246	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21CA0247	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21CA0248	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access

Site Number	Previously Recorded NRHP Eligibility	Merjent NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Potential Project Effects <sup>1</sup>
21CA0249	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21CA0249	Unevaluated	Unevaluated <sup>2</sup>	No effect
21MO0121	Unevaluated	Potentially eligible	No effect
21MO0123	Unevaluated	Not eligible	No effect
21MO0124	Unevaluated	Not eligible	No effect
21MO0125	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	No effect
21MO0126	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0131	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0132	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0133	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0134	Unevaluated	Unevaluated <sup>2</sup>	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0135	Unevaluated	Unevaluated	Unassessed; no land access
21MO0435	Unevaluated	Potentially eligible	No effect

Source: Merjent 2025f (Appendix H)

<sup>1</sup> The table does not include non-Project effects identified by Merjent 2025f. No effect indicates that no Project effects were identified by Merjent 2025f.

<sup>2</sup> Non-contributory portion within existing Project APE.

## 5.0 UPCOMING ILP MILESTONES

Table 5-1 presents upcoming major ILP milestones. The complete ILP schedule is provided in FERC’s SD2.

**Table 5-1: Upcoming Major ILP Milestones**

<b>Responsible Entity</b>	<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>FERC Regulation</b>
Stakeholders	USR Meeting	January 14, 2026	5.15(f)
Stakeholders	Comments on DLA	January 22, 2026	5.16(e)
Licensee	USR Meeting Summary	~ January 29, 2026	5.15(f)
Stakeholders	Comments on USR Meeting Summary and Study Requests	30 days from the USR Meeting summary	5.15(f)
Licensee	File Final License Application	March 31, 2026	5.17

## 6.0 REFERENCES

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- Merjent, Inc. 2025a. Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (FERC License No. P-2532). Revised September 2025. Morrison County, Minnesota.
- Merjent, Inc. 2025b. Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (FERC License No. P-2532). Revised September 2025. Morrison County, Minnesota.
- Merjent, Inc. 2025c. Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (FERC License No. P-2454). Revised September 2025. Cass, Crow Wing, and Morrison Counties, Minnesota.
- Merjent, Inc. 2025d. Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (FERC License No. P-2454). Revised September 2025. Cass, Crow Wing, and Morrison Counties, Minnesota.
- Merjent, Inc. 2025e. Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (FERC License No. P-2663). Revised September 2025. Cass and Morrison Counties, Minnesota.
- Merjent, Inc. 2025f. Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (FERC License No. P-2663). Revised September 2025. Cass and Morrison Counties, Minnesota.

## Appendix A

### Revised Phase I Architectural History Survey and Evaluation for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (*Privileged*)

## **Appendix B**

### **Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Little Falls Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (*Privileged*)**

## **Appendix C**

### **Sylvan Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report**

**Minnesota Power Sylvan  
Hydroelectric Project FERC  
Project No. P-2454  
Cass and Morrison Counties, MN**

**2025 Recreation Use  
Assessment**

PREPARED BY

Minnesota Power  
30 W. Superior St.  
Duluth, MN 55802

October 20, 2025



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AN ALLETE COMPANY

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## LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A - Site Locations and Aerial Overviews

Appendix B – Survey Data Forms and Spot Counts

# **1 INTRODUCTION**

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The Sylvan Hydroelectric Project (Project) is owned and operated by Minnesota Power (MP), an ALLETE Company, and is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Project's FERC License (P-2663) was issued on October 29, 1993, and the current operating license will expire on March 31, 2028. In accordance with FERC's regulations at 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §16.9(b), MP will file an application for a new license with FERC no later than March 31, 2026.

As part of the relicensing process, a recreation use and facility inventory study was conducted in 2024. The study findings were submitted to FERC; however, on April 4, 2025, FERC issued comments indicating that the recreation use survey was not fully consistent with the approved study plan and requested additional survey dates. In response, MP filed a letter with FERC on May 1, 2025, committing to conduct additional recreational use observations and surveys on six separate days in 2025, with two hours of observation per site per survey day. The surveys were conducted on one weekday and one weekend day in June, July, and August 2025. The results of the 2025 Recreation Use Assessment are included herein.

## **1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Sylvan Hydroelectric Project is a 1.80 Megawatt (MW), run-of-river hydroelectric generation facility located on the Crow Wing River in Cass, Crow Wing, and Morrison Counties, Minnesota. There are four Commission-approved Project recreation sites: Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area, Sylvan Canoe Portage, Wilder's Landing, and Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area. Each of the sites can be accessed any time of day and have no specific hours of operation. Except for the Sylvan Dam Boat Access and the Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing area sites, in which maintenance responsibilities are shared between MP and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR), the owner / operator of each site performs all maintenance activities. At each site except for Wilder's Landing, MP inspects signs, mows, and collects garbage three times each summer. At all sites the MnDNR is typically responsible for road and boat launch repairs.

Site locations and plan views of each recreation site, including the Project's FERC boundary, are included in Appendix A. An overview of the recreation sites, their owners, and locations with respect to the dam are included in Table 1-1 below. Further details are provided in each site's representative subsection of Section 3.

Recreation Site Area	Owner/Operator	Description
Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area	MP & MnDNR <sup>(1)</sup>	Located directly downstream of the Sylvan Dam on the Crow Wing River. Parking for approximately 20 vehicles (10 for anglers, 10 for boaters), a shorefishing area, and a concrete boat ramp.
Sylvan Canoe Portage	MP	Located on the east side of the Sylvan Dam with an approximately 200-yard-long canoe portage trail around the dam. Unimproved launch upstream of the dam and utilizing the concrete boat ramp downstream of the dam.
Wilder's Landing	MnDNR	Located approximately 2 miles upstream of the Sylvan Dam, at the northwest end of the Crow Wing River. Parking for approximately 15 vehicles and a concrete boat ramp.
Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area	MP & MnDNR <sup>(1)</sup>	Located approximately 0.5 miles upstream of the Sylvan Dam, at the north end of Sylvan Reservoir. Designated shorefishing area with parking for approximately five vehicles on the east side of river. Two lane concrete boat launch and dock with parking for approximately 15 vehicles on the west side of river.

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup>MP owns the land and leases the site to MnDNR, who operates it.

## 1.2 OBJECTIVE

An inventory was conducted during the 2024 study to evaluate recreation facilities and use to inform the FERC relicensing process for the Project. The updated recreation study was conducted in accordance with the Revised Study Plan and response to FERC's April 4, 2025, comments from the 2024 study review. The following tasks were performed for the updated 2025 recreation study:

- Conduct recreation user surveys and recreation observations during the recreation season (June, July and August). The surveys were conducted on one weekday and one weekend for 2 hours per recreation site, per survey day. The surveys were performed according to the FERC approved Revised Study Plan to determine the adequacy of the sites and whether modifications to the sites would be needed to meet current or future recreation needs.
- Determine the current and projected capacity at each recreation site and facility for the hydroelectric facility.

This report updates the 2024 survey to present findings from recreation surveys conducted by MP staff during the 2025 season, and presents conclusions based on combined data from both the 2024 and 2025 recreation use surveys.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

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In response to FERC’s April 4, 2025 issuance, additional Recreation Use Assessment data were collected by MP staff between June and August 2025. These data included recreation user surveys and observation surveys conducted during site visits to each recreation location. Survey dates and times were randomly selected, and the order of site visits was varied for each survey day. Site visits were performed on the dates listed in Table 2-1.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Required Occasion</b>
June 13, 2025 (Fri)	June weekday
June 14, 2025 (Sat)	June weekend day
July 18, 2025 (Fri)	July weekday
July 19, 2025 (Sat)	July weekend day
August 15, 2025 (Fri)	August weekday
August 16, 2025 (Sat)	August weekend day

### 2.1 RECREATION USE ASSESSMENT

The Recreation Use Assessment consisted of documenting observed usage of the sites, performing a spot count of the number of visitors, and conducting user surveys of visitors at the sites. Recreation usage observations and spot counts were completed over a 2-hour period at each non-canoe access site (Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area, Sylvan Canoe Portage, Wilder’s Landing, and Fisherman’s Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area). Observation times were randomized for each of the site visit dates specified in the above schedule in Table 2-1, in order to account for time-of-day use patterns. Usage observations consisted of documenting the weather condition, number of people observed, visitor activities, and other pertinent usage notes. For the spot count, field staff recorded the total number of vehicles and visitors observed over a 2-hour period at each site. Field staff also recorded the total number of vehicles and visitors observed at a single point in time. This typically occurred when the field staff began the 2-hour session at each site. During the 2-hour period, MP field staff also administered user surveys to visitors who were willing to participate. User surveys included collecting visitors’ opinions on the existing conditions and recreation opportunities.

The Recreation Use Assessment was recorded using paper forms. The survey forms specific to the usage observations, spot count, and user surveys were developed based on the forms provided by MP and included in the relicensing Revised Study Plan (see Appendix B for sample forms). The user surveys were administered by MP field staff directly to visitors. Hard-copy versions of the user forms were available to use. The surveys were either filled out by the visitor or the surveyor, based on visitor preference. Instances in which a visitor declined to complete a survey were not specifically recorded but were occasionally noted on the form.

### 3 SURVEY RESULTS

The following sections summarize the results of the Recreation Use Assessments at each Pillager recreation site. The forms completed in the field, including the user surveys, are included in Appendix C.

#### 3.1 SYLVAN DAM BOAT ACCESS AND FISHING AREA

The Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area recreation site is located directly downstream of the Sylvan Dam on the Crow Wing River. Site amenities include parking for approximately 20 vehicles (10 spots for anglers and 10 spots for other boaters), a shorefishing area, and a concrete boat ramp. The site is owned by MP, who leases the land to MnDNR for operation and maintenance of the site. There are no set hours or seasons of operation for this site.

##### 3.1.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

Seven recreation use surveys were completed by visitors for this site during the 2025 survey. Key findings from the visitor use surveys and spot counts in 2025 are as follows and included in Table 3-1:

- In general, Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area was moderately visited during the recreation survey period. The number of people observed varied from 3 to 8 people per site visit, based on the spot counts.
- The visitors indicated moderate recreation opportunities were offered at the site.
- No concerns about safety were indicated.
- One visitor noted that the rocks could be cleaned up/filled to prevent further erosion.
- One visitor noted that the road could be fixed/potholes filled.

<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of Visitors</b>	<b>No. of Cars</b>	<b>Activities Observed</b>	<b>No. of User Surveys</b>	<b>Average Site Utilization Score<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Max / Min Utilization Score</b>	<b>Average Site Condition Score<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Max / Min Site Condition Score</b>
6/13/2025	7	5	Fishing from shore	2	3	3 / 3	3.5	5 / 2
6/14/2025	6	6	Fishing from shore, Motorized boating, Canoe/Kayking	3	3.7	4 / 3	4	4 / 4
7/18/2025	8	3	Fishing from shore, Skipping rocks <sup>(3)</sup>	1	4	4 / 4	4	4 / 4
7/19/2025	3	2	Fishing from shore	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/15/2025	4	3	Fishing from boat, Motorized boating	1	3	3 / 3	4	4 / 4
8/16/2025	4	4	Motorized boating, <sup>(4)</sup> Canoe/Kayaking	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “underutilized”, 3 = “moderate”, and 5 = “overcrowded”.

<sup>(2)</sup> Site condition rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “poor”, 3 = “satisfactory”, and 5 = “excellent”.

<sup>(3)</sup> Family of five stopped to talk, but were not interested in filling out a survey.

(4) Vehicles turned around in parking lot and left.

### 3.2 SYLVAN CANOE PORTAGE

The Sylvan Canoe Portage recreation site is located on the east side of the Sylvan Dam and includes an approximately 200-foot-long canoe portage trail around the dam. Site amenities also include an unimproved launch upstream of the dam. The portage uses the concrete boat ramp (part of the Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area site) for the downstream launch. The boat launch is operated by the MnDNR, while the remainder of the site is owned, operated, and maintained by MP. There are no set hours or seasons of operation for this site.

Note that the Sylvan Canoe Portage is directly connected to the Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area, in that the portage uses the other site’s boat launch for the downstream canoe launch spot. Therefore, some of the survey results noted vehicles and visitors that were passing through the portage on the gravel road.

#### 3.2.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

No recreation use surveys were completed by visitors to this site during the 2025 survey. This site was underutilized during the 2025 survey period. No actual portages were observed. No surveys were administered, as the only visitors observed did not stay at the site long enough to administer the survey. A summary of vehicle and visitor spot counts in 2025 are included in Table 3-2:

<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of Visitors</b>	<b>No. of Cars</b>	<b>Activities Observed</b>	<b>No. of User Surveys</b>	<b>Average Site Utilization Score<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Max / Min Utilization Score</b>	<b>Average Site Condition Score<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Max / Min Site Condition Score</b>
6/13/2025	0	8	See note <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6/14/2025	0	9	See note <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/18/2025	4	4	See note <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/19/2025	0	2	See note <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/15/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(4)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/16/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(4)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “underutilized”, 3 = “moderate”, and 5 = “overcrowded”.

<sup>(2)</sup> Site condition rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “poor”, 3 = “satisfactory”, and 5 = “excellent”.

<sup>(3)</sup> Vehicles were passing through to other sites.

<sup>(4)</sup> No visitors were observed.

### 3.3 WILDER’S LANDING

The Wilder’s Landing recreation site is located approximately 2 miles upstream of the Sylvan Dam, at the northwest end of the Crow Wing River. Site amenities include parking for approximately 15 vehicles and a concrete boat ramp. The site is owned, operated, and maintained by the MnDNR. There are no set hours or seasons of operation for this site.

### 3.3.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

One recreation use survey was completed by a visitor for this site during the 2025 survey. Key findings from the visitor use survey and spot counts in 2025 are as follows and included in Table 3-4:

- In general, Wilders Landing was underutilized to moderately visited during the recreation survey period. The number of people observed varied from 0 to 7 people per site visit, based on the spot counts.
- The visitor indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered at the site.
- The visitor had no concerns for safety at this site.
- The visitor noted that they took the survey last year, and there was good fish health at this site.

<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of Visitors</b>	<b>No. of Cars</b>	<b>Activities Observed</b>	<b>No. of User Surveys</b>	<b>Average Site Utilization Score<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Max / Min Utilization Score</b>	<b>Average Site Condition Score<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Max / Min Site Condition Score</b>
6/13/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6/14/2025	7	3	Fishing from shore, Motorized boating	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/18/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/19/2025	1	6	Motorized boating	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/15/2025	4	3	Fishing from boat, Hiking/Walking	1	3.7	3.7 / 3.7	4.7	4.7 / 4.7
8/16/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = "underutilized", 3 = "moderate", and 5 = "overcrowded".

<sup>(2)</sup> Site condition rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = "poor", 3 = "satisfactory", and 5 = "excellent".

<sup>(3)</sup> No visitors were observed; therefore, no activities were noted.

### 3.4 FISHERMAN'S BRIDGE BOAT LAUNCH AND FISHING AREA

The Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area recreation site is located approximately 0.5 miles upstream of the Sylvan Dam, and the north end of the Sylvan reservoir. Site amenities include a designated shorefishing area with parking for approximately 5 vehicles on the east side of the bridge/river, and a two-lane concrete boat launch and dock with parking for approximately 15 vehicles on the west side of the bridge/river. The site is owned by MP, who leases the land to MnDNR for operation of the site. Maintenance is shared by MP and the MnDNR. There are no set hours or seasons of operation for this site.

#### 3.4.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

Five recreation use surveys were completed by visitors for this site during the 2025 survey. Key

findings from the visitor use surveys and spot counts in 2025 are as follows and included in Table 3-4:

- In general, the Fisherman’s Bridge Boat Launch was moderately visited during the recreation survey period. The number of people observed varied from 4 to 14 people per site visit, based on the spot counts.
- The visitors generally indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered at the site.
- Two visitors expressed concerns about the safety of people jumping or climbing up the fence along the bridge.
- Two visitors noted that having a bathroom on the site would be beneficial.
- One visitor expressed concerns about poison ivy presence at the site.

**Table 3-4**  
**Fisherman’s Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area 2025 Recreation Use Survey and Spot Count Summary**

Date	No. of Visitors	No. of Cars	Activities Observed	No. of User Surveys	Average Site Utilization Score <sup>(1)</sup>	Max / Min Utilization Score	Average Site Condition Score <sup>(2)</sup>	Max / Min Site Condition Score
6/13/2025	8	1	Hiking/Walking, Fishing from shore, Viewing wildlife	1	3	3 / 3	5	5 / 5
6/14/2025	14	7	Fishing from shore/ bridge <sup>(3)</sup> , Motorized boating, Hiking/Walking	2	3	3 / 3	2	2 / 2
7/18/2025	4	3	Fishing from shore	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/19/2025	5	1	Fishing from shore/ bridge <sup>(4)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/15/2025	6	4	Fishing from shore/ bridge/boat	2	4	4 / 4	4	4 / 4
8/16/2025	4	4	Fishing from boat <sup>(5)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “underutilized”, 3 = “moderate”, and 5 = “overcrowded”.

<sup>(2)</sup> Site condition rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “poor”, 3 = “satisfactory”, and 5 = “excellent”.<sup>(3)</sup> Car left because there were no parking spots.<sup>(4)</sup> Other visitors fishing from bridge parked in other spots and walked over.<sup>(5)</sup> Vehicles drove in and immediately left without stopping to complete a survey.

## 4 CAPACITY ANALYSIS OF USER SURVEYS

The user survey data was further analyzed to evaluate the current and predicted capacity at each recreation site. Assessment of existing capacity included computing the average number of visitors over the 2-hour survey period and one recreation day, as well as the average reported site utilization scores. Given typical daylight hours and that there are no set hours of operation for any of the recreation sites, one recreation day was assumed to be 10 hours long. Visitors per recreation day was computed by projecting the 2-hour visitor count over 10 hours. The assessment also included comparing the number of observed vehicles versus available parking spaces. Existing capacity was evaluated as follows:

- “Sufficient” – Average site utilization score of 4 or lower and average number of vehicles was less than 90% of available parking spaces
- “Insufficient” – Average site utilization score greater than 4 and average number of vehicles regularly exceeded available number of spots

Table 4-1 presents the results of the existing capacity evaluation based on data collected during the 2025 Recreation Use Assessment. Table 4-2 summarizes the existing capacity evaluation using all Recreation Use Assessment data collected in 2024 and 2025.

<b>Site</b>	<b>Avg. No. of Visitors (2-hr)</b>	<b>Visitors Per Recreation Day <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Avg. No. of Vehicles (2-hr)</b>	<b>No. of Parking Spots</b>	<b>Avg. Site Utilization Score <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Existing Capacity</b>
Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area	5.3	26.5	3.8	20	3.4	Sufficient
Sylvan Canoe Portage	0.7	3.5	3.8	2	N/A <sup>(3)</sup>	Sufficient
Wilder’s Landing	2	10	2	15	3.7	Sufficient
Fisherman’s Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area	6.8	34	3.3	20	3.4	Sufficient

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> A “recreation day” assumed to be one 10-hour day.

<sup>(2)</sup> Site utilization scores ranged from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 being overcrowded.

<sup>(3)</sup> No surveys were completed for this site.

<b>Site</b>	<b>Avg. No. of Visitors (2-hr)</b>	<b>Visitors Per Recreation Day <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Avg. No. of Vehicles (2-hr)</b>	<b>No. of Parking Spots</b>	<b>Avg. Site Utilization Score <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Existing Capacity</b>
Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area	6.8	34	4.3	20	3	Sufficient
Sylvan Canoe Portage	0.3	1.5	1.8	2	N/A <sup>(3)</sup>	Sufficient
Wilder's Landing	3.8	7.6	2.3	15	3.1	Sufficient
Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area	7.3	36.5	3.5	20	3.2	Sufficient

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> A "recreation day" assumed to be one 10-hour day.

<sup>(2)</sup> Site utilization scores ranged from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 being overcrowded.

<sup>(3)</sup> No surveys were completed for this site.

Predicted capacity was evaluated at the end of the Project's assumed 40-year license period. The projected number of visitors was estimated using county and state census population data from the U.S. Census Bureau (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022a and 2022b). The population change from 2010 to 2020 for Morrison County, Cass County, and the state of Minnesota was a 2.4%, 5.2%, and 7.6% increase, respectively. This equates to an average 5.1% increase in population in 10 years, or an approximate 22% increase over 40 years. The growth rate was applied to the current visitor counts to estimate the projected number of visitors. This increase was also applied to the site utilization scores, given the increased number of visitors. The number of projected vehicles was computed based on the current ratio of vehicles per visitor in the 2-hour survey period and compared to the available parking spaces. No increase in number of parking spaces was assumed. Predicted capacity was evaluated using the same "Sufficient" and "Insufficient" designation as described above. Results of the existing capacity evaluation are presented in the following Table 4-3.

<b>Site</b>	<b>Avg. No. of Visitors (2-hr)</b>	<b>Visitors Per Recreation Day <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>% Increase in Visitors</b>	<b>Avg. No. of Vehicles (2-hr)</b>	<b>No. of Parking Spots</b>	<b>Projected Capacity</b>
Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area	8.3	41.5	22%	5.2	20	Sufficient
Sylvan Canoe Portage	0.4	1.8	22%	2.2	2	Sufficient
Wilder's Landing	4.6	9.3	22%	2.8	15	Sufficient
Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area	8.9	44.5	22%	4.3	20	Sufficient

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> A "recreation day" assumed to be one 10-hour day.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

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Key findings and conclusions from the 2025 Recreation Use Assessment surveys are summarized below.

### 5.1 RECREATION USE ASSESSMENT CONCLUSIONS

Results of the 2024 and 2025 recreation usage observations, spot counts, and visitor surveys indicate that there is moderate usage of the Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area which primarily consisted of fishing and boating activities. Recreation usage at the Sylvan Canoe Portage was underutilized, with no usage for canoe portaging observed during the 2025 survey. The Wilder's Landing varied during the survey period from underutilized to moderate usage. The observed activities consisted of fishing, boating and hiking at this location. The most usage was observed at the Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area, with up to 14 visitors reported during one site visit. Activities at this site include boating, fishing, hiking, and wildlife watching.

Of the user surveys completed, they all indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered. The sites were typically categorized as slightly under to moderately utilized. Overcrowding does not appear to be a concern at the recreation sites. The analysis of the user survey data indicates sufficient capacity at all recreation sites for both current and projected usage at the end of the license period. There is adequate capacity to accommodate potential increases in recreation demand.

## 6 REFERENCES

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Kleinschmidt Associates. 2024. Revised Study Plan, Little Falls Hydroelectric Project FERC P-2532, Sylvan Hydroelectric Project FERC P-2454, Pillager Hydroelectric Project FERC P-2663, e-filed: January 9, 2024.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2022a. QuickFacts: Little Falls city, Minnesota; Baxter city, Minnesota; Morrison County, Minnesota; Crow Wing County, Minnesota; Cass County, Minnesota; Minnesota. Available online at: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/littlefallscityminnesota,baxtercityminnesot a,morrisoncountyminnesota,crowwingcountyminnesota,casscountyminnesota,MN/PST04 5 222>. Accessed January 2025.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2022b. American Community survey 5-year data (2009-2021). Census.gov. Available online at: <https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/acs-5year.html>. Accessed January 2025.

**Appendix A –  
Site Locations and Aerial Overviews**

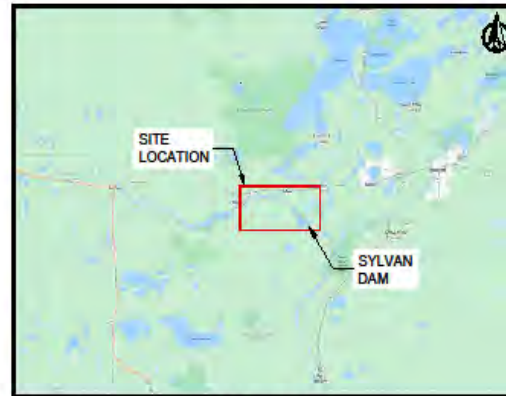
# SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY

## FOR MINNESOTA POWER

CASS, CROW WING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNEOSTA



VICINITY MAP  
SCALE 1" = 7000'



LOCATION MAP  
NOT TO SCALE



STATE MAP  
NOT TO SCALE

INDEX	NO.
TITLE SHEET	1
OVERVIEW	2
SYLVAN DAM BOAT ACCESS AND FISHING AREA	3
SYLVAN CANOE PORTAGE	4
WILDERY'S LANDING	5
FISHERMAN'S BRIDGE BOAT LAUNCH AND FISHING AREA	6



Corporate Office  
1 West Street, Suite 300  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404  
(612) 746-3800

Minneapolis Office  
126 11th Squareway Lane, Suite 5  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 363-4146

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 8 (11.00" x 17.00 inches)

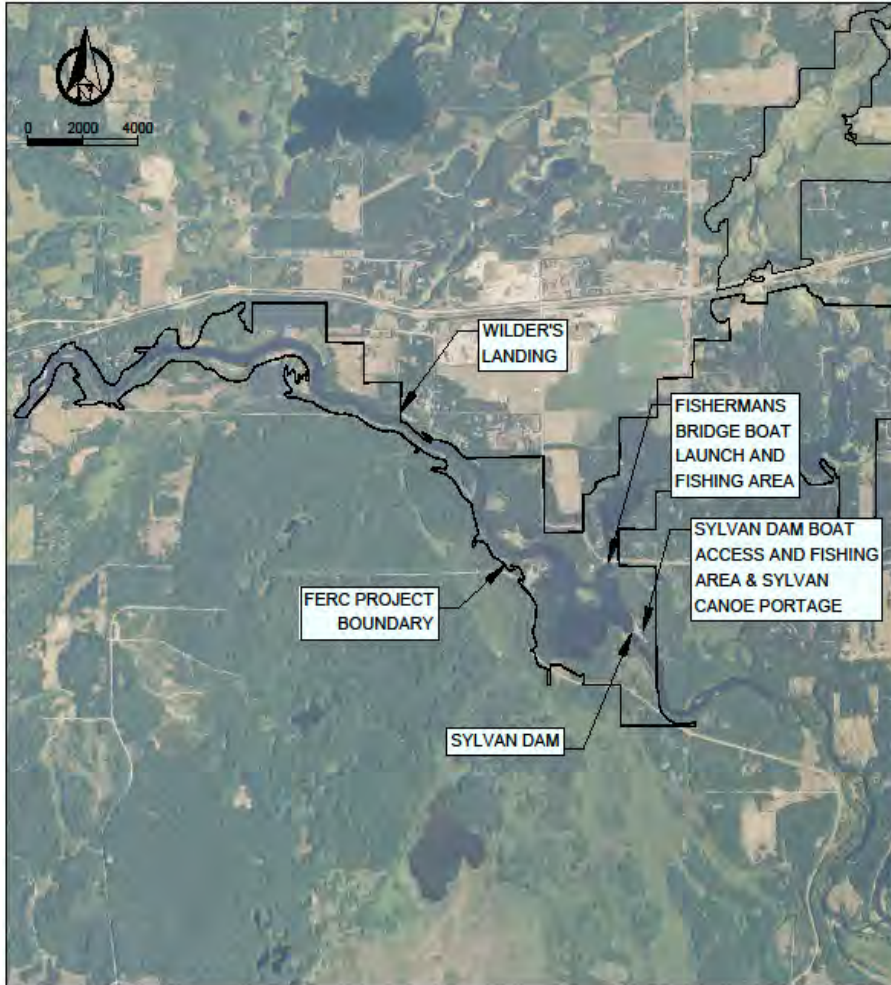
REVISION RECORD					
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK'D	APPR
0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	EPB	
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	EPB	

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MINNESOTA POWER  
SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND  
FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY  
CASS, CROW WING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNEOSTA

TITLE SHEET

PROJECT NO.  
**C100**  
SHEET 1 OF 8



## **SYLVAN RECREATION SITES**

### **SYLVAN DAM BOAT ACCESS AND FISHING AREA:**

LOCATION: CONCRETE BOAT LAUNCH PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE CROW WING RIVER BELOW THE DAM. OFF SYLVAN DAM RD SW.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°18'13.85"N

LONGITUDE: 94°22'34.82"W

DESCRIPTION: PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY 20 VEHICLES (10 FOR ANGLERS, 10 FOR BOATERS) AND A CONCRETE BOAT RAMP.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MINNESOTA DNR; MP LEASES THE SITE TO DNR

### **SYLVAN CANOE PORTAGE:**

LOCATION: PORTAGE AROUND THE DAM. LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE DAM OFF SYLVAN DAM RD SW.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°18'21.34"N

LONGITUDE: 94°22'39.02"W

DESCRIPTION: APPROXIMATELY 200-YARD LONG CANOE PORTAGE AROUND THE DAM. **PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO VEHICLES** WITH AN UNIMPROVED LAUNCH UPSTREAM OF THE DAM AND UTILIZING THE CONCRETE BOAT RAMP DOWNSTREAM OF THE DAM.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MP

### **WILDER'S LANDING:**

LOCATION: BOAT LAUNCH AT THE NORTHWEST END OF THE CROW WING RIVER. OFF 25TH AVE SW.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°19'31.14"N

LONGITUDE: 94°24'37.49"W

DESCRIPTION: PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 VEHICLES AND A CONCRETE BOAT RAMP.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MINNESOTA DNR

### **FISHERMAN'S BRIDGE BOAT LAUNCH AND FISHING AREA:**

LOCATION: LOCATED ON THE NORTH END OF SYLVAN RESERVOIR. OFF 136TH ST SW.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°18'41.81"N

LONGITUDE: 94°22'51.10"W

DESCRIPTION: DESIGNATED SHOREFISHING AREA WITH PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE VEHICLES ON THE EAST SIDE OF RIVER. TWO LANE CONCRETE BOAT LAUNCH AND DOCK WITH PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 VEHICLES ON THE WEST SIDE OF RIVER.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MINNESOTA DNR; MP LEASES THE SITE TO DNR.



Corporate Office  
1 West State St., Suite 200  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404  
(612) 349-3800

Minneapolis Office  
125 W. Broadway Lane, Map 5  
Minneapolis, MN 55410  
(612) 349-9198

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 8 (11.00" x 17.00" inches)

### REVISION RECORD

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHKD	APPR
0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	STB	
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	STB	

MINNESOTA POWER  
**SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND  
FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
CASS, CROW WING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

DPW/MS KL

**C101**

OVERVIEW

SHEET 2 OF 8



SITE OVERVIEW  
SYLVAN DAM BOAT ACCESS AND FISHING AREA

CONCEPT OFFICE  
 1 Main Street NW, Suite 300  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
 (612) 749-3880

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
 125 N. Broadway Lane, 8th Fl.  
 Minneapolis, MN 55413  
 (612) 360-8146

REVISION RECORD				
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK'D/APPR
0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	EPB
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	EPB


MINNESOTA POWER  
**SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
 CASS, CROW WING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

SYLVAN DAM BOAT ACCESS AND FISHING AREA

DRAWING NO.  
**C102**  
 SHEET 3 OF 6

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 8.5 (11.00) x 17.00 (inches)



SITE OVERVIEW  
SYLVAN CANOE PORTAGE



Corporate Office: 1 Main Street SW, Suite 300  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 345-3800

Minneapolis Office: 725 N. Broadway Lane, Room 4  
Minneapolis, MN 55412  
(612) 345-8148

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 8 (11.00 x 17.00 inches)

REVISION RECORD					
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK'D	APPR.
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1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	EPB	

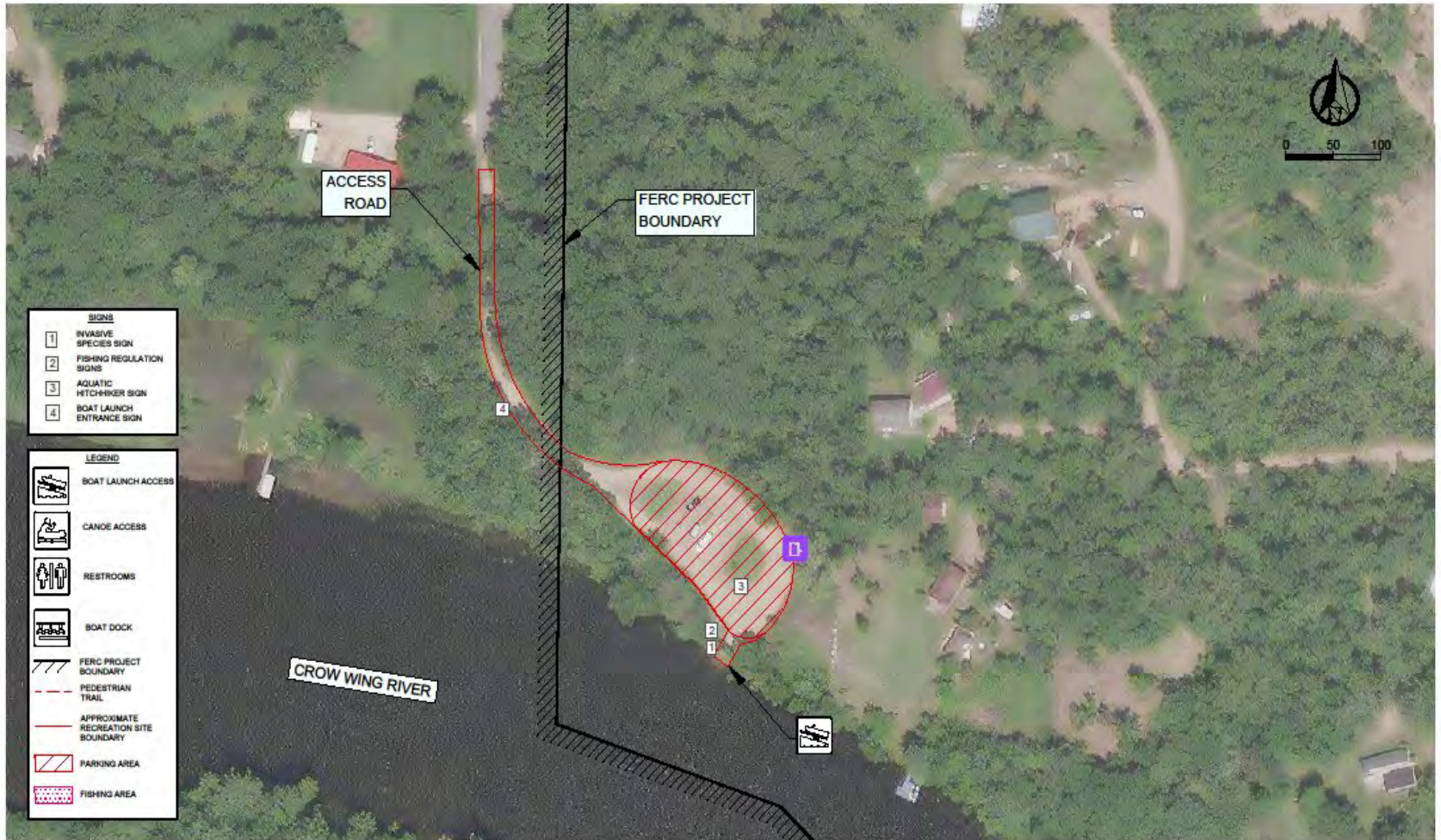
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MINNESOTA POWER  
SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND  
FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY  
CASS, CROW WING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

SYLVAN CANOE PORTAGE

PROJECT NO.  
**C103**

SHEET 4 OF 8



SITE OVERVIEW  
WILDER'S LANDING



CONCEPT OFFICE  
1 Main Street NW, Suite 300  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 344-3800

DESIGN OFFICE  
725 N. Broadway Lane, Bag 6  
Fargo, ND 58103  
(701) 360-8148

REVISION RECORD

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHKD	APPR
0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	SPB	
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	SPB	

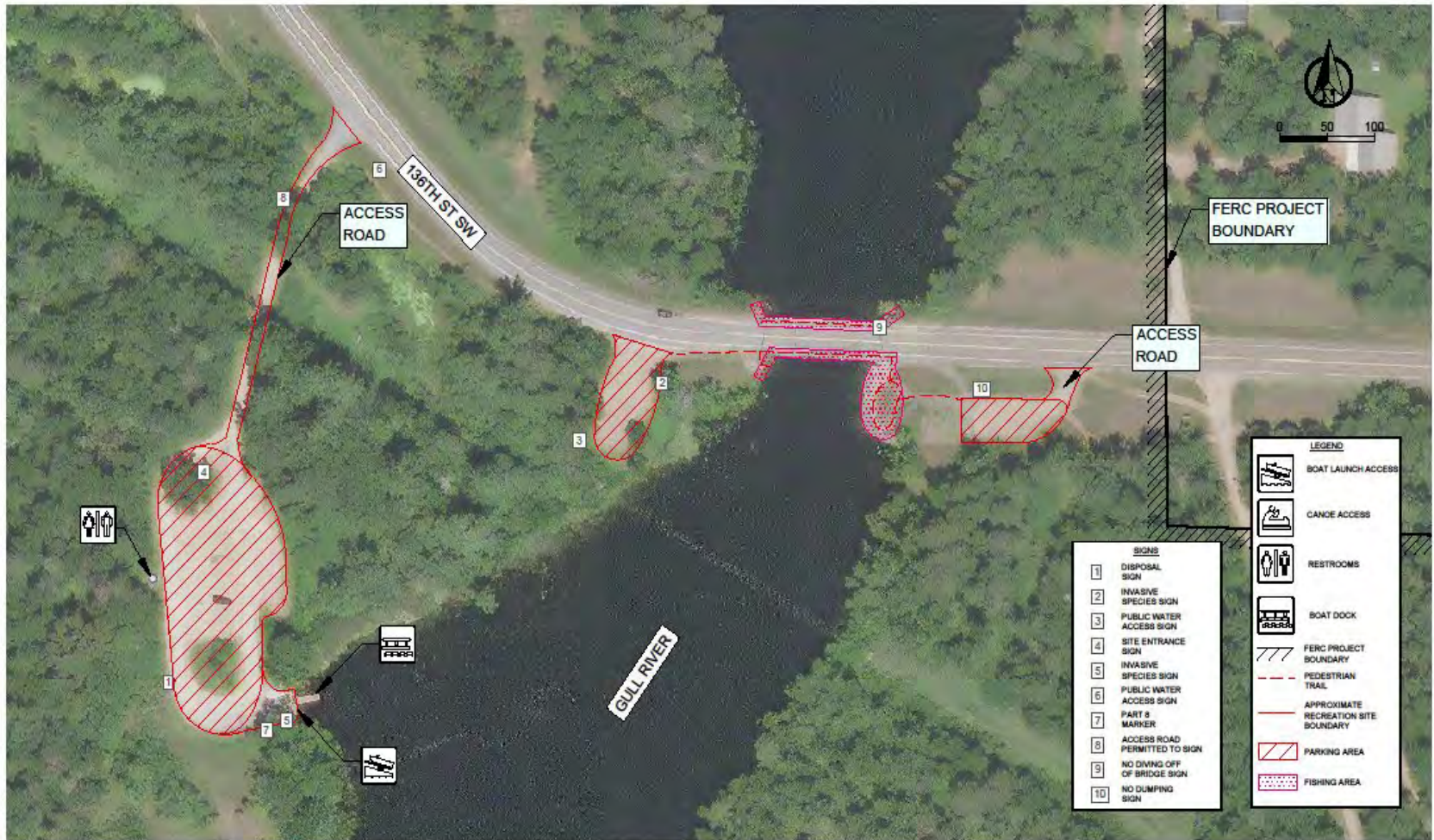
MINNESOTA POWER  
SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND  
FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY  
CASS, CROW WING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

PROJECT NO.  
**C104**

WILDER'S LANDING

SHEET 5 OF 8

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 8 (11.00 x 17.00 inches)



**SITE OVERVIEW**  
**FISHERMAN'S BRIDGE BOAT LAUNCH & FISHING AREA**



**CONCEPT OFFICE**  
 1 MAIN STREET NW, SUITE 300  
 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55414  
 (612) 749-3800

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**  
 125 W. GARDENWAY LANE, BLDG 5  
 FARMINGTON, MN 56010  
 (507) 360-8148

REVISION RECORD				
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK'D/APP'D
0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	EPB
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	EPB

MINNESOTA POWER  
**SYLVAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE AND FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
 CASS, CROWWING, AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

FISHERMAN'S BRIDGE BOAT LAUNCH AND FISHING AREA

SP/004 KL  
**C105**

SHEET 6 OF 6

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 0 (11.00 x 17.00 inches)

**Appendix B –  
Survey Data Forms and Spot Counts**

***Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area***

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 06/13/2025

Start time: 9:00 am End time: 11:00 am

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 54°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 9:15a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 3 (Time of spot count: 9:15a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Total Spot Count:  
Vehicles - 5  
People - 7

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwabe

Date: 6/14/2025

Start time: 2:00p End time: 4:00p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 61°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:00p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 2 (Time of spot count: 2:00p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Totals  
People: |||||  
Vehicles: |||||

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 06/13/2025

C. Time: 10:10 am

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

NA

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 06/13/2025

C. Time: 10:03 am

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

Rocks could be cleaned up/filled

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

NA

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

- A. Observer: Clare Schwake  
B. Date: 6/14/2025  
C. Time: 3:50 p  
D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing  
 Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area  
 Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area  
 Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)  
 Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch  
 Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore  
 Fishing from a boat  
 Motorized boating  
 Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding  
 Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing  
 Swimming  
 Hiking / Walking / Jogging  
 Bicycling  
 Picnicking  
 Camping  
 Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching  
 Photography  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If no, please explain:*

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

*If your rating is 1-2, please explain:*

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If yes, please explain:*

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Clare Schunk

B. Date: 6/14/2025

C. Time: 2:40p

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

Nah

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Clare Schwake

B. Date: 6/14/2025

C. Time: 3:20 p

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip? (Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

11

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 7/18/2025

Start time: 2:00 pm End time: 4:00 pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 71°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:10p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:10p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: Skipping rocks

7. Notes:

Total Spot Count: People - 8  
Vehicles - 3

\*group (family) of 5, stopped to talk but weren't interested in filling out a survey

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwalte

Date: 7/19/25

Start time: 8:15a End time: 10:15a

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 60°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 8:30a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 8:30a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes: Two very large tree branches blocking launch parking bt Humaround, not able to move by hand

Totals  

<u>People</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>
<u>Dogs  200</u>	

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 7/18/2025

C. Time: 3:49

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

Fix Road, smoked head on Roof of truck bouncing on the Ruts

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

- A. Observer: Chris Schwank  
B. Date: 7/19/25  
C. Time: 8:35a  
D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing  
 Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area  
 Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area  
 Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)  
 Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch  
 Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore  
 Fishing from a boat  
 Motorized boating  
 Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding  
 Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing  
 Swimming  
 Hiking / Walking / Jogging  
 Bicycling  
 Picnicking  
 Camping  
 Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching  
 Photography  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If no, please explain:*

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

*If your rating is 1-2, please explain:*

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If yes, please explain:*

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Not a formal survey, he came to fish but decided to leave due to litter by the river shore. Said he wishes there were more staffing around or someone he could talk to about it.

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Brady McLinn

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 10:15 End time: 12:15

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 73°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager
2. Sylvan Recreation Site:
  - Wilder's Landing
  - Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Canoe Portage
3. Pillager Recreation Site:
  - Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
  - Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
  - Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

Totals

People	Vehicles

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 10:15)
5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 10:15)

6. Observed Activities:
  - Fishing from the shore
  - Fishing from a boat
  - Motorized boating
  - Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
  - Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
  - Swimming
  - Hiking / Walking / Jogging
  - Bicycling
  - Picnicking
  - Camping
  - Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
  - Photography
  - Other: Turning ground in parking lot

7. Notes: A car left as I pulled in. One boat launched.  
fallen tree branches around parking lot.

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)  
Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Broyden Carlson

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 9:30 End time: 11:30

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 67

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 2 (Time of spot count: 9:30)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 2 (Time of spot count: 9:30)

Totals  
People |||  
Vehicles |||

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Couple cars drove in and out without stopping

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Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Brady McGinn

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 10:45

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

N/A

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

## ***Sylvan Canoe Portage***

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwabe

Date: 6/13/2025

Start time: 9:00 a End time: 11:00 a

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 54°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:
- Wilder's Landing
  - Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Canoe Portage

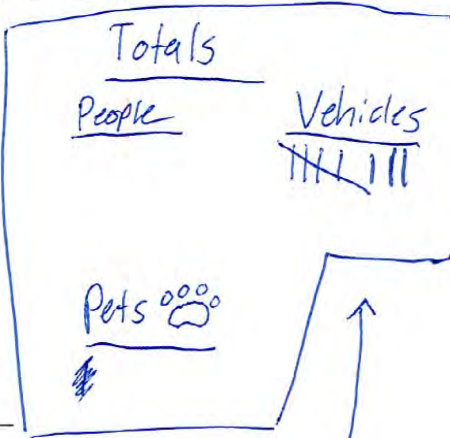
3. Pillager Recreation Site:
- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
  - Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
  - Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

Spot Counts {

4. Number of People Observed: ~~15~~ 0 (Time of spot count: 8:50a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 3 (Time of spot count: 8:50a)

6. Observed Activities:
- Fishing from the shore
  - Fishing from a boat
  - Motorized boating
  - Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
  - Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
  - Swimming
  - Hiking / Walking / Jogging
  - Bicycling
  - Picnicking
  - Camping
  - Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
  - Photography
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_



7. Notes: Vehicles I saw are passing by on their way to the canoe launch

MP Vehicle count (included in total vehicle tally)  
||

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 06/14/2025

Start time: 2:00 pm End time: 4:00 pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 61°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:10p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:10p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Total Count:  
Passing By Vehicles - 9      \* no one observed using  
People - 0                      the portage site

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwabke

Date: 7/18/25

Start time: 2:00p End time: 4:00p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 72°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:00p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:00p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Totals

People  
||||

Vehicles  
||||

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 7/19/2025

Start time: 8:15 am End time: 10:15 am

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 60°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 8:30a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 8:30a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: Driving by to other accesses

7. Notes:

Total Spot Count: People - 0  
vehicles - 2 passing by

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Brady McIninn

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 12:30 End time: 2:30

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 73°F

Totals  
People | Vehicles

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 12:30)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 12:30)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes: was fallen tree across portage so I moved it.

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Bryden Carlson

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 7:30 End time: 9:30

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 66

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 7:30)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 7:30)

<u>Totals</u>	
<u>People</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area***

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwabe

Date: 6/13/2025

Start time: 11:30 a End time: 1:30 p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 55° F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

spot  
counts

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 11:30 a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 11:30 a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Totals	
Vehicles	People
1	### 11

7. Notes:

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Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 06/14/2025

Start time: 11:20 End time: 1:20

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 55°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:25a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:25a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: Fishing from bridge

7. Notes:

Total Count:  
Vehicles - 7  
People - 14 (4/14 were kids) \* someone asked about if we  
survey how often people are catching  
fish / if it's a good fishing site  
\* car left after not finding  
an open parking spot ~~Boats~~ Boats passing: 7

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Clare Schwake

B. Date: 6/13/2025

C. Time: 12:08

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 8

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?

(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

N/A

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 06/14/2025

C. Time: 12:30 pm

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 3

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: Fishing from bridge

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

walkway

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

Porta potty

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 06/14/2025

C. Time: 12:35 pm

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: fish from bridge

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

out house

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

Shoulder on bridge, pedestrians sign, cars driving too fast

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

poison ivy - signs or clearing

Thank you for participating in this survey!

*ca*

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwabke

Date: 7/18/25

Start time: 11:30a End time: 1:30p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 68°F

Totals

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

People  
1111

Vehicles  
111

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:30a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:30a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)  
Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 7/19/2025

Start time: 10:30 am End time: 12:30 pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 62°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 10:30a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 10:30a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: fishing from bridge

7. Notes:

Total Spot Counts: People - 5 (3 Kids)  
Vehicles - 1  
People on bridge - 7  
↳ parked somewhere else

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Decker Sullivan

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 10:30 End time: 12:30

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 76°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 5 (Time of spot count: 10:30)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 4 (Time of spot count: 10:30)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore / Bridge
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Lots of people on Bridge

12:30 pm Spot count 1 car 1 person

People	Vehicles

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Deedra Sullivan

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 7:40 End time: 9:40

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 67°

Running	
People	Vehicles

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 7:47)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 7:47)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: Driving in and out x 3

7. Notes: 9:40 spot count 0 people 0 vehicles

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Dede Sullivan

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 10:45

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

Climbing up fence

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Dedan Sullivan

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 10:45

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

Jumping

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

***Wilder's Landing***



Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson + Claire Schwake

Date: 06/14/2025

Start time: 4:15 pm End time: 6:15 pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 64°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 4:20p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 4:20p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Total Count:

Vehicles - 3  
People - 7  
Boats - 2

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson ~~III~~ + Claire Schwake

Date: 7/18/2025

Start time: 4:15 pm End time: 6:15 pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 74°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: ~~0~~ 0 (Time of spot count: 4:20 p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 4:20 p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Total Spot Count: People - 0  
Vehicles - 0

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwanke

Date: 7/19/25

Start time: 10:30a End time: 12:30p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 63°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 10:40a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 5 (Time of spot count: 10:40a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Totals

People  
|

Vehicles  
|||||

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Bryden Conisen

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 10:30 End time: 12:30

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 78°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

Totals

<u>People</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>
1111	111

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 10:30)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 10:30)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

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Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Brady McGinn

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 7:45 End time: 9:45

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 64°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 7:45)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 7:45)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

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Totals  
People | Vehicles

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Bryden Carlson

B. Date: 8/18/25

C. Time: 11:55

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	3.7	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate			Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	4.7	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good		Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

Took survey last year, fishing has been good lately and good fish health

Thank you for participating in this survey!

## Appendix D

### Revised Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project (*Privileged*)

## Appendix E

### Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Sylvan Hydroelectric Relicensing Project *(Privileged)*

## **Appendix F**

### **Pillager Project 2025 Recreation Use Study Report**



**Minnesota Power Pillager  
Hydroelectric Project FERC  
Project No. P-2454  
Cass and Morrison Counties, MN**

**2025 Recreation Use  
Assessment**

PREPARED BY

Minnesota Power  
30 W. Superior St.  
Duluth, MN 55802

October 20, 2025



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The Pillager Hydroelectric Project (Project) is owned and operated by Minnesota Power (MP), a subsidiary of ALLETE, Inc., and is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Project's FERC License (P-2454) was issued on April 27, 1998, and is set to expire on March 31, 2028. In accordance with FERC's regulations at 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §16.9(b), MP will file an application for a new license with FERC no later than March 31, 2026.

As part of the relicensing process, a recreation use and facility inventory study was conducted in 2024. The study findings were submitted to FERC; however, on April 4, 2025, FERC issued comments indicating that the recreation use survey was not fully consistent with the approved study plan and requested additional survey dates. In response, MP filed a letter with FERC on May 1, 2025, committing to conduct additional recreational use observations and surveys on six separate days in 2025, with two hours of observation per site per survey day. The surveys were conducted on one weekday and one weekend day in June, July, and August 2025. The results of the 2025 Recreation Use Assessment are included herein.

### 1.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Pillager Hydroelectric Project is a 1.52 Megawatt (MW), run-of-river hydroelectric generation facility located on the Crow Wing River in Cass and Morrison Counties, Minnesota. There are four Commission-approved Project recreation sites: Alvah's Landing, Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch, Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access, and the Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite. Each of the sites can be accessed any time of day and have no specific hours of operation. With the exception of the Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch, in which maintenance responsibilities are shared between MP and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR), the owner / operator of each site performs all maintenance activities. MP's maintenance includes inspecting signs, mowing, and collecting garbage three times each summer. The MnDNR performs similar activities at the Alvah's Landing site and is typically responsible for road and boat launch repairs at the Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch site.

Site locations and plan views of each recreation site, including the Project's FERC boundary, are included in Appendix A. An overview of the recreation sites, their owners, and locations with respect to the dam are included in Table 1-1 below. Further details are provided in each site's representative subsection of Section 3.

**Table 1-1  
Recreation Site Descriptions**

Recreation Site Name	Owner/Operator	Description
Alvah's Landing (MnDNR Boat Launch)	MnDNR	Boat launch located approximately 3 miles upstream of the Pillager Dam, on the south shore of the Crow Wing River. Parking for approximately 10 vehicles and a concrete boat ramp.
Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch	MP & MnDNR <sup>(1)</sup>	Boat launch located on the north shore of the Pillager reservoir, adjacent to dam structure. Parking for approximately 15 vehicles and a concrete boat ramp.
Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access	MP	Located on the south shore of the Pillager Dam. Canoe portage trail around the south end of Pillager dam, approximately 300 feet in length. Fishing area south of the dam.
Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite	MP	Two canoe-up primitive campsites located approximately 2.5 miles upstream of the Pillager Dam, just downstream and across the river from Alvah's landing.

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> MP owns the land for Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch and leases the land to MnDNR.

## 1.2. OBJECTIVE

An inventory was conducted during the 2024 study to evaluate recreation facilities and use to inform the FERC relicensing process for the Project. The updated recreation study was conducted in accordance with the Revised Study Plan and response to FERC's April 4, 2025, comments from the 2024 study review. The following tasks were performed for the updated 2025 recreation study:

- Conduct recreation user surveys and recreation observations during the recreation season (June, July and August). The surveys were conducted on one weekday and one weekend for 2 hours per recreation site, per survey day. The surveys were performed according to the FERC approved Revised Study Plan to determine the adequacy of the sites and whether modifications to the sites would be needed to meet current or future recreation needs.
- Determine the current and projected capacity at each recreation site and facility for the hydroelectric facility.

This report updates the 2024 survey to present findings from recreation surveys conducted by MP staff during the 2025 season, and presents conclusions based on combined data from both the 2024 and 2025 recreation use surveys.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

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In response to FERC’s April 4, 2025 issuance, additional Recreation Use Assessment data were collected by MP staff between June and August 2025. These data included recreation user surveys and observation surveys conducted during site visits to each recreation location. Survey dates and times were randomly selected, and the order of site visits was varied for each survey day. Site visits were performed on the dates listed in Table 2-1.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Required Occasion</b>
June 13, 2025 (Fri)	June weekday
June 14, 2025 (Sat)	June weekend day
July 18, 2025 (Fri)	July weekday
July 19, 2025 (Sat)	July weekend day
August 15, 2025 (Fri)	August weekday
August 16, 2025 (Sat)	August weekend day

### 2.1. RECREATION USE ASSESSMENT

The Recreation Use Assessment consisted of documenting observed usage of the sites, performing a spot count of the number of visitors, and conducting user surveys of visitors at the sites. Recreation usage observations and spot counts were completed over a 2-hour period at each non-canoe access site (Alvah’s Landing, Pillager Dam, Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access, and Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch). Observation times were randomized for each of the site visit dates specified in the above schedule in Table 2-1, in order to account for time-of-day use patterns. Usage observations consisted of documenting the weather condition, number of people observed, visitor activities, and other pertinent usage notes. For the spot count, field staff recorded the total number of vehicles and visitors observed over a 2-hour period at each site. Field staff also recorded the total number of vehicles and visitors observed at a single point in time. This typically occurred when the field staff began the 2-hour session at each site. During the 2-hour period, MP field staff also administered user surveys to visitors who were willing to participate. User surveys included collecting visitors’ opinions on the existing conditions and recreation opportunities.

The Recreation Use Assessment was recorded using paper forms. The survey forms specific to the usage observations, spot count, and user surveys were developed based on the forms provided by MP and included in the relicensing Revised Study Plan (see Appendix B for sample forms). At the non-canoe access sites, the user surveys were administered by MP field staff directly to visitors. Hard-copy versions of the user forms were available to use. The surveys were either filled out by the visitor or the surveyor, based on visitor preference. Instances in which a visitor declined to complete a survey were not specifically recorded but were occasionally noted on the form.

### 3. SURVEY RESULTS

The following sections summarize the results of the Recreation Use Assessments at each Pillager recreation site. The forms completed in the field, including the user surveys, are included in Appendix C.

#### 3.1. ALVAH'S LANDING

The Alvah's Landing recreation site is a boat launch located approximately 3 miles upstream of the Pillager Dam, on the south shore of the Crow Wing River. Site amenities include parking for approximately 10 vehicles and a concrete boat ramp. The site is owned, operated, and maintained by the MnDNR.

##### 3.1.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

Two recreation use surveys were completed by visitors for this site during the 2025 survey. Key findings from the visitor use surveys and spot counts in 2025 are as follows and included in Table 3-1:

- In general, Alvah's Landing was sparsely visited during the recreation survey period. The number of people observed varied from 0 to 1 person per site visit, based on the spot counts.
- The visitors indicated moderate recreation opportunities were offered at the site.
- No concerns about safety were indicated.
- Visitors noted that the boat launch was slightly inaccessible, especially for large boats – overgrown vegetation decreases access.

Date	No. of Visitors	No. of Cars	Activities Observed	No. of User Surveys	Average Site Utilization Score <sup>(1)</sup>	Max / Min Utilization Score	Average Site Condition Score	Max / Min Site Condition Score
6/13/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(2)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6/14/2025	1	1	See note <sup>(3)</sup>	1	2	2 / 2	2	2 / 2
7/18/2025	1	1	See note <sup>(4)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/19/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(2)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/15/2025	1	1	Walking dogs	1	4	4 / 4	3	3 / 3
8/16/2025	0	0	N/A <sup>(2)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = "underutilized", 3 = "moderate", and 5 = "overcrowded".

<sup>(2)</sup> No visitors were observed; therefore, no activities were noted.

<sup>(3)</sup> Only visitor came to "check the access". Did not say who they were with.

<sup>(4)</sup> Vehicle drove in and immediately left without stopping to complete a survey.

### 3.2. PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH

The Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch recreation site is a boat launch located on the north shore of the Pillager reservoir, adjacent to the dam structure. Site amenities include parking for approximately 15 vehicles (5 regular vehicle spaces and 10 vehicles with trailer spaces) and a concrete boat ramp. The site is owned by MP, who leases the land to MnDNR for operation of the site. Maintenance responsibilities at the site are shared between MP and the MnDNR.

#### 3.2.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

Five recreation use surveys were completed by visitors to this site during the 2025 survey. Key findings from the visitor use surveys and spot counts in 2025 are as follows and included in Table 3-2:

- The visitors indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered at the site.
- No concerns about safety were indicated.
- Three visitors expressed concerns over parking lot and shoreline maintenance.
- One visitor expressed interest in adding picnic tables and two visitors expressed adding a restroom to the site.

Date	No. of Visitors	No. of Cars	Activities Observed	No. of User Surveys	Average Site Utilization Score <sup>(1)</sup>	Max / Min Utilization Score	Average Site Condition Score	Max / Min Site Condition Score
6/13/2025	3	2	Motorized boating	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6/14/2025	5	5	Selling boat, Fixing car, Fishing from shore	2	1	1 / 1	2.5	3 / 2
7/18/2025	2	2	N/A <sup>(2)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7/19/2025	4	9	See note <sup>(3)</sup>	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
8/15/2025	4	6	Fishing from boat, Motorized boating	2	2.5	3 / 2	3.5	4 / 3
8/16/2025	1	0	Hiking/Walking	1	3	3 / 3	3	3 / 3

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “underutilized”, 3 = “moderate”, and 5 = “overcrowded”.

<sup>(2)</sup> Vehicle drove in and left without stopping to complete a survey.

<sup>(3)</sup> Vehicles parked after launching boats. No one stopped to complete a survey.

### 3.3. PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC CANOE PORTAGE AND SHOREFISHING ACCESS

The Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access recreation site is located on the south shore of the Pillager Dam. Site amenities include a canoe portage trail around the south end of Pillager Dam, approximately 300 feet in length, and a fishing area south of the dam. Available parking space for one or two vehicles was identified at the site entrance. The site is operated and maintained by MP.

#### 3.3.1 Recreation Use Assessment Results

Four recreation use surveys were completed by visitors for this site during the 2025 survey. Key findings from the visitor use surveys and spot counts in 2025 are as follows and included in Table 3-3:

- The visitors generally indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered at the site. However, one survey party noted insufficient opportunities due to the quality of docks.
- No concerns about safety were indicated.
- Three visitors noted that better upkeep of site would make it more usable (adding stairs down to sandbar, eliminating erosion, and filling potholes).
- Visitors generally commented that they enjoyed the site for fishing.

**Table 3-3  
Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access 2025 Recreation Use Survey and Spot Count**

Date	No. of Visitors	No. of Cars	Activities Observed	No. of User Surveys	Average Site Utilization Score <sup>(1)</sup>	Max / Min Utilization Score	Average Site Condition Score	Max / Min Site Condition Score
6/13/2025	3	2	Fishing from shore, Bicycling	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6/14/2025	9	5	Fishing from shore, Hiking/Walking	1	1	1 / 1	4	4 / 4
7/18/2025	3	2	Fishing from shore	1	3.5	3.5 / 3.5	3	3 / 3
7/19/2025	3	2	Fishing from shore	1	3	3 / 3	4	4 / 4
8/15/2025	4	3	Fishing from shore, Driving through	2	3	3 / 3	3.5	4 / 3
8/16/2025	5	2	Viewing wildlife, Fishing from shore	2	3.5	4 / 3	3.5	4 / 3

Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> Utilization rated from 1 to 5, where 1 = “underutilized”, 3 = “moderate”, and 5 = “overcrowded”.

## 4. CAPACITY ANALYSIS OF USER SURVEYS

The user survey data was further analyzed to evaluate the current and predicted capacity at each recreation site. Assessment of existing capacity included computing the average number of visitors over the 2-hour survey period and one recreation day, as well as the average reported site utilization scores. Given typical daylight hours and that there are no set hours of operation for any of the recreation sites, one recreation day was assumed to be 10 hours long. Visitors per recreation day was computed by projecting the 2-hour visitor count over 10 hours. The assessment also included comparing the number of observed vehicles versus available parking spaces. Existing capacity was evaluated as follows:

- “Sufficient” – Average site utilization score of 4 or lower and average number of vehicles was less than 90% of available parking spaces
- “Insufficient” – Average site utilization score greater than 4 and average number of vehicles regularly exceeded available number of spots

Table 4-1 presents the results of the existing capacity evaluation based on data collected during the 2025 Recreation Use Assessment. Table 4-2 summarizes the existing capacity evaluation using all Recreation Use Assessment data collected in 2024 and 2025.

<b>Site</b>	<b>Avg. No. of Visitors (2-hr)</b>	<b>Visitors Per Recreation Day <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Avg. No. of Vehicles (2-hr)</b>	<b>No. of Parking Spots</b>	<b>Avg. Site Utilization Score <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Existing Capacity</b>
Alvah’s Landing	0.5	2.5	0.5	10	3	Sufficient
Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch	3.2	16	4	15	2	Sufficient
Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access	4.5	22.5	2.7	1 <sup>(3)</sup>	2.9	Sufficient
Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite <sup>(4)</sup>	0	0	0	0	N/A	Sufficient

- Notes: (1) A “recreation day” assumed to be one 10-hour day.  
 (2) Site utilization scores ranged from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 being overcrowded.  
 (3) Informal parking space for 1 or 2 vehicles at the site entrance (conservatively assume 1 available spot).  
 (4) No surveys were required for this location in 2025.

**Table 4-2  
2024-2025 User Survey Existing Capacity Analysis**

Site	Avg. No. of Visitors (2-hr)	Visitors Per Recreation Day <sup>(1)</sup>	Avg. No. of Vehicles (2-hr)	No. of Parking Spots	Avg. Site Utilization Score <sup>(2)</sup>	Existing Capacity
Alvah's Landing	0.6	3	0.5	10	2.3	Sufficient
Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch	5.2	26	3.9	15	2.5	Sufficient
Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access	2.8	14	1.5	1 <sup>(3)</sup>	2.9	Sufficient
Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite	0	0	0	0	N/A <sup>(4)</sup>	Sufficient

- Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> A "recreation day" assumed to be one 10-hour day.  
<sup>(2)</sup> Site utilization scores ranged from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 being overcrowded.  
<sup>(3)</sup> Informal parking space for 1 or 2 vehicles at the site entrance (conservatively assume 1 available spot).  
<sup>(4)</sup> No visitors were observed, and no user surveys were completed for this site.

Predicted capacity was evaluated at the end of the Project's assumed 40-year license period. The projected number of visitors was estimated using county and state census population data from the U.S. Census Bureau (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022a and 2022b). The population change from 2010 to 2020 for Morrison County, Cass County, and the state of Minnesota was a 2.4%, 5.2%, and 7.6% increase, respectively. This equates to an average 5.1% increase in population in 10 years, or 22% increase over 40 years. The growth rate was applied to the current visitor counts to estimate the projected number of visitors. This increase was also applied to the site utilization scores, given the increased number of visitors. The number of projected vehicles was computed based on the current ratio of vehicles per visitor in the 2-hour survey period and compared to the available parking spaces. No increase in number of parking spaces was assumed. Predicted capacity was evaluated using the same "Sufficient" and "Insufficient" designation as described above. Results of the existing capacity evaluation are presented in the following Table 4-3.

**Table 4-3  
User Survey Projected 40-Year Capacity Analysis**

Site	Avg. No. of Visitors (2-hr)	Visitors Per Recreation Day <sup>(1)</sup>	% Increase in Visitors	Avg. No of Vehicles (2-hr)	No. of Parking Spots	Projected Capacity
Alvah's Landing	0.7	3.7	22%	0.6	10	Sufficient
Pillager Dam Public Public Boat Launch	6.3	31.7	22%	4.8	15	Sufficient
Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access	3.4	17.1	22%	1.8	1 <sup>(2)</sup>	Sufficient
Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite <sup>(3)</sup>	0 <sup>(3)</sup>	0	0	0	0	Sufficient

- Notes: <sup>(1)</sup> A "recreation day" assumed to be one 10-hour day.

- (2) Informal parking space for 1 or 2 vehicles at the site entrance (conservatively assume 1 available spot).
- (3) No visitors were observed, and no user surveys were completed for this site; therefore, minimal to no projected usage was assumed.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

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Key findings and conclusions from the 2025 Recreation Use Assessment surveys are summarized below.

### 5.1. RECREATION USE ASSESSMENT CONCLUSIONS

Results of the 2024 and 2025 recreation usage observations, spot counts, and visitor surveys indicate that there is minimal usage of the Alvah's Landing and Crow Wing River Canoe Campsite. No users were observed or completed a survey at the canoe campsite. Recreation usage at the Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage & Shorefishing Access was moderate, with all visitors observed to be fishing at the site. The most usage was observed at the Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch, with up to 16 visitors reported during one site visit. Activities at this site included boating, fishing, and picnicking.

The user surveys completed indicated sufficient recreation opportunities were offered. The sites were typically categorized as slightly under to moderately utilized, and minimal to no concerns for safety were identified. Overcrowding does not appear to be a concern at the recreation sites at the Pillager Project. The analysis of the user survey data indicates sufficient capacity at all recreation sites for both current and projected usage at the end of the license period. There appears to be adequate capacity for potential increases in recreation use at these sites.

## 6. REFERENCES

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Kleinschmidt Associates. 2024. Revised Study Plan, Little Falls Hydroelectric Project FERC P-2532, Sylvan Hydroelectric Project FERC P-2454, Pillager Hydroelectric Project FERC P-2663, e-filed: January 9, 2024.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2022a. QuickFacts: Little Falls city, Minnesota; Baxter city, Minnesota; Morisson County, Minnesota; Crow Wing County, Minnesota; Cass County, Minnesota; Minnesota. Available online at: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/littlefallscityminnesota,baxtercityminnesota,morriscountyminnesota,crowwingcountyminnesota,casscountyminnesota,MN/PST045222>. Accessed January 2025.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2022b. American Community survey 5-year data (2009-2021). Census.gov. Available online at: <https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/acs-5year.html>. Accessed January 2025.

**Appendix A –  
Site Locations and Aerial Overviews**

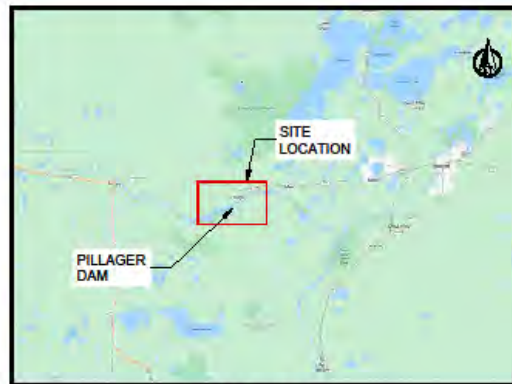
# PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE & FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY

## FOR MINNESOTA POWER

### CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA



**VICINITY MAP**  
SCALE 1" = 7500'



**LOCATION MAP**  
NOT TO SCALE



**STATE MAP**  
NOT TO SCALE

INDEX	NO.
TITLE SHEET	1
OVERVIEW	2
ALWAYS LANDING	3
PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH	4
PILLAGER DAM CANOE PORTAGE AND SHOREFISHING ACCESS	5
CROW WING RIVER CAMPSITE	6



Emerjent Corp.  
1800 Grand Ave., Suite 300  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(763) 766-3800

#### REVISION RECORD

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0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	EPS	
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	EPS	

MINNESOTA POWER  
**PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE & FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

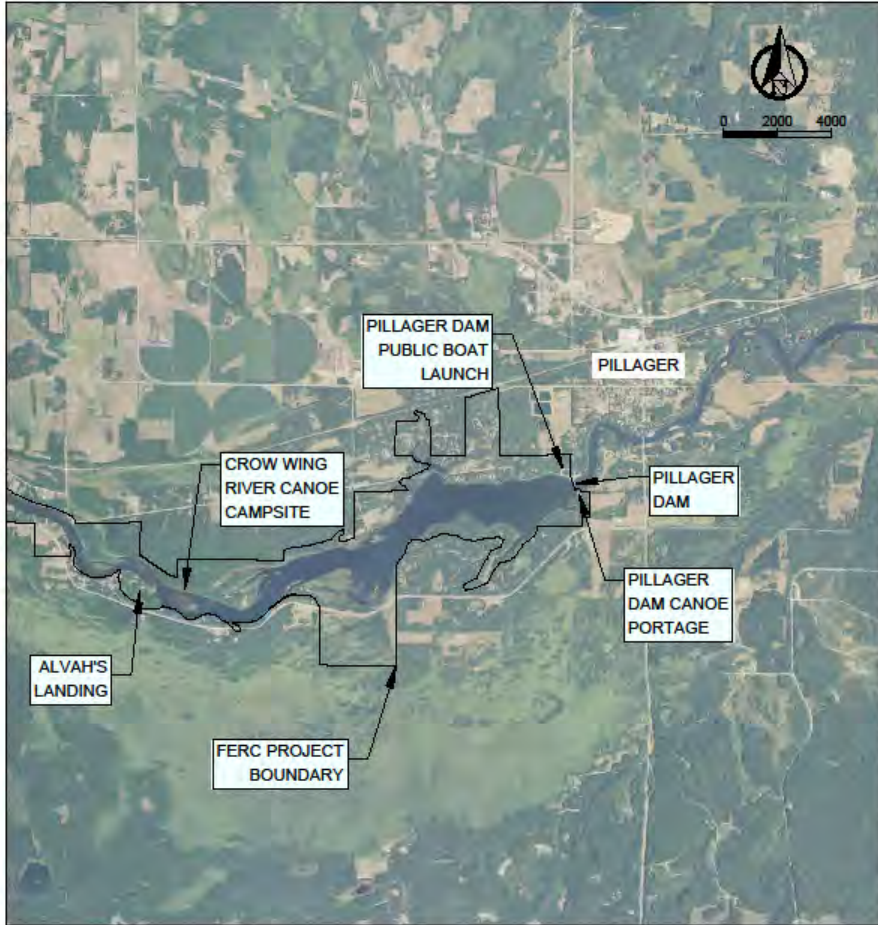
TITLE SHEET

Drawing No.

C100

SHEET 1 OF 8

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI A (11.00" x 17.00" inches)



## PILLAGER RECREATION SITES

### ALVAH'S LANDING:

LOCATION: OFF AZALEA ROAD 3 MILES UPSTREAM OF PILLAGER DAM.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°18'18.10"N

LONGITUDE: 94°32'51.78"W

DESCRIPTION: PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY 10 VEHICLES AND A CONCRETE BOAT RAMP.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MINNESOTA DNR

### PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH:

LOCATION: BOAT LAUNCH LOCATED ON THE NORTH SHORE OF PILLAGER RESERVOIR. OFF PILLAGER DAM RD.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°19'0.94"N

LONGITUDE: 94°29'11.67"W

DESCRIPTION: PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 VEHICLES AND A CONCRETE BOAT RAMP.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MINNESOTA DNR AND MP

### PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC CANOE PORTAGE AND SHOREFISHING ACCESS:

LOCATION: PORTAGE AROUND THE SOUTH END OF PILLAGER DAM. OFF AZALEA RD.

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°18'52.72"N

LONGITUDE: 94°29'4.36"W

DESCRIPTION: CANOE PORTAGE TRAIL AROUND THE SOUTH END OF PILLAGER DAM, APPROXIMATELY 300 FEET IN LENGTH. FISHING AREA SOUTH OF THE DAM.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MP

### CROW WING RIVER CANOE CAMPSITE:

LOCATION: ACROSS THE RIVER OF ALVAH'S LANDING AND APPROXIMATELY 0.5 MILES DOWNSTREAM

COORDINATES:

LATITUDE: 46°18'26.85"N

LONGITUDE: 94°31'60.00"W

DESCRIPTION: TWO CANOE-UP PRIMITIVE CAMPSITES LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 2.5 MILES UPSTREAM OF THE PILLAGER DAM, JUST DOWNSTREAM AND ACROSS THE RIVER FROM ALVAH'S LANDING.

OWNER/OPERATOR: MP



Geographic Information Systems  
10000 13th Ave S, Suite 300  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 746-3600

Professional Services  
200 10th Avenue S, Suite 300  
Minneapolis, MN 55410  
(612) 330-1100

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MINNESOTA POWER PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE & FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA
OVERVIEW

PROJECT NO. <b>C101</b>
SHEET 2 OF 8



- SIGNS**
- 1 AQUATIC HITCHHIKER SIGN
  - 2 SIGN POST NEXT TO BOAT LAUNCH
  - 3 PUBLIC WATER ACCESS SIGN

- LEGEND**
- BOAT LAUNCH ACCESS
  - CANOE ACCESS
  - RESTROOMS
  - CAMPSITE/FIRE RING
  - BOAT DOCK
  - FERC PROJECT BOUNDARY
  - PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
  - APPROXIMATE RECREATION SITE BOUNDARY
  - PARKING AREA
  - FISHING AREA

SITE OVERVIEW  
ALVA'S LANDING

**merjent.**  
 CONSULTING  
 1 Main Street SE, Suite 300  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
 (612) 745-3850

**MINNESOTA OFFICE**  
 725 W. Broadway Lane, Wing 9  
 Shakopee, WI 54152  
 (952) 245-4746

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MINNESOTA POWER  
**PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE & FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
 CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

ALVA'S LANDING

SPWING KL  
**C102**  
 SHEET 3 OF 8

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SITE OVERVIEW  
PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH

**merjent.**  
 1000 Grand Ave., Suite 300  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
 (612) 345-3000

115 Broadway Lane, Bldg. 6  
 Anokua, WI 54103  
 (920) 300-4748

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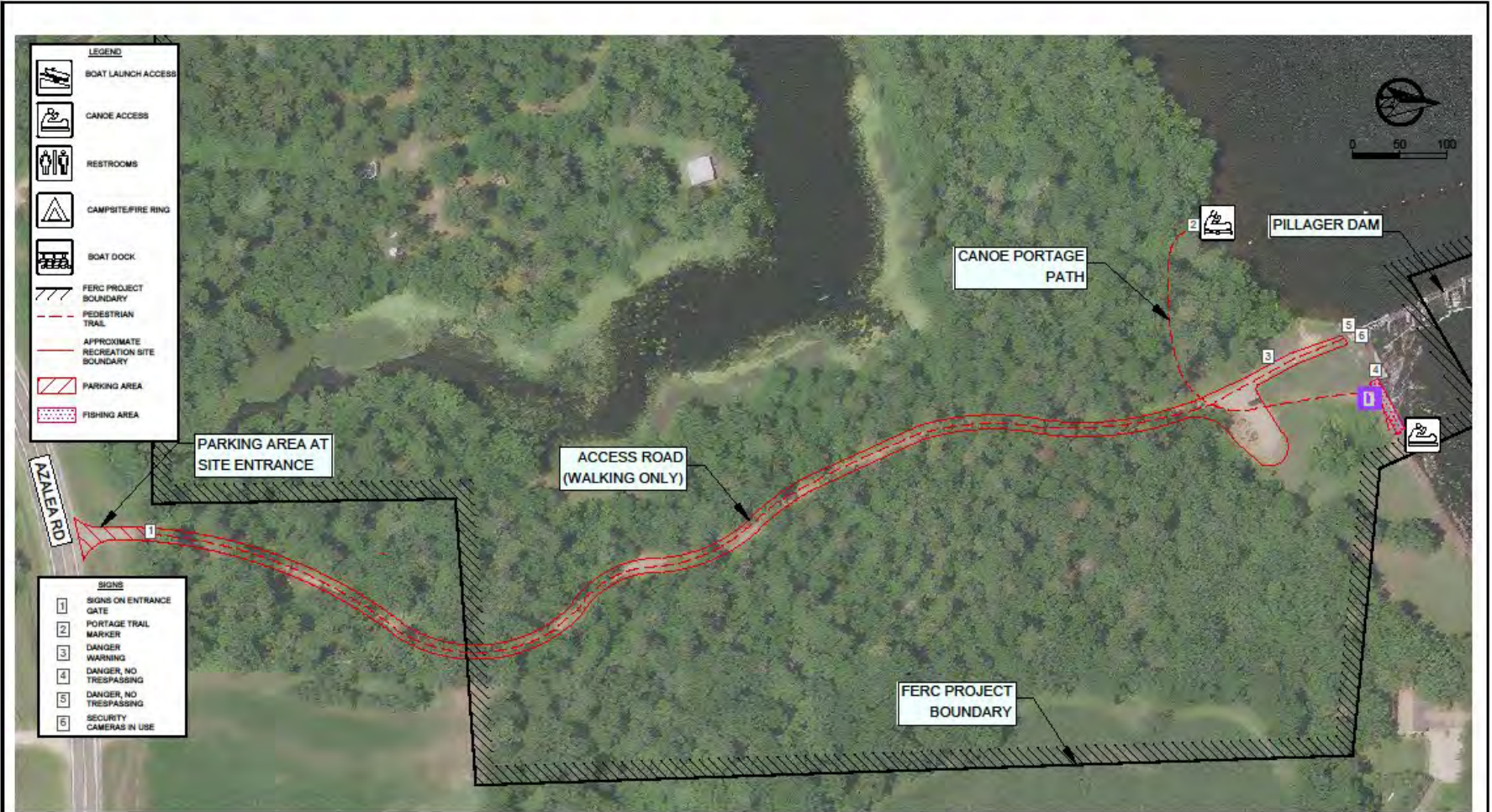

MINNESOTA POWER  
**PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE & FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
 CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH

PROJECT NO.  
**C103**

SHEET 4 OF 8

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed 8 (11.00 x 17.00 inches)



**SITE OVERVIEW**  
**PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC CANOE PORTAGE & SHOREFISHING ACCESS**



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1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	ETB


MINNESOTA POWER  
**PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE & FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY**  
 CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA  
**PILLAGER DAM PUBLIC CANOE PORTAGE AND SHOREFISHING ACCESS**

SP/10/24 KJL  
**C104**  
 SHEET 5 OF 8

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full bleed B (11.00 x 17.00 inches)



SITE OVERVIEW  
CROW WING RIVER CANOE CAMPSITE

**merjent.**

Corporate Office  
1 Main Street SE, Suite 300  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 345-3800

Minneapolis Office  
125 N. Seward Ave., 5th Fl.  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 345-3800

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NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK'D	APPR.	
0	OCT. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY	AJ	EPB		
1	DEC. 2024	EXHIBITS FOR RECREATION STUDY REVISIONS	AJ	EPB		

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MINNESOTA POWER  
PILLAGER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT RECREATION USE &  
FACILITY INVENTORY STUDY  
CASS AND MORRISON COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

CROW WING RIVER CANOE CAMPSITE

DRAWING NO.  
**C105**

SHEET B OF 6

PLOTTED SIZE: ANSI full based B (11.00 x 17.00 inches)

**Appendix B –  
Survey Data Forms and Spot Counts**

## ***Alvah's Landing***

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson + Clare Schwake

Date: 06/13/2025

Start time: 4:30 pm End time: 6:30

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 56°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 4:40p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 4:40p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Total Count:  
Vehicles - 0  
People - 0  
\*deer carcass in parking area

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwake

Date: 6/14/2025

Start time: 8:45 a End time: 10:45 a

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 52

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 8:45 a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 8:45 a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: "Access checking"

7. Notes:

Only vehicle/visitor came to "check the access." Didn't say who he was with.

Strong wild rice growth by the access. Big patch of vegetation by the water blocks larger vehicles from access.

Totals  
People: 1  
Vehicles: 1

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

Filled on  
behalf of Visitor

A. Observer: Clare Schuster

B. Date: 6/14/2028

C. Time: 10:35 a

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: Checking access

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

Signage is damaged, access is launchable but there is a new floating growth patch blocking larger boats & trailers' ability to launch. "Not necessarily a bad thing"

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 7/18/2025

Start time: 9:00 am End time: 11:00 am

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 60°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 9:00a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 9:00a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: drove through and left

7. Notes:

Total Spot Count: People - 1  
Vehicles - 1

\*very dense vegetation  
at boat launch, not  
likely accessible for any  
boat with motor

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson + Clare Schwake

Date: 7/19/2025

Start time: 3:15pm End time: 5:15pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 73°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 3:15p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 3:15p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes: Total Spot Count: People - 0  
Vehicles - 0

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Bryden Carlson

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 12:45 End time: 2:45

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 76°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager
2. Sylvan Recreation Site:
- Wilder's Landing
  - Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Canoe Portage
3. Pillager Recreation Site:
- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
  - Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
  - Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 12:45)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 12:45)

6. Observed Activities:
- Fishing from the shore
  - Fishing from a boat
  - Motorized boating
  - Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
  - Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
  - Swimming
  - Hiking / Walking / Jogging
  - Bicycling
  - Picnicking
  - Camping
  - Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
  - Photography
  - Other: walking / letting dogs run around

Totals	
People	Vehicles
1	1

7. Notes:

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**Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)**  
**Recreational Observations / Spot Counts**

Observer: Cooper Kuzel

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 7:50am End time: 9:50am

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 64°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 7:50)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 7:50)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

total vehicles

0

total people

0

7. Notes:

launch is very overgrown

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Brynden Carlson

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 12:45

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: walking / letting dogs run around

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

Boat launch is unusable

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

All good other than boat launch

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

Likes coming to walk his dogs, would like something to be done about boat launch

Thank you for participating in this survey!

***Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch***

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwake

Date: 6/13/2023

Start time: 2:15 p End time: 4:15 p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 56°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

Spot Counts {

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:15 p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 2:15 p)  
*Truck w/ empty boat trailer*

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Totals  
People: |||  
Vehicles: ||

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 06/14/2025

Start time: 8:30 am End time: 10:30 am

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 50°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 8:35a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 8:35a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: Selling boat, fixing car

7. Notes:

Total Count:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicles - 5  
People - 5  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Boat - 1

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 06/14/2025

C. Time: 9:45 am

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography

Other: Selling boat

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

nicer shoreline / upkeep area

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

shoreline maintenance

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

site by dam last year boat got sucked in

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

NA

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 06/14/2025

C. Time: 10:15 am

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

Parking lot maintenance, landing maintenance

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

NA

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwabke

Date: 7/18/25

Start time: 8:50a End time: 11:00a

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 57°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 9:00a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 9:00a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Totals

People  
11

Vehicles  
11

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 7/19/2025

Start time: 1:00 pm End time: 3:00 pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 69°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 1:05p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 6 (Time of spot count: 1:05p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes: Total Spot Count: People - 4  
Vehicles - 9  
Boats - 8

(trailers)

\* all were parked after launching boat

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: cooper kuzel

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 10:45am End time: 12:45pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 74°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 <sup>0@12:45</sup> (Time of spot count: 10:45)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 <sup>4@12:45</sup> (Time of spot count: 10:45)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>total vehicles</u>	<u>total people</u>
	<del>    </del>

7. Notes:

all vehicles and people at the site had boats, there were no other activities going on.

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Brady McGinn

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 10:00 End time: 12:00

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 65°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 10:00)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 10:00)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Totals

people	vehicles
1	

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Cooper Kuzel

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 10:55am

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 4

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	②	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	③	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

adding bathrooms near site was a comment made by everyone in their party. also mentioned the ruts in the road from atvs, said they don't like driving over them.

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Cooper Kuzel

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 12:30

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If no, please explain:*

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

*If your rating is 1-2, please explain:*

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If yes, please explain:*

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

- A. Observer: Brady McGinn  
B. Date: 8/16/25  
C. Time: 11:00  
D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing  
 Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area  
 Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area  
 Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)  
 Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch  
 Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore  
 Fishing from a boat  
 Motorized boating  
 Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding  
 Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing  
 Swimming  
 Hiking / Walking / Jogging  
 Bicycling  
 Picnicking  
 Camping  
 Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching  
 Photography  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

adding a few picnic tables and a place to use  
the restroom would be nice. also the parking lot could  
be graded.

Thank you for participating in this survey!

***Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access***

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 06/13/2025

Start time: 2:15 End time: 4:15

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain Wind

Approximate Temperature (°F): 56°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager
2. Sylvan Recreation Site:
  - Wilder's Landing
  - Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
  - Sylvan Canoe Portage
3. Pillager Recreation Site:
  - Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
  - Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
  - Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access
4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:20 p)
5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 2:20 p)
6. Observed Activities:
  - Fishing from the shore
  - Fishing from a boat
  - Motorized boating
  - Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
  - Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
  - Swimming
  - Hiking / Walking / Jogging
  - Bicycling
  - Picnicking
  - Camping
  - Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
  - Photography
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes: Total Count:  
Vehicle - 2      \* two kids  
People - 3  
Bike - 2

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwake

Date: 6/14/2025

Start time: 11:00 a End time: 1:30 p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 54°F

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:00 a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 2 (Time of spot count: 11:00 a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Totals  
People: ||||  
Vehicles: ||||  
Dogs: 1

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: ~~Bob Peterson~~ Clare Schmale

B. Date: 6-14-25

C. Time: 11:45

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 4

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip? (Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

*Butt docks*

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

*More docks*

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)  
Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Sidney Mattson

Date: 7/18/2025

Start time: 11:15 am End time: 1:15 am

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 66°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:20a)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 11:20a)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

Total Spot Count: People - 3  
Vehicles - 2  
4wheeler - 1

\* 2 people just drove through  
without stopping

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Clare Schwatke

Date: 7/19/25

Start time: 1:00p End time: 3:00p

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 70°F

Totals

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

People  
111

Vehicles  
11

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 1:15p)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 1:15p)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Sidney Mattson

B. Date: 7/18/2025

C. Time: 11:40 am

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

3.5

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

Needs/grooming; poison ivy! thistles

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

erosion, NW side of bank

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

Opening dam gate w/ signage

Question - ~~How~~ Have you taken this survey before?

Thank you for participating in this survey!

\* said they took a similar survey a year or so ago

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Clare Schwab

B. Date: 7/19/25

C. Time: 1:52 p

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip? (Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

*N/A*

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Observations / Spot Counts

Observer: Cooper Kuzel

Date: 8/15/25

Start time: 12:50pm End time: 2:50pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 75°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 1:50pm)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 1 (Time of spot count: 1:50pm)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: driving

<u>total people</u>	<u>total cars</u>
<u>   </u>	<u>   </u>

7. Notes:

lots of people driving through, not stopping or getting out to use site.

**Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)**  
**Recreational Observations / Spot Counts**

Observer: Cooper Kuzel

Date: 8/16/25

Start time: 10:00am End time: 12:00pm

Weather:  Sunny;  Partly Cloudy;  Cloudy;  Light Rain;  Heavy Rain

Approximate Temperature (°F): 66°

1. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

2. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

3. Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

4. Number of People Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 11:00)

5. Number of Vehicles Observed: 0 (Time of spot count: 11:00)

6. Observed Activities:

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

total people: ~~10~~ 11

total vehicles: ~~10~~ 11

7. Notes:

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Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: cooper kuzel

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 2:10

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If no, please explain:

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

If your rating is 1-2, please explain:

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

If yes, please explain:

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

commented on the sand bank going down to the shore, said stairs would be nice for getting down there

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Cooper Kucel

B. Date: 8/15/25

C. Time: 1:30

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 1

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: driving through

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If no, please explain:*

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

*If your rating is 1-2, please explain:*

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If yes, please explain:*

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

bathrooms would be nice, also tossing in picnic tables around the shorefishing parking lot. mentioned the condition of the dirt path going into the woods, said there were huge holes and bumps on it.

Thank you for participating in this survey!

Sylvan Project (P-2454), Pillager Project (P-2663)

Recreational Use Survey Form

A. Observer: Dedan Sullivan

B. Date: 8/16/25

C. Time: ~~8:40~~ 11:40

D. Project:  Sylvan  Pillager

E. Sylvan Recreation Site:

- Wilder's Landing
- Fisherman's Bridge Boat Launch and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Dam Boat Access and Fishing Area
- Sylvan Canoe Portage

Pillager Recreation Site:

- Alvah's Landing (Minnesota DNR Boat Launch)
- Pillager Dam Public Boat Launch
- Pillager Dam Public Canoe Portage and Shorefishing Access

1. The purpose of the survey is to obtain information about recreation user experience at the site and to determine adequacy of the site. This recreational use survey is in association with the relicensing process for the Sylvan and Pillager Hydroelectric Projects. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes and is completely anonymous. No personal information will be collected. Would you be willing to participate in the survey?

Yes  No

2. Including yourself, how many people are in your party today? 2

3. Of the activities listed above, please indicate which is the primary activity of this trip?  
(Choose only one)

- Fishing from the shore
- Fishing from a boat
- Motorized boating
- Canoe / Kayaking / Stand-up Paddle Boarding
- Waterskiing / Wakeboarding / Tubing
- Swimming
- Hiking / Walking / Jogging
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Camping
- Viewing Wildlife / Birdwatching
- Photography
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being underutilized and 5 overcrowded, how much do you perceive this site is used for recreation? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Underutilized		Moderate		Overcrowded

5. In your opinion, are the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered at this site sufficient?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If no, please explain:*

6. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of this site? (Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

*If your rating is 1-2, please explain:*

7. Do you have any concerns of safety at this site?

Yes;  No;  N/A

*If yes, please explain:*

8. Do you have any additional comments about public recreation opportunities and facilities at this recreation site? (Please be as specific as possible):

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Thank you for participating in this survey!

## Appendix G

### Revised Phase I Architectural History Reconnaissance Survey for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project *(Privileged)*

## Appendix H

### Revised Phase I Archaeological Investigation and Conditions Assessment of Archaeological Sites for the Pillager Hydroelectric Relicensing Project *(Privileged)*