Date: April 15, 1987

To: D. A. Jacobson - Spooner

From: J. R. Huntoon

Subject: Amendment to the Tuscobia State Recreation Area Trail Master Plan

In accord with the attached letter to the Board dated March 12, 1987, from Secretary Besadny, the master plan for the Tuscobia Trail is hereby amended to allow for all terrain vehicle (ATV) use.

ATV's will be allowed as posted by the Department of Natural Resources. Final authority for posting will be the responsibility of the District Director. ATV use should be evaluated to determine if conflicts arise and posted as necessary.

ATV's will be prohibited on the segment of trail designated as Ice Age Trail from County Trunk Highway SS in Barron County to the Red Cedar Narrows bridge.

This action is consistent with the Department of Natural Resources multiple use goals. The trail will now provide for horseback riding, snowmobiling, ATV's, hiking, deer hunting, trapping, and nature study.

Please file this amendment with copies of the Tuscobia Trail Master Plan.

JRH:DJK:bp

Attach

cc: D. Weizenicker - PR/4
  J. Treichel - PR/4
  D. Kulhanek - PR/4
  C. Karr - AD/5

[Signature]
TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD:

Ms. Jacobs, Chair
Mr. Lawin, Vice-Chair
Mr. Hemp, Secretary
Mr. Brogan
Mr. Ferris
Mr. Lange
Mr. Lawton

Dear Board Members:

The Board approved the master plan for the Tuscobia State Recreation Area Trail in November, 1984. Public uses provided by the master plan include hiking, jogging, nature study, deer hunting, trapping, snowmobiling, and horseback riding. The trail is not surfaced for bicycling. The master plan also states that, because of a growing demand for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) trails in this area of the state, their use would be evaluated at a later date. We have since received requests from the public to allow ATV use on the trail (or a portion thereof).

Two public meetings were held by the Northwest District to gather information on how the public feels about ATV use on the trail. Forty-six citizens attended the first meeting held on August 19, 1986, at Birchwood and 63 citizens were present at the second meeting held August 20, 1986, in Winter. Written comments were also received.

In summary, 90 citizens were in favor of allowing ATV's on the Tuscobia Trail and 16 were opposed. Of those in favor of ATV's on the trail, 69 wanted the trail open for year-round use while 21 agreed to the proposal of having the trail only open from May 15 to November 1.

In view of public sentiment and an opportunity for more multi-recreation on the trail, the Department recommends that the master plan be amended to allow ATV's on the Tuscobia Trail contingent upon the availability of ATV registration funds for signing and maintaining the trail. ATV use would be allowed during the non-snowmobiling period from May 15 through November 1. ATV's would be prohibited on the segment of trail designated as Ice Age Trail from County Trunk Highway SS in Barron County to the Red Cedar Narrows bridge.
Unless there are objections, the Department will administratively amend the master plan to provide for this additional use.

If you have questions, give me or Dave Weizenicker a call.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

C. D. Besadny
Secretary

CDB:DJK:bt
M979

cc: D. Weizenicker-PR/4
J. Treichel-PR/4
D. Jacobson-Spooner
J. Huntoon-AD/5