

Henry David Long

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

The Missouri River Natural Area is located on the Morton County side of the Missouri River adjacent to the Grant Marsh Bridge and the Interstate 94 right-of-way. A second parcel of the area is located between the Grant Marsh Bridge and the Burlington Northern Railway Bridge, is also on the Morton County side. Their legal description are:

- Lot AE NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 26, Township 139N, Range 81W.
- Lot Q NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 26, Township 139N, Range 81W.
- Block 7 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 26, Township 139N, Range 81W.
- Lots O & S NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 26, Township 139N, Range 81W.
- SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and Lots 2,3,4, Section 25, Township 139N, Range 81W.
- Part Lot 1 Section 31, Township 139N, Range 81W.

north of railroad right-of-way. The total area contains 157.34 acres.

The area is currently owned by the North Dakota Highway Department and managed by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department. At present, the area is in a natural condition (i.e. no development, no timber cutting, etc.) with some public day use activities occurring.

II. NATURAL RESOURCES

The area is a floodplain dominated by cottonwood. Other common tree species are green ash, boxelder, and willow, with a dense layer of shrubs and tall grasses in the understory. A complete ecological inventory of the area will be made to include plants, animals, geology, and soils as time and funds permit.

Once the inventory has been done, the data will be analyzed. This analysis will determine any specific attention that needs to be given the area (i.e. endangered species, critical habitat, etc.) and also plan for use on the tract so as not to exceed the area's carrying capacity as a natural area.

III. GOALS

The major goal to preserve and protect the area as a natural resource and provide a natural setting for environmental education and the enjoyment of nature in its close proximity to urban development.

IV. ACCESS

A natural area managed for preservation should have limited access. All entrances that would permit vehicular access will be fenced and a designated point of entry for walk-in only will be made. All motorized vehicles will be prohibited on the area

which will include but not be limited to cars, trucks, vans, motorcycles, and snow-mobiles. Boats may enter from the river along the length of the area, but no docking or ramping facilities will be provided by the Department; nor will they be allowed to be constructed on the property.

V. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of the area will be the responsibility of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department.

VI. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JURISDICTION

Chapter 55-08 of the North Dakota Century Code provides the basis for law enforcement and jurisdiction within the area. Enforcement of the rules and regulations is under the supervision of the park superintendent at Fort Lincoln State Park and the implementation of these rules and regulations is enforced by the park's ranger staff. The jurisdiction of the ranger staff is confined to the boundaries of the area.

VII. HUNTING AND FISHING

No hunting or trapping will be permitted, however, fishing may occur under applicable state rules and regulations.

VIII. RESEARCH

The area will be recognized as a natural outdoor laboratory and data gathering for environmental research will be permitted.

The size of the area for project study and collecting of floral and faunal species as to their kinds and number will be limited. An informal request to the Director of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department for collection and study will be obtained prior to the research process. Timber harvesting is prohibited.

IX. VISITOR USE STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES

No improvements will be permitted that are primarily for the comfort and convenience of visitors, such as campground and picnic facilities.

Interpretive trails to promote environmental education may be provided and cooperation with schools, colleges, and other organizations will be encouraged for the purpose of communicating environmental consciousness. Other outdoor activities that do not alter or disturb the environment such as photography, nature observation, hiking, winter use activities, etc., will also be encouraged.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27th day of June, 1981.

APPROVED

Charles K. Eiken
Director, North Dakota Parks and
Recreation Department

ATTEST:

Karen Meas

Walter N. Hall
Commissioner, North Dakota State
Highway Department

Robert E. King

7:11 PM July 81
Myron K...