

LAKESHORE MANAGEMENT

Goals

Recreation. Protect and enhance a variety of lakeshore public recreation opportunities. Protect visual quality of lakeshores.

Habitat. Protect fish and wildlife habitat along lakeshores.

Private Ownership of Land. Provide opportunities for private ownership of lakeshore property.

Water Quality. Maintain water quality.

Management Guidelines

A. Variety of Management Strategies. DNR, through its management of land surrounding different lakes, will provide a full spectrum of public and private recreation and other land use opportunities. Although a great variety of possible lakeshore management strategies exist, DNR will attempt to provide at least the three general types of lake-related land use opportunities (listed below) in any given region. The appropriate lakeshore management strategy will be determined in this plan or when a disposal is proposed near a lake.

1. Wilderness Lakes - State-owned land around these lakes will be kept in a natural state. Land around the lakeshore will be retained and managed so that people using the lake generally do not encounter the sights and sounds of human development. Land within 1 mile of the lake will be kept in public ownership. Land sales are not allowed. Leases and sales of surface resources may be allowed closer than 1 mile if, because of topography, the use(s) can occur without adversely affecting the natural character of the lake. The management intent and guidelines in Chapter 3 may give more specific directions for management around certain lakes. The following lakes will be managed as wilderness lakes:

Twin Lakes (MU 6A)
Island Lake (MU 6A)
High Lake (MU 8A)
Kaina Lake (MU 8A)
Southern Tazlina Lake (MU 8B)
St. Anne Lake (MU 8A and 9A)
Tonsina Lake (MU 14)
Old Man Lake (MU 5C)

2. Recreational Lakes - State-owned land around these lakes will be managed to retain primarily a natural character. Guidelines B and C (below) will be applied and the majority of the remaining land within at least 200 feet of the entire shoreline will be retained in public ownership. Some areas near the lake that are beyond this buffer may be sold. The management intent and guidelines found in Chapter 3 may give specific guidance for lands around certain lakes. The following lakes will be managed as recreation lakes:

Snowshoe Lake (MU 4A)
Paxson Lake (MU 27)
Meiers Lake (MU 27)
Summit Lake (MU 28A)
Mankomen Lake (MU 29B)
Carlson Lake (MU 32)

3. General Development Lakes - State-owned land around these lakes will be managed to allow a mixture of natural and developed uses. On these lakes, the minimum lakeshore protection standards described in guideline C apply and the standards in B apply if the lake is determined to have significant public value. The following will be managed as general development lakes:

Tolsona Lake (MU 3F)
Moose Lake (MU 3F)
Crosswind Lake (MU 6 and MU 7)

Before land is sold around a lake with significant existing or potential recreational or habitat values, DNR will determine through an interagency process the most appropriate long-term management for the lands that surround the lake.

B. Land to be Retained. At least 50 percent of all public land within 500 feet of the shore of recreation or general development lakes that have significant public values will be retained in public ownership. Retained lands shall include 50 percent of the actual shoreline. These percentages may be increased or decreased case by case or as part of a regional strategy to provide a full spectrum of public and private recreation opportunities if topography, amount of use or other local conditions warrant. A significant portion of the lakefront land retained in public ownership should be suitable for recreational activities. Where feasible, the publicly retained land should include the land adjacent to lake inlets and outlets. (See also Settlement Guideline C4, p. 2-27.)

C. Easements and Setbacks. Where lakefront property is conveyed to private ownership or made available for remote cabin permits, a minimum public access easement of 50 feet will be reserved along the shoreline, and a minimum residential building setback of 100 feet will be required. Water-dependent structures, such as docks or boathouses, are allowed within easements and setbacks.

D. Activities Allowed in Publicly Owned Lakeshore Buffers. Buffers will be managed to retain their natural character. Uses may be allowed in publicly owned lakeshore buffers if the uses are consistent with the purposes for which the buffer was established and do not block public access or adversely affect water quality. For example, if the purpose of the buffer is public recreation, uses such as private docks for adjacent upland owners may need to be consolidated to minimize the impact on public recreation values. If on the other hand, individual docks for upland owners would not adversely affect water quality, then individual docks will be allowed. In the design and review of each disposal adjacent to a publicly owned lakeshore buffer, the Division of Land and Water Management will determine the rights of upland owners within the buffers that do not require specific authorization from DNR.

E. Structures in Fish Habitat. See page 2-9.

F. Water Intake Structures. See page 2-9.

G. Other Guidelines Affecting Lakeshore Management. Several other guidelines may affect lakeshore management. See the following sections of this chapter:

Agriculture
Fish and wildlife habitat
Forestry
Materials
Recreation, cultural, and scenic resources
Settlement
Subsurface resources
Transportation
Public access
Trail management
Wetlands management