

From: "Chris Kavanaugh" <chris.kavanaugh@dnr.state.mn.us>
To: "Howard Christman" <HOCHRIST@dnr.state.mn.us>
Date: 3/27/01 2:10PM
Subject: Deer Lake - Living Word Bible Camp

Howard,

There are a number of concerns with this proposed development. The zoning classification change from farm/residential to commercial has the potential for future consequences on the property. The density of development and potential impact to the shoreline from trail development and use leading to erosion is significant. Trails need to be constructed and maintained properly to avoid and minimize impacts.

The number of proposed units at this time are well below the maximum allowed for a PUD. However, the number of structures on the lakeshore exceeds what would be allowed as individual lots. Also, it would be expected that a large number of people would be using this facility through the summer, thereby intensifying the impacts. One of the proposed structures appears to be very close to the conservation easement area.

The plan does not appear to address docking facilities. We have generally been opposed to any type of fill strip for access on lakes that have a public access, instead requiring a boardwalk. Are any other waterfront developments planned, such as a beach? This area of Deer Lake provides critical habitat for a number of fish species and life stages. The islands adjacent to this shore are State Wildlife Management Areas, additional traffic may have negative impacts on the quality of habitat provided.

It would be especially valuable to have the opportunity to view this shoreline during snow-free conditions to really assess the potential impacts.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Chris

C: Ron Hunt
PC BA

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MAR 29 2001

Zoning/Solid Waste Dept.