

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR)

Senior Real Estate Program Administrator, Division of Fish and Wildlife: July 2007 – May 2009

- Researched and interpreted Pittman–Robertson Act and Dingell–Johnson Act, implemented fisheries and wildlife habitat and public access land acquisition programs.
- Coordinated Division’s land acquisition transactions, managed complex real estate projects.
- Managed Division’s easement acquisition program; Carried portfolio of 25+ real estate transactions.
- Negotiated agreements with landowners, NGOs and other governmental agencies.
- Lead negotiator - \$800K ½-price bargain sale, 300-acre habitat purchase at confluence of Mississippi & St. Croix Rivers, among: MN DNR, Dakota Co., Hastings city, Twin Cities Metropolitan Council, & seller.

Detail: Amicus Brief Team Coordinator, Office of Deputy DNR Commissioner: January 2008 – May 2009

- US Forest Service litigation: Developed factual background for State’s interest in litigation; Developed legal arguments in collaboration with MN Attorney General’s Office.
- Researched and interpreted National Environmental Policy Act, Wilderness Act, National Forest Management Act, Administrative Procedure Act, and Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act.
 - Sierra Club, et al. v. Abigail R. Kimbell and Mike Johanns, 640 F.Supp.2d 1082 (D.Minn. 2009), *Echo Trail timber harvest plan, Superior National Forest.*
 - Sierra Club, et al. v. Dale Bosworth & Mike Johanns, 595 F.Supp.2d 1021 (D.Minn. 2009), *2004 Superior Natl. Forest Plan.*
 - Izaak Walton League of America, et al., v. Abigail R. Kimbell and Mike Johanns, 558 F.3d 751 (8th Cir. 2009), *South Fowl Lake Snowmobile Trail Proposal, Superior National Forest.*

Acquisition and Development Coordinator, Division of Trails and Waterways: March – July 2007

- Coordinated joint powers agreements with other governmental units for facilities development.

Senior Planner, Division of Ecological Resources: October 2005 – March 2007

- Drafted Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAW) and EAW threshold decisions for trail projects.
- Interpreted and revised MN Environmental Quality Board Rules.

Regulatory and Recreation Specialist, Division of Trails and Waterways: February 2004 – October 2005

- Managed \$2 million in annual federal assistance from US Fish & Wildlife Service and US Coast Guard.
- Coordinated Division’s regulatory permitting, including: Clean Water Act, USFWS regulatory requirements, Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act and Minnesota Protected Waters permits.
- Administered Division’s Wetland Mitigation Bank.

Detail: Legislative Liaison, Division of Trails and Waterways: 2005 Session

- Coordinated legislative drafting, review, communications, and stakeholder negotiations.
- Secured passage of bill (HF 436/SF 929) requiring consultation with DNR Commissioner before a local jurisdiction may vacate public right-of-way that provides access to public waters or natural resources.

Acquisition and Development Specialist, Div. of Trails & Waterways: November 1998 – February 2004
Metro Region 9/02-2/04, Brainerd Lakes Region 11/98-9/02, Northeast Region 3/98-11/98.

- Coordinated real property and easement acquisition for trail & public water access programs.
- Managed 56-mile recreational trail with \$200,000 operations budget; Served as lead worker for one clerical and two field employees, and two seasonal field crews; Enforced laws and rules.
- Project Manager for \$3.5 million in capital development projects; Coordinated project regulatory permits and review; Coordinated interagency planning teams and drafted joint powers agreements.

PUBLISHED WORK

Working Lands for Wildlife: Targeted Landscape-Scale Wildlife Habitat Conservation. Natural Resources & Environment Vol. 29, No. 3, American Bar Association. Winter 2015.