# OUTDOORS

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## DNR to hold open house Sept. 12 in Baudette

### Final plans for Zippel Bay and Franz Jevne state parks, Garden Island rec area to be reviewed

**DNR STAFF REPORT**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Parks and Trails Division will conduct a review of the final management plans for Zippel Bay State Park, Garden Island State Recreation Area and Franz Jevne State Park.

The review is planned for 6-7 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Baudette Depot on Tower Ave., just north of Main Street, on the south side of Highway 11 in Baudette.

The DNR began soliciting input on management of these three park units in February. Management plans set the direction for state parks and recreation areas for the next 15 to 20 years. They include recommendations for managing natural and cultural resources and providing recreational and interpretative opportunities for park visitors.

DNR Parks and Trails staff will provide copies of the draft plans, which include maps and assessment of natural and cultural resources. Following the meeting, the plans will be open for review for 30 days; after review, final adjustments will be made and the plans will go to DNR Commissioner Landwehr for approval.

Zippel Bay State Park offers a host of recreational opportunities, such as camping, boating, fishing, swimming and hiking. Its shoreline, forests and wetlands are important resource areas including undeveloped Lake of the Woods shoreline which is valuable to migratory waterfowl and shorebirds.

Garden Island State Recreation Area lies 18 miles north of Zippel Bay State Park in Lake of the Wood's Northwest Angle. Garden Island has 6.5 miles of undeveloped Lake of the Woods shoreline nesting habitat and a public shore lunch area.

East of Baudette, Franz Jevne State Park sits along the south banks of the Rainy River. Its terrain is varied, including both a high rock outcrop south of the campground road and low shoreline areas that are sometimes flooded when the river is high.

For more information, contact Doug Easthouse, DNR area parks supervisor, 218-647-8592, doug.easthouse@state.mn.us or Chris Weir-Koetter, DNR Northwest Region Parks and Trails strategic program manager, 218-308-2679, Christine.weir-koetter@state.mn.us.

For more information about Minnesota state parks and trails, including virtual tours, visit www.mndnr.gov.

## Wild rice harvesting season open

### Rice nearing maturity

**DNR STAFF REPORT**

Minnesota's wild rice harvesting season is open annually from Aug. 15 to Sept. 30 but despite those dates, harvesters must first ensure the rice is ripe before launching their canoes, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Minnesota's green rice law does not allow the harvesting of unripe rice.

More than 700 lakes and rivers in 31 counties contain significant stands of wild rice, with concentrations of rice being the highest in Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Itasca and St. Louis counties.

"The rice isn't ripening as early as we've observed in some other years, but there should be good picking in early to mid-September as long as the weather stays mild," said David Kanz, acting Brainerd area wildlife manager. "Wild rice is highly dependent on stable water levels through the year. Then, as rice ripens, we need mild weather so rice doesn't fall from the stalk before harvest time."

Wild rice is the edible seed of an aquatic grass and is the only cereal grain native to North America. When properly processed and stored, the nutritious grain can be stored for extended periods. One cup of cooked wild rice provides 7 grams of protein; is rich in potassium, zinc and riboflavin; and has nearly twice the fiber of brown rice.

In addition to being a traditional food source for Minnesota's early people and an important part of Native American culture, wild rice is an important food staple for migrating waterfowl each fall and the growing plants provide important habitat for fish.

Because of the grain's importance, harvesting wild rice is regulated in Minnesota. Some guidelines to consider before deciding to harvest wild rice include:

Harvest takes place from a nonmotorized canoe, 18 feet or less, using only a push pole or paddles for power.

Rice is collected by using two sticks, or flails, to knock mature seeds into the canoe. Flails can be no longer than 30 inches, and must weigh less than one pound each.

Harvesting licenses cost $25 per season, or $15 per day, per person for Minnesota residents.

There is no limit to number of pounds people may harvest with a permit.

Processing is necessary to finish the rice into its final food product.

The gathering process is labor-intensive.

Like other forms of gathering, allowing ample scouting time will lead to greater success. Some wild rice waters were hurt by large amounts of rainfall in the spring and early summer, but lakes that didn't experience such rain have better rice stands.

Accessing some lakes can be difficult, and low water in some parts of the state will make launching canoes more challenging. Some lakes and rivers within tribal boundaries are not open to public harvest. Finding a mentor who is willing to share the skills and knowledge can greatly improve success.

More information about wild rice management, a list of wild rice buyers and processors, and a partial list of lakes containing wild rice stands is available on the DNR website. The 1854 Treaty Authority website also provides updates on some lakes within the 1854 ceded territory in northeastern Minnesota.

Harvesting licenses can be purchased online via desktop browser and smartphone at www.mndnr.gov/buyalicense (see wildlife hunting licenses) or any DNR license agent.

## DNR updates state lists

### Lists of endangered, threatened, special concern species adopted

**DNR STAFF REPORT**

A state list first established nearly 30 years ago to highlight and help protect plants and animals at risk of disappearing from Minnesota has received its first official update since 1996.

Following a series of five public hearings, an 86-day comment period and review by an administrative law judge, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on Monday, Aug. 19, adopted a new list of endangered, threatened and special concern species.

Twenty-nine species, including the bald eagle, wolf and snapping turtle, were removed from the list; 180 species of plants and animals were added; 91 species had their status either upgraded or downgraded while remaining on the list. The changes were based on large amounts of new information gathered by DNR and other researchers.

Minnesota's endangered species law requires the DNR to create and periodically revise such a list, and it prescribes three levels of concern. An endangered species is at great risk of extinction within the state. A threatened species is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future. A species of special concern, though not at immediate risk, is considered vulnerable because of its rarity or highly specific habitat requirements.

The law prohibits the taking or possession of endangered and threatened species except in certain situations. If a proposed project cannot avoid a protected species, the state can issue a "taking permit" that is combined with mitigation, such as funding for research or acquisition of other sites to protect the species. Over the past decade, DNR has received 23 applications for development-related taking permits and it has issued all but one.

"The ultimate goal of putting a plant or animal on the list isn't to put up walls around it; it's to restore its health and get it back off the list," said Rich Baker, DNR endangered species coordinator. "There are plenty of examples of that happening, and it doesn't have to come at the expense of sustainable economic development."

More information on Minnesota's endangered, threatened and special concern species can be found on the DNR's website.

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**Breakfast Specials**
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| | |
|---|---|
| Mon. | Big Moose Skillet with hashbrowns |
| Tues. | Breakfast Sandwich with hashbrowns |
| Wed. | French Toast w/eggs & sausage or bacon |
| Thurs. | Blueberry Pancakes w/eggs & sausage or bacon |
| Fri. | Biscuits & Gravy w/eggs & hashbrowns |
| Sat. | Cinnamon Swirl French Toast with ham & eggs |
| Sun. | Blueberry Cream Cheese Crepes with eggs & ham |

**Dinner Specials**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mon. | Half Chicken Dinner | $10.99 |
| Tues. | Full Rack of BBQ Ribs | $17.99 |
| Wed. | Pan Fried Walleye | $14.99 |
| Thurs. | Mozzarella Girasole w/Marinara Sauce | $10.99 |
| Fri. | Fishermen's Catch | $16.99 |
| Sat. | Rib Eye Steak | $17.99 |
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**Indus School Lunch Menu for September 2013**

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL | 3 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit, Bread & Butter, Milk | 4 Beef Stroganoff Egg Noodles, Bread w/Butter Green Beans, Steamed Broccoli, Fresh Fruit Mandarin Oranges, Milk | 5 Ham & Cheese Melt Oven Fries Baked Beans Peach Sauce Fresh Fruit, Milk | 6 Pizza Rounds Sweet Potatoes Corn Pear Sauce Fresh Fruit, Milk |
| 9 Chicken Drumstick Baked Potato Steamed Cauliflower Pineapple Tidbits Fresh Fruit, Bread & Butter, Milk | 10 Taco Salad Romaine Refried Beans, Tomatoes Apricot Cup Sunny Fresh Pineapple WG Bread Stick, Milk | 11 Meat Loaf Potato Rounds, Peas Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Bread & Butter, Milk | 12 Roast Pork Dinner, Stuffing, Gravy Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Mandarian Oranges Fresh Fruit WG Dinner Roll, Milk | 13 Chicken Noodle Soup Tuna or Cheese Sandwich Carrots w/Ranch, Corn Applesauce Strawberry Cup Milk |
| 16 Pork Chop Potty Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Peach Sauce Fresh Fruit, Milk | 17 Chicken Pasta Salad Oven Fries Green Beans Pear Sauce Fresh Fruit, Milk | 18 Macaroni Tomato Hot Dish Veggie Mix Applesauce Fresh Fruit Bread w/Butter Milk | 19 Subs: Turkey, Ham, or Roost Beef Romaine, Tomato Cheese Slice, Pickles Pineapple, Fresh Fruit Sun Chips, Milk | 20 Chili w/Kidney Beans Mashed Potatoes Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit Bread w/Butter Milk |
| 23 Chicken Quesadillas Refried Beans Romaine Salad Strawberry Cup Fresh Fruit, Milk | 24 Fish Sticks Oven Fries Corn Mandarin Oranges Fresh Fruit Milk | 25 Chicken Gravy Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Peach Sauce Fresh Fruit Bread & Butter, Milk | 26 Tony's Pizza Peas Romaine Salad Pear Sauce Fresh Fruit Milk | 27 Chicken Potty WG Hamburger Bun Potato Rounds Veggie Mix Pineapple Tidbits Fresh Fruit, Milk |
| 30 Chicken Fajitas Romaine, Tomatoes Refried Beans Mixed Fruit Fresh Fruit HS: Bread & Butter, Milk | October 1 Meat Balls in Gravy Mashed Potatoes Peas Applesauce Fresh Fruit Bread & Butter, Milk | 2 Turkey Stocker Romaine, Tomato Potato Rounds Pineapple Tidbits Fresh Fruit, Milk | 3 Sloppy Jo WG Hamburger Bun Sweet Potatoes Green Beans Mandarian Oranges Fresh Fruit, Milk | 4 Hot Dog WG Hot Dog Bun Oven Fries Baked Beans Peach Sauce Fresh Fruit, Milk |