Avon Township Land Use Management Assessment Worksheet Avon Township Section 19

1. Stearns County Biological Survey Review and Comment:

 Approximately 350 acres or 55% represents various biologically sensitive habitate including Oak Forest – Mesic Subtype, Tamarack Swamp Minerotropic Subtype, Mixed Hardwood Swamp, Rich Fen – Sedge Subtype and Cattail Marsh.

2. Stearns County Geological Survey and Aquifer Review and Comment:

2.1. Entire section is identified as low yield or no aquifer.

3. Stearns County Geological Survey Permeable Soil Review and Comment

Ground-Water Sensitivity to Pollution

- 3.1. Approximately 480 acres or 75% of the section is classified as moderately sensitive to ground water pollution.
- 3.2. Approximately 160 acres or 25% is classified as highly sensitive to ground water pollution.

4. Soil Type Review and Comment

Most Common Soil Types in order by area covered by each soil type: (i.e. the first soil type listed represents the largest area of the section).

- 4.1. 204B Cushing Sandy Loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes
- 4.2. 204C Cushing Sandy Loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes
- 4.3. 204E Cushing Sandy Loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes
- 4.4. 1843C Cushing-DeMontreville complex 8 to 15 percent slopes
- 4.5. 1843E Cushing-DeMontreville complex 15 to 25 percent slopes
- 4.6. 540 Seelyeville Muck
- 4.7. 1055 Histosols and Haplaquolls, ponded

5. Stearns County Zoning Map Review and Comment

5.1. Entire section is zoned A-40

6. Existing Road System Review and Comment

Roads are listed in order North to South then West to East

- 6.1. Lake Wobegon Trail runs east diagonally from the center of west border SE to east border.
- 6.2. County 54 runs along south border
- 6.3. Peach Drive runs diagonally from center of the south border to the NE for one half mile.

7. Avon Township Comprehensive Plan Review and Comment

- 7.1. A portion of the area is actively farmed and consistent with the comprehensive plan to preserve agricultural land this area should remain agriculture at this time. Residential housing should be very limited. Reference Section V Agriculture.
- 7.2. A large portion of the section is open land consisting of forest and agricultural land and consistent with the comprehensive plan to preserve natural resources this area should see very limited development. Reference Section V Conservation/Recreation.

8. Historical Considerations

- 8.1. Wobegon Trail is built on the original Great Northern Railroad. James J Hill was the driving force behind opening the west to rail transportation in the 1800's and provided shipping for grain farmers from Dakotas and Montana to Minneapolis milling operations.
- 8.2. Wobegon Trail is priority project for the Stearns County Parks Department and was built with public and private funding with the initial momentum generated by the Albany Jaycees and area snowmobile groups as well as other area community organizations.

9. Scenic Considerations

- 9.1. Lake Wobegon Trail
- 9.2. Englemeier Lake.
- 9.3. Heavy forested area which covers the majority of the section.

10. Adjacency Considerations

- 10.1. Avon Sportsman's Club Rifle Range occupies 36 acres 6% of the section and is located along the center of the eastern border of the section.
- 10.2. St Cloud State University owns approximately 120 acres 19% of section as Biology study area.
- 10.3. Mark Gross also owns about 250 acres which is predominately forest land with a variety of trees including Oaks, Maples, and other hardwood trees.
- 10.4. Large sensitive biological area covers approximately 350 acres or 55% of the section (includes Biology study area owned by SCSU

11. <u>Taxes</u>

Year Payable		<u>2003</u>		2
Nbr of Parcels		16		
Land Mkt Value Bldg Mkt Value	\$ \$	841,800 715,600	\$ \$	720, 676,
Total Mkt ∨alue	\$ 1	1 ,557 ,400	\$ 1	, 396, I
Twp Taxes	\$ c	1,728	\$ c	1,
Sch Taxes County Taxes	\$ \$	2,386 4,449	\$ \$	2, 4,
Total Taxes	\$	8,563	\$	7,

12. Recommendations:

- 12.1. Section should be viewed as primarily agricultural and very limited low density residential. This area should be protected from residential growth to preserve the ability for the existing farming operations to continue operating long term.
- 12.2. Special consideration should be given to preserving the open land in the section consisting of marsh and forested land by minimizing the development of housing in this area and any other development that is not consistent with preservation of the natural resources in the area.
- 12.3. This section is dominated by large contiguous forested areas and one of the few areas like this in the county as well as the township and we should be careful to minimize the impact of growth and development on this precious resource. We need to preserve areas like this for future generations to enjoy and appreciate.















