



## United States Department of the Interior

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**  
**Voyageurs National Park**  
**360 Highway 11 East**  
**International Falls, MN 56649**



IN REPLY REFER TO:

1.A.1 (permanent)

July 25, 2017

Dear Interested Party:

Voyageurs National Park is seeking initial public comments (“scoping”) to aid us in preparing a range of alternatives for redesigning the Mukooda Lake Small Campground and constructing a new hiking trail in the vicinity of the campground.

The Mukooda Lake campground pre-dates the establishment of the park and has never been rehabilitated and brought up to current Voyageurs campsite construction standards, including providing tent pads, as defined in the Lakecountry and Backcountry Site Management Plan. The individual sites in the campground are poorly defined, resulting in inefficient use of the facilities and loss of vegetation.

In addition to updating the campground, the National Park Service seeks to add more recreational opportunities in the Sand Point Lake area of the park. Currently there are no hiking trails in the eastern half of Voyageurs. A hiking trail in the Mukooda area was identified in the 2001 Voyageurs National Park General Management Plan but never implemented. This initial scoping effort is the next step in continuing the implementation of this Mukooda area trail concept.

Written comments on the issues identified for the Mukooda project should be submitted electronically to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/Mukooda> no later than August 30, 2017. Written comments can also be mailed (postmarked no later than August 30, 2017) and should be addressed to: Superintendent, Voyageurs National Park, 360 Highway 11 East, International Falls, MN, 56649.

The alternatives developed with public input from this scoping period will be analyzed through an Environmental Assessment (EA). Further public comment and input on this project will be sought upon development of a Draft EA.

Please indicate if you want to stay on this mailing list and receive a copy of the draft EA. Should you have any questions, contact Biologist John Snyder at 218-283-6690 or email at [john\\_s\\_snyder@nps.gov](mailto:john_s_snyder@nps.gov).

We look forward to receiving your comments on this topic.

Sincerely,

Robert DeGross  
Superintendent