



Please offer your support!

April 2018

We need people across the region to raise their voices of influence on a project that involves government decision making and bonding. Visibility is important.



The Glendalough Trail has helped to bring thousands of visitors to the park!

A new Trail Center has been planned in cooperation with the DNR for Glendalough State Park to support the **visitor count growth** (85,000+ in 2017, up from < 50,000 in 2013) and to preserve the Historic Lodge which was not intended to be used as a high-traffic visitor or interpretive center. The growth is projected to continue given Glendalough's pivotal location in Otter Tail County.

Additionally, we now have eight area schools that use the park for various academic and recreational purposes, which would be served even better with an appropriate interpretive and naturalist facility for students during all seasons.

The Minnesota Parks and Trails Council (a non-profit citizens group representing Minnesotans across the state) has **identified the need for a Trail Center in Glendalough** as one of their top priorities in their 2018 Legislative Agenda. Their board ratified \$750,000 of MN bonding should be allocated to the Glendalough Trail Center. They are impressed local citizens have raised more than \$200,000 already.

Last week, Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen introduced the Glendalough Trail Center Bill (SF3074) to the Senate. Representative Bud Nornes has done the same in the House (HF2910).

Request: Could we ask you to influence the passage of the Glendalough Trail Center bill – among many competing bonding priorities?

See next page for contact information and key messages.



Please offer support by contacting one or more of these influencers:

DNR Commissioner	tom.landwehr@state.mn.us
Assistant DNR Commissioner, DNR Parks and Trails	Sarah.Strommen@state.mn.us
DNR Director, MN Parks and Trails	erika.rivers@state.mn.us
Chair, Senate Capital Investment Committee	sen.david.senjem@senate.mn
Chair, House Capital Investment Committee	rep.dean.urdahl@house.mn

Key Messages you may wish to include

1. Thank you for supporting the gift of Glendalough State Park from the Cowles Family in 1992
2. Please support HF2910 and SF3074 for a Visitor Center in the Park; (in the park plans since 1992)
3. Park does not have a Visitor Center, and Historic Lodge is suffering degradation as makeshift facility
4. Park visitor count skyrocketed to 85,000 in 2017, and is also used by eight area school districts
5. Local community has raised more than \$200,000+ to augment \$750,000 bonding

For more information about the proposed Trail Center, please visit:

<http://www.morethanatrail.com/getting-involved/>