

doors at the Mark and Jim Sletten Farm shop, east of Northwood, so plan on dressing accordingly. Bus transportation will be provided. A noon meal will also be provided.

If you were born after December 31st 1961 and wish to hunt in North Dakota you must pass a hunter education class. Upon successful completion of the class the student will be issued a certificate

through the ND Game and Fish Department.

Pre-registration is not required, but we would appreciate a call ahead of time so we can have sufficient materials on hand for the class.

If there are any questions, please contact an area instructor—Perry Johnson 218-779-7835, Dustin Neva 701-789-0694 or Garis Pollert 701-587-5855.

son added. "But over the past decade they have increased significantly in the Red River Valley, and have been observed in many parts of the state along streams and mid- to large-sized lakes, and even in unique areas such as shelterbelts surrounded by cropland."

Nest observations should be reported to Johnson at (701) 328-6382, or by

and have a wingspan of about seven feet from tip to tip. They are bright white with black wing tips, which are visible only when the wings are outspread. In flight they extend their long necks straight forward, while their long, slender legs extend out behind the tail. Whooping cranes typically migrate singly, or in groups of 2-3 birds, and may be associated with sandhill cranes.

Other white birds such as snow geese, swans and egrets are often mistaken for whooping cranes. The most common mistake is pelicans because their wingspan is similar and they tuck their pouch in flight, leaving a silhouette similar to a crane when viewed from below.

Anyone sighting whoopers should not disturb them, but record the date, time, location, and the birds' activity. Observers should also look closely for and report colored bands which may occur on one or both legs. Young whooping cranes were marked during 1975-1988 with colored leg bands to help determine their identity.

Whooping crane sightings should be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office at (701) 387-4397, the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's main office in Bismarck at (701) 328-6300, or to local game wardens around the state. Reports help biologists locate important whooping crane habitat areas, monitor marked birds, determine survival and population numbers, and identify times and migration routes.

Game and Fish Sponsors Earth Day Project

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department is once again celebrating Earth Day by sponsoring youth clean-up days on public-owned or managed lands in April and May.

Each member of a school, Girl Scout, Boy Scout, 4-H club or youth organization who participates in cleaning up public lands during April and May will receive a specifically designed conservation patch.

Last winter the Game and Fish Department sponsored a contest for students ages 6-18 to design a North Dakota Earth Day Patch. Winners receiving a pair of Leupold 8x25 compact binoculars in the three age categories were Carleen Christofferson of Tolna (6-9), Ben Callahan of Dickinson (10-13), and Zachary Bristol of Stanley (14-18). Callahan's design was chosen the contest winner, and will be used on this year's Earth Day patch.

Groups participating in the Earth Day project are encouraged to take the following precautions to ensure safety: keep young people away from highways, lakes and rivers; and only allow older participants to pick up broken glass.

Interested participants are asked to contact Pat Lothspeich at 328-6332 to receive a reporting form for their project.

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Minnkota Power Coop, Inc.
345 kV Transmission Line - Center to Grand
Forks
Siting Application

Case No. PU-09-670

NOTICE OF FILING AND NOTICE OF HEARINGS

March 24, 2011

On February 18, 2011, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (Minnkota) filed an application for a Certificate of Site Compatibility for Transmission Facility Corridor for approximately 260 miles of 345 kV transmission line and associated facilities to be constructed from the Center Substation near Center, North Dakota to the Prairie Substation near Grand Forks, North Dakota, as shown on the attached map.

Minnkota requests the Commission approve a 1,000 foot-wide corridor under N.D. Admin. Code Section 69-06-04-02(b). If a corridor certificate is granted then a separate route permit application and hearing is required before designating a trans-

mission line route within the approved corridor. Three separate public hearings will be held with each covering an overview of the project, but focusing on specific portions of the project in the specific areas of each hearing. A Public Hearing on the application will be held:

May 3, 2011, 9:00 a.m. at the Grand Forks County Building Conference Room, 151 S 4th Street, Grand Forks, ND 58201. This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Grand Forks, Nelson and Steele Counties

May 4, 2011, 9:00 a.m. at the Chieftain Conference Center Tepee Room, 60 4th Ave.S, Carrington, ND 58204. This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Eddy, Foster, Griggs, eastern Sheridan and Wells Counties

May 13, 2011, 9:00 a.m. at Memorial Hall, 805 Main Ave. Washburn, ND 58577. This hearing will focus primarily on portions of the project in Burleigh, McLean, Oliver and western Sheridan Counties.

The issues to be considered are:
1. Will the location, construction, and operation of the proposed facilities produce minimal adverse

effects on the environment and upon the welfare of the citizens of North Dakota?

2. Are the proposed facilities compatible with the environmental preservation and the efficient use of resources?

3. Will the proposed facility locations minimize adverse human and environmental impact while ensuring continuing system reliability and integrity and ensuring that energy needs are met and fulfilled in an orderly and timely fashion?

4. Is it appropriate for the Commission to approve a 1,000 foot-wide corridor as requested in the application?

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota, 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials, please notify the Commission.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Kevin Cramer, Commissioner
Tony Clark, Chairman
Brian P. Kalk, Commissioner

