

- **MHPA Letter to City and County Officials**

As you know the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is in the process of reviewing and determining the OHV classification of Minnesota's State forests. The West Central Forest Team is in the process of classifying six state forests including the Mississippi Headwaters.

A number of area organizations and individuals joined efforts, formed the Mississippi Headwaters Protection Alliance, and established the following informational web site: <http://www.mhpalliance.org/index.html>

It is our desire to see the Mississippi Headwaters State Forest closed to OHV uses and maintained for non-motorized recreation as well as maintaining the national and international recognition this 40 mile stretch of the river has as a "pristine" canoe route.

We sincerely hope that you take the time to review the attached draft resolution, fact sheet, and visit our web site. We would also hope that you might concur with us and support reserving this narrow forest along the river for non-motorized uses. If this forest were closed to OHV uses it would only be the fifth out of 30+ forests already classified and would be only about 4% of state the forest land acres. It should have no impact on the OHV economy of the area.

Thank you very much for taking the time to view and mull over our proposals as well as supporting our efforts by signing the attached or a modified resolution. Should you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact us. Thanks again for any assistance you can provide toward the goal of establishing the MHSF as a non-motorized recreation area.