University representatives appointed to Vermillion Highlands Joint Steering Committee

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MINNEAPOLIS (7/27/2012) – The University of Minnesota has appointed two representatives to serve on the Vermillion Highlands Joint Steering Committee. Carla Carlson and Bob Stine began their service on July 1, 2012, with an annual reappointment.

The 2,840-acre Vermillion Highlands is a research, recreation and wildlife management area jointly managed by the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in conjunction with Dakota County and Empire Township. The Joint Steering Committee convenes quarterly to set broad direction and ensures the inter-organizational cooperation regarding the management of the property including approval of annual operating plans, oversight of lease revenues, and resolution of any unforeseen issues. It also oversees the Operations Team, which addresses the day-to-day management of the Vermillion Highlands. The current chair is Tim Bremicker, the DNR’s Regional Wildlife Manager, Central Region.

Carla Carlson is the Executive Director for the UMore Development LLC at the University of Minnesota. Carlson manages activities related to the planning and development of the University’s 5,000-acre UMore Park property on the edge of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Carlson’s leadership through the legislative creation of the Vermillion Highlands and her public engagement commitment in the region are well suited for deliberation and decision making in this key position.

Bob Stine is Associate Dean for Academic Programs in the College of Continuing Education at the University of Minnesota. Stine brings 25 years of experience in forest genetics research and outreach at the University and has also served as Coordinator of the Cloquet Forestry Center. He became Associate Dean in the College of Natural Resources/College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences in 2003 and joined the College of Continuing Education in 2007.

Previous representatives were Charles Muscoplat and Deborah Swackhamer.