

April 1988

In the Matter of the Proposed)
Adoption of Amendments to the)
Minnesota Department of Trans-)
portation Rule Governing Permit-)
ed Seaplane Operations on)
Ox Yoke Lake, Within Hennepin)
County, a Part of the Seven-)
County Metropolitan Region.)

STATEMENT OF NEED
AND
REASONABLENESS

The proposed adoption of amendments to the Minnesota Department of Transportation Rules governing seaplane operations in the Seven-County Metropolitan Region will make two changes. First, these changes will add Ox Yoke Lake, located in and near the western edge of Hennepin County, to the list of lakes in the Seven-County Metropolitan Region upon which seaplane operations are permitted. Secondly, it will correct a typographical error in the rules made in the spelling of Long Lake in Ramsey County.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) received a request to permit seaplane operations on Ox Yoke Lake from a property owner on the lake. An inspection of the lake was made by a representative of Mn/DOT who is familiar with the general safety requirements for operating seaplanes from lakes. It was determined that the size, shape and geographical orientation of the lake would safely support its use by seaplanes without danger to the general public or the operator of the aircraft. In response to its "Notice of Solicitation of Outside Information or Opinions", Mn/DOT received a letter from the Minnesota Aviation Trades Association, the general aviation industry of the state, urging that we permit seaplane operations on Ox Yoke Lake. Mn/DOT is the regulating agency that promulgated the rules that restrict seaplane operations within the Seven-County Metropolitan Region to those lakes listed in Minnesota Rules Chapter 8800.2800. If seaplane operations are to be permitted on this lake, then it is necessary to amend the rules to include this lake as one of the lakes upon which seaplane operations are permitted. The seaplane is a valuable tool in state transportation, and it is advantageous and necessary to have as many water landing areas as practical in the Seven-County Metropolitan Region where many lakes are restricted from such operations.

Seaplane operations have, and continue to be, permitted on Long Lake in Ramsey County. A typographical error made in the Rules as adopted in 1980 lists Long Lake as "Lone" Lake. This amendment will correct that error.