

FEB 26 1997  
NATURAL RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 359  
BY O'BRIEN

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the development and use of certain public  
2 lands for multipurpose trails.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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*HF 359*

1 Section 1. Section 461A.1, Code 1997, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. "Incidental use" means the use of any  
4 public area for riding horses for the following purposes:

5 a. Traveling from a designated watering station to a  
6 trailhead.

7 b. Leaving a trail to rest.

8 c. Allowing others to pass.

9 d. Participating in an authorized field trial.

10 e. Hunting at any time during a hunting season.

11 f. Horse pleasure riding where a formal trail has not been  
12 designated but where riding is permitted.

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. "Public area" means any park,  
14 recreation area, forest, preserve, game management area,  
15 wildlife area, or public hunting area under the jurisdiction  
16 of the department.

17 Sec. 2. Section 461A.15, Code 1997, is amended to read as  
18 follows:

19 461A.15 USE OF PRIVATE FUNDS.

20 1. The commission may permit the improvement of parks,  
21 when established, or the improvement of bodies of water, upon  
22 the border of which such parks may be established, by the  
23 expenditure of private funds, such improvement to be done,  
24 however, under the direction of the commission, by and with  
25 the consent of the executive council.

26 2. Subject to compliance with development and maintenance  
27 plans, the commission shall enter into an agreement with one  
28 or more private organizations to finance, develop, and  
29 maintain one or more multipurpose trails in areas owned by the  
30 United States corps of engineers and managed by the  
31 department. The agreement shall provide for the development  
32 and long-term maintenance of a multipurpose trail by the  
33 private organization. A multipurpose trail shall be developed  
34 for multiple uses including, but not limited to, foot traffic,  
35 snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and

1 incidental uses.

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EXPLANATION

3 This bill codifies the terms "public area" and "incidental  
4 use" as they relate to riding horses on public lands and  
5 trails under the jurisdiction of the department of natural  
6 resources.

7 The bill also provides that, subject to compliance with  
8 development and maintenance plans, the natural resource  
9 commission shall enter into an agreement with private  
10 organizations to finance, develop, and maintain multipurpose  
11 trails. The trails are to be designed and developed for  
12 multiple uses including, but not limited to, foot traffic,  
13 snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding.

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