

# Office Memorandum

DEPARTMENT Mn/DOT-Environmental Services  
Room 715

TO : Jim Reiersen  
Site and Development Unit

DATE: 9-23-80

FROM : Robert Doerr  
Sr. Highway Technician

PHONE: 296-7588

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SUBJECT: Highforest Rest Area Usage Study, I90 Eastbound

This rest area usage study was done to provide information on current use patterns. This information will be used in spacing rest areas and providing the proper numbers of facilities.

The information is obtained by giving each vehicle entering the rest area a questionnaire which is answered during their stay in the area. The questionnaire is then collected as the vehicle leaves the area. The study is preformed for 5 consecutive days Thursday-Monday 8 hours per day.

The mainline traffic is counted and classified according to type of vehicle during the same time period. This allows us to derive averages for stopping and length of stay for each type of vehicle using the rest area.

The following information was collected:

SUMMARY

Date: July 31st - August 4th, 1980  
 Hours: 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.  
 Weather: Warm and partly cloudy, except for showers Monday morning  
 Total vehicles on mainline Eastbound 9,383  
 Vehicles entering rest area 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. 1,200  
 Percent of vehicles stopping 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. 12.8%

Total people using rest area 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. 3,149  
 Average persons per vehicle 2.6  
 Average time in rest area 15.6 min.

PURPOSE FOR ENTERING AREA

Use rest rooms	60.7%
Just to Rest	11.2%
Eat/Picnic	10.0%
Water	6.6%
Other	5.5%
Telephone	2.1%
Use Refuse Containers	1.9%
Use Travel Information Board	1.6%
Dispose of Sewage	0.4%

PERCENT OF PEOPLE USING

Rest Rooms	77.6%
Drinking Water	43.3%

PERCENT OF VEHICLES USING

Refuse Containers	25.2%
Picnic Tables	13.8%
Travel Information	8.4%
Picnic Shelter	6.5%
Telephone	5.3%
Other	5.1%
Electricity	0.5%

NUMBER OF VEHICLES THAT STOPPED 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Date	Day	Vehicles Entering	Out of State	Vehicles on Mainline	Percent Stopping
July 31	Thur.	246	200	1,675	14.6
Aug. 1	Fri.	239	193	1,956	12.2
Aug. 2	Sat.	252	198	1,921	13.1
Aug. 3	Sun.	216	165	2,007	10.8
Aug. 4	Mon.	247	175	1,824	13.5
		<u>1200</u>	<u>931</u>	<u>9,383</u>	<u>12.8</u>

TIME VEHICLES ENTERED AREA

	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.
9-10	17	27	21	23	24
10-11	31	32	27	30	32
11-12	35	22	53	20	25
12-1	36	31	51	38	39
1-2	31	31	20	33	41
2-3	36	35	33	24	34
3-4	28	37	26	19	25
4-5	<u>32</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>27</u>
	246	239	252	216	247

AVERAGE INFORMATION FOR EACH TYPE VEHICLE THAT ENTERED AREA

Type Vehicle	Average Length of Stay	Average No. People	A	B
Car	13.8 min.	2.6	62.3	11.9
Car with camper trailer	19.3 min.	3.8	3.8	24.6
Car with house trailer	23.3 min.	1.7	1.8	17.6
Car with boat trailer	13.0 min.	2.8	0.3	9.3
Car with other trailer	7.4 min.	3.8	0.7	16.3
Single unit truck	16.5 min.	2.9	10.8	13.8
Truck with camper	19.4 min.	2.9	1.3	15.8
Truck with trailer	10.9 min.	3.1	0.8	11.1
Truck (commercial)	10.7 min.	1.2	1.3	8.9
Semi	16.2 min.	1.3	7.4	9.7
Motorhome	27.5 min.	3.1	5.2	25.9
Bus	25.5 min.	22.5	0.2	8.0
Other	<u>21.3 min.</u>	<u>1.6</u>	<u>4.3</u>	<u>20.7</u>
	15.6 min.	2.6	100%	12.8

A refers to percentage of total number of vehicles using rest area

B refers to percentage of this vehicle that stopped in rest area, out of total number of vehicles that passed this rest area.

Vehicles with Pets	5.4%
65 vehicles containing 92 pets	
Vehicles stopping at other rest areas	56%
Vehicles spending there vacation in Minnesota	27%
Vehicles who's plans had been affected by the gas shortage	30%
Vehicles on Vacation that were camping	13.5%

HIGHFOREST REST AREA USAGE SURVEY I-90 E B

DEAR MOTORIST:

THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IS DETERMINING WHAT SHOULD BE THE SPACING OF THE REST AREAS ALONG THE HIGHWAY AND WHAT FACILITIES THEY SHOULD PROVIDE TO SATISFY YOUR NEEDS. ONLY YOU CAN SUPPLY INFORMATION WE NEED TO PLAN REST AREA FACILITIES. PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

DAY OF WEEK \_\_\_\_\_ VEHICLE TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN
DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME IN \_\_\_\_\_ VEHICLE \_\_\_\_\_
LICENSING STATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OUT \_\_\_\_\_
WHERE IS YOUR HOME (CITY OR COUNTY)? \_\_\_\_\_ (STATE) \_\_\_\_\_

REST AREA USE

- 1. WHAT WAS YOUR CHIEF PURPOSE FOR DRIVING INTO THIS REST AREA? (check only one)
1. Use rest room 2. Dispose of sewage 3. Water
4. Just to rest 5. Use Travel Information Board 6. Telephone
7. Eat/Picnic 8. Dispose of refuse 9. Other (please specify)
2. HOW MANY PEOPLE IN YOUR PARTY USED THE FOLLOWING?
Rest room facilities \_\_\_\_\_ Drinking water supply \_\_\_\_\_
3. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES WERE USED BY YOUR PARTY?
1. Picnic table 2. Travel information 3. Electrical outlet
4. Picnic shelter 5. Trash receptacle 6. Telephone
7. Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_ 8. None of these
4. DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS TRAVELING WITH YOU? \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_
5. DID YOU STOP AT ANY OTHER REST AREAS THIS TRIP? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ WHERE \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY ON VACATION OR PARTICIPATING IN RELATED RECREATIONAL OR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

- 1. Will you or did you spend your vacation or related time in Minnesota? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_
2. If you answered "yes" to the previous question, what City or Lake did you or will you stay near? (City or Lake) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Has the current gas shortage affected your vacation travels? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
Comment \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long are you planning on staying in Minnesota? \_\_\_\_\_ Days
5. Will you be camping or using campground facilities? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

REST AREA COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN TO PEOPLE AT REST AREA EXIT

THANK YOU