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Section: Local**Edition:** St. Paul**Page:** B3**UMORE PARK PRESERVE MAY BE CALLED VERMILLION
HIGHLANDS***Paul Tosto*

Vermillion Highlands is the proposed name for a 2,840-acre Dakota County tract the University of Minnesota and Department of Natural Resources will turn into a public preserve. U regents get briefed today. Here's a look at the basics of what they'll hear and a preliminary map of what is planned.

WHAT IS IT?

-- Ecologically sensitive land the U dealt to the state to help pay for a campus football stadium.

-- Part of the 7,700 **UMore Park** property owned by the U.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

-- Vermillion Highlands includes space for U research, public hiking and recreation and public hunting. Will open to hiking this summer and hunting this fall.

-- Panel of DNR, U and Dakota County representatives will oversee property; only U and DNR will have voting rights.

POTENTIAL PROBLEM

-- Pollution. Parts of **UMore** are polluted by the remnants of a World War II-era gunpowder plant. The affected area sits outside the Highlands tract, but pollution may have spread. U officials hope the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will investigate.

READ IT

-- Go to www.umorepark.umn.edu/Legislation.html and scroll down to "creating common ground" to read the full report.

-- In the Pioneer Press Great Outdoors section Sunday, Chris Niskanen writes of the DNR's plans for hunting at the preserve. See his Outdoors Notebook.

CORY RYAN, PIONEER PRESS

A southern view from the Loan Rock Trail in **UMore Park**, Rosemount. The trail opens for hiking and horseback riding April 1.

PHOTOS BY CORY RYAN, PIONEER PRESS

These four smokestacks are relics of a WWII gunpowder plant near **UMore Park**, Rosemount. Parts of the **UMore** property are polluted from the plant. U officials want the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to investigate.

Photo: Pioneer Press File Photo

A southern view from the Loan Rock Trail in **UMore Park**, Rosemount. The trail opens for hiking and horseback riding April 1.

Map: Pioneer Press

UMore Park plans

Redominant land use

Source: **UMore** South OPerations Committee

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