

**RECREATION ALONG THE RED RIVER OF THE NORTH  
IN FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA, AND MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA**

**A Paper  
Submitted to the Graduate Faculty  
of the  
North Dakota State University  
of Agriculture and Applied Science**

**By**

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**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Degree of  
MASTER OF SCIENCE**

**Major Program:  
Natural Resources Management**

**November 2006**

**Fargo, North Dakota**

## ABSTRACT

Karlsson, Peter Eric, M.S., Program of Natural Resources Management, College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies, North Dakota State University, November 2006. Recreation Along the Red River of the North in Fargo, North Dakota, and Moorhead, Minnesota. Major Professor: Dr. Jay A. Leitch.

Recreational activities along the Red River, both on and at the river, are studied in this paper. Angling for catfish and walleye predominates fishing pursuits on the Red River, seen by anglers as a jewel resource in Fargo-Moorhead. Two-thirds of participants are male. The distance traveled by nearly all users is less than 20 miles, although a majority drive to the river to engage in recreational pursuits. Activities along the river not dependent on water include bicycling, walking the dog, Frisbee golf, and also relaxing. Of all activities, bicycling is most popular, at 34% of people going to the river. The footbridges contribute to enjoyment of recreational choices. Concerns over litter, boating speeds, and women's safety emerged as considerations for policy-makers. Enforcement and protection measures should be addressed as recreational use of the river increases.