

*There are some who can live without wild things,
and some who cannot.* — *A Sand County Almanac, Aldo Leopold, 1949*

To the Federal Highway Administration:

The Leopold Landscape Alliance (LLA) in Burlington, Iowa would like to add our voices to the many others who are in support of the Great River Road National Scenic Byway. We are glad that the ten Great River Road states are seeking All-American Road designation from the Federal Highway Administration, and that the national Mississippi River Parkway Commission has been working hard to make this designation a reality.

LLA is a 501-c-3 conservation organization that focuses on land restoration and promoting the philosophy of famed ecologist and naturalist Aldo Leopold. We administer the Leopold Farmstead, where Aldo grew up and began his earliest thoughts on wildlife management, wilderness, and ecology. We also promote his philosophy of community responsibility for natural landscapes.

With the distinction of being an All-American Road, more protection is stimulated for rural roadside values in our cultural and natural landscapes. Local land restoration for flood plain & bluff lands could lead to water quality improvements and reduction of flood waters.

Having the Great River Road come through Burlington not only enables visitors to enjoy an historic Mississippi River town, but also become familiar with Leopold's famous "Land Ethic."

We hope you will confer All-American Road status to the Great River Road.

Sincerely,



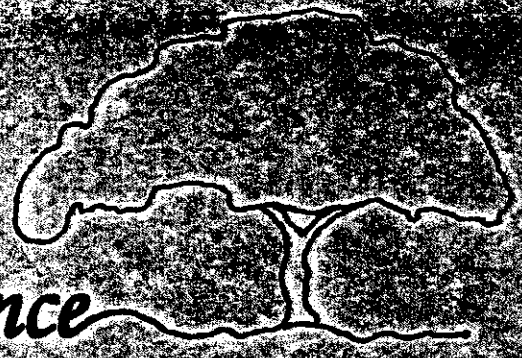
Board of Directors,

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Leopold Landscape Alliance

The history of an oak read like a book to Aldo. He perceived all manner of relationships within its wood and under its canopy. For the Starker-Leopold family a tree was the symbolic place of celebration — births, peace, weddings and the circle of life. It represented camp, shelter, aesthetics and utility all in one. The tree was a meeting place of spirit, bringing people together.

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