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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. **3896**

03/02/2026 Authored by Falconer, Kozlowski, Keeler, Buck, Rehm and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; prohibiting operation of watercraft in a manner that
1.3 threatens uncultivated wild rice beds; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section
1.4 86B.311, subdivision 4.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 86B.311, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 4. ~~Swimming or bathing areas~~ Unauthorized operation. (a) A person may not
1.8 operate a watercraft within a water area that has been marked off or set aside as a swimming
1.9 or bathing area as prescribed by the commissioner's rules.

1.10 (b) A person may not operate a watercraft:

1.11 (1) in or through an uncultivated wild rice bed unless the watercraft is propelled by hand,
1.12 such as a skiff or canoe; or

1.13 (2) at greater than slow-no-wake speed within 150 feet of an uncultivated wild rice bed.