

****REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS****

To: Bois Forte Tribal Members
Bois Forte Tribal Government Departments

From: Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council

Re: Seeking Comments on Revisions to the Bois Forte Sex Offender
Registration and Notification Act (SORNA Code)

To submit comment (s)



Date: November 4, 2024



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The RTC is currently seeking comments from Bois Forte members and Bois Forte Tribal Government Departments and employees on draft revisions to the Bois Forte Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) (“Code Revisions”). The draft Code Revisions are attached in redline for your convenient review. **Please submit any comments or requests to view additional formats to Executive Assistant, Bois Forte Tribal Government, via email (executiveassistant@boisforte-nsn.gov) or mail at 5344 Lakeshore Drive, Nett Lake, MN 55772. All Comments are to be received no later than January 3, 2025.**

Summary of Code Revisions

These Code Revisions amend the Band’s SORNA Code to strengthen the Band’s ability to regulate sex offenders within the Band’s Territory in order to enhance public safety. More specifically:

1. The revisions prohibit sex offenders who are not enrolled Bois Forte members from entering the Band’s territory.
2. The revisions prohibit sex offenders from loitering within 300 feet of any school or childcare center when minors are present on the premises or in any vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school or childcare center when minors are present in the vehicle. The revisions also outline a process for sex offenders who are parents or guardians to be present in a school or childcare center for specified activities related to their children’s education as long as parent/guardian complies with certain notification requirements.
3. The revisions prohibit sex offenders from residing within 300 feet of any school, childcare center, youth activity center, playground, park, or ballfield.
4. The revisions clarify that sex offenders must register with the Band if they are present on the Reservation for more than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours or if they sleep on the Reservation for more than three (3) nights in a seven (7)-day period.
5. The revisions require sex offenders to notify the SORNA Compliance Officer if they plan to attend a community event, which is defined as any activity, gathering, or similar event occurring within the Band’s territory, including pow wows, sporting events, feasts, and similar community gatherings.

The revisions also include a variety of technical amendments that help to clarify the sex offender tier definitions and the applicable crimes that trigger sex offender status under the Code.

The RTC welcomes and appreciates your comments and feedback as it finalizes these Code Revisions that reflect an important exercise of the Band’s tribal sovereignty.