Region and Area Field Offices

August 1989

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MOTORCYCLE AND ATV USE

General Policy

The following is general information about ATV and motorcycle use in State Forests. The general policy for state forest lands is that state forest roads and trails are open to motorcycle and ATV use unless posted to prohibit motorized vehicles. Please look at the listings by area for more specific information. Forest roads are also open to other vehicles (such as logging trucks) and other forest users (hikers, hunters, horses, etc.). No trails have been signed or developed specifically for motorcycles and ATV's. ATV and motorcycle use is being studied at this time and Areas will be closed if significant environmental damage or user conflict occurs because of this use.

Competitive ATV and motorcycle events are allowed only by Special Permit from the Area Forest Supervisor. The sponsor and the Area Forest Supervisor must agree on permitted routes and conditions.

In most state forests land ownership is a mixture of state, county, federal and private lands. Use of county or federal lands is governed by rules and regulations of that agency. Use of private lands is governed by the state trespass law and other applicable laws. Most state forest lands are not signed or identified in any way.

Use of public road rights-of-way managed by a federal, state, county, or township road authority is governed by the motor vehicle statutes. (State forest roads are not by definition a public road.)

All ATV's using public road right of way and public lands and waters under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Natural Resources must be registered. Motorcycles are currently not required to register to use state forest roads and trails, but are required to be licensed as a highway vehicle to use public roads.

Persons aged 12 to 16 years may operate an ATV with a valid ATV Safety Certificate and must be supervised by a person 18 years of age or older who possess a valid drivers license. The All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Certificate is valid for engine size 90cc or less.

Persons under 18 operating an ATV must wear a helmet. ATV's and motorcycles are prohibited from using grant in aid ski and snowmobile trails unless the sponsor or owner of the land permits this use during the snowfree months.

Operating Guidelines

Within a State Forest a person shall not operate an ATV or motorcycle:

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- On forest roads, trails or lands and areas posted against such use or operation.
- At a speed greater than is reasonable and proper, or in a careless, reckless or negligent manner or in willful or wanton disregard for the rights of any person or property.
- In a manner so as to leave behind litter or other debris. ••••
- While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.
- Unless there is visible evidence of a road or trail. (Unrestricted cross-country travel or off trail scrambling is not permitted.)
- ----To obstruct traffic by unnecessary parking or stopping.
- In or upon private property without the oral or written permission of the owner of the land.
- On State, County or Township roads unless the motor-vehicle is licensed for highway operation or registered as an ATV and operated in accordance with applicable rules and laws.
- When requested by hand, voice, emergency light, siren or audible signal by a law enforcement officer to stop.
- In a tree nursery or tree plantation in a manner which damages or destroys growing stock.
- In a manner which results in rutting, erosion or otherwise damages the road, trail, vegetation/or state property.

Equipment

- A person shall not operate an ATV or motorcycle unless equipped with:
 - A braking system. -
 - A throttle so designed that when the pressure used to advance the throttle is removed, the engine speed will immediately and automatically return to idle.
 - A spark arrestor type muffler in good working order. ***
 - Without a headlight and taillight lighted at all times, if operated between sunset and sunrise.
 - Without a functioning stoplight, if so equipped. ---

Other Applicable Laws

It is unlawful to:

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- Remove or mutilate any notice or sign posted on state or private lands.
- To drive a motorcycle or ATV on a maintained and groomed snowmobile trail between December 1 and April 1.
- To mutilate, damage, destroy or remove any shelter, comfort station, or other state facility.
- To drive an ATV or motorcycle on state grant-in-aid-trails unless they are designated by the sponsor or owner for such use during the snowfree months.

ALL other applicable state land use rules will also be enforced.

Penalty

Any person who violates any of these guidelines or laws maybe guilty of a misdemeanor and/or subject to removal from the forest area and to appropriate legal action.

ATV Rules

Rules are currently being developed for ATV use of state lands. ATV and motorcycle use may become more restrictive as a result of these rules.

General Information

The following is general information by Forestry Administrative Area. If you are unsure of where you can use your ATV, please call ahead for further information. ATV and motorcycle use is being studied during the State Forest Area Unit Planning process. As these plans are completed ATV and motorcycle use may become more restrictive in a specific area. The following information refers to use only during the snowfree months. Use during the winter is more restrictive.

Region I - Bemidji	Regional Forest Supervisor	(218) 755-2891
	2115 Birchmont Beach Road	
	Bemidji, MN 56601	

There are approximately 750 miles of forest road available in this Region for riding motorcycles or ATV's. No special trail maps are available. The following is general information regarding ATV and motorcycle use by Forest Area in this Region:

Bemidji Area #11	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 755-2890
	615 Ann N.W.	
	Bemidji, MN 56601	

State Forests - Buena Vista, Mississippi Headwaters, White Earth, Paul Bunyan (North Unit), and Welsh Lake.

State forest roads and trails shown on the Buena Vista and Paul Bunyan State Forest Trail maps are open to use during the snowfree months unless posted otherwise. No maps are available for the Mississippi Headwaters, White Earth and Welsh Lake State Forests. Use of state forest roads and trails in the White Earth State Forest is permitted during the snowfree months unless posted closed. Forest roads and trails are also open to many other uses. Roads and trails traverse various soil conditions including swamps which may limit ATV and motorcycle use.

Warroad Area #12	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 386-1304
	Warroad, MN 56763	

State Forests - Lost River, Beltrami Island (West Part).

All state forest roads and trails shown on the Beltrami Island State Forest Trail map are open to use during the snow free months unless posted otherwise except that the trail south of . Cash's Corner along the Moose River Flood control project and other grants-in-aid trails near Fourtown are closed to such use. Forest roads and trails are also open to many other uses. Roads and trails traverse various soil conditions including swamps which may limit ATV and motorcycle use.

Baudette Area #13

Area Forest Supervisor Route 1, Box 1001 Baudette, MN 56623

(218) 634-2172

State Forests - Beltrami Island (East Part), Pine Island (N.W. Part)

All state forest roads and trails shown on the Beltrami Island State Forest Trail map are open to use during the snowfree months unless posted otherwise except that the trail south of Cash's Corner along the Moose River Flood control project and other grants-in-aid trails near Fourtown are closed to such use. No maps are available for the Pine Island State Forest. Forest roads are also open to many other uses. Road and trails traverse various soil conditions including swamps which may limit ATV and motorcycle use.

A Plan is being prepared for the Baudette Area which will address all forms of forest management including ATV use. Changes in the Areas ATV and motorcycle policy may result.

Blackduck Area #15	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 835-6684
	Blackduck, MN 56630	

State Forests - Pine Island, Red Lake, Blackduck, Big Fork, Buena Vista, Bowstring

> No maps are available for the Pine Island, Red Lake, Blackduck, Bigfork and Bowstring State Forests. A map is available for the

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Buena Vista State Forest. ATV's and motorcycles are permitted to use state forest roads and trails during the snowfree months unless posted closed. Forest roads and trails are open to many other uses and traverse various soil conditions which may limit use.

Park Rapids Area #16 Area Forest Supervisor (218) 732-3309 Box 113 - 607th West First Street Park Rapids, MN 56470

State Forests - White Earth, Two Inlets, Smoky Hills, Paul Bunyan, Badoura.

All state forest roads and trails are designated for multiple use during the snowfree months. Grant in aid trails, gated roads and trails and other areas posted to prohibit motorized vehicles are off-limits. Roads and trails receive a great deal of use from vehicles, horses, hikers and logging trucks. Be considerate of others. Watch out for other vehicles and trucks.

Maps are available for the Paul Bunyan, Two Inlets and Smoky Hills State Forests. All state forest roads and trails shown on these maps are open to use during the snowfree months unless gated or posted otherwise. Badoura State Forest has no roads or trails available for use. No maps are available for the White Earth State Forest. State forest roads and trails in this forest are open during the snowfree months unless gated or posted closed.

Roads and trails traverse various soil conditions including swamps which may limit ATV and motorcycle use.

Region II - Grand Rapids	Regional Forest Supervisor	(218) 327-4418
	1201 East Highway 2	
	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	

There are approximately 550 miles of forest road available in this Region for riding motorcycles and ATV's. No special trail maps are available. The following is general information regarding ATV and motorcycle use by Forest Area in this Region.

<u>Cloquet</u> Area #21	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 879-4544
	Box 220	
	Cloquet, MN 55720	

State Forests - Cloquet Valley (West Part), White Face River, Fond du Lac.

All state forest roads and trails are open during the snowfree months unless gated or posted otherwise. Grant in aid snowmobile trails and the Fond du Lac Ski Touring Trail are closed to ATV and motorcycle use. Maps are available for the MN DNR - Division of Forestry - Region and Area Field Offices Motorcycle and ATV Use

Fond du Lac and Cloquet Valley State Forests (Taft Area) and generally state forest roads and trails shown on these maps are open to use. The Lake Williams Trail south of Cotton is also generally open. Varying soil conditions and swamps may limit ATV use. Watch out for logging trucks and other users. Use of groomed snowmobile trails during the winter months is prohibited.

Deer River Area #22	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 246-8343
	Box 157	
	Deer River, MN 56636	

State Forests - Golden Anniversary, Battleground, Bowstring, Big Fork, Pine Island, Koochiching, George Washington.

> State forest roads in this area are open to ATV use. Trails are generally posted motorized vehicles prohibited or gated. Use of ski touring and hiking trails, hunter-walking trails and the Taconite State Trail is prohibited. Use of grant-in-aid trails is prohibited unless specifically allowed by the sponsor or property owner.

No maps are available for this Area.

Hibbing Area #23	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 262-6760
	1208 East Howard Street	
	Hibbing, MN 55746	

State Forests - George Washington, Sturgeon River.

State forest roads in this Area are open to ATV and motorcycle use. Trails are generally posted motorized vehicles prohibited or gated. Use of grant in aid trails, ski trails and the Taconite State Trail is prohibited except that grant-in-aid trails may be used if permitted by the sponsor or property owner.

A Plan will be prepared for the Hibbing Area in the next two years which will address all forms of forest management including ATV and motorcycle use.

<u>Orr Area #24</u>	Area Forest Supervisor	(218)757-3274
	Orr, MN 55771	

State Forests - Sturgeon River, Kabetogama, Bear Island.

All state forest roads in this Area are open to use unless gated or posted closed. Grant in aid trails, the Ash River Ski Touring and Hiking Trail, and the Tower to International Falls and Taconite State Trails are closed to ATV's and motorcycles.

Maps are available for the Kabetogama and Bear Island State Forests. Soil Condition and terrain may limit ATV use. Mixed land ownership also complicates the availability of Areas for ATV use.

Duluth Area #25	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 723-4669
	6163 Rice Lake Road	
	Duluth, MN 55803	

State Forests - Cloquet Valley (East Part), Finland, Pat Bayle, Grand Portage.

In general, all state forest roads and trails are open during the snowfree months unless gated or posted otherwise. Grant in aid trails and the North Shore State Trail are closed to ATV's, motorcycles and other motorized uses. State Forest trail maps are available for the Cloquet Valley, Finland and Grand Portage State Forests. No maps are available for the Pat Bayle State Forest. Varying soil conditions, swamps and terrain may limit use. Mixed ownership may also be a problem due to varying regulations. Logging trucks and other vehicles and users should be expected when using these areas.

(218) 278-6651 Little Fork Area #26 Area Forest Supervisor Littlefork, MN 56653

State Forests - Pine Island, Koochiching, Smoky Bear.

No maps are available. ATV's and motorcycles may use state forest roads or trails unless posted closed. Varying soil conditions makes much of this Area unsuitable for use. Timber harvesting is a major activity with heavy logging truck traffic. A plan is being prepared for the Littlefork Area that will address all forms of forest management including ATV use. Changes in Area ATV policy may result.

Brainerd Region III	Regional Forest Supervisor	(218) 828-2616
	1601 Minnesota Drive	
	Brainerd, MN 56401	

State land ownership in Region III is more dispersed than the northern two Regions and state forest lands are more heavily used for a number of different activities. Use of ATV's in this Region is generally more restrictive or closed altogether in some Areas.

Brainerd Area	#31
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Area Forest Supervisor 1601 Minnesota Drive Brainerd, MN 56401

(218) 828-2565

State Forests - Pillsbury, Crow Wing.

State forest roads and trails in the Pillsbury State Forest are closed to use by ATV's and motorcycles. Only a few logging trails are open. A photocopy map is available from the Area Forest Supervisor which shows these logging roads. These logging roads may be used by other vehicles and users also. The logging roads open to use are not marked or signed in any way. ATV's and motorcycles are prohibited from using snowmobile, ski and horse trails shown on the Pillsbury State Forest trail maps. They are also prohibited from using the Beauty Lake and Pillager State Forest roads.

No riding opportunities are available in the Crow Wing State Forest.

Backus Area #32	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 947-3232
	Box 6	
	Backus, MN 56435	

State Forests - Lyons, Huntersville, Foot Hills, Land O'Lakes, Emily, Remer.

State forest roads in this Area are open to use unless posted closed. Most trails are posted to prohibit motorized use. ATV's and motorcycles are prohibited from using grant in aid trails.

No maps are available except for the Land O'Lakes State Forest -Ben Draper trail upon which ATV use is permitted. Varying terrain and wet soil conditions may make portions of this trail unsuitable for ATV use. Mixed land ownership may also create problems.

Hill City Area #33	Area Forest Supervisor	(218) 697-2476
	P.O. Box 9	
	Hill City, MN 55748	

State Forests - Hill River, Savanna, Solanna, Wealthwood.

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State forest roads in this Area are open to ATV and motorcycle use unless posted closed. A listing of area roads is available from the Area Forest Supervisor. ATV's and motorcycles are prohibited from using the Remote Lake Management Unit of the Savanna State Forest; the Moose Willow Wildlife Management Area - Hill River State Forest; and all grant in aid trails. Maps are available for the Hill River and Savanna State Forests. Varying terrain and wet soil conditions may make roads and trails in this area unsuitable for ATV use. Mixed land ownership may also be a problem due to varying regulations. State forest roads are open to a variety of other users.

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- Moose Lake Area #34 Area Forest Supervisor (218) 485-4474 Route 2, 701 South Kenwood Moose Lake, MN 55767
- State Forests Nemadji, General Andrews, D.A.R. Snake River, St. Croix Chengwatana, Rum River.

The Moose Lake Area has recently completed it's long range management plan which includes provision for ATV use. ATV and motorcycle use in this Area is restricted to the snowfree months and to specific trails in the Nemadji, St. Croix and General Andrews State Forests. No riding opportunities are currently provided in the D.A.R., Snake River, Rum River, and Chengwatana State Forests. An ATV trail is being developed in the Chengwatana State Forest by volunteers and will be opened for summer use when work is complete.

The General Andrews trail system is 10 miles in length and follows the same route as the unit snowmobile trail. A map highlighting the trail that is open to ATV use is available. Grants-in-aid trails shown on this map are off limits.

The St. Croix State Forest trail system is 14 miles in length and is located east of the Tamarack River. A map highlighting the trail route which is open to ATV use during the snowfree months is available. Grants-in-aid trails and the Minnesota Wisconsin Boundary trail which are shown on this map are closed to use by motorized vehicles.

The Nemadji State Forest trail system is about 15 miles in length and is located in the northwest corner of the forest. A map highlighting the trails open to these uses during the snowfree months is available. Grants-in-aid trails and unhighlighted portions of the Minnesota Wisconsin Boundary trails are off limits to ATV's and motorcycles. Varying soil conditions may make portions of these trails unsuitable for ATV use.

Cambridge Area #35	Area Forest Supervisor	(612) 689-2832
	915 South Highway 65	
	Cambridge, MN 55008	

State Forests - Birch Lakes, Sand Dunes, Rum River.

All state forest roads and trails in the Cambridge Area are closed to ATV and motorcycle use until the long range management plan for this Area is completed. Development of this Plan is currently underway.

Rochester Region V

Region Forest Supervisor DNR - P.O. Box 6247 Rochester, MN 55903

(507) 285-7428

State land ownership in this Region is limited and scattered throughout the Area. ATV use of state forest lands is restricted to specific roads and trails and is on an experimental basis.

Lewiston Area #53	Area Forest Supervisor Box 278 Lewiston, MN 55952	(507) 523-2183

State Forests - Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest.

ATV use in this Area is restricted to two Areas and use is on an experimental basis to determine potential impacts.

The Snake Creek Trail is 7.1 miles long and is located on the south side of the Watopa Township road in Wabasha County. The trails north of the township road and any grant in aid trails in the Area are closed to ATV use. A map showing this management unit is available.

The Trout Valley trail is 7.4 miles long and is located off of U.S. Highway 61. A map showing this Management Unit is available.

All other Units of the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest are closed to ATV and motorcycle use at this time. A long range management plan for the Lewiston Area is currently being developed. Changes in the Areas ATV and motorcycle policy may result when this plan is completed.

If you have further questions concerning ATV and motorcycle use of state forest lands please call or contact any of the offices listed above or:

> John Hellquist Forest Recreation Specialist Box 44, 500 Lafavette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4044 612-297-3508

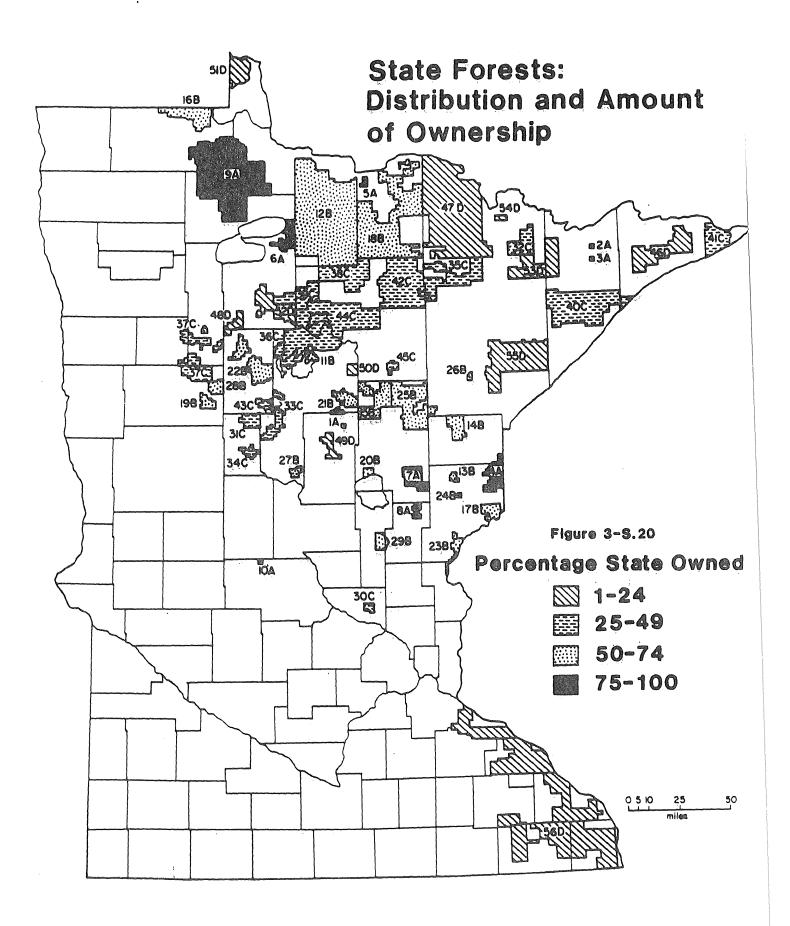
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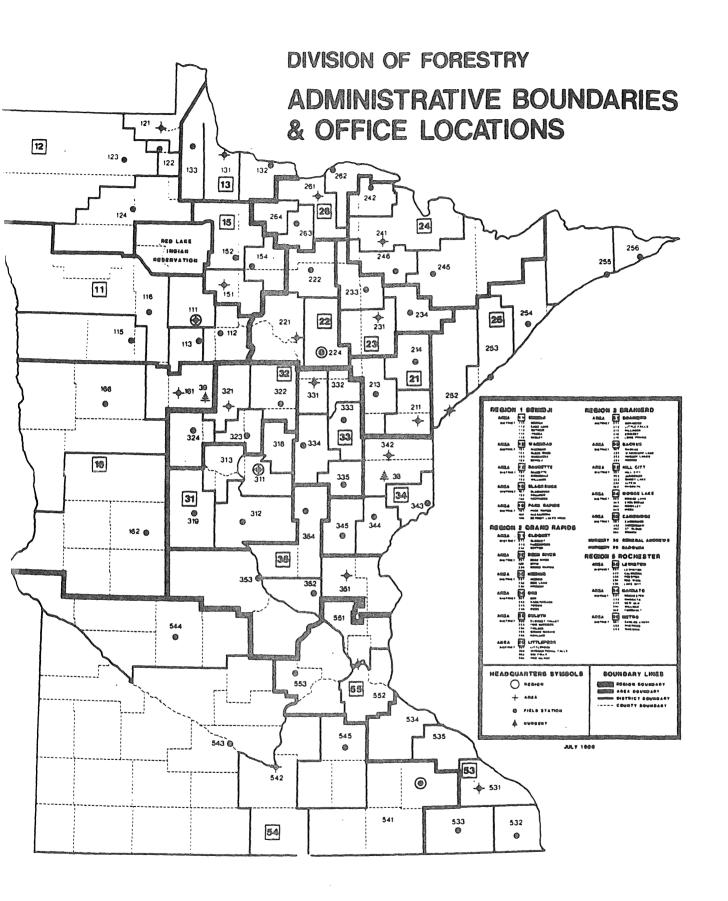
Table 3-5.06 STATE FORESTS – DISTRIBUTION AND AMOUNT OF OWNERSHIP						
Forest Number	State Forest	County	Total Acres	Amount State Owned	Percent Owned	
1	Emily	Crow Wing	640	640	100.0	
2	Insula Lake	Lake	485	485	100.0	•
3	Lake Isabelle	Lake	66	66	100.0	A
4 5 6	Nemadii Sanahari Basa	Pine/Carlton	96,270 12,238	90,270 10,997	93.7 89.8	75–100% State Owned
5	Smokey Bear Red Lake	Koochiching Beltrami	66,055	59,257	89.7	State Owned
7	Solana	Aitldn	68,176	58,091	85.2	
7 8	Snake River	Kanabec	9,160	7,758	84.6	
9	Betrami Island	Belt/L.O.W./Roseau	669,032	505,054	75.6	
10	Birch Lake	Steams	637	477	74.8	
11	Battleground	Cass	12.868	9,413	73.1	
12	Pine Island	Koochiching	878,039	641,136	73.0	
13	Gen. Andrews	Pine	7.540	5,361	71.1	
14	Fond Du Lac	Carlton/St. L.	62.145	42,400	68.2	•
15	Hill River	Aitkin	111,392	24,854	67.1	
16 17	Lost River St. Croix	Roseau Pine	97.500 42,105	63,400 26,046	65.0 61.8	B
18	Koochiching	Koochiching	565,582	345,064	61.0	50-74%
19	Smokey Hills	Becker	23,791	14,429	60.6	State Owned
20	Wealthwood	Aitidn	14,053	8,279	58.9	Outo Onneg
21	Land O Lakes	Cass/Crow Wing	50,895	29,971	58.8	
22	Paul Bunyan	Hubbard	102,440	59,931	58.5	
23	Chengwatana	Pine/Chisago	28,004	16,119	57.5	
24	D.A.R.	Pine	640	360	56.2	
25	Savanna	Aitkin/St. Louis	218,451	121,193	55.4	
26	Whiteface	St. Louis	4,480	2,480	55.3	·
27	Pillsbury	Cass	14.756	7,883	53.4	
28 29	Two Inlets Rum River	Becker Kanabec/Mille L.	26,225 33,180	13,850 16,612	52.8 50.0	
30	Sand Dunes	Sherburne	10,805	5,366	49.6	and Wang and Andrick and a grant degree of the formation of the other backware and
31	Huntersville	Wadena/Hubb.	33,222	14,459	43.5	
32	Burntside	St. Louis	62,782	24.673	39.2	
33	Foothills	Cass	45,125	17,556	38.9	
34	Lyons	Wadena	14,720	5.529	37.5	
35	Sturgeon River	St. Louis	142,868	52,155	37.2	С
36	Welsh Lake	Cass	16,336	6,058	37.0	25-49%
37	White Earth	Mahn/Clearw.	113,338	41.617	36.7	State Owned
38 39	Big Forks Blackduck	Itasca Itasca /Relt	124,270 123,116	45,293 41,375	36.4 33.6	
39 40	Finland	Itasca/Belt Lake, Cook	307,648	41,375	33.8 33.3	
	Grand Portage	Cook	98,700	32,661	33.0	
42	George Wash.	ltasca	306,828	95,818	31.2	
43	Badoura	Hubbard	15,224	4,400	28.9	
44	Bowstring	ltasca/Cass	414,090	118,083	28.5	
45	Golden Anniv.	İtasca	6,811	1,811	26.5	
46	Pat Bayls	Cook	170,644	39,716	23.2	
47	Kabetogama	St. Louis	697,363	155.365	22.2	
48	Miss. Headwaters	Belt/Hubb./Clear	44,919	9,170	20.4	D
49 50	Crow Wing	Crow Wing	31,307	6.266	20.0	1-24%
	Romer	Cass Lake of Woods	12,774	2,440	19.1 18.1	State Owned
	NW Angle Buena Vista	Lake of woods Beltrami	79,169 104,073	14,399 18,480	18.1	
	Bear Island	Lake/St. Louis	141,187	24,877	17.6	
	Lk. Jeanette	St. Louis	10,725	1,357	12.6	
	Cloquet Valley	St. Louis	316,467	39,628	12.5	
	R.J. Dorer	Various	1,006,819	42.000	4.2	
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