

PROPOSED SITES TO BE PRESERVED
THAT ARE LOCATED ON THE COPPER-NICKEL
MINE SITE AREA IN THE
SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

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INTRODUCTION

The members of the terrestrial staff of the DNR are recommending that the sites listed in this paper be preserved for the reasons listed for each site. Many sites still need to be field checked to confirm plant community types previously classified by aerial photo interpretation. This work will be conducted during late fall 1976 and early spring of 1977. If we assume for the present that the vegetation mapping is correct, the following sites warrant preservation.

As the terrestrial project progresses, more sites will probably be added to the current list. These will be mailed to Bill Brice as they are found so he can add them to the Computer Data Bank for the mine site area.

Key to numbers used to describe sites recommended for preservation:

- (1). Need age, size, and height class of stand from USFS compartment files
- (2) Need health status, harvest plan, and area in acres or hectares of stand from USFS compartment files
- (3) Site to be field checked by member of DNR terrestrial team

Key to letters used to describe sites recommended for preservation:

- (A) Remnant of original white pine forest in Northern Minnesota
- (B) Uncommon - Rarely occurring plant community type on the mine site area
- (C) Uncommon to find such a mature stand on mine site area
- (D) Potentially valuable white-tailed deer winter cover type
- (E) Potentially valuable ruffed grouse winter cover type
- (F) Rare or large numbers of orchid(s) species found on site:
 - F₁ Geocaulon Lividum
 - F₂ Arethusa Bulbosa
- (G) Potential woodcock breeding, brood and migration habitat
- (H) Potential snipe and shore bird migration habitat
- (I) Population of leopard frogs noted, a species showing sharp population decline in recent years.
- (J) Potential ruffed grouse brood cover and all seasonal habitat for adult birds
- (K) Unusually uniform stand with structural features not common for this community on the mine site area
- (L) Natural area

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Site No.	Technical Description of Sites	Ranger District	Habitat Type	Status of Site Information	Reason(s) for Preserving site
1	T62N R11W Sec 13 or 24 or T62N R10W Sec 18 or 19	Kaw.	Computer map shows 16 cells (40 acres) of white pine (not a recent plantation)	1,2,3	A,B
2	T62N R11W Sec 23 NE ¼ & NW ¼ of SW ¼	Kaw.	Mature Ash Swamp	1,2,3	B
3	T61N R10W Sec 10 NW ¼ & NE ¼ of SE ¼	Kaw.	Mature (100 yr. old) Red Pine Stand	1,2	C
4	T59N R12W Sec 12 &/or Sec 13	Aurora	Computer map shows 28 cells (70 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
5	T59N R13W Sec 28 or 29 or 32 or 33	Aurora	Computer map shows 20 cells (50 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,E
6	T59N R12W Sec 20 or 21 or 28 or 29	Aurora	Computer map shows 13 cells (32.5 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D

Site No.	Technical Description of Sites	Ranger District	Habitat Type	Status of Site Information	Reason(s) for Preserving site
7	T59N R12W Sec 31,32 & T58N R12W Sec 5,6	Aurora	Computer map shows 62 cells (155 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
8	T58N R13W Sec 24	Aurora	Computer map shows 19 cells (47.5 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3,	B,D
9	T58N R13W Sec 21 NW $\frac{1}{4}$ & SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Mature white pine with scattered red pine, trembling aspen & paper birch (approx. 5 acres)	1,2	A,B
10	T58N R14W Sec 26 NW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Computer map shows 10 cells (25 acres) of tamarack	1,2,3	B,E
11	T57N R14W Sec 7 S $\frac{1}{2}$ & SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ & SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Mature white cedar swamp with scattered tamarack & spruce (approx. 10 acres)	1,2.	B,D
12	T57N R14W Sec 6 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ & SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Mature (100 yr. old) white pine stand	1,2,3	A,B

Site No.	Technical Description of Sites	Ranger District	Habitat Type	Status of Site Information	Reason(s) for Preserving site
13	T58N R14W Sec 30	Aurora	Computer map shows 15 cells (32.5 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
14	T59N R12W Sec 24,25 &/or T59N R11W Sec 30, 31	Aurora	Computer map shows 39 cells (97.5 acres) of tamarack	1,2,3	B,E
15	T58N R14W Sec 14	Aurora	Computer map shows 9 cells (22.5 acres) of tamarack	1,2,3	B,E
16	T58N R14W Sec 13 or 24 &/or T58N R13W Sec 18	Aurora	Computer map shows 18 cells (47.0 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
17	T61N R11W Sec 36	Aurora	Computer map shows 10 cells (25 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
18	T60N R11W SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	White cedar swamp (approx. 5 acres)	1,2	B,D

Site No.	Technical Description of Sites	Ranger District	Habitat Type	Status of Site Information	Reason(s) for Preserving site
19	T62N R11W Sec 10	Kaw.	Computer map shows 19 cells (47.5 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
20	T61N R10W Sec 26 N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$	Kaw.	Black spruce stand (100 yr. old)	1,2	C,F ₁
21	As noted on map	Aurora	Shrub & marsh cover bordering Stoney River between Forest Road #424 & State Hwy. #1	3	G,H,I,J
22	T60N R11W Sec 9 E $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Mature paper birch stand	1,2	C
23	T58N R13W Sec 10 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Mature black spruce bog (approx. 15 acres)	1,2	C,K
24	T58N R13W Sec 36 N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Skibo Mill building site, presently mostly grassland dating back to 1920's		B

Site No.	Technical Description of Sites	Ranger District	Habitat Type	Status of Site Information	Reason(s) for Preserving site
25	T57N R14W T57N R13W areas are scattered through-out these two townships	Aurora	Narrow alder strips surrounded by aspen & birch uplands	3	E, G, J
26	T57N R14W Sec 14 &/or 23	Aurora	Computer map shows 11 cells (27.5 acres) of white cedar	1,2,3	B,D
27	T60N R11W SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Large number of orchid plants		F ₂
28	T59N R11W Sec 12 NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$	Aurora	Mixed spruce, balsam cedar swamp		F
29	T61N R11W Sec 14	Kaw.	Keeley Creek Natural Area		L