

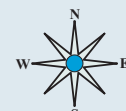
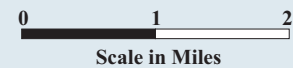
Buena Vista State Forest

LAND

- State Forest
- Private Owned within forest
- Federal Land
- Scientific & Natural Areas (S.N.A.s)
- Wildlife Management Areas (W.M.A.s)
- Indian Owned Land
- Land outside unit boundaries

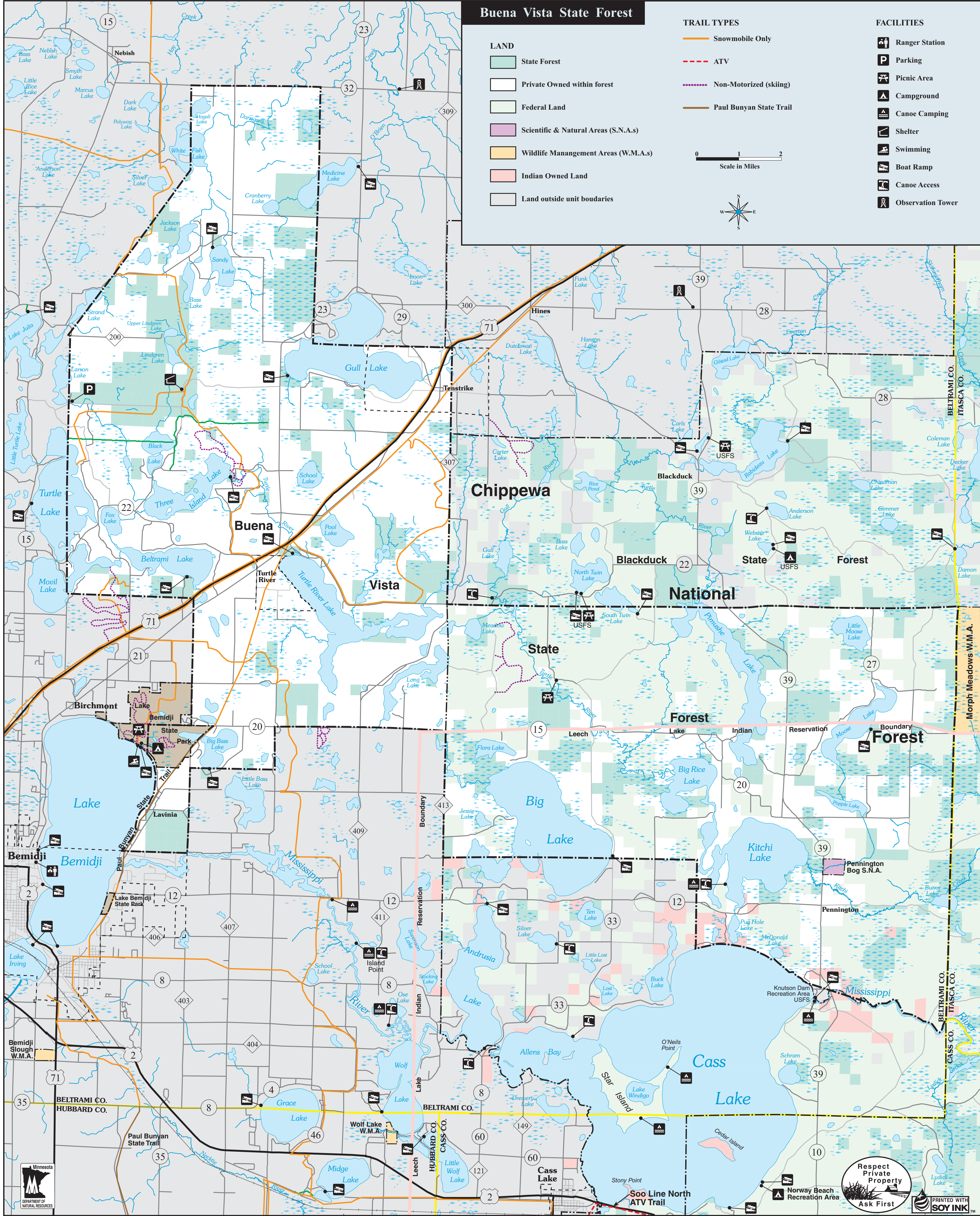
TRAIL TYPES

- Snowmobile Only
- ATV
- Non-Motorized (skiing)
- Paul Bunyan State Trail



FACILITIES

- Ranger Station
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Campground
- Canoe Camping
- Shelter
- Swimming
- Boat Ramp
- Canoe Access
- Observation Tower

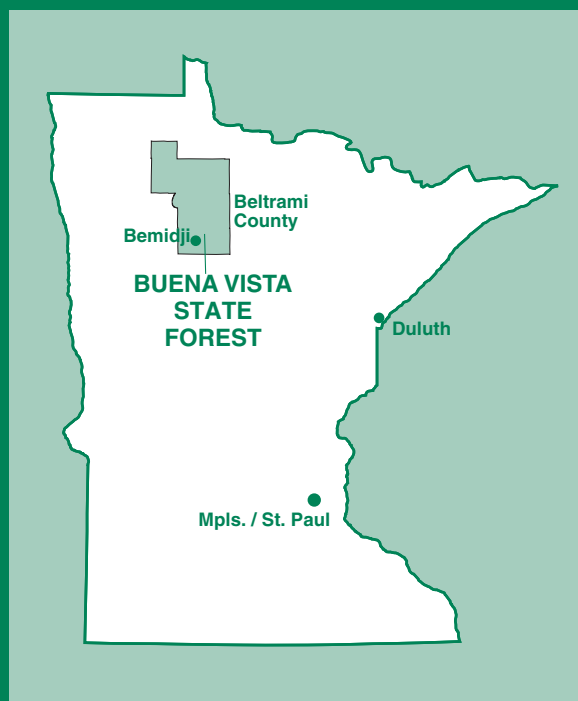


BUENA VISTA STATE FOREST

TRAIL MAP

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

This information is available in alternative format upon request.



Printed on recycled paper with 30% post-consumer material.



Buena Vista State Forest is located in southeastern Beltrami County about 12 miles north of Bemidji. The forest can be reached by going north from Bemidji on County Highway 15 and then turning east on the Buena Vista State Forest Road. Other portions of the forest are accessible from U.S. Highway 71.

The 104,073-acre Buena Vista State Forest was established by the state legislature in 1935. The Department of Natural Resources manages 18,693 acres within the forest. The remaining area is either privately owned or administered by other governmental agencies. The forest's rolling terrain, mixed soils and many lakes are the result of past glacial activity. Aspen and northern hardwoods cover much of the forest while black spruce, tamarack and cedar now grow on the wetter sites.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

For the winter visitor, the Department of Natural Resources maintains 21 miles of marked and snowmobile trails. They can be reached by taking County Highway 15 twelve miles north to the Buena Vista State Forest Road or by one of several county grant in aid snowmobile trails.

The Buena Vista Trail connects to the Beltrami County North Country and Northland grant in aid snowmobile trails. These trails provide groomed routes to Nebish, Blackduck, Turtle River and Bemidji, as well as connections to the Hubbard and Cass County grant in aid trail systems.

Public water access sites are provided on several lakes, including Beltrami, Big Bass, Gull, Sandy, and Three Island lakes.

The closest public campground is located in Three Island County Park, four miles north of Turtle River on County Road 23.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Minnesota's 55 state forests were established to produce timber and other forest crops, provide outdoor recreation, protect watersheds and perpetuate rare and distinctive species of native flora and fauna. The Department of Natural Resources applies multiple use management principles to allocate state forest resources to meet the needs of Minnesota citizens. Management actions are planned to maximize sustained yields of renewable resources while maintaining or improving the forest's productive capacity.

Management activities in the Buena Vista State Forest include: timber harvesting, timber stand improvement, tree planting, and trail maintenance. The forest is also managed to provide habitat for white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, waterfowl, and many other wildlife species. Bass, panfish, walleye and northern pike inhabit many of the lakes within the forest.

STATE FOREST RULES

State forest lands are generally open for all types of outdoor recreation including, hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, and picking fruit and mushrooms. Rules and laws regulate some activities on forest lands. A partial list is included below. A complete list is available from the Department of Natural Resources.

- Firewood** - Dead wood may be gathered for campfires on site. Cutting or removing wood or forest products for home or commercial use requires a permit.
- Campfires** - Recreational fires of less than 3 ft. diameter, in an area cleared of combustible materials for 5 ft. around the fire, do not require a permit. Other open burning is regulated by permit.
- Firearms** - Firearms may be discharged in compliance with the law on forest lands that are not posted closed. Firearms must be unloaded and cased while in and within 200 feet of a forest recreation area (campground, day use area, parking area, etc.)
- Camping** - Camping on forest lands outside of developed campgrounds is permitted with some conditions. See complete rules.
- Personal property** - Personal property may not be left or positioned so as to obstruct use of a road or trail. Personal property left unattended for 14 days shall be deemed abandoned.

Special rules apply in forest campgrounds and day use areas. They are not included here.

TRAILS -Motor vehicle and off road rules

Classified Forest Lands. State forest lands are classified by the commissioner for purposes of motor vehicle use. Motor vehicle use is regulated as follows:

State Forest Lands Classified as Managed:

- Motor vehicles may operate **only** on forest roads and forest trails **unless** they are posted and designated **closed**.
***Buena Vista State Forest is classified as MANAGED.**

State Forest Lands Classified as Limited:

- Motor vehicles may operate on forest roads, **unless** they are posted and designated **closed**.



- Motor vehicles may operate **ONLY** on forest trails or areas that are **posted and designated open**.
- Exception: Persons lawfully engaged in hunting big game or constructing hunting stands during October, November and December, retrieving big game during September, or trapping during open seasons, may use ATVs off forest trails in a manner consistent with the general operating restrictions. This exception does not apply in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest.

State Forest Lands Classified as **Closed**:

- Motor vehicles and snowmobiles are **not allowed** except:
 - * Vehicles licensed for highway use may use forest roads that are not posted or gated closed.
 - * Vehicles may operate on frozen public waters where it is not otherwise prohibited.
 - * Snowmobiles may operate on designated trails.

General Operating Restrictions - anywhere on state forest lands that motor vehicles are allowed.

- No motor vehicle operation is allowed on designated non-motorized trails, unless also posted open for a motorized use.
- No motor vehicle operation is allowed on or over the beds of lakes, rivers or streams except:
 - * when the water body is ice covered.
 - * on a bridge, culvert or designated low water crossing.
- Motor vehicles or snowmobiles may not operate on forest lands in a manner that causes erosion or rutting, damages, or destroys trees or growing crops. The rutting provision does not apply on designated motorized trails.

- Motor vehicles or snowmobiles may not operate within the boundaries of an area that is posted and designated as closed to such use.
- Motor vehicles on state forest roads must travel at a reasonable and prudent speed; obey posted speed limits, parking and traffic regulation signs; observe road closures; and may not operate in a manner that causes damage to the road, land or other natural resources.
- No person shall construct an unauthorized permanent trail on forest lands.

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS- Trails are generally open to non-motorized uses, but may be limited by postings which must be observed.

SNOWMOBILE LAWS

Alcohol, nighttime driving, and high speeds are the main causes of snowmobile fatalities. Conservation Officers remind snowmobilers:

- Operating a snowmobile while intoxicated is unlawful.
- 50 miles per hour is the maximum legal speed for snowmobiling on frozen public waters and DNR controlled lands (conditions permitting, when no other restrictions apply).

For complete legal information see "Minnesota Snowmobile Safety Laws, Rules and Regulations" available from DNR Information Center and DNR Licensing Bureau.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
Information Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
651-296-6157 (Metro Area)
1-888-MINNDNR (MN Toll Free)

TDD (Telecommunications Device for Deaf)
651-296-5484 (Metro Area)
1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

Bemidji Area Forest Supervisor
2220 Bemidji Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601
(218) 308-2065

FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE - DIAL 911

Beltrami County Sheriff and Courthouse
Bemidji, MN 56601
(218) 751-9111 or 911

Bemidji Community Hospital
1100 West 38th Street
Bemidji, MN 56601
(218) 751-5430

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed or religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, age or disability. Discrimination inquires should be sent to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4031; or the Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240."

