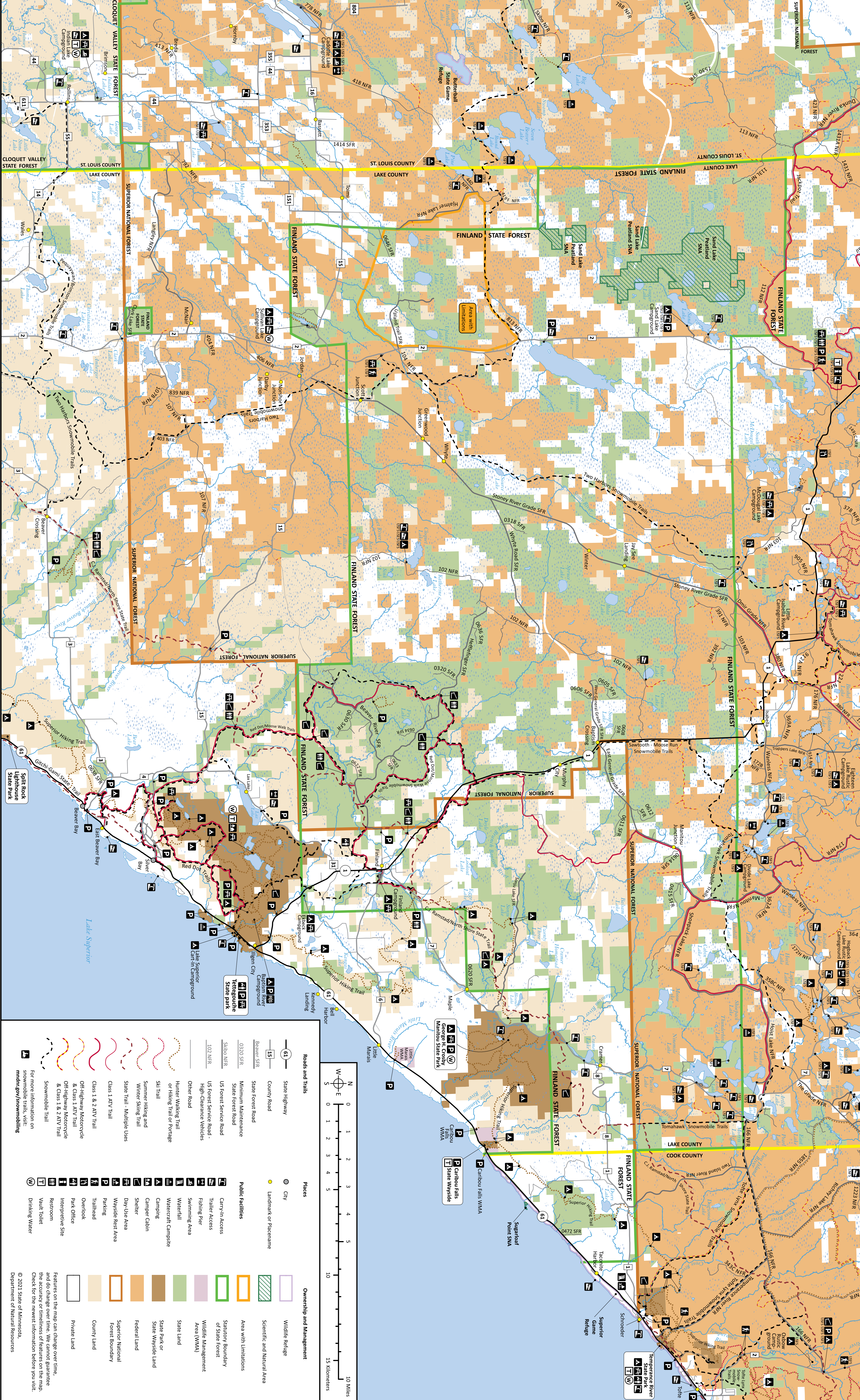


FINLAND STATE FOREST



FINLAND STATE FOREST
311,977 ACRES
ESTABLISHED 1943

FOREST LANDSCAPE: This remote boreal forest north of Lake Superior features dramatic cliffs and rock outcrops, interwoven with myriad lakes, bogs, and streams. Large areas of land have little or no vehicle access.

A WORKING FOREST: From year to year, you may see changes in this forest. The DNR manages the trees, water, and wildlife in state forests to keep them healthy and meet recreational, environmental, and economic goals. Trees are harvested to make a variety of products, such as lumber and building materials, pulp for making paper, pallets, fencing, and utility poles. Through careful planning, harvesting, and planting, land managers work to improve wildlife habitat. The DNR manages state forests for everyone, while preventing wildfires and ensuring forests continue to keep air and water clean.

HISTORY: The bedrock exposed along Lake Superior's North Shore has a geologic history that goes back some 1.1 billion years. During the dramatic volcanic activity of that time, molten lava poured through great fissures that developed in the Earth's crust. As these flows accumulated, the land along the rift zone sank to form a great basin, into which huge volumes of sediment were deposited after volcanic activity ended. Several periods of glaciation and eons of erosion followed. Remnants of these great, tilted lava flows can be seen in the area's mountain-like slopes. Pristine wetlands feed scenic rivers and streams that flow through rapids and dramatic waterfalls on their way to Lake Superior. Wildflowers beginning in early spring include marsh marigold, wood anemone, and violet. In summer, look for rose, thimbleberry, moccasin flower, coral root, blue-bead lily, wild sarsaparilla, and fireweed. Asters and goldenrod add to the fiery colors of autumn. The Ojibwe people have lived throughout the region for hundreds of years, attracted to plentiful sugar bushes, fishing, and hunting. During the Fur Trade Era, French Voyageurs transported animal skins by canoeing through the area's interconnected lakes and rivers to trading posts along Lake Superior. Loggers arrived after the Voyageurs left. In 1898, the Alger-Smith Lumber Company began removing millions of board feet of virgin pine, cedar, black spruce, and white spruce. Much of the timber was floated in rafts on Lake Superior and towed to Wisconsin paper mills. Today, sustainable timber harvest is an important economic force in the area.

TREES: Aspen, paper birch, sugar maple are widespread. White spruce, white pine, white cedar are also common. Red and jack pine grow on sandier soils and rock outcrops. Peat bogs and swamps feature black spruce, white cedar, black ash, and an occasional tamarack stand.

WILDLIFE: Mammals include moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, gray wolf, Canada lynx, bobcat, fisher, American pine marten, snowshoe hare, beaver, otter, mink, muskrat, gray and red fox. Birds include spruce and ruffed grouse, woodcock, waterfowl, common loon, trumpeter swan, northern goshawk, and bald eagle. Also found are boreal chickadees, olive-sided flycatchers, gray jays, Canada warblers, boreal owls, great gray owls, and common nighthawks, plus many other raptors, songbirds, and woodpeckers.

PUT THIS MAP ON YOUR DEVICE
Download this map on your mobile phone or tablet to track your current location. Visit mndnr.gov/geopdf for more information.

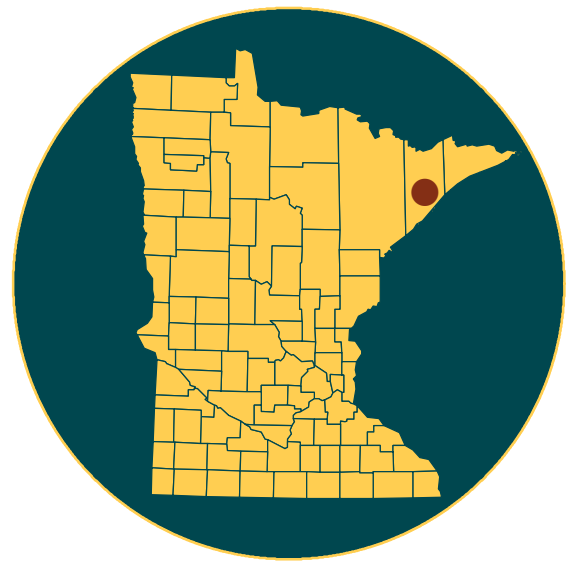
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FINLAND STATE FOREST

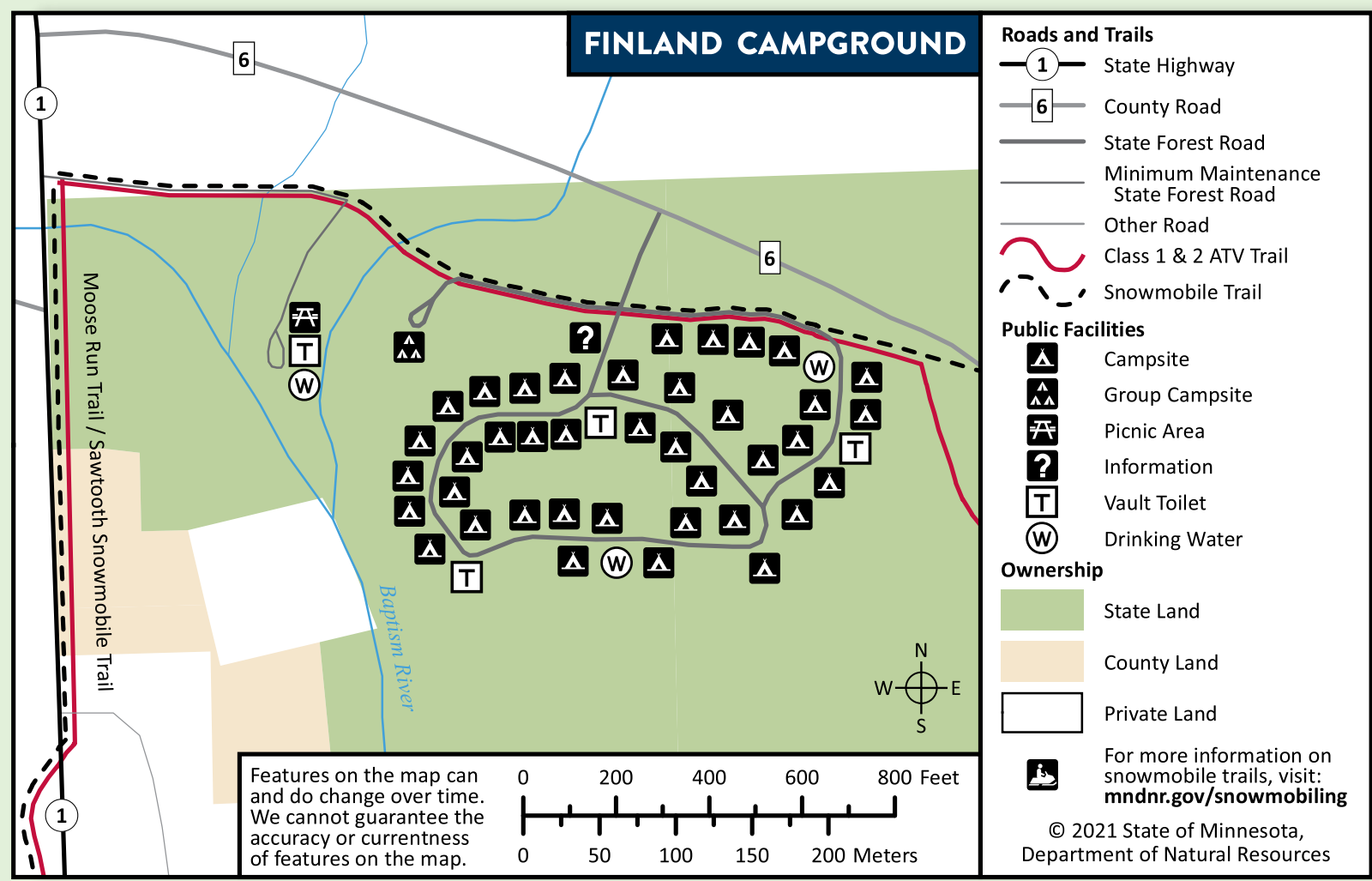
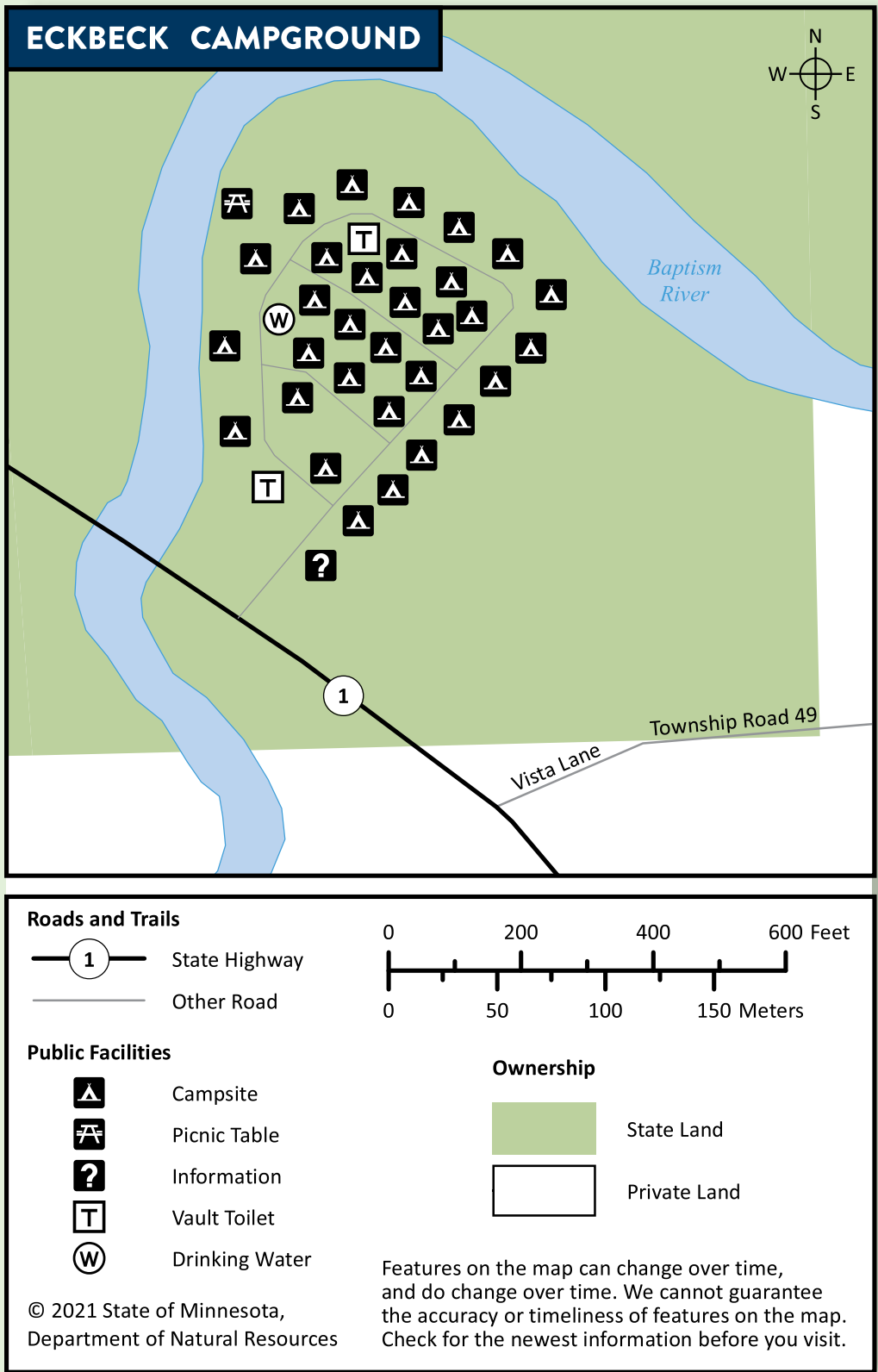
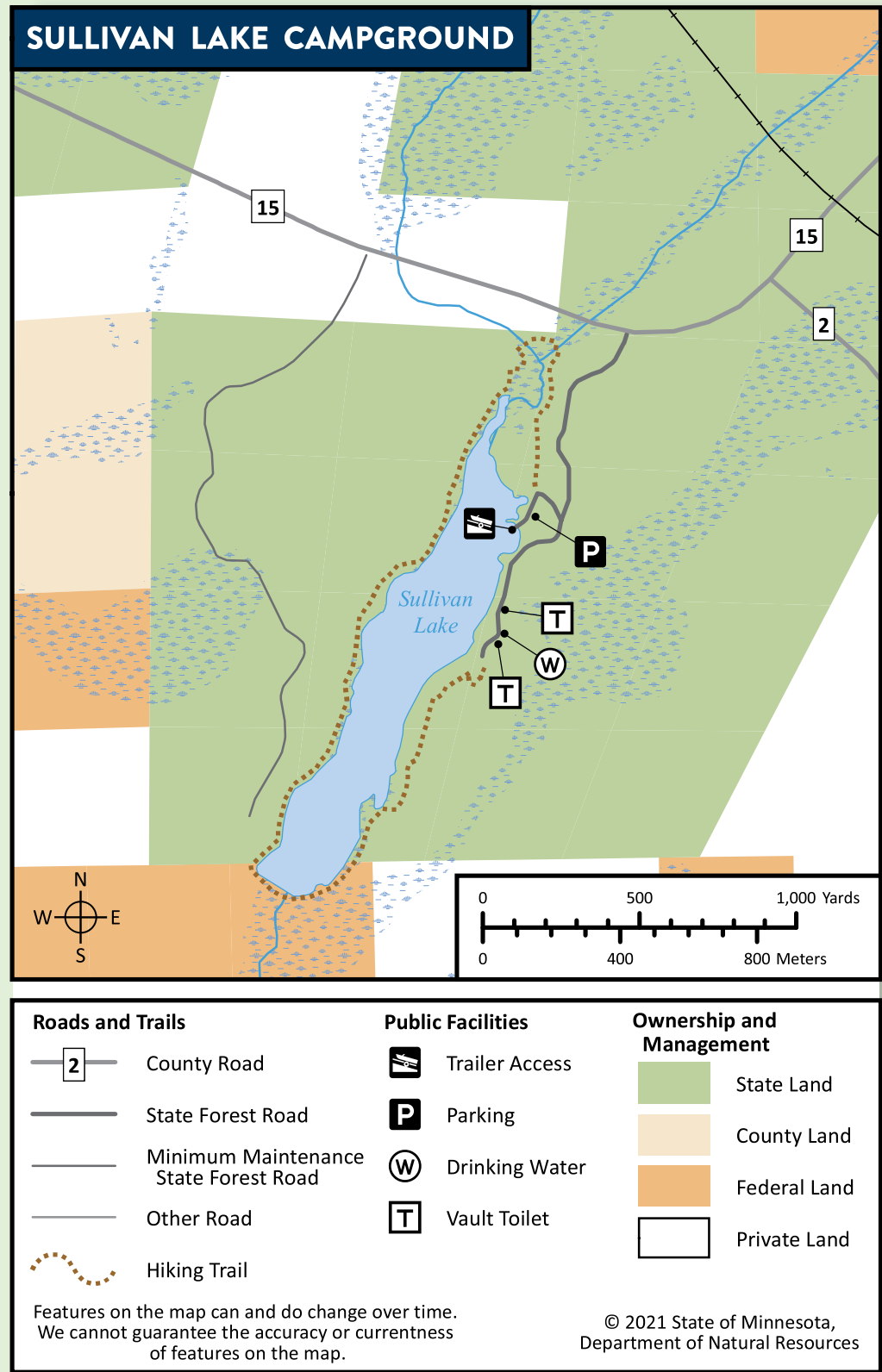


GENERAL STATE FOREST RULES

Whether you are camping, hunting, riding, geocaching, skiing, fishing, snowmobiling, or gathering berries, take care to leave the forest in good condition.

- Forest lands are open at all times unless otherwise posted closed.
- On state forest land, summer camping is limited to 14 days, and winter camping is limited to 21 days between the second Sunday in September and the first Saturday in May. For rules about camping on federal land within the Superior National Forest and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), visit recreation.gov
- Pack out what you pack in. Remove all personal property. Do not burn litter or garbage and pack it out of campgrounds and campsites.
- Don't leave equipment unattended for more than 24 hours.
- Building any permanent structures, including deer stands, is prohibited.
- Use firewood purchased from vendors who harvested firewood in the same county as the state forest or harvested in Minnesota and certified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture or USDA. Bring your receipt. You may also collect dead fuelwood on site. Klin-dried, unstained, unpainted dimensional lumber free from metal or other foreign objects is also permitted. It is illegal to bring in any other firewood. These rules are to prevent accidentally introducing harmful pests such as emerald ash borer. mndnr.gov/firewood
- Fireworks are prohibited on all state, county, and federal lands.
- Keep campfires no larger than 3 feet wide and 3 feet high. Attend the fire at all times. Completely extinguish fires before leaving the area. It should be cold to the touch.
- Bury human waste (if toilets are not available) and animal parts such as fish guts at least 150 feet from a water body and away from areas where it could cause a nuisance or hazard to public health.
- Collecting berries, mushrooms, boughs, or dead fuelwood for personal use does not require a permit. However, collecting large amounts of firewood, boughs, birch bark, and craft wood may require a permit. Get permits from your local DNR forestry office. mndnr.gov/areas/forestry
- Wild rice, Minnesota's state grain, may be harvested when ripe unless posted otherwise. Collecting wild rice requires special harvesting equipment and a license. mndnr.gov/regulations/wildrice
- This is a partial list of rules. For more information, visit the website listed below.

mndnr.gov/forestrules



SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST TRAILS—U.S. FOREST SERVICE

The U.S. Forest Service maintains several wilderness hiking trails in the area. Most are rugged and narrow with no amenities. Wear appropriate footwear and bring water. Parking directions and trail maps are on <https://go.usa.gov/x7Jt>

SUPERIOR HIKING TRAIL—SUPERIOR HIKING TRAIL ASSOCIATION

This nationally acclaimed trail stretches more than 260 miles, connecting the city of Duluth to Pigeon River Falls in Minnesota's far northeastern corner. Day-hikers often walk sections of trails to experience stunning views of Lake Superior. Thru-hikers may use designated campsites along the way. No reservations. No fees. superiorhiking.org

SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Snowmobile trails (state and grant-in-aid) are open and groomed between December 1 and April 1, depending on snow conditions. Use caution at all times. Logging operations can sometimes share the trails. Trails are marked with orange blazer signs. Popular snowmobile trails in this area include the C.J. Ramstad/North Shore State Trail, Red Dot, Moose Run/Moose Walk trails.

- Visit mndnr.gov/snowmobiling/interactive_map for maps.
- Snowmobiles must be registered. mndnr.gov/regulations/snowmobile

C.J. RAMSTAD NORTH SHORE TRAIL

This 153-mile natural surface trail stretching between Duluth and Grand Marais is open to snowmobiles between Dec. 1 and April 1. All-terrain vehicles (ATVs) may use 37 miles of the trail in a designated area between May and Nov. The trail winds its way through the forests on the ridgeline overlooking Lake Superior and provides access to some of the most rugged and beautiful scenery in Minnesota. In winter, the trail connects with hundreds of miles of snowmobile trails and many communities in the area. The Wild Country ATV Trail is located on part of the North Shore State Trail and connects to the Red Dot, Moose Walk/Moose Run ATV Trails. Other sections of the trail are open for horseback riding, bicycles, and hiking during the summer.

mndnr.gov/state_trails/north_shore

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION: LIMITED, MANAGED, CLOSED

All trails on state-managed lands are classified regarding motor vehicles. Parts of the Finland State Forest are classified as either limited, managed, or closed. Motor vehicles and off-road vehicles (OHVs) may operate on forest roads and forest trails unless they are posted as closed. Driving off roads or trails is prohibited. Stay on designated ATV trails, Lake County roads, and forest access routes. No wheeled vehicles of any kind are allowed in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. mndnr.gov/regulations/ohv

WILD COUNTRY TRAIL—WILD COUNTRY ATV CLUB

This 30-mile ride starts at the Lake County Demonstration Forest and travels along forest roads and trails including the historic Alger Grade Logging Railroad bed. The trail connects to Lake County gravel roads open to ATV use as well as the Moose Walk and Red Dot ATV Trails. Scenic bogs, rock outcrops, streams, rivers and Lake Superior overlooks occur along the trail as it travels the North Shore Highlands near Finland, Beaver Bay and Silver Bay. Trail map: mndnr.gov/ohv

PROSPECTOR ATV TRAIL

This trail is open to class 1 and 2 ATVs and connects the communities of Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass, Soudan, Tower, and Finland. The trail also connects to the Moose Run/Moose Walk ATV trails.

- Local forest roads are open to ATVs, off-highway vehicles (OHVs), and motorcycles, unless posted closed
- OHV trail seasons vary and roads may close temporarily. mndnr.gov/regulations/dnr
- Wildlife Management Areas are closed to OHVs.

HUNTING AND TRAPPING

State forests provide opportunities for hunting and trapping. In the appropriate season, licensed hunters can hunt for big and small game. mndnr.gov/hunting

FIREARMS AND BOWS

Firearms must be unloaded and cased and bows must be cased while in or within 200 feet of any recreation area (campground, day-use area, parking area, boat launch, etc.).

- Cutting shooting lanes is not allowed on any state land.
- Building permanent structures, including deer stands, is prohibited.
- For regulations about hunting, trapping, firearms, bows, limits, seasons, and deer stands on state-managed land, visit mndnr.gov/regulations/hunting

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

State Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) are managed to perpetuate and establish quality wildlife habitat to produce a variety of species, particularly harvestable species, emphasizing wildlife that lives in wetlands and young forests. They are also managed to provide opportunities for public hunting, trapping, and watching wildlife.

WMA HIGHLIGHT: LITTLE MARAIS AND CARIBOU FALLS

Little Marais and Caribou Falls WMAs are located east of the state forest near Lake Superior. Their aspen-birch forests are managed primarily for deer and grouse habitat. Caribou Falls WMA consists of two separate subunits bisected by the Caribou Falls State Park Wayside. Both WMAs have designated parking areas and are accessible by foot travel.

WMA maps: mndnr.gov/maps/compass

WMA information: mndnr.gov/wmas

WATERFOWL REFUGES

Butterfly Lake Waterfowl Refuge provides a secure feeding and resting area for migrating waterfowl and improves hunting on surrounding lakes and rivers. No waterfowl hunting is allowed. It is open for wild rice harvesting, trapping, and fishing.

AQUATIC MANAGEMENT AREAS

Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs) provide angler access, areas for education and outreach, and protect critical shoreline habitat.

FISHING

Anglers may find northern pike, walleye, and yellow perch in the larger area lakes. In addition, various species of trout are stocked in Echo, Jouppe, and other nearby lakes. The Baptism, Caribou, and Manitowish rivers are among the area's better brook trout streams. There are no special provisions or restrictions on fishing in state forests. Anglers must have the proper license and abide by the rules outlined in the current Minnesota Fishing Regulations. mndnr.gov/regulations/fishing

Important: Avoid spreading invasive organisms, such as zebra mussel larvae or spiny waterfleas, by not transporting lake or river water, including in bait buckets. Pack out unused bait and live worms or dispose in trash containers where they can't reach water or soil.

SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREAS

Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) protect natural features of exceptional scientific or educational value including native plant communities, rare species, and significant geological features. Visitors may enjoy the undisturbed natural quality of these sites. Most SNAs have no trails, restrooms, or drinking water. SNAs do not allow camping, vehicles, or collecting plants and animals. SNAs do allow birding and wildlife watching, hiking, photography, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.

SNA HIGHLIGHT: SAND LAKE PEATLAND

Four rivers emanate from this remote, relatively undisturbed landscape, including the St. Louis River, a major tributary to Lake Superior. Sand Lake Peatland features 36 native plant communities. Northern spruce bog and poor fen dominate overall, with good representation of northern rich fen and rich tamarack swamp in association with water tracks. The raised bog, ribbed fen, and water track features formed in a glacial outwash plain. Snaking eskers (ridges) and mineral islands add relief to the landscape. A number of lakes—Bonga, Lobo, Cougar—lie all or partly within the boundaries of the SNA.

State-listed plants of special concern here include English sundew, bog rush, small green wood orchid, and sooty-colored beak-rush. The SNA and larger headwaters site of outstanding biodiversity landscape also offer habitat for the gray wolf, moose, great grey owls, and boreal owls. This is one of few known locations in Minnesota for the taiga alpine butterfly (Minnesota species of special concern), where it lives at the extreme southern edge of its range and considered vulnerable to a warming climate.

Because of its remote setting, wet conditions, and lack of parking or trails, the best way to visit this site is through a virtual tour. mndnr.gov/snas

NEARBY RECREATION

GEORGE CROSBY MANITOU STATE PARK

This north-country wilderness park features waterfalls cascading through a volcanic canyon surrounded by majestic forest. The trails in the park wind through forests of fir, cedar, spruce, and northern hardwoods. Although the trails are steep and challenging for hikers and backpackers, they offer spectacular views. Secluded campsites are for backpackers only. Splake (a hybrid of brook and lake trout) reside in Benson Lake. Vehicle permit required.

TETTEGOUCHE STATE PARK

This developed park features some of the most scenic shoreline along Lake Superior including Shovel Point and Palisade Head. Day-hikers can enjoy miles of trails along the Baptism River and its waterfalls, and campers can choose among dozens of camping areas for RVs, carry-in sites, and group camps. Vehicle permit required.

TEMPERANCE RIVER STATE PARK

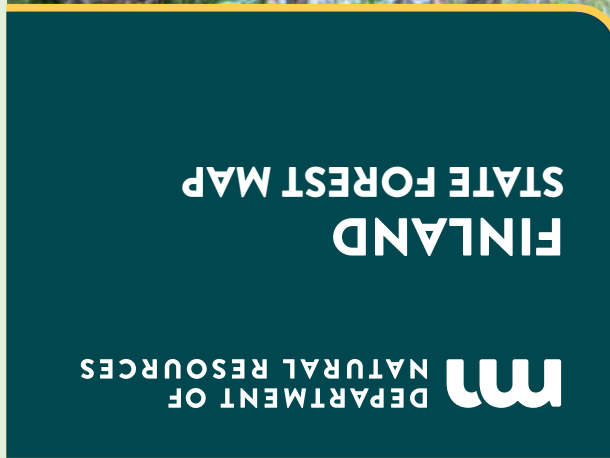
The Temperance River Gorge and the accompanying waterfalls cut through volcanic rock, racing toward Lake Superior. Hiking trails will also allow hikers to scale Carlton Peak, one of the highest points along the North Shore. Campers can choose among dozens of camping sites for RVs and carry-in sites. Vehicle permit required.

CARIBOU FALLS STATE WAYSIDE

A 3/4 mile hike along the Caribou River leads to the base of Caribou Falls (35-foot waterfall), and also provides stunning views of Lake Superior and the Caribou River gorge. The wayside offers access to the Superior Hiking Trail.

BLACK BEACH CAMPGROUND AND RECREATION AREA—CITY OF SILVER BAY

As one of the region's easiest access points to Lake Superior, Black Beach was formed by iron mining spoils. The beach is for day use only. The accompanying campground has many modern campsites.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
info.dnr@state.mn.us
651-296-6157 | 888-646-6367
TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)
651-296-5484 | 800-657-3929

DNR TIP LINE (Turn in Poachers)

800-652-9093

EMERGENCY SERVICE - DIAL 911

LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF

218-834-8385

NEAREST HOSPITAL SERVICES

Lakeview Hospital, Two Harbors

218-834-7311

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FORESTRY
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
888-646-6367
mndnr.gov



KNOW WHERE YOU ARE

This area contains a patchwork of state-managed land within areas of private, federal-, and county-managed land. Rules may change as you cross boundaries.

RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY

Many state forests contain private land within their boundaries. Watch for posted "No Trespassing" and "No Hunting" signs and stay off private property.

You must have permission before entering private land, even to cross it to access public land. Trespassing is a misdemeanor. If convicted, you could lose your license to hunt. All conservation and peace officers enforce trespass laws.

STAY ON TRAILS

Whether you're riding or walking, tread lightly on the land. Be courteous to others, respect private property, and obey the law.

LEAVE TROUBLE BEHIND

Help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals.

- Clean your gear before entering and leaving the recreation site.

- Remove mud, seeds, and plants from clothes, pets, boots, gear, vehicles, and watercraft.
- Stay on designated trails.
- [PlayCleanGo.org](https://playcleango.org)