



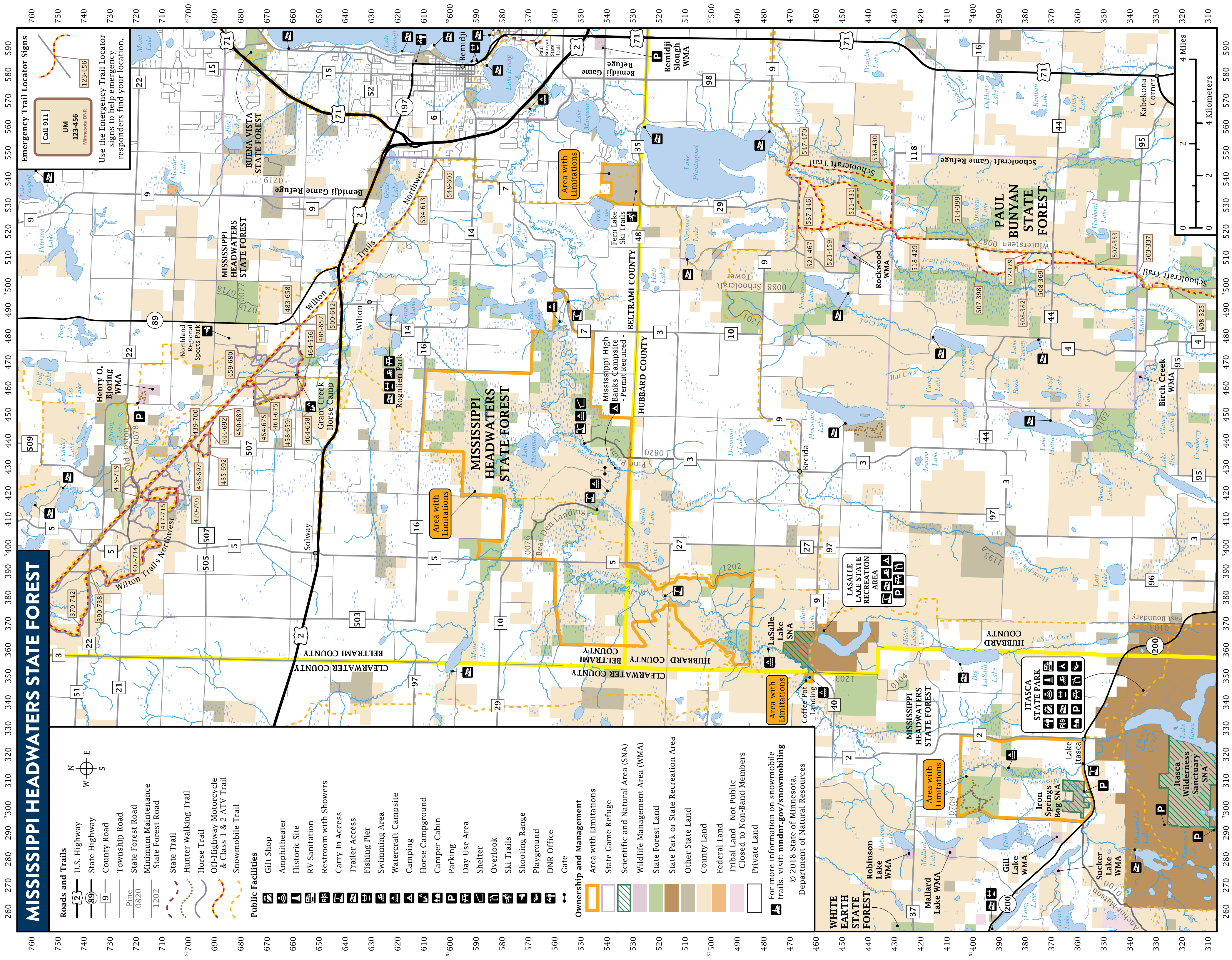
**A WORKING FOREST:** From year to year, you may see changes in this forest. The DNR manages the trees, water, and wildlife in state forests to keep them healthy and meet recreational, environmental, and economic goals. Trees are harvested to make a variety of products, such as lumber and building materials, pulp for making paper, pallets, fencing, and telephone poles. Through careful planning, harvesting, and planting, land managers work to improve habitat for white-tailed deer, bear, grouse, woodcock, furbearers, waterfowl, and songbirds. The DNR manages state forests to prevent wildfires and keep our air and water clean.

**TREES:** Jack and red pine predominate in the northern and eastern areas. The southwest supports aspen, birch, sugar maple, red oak, balsam fir, and lowland conifers in the meadows adjacent to the Mississippi River. You can also find white and black spruce, tamarack, and black and green ash.

**WILDLIFE:** Mammals include white-tailed deer, black bear, timber wolf, red fox, bobcat, river otters, fisher, mink, American badger, snowshoe hare, northern flying squirrel, and porcupine. Birds include bald eagle, osprey, northern goshawk, great-horned owl, trumpeter swan, wood duck, hooded merganser, ring-necked duck, sandhill crane, Virginia rail, woodcock, snipe, ruffed grouse, pileated and black-backed woodpecker, veery, Swainson's thrush, and a variety of woodland warblers.

This map is geo-referenced. Download an app such as the free Avenza app on your device and use it to open the geoPDF. The app will place a blue locator dot on the map wherever you take your device, even if you are out of cellular range.

The information in this map is dynamic and may change over time. The Minnesota DNR is not liable for improper or incorrect use of the data described and/or contained. The data and related graphics are not legal documents, and are protected by copyright.





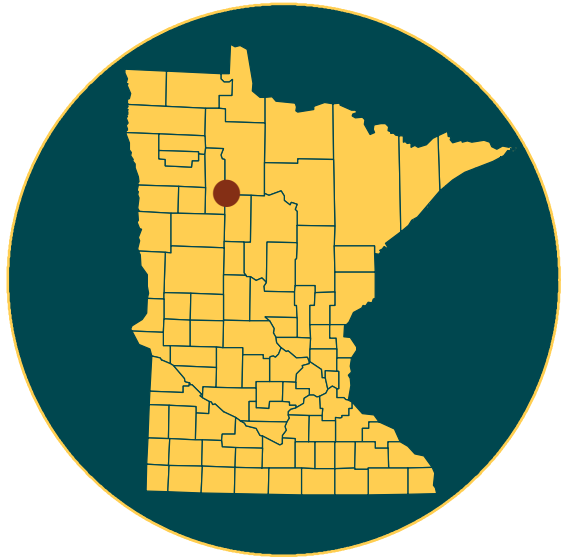


GENERAL STATE FOREST RULES

- Whether you are camping, hunting, riding, geocaching, skiing, or gathering berries, take care to leave the forest in good condition.
- Forest lands are open at all times unless otherwise posted.
  - Dispersed camping with no amenities is allowed on state forest land. Summer camping is limited to 14 days. Winter camping is limited to 21 days between the second Sunday in September and the first Saturday in May.
  - Pack out what you pack in. Remove all personal property. Do not burn litter or garbage.
  - Don't leave equipment unattended for more than 24 hours.
  - Building permanent structures or deer stands of any kind is prohibited.
  - Use firewood sold by the DNR, or harvested in Minnesota and certified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture or USDA, or from vendors who harvested firewood in the same county as the state forest. Bring your receipt. You may also collect dead firewood on site. Kiln-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 vault 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 (blueberries, cranberries, serviceberries, nannyberries), mushrooms, balsam boughs, or dead fuelwood for personal use while in the forest is OK. However collecting large amounts of any item to take home for personal use or sale requires a permit from the local DNR forestry office. **[mndnr.gov/areas/forestry](#)**
  - Wild rice, Minnesota's state grain, is abundant along the shores of the Mississippi River and may be harvested when ripe unless posted otherwise. Collecting wild rice requires a license. **[mndnr.gov/regulations/wildrice](#)**
  - This is a partial list of rules. For more information, visit the website listed below.

[mndnr.gov/forestrules](#)

MISSISSIPPI  
HEADWATERS  
STATE  
FOREST



CAMPING AND  
RECREATION AREAS

There are no developed campgrounds in this state forest.

Dispersed campsites with a cleared area, fire ring, and picnic table are available all year at the Wanagan, Coffee Pot, La Salle Bluffs, Fox Trap, Pine Point, Iron Bridge, and Silver Maple campsites along the Mississippi River. No reservations required. Campsites are first-come, first-served. Dispersed camping with no amenities is also allowed.

**GRANT CREEK HORSE CAMP – BELTRAMI COUNTY**  
This 9-acre campground offers access to more than 42 miles of trail riding opportunities. **[https://go.usa.gov/xUATg](#)**

**MISSISSIPPI HIGH BANKS PRIMITIVE CAMPSITE – BELTRAMI COUNTY**  
This remote, rustic campsite has spectacular views of the Mississippi River. No canoe access. A Primitive Campsite Use permit from Beltrami County is required. **[https://go.usa.gov/xUATW](#)**

**CANOEING**  
**MISSISSIPPI RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL**  
The first segment of this state water trail features several canoe accesses and canoe campsites including Coffee Pot Landing, Stumphages Rapids, Bear Den Landing, Pine Point Landing, and Silver Maple.

Detailed water trail map: **[mndnr.gov/watertrails/mississippiriver/one.html](#)**

**TRAILS**  
All trails and roads are open to hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing unless posted closed. Horseback riders need a horse pass. **[mndnr.gov/horseback\\_riding/horsepass.html](#)**

Off-trail hiking, country-skiing, and snowshoeing are allowed.

All trail users should yield to horses. Horses may be spooked by quiet bikes so make sure to let them know you are approaching or passing.

**FERN LAKE CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS – BEMIDJI AREA CROSS-COUNTRY SKI CLUB**  
3.5 kilometers (2.17 miles) of easy/intermediate groomed cross-country ski trails.

Minnesota Ski Pass required: **[mndnr.gov/licenses/skipass](#)**

Detailed map: **[bemidjicrosscountryski.org/trail-maps.html](#)**

**SNOWMOBILE TRAILS**  
Several miles of snowmobile trails wind their way through the forest and connect to nearby trails. Trails are open between December 1 and April 1 and may be plowed during the winter for logging activities. Other trails are groomed. Trails are marked with orange signs.

- Snowmobile trail maps: **[mndnr.gov/snowmobiling/interactive\\_map](#)**
- Snowmobiles must be registered. **[mndnr.gov/regulations/snowmobile](#)**

**OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRAILS**  
This state forest offers several miles of forest roads open to all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), off-road vehicles (ORVs), and off-highway motorcycles (OHMs).

- Highway-licensed vehicles and off-highway vehicles (OHVs) may operate on any road unless posted closed.
- No motorized use is allowed off roads and trails.
- Non-residents must have an ATV Trail Pass. **[findthetrails.com](#)**
- ATVs, ORVs, and OHMs must be registered. **[mndnr.gov/licenses/ohv](#)**
- Visit **[mndnr.gov/ohv](#)** for up-to-date rules, maps, and trail and road closures.

**SCHOOLCRAFT TRAIL**  
Southeast of the Mississippi Headwaters State Forest, the Schoolcraft Trail connects the community of Lake George to the Paul Bunyan State Forest. The trail runs through, hilly terrain dotted with bogs and ponds. Open to ATV and OHM riders. **[mndnr.gov/maps/ohv/schoolcraft.pdf](#)**

**WILTON TRAILS NORTHWEST – BELTRAMI COUNTY**  
33 miles of mixed use trail for ATVs, off-highway motorcycles, and snowmobiles. Trails are also open to horseback riding, hiking, and bicycling. **[https://go.usa.gov/xUATD](#)**

**CLASSIFICATION: MANAGED**  
All trails on state lands are classified regarding motor vehicles.

Off-road traffic is prohibited, except when needed to retrieve big game when hunting and trapping during the proper season and with the proper license. Highway-licensed vehicles are allowed on all state forest roads.

State forest land within Beltrami and Clearwater counties is “managed.” OHVs are allowed on roads, routes, and designated trails, unless posted closed.

**CLASSIFICATION: LIMITED**  
State forest land in Hubbard County is “limited,” which means that highway-licensed vehicles, ATVs, and OHMs may operate only on open, signed roads and trails.

**KNOW YOUR VEHICLE**  
Always make sure you are riding on the appropriate trail, designated and signed for your vehicle. OHVs must display a current Minnesota registration sticker. **[mndnr.gov/licenses/ohv](#)**

**HUNTING AND TRAPPING**  
Hunting and trapping is allowed during the appropriate season and with the correct license. State forests and WMAs may contain private land holdings within their boundaries, many of which are signed “no hunting.” Trapping in WMAs requires a permit from the DNR wildlife office. **[mndnr.gov/hunting](#)**

**FIREARMS AND BOWS**  
Firearms must be unloaded and cased and bows must be unstrung and cased while in or within 200 feet of a forest recreation area (campground, day-use area, parking area), except that during open hunting seasons licensed hunters may carry an unloaded, uncased firearm or a strung, uncased bow to hunt outside the recreation area.

Cutting trees for shooting lanes is not allowed.

For regulations about hunting, trapping, firearms, bows, seasons, limits, deer stands, and ATV use in WMAs, visit **[mndnr.gov/regulations/hunting](#)**

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS**  
WMAs are managed to provide quality habitat for a variety of species, especially deer, bear, grouse, woodcock, and waterfowl, along with owls, warblers, butterflies, and woodpeckers. WMAs provide opportunities for public hunting, trapping, fishing, and wildlife observation.

WMA maps: **[mndnr.gov/maps/compass](#)**  
WMA information: **[mndnr.gov/wmas](#)**

**RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY**  
State forests contain private and tribal land within their boundaries, so know where you are. Watch for posted “No Trespassing” and “No Hunting” signs and stay off private property. You must have permission before entering tribal or posted 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.

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

**AREAS WITH LIMITATIONS**  
These areas are designated to protect unique natural resources and provide other non-motorized recreation opportunities. Motorized vehicles may not operate within “Areas with Limitations” for any reason, including retrieving big game.

**LEAVE TROUBLE BEHIND**  
Help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals.

- Clean your gear before entering and leaving the recreation site.
- Remove mud and seeds from clothes, pets, boots, gear, vehicles, and watercraft.
- Stay on designated trails.
- **[PlayCleanGo.org](#)**

**FISHING**  
There are no special provisions or restrictions on fishing in state forests. You must have the proper license and abide by the same rules and seasons as anywhere else in Minnesota.

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

Visit **[mndnr.gov/fishing](#)** for up-to-date regulations.

**MINNESOTA 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, however 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. Please do not disturb plants or introduce seeds that may be embedded on gear, boots, wheels, and pets. **[mndnr.gov/snas](#)**

**SNA HIGHLIGHT: IRON SPRINGS BOG**  
Named for springs rich in iron-oxide that seep from gravelly soils, this site contains a mosaic of raised-bed conifer swamp forest, boreal forest, and pine forest. The Iron Springs Bog has been used heavily by the University of Minnesota Biological Station since the early 1930s. Some of Minnesota's rarest plants grow here, including coral root and ladies' tresses orchids. The best time to visit is in the early spring to mid-summer to view woodland wildflowers.

SCAN TO  
DOWNLOAD MAP



MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS  
STATE FOREST MAP



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
[info.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto: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**

**BELTRAMI COUNTY SHERIFF**  
218-333-9111

**CLEARWATER COUNTY SHERIFF**  
218-694-6226

**HUBBARD COUNTY SHERIFF**  
218-732-3331

**NEAREST HOSPITAL SERVICES**  
Sanford Medical Center  
1300 Anne St. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601  
218-751-5430

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**FORESTRY**  
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[mndnr.gov](#)

