

# MINNESOTA 2023 WALK-IN ACCESS HUNTING ATLAS



A \$3 Walk-In Access  
Validation is required.  
ELS Code 190.



# Welcome to Minnesota's Walk-In Access Program



“Minnesota is fortunate to have an abundance of natural resources providing opportunities for outdoor recreation. The Walk-In Access Program creates a partnership with private landowners, allowing the public access to some of these acres that were previously not available to the public. I urge everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity. If you have any questions or thoughts, I would like to hear from you! Thank you for participating and supporting this program. Email me at [wia.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:wia.dnr@state.mn.us)”

—Amber Knutson,  
DNR Walk-In Access  
Coordinator

Cover photos taken  
by MNDNR staff.

Walk-in Access (WIA) provides public hunting on private land and compensates landowners for providing that access. Through WIA, over 29,000 acres will be open for public hunting from Sept. 1 to May 31, on more than 250 sites in western, central and southern Minnesota.

While the majority of WIA parcels include grassland and wetlands, river bottom and forested parcels are also enrolled. This enables hunters to find waterfowl, upland birds, small game and big game species.

## VALIDATION REQUIRED

To legally access WIA land, hunters of all ages must purchase and possess a \$3 Walk-in Access Validation (Code 190). Like hunting licenses, the validation can be purchased through license agents across the state, by phone at 888-665-4236, or online at [mndnr.gov/licenses/hunting](http://mndnr.gov/licenses/hunting).

The validation helps monitor the number of hunters using WIA land. Hunters may be contacted to help the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) understand more about their experiences on WIA land and interest in future program enhancements. The \$3 fee does not cover costs associated with purchasing access, installing boundary signs or providing online or printed maps of the enrolled properties.

## DATA IN THIS ATLAS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

At any time during the year, landowners may opt out of WIA for a variety of reasons including land sales and other property transitions. That means a site shown in this atlas could be closed even after the atlas is published. Additionally, some sites may still be open for hunting but with habitat disturbance caused by conservation program requirements, noxious weed control or other considerations. It is also possible that sites may be added after the atlas is printed. A good rule of thumb: printed and electronic maps are a great starting point when planning for your hunt, but the only way to truly know that a parcel is enrolled and open to public access is to see it in real life. No signs means no access. For the most current data, visit the WIA website at ([mndnr.gov/walkin](http://mndnr.gov/walkin)).

## MAPS AVAILABLE

Visit the WIA website at [mndnr.gov/walkin](http://mndnr.gov/walkin) for a printable atlas of WIA sites by county, aerial photos of each site, and interactive maps such as Google Earth and Google Maps.

Smartphones can access the DNR Recreational Compass to locate sites.

Printed copies of the WIA Atlas are available at DNR offices, county Soil and Water Conservation District offices, and local commerce and tourism outlets across the state. They are also available by calling the DNR at 888-MINNDNR (646-6367).

Maps may not accurately represent the actual legal or established boundaries of public or private land. They should be used for reference only.

## USES OF WIA LAND

- WIA sites are for public hunting only.
- Individuals with a WIA validation may hunt from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, during open hunting seasons, with no landowner contact necessary from Sept. 1 to May 31.
- All hunting rules and regulations apply on WIAs, and will be enforced by DNR conservation officers.
- Motorized vehicles are not allowed on WIAs.
- Parking is along roads or in designated parking areas—be sure vehicles do not block field entrances.
- Trapping, target shooting, camping, horseback riding, fishing, dog training, fires and other similar activities are not allowed by the public.
- The landowner retains the right to engage in, or give written permission for another individual to engage in, those activities listed above and other limited activities any time during the year, as long as they do not impede public hunting.

# SHARE THE PASSION

## #huntmn

### ENROLLING LAND

WIA is targeted toward lands with high quality natural cover. This may include, but is not limited to, parcels already in a conservation program such as Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). Only small inclusions of cropland or hay land may be present in WIA parcels.

### RESPECT THE LAND

Please be respectful of the land and the people who own the land. This program depends on landowner participation to be successful. The WIA Code of Conduct can be found below.

### PROGRAM FUNDING

This program began in 2011 when the state received a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture—Voluntary Access Program. A second grant was awarded to help fund the program from 2015 to 2018. Minnesota is now into its third grant award, which will fund the WIA Program through 2023, under number 69-3A75-16-509. Additional funding includes:


















- A one-time appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature in 2012
- A \$5 surcharge on nonresident hunting licenses
- Donations of \$1, \$3 or \$5 made by hunters purchasing deer and small game licenses

### WALK-IN ACCESS CODE OF CONDUCT

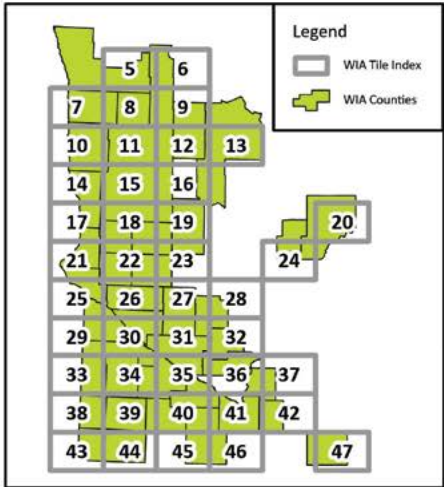
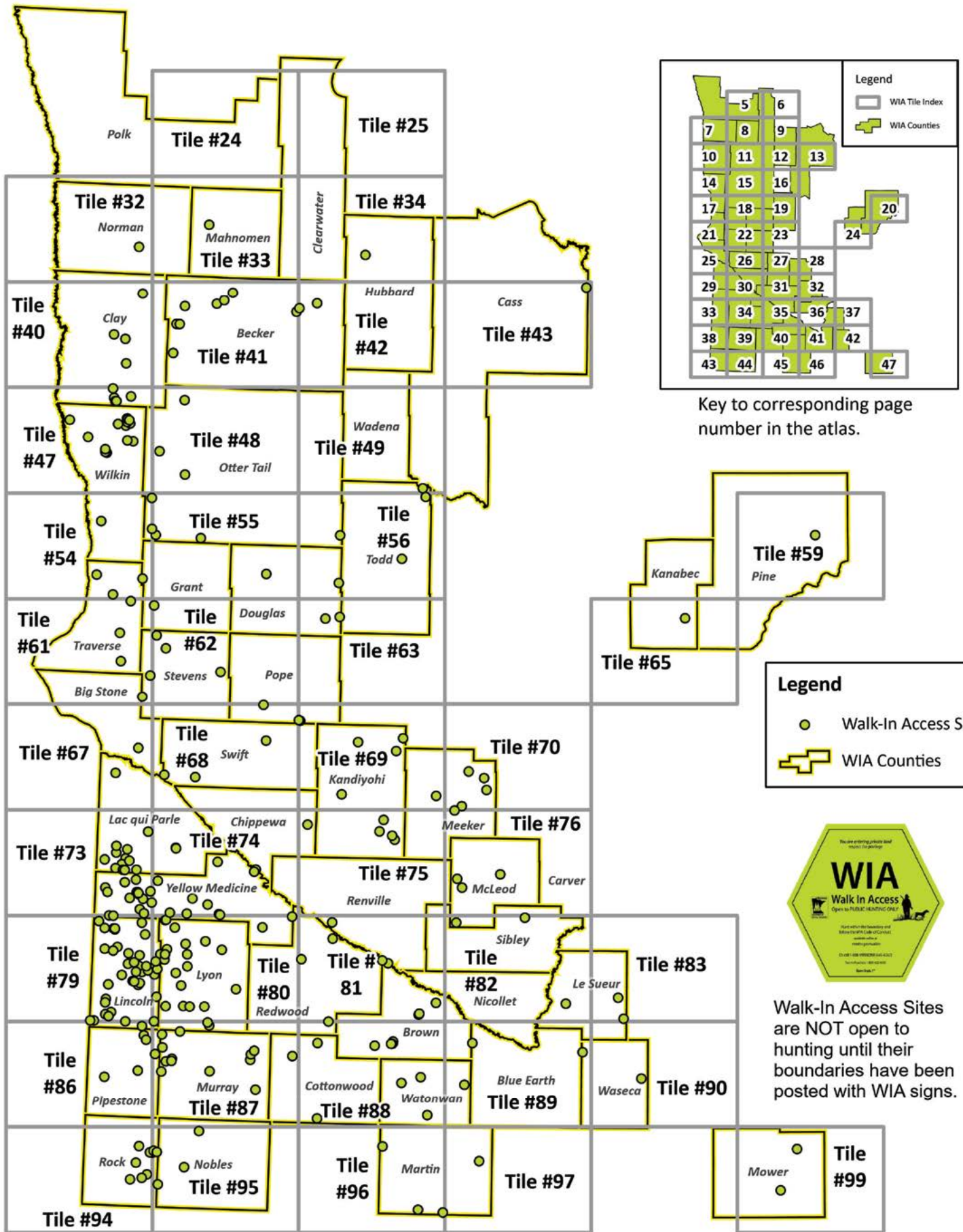
Please follow this code of conduct while hunting these privately owned lands:

1. Only hunt areas posted with WIA signs. Know the field boundaries and do not trespass on surrounding private lands.
2. Do not contact landowners of WIA parcels for permission to hunt.
3. Only hunt WIA parcels on foot.
4. Park in designated parking areas or on the shoulder of the road. Do not block access to farm fields or pastures.
5. Maintain a safe buffer. Do not shoot near farmsteads, livestock or buildings.
6. Leave gates and fences as they were found.
7. Report unlawful activities.
8. Be ethical, courteous and safe. Abuse it—lose it.
9. Do not construct or erect permanent blinds, stands or other structures. Portable structures are allowed as long as no damage is done to trees and they are removed when the hunter leaves the WIA.
10. Do not litter. Pack out spent shotgun or rifle casings.

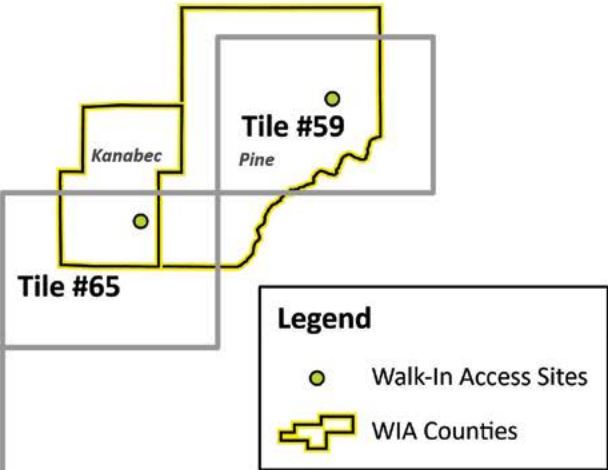
### Walk In Access Atlas Tile Legend

-  Hunter Walk-In Access Sites
-  USFWS Waterfowl Production Areas
-  National Wildlife Refuges
-  Wildlife Management Areas
-  Wildlife Refuge Inventory
-  State Park Boundaries
-  Scientific and Natural Areas
-  State Forest Boundaries
-  Native American Reservations
-  County Forest Lands
-  Interstate Trunk Highway
-  U.S. & State Highways
-  County Highway
-  Major River Centerlines
-  Lakes
-  County Boundaries
-  Townships
-  Walk In Access Tile Boundary

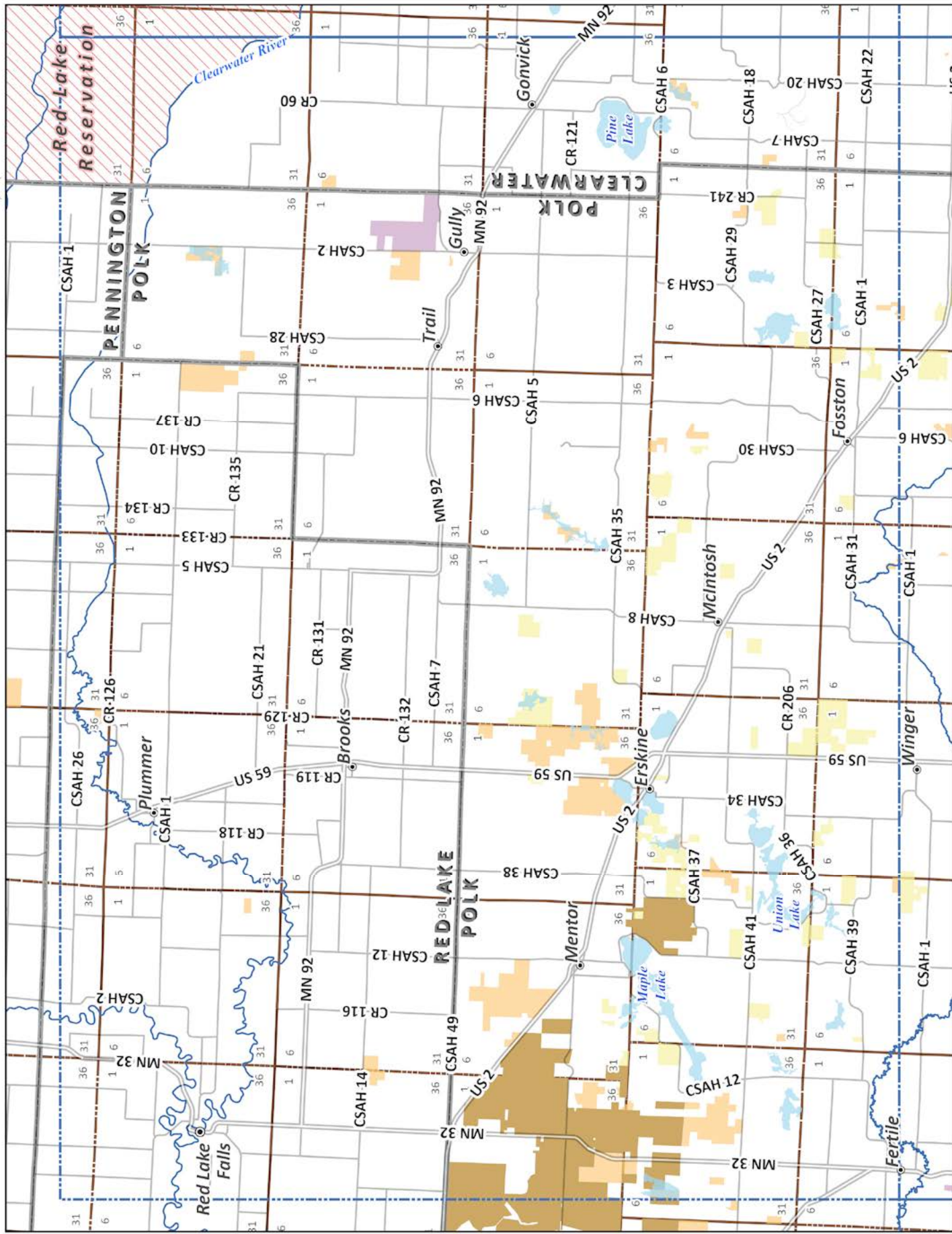
# Minnesota 2023 WIA Hunting Atlas Map Tile Index

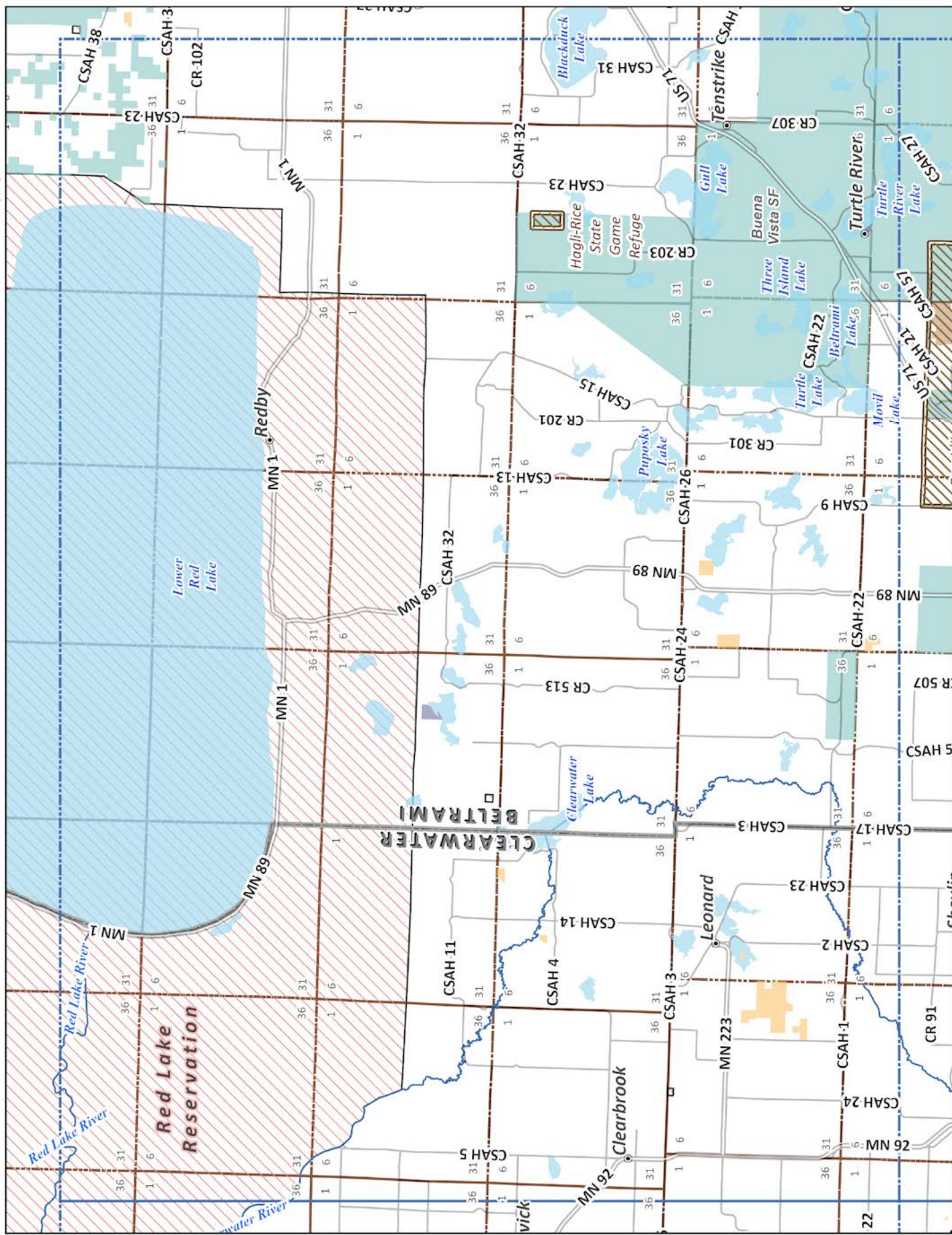


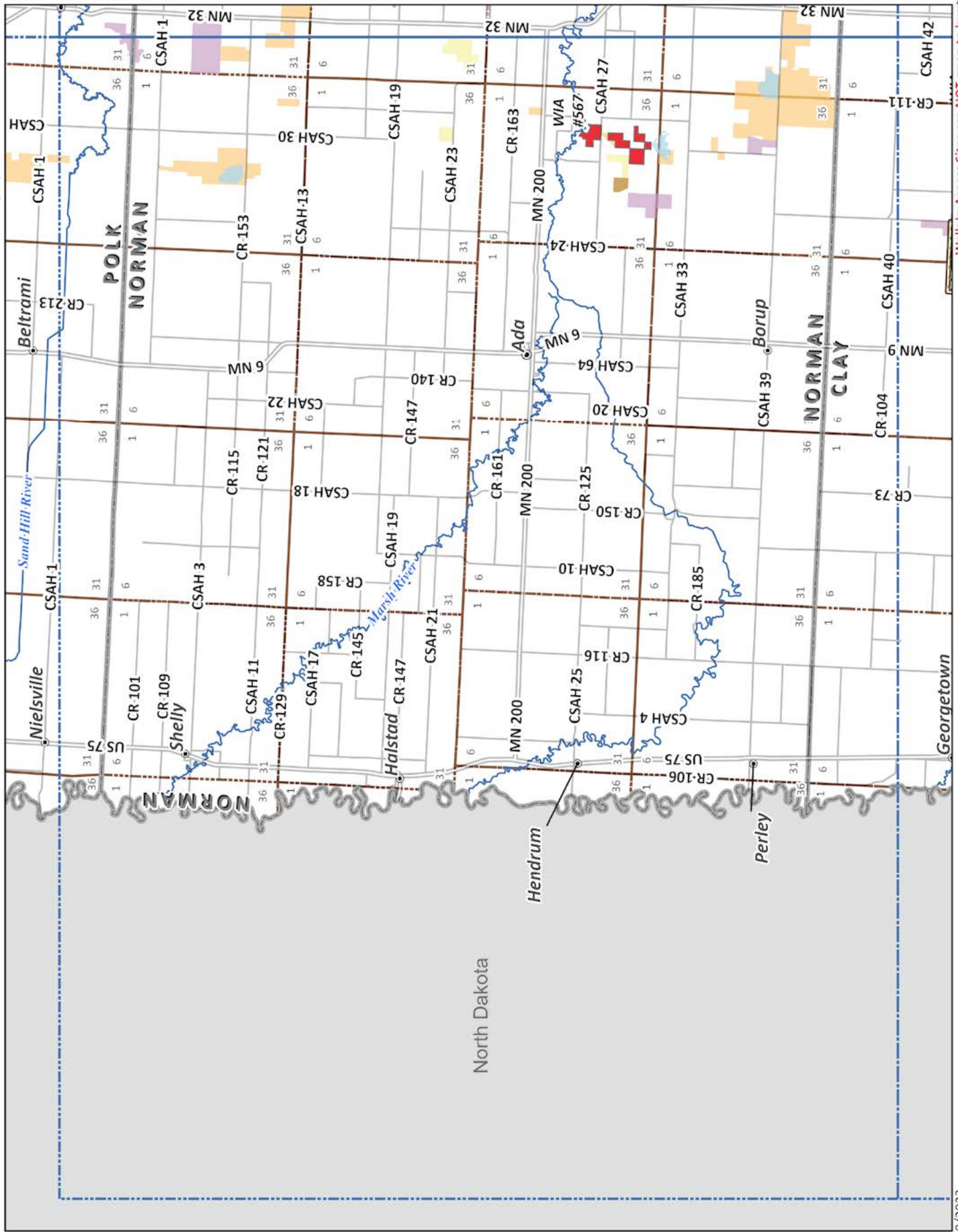
Key to corresponding page number in the atlas.



Walk-In Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs.







Walk-in Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs

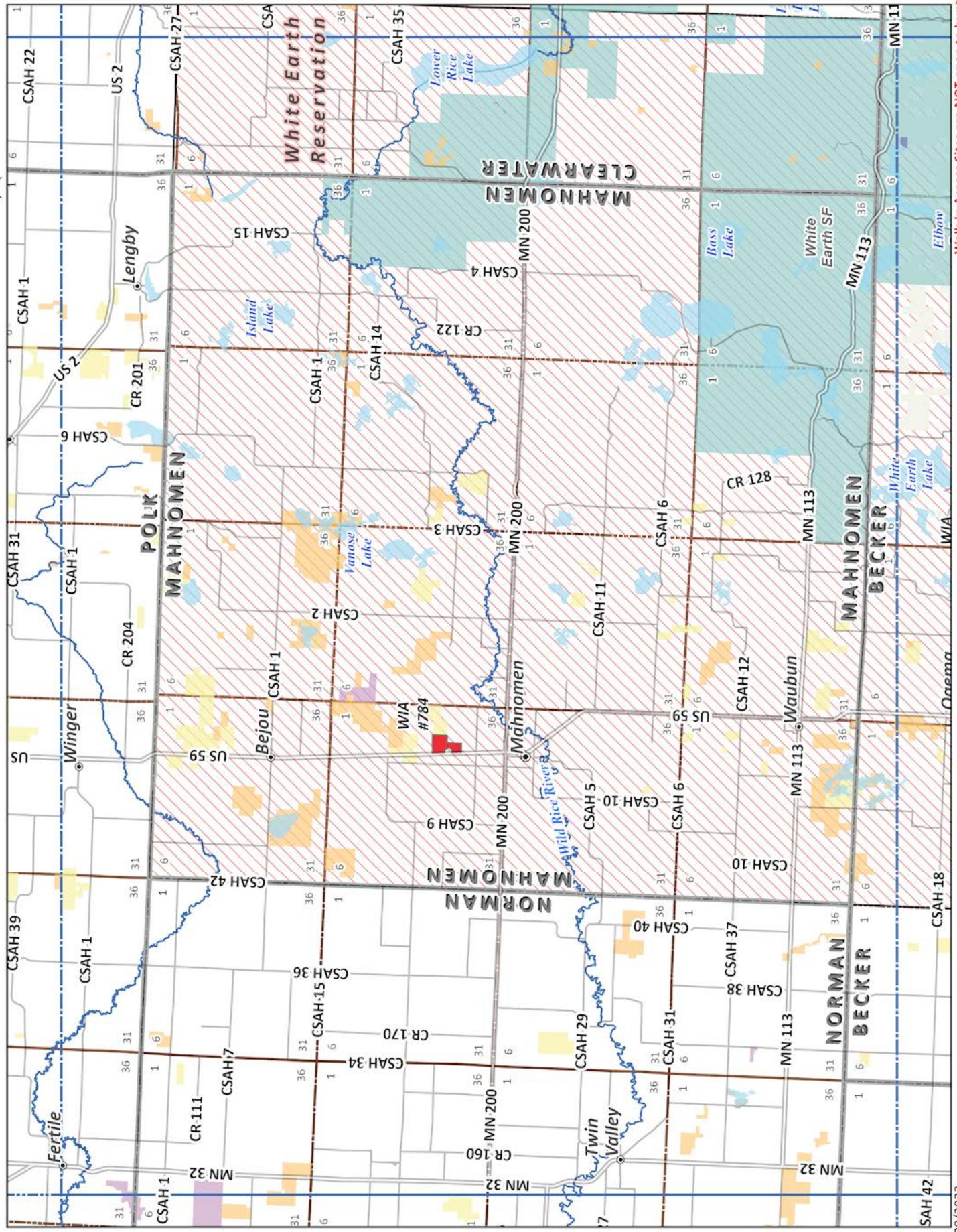
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1 in = 4.4 miles



Tile # 34

Tile # 24

Tile # 33



Tile # 32  
8

Walk-In Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs

Date: 6/29/2023  
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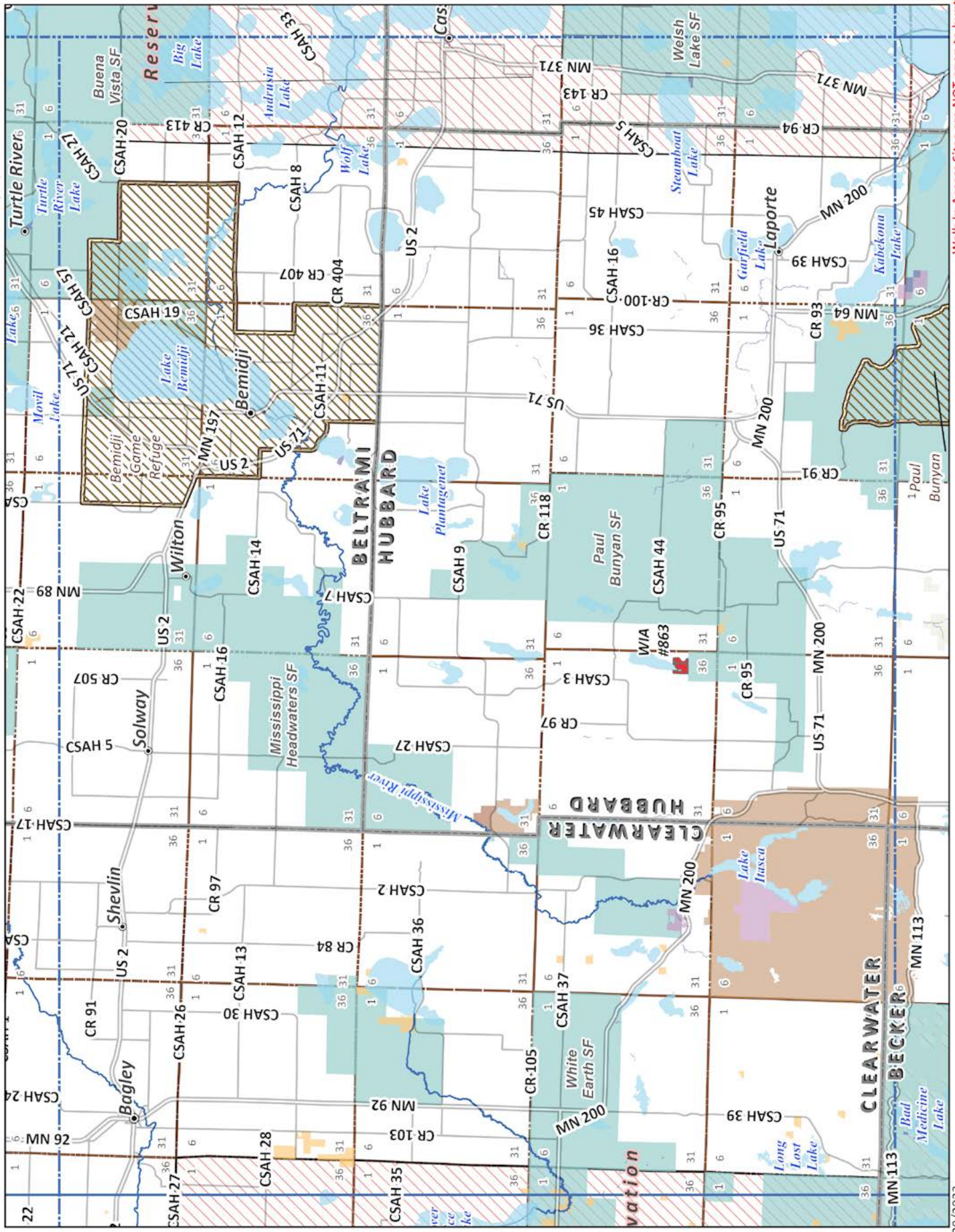
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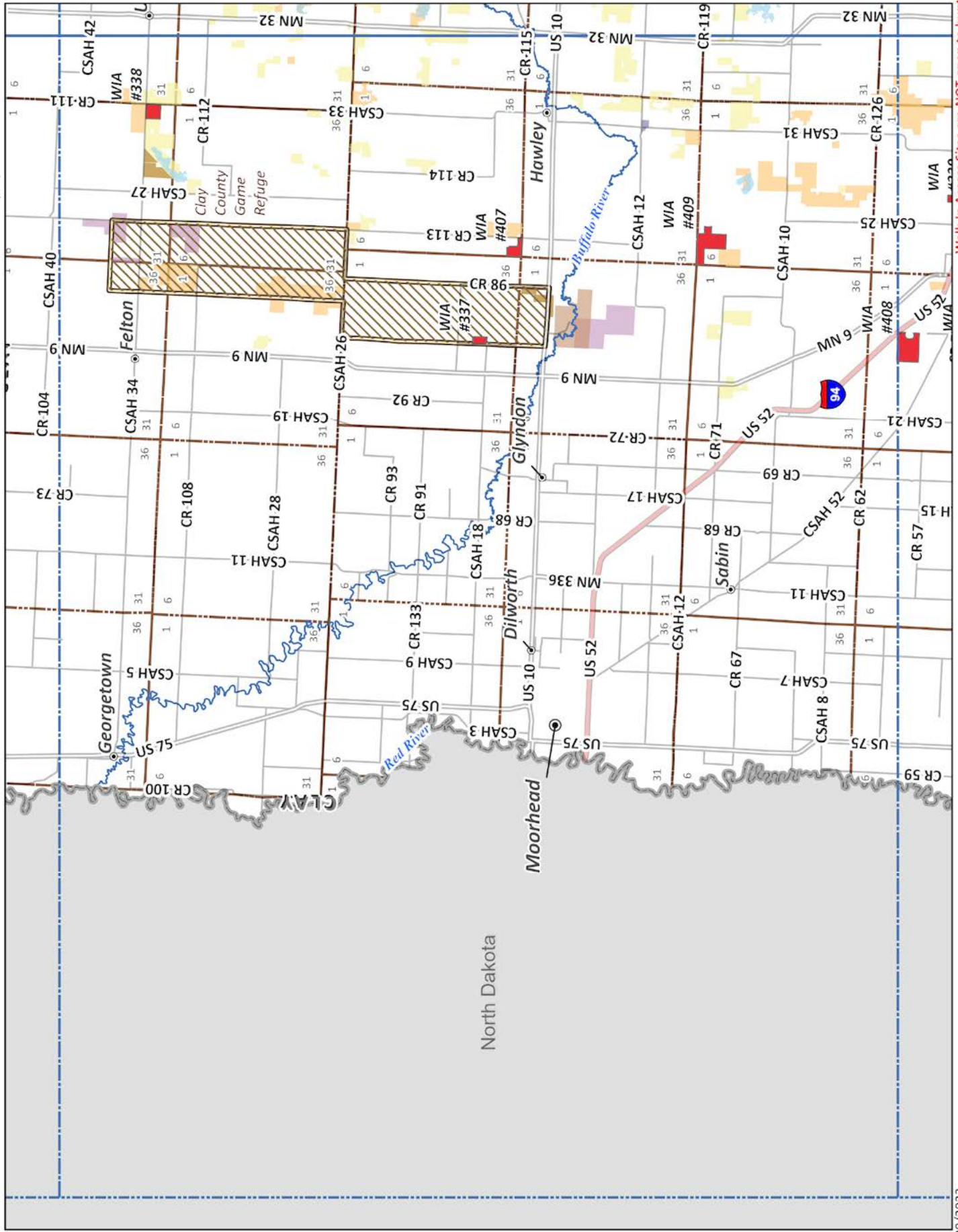
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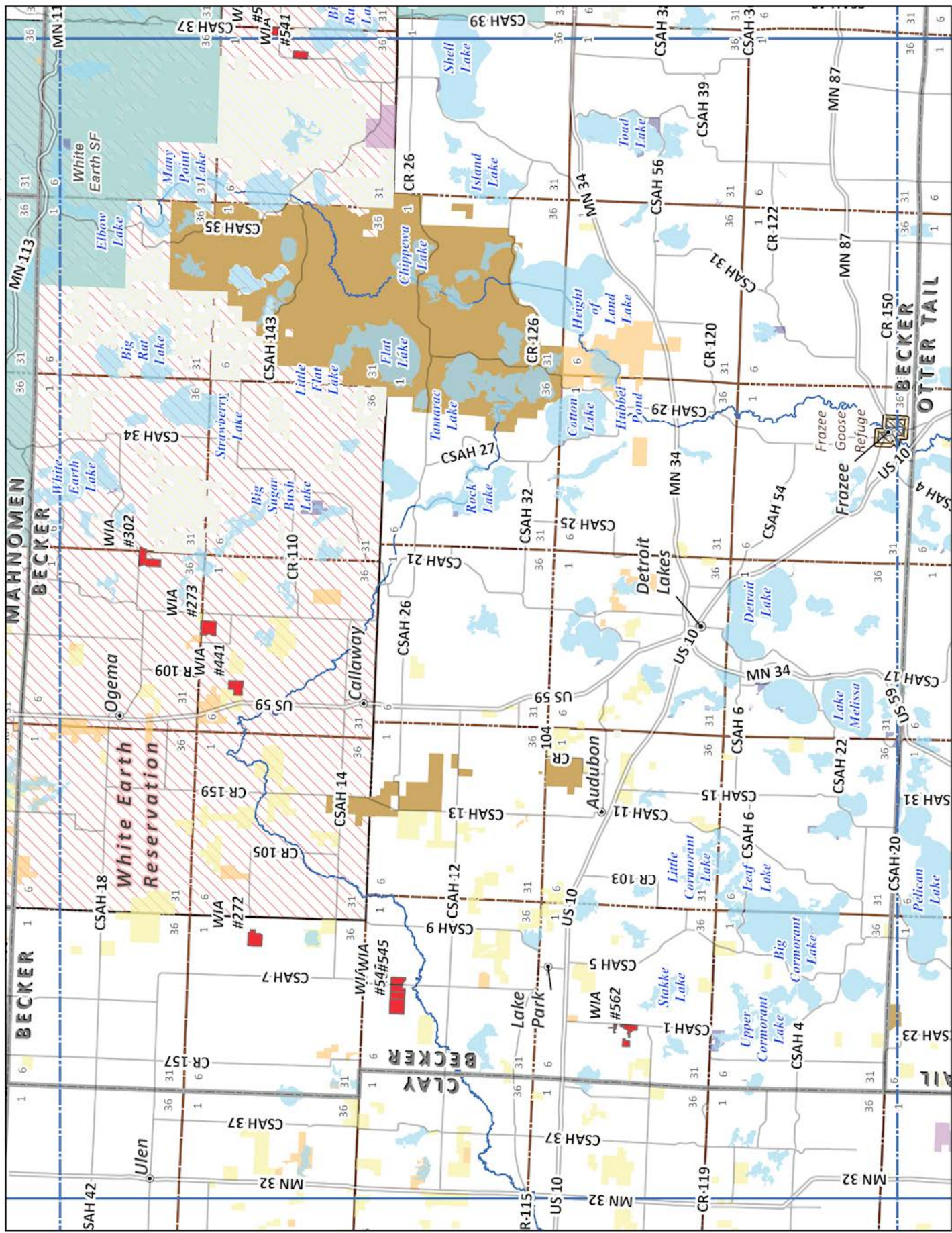
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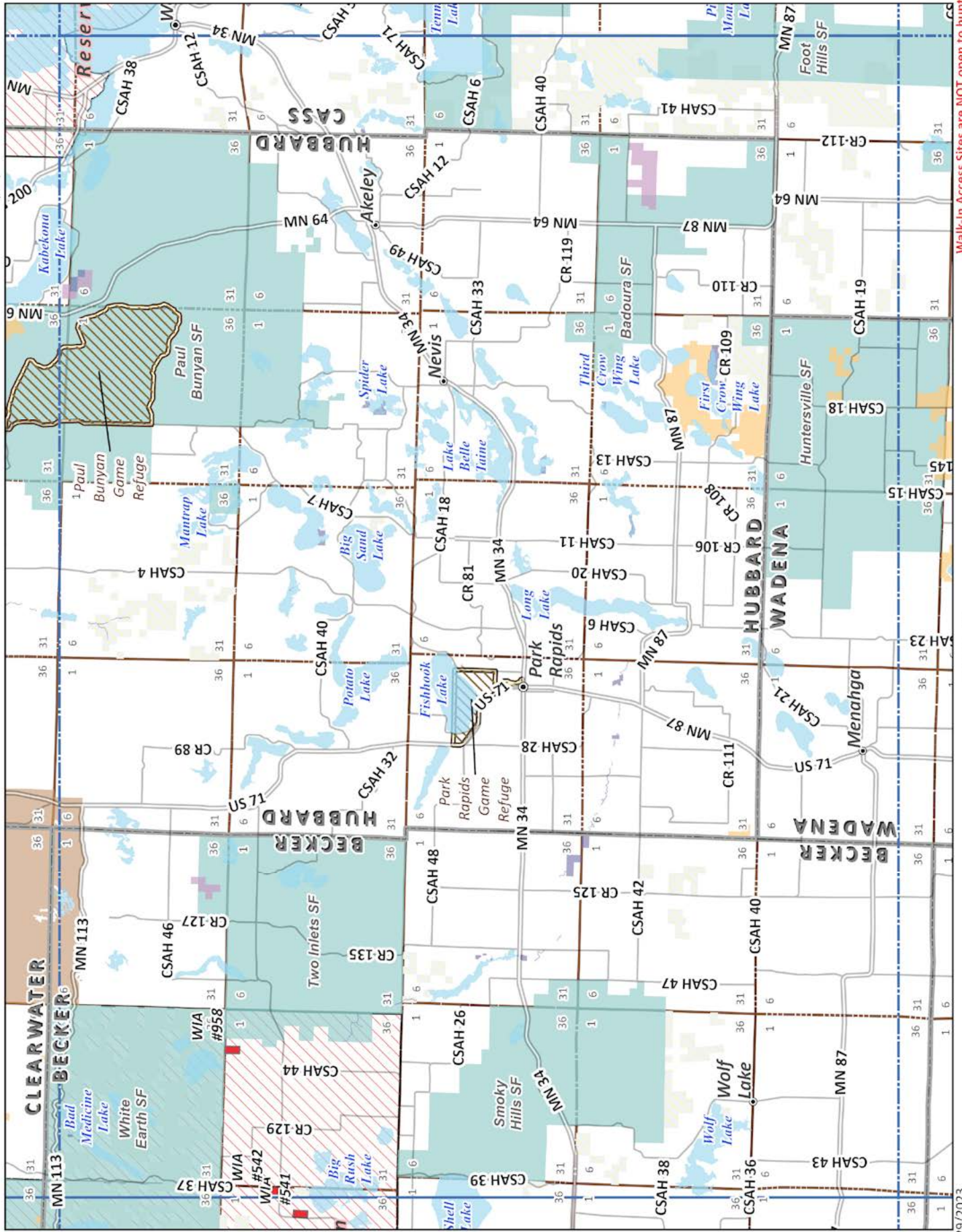
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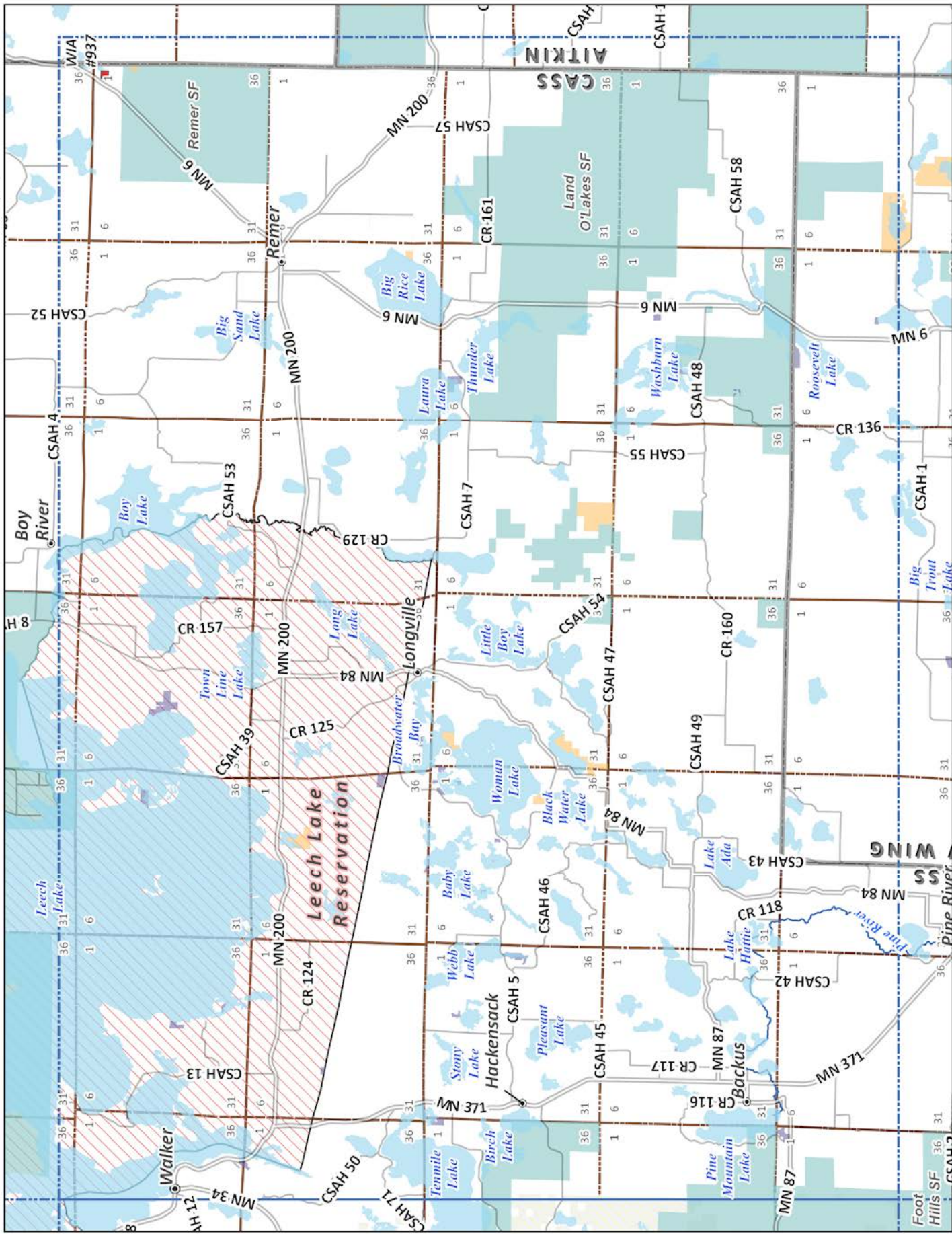
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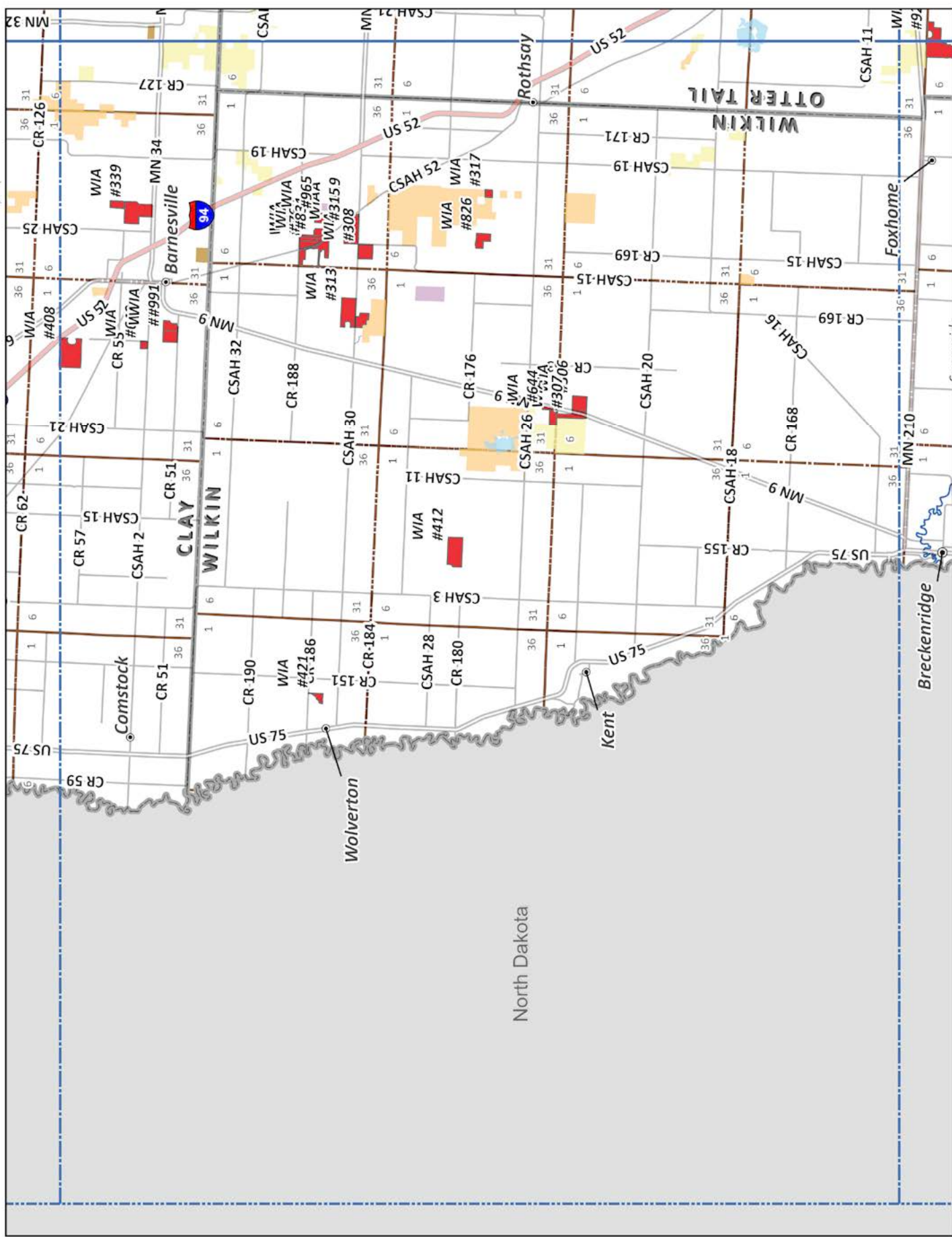
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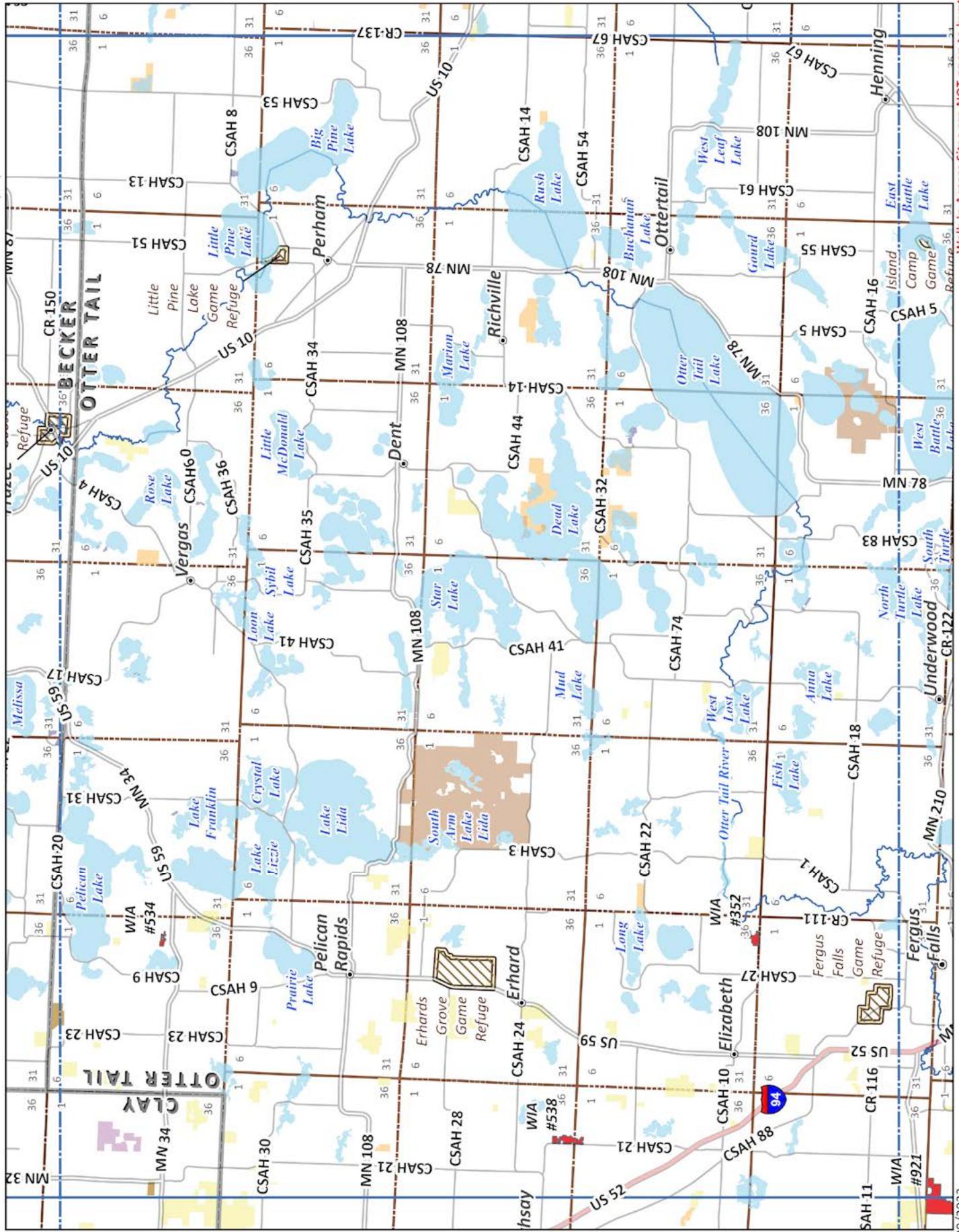








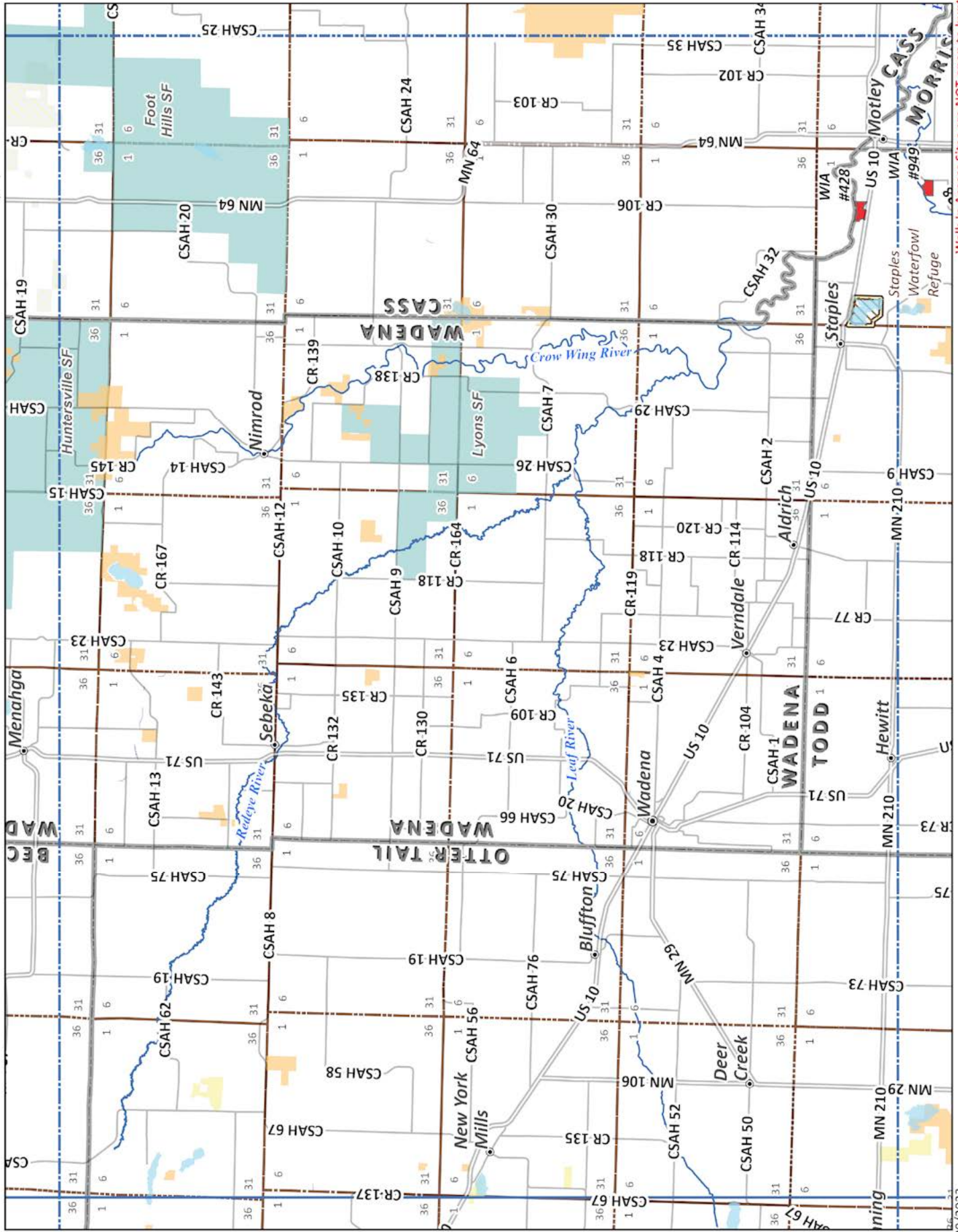
Walk-in Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs



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1 in = 4.4 miles



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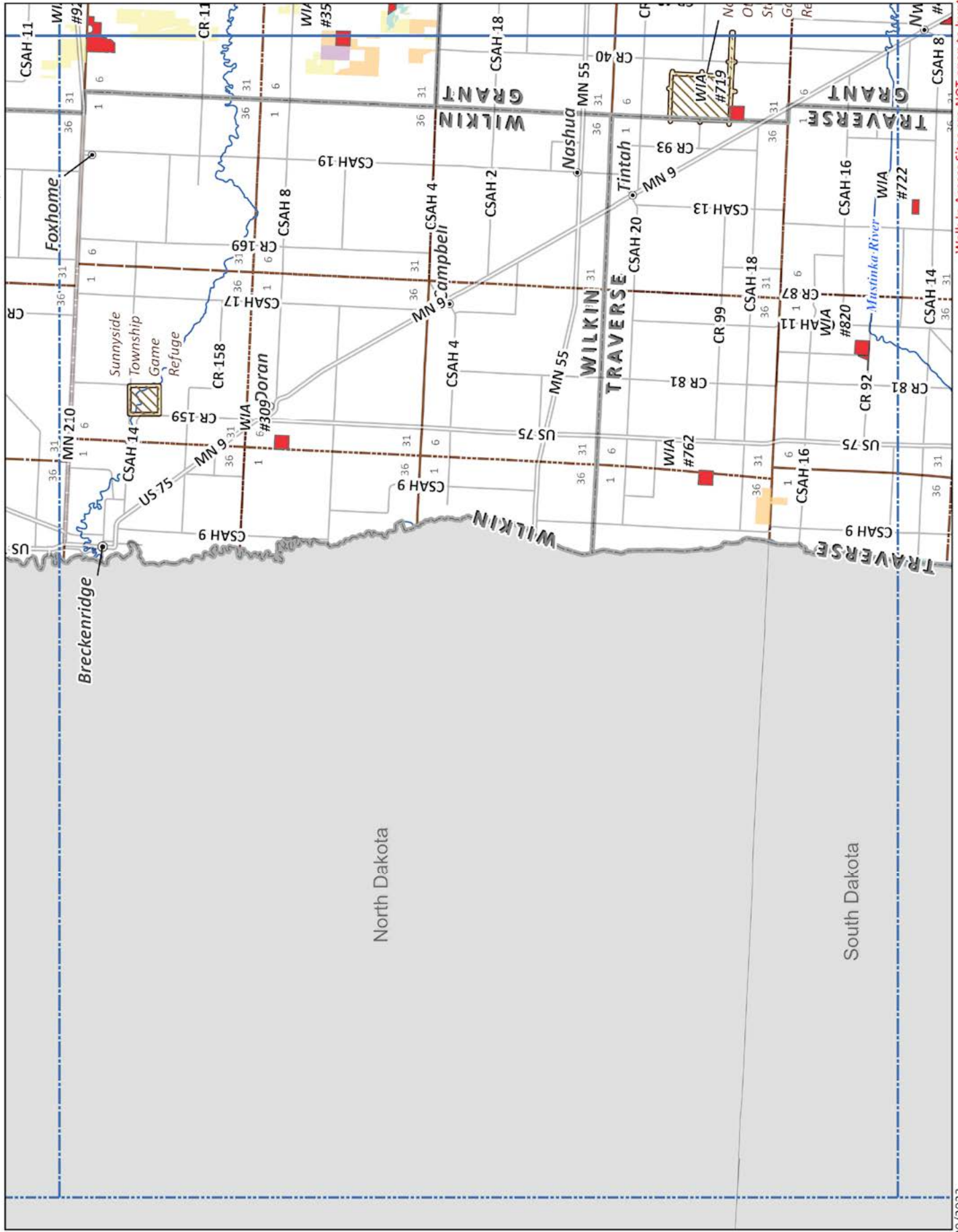
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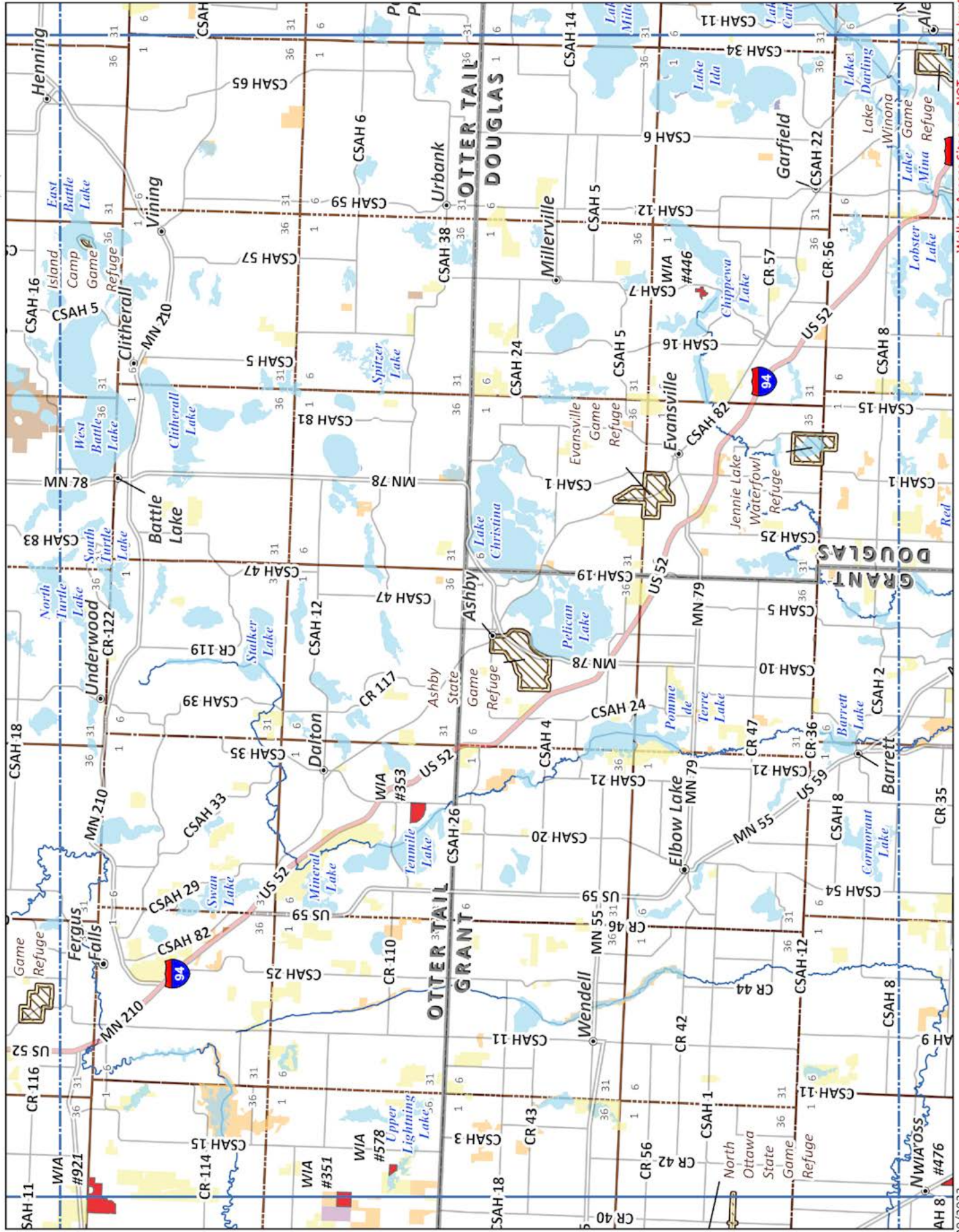
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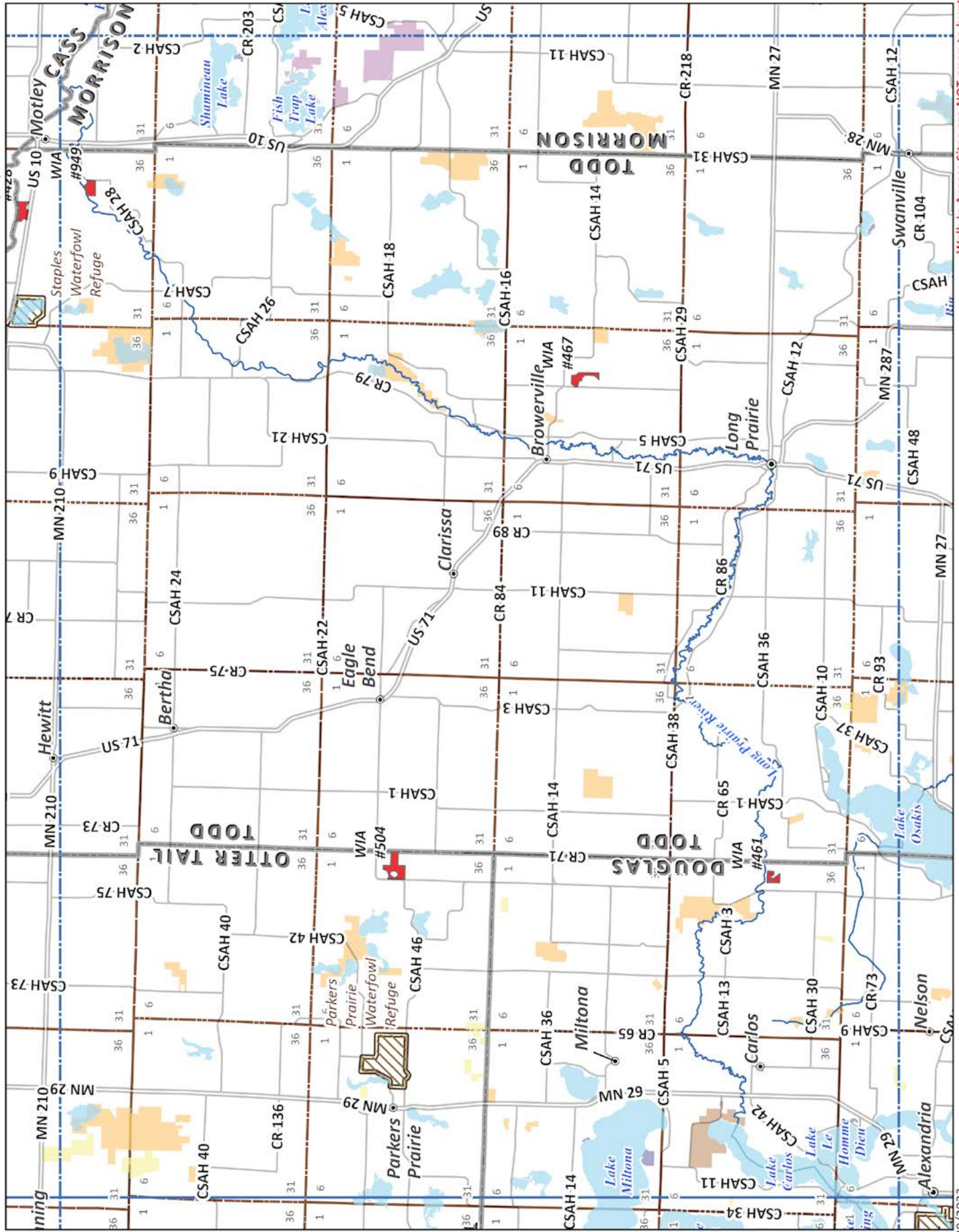
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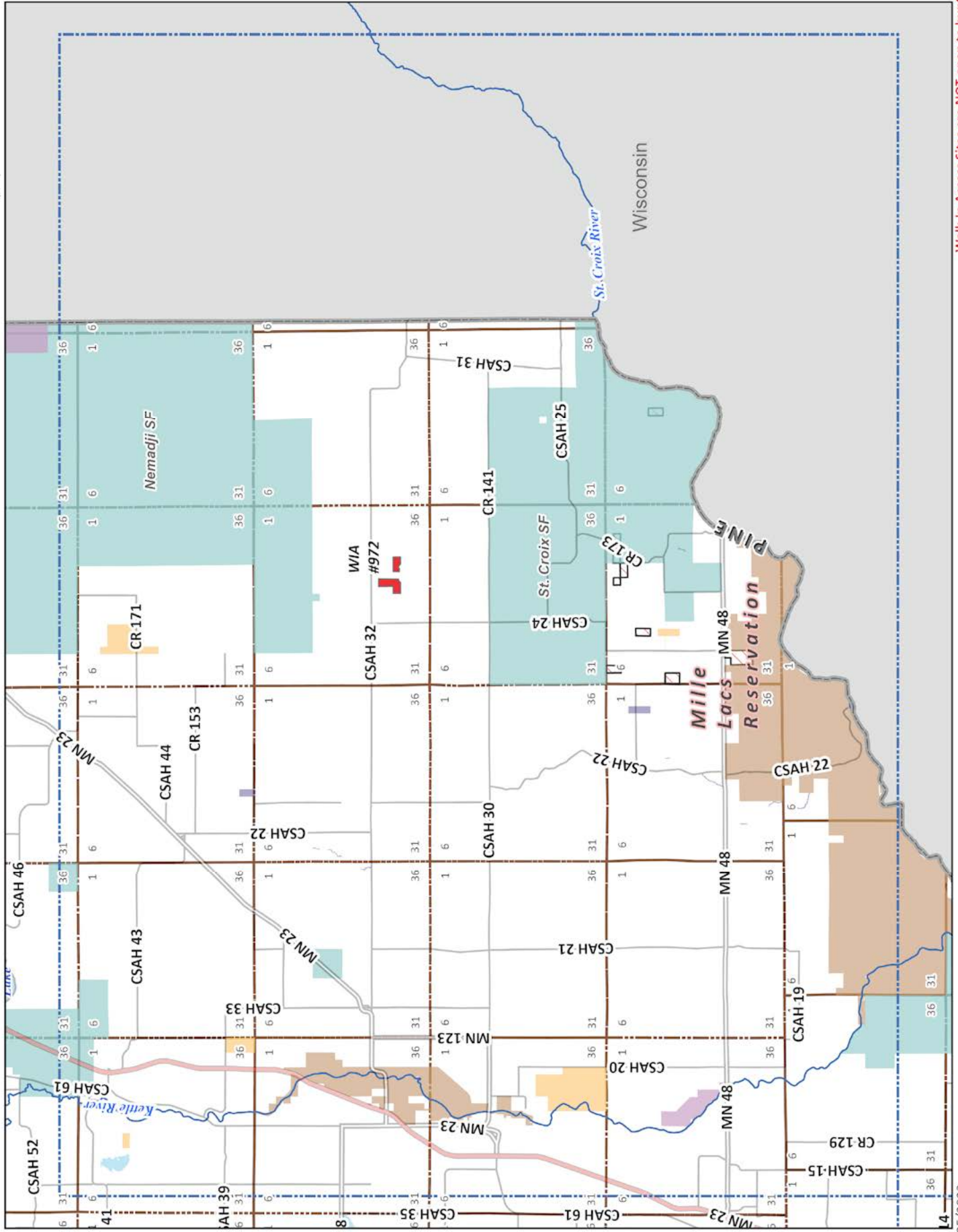
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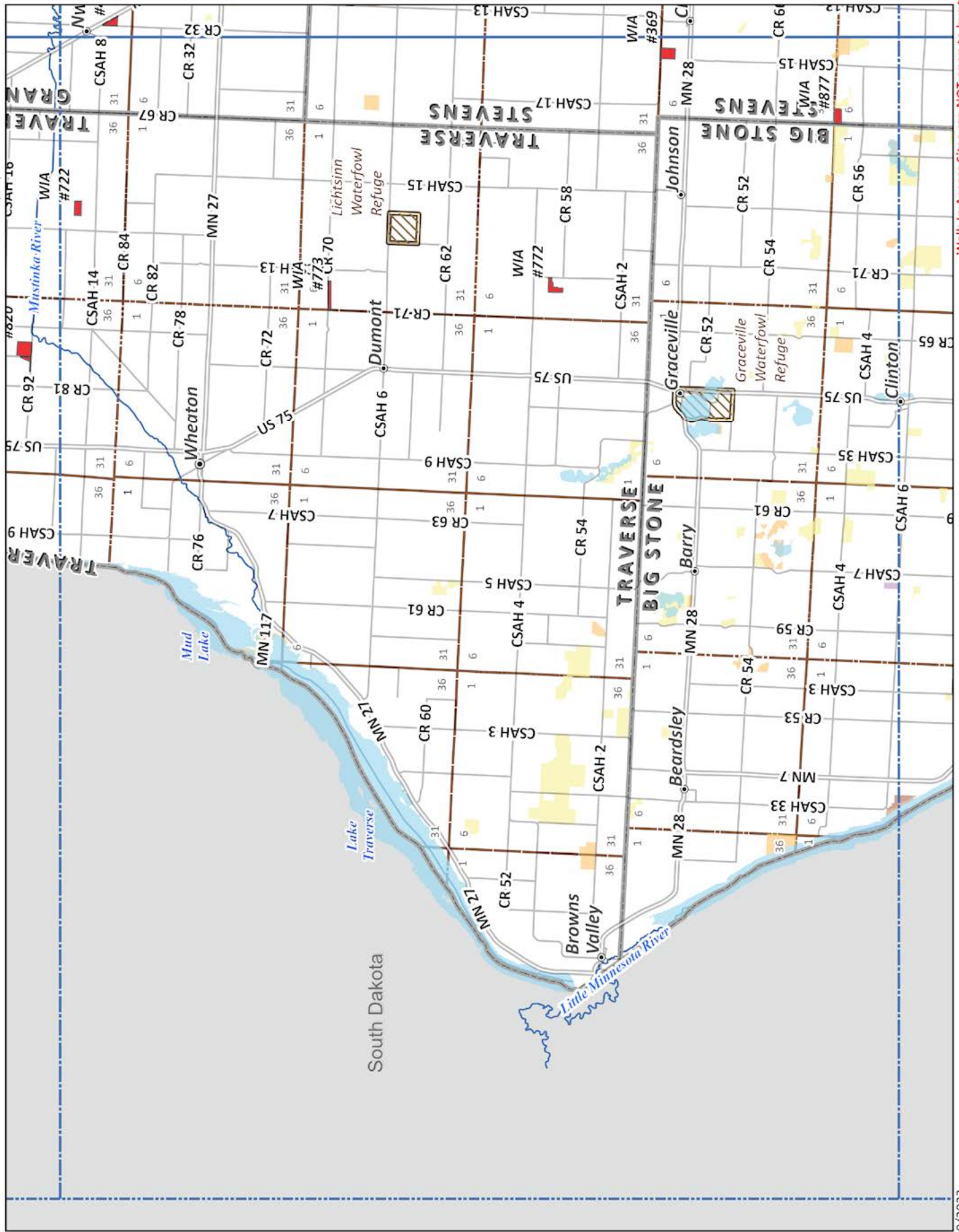










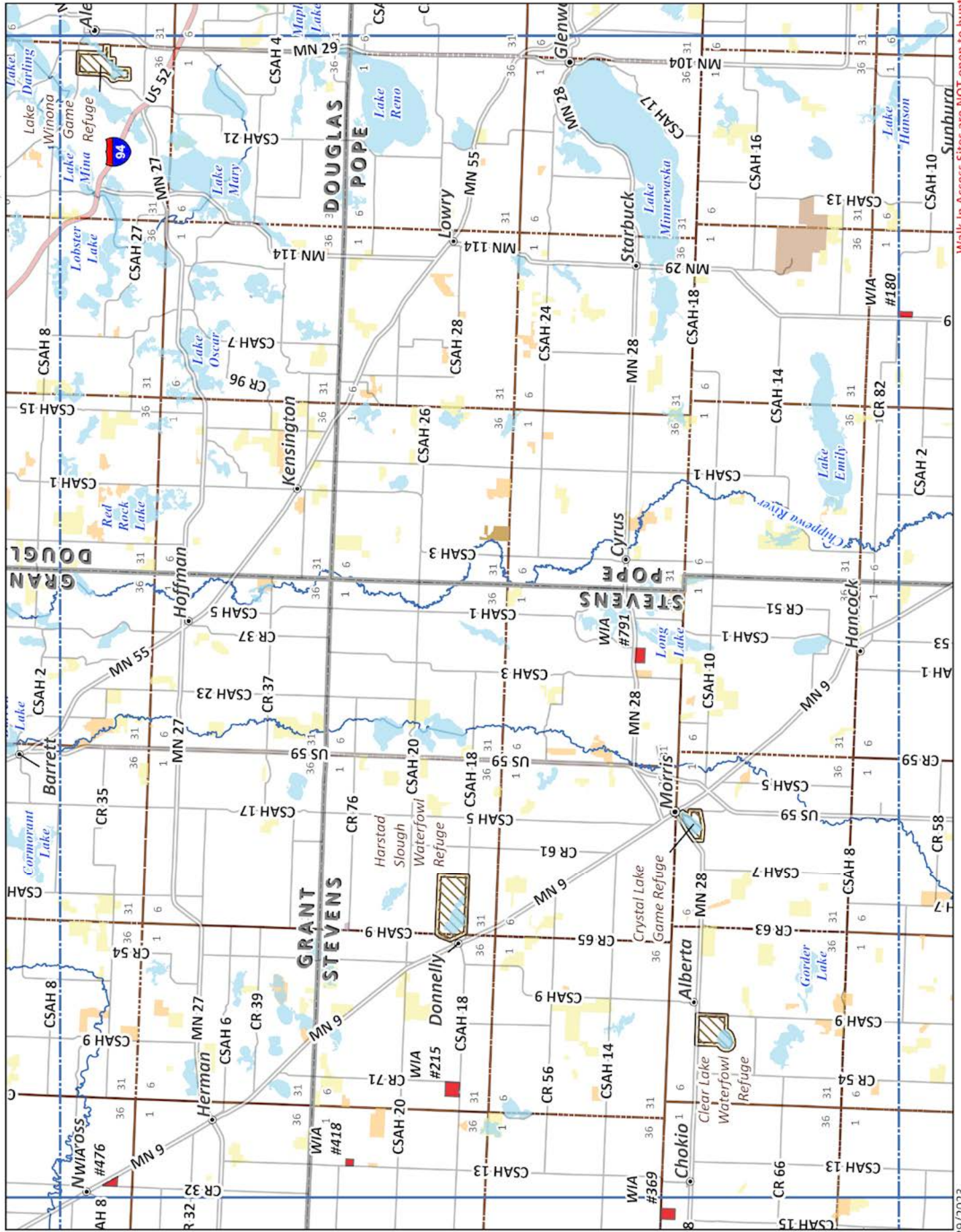


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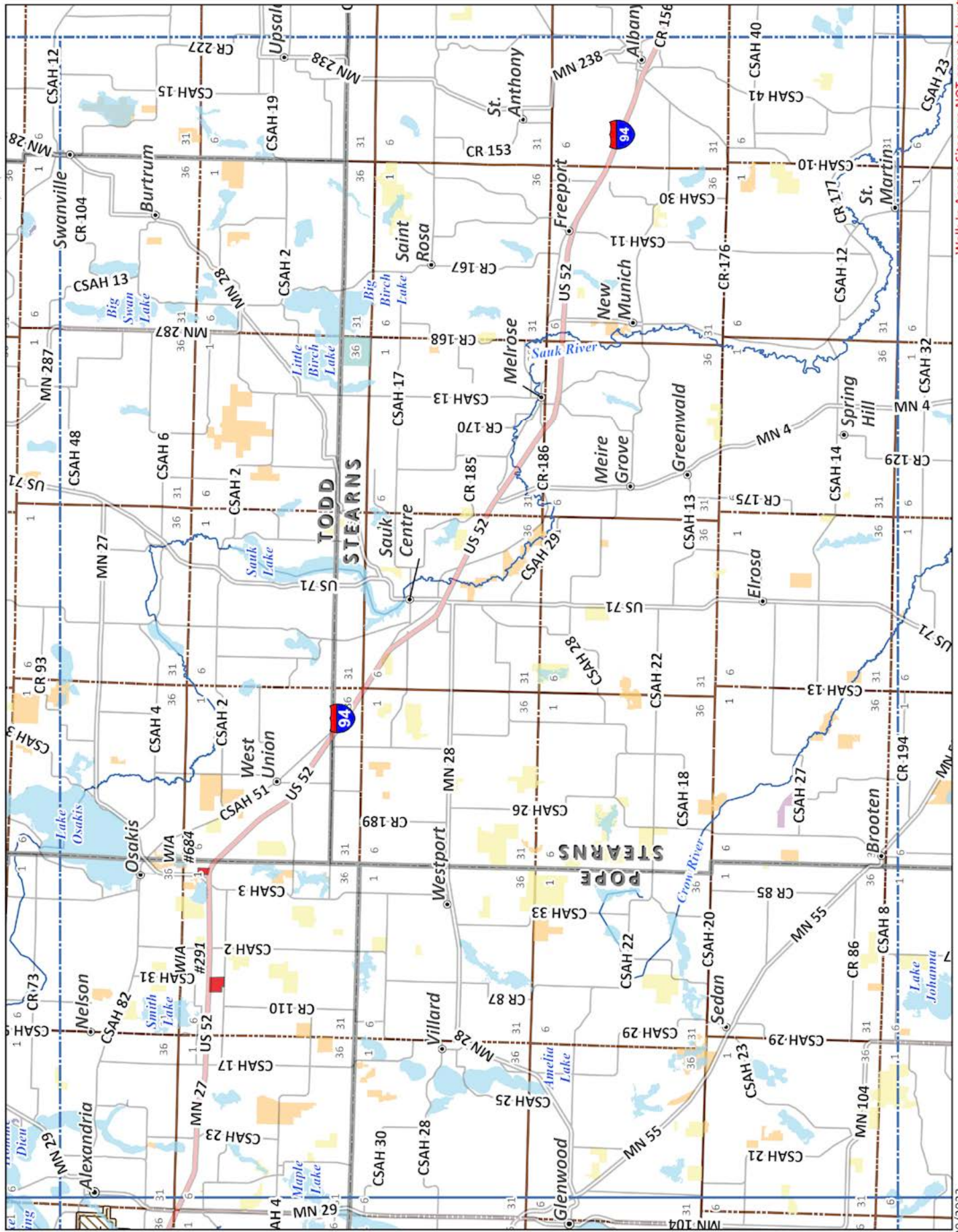
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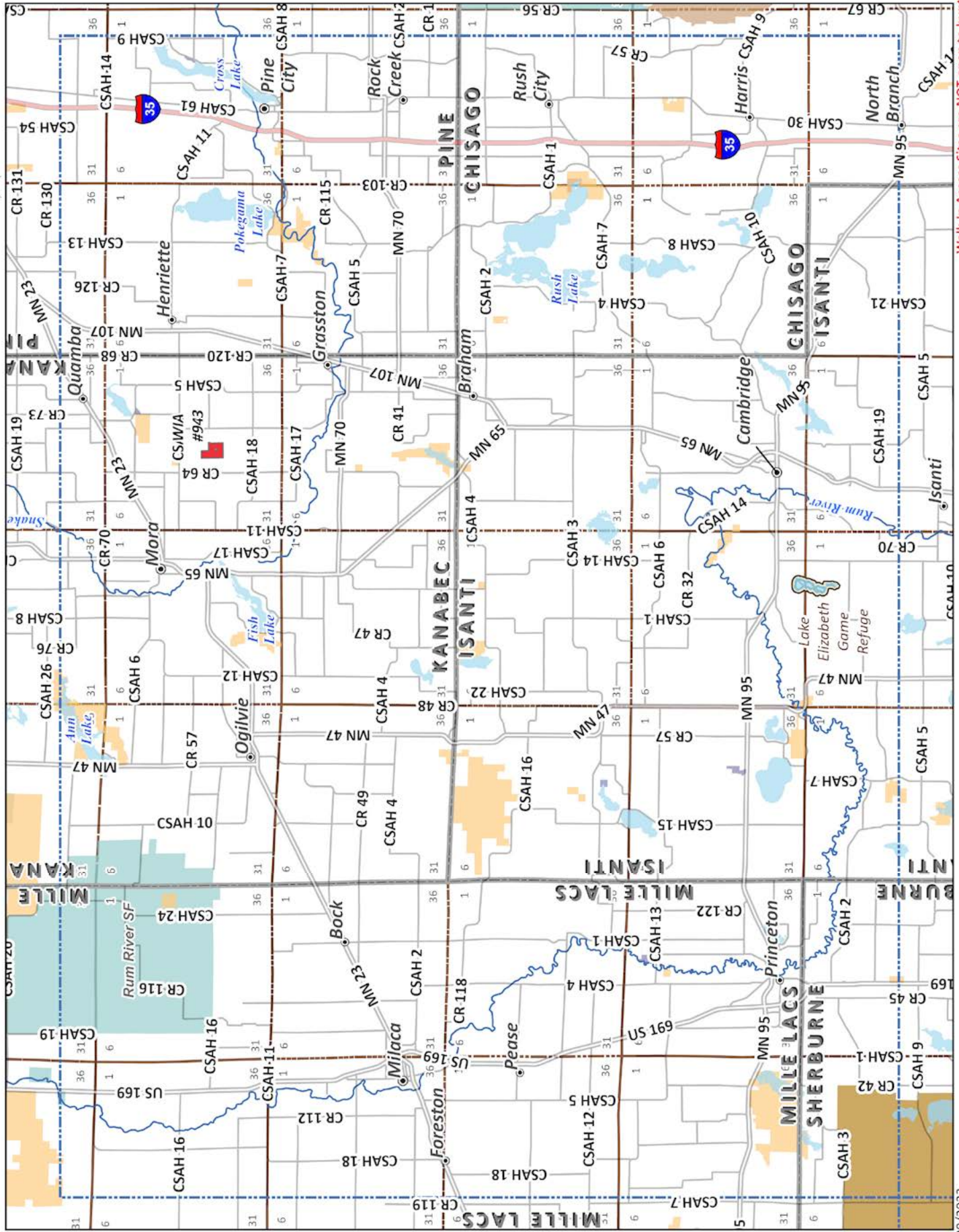


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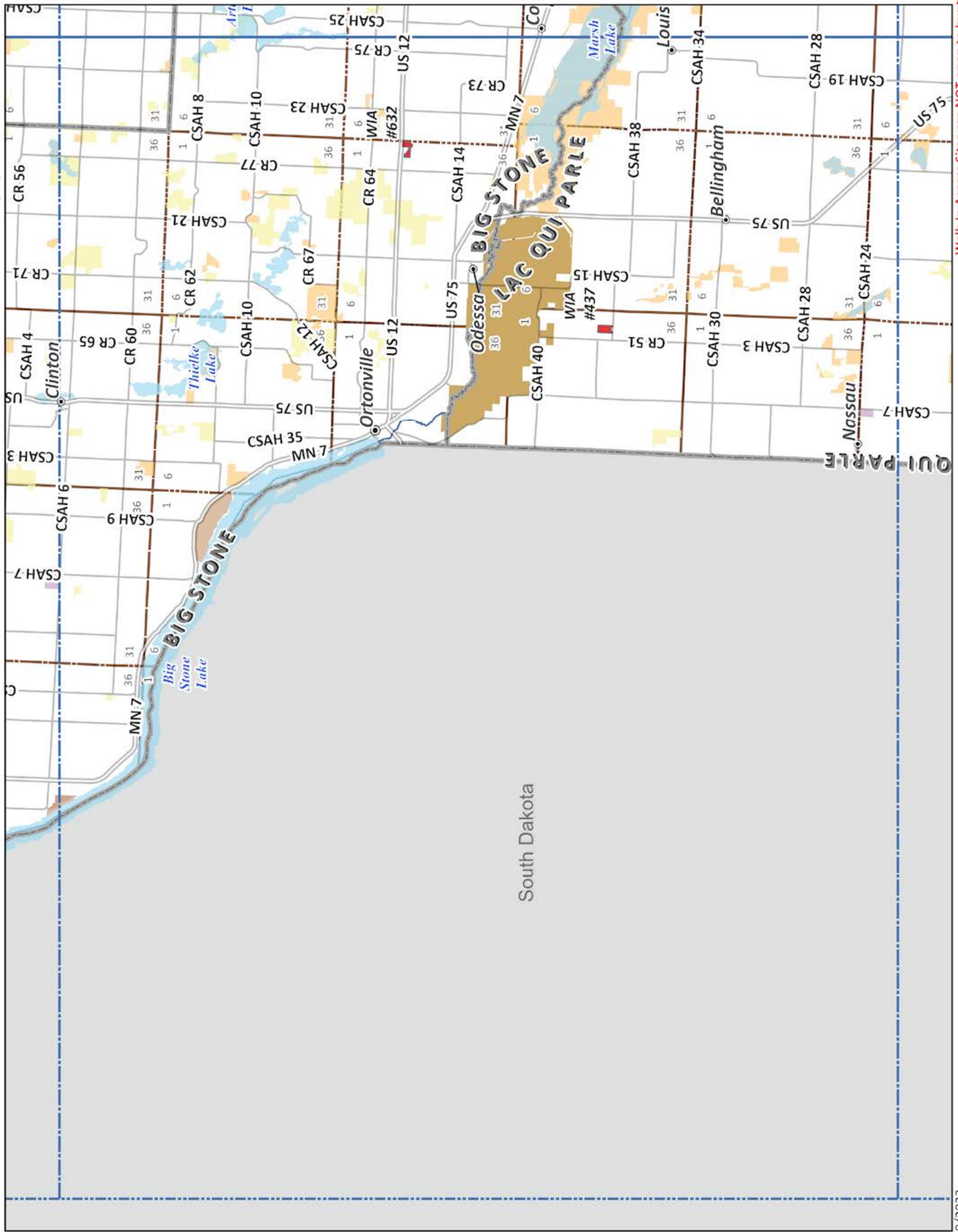
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22  
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South Dakota

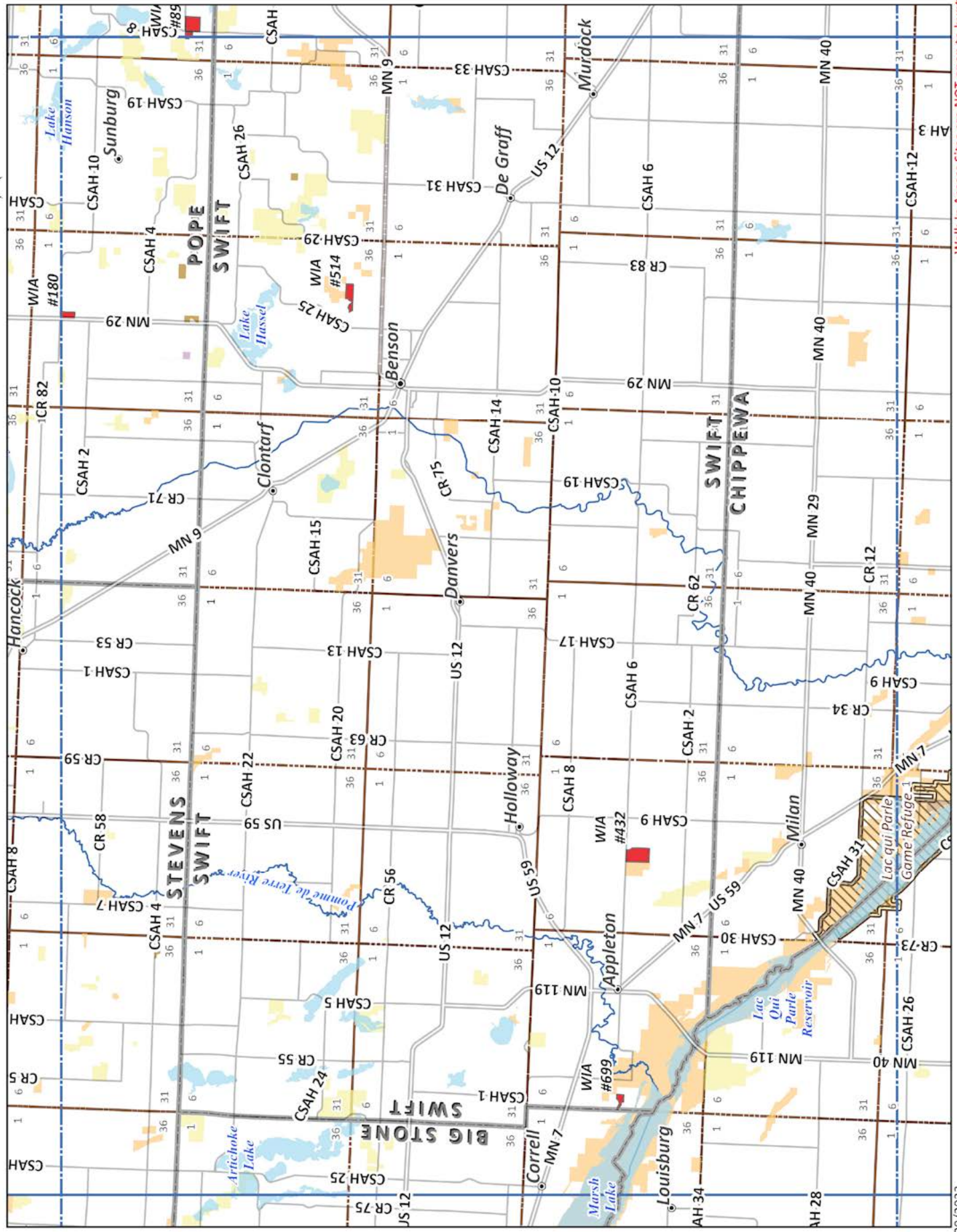
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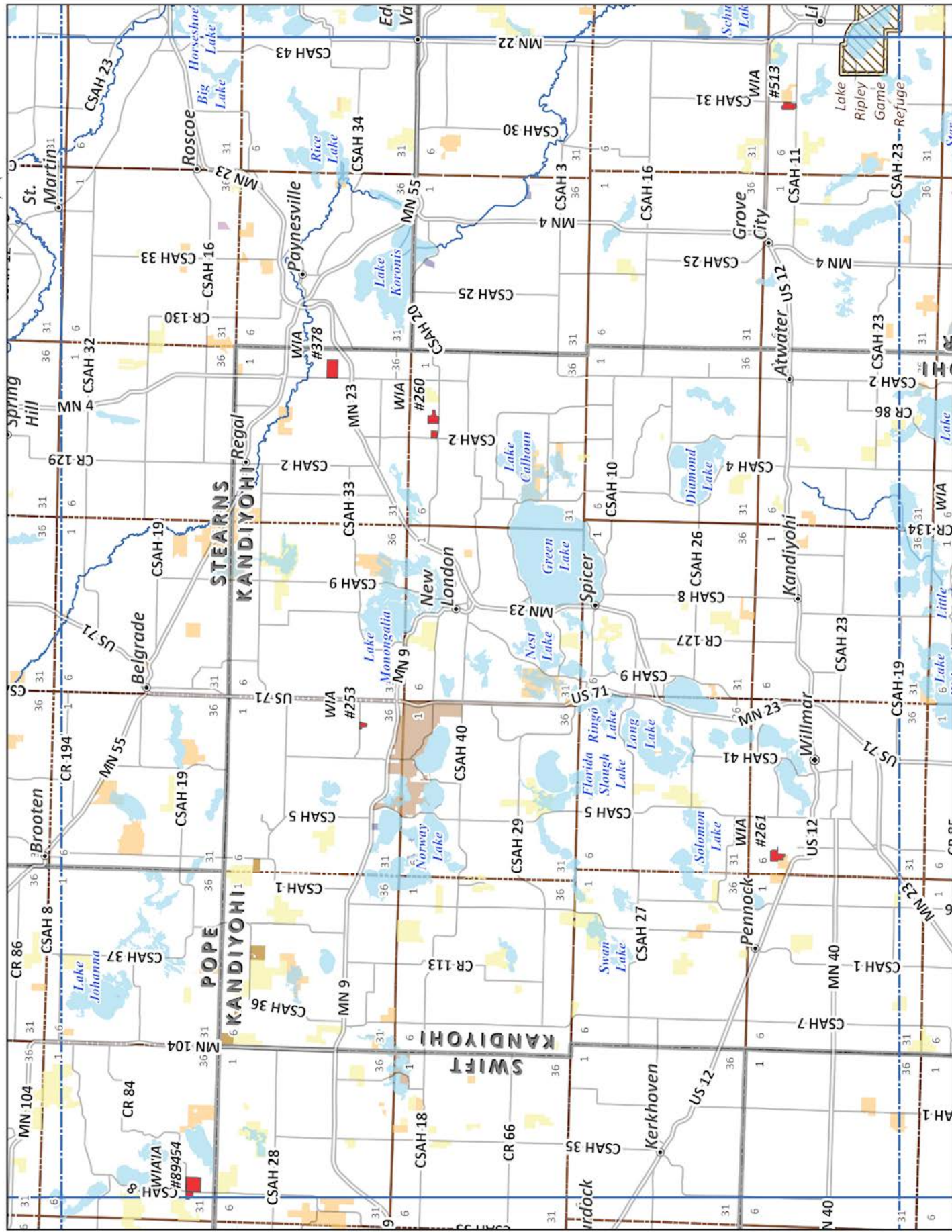
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Tile # 69

Tile # 63

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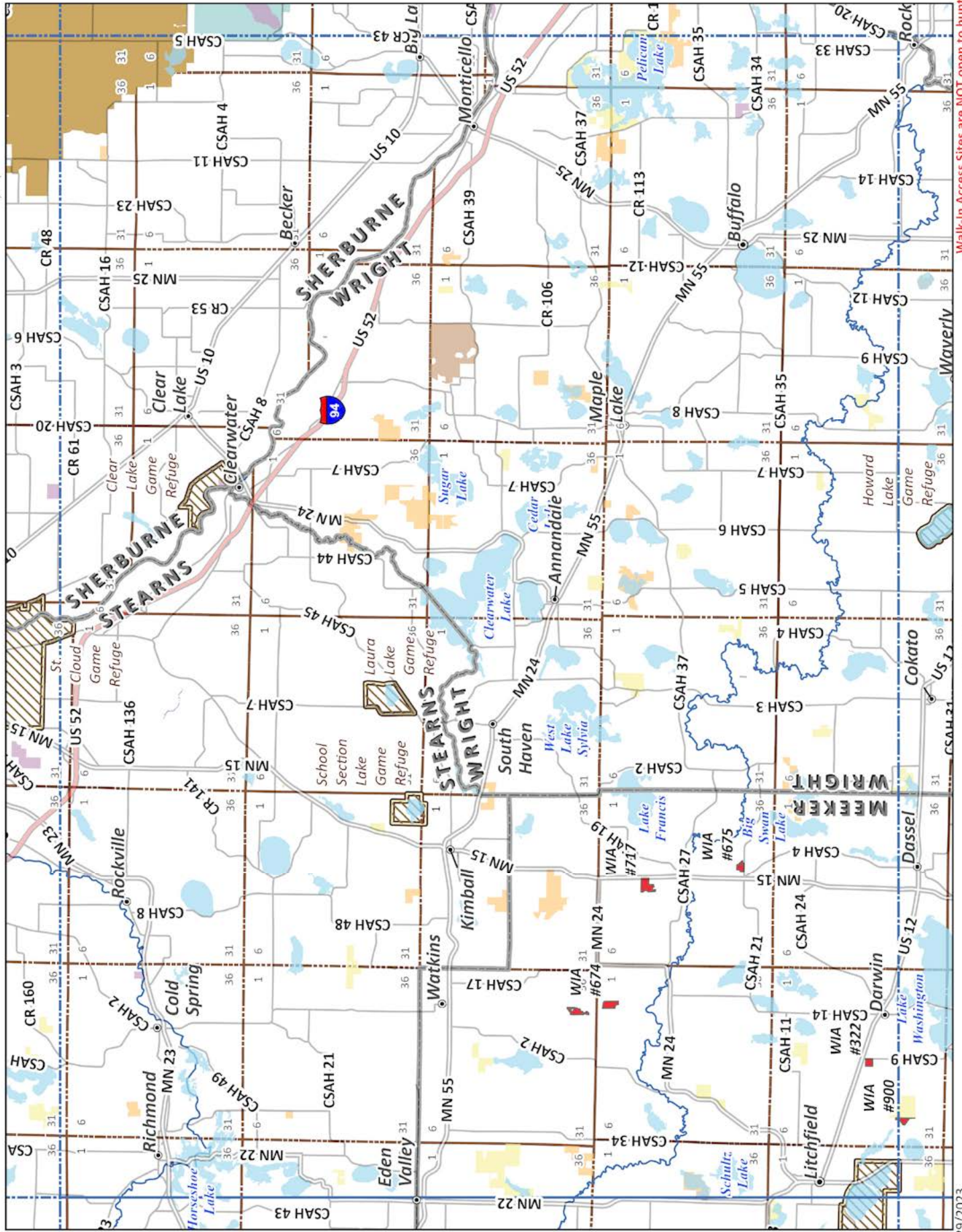


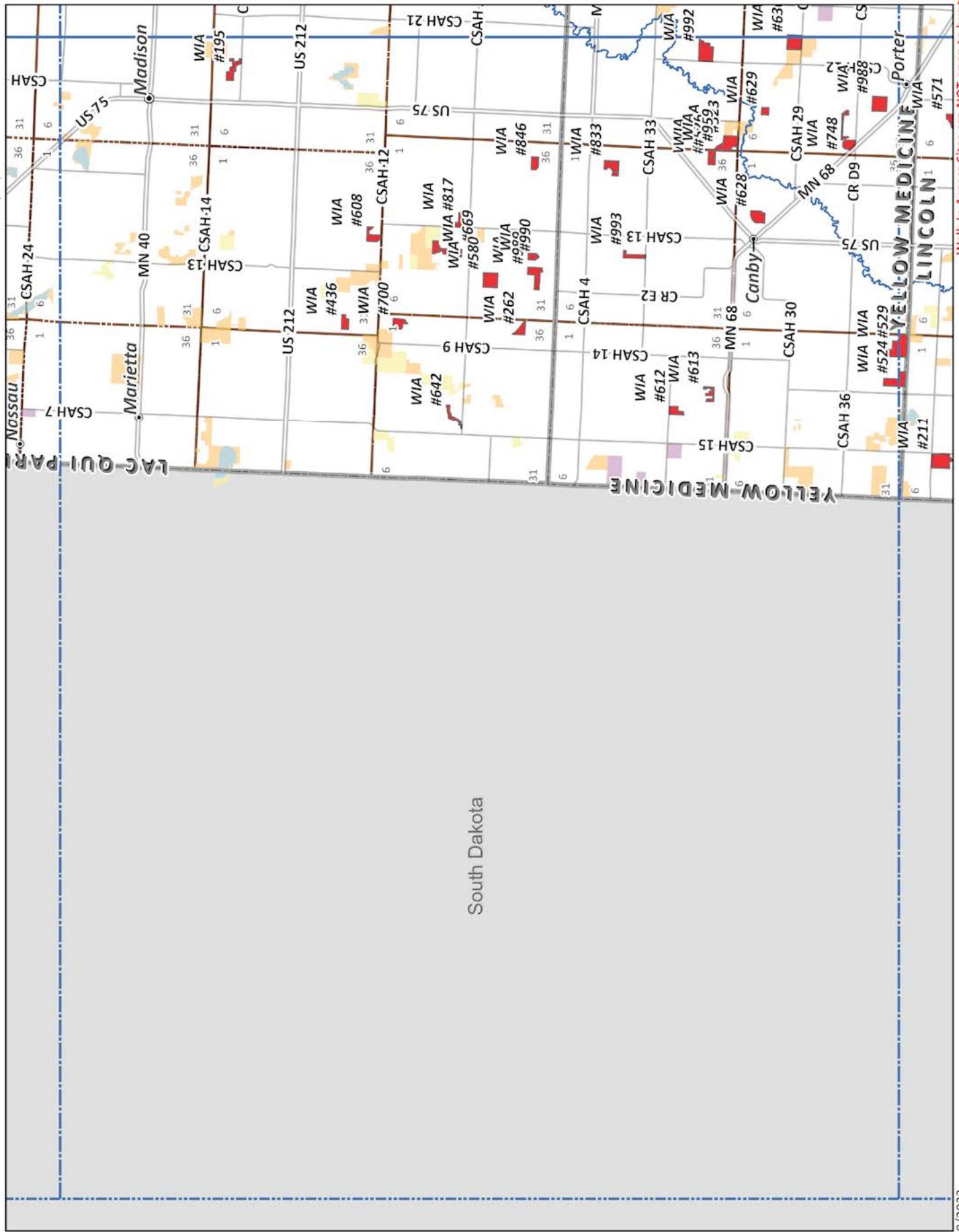
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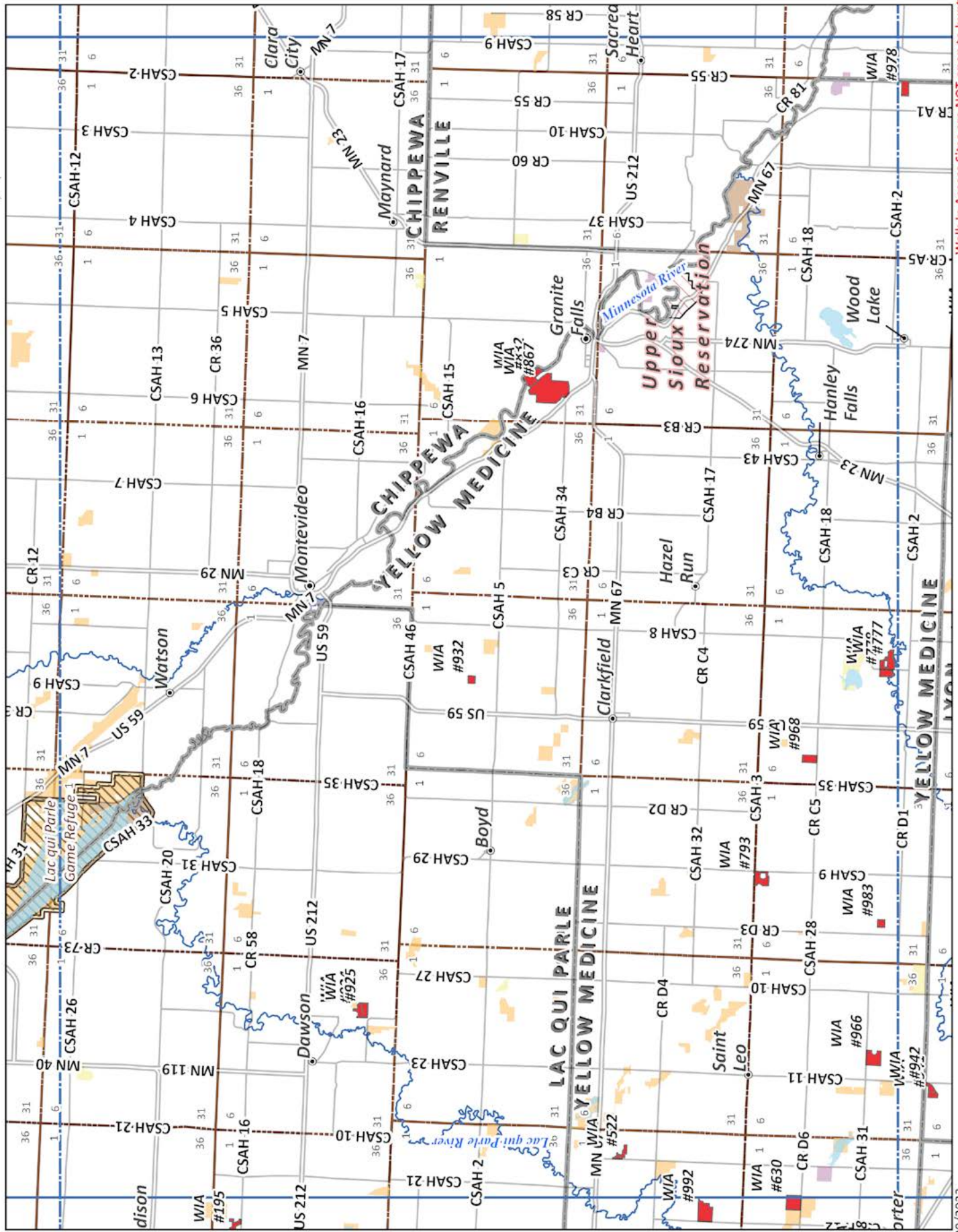
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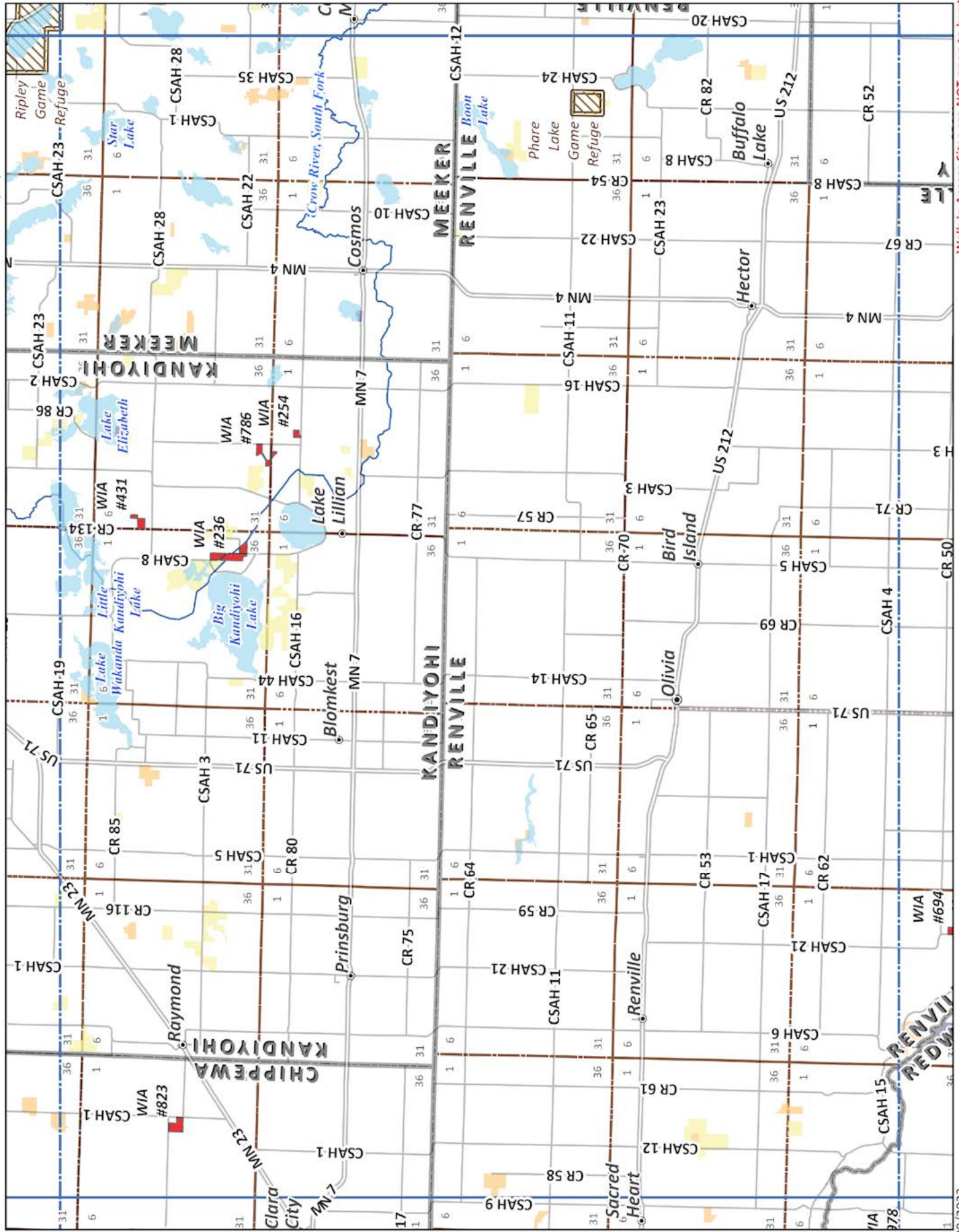
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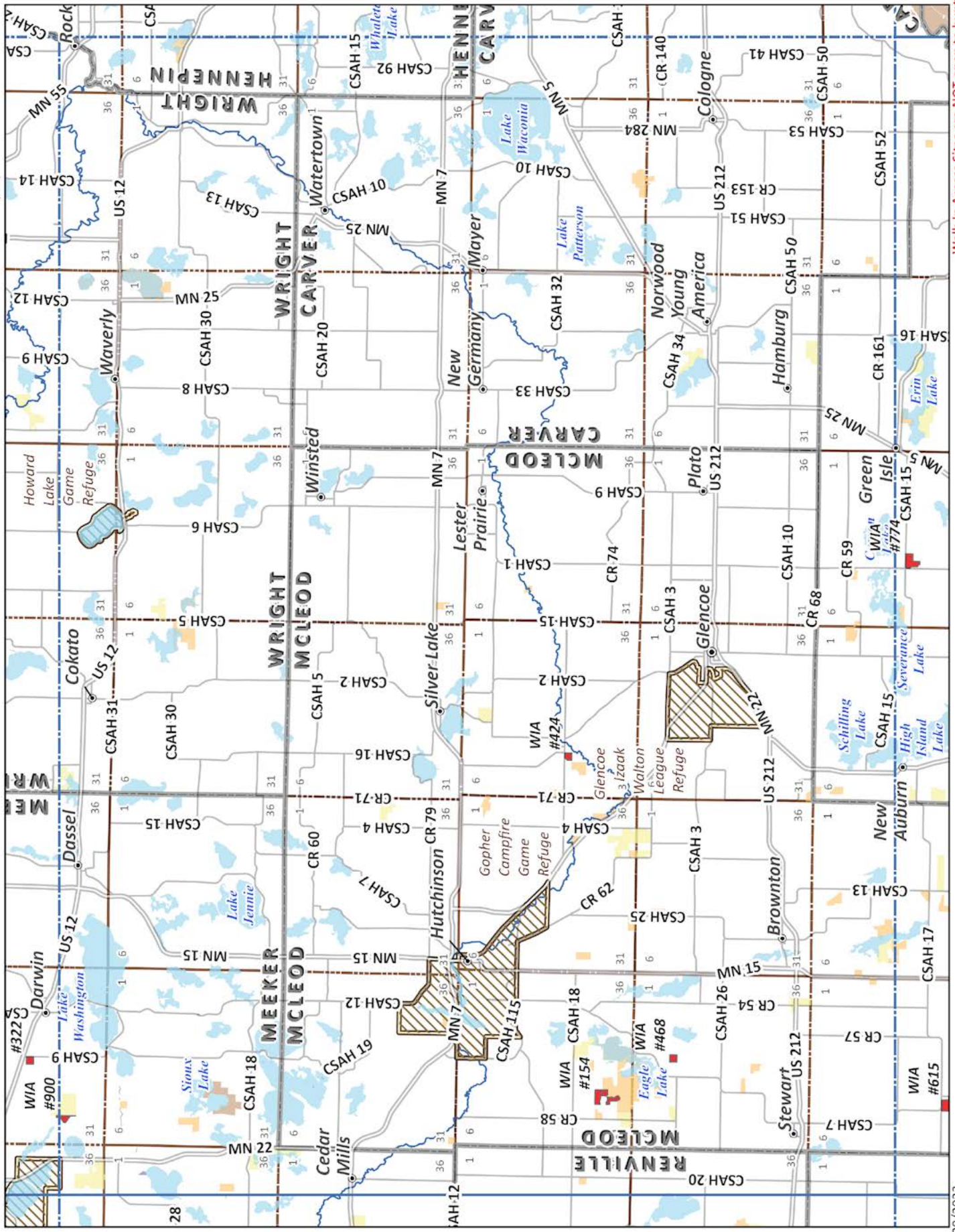




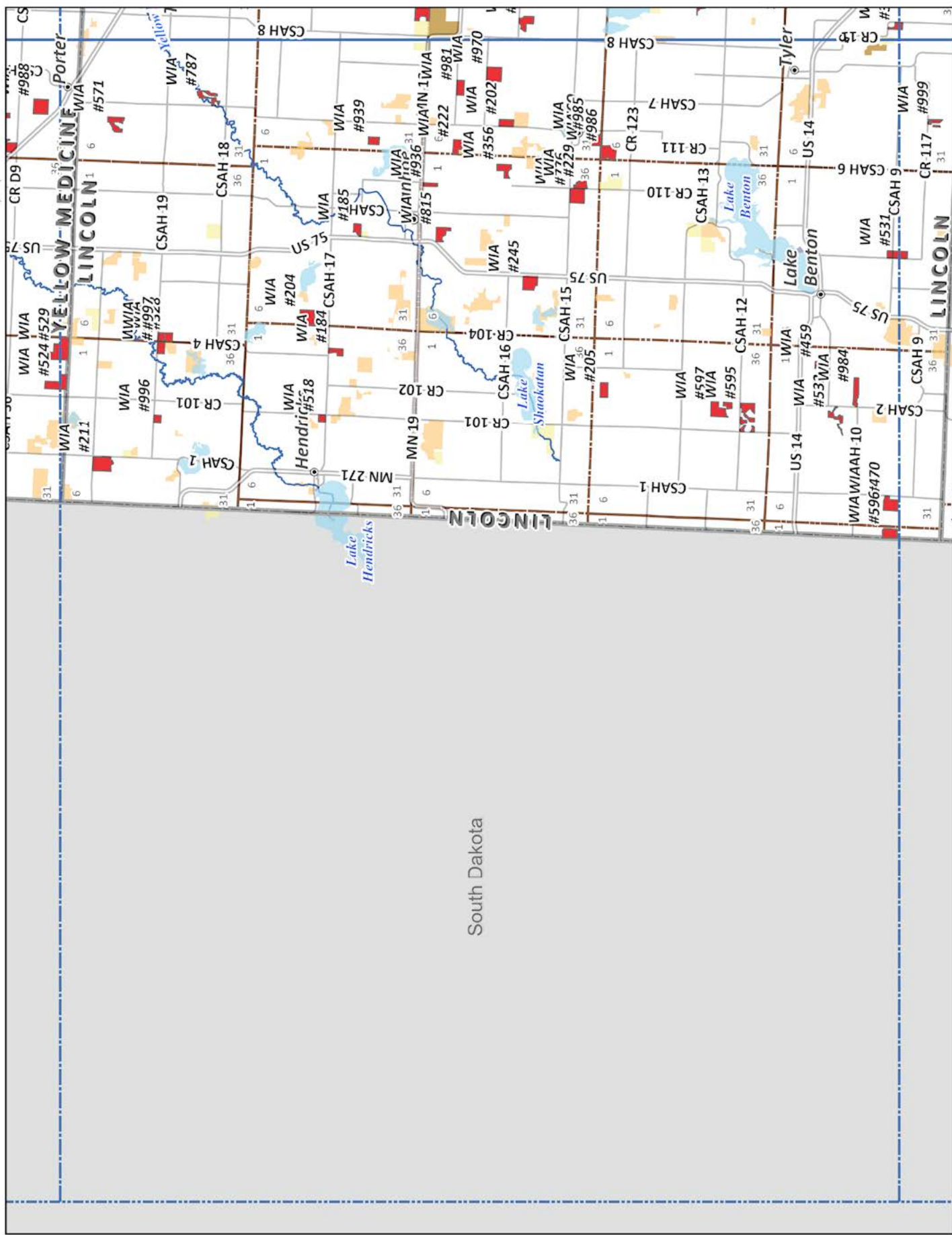
Walk-In Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs





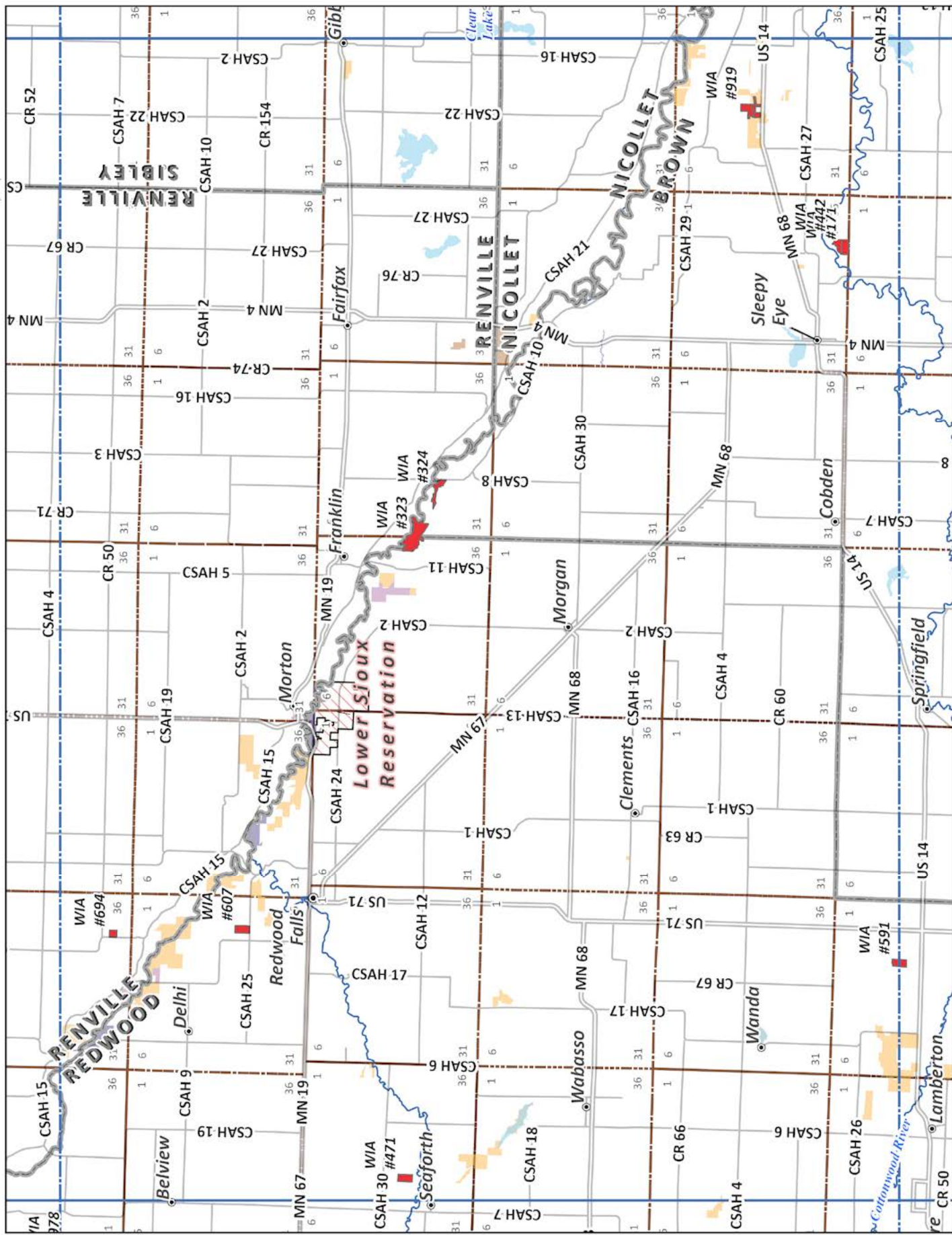






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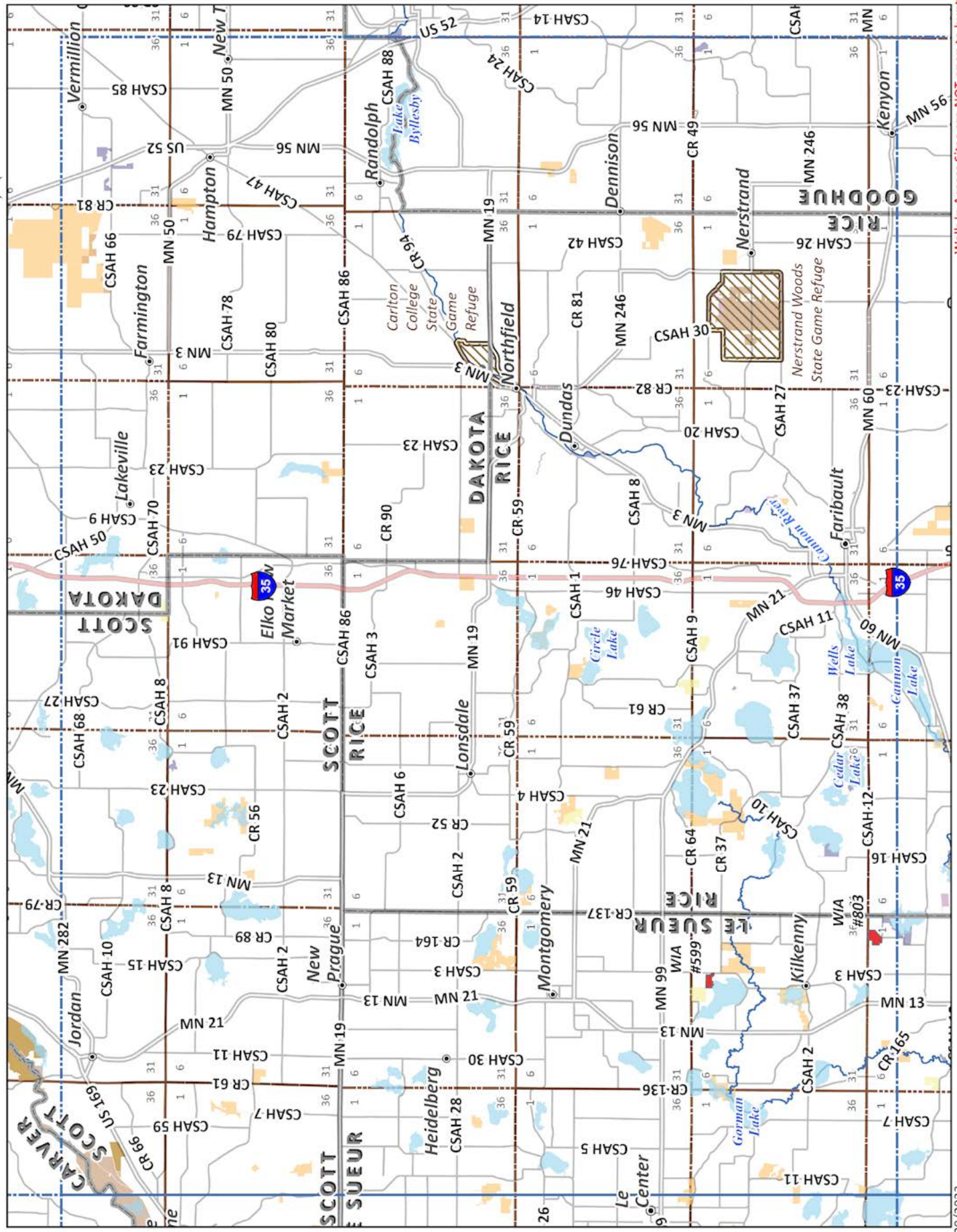
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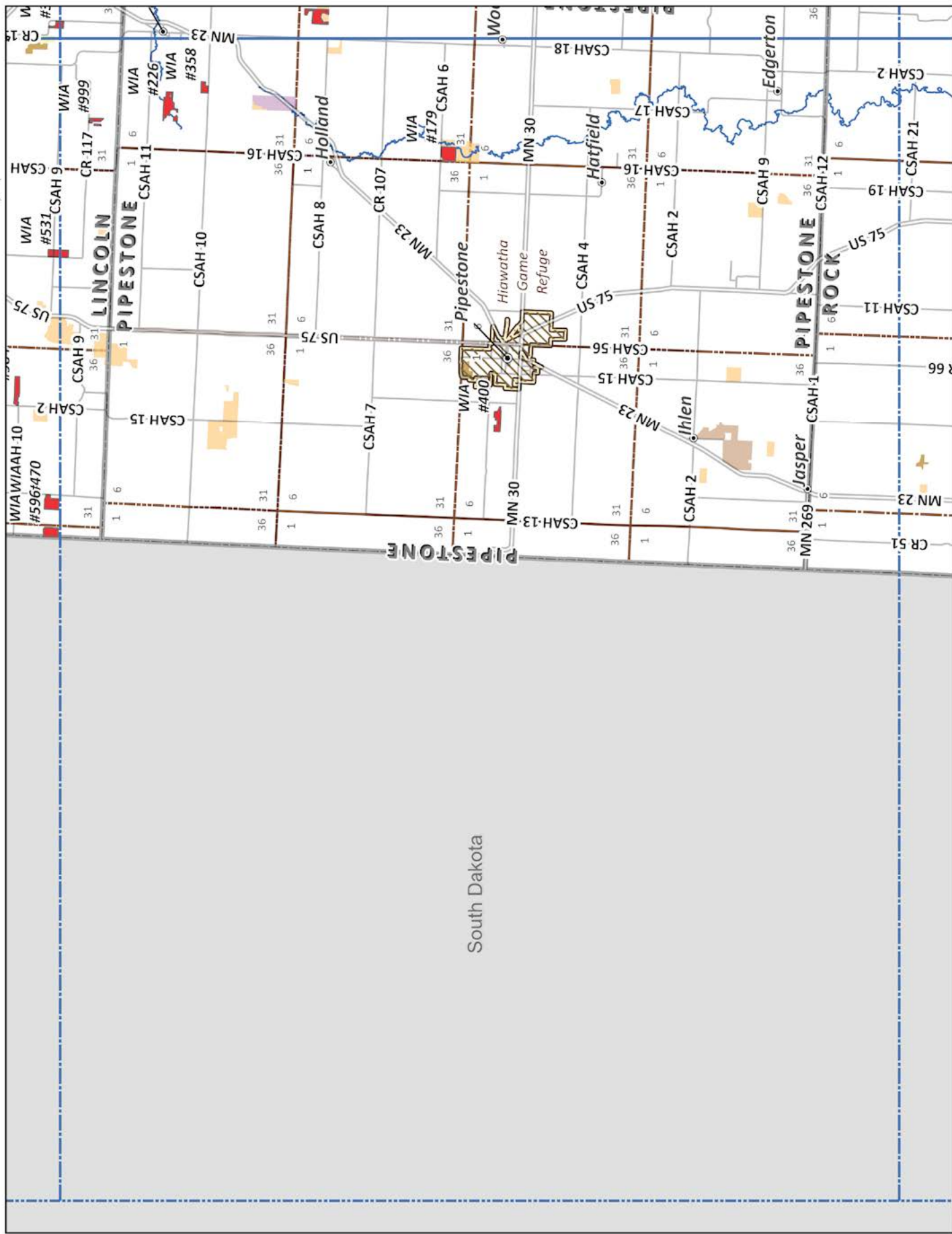


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Walk-in Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs

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Tile # 90



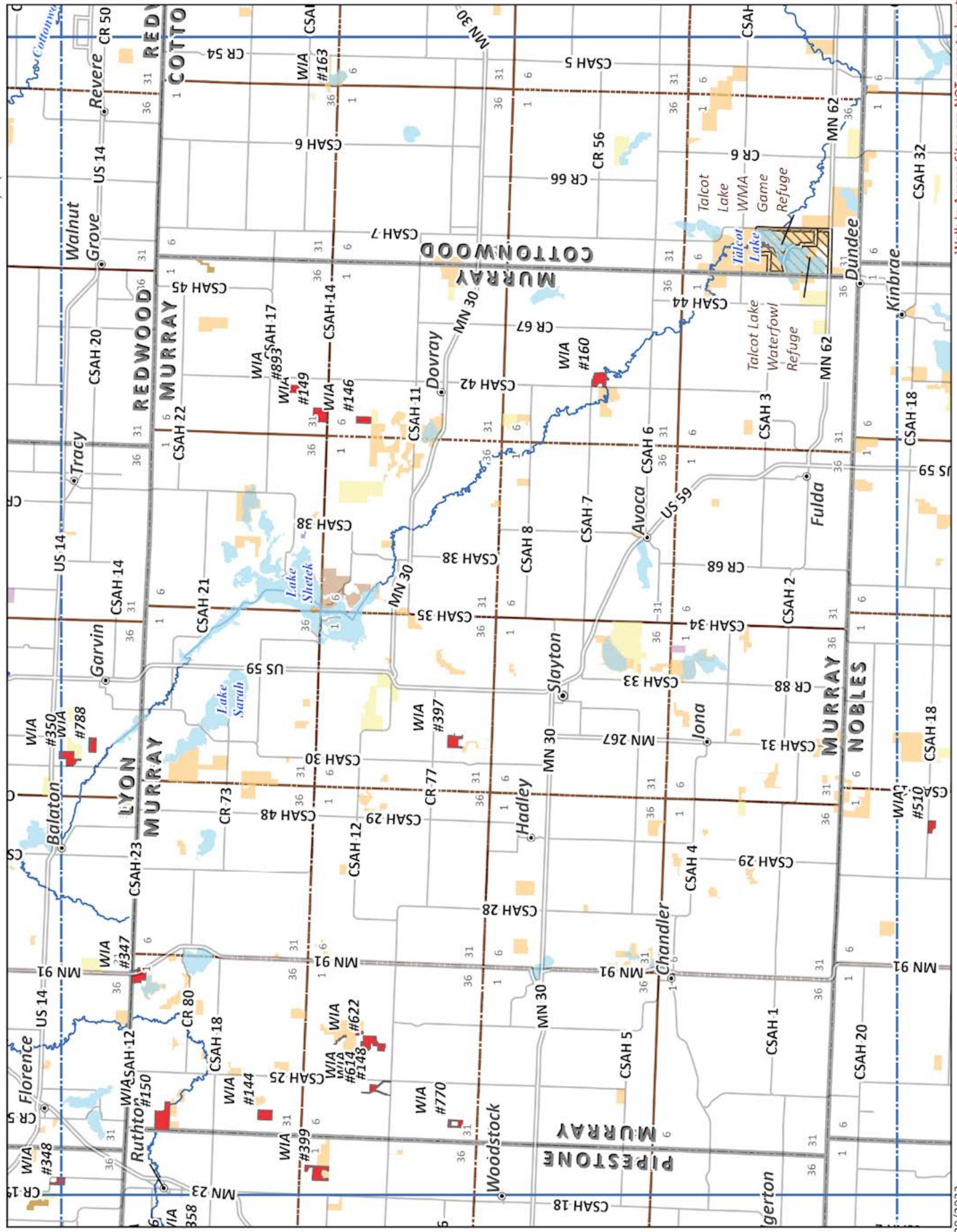
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Tile # 88

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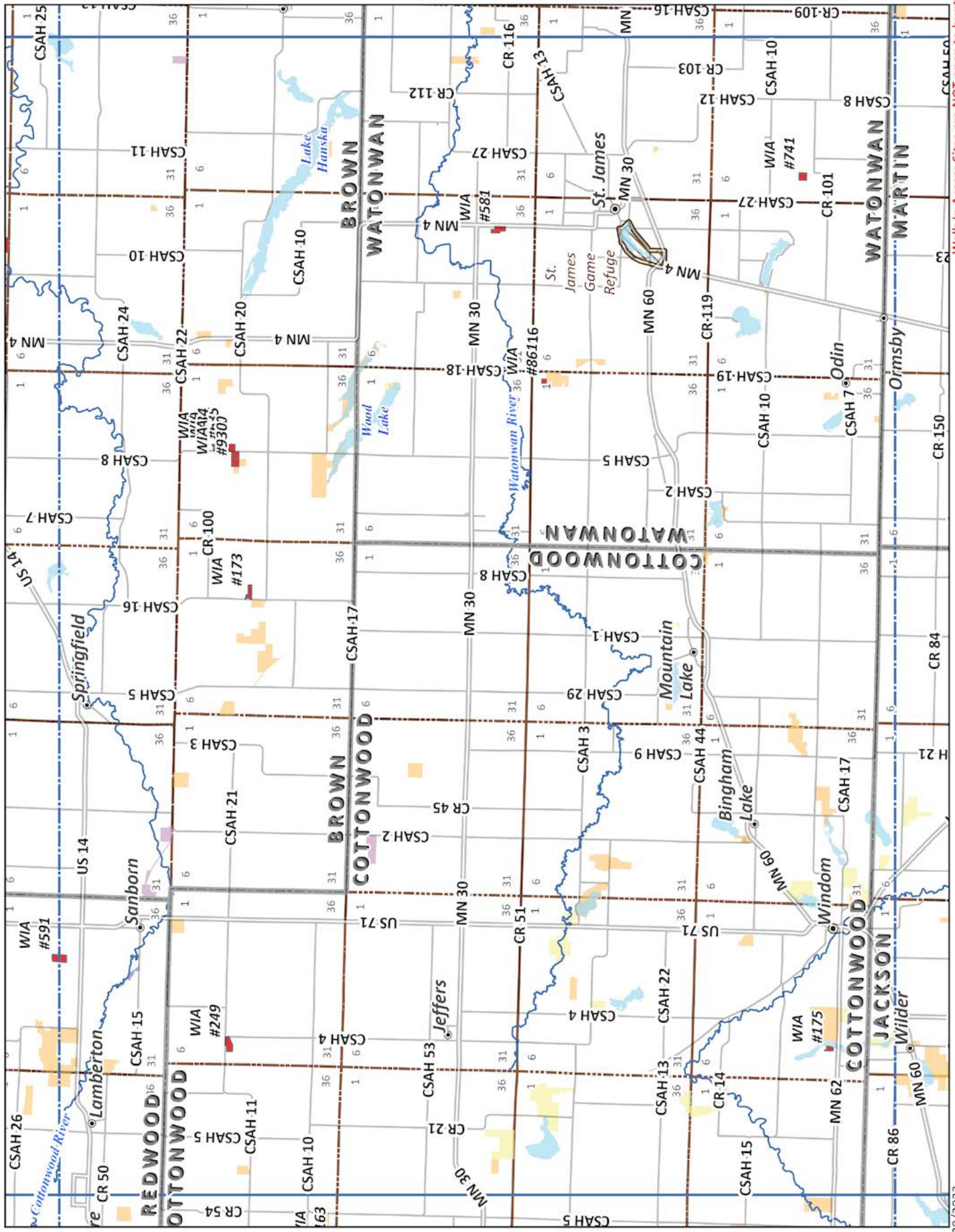


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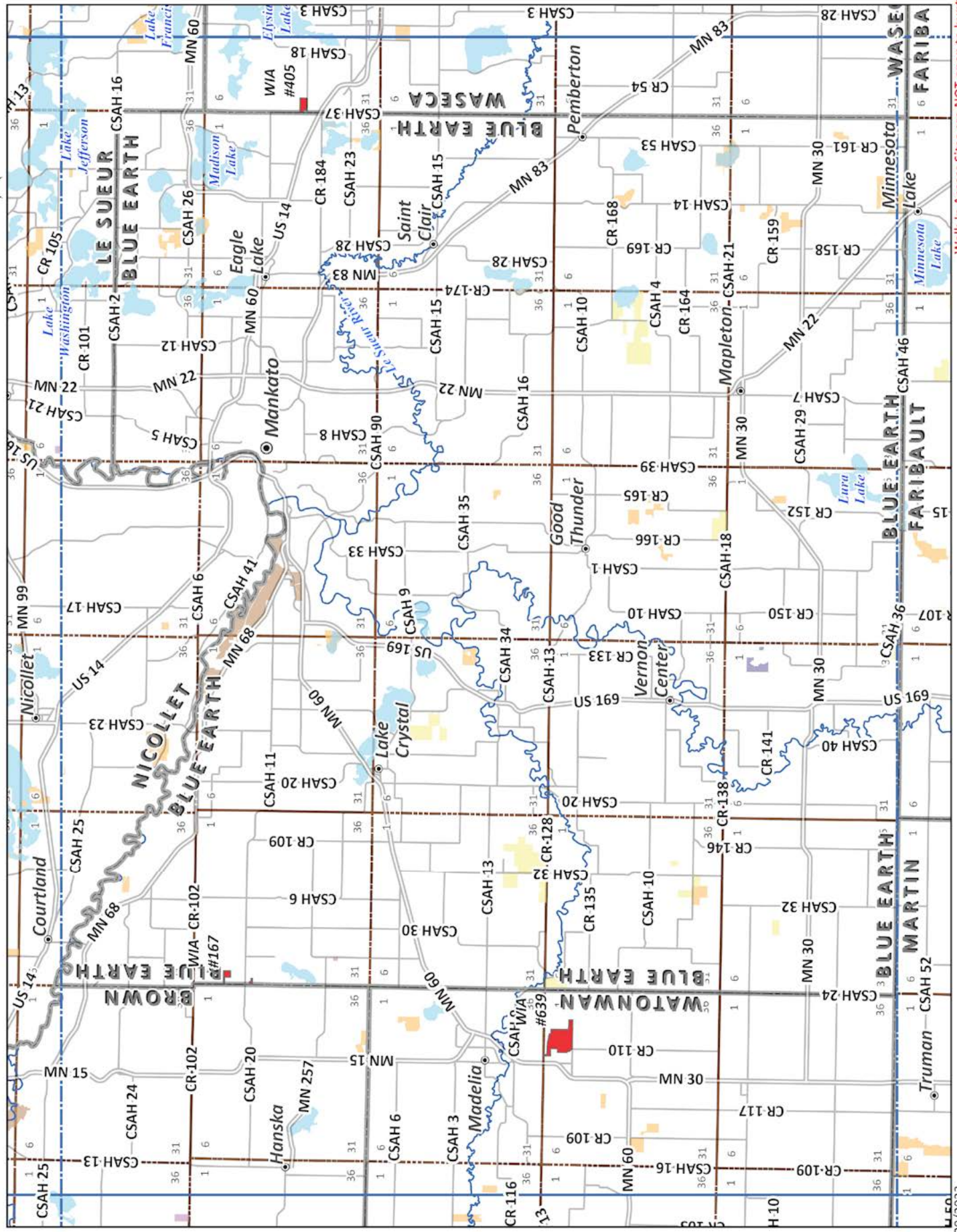
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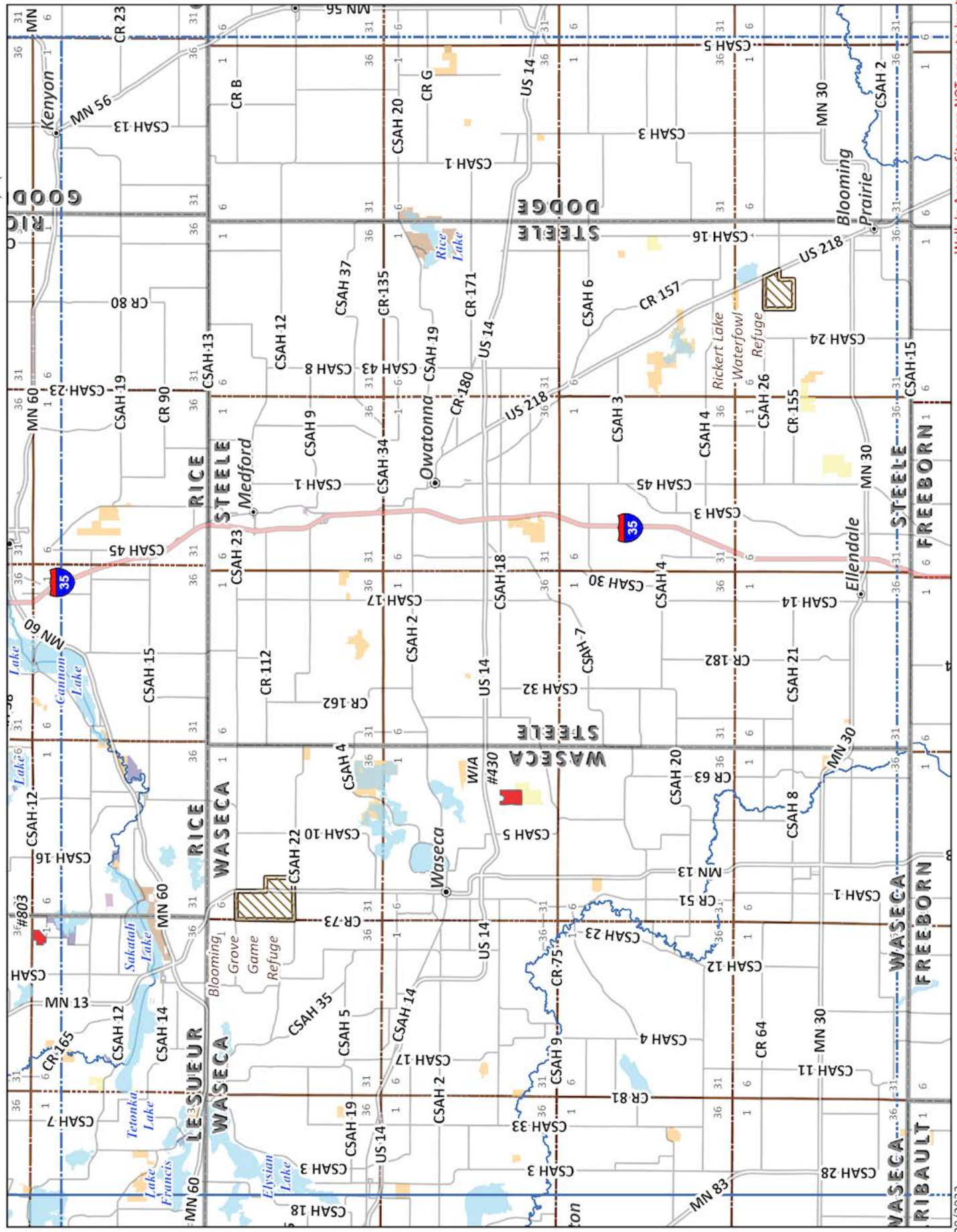
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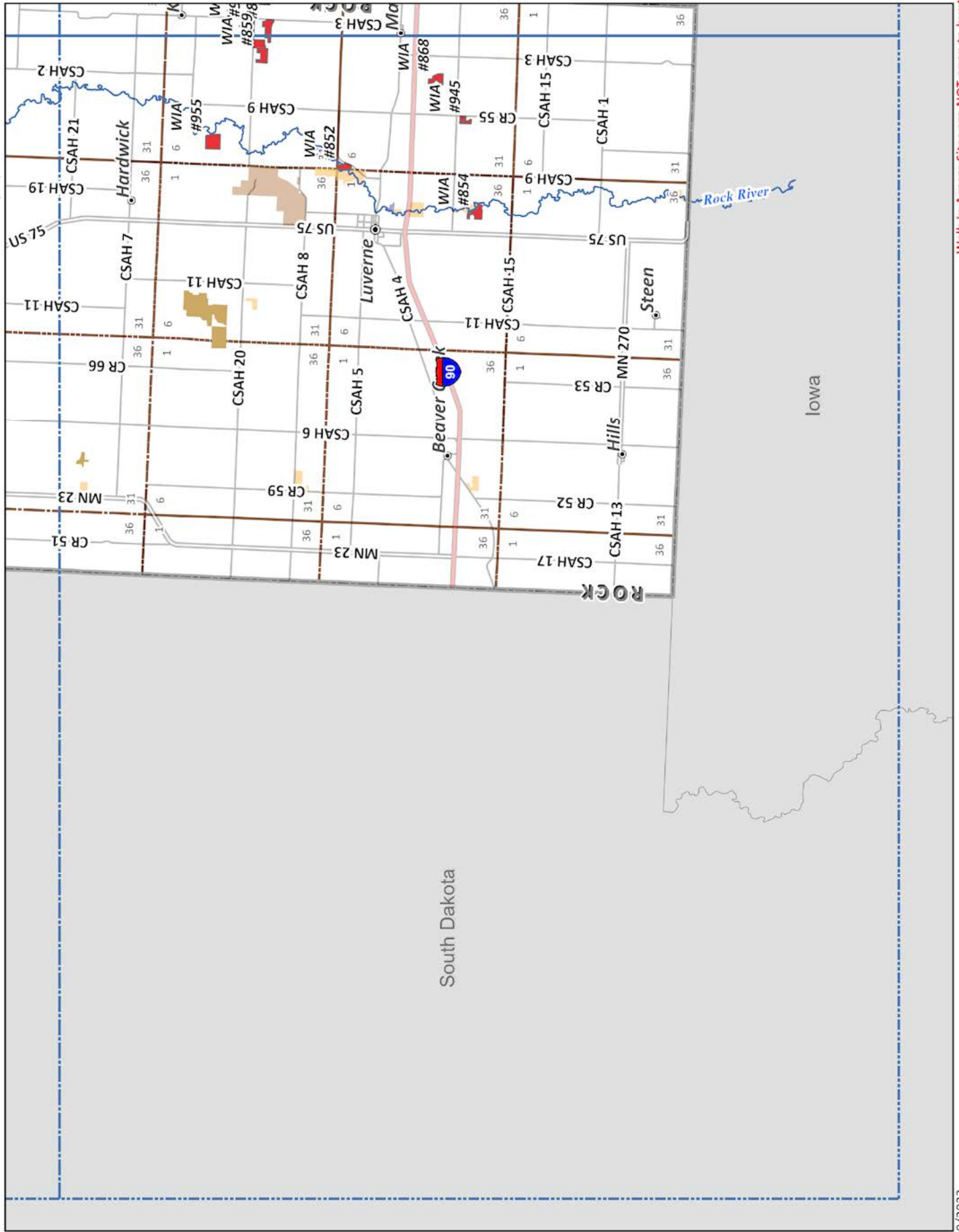


Walk-in Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs

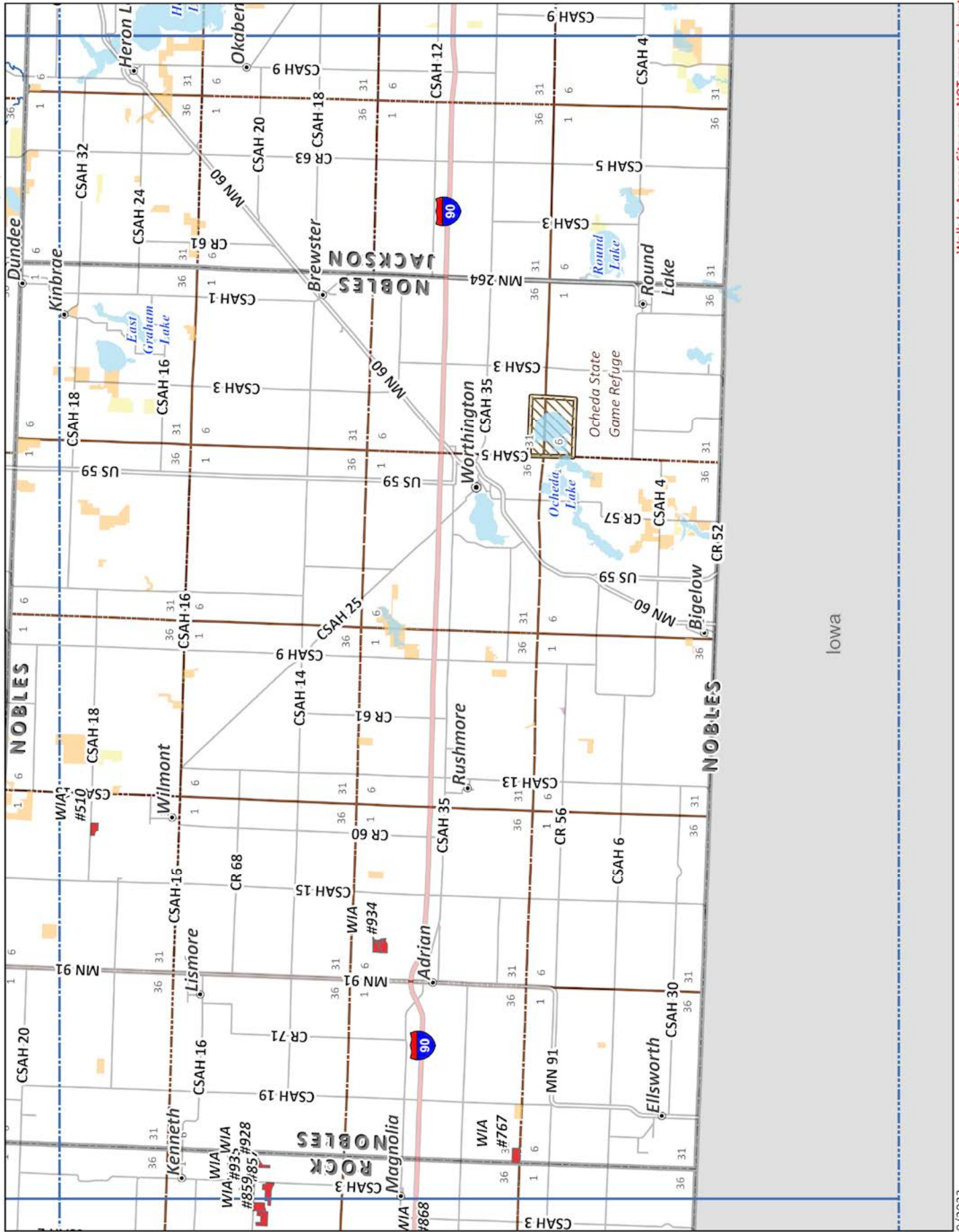
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Tile # 89



Walk-In Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs



Walk-In Access Sites are NOT open to hunting until their boundaries have been posted with WIA signs

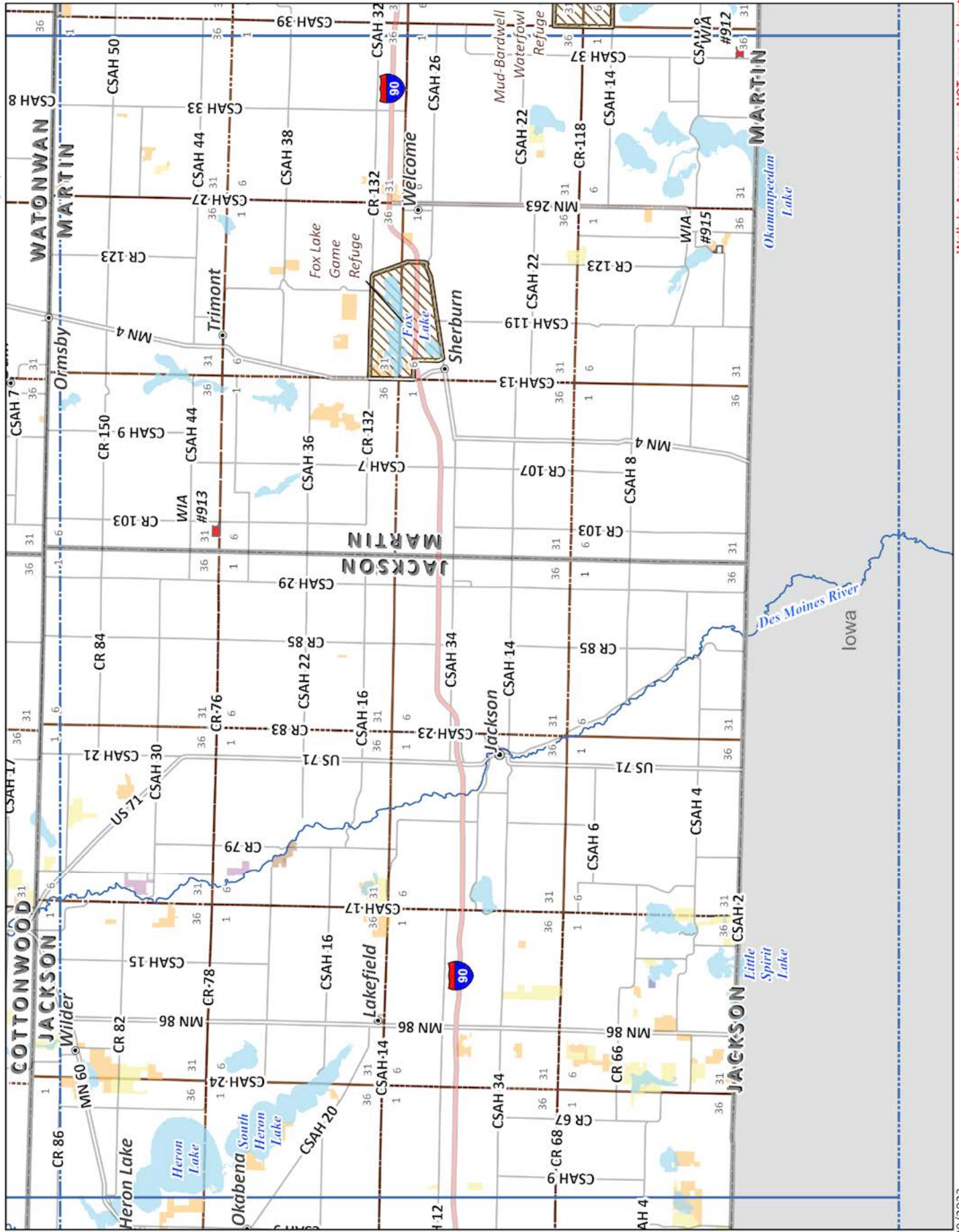
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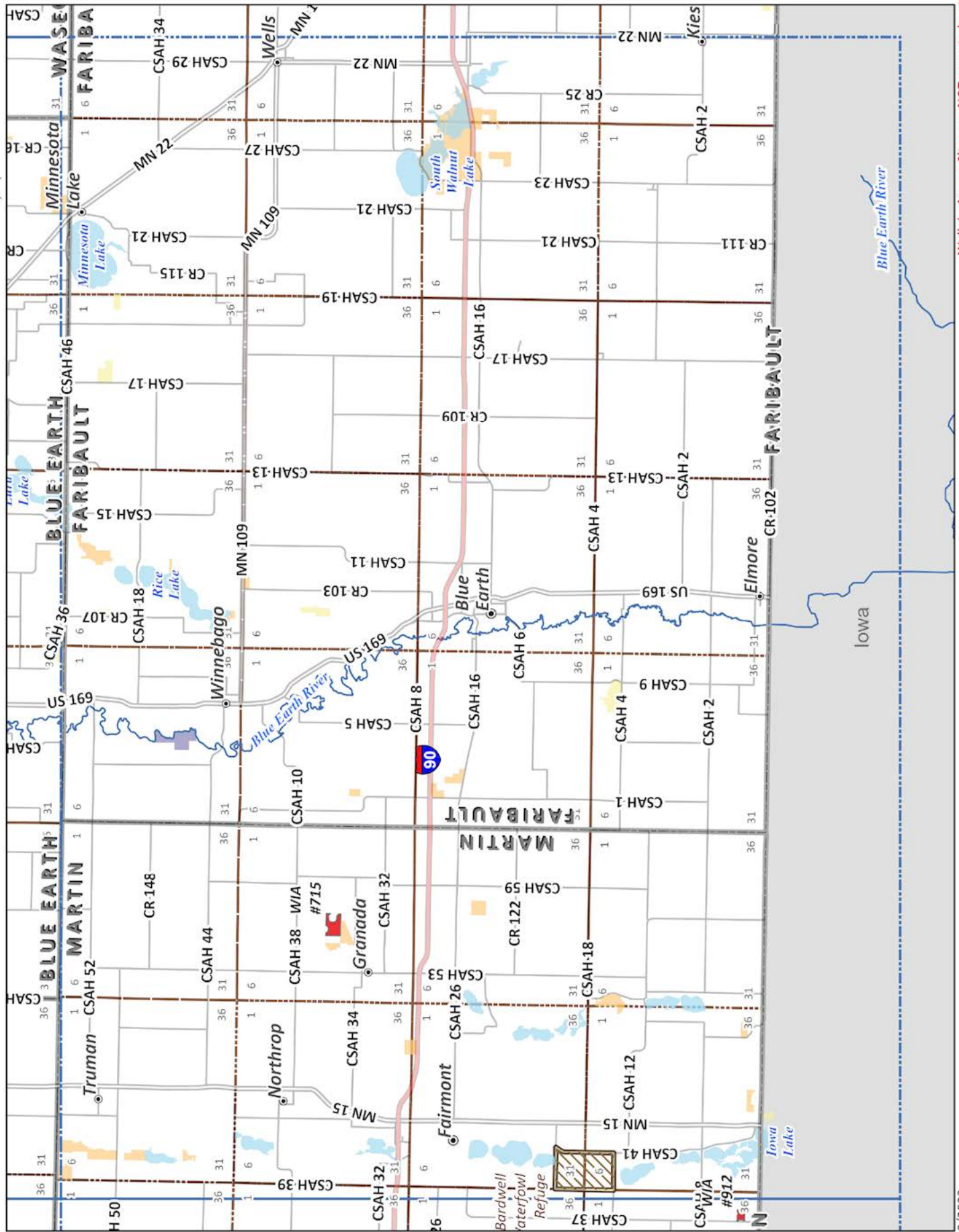
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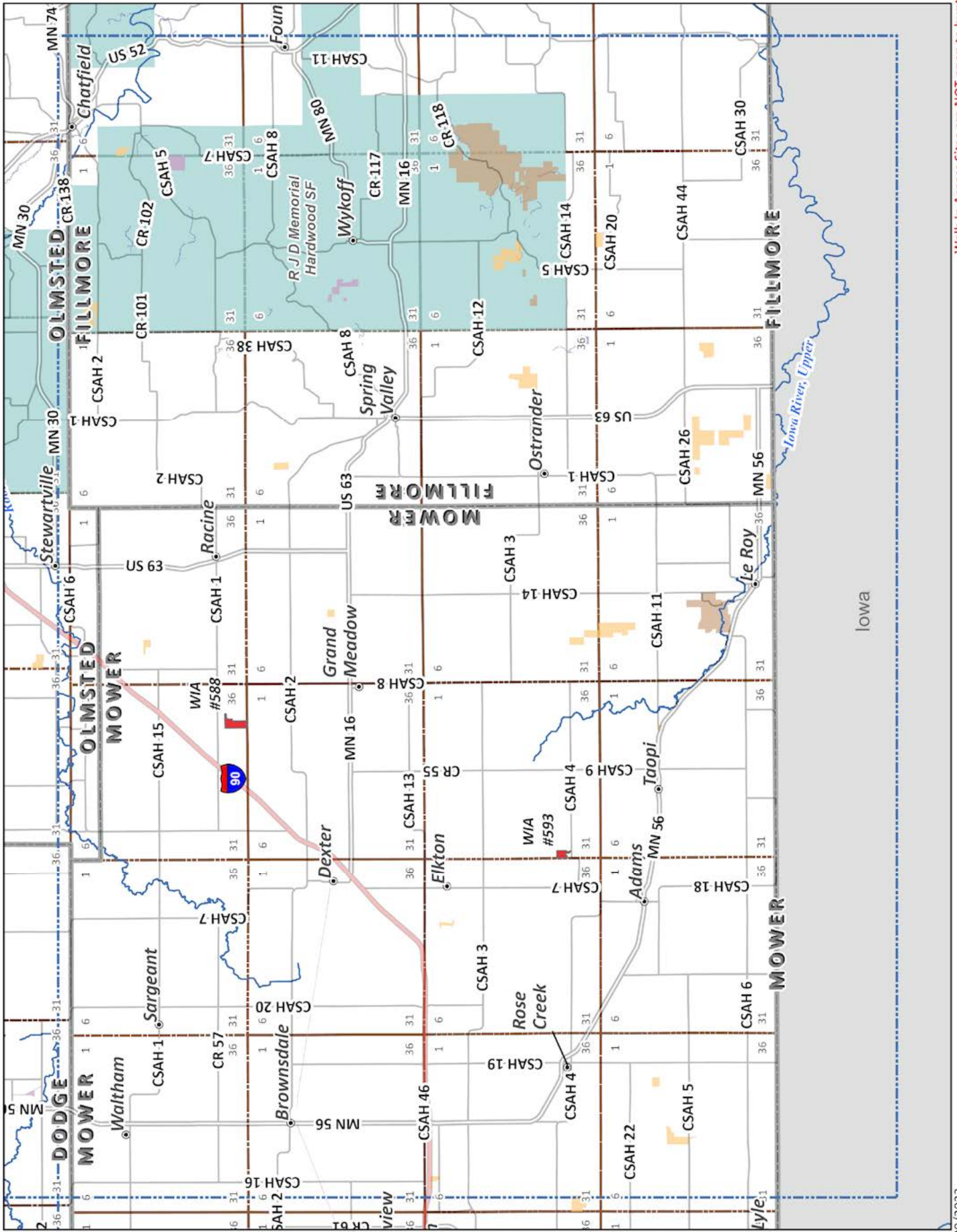




# Tile # 99

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Reference Scale: 1:278,784  
1 in = 4.4 miles



Tile # 98

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# MINNESOTA WILDLIFE AREA CONTACTS

Effective through June 30, 2024

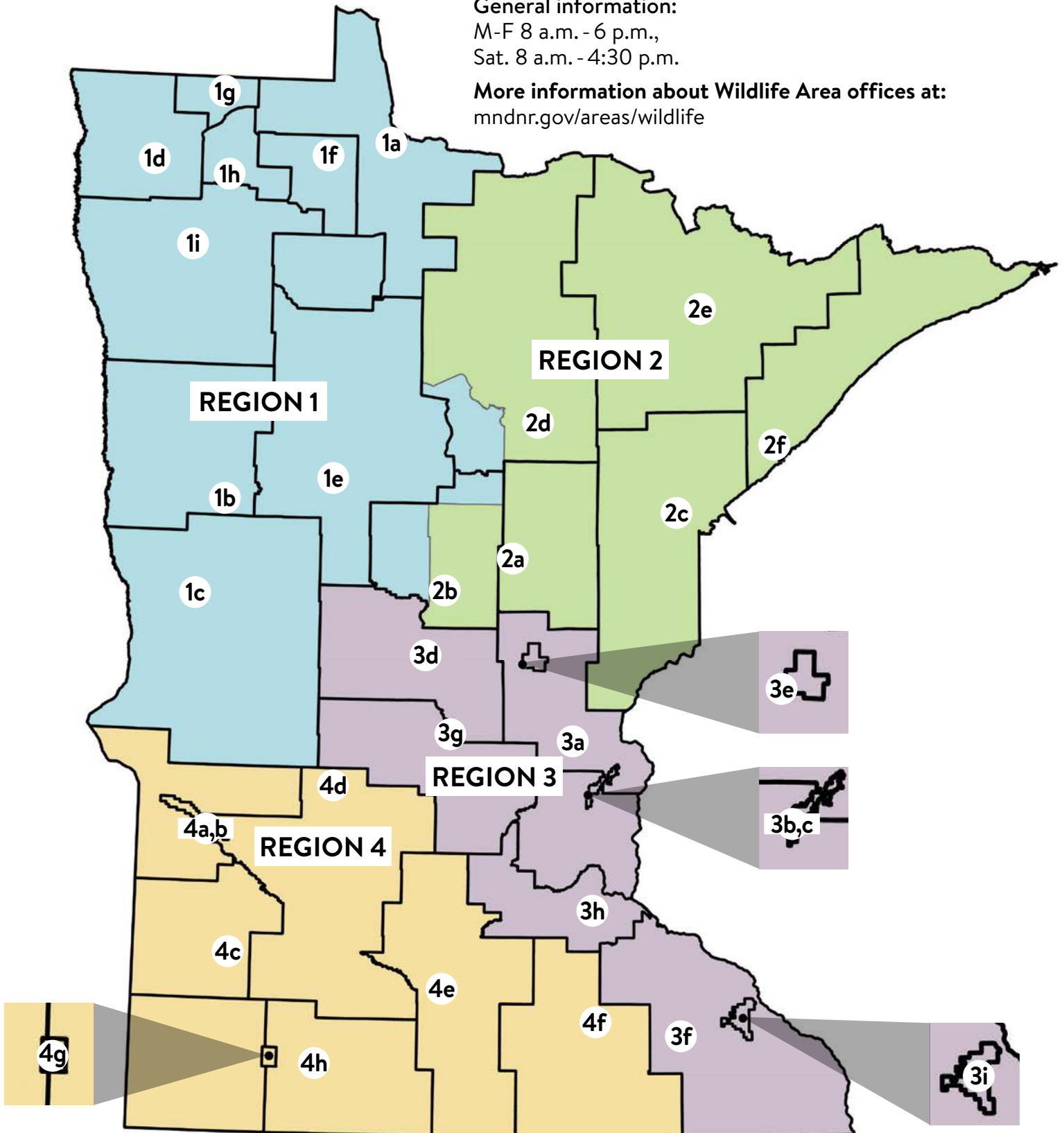


Interpreters are available to answer all of your questions.  
888-MINNDNR or 651-296-6157

License, titling and registration:  
M-F 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

General information:  
M-F 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.,  
Sat. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

More information about Wildlife Area offices at:  
[mndnr.gov/areas/wildlife](http://mndnr.gov/areas/wildlife)





## REGION 1

Location on Map	Area Name	Address	Phone Number	Wildlife Contact
1a	Baudette	204 Main St E Baudette MN 56623	218-634-1705 x231	Scott Laudenslager
1b	Detroit Lakes	14583 Cty Hwy 19 Detroit Lakes MN 56501	218-846-8476	Rob Baden
1c	Fergus Falls	1509 First Ave N Fergus Falls MN 56537	218-671-7969	Nicholas Snavelly
1d	Karlstad	202 North Main St, PO Box 154 Karlstad MN 56732	218-772-1261	Jason Wollin
1e	Park Rapids	603 1st St W Park Rapids MN 56470	218-732-8452 x235	Erik Thorson
1f	Red Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA)	Norris Camp, Box 100 Roosevelt MN 56673	218-783-6861	Charlie Tucker
1g	Roseau River WMA	27952 400th St Roseau MN 56751	218-452-7617	Randy Prachar
1h	Thief Lake WMA	42280 240th Ave NE Middle River MN 56737	218-633-7670	Kyle Arola
1i	Thief River Falls	246 125th Ave NE Thief River Falls MN 56701	218-219-8587	Emily Hutchins (Acting)

## REGION 2

Location on Map	Area Name	Address	Phone Number	Wildlife Contact
2a	Aitkin	1200 Minnesota Ave S Aitkin MN 56431	218-429-3053	Russ Reisz
2b	Brainerd	1601 Minnesota Dr Brainerd MN 56401	218-203-4323	Christine Reisz
2c	Cloquet	305 E Business Park Dr Cloquet MN 55720	218-878-5663	Chris Balzer
2d	Grand Rapids	1201 E US Hwy 2 Grand Rapids MN 55744	218-328-8865	Mark Spoden
2e	Tower	650 US Hwy 169 Tower MN 55790	218-300-7861	Jessica Holmes
2f	Two Harbors	1568 US Hwy 2 Two Harbors MN 55616	218-834-1452	Nancy Hansen

## REGION 3

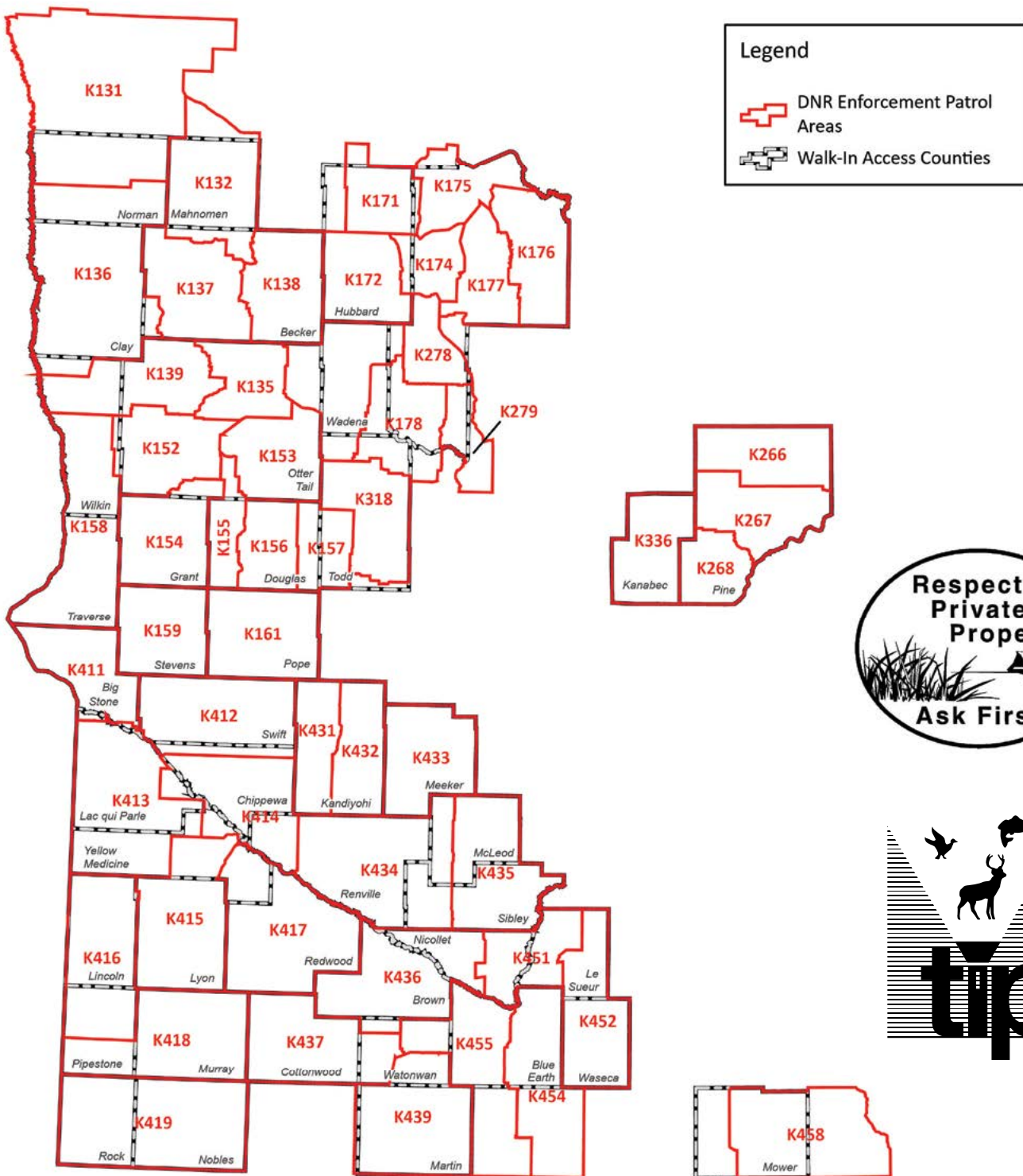
Location on Map	Area Name	Address	Phone Number	Wildlife Contact
3a	Cambridge	800 Oak Savanna Lane SW Cambridge MN 55008	763-284-7230	Tim Marion
3b	Carlos Avery WMA	5463-C W Broadway Forest Lake MN 55025	651-539-3305	Jim LaBarre
3c	Forest Lake	5463-C W Broadway Forest Lake MN 55025	651-539-3307	Scott Noland
3d	Little Falls	16543 Haven Rd Little Falls MN 56345	320-232-1066	Beau Liddell
3e	Mille Lacs WMA	29172 100th Ave Onamia MN 56359	320-532-3537	Steve Piepgras
3f	Rochester	2118 Campus Dr SE Rochester MN 55904	507-206-2858	Brandon Schad
3g	Sauk Rapids	1035 S Benton Dr Sauk Rapids MN 56379	320-223-7869	Fred Bengtson
3h	Vermillion River Complex	15325 Babcock Ave Rosemount MN 55068	651-322-4643	Tim Pharis
3i	Whitewater WMA	15035 MN Hwy 74 Altura MN 55910	507-796-3281	Jaime Edwards

## REGION 4

Location on Map	Area Name	Address	Phone Number	Wildlife Contact
4a	Appleton (Lac qui Parle WMA)	14047 20th St NW Watson MN 56295	320-734-4451 x228	Curt Vacek
4b	Lac qui Parle (WMA)	14047 20th St NW Watson MN 56295	320-734-4451	Walt Gessler
4c	Marshall	1400 E Lyon, PO Box 111 Marshall MN 56258	507-537-6250	Wendy Krueger
4d	New London	398 Sibley Park Rd NE New London MN 56273	320-347-7632	Cory Netland
4e	Nicollet	501 9th St Nicollet MN 56074	507-386-3922	Stein Innvaer
4f	Owatonna (Rice Lake State Park)	8485 Rose St Owatonna MN 55060	507-414-6200	Jeanine Vorland
4g	Slayton-Talcot Lake (WMA)	40249 Cty Rd 7 Dundee MN 56131	507-873-5650	Bill Schuna
4h	Windom	175 Cty Rd 26 Windom MN 56101	507-832-6025	Brian Nyborg

# Conservation Officer Patrol Areas Covering the Walk-In Access Counties

This map displays the Conservation Officer (CO) patrol areas covering the counties in the WIA program. CO contact information listed here is subject to change. For the most current CO contact information, visit [mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas](http://mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas) or contact the DNR Information Center at 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-646-6367. Please refer to the following page for specific contact information for each Conservation Officer patrol area. In the event of an emergency, call 911.



## CONSERVATION OFFICERS COVERING THE WALK-IN ACCESS COUNTIES

K#	OFFICER NAME	WORKSTATION	COUNTY
K131	Thomas Hutchins	Crookston	Norman
K132	Angela Warren	Fosston	Becker/ Mahnomon/Polk
K136	Steven Chihak	Moorhead	Clay/Norman/ Wilkin
K135	Chris Vinton	Perham	Otter Tail
K137	Jake Swedberg	Detroit Lakes	Becker
K138	Alan Peterson	Osage	Becker
K139	William Landmark	Pelican Rapids	Otter Tail/Wilkin
K152	Andrew Goodman	Fergus Falls	Otter Tail/Wilkin
K153	Tricia Plautz	Henning	Otter Tail
K154	Ryan Brown	Elbow Lake	Grant/Otter Tail
K155	Shane Osborne	Evansville	Douglas/Otter Tail
K156	Mitch Lawler	Alexandria	Douglas
K157	Felicia Znajda	Osakis	Douglas/Todd
K158	Hanna Wood	Wheaton	Traverse/Wilkin
K159	Emily Douvier	Morris	Stevens
K161	Daniel Baumbarger	Glenwood	Pope
K171	Michael Cross	Lake George	Cass/Hubbard
K172	Jordan Anderson	Park Rapids	Hubbard
K174	Pat McGowan	Walker	Cass/Hubbard
K175	Mark Mathy	Cass Lake	Cass
K176	Corey Sura	Remer	Cass
K177	Jacque Hughes	Longville	Cass
K178	Adam Seifermann	Staples	Cass/Todd
K266	Mikeena Wehr	Willow River	Pine
K268	Ben Karon	Pine City	Pine
K278	Chelsey Best	Pequot Lake	Cass
K318	Keith Bertram	Long Prairie	Todd
K336	Michael Krauel	Mora	Kanabec
K411	Dallas Cornell	Ortonville	Big Stone
K413	Mason Bulthuis	Madison	Lac Qui Parle/ Yellow Medicine
K415	Matt Loftness	Marshall	Lyon/Yellow Medicine
K416	Derek Daniels	Lake Benton	Lincoln/ Pipestone

K#	OFFICER NAME	WORKSTATION	COUNTY
K417	Luke Gutzwiller	Redwood Falls	Redwood/Yellow Medicine
K419	Dustin Roemeling	Worthington	Nobles/Rock
K431	Shane Vernier	Willmar #1	Kandiyohi
K432	Cassie Block	Willmar #2	Kandiyohi
K434	Brett Wiltrout	Hutchinson #1	McLeod/ Nicollet/Renville
K435	Zachary Larson	Hutchinson #2	McLeod/Sibley
K436	Thor Nelson	New Ulm	Brown/Nicollet/ Watowan
K439	Eric Schettler	Fairmont	Martin/ Watowan
K451	Chris Howe	St. Peter	Le Sueur/ Nicollet
K452	Brent Ihnen	Waseca	Le Sueur/ Waseca
K454	Jamie VanThuyne	Mankato #1	Blue Earth/ Faribault
K458	Meng Moua	Spring Valley	Mower
K456	Chad Davis	Owatonna	Dodge/Steele
K458	Meng Moua	Spring Valley	Mower
K437	Dustin Miller	Windom	Cottonwood/ Watowan
K438	Mike Gruhlke	Jackson	Jackson
K439	Eric Schettler	Fairmont	Martin/ Watowan
K451	Chris Howe	St. Peter	Le Sueur/ Nicollet
K452	Brent Ihnen	Waseca	Le Sueur/ Waseca
K453	Tyler Lusignan	Faribault	Rice
K454	Jamie VanThuyne	Mankato #1	Blue Earth/ Faribault
K455	Corey Wiebusch	Mankato #2	Blue Earth/ Faribault/ Watowan
K456	Chad Davis	Owatonna	Dodge/Steele
K457	Jeremy Henke	Albert Lea	Freeborn/ Mower
K458	Meng Moua	Spring Valley	Mower

Walk-In Access Program is funded by:



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

This material is based upon work supported by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under number 69-3A75-16-509. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

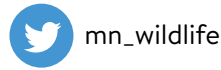
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