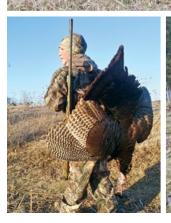
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Effective September 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023

MINNESOTA 2022 WALK-IN ACCESS HUNTING ATLAS









Welcome to Minnesota's Walk-In Access Program



"In Minnesota, we're fortunate to have a rich hunting tradition and public lands in every region of the state. The Walk-In Access program is a another great program where we partner with private landowners to expand and share our resources. Thank you for participating and supporting this program! If you have questions or thoughts along the way, I'd like to hear from you. Email me at wia.dnr@state.mn.us"

–John Maile, 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 www.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 (www.mndnr.gov/walkin).

MAPS AVAILABLE

Visit the WIA website at www.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:

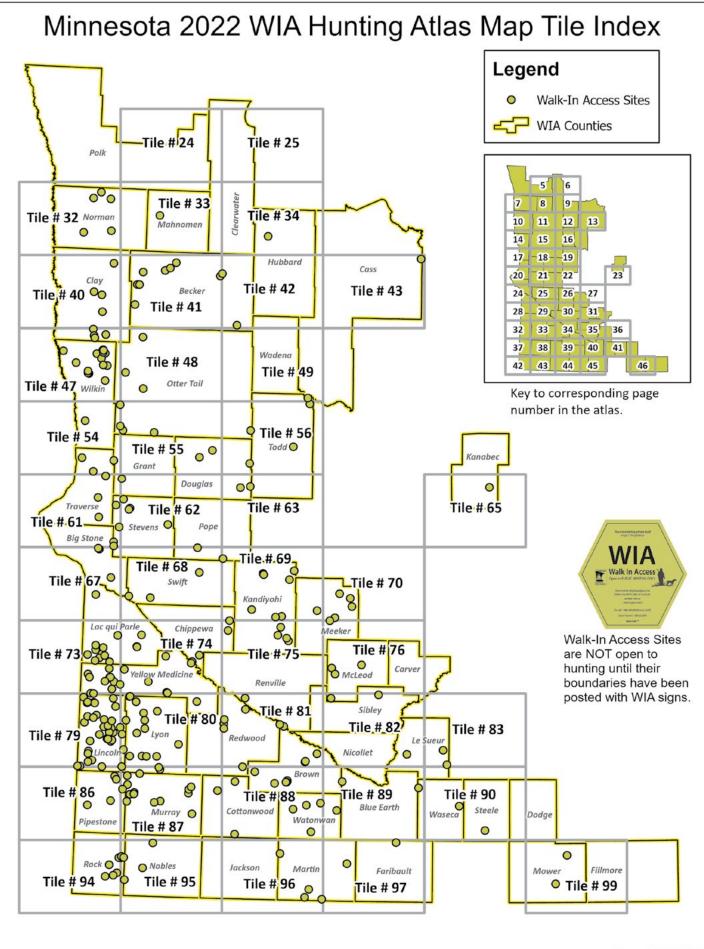
- A one-time appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature in 2012
- A \$5 surcharge on nonresident hunting licenses
- Donations of \$1, \$3 or \$5 made by hunters purchasing deer and small game licenses

WALK-IN ACCESS CODE OF CONDUCT

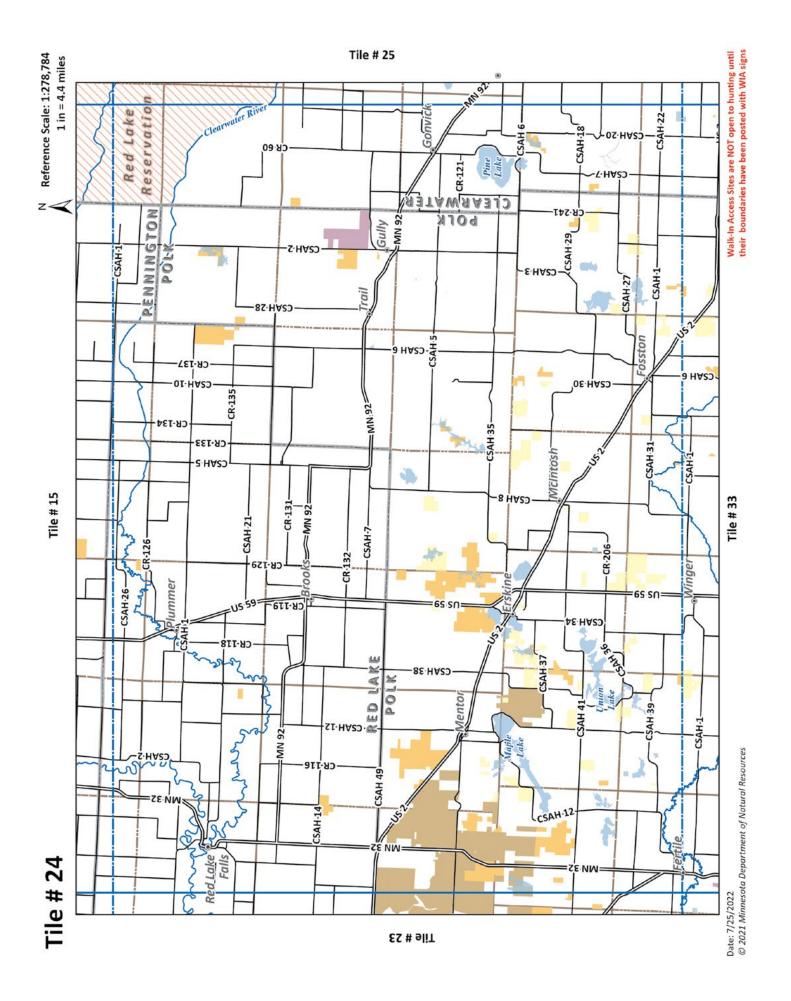
Please follow this code of conduct while hunting these privately owned lands:

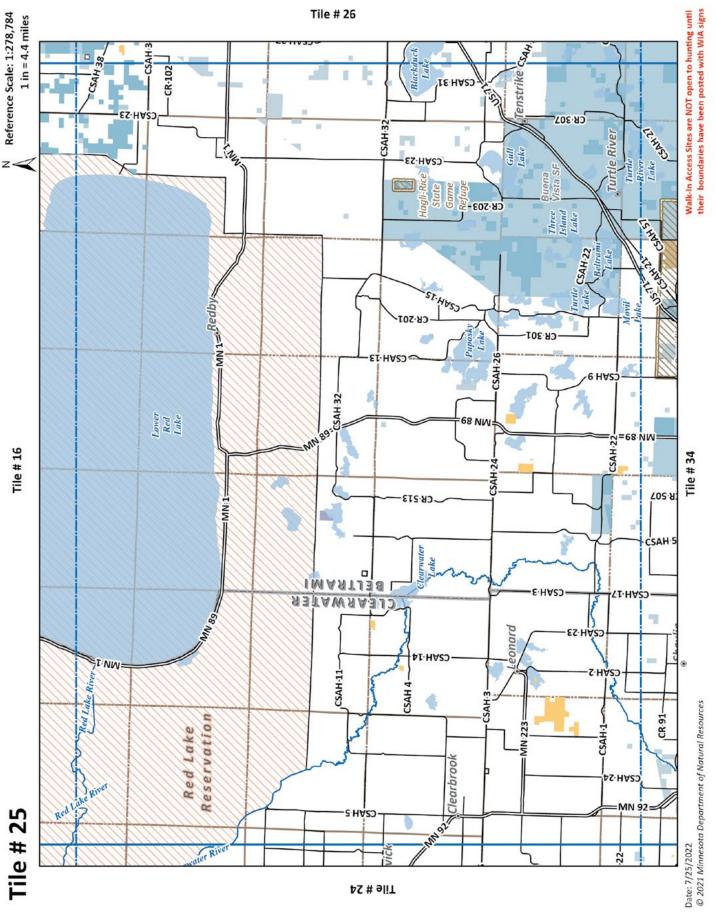
- Only hunt areas posted with WIA signs. Know the field boundaries and do not trespass on surrounding private lands.
- 2. Do not contact landowners of WIA parcels for permission to hunt.
- 3. Only hunt WIA parcels on foot.
- 4. Park in designated parking areas or on the shoulder of the road. Do not block 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.

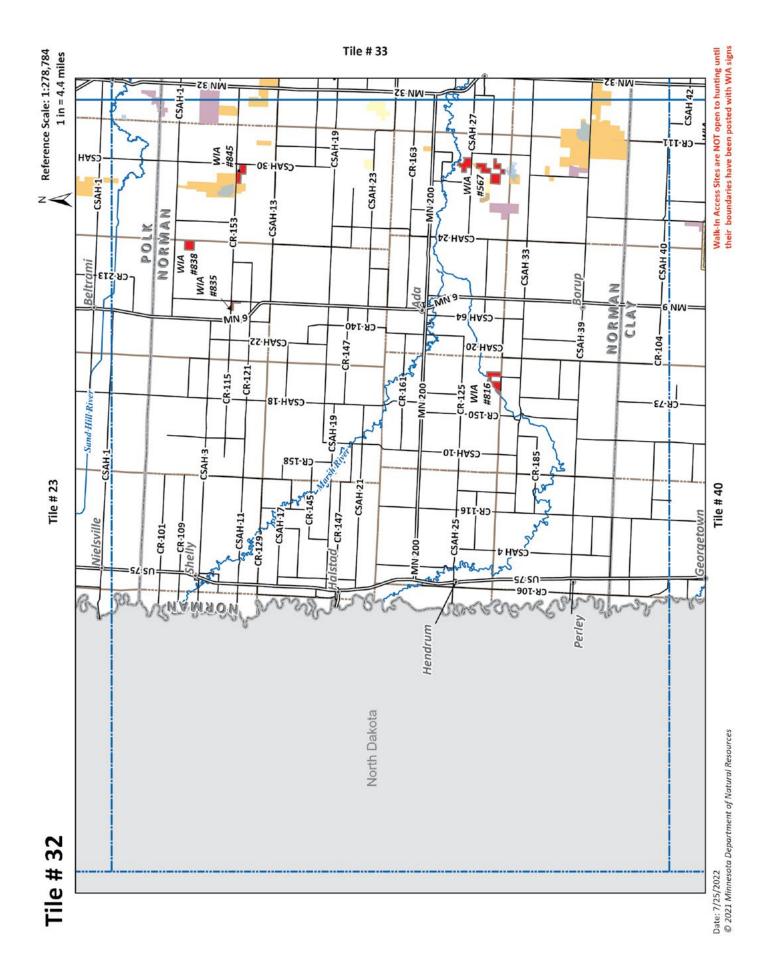


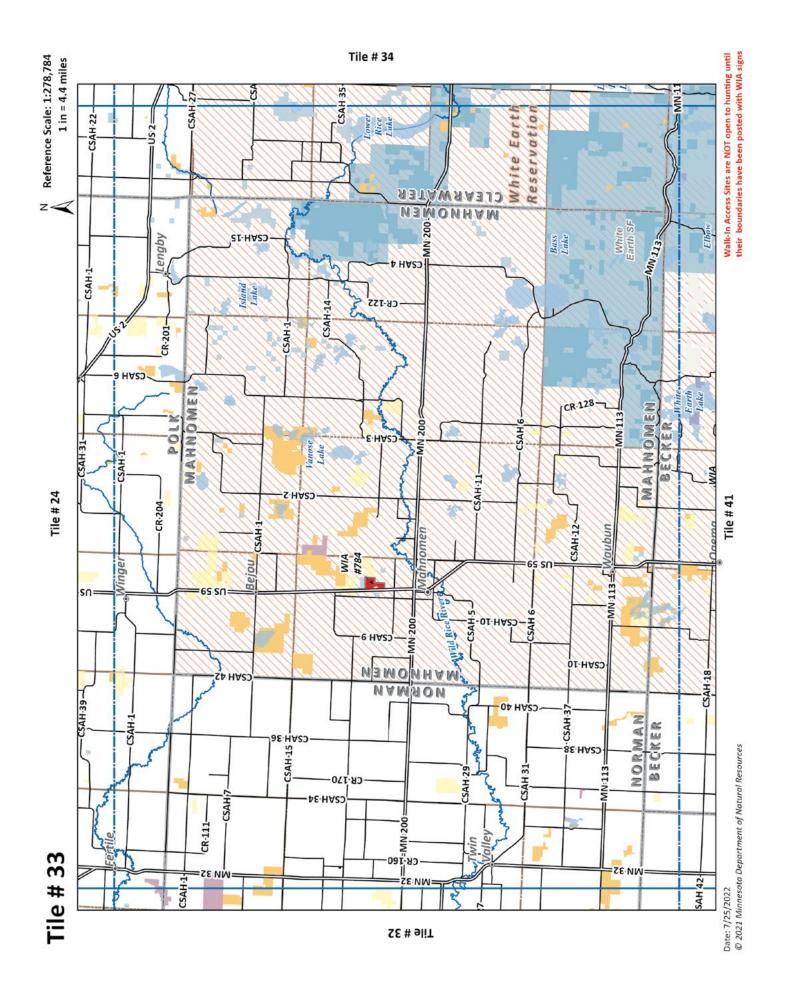


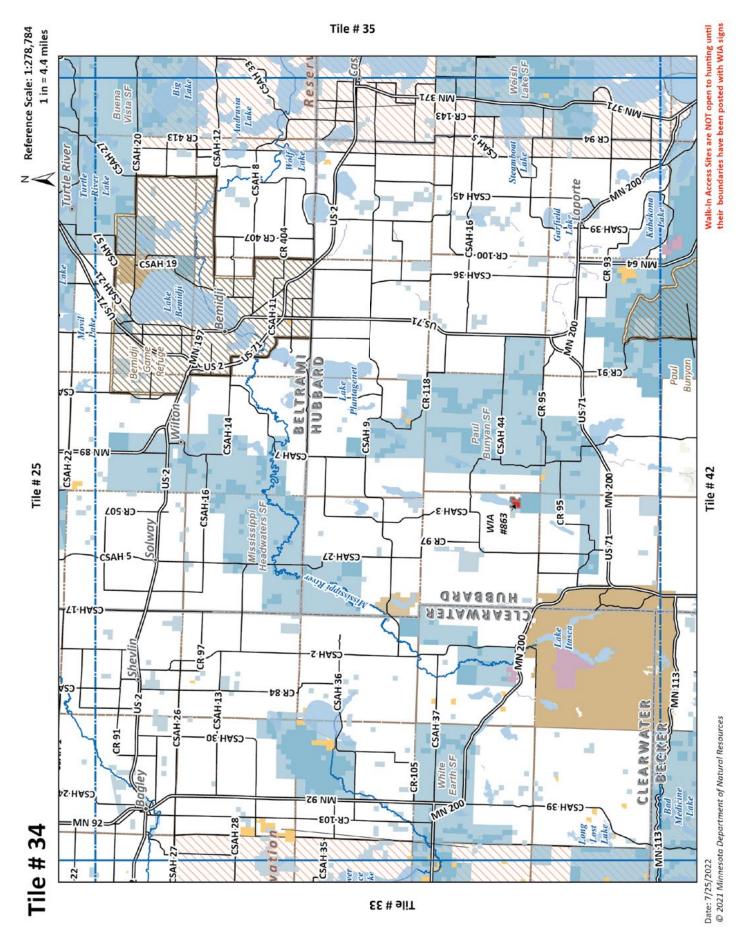
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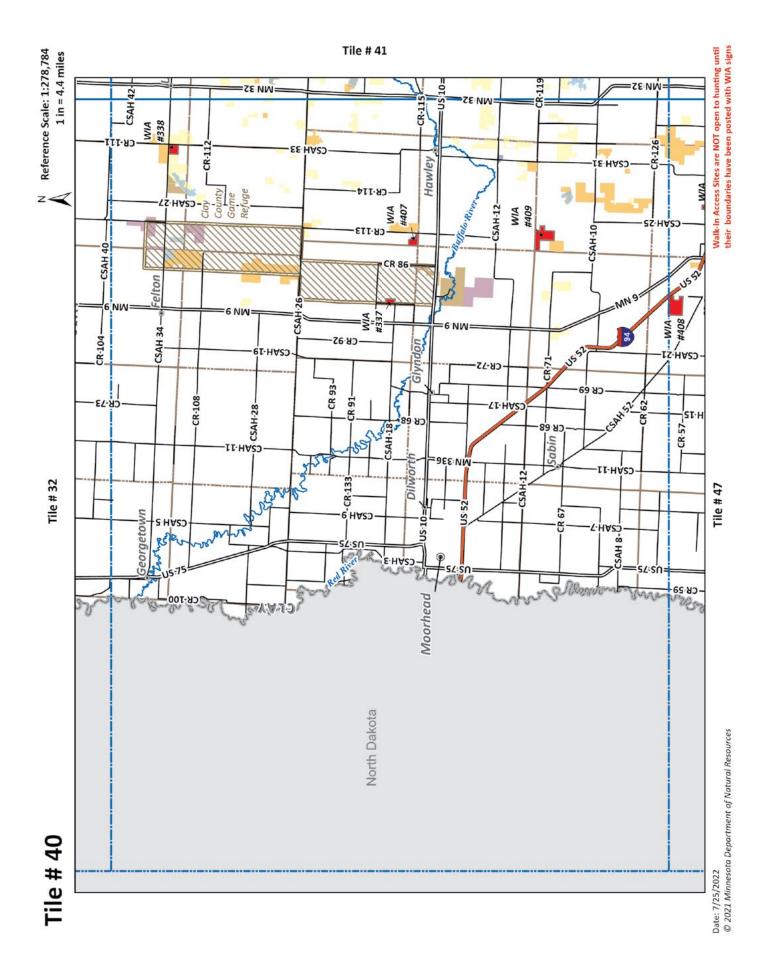


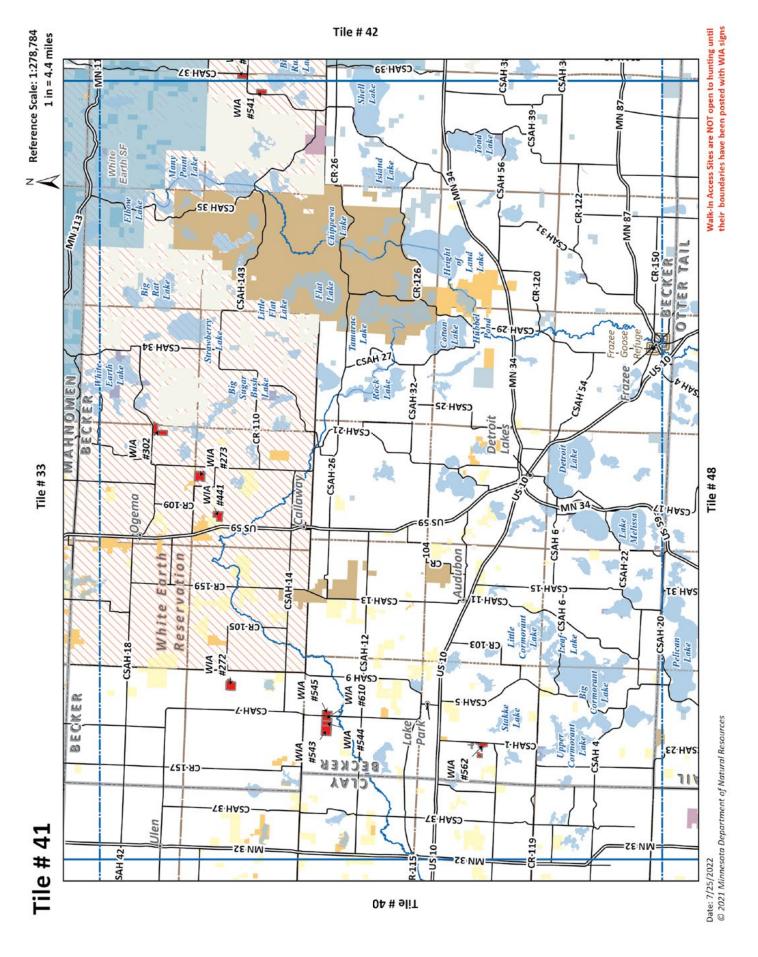




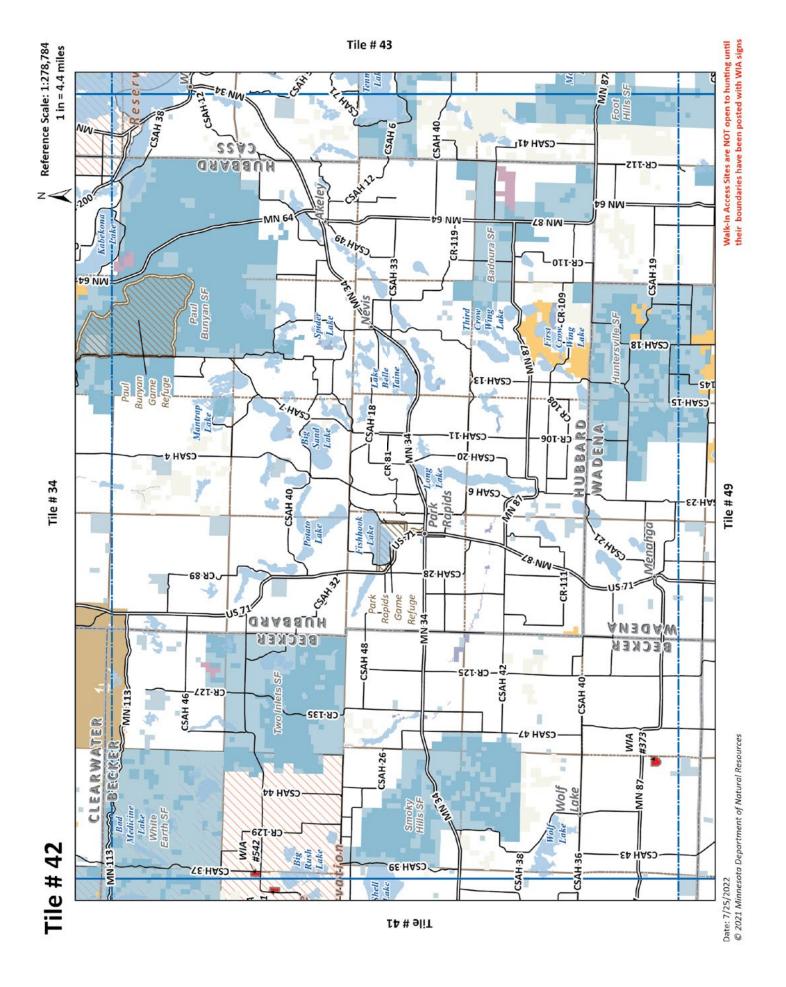


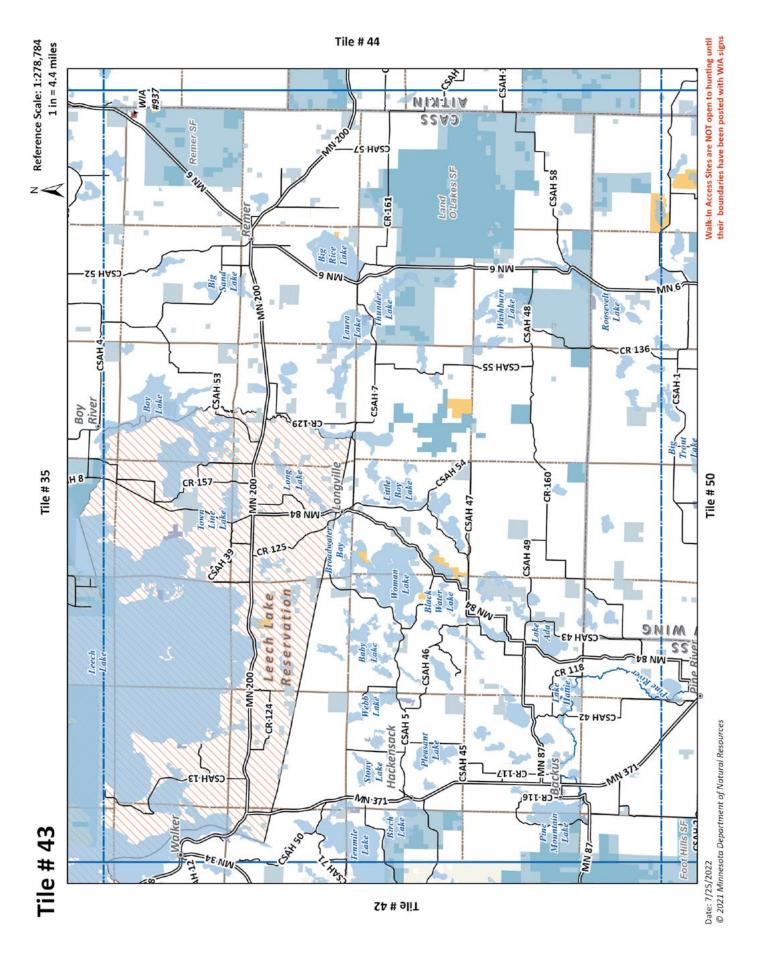


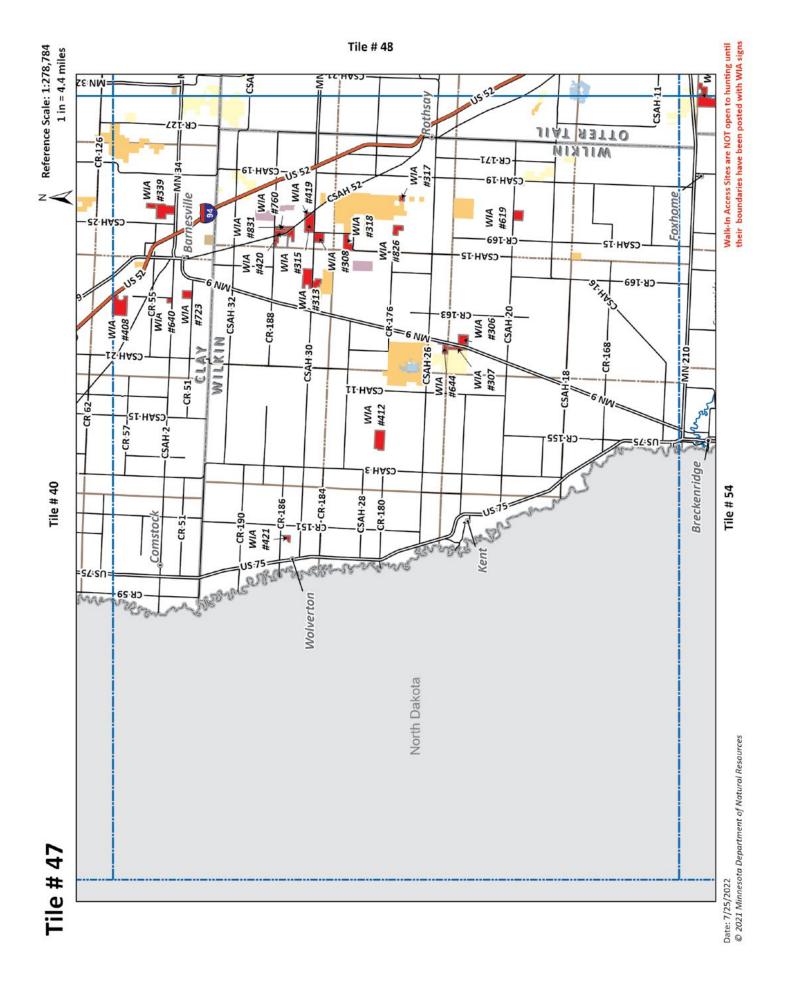


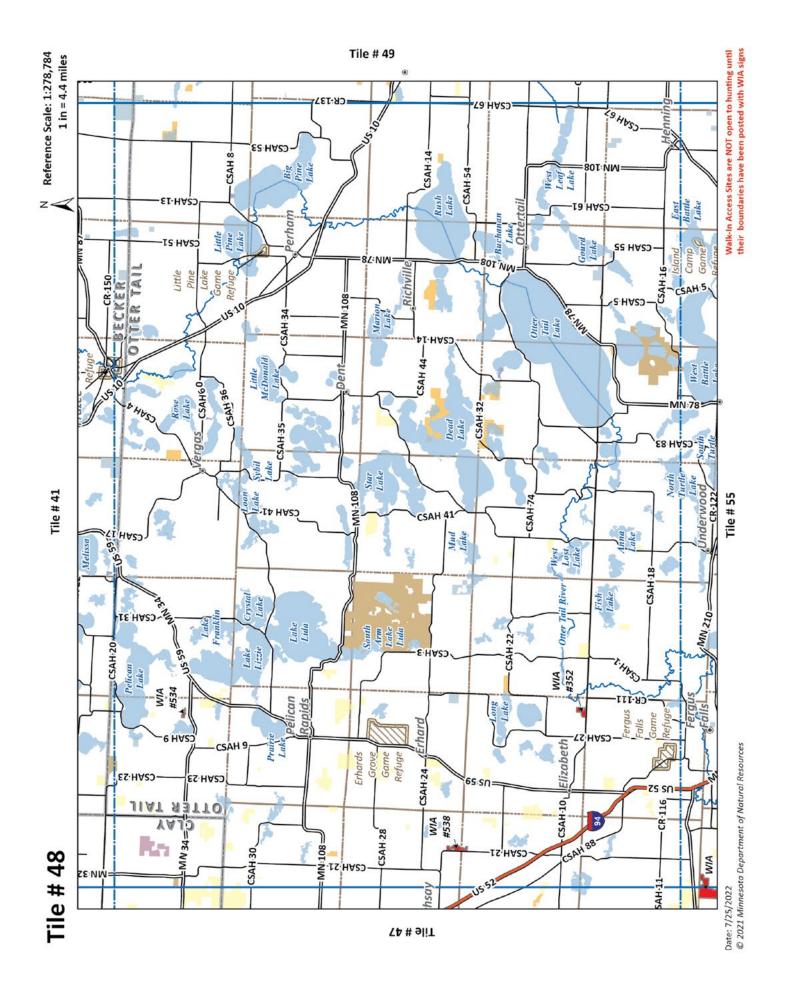


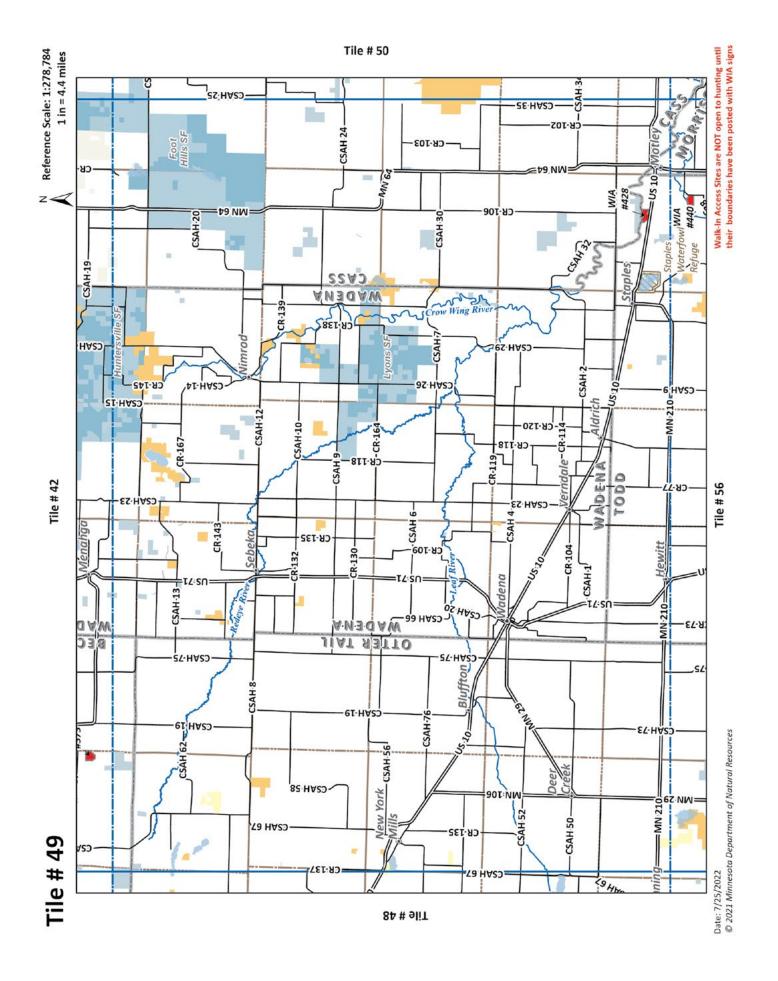


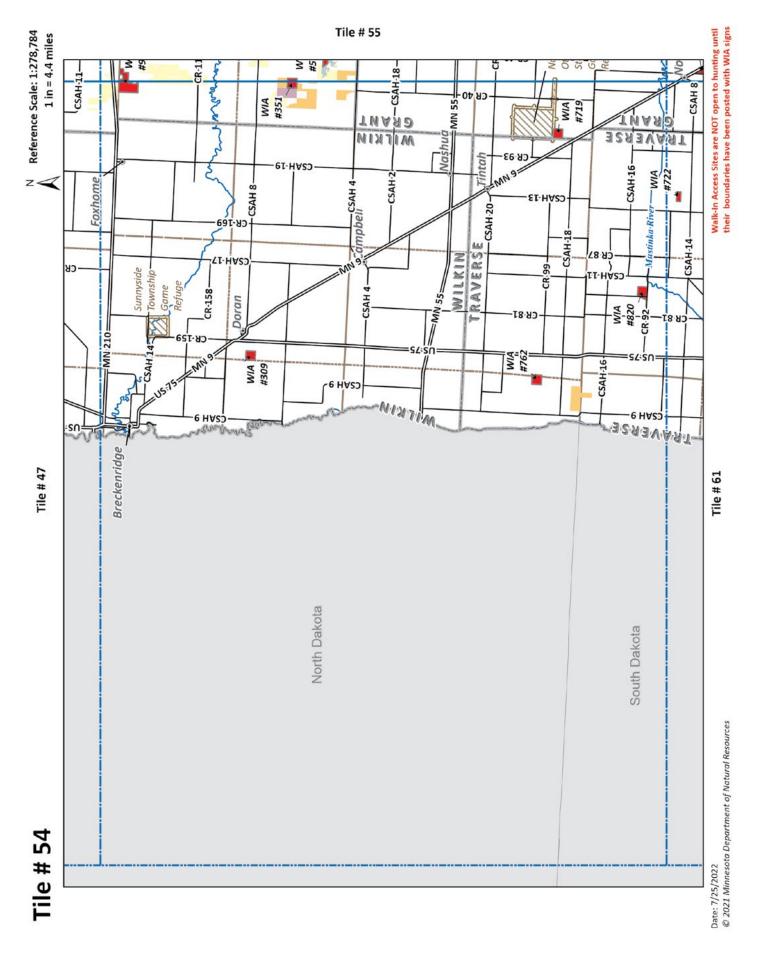


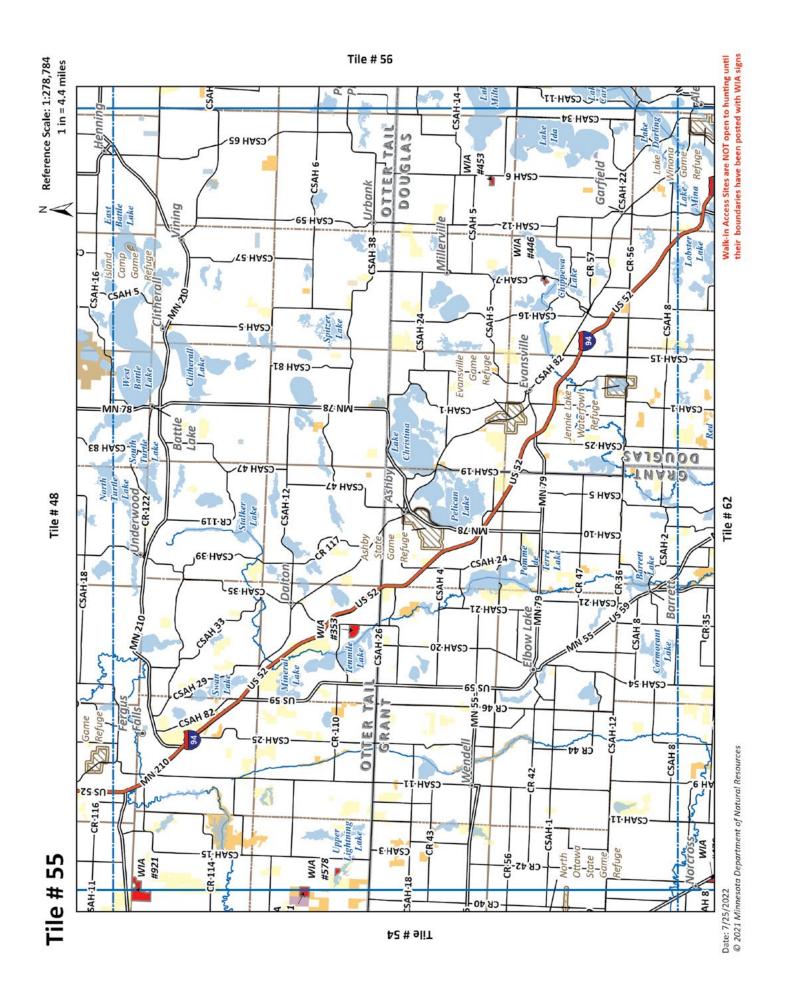


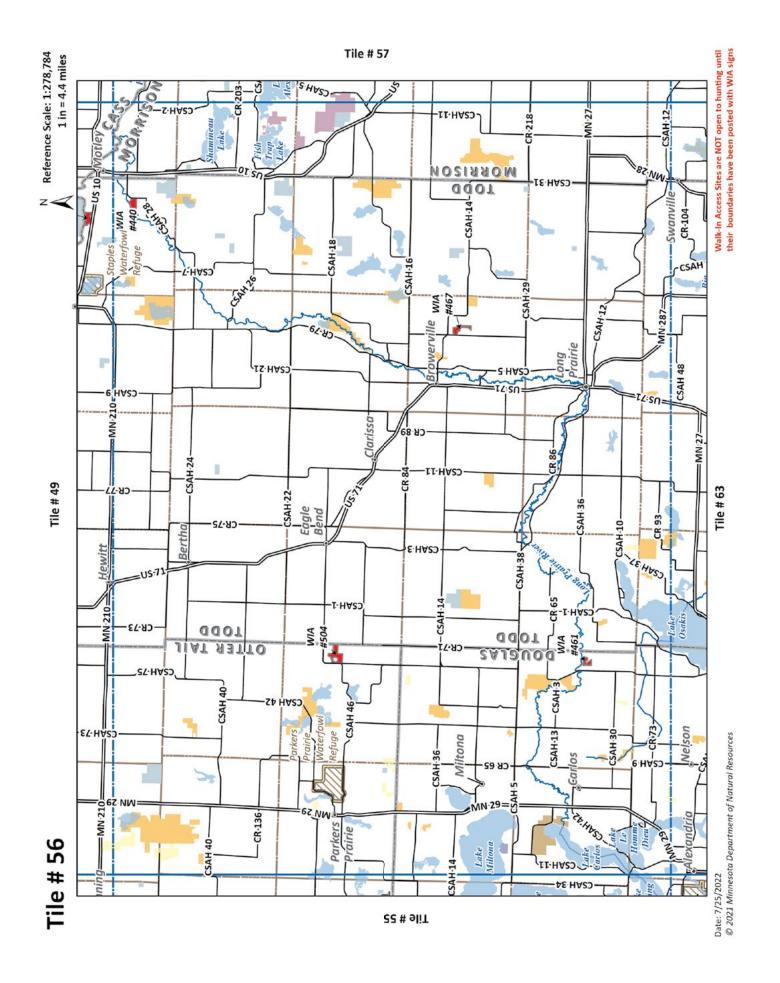


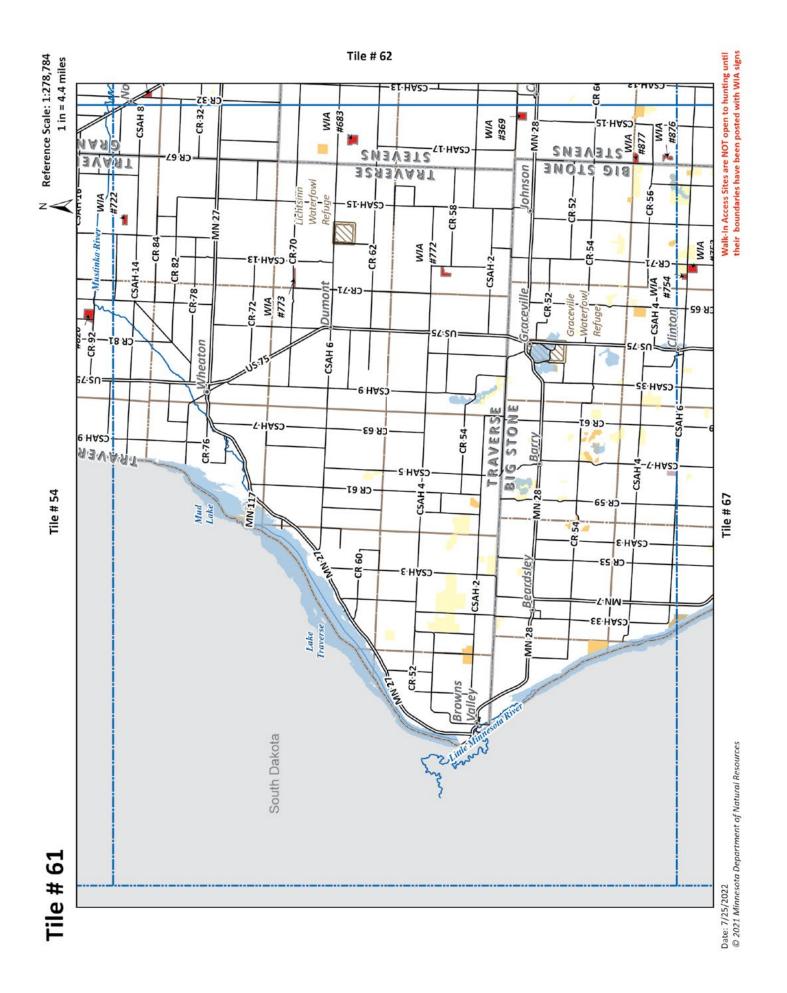


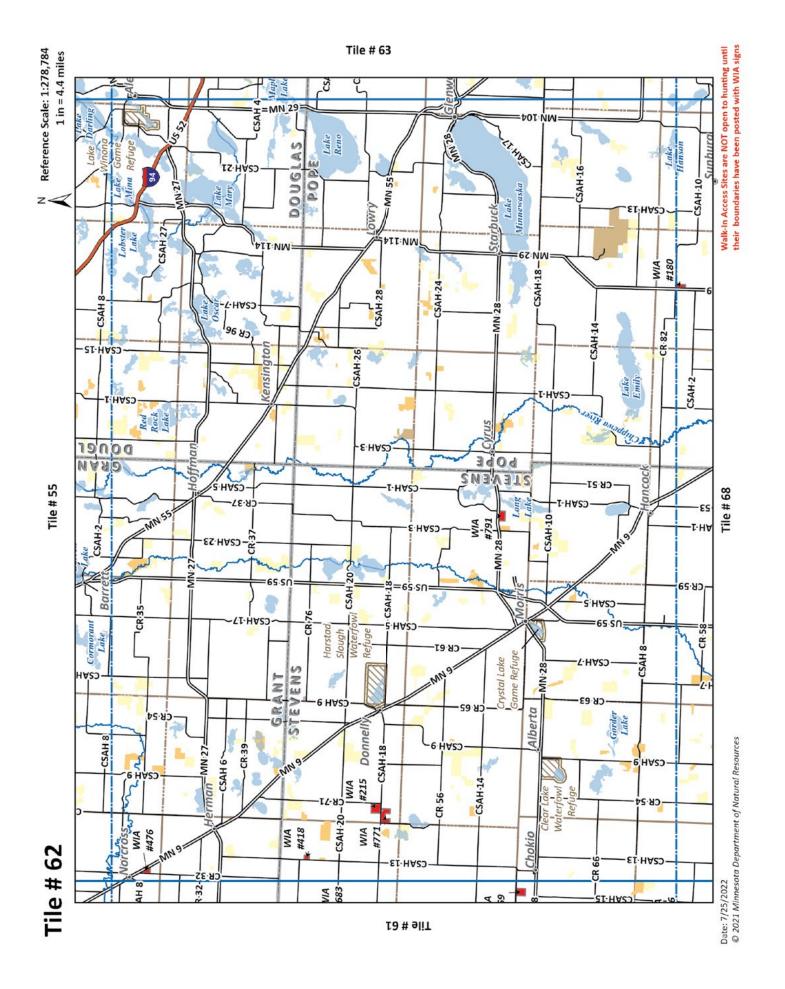


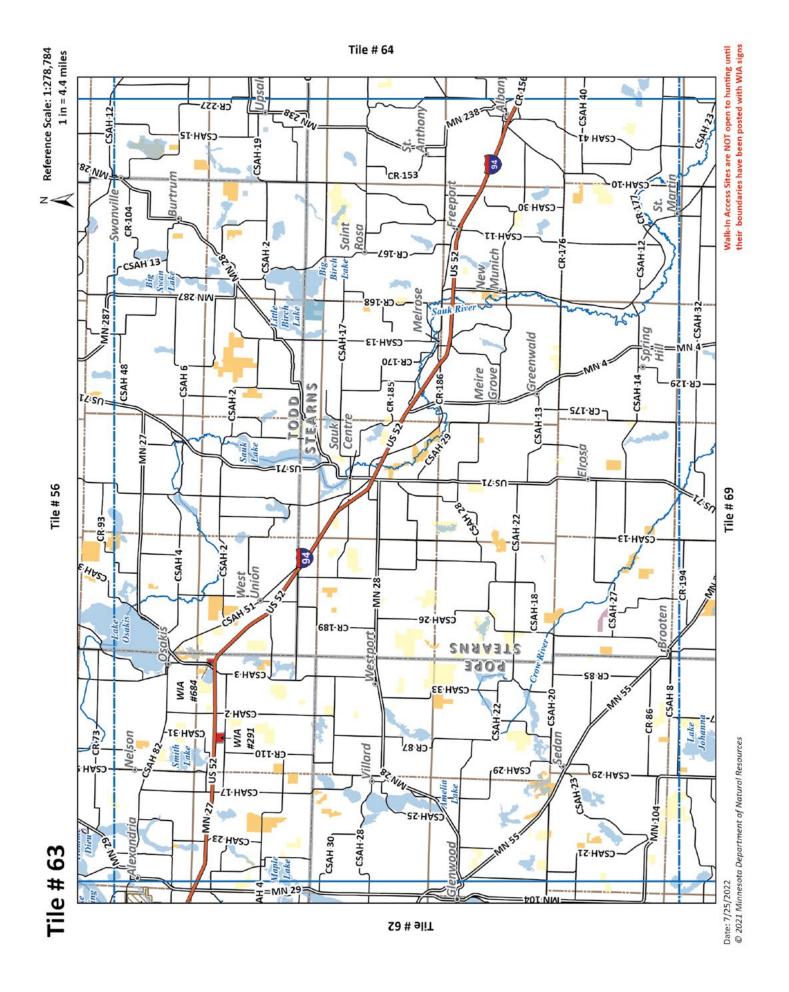


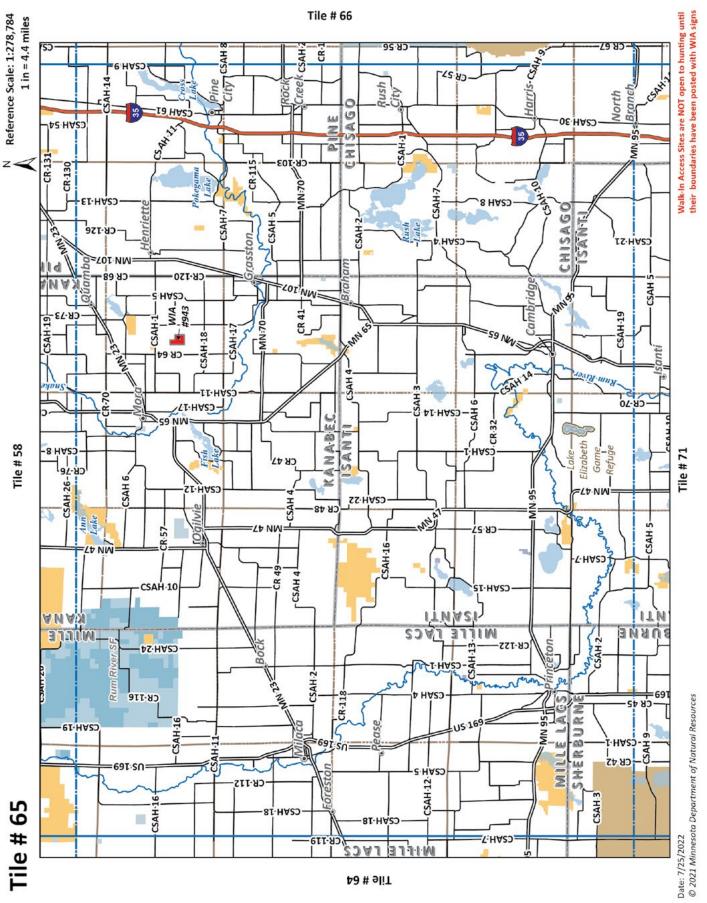


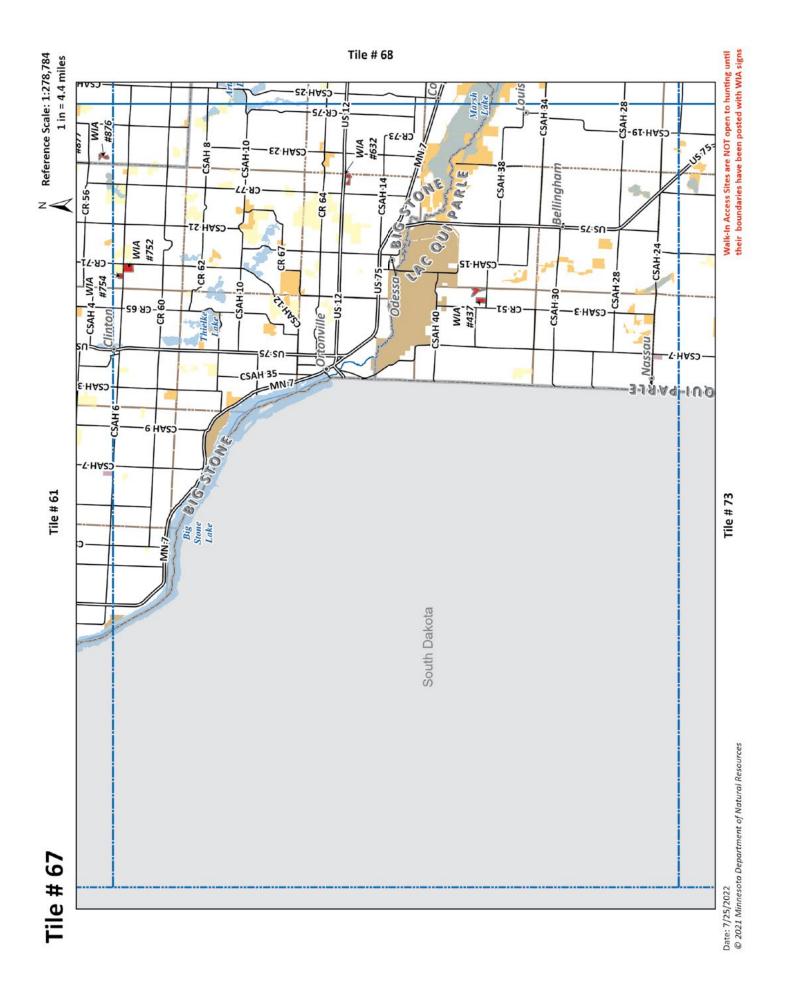


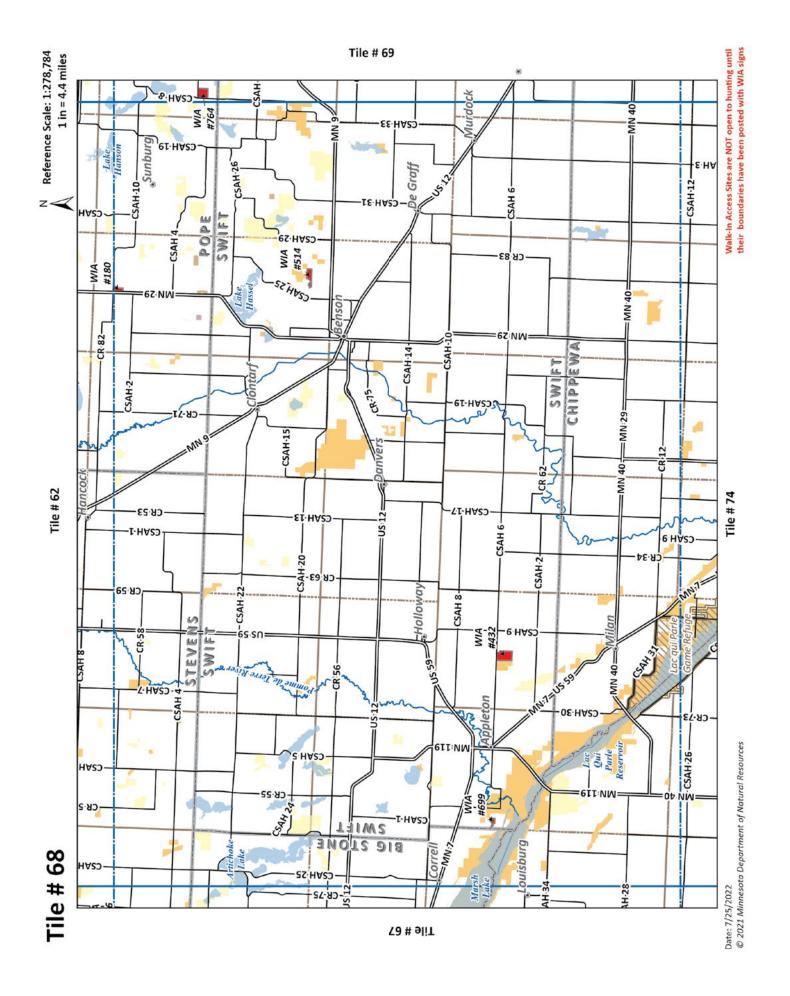


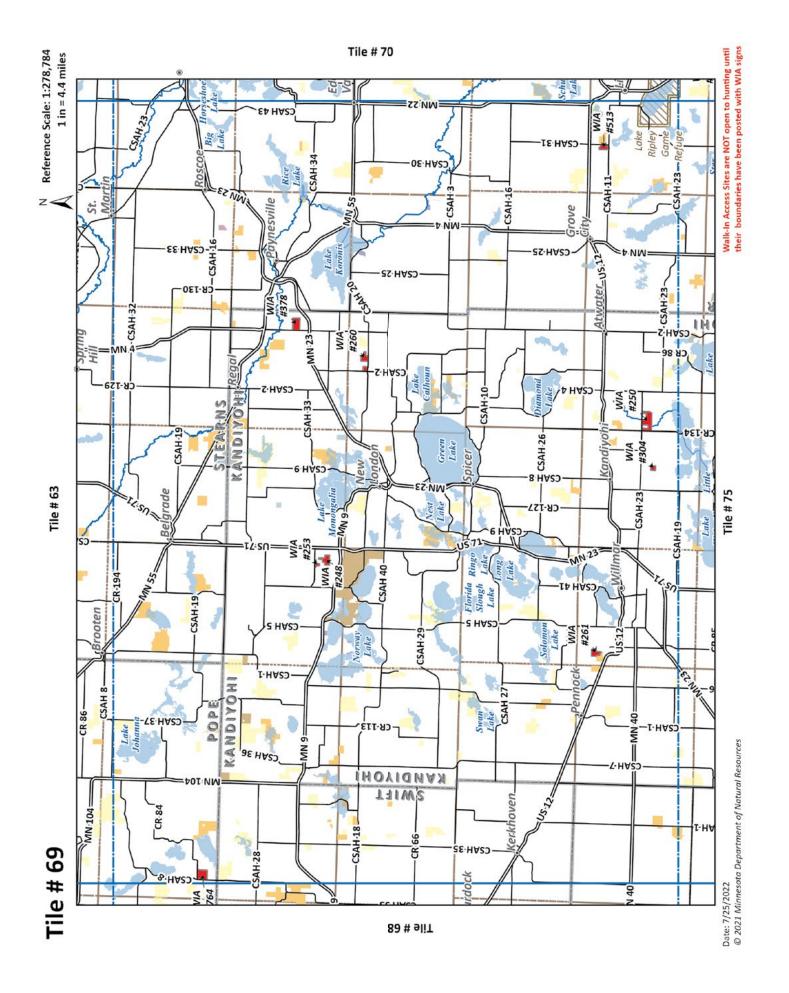


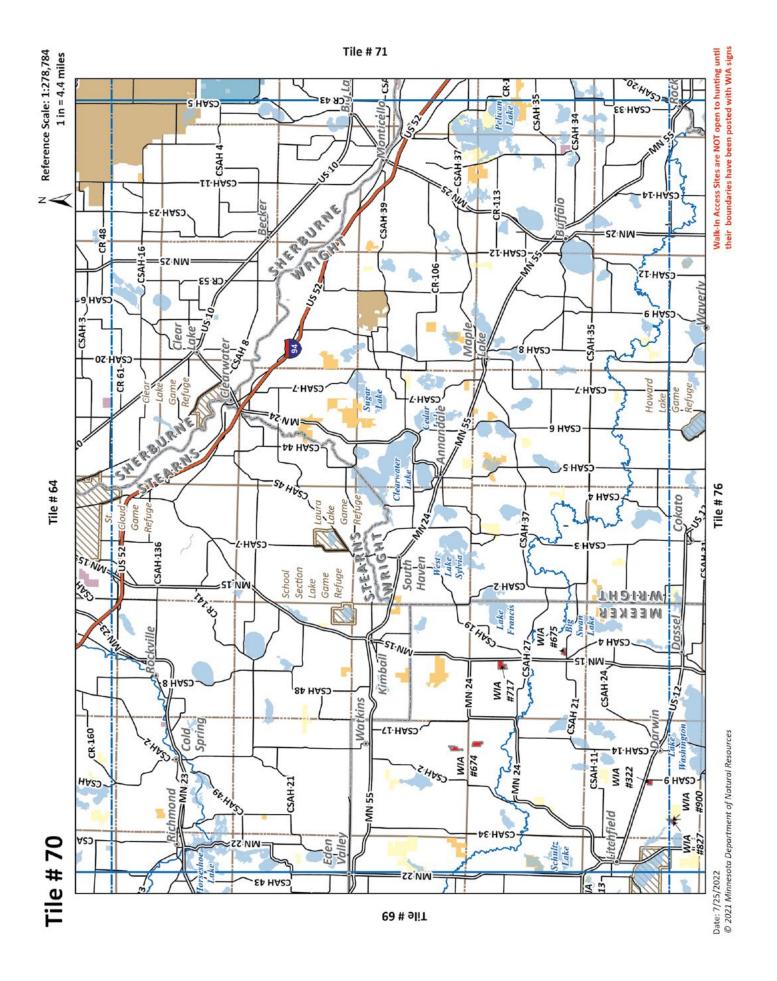




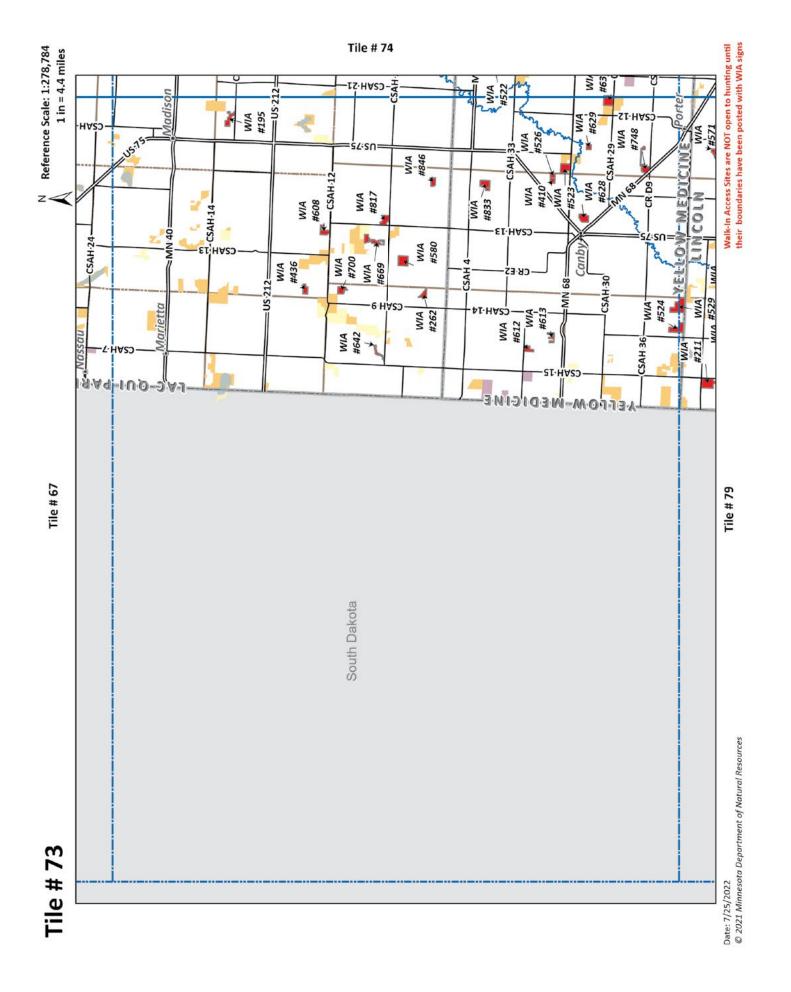


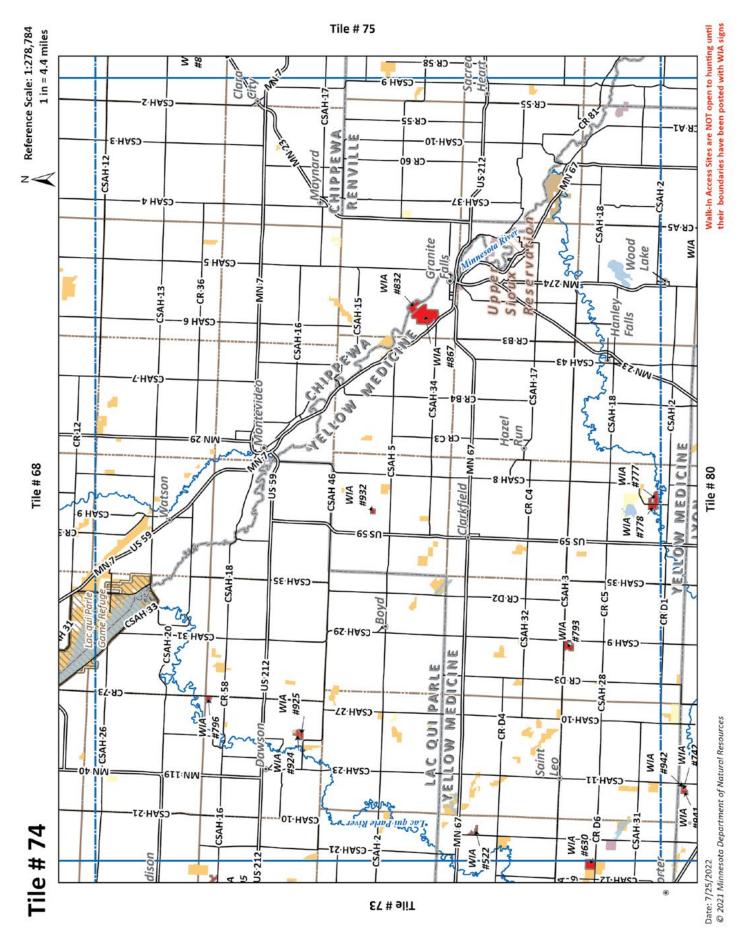


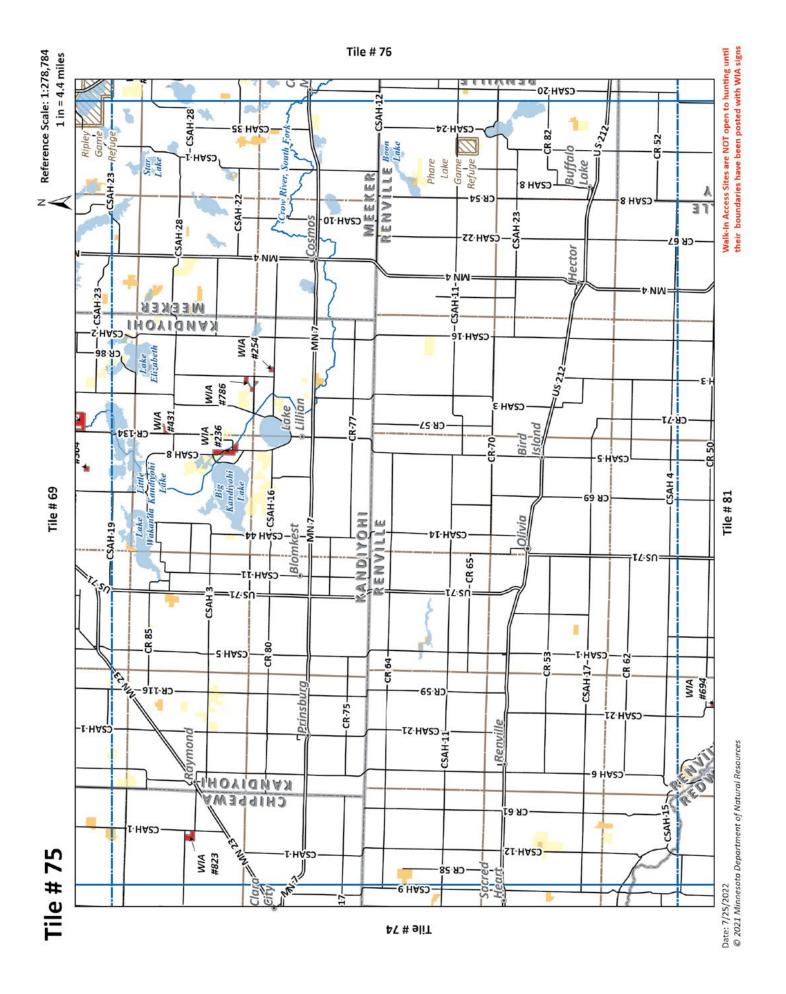


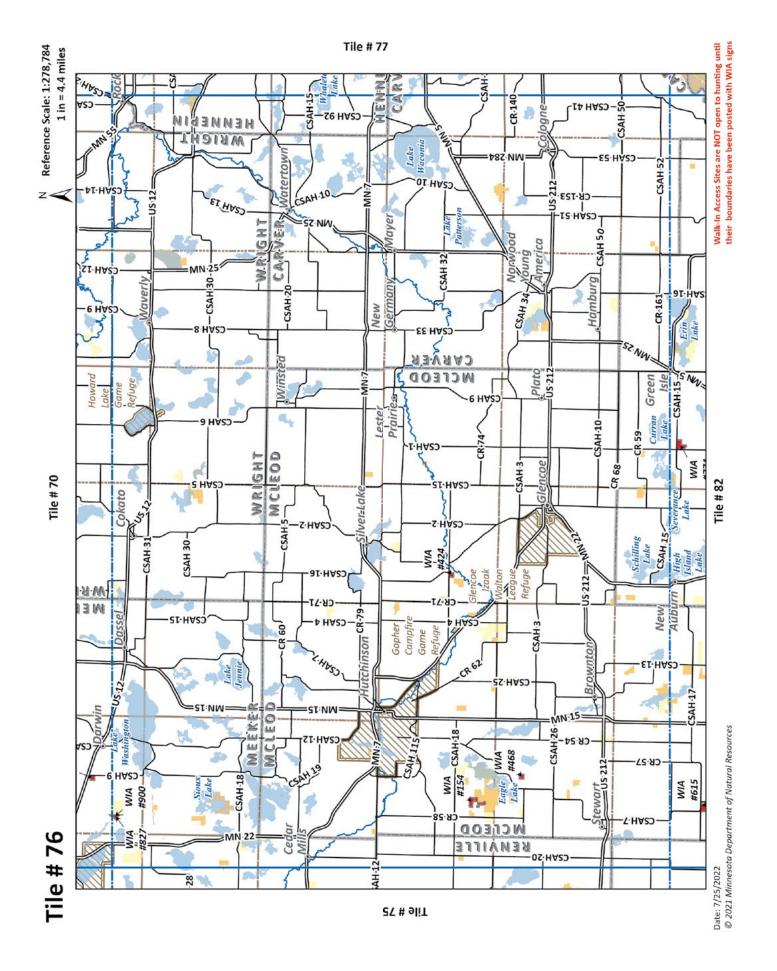


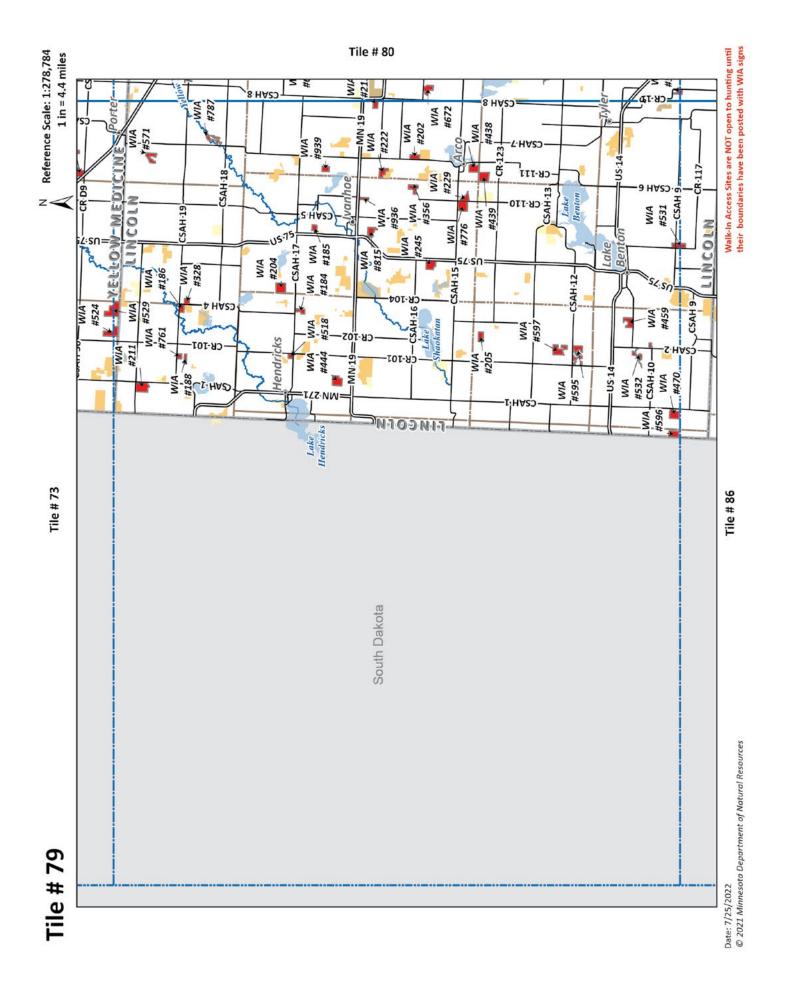


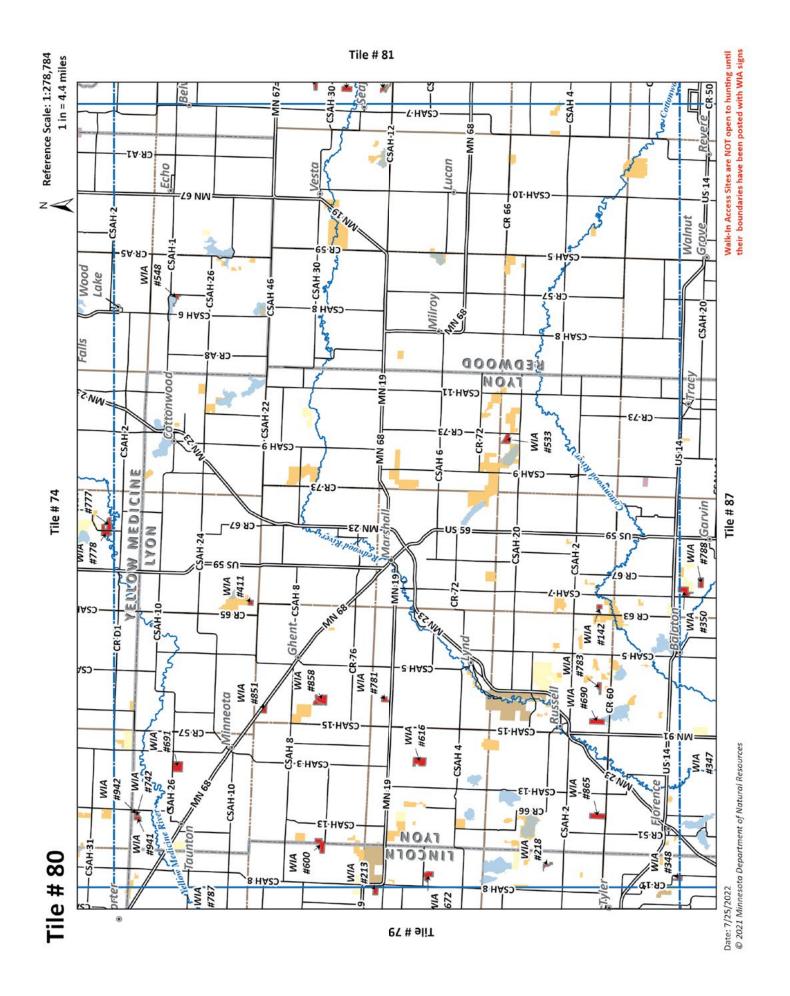


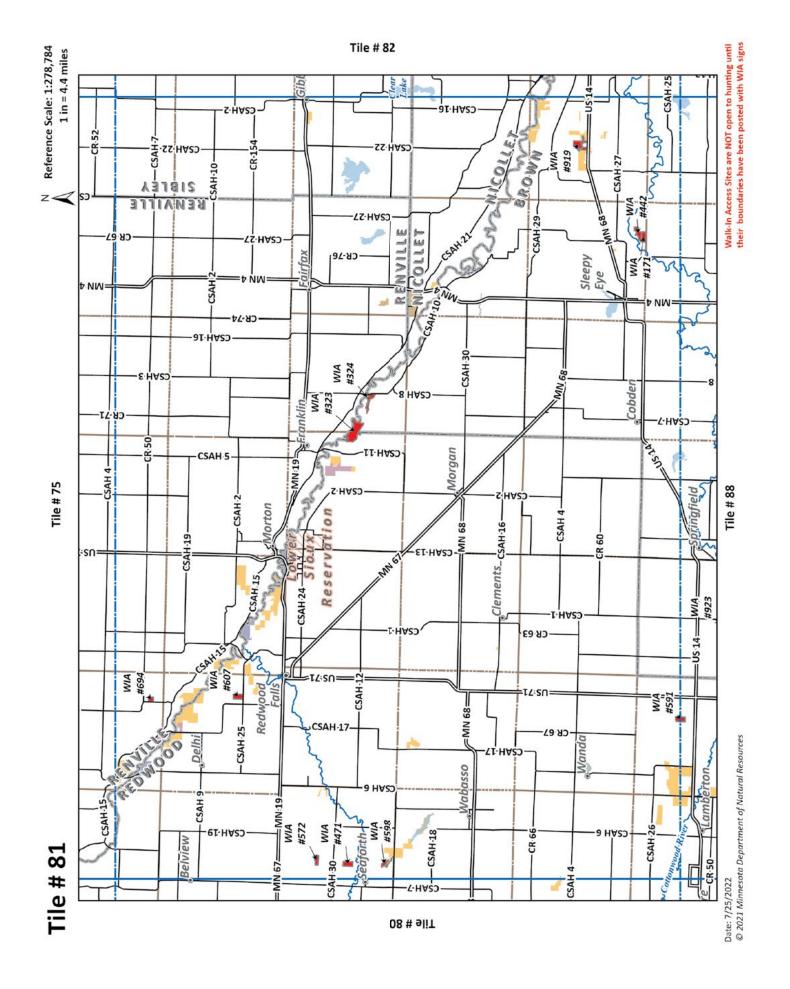


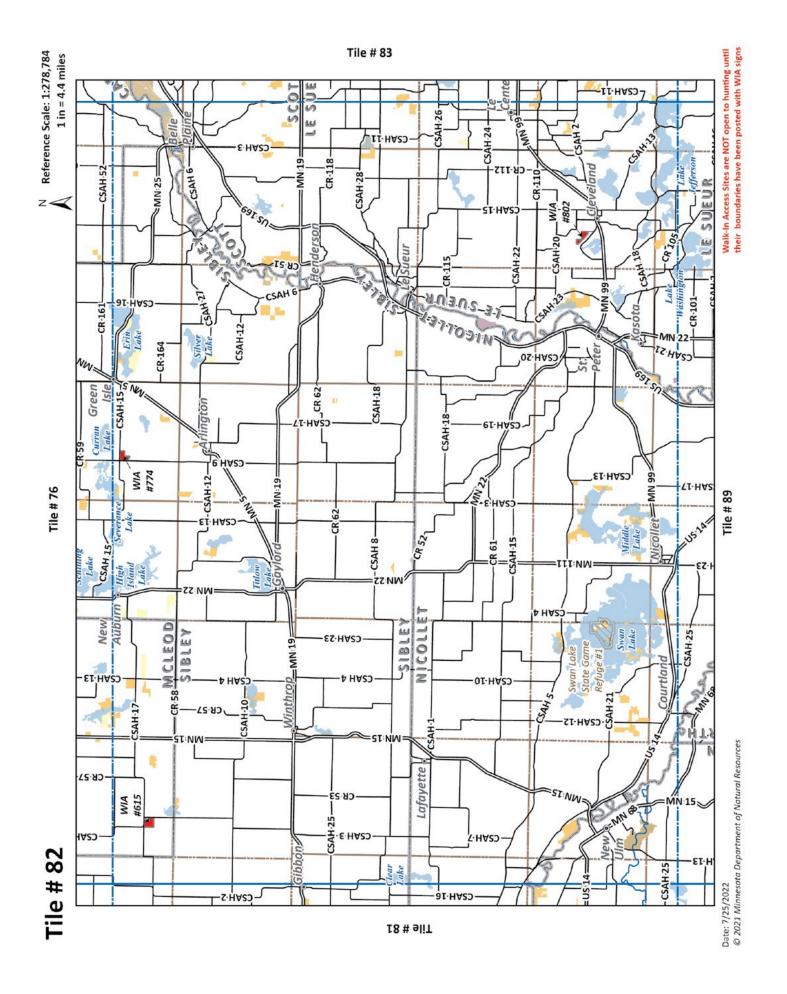


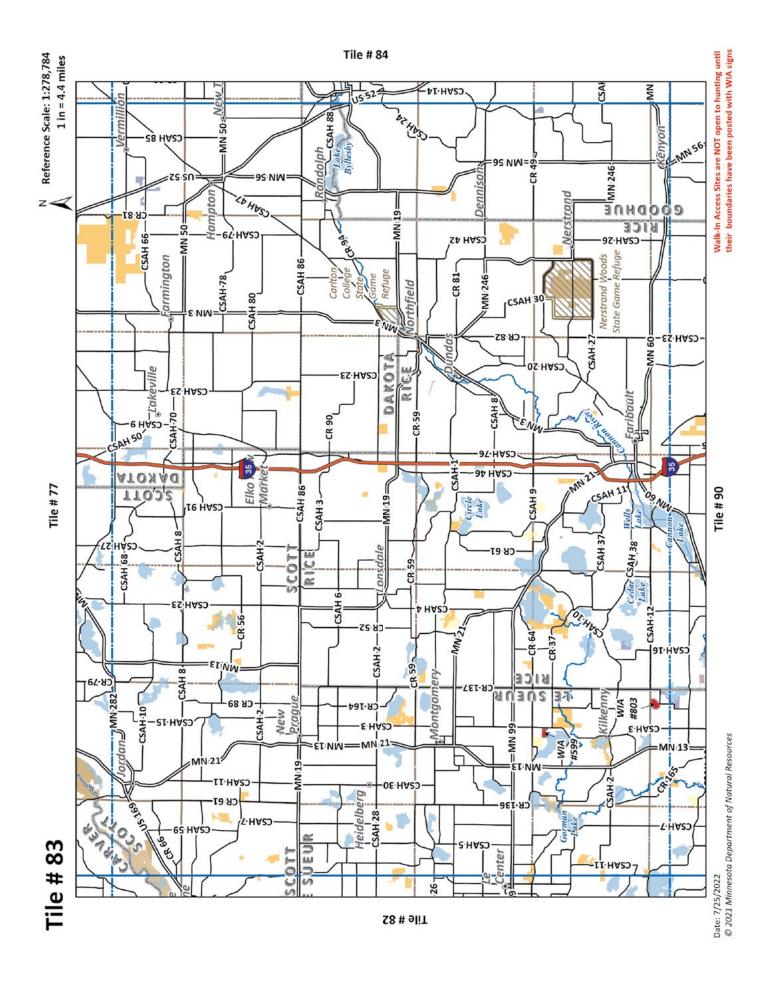


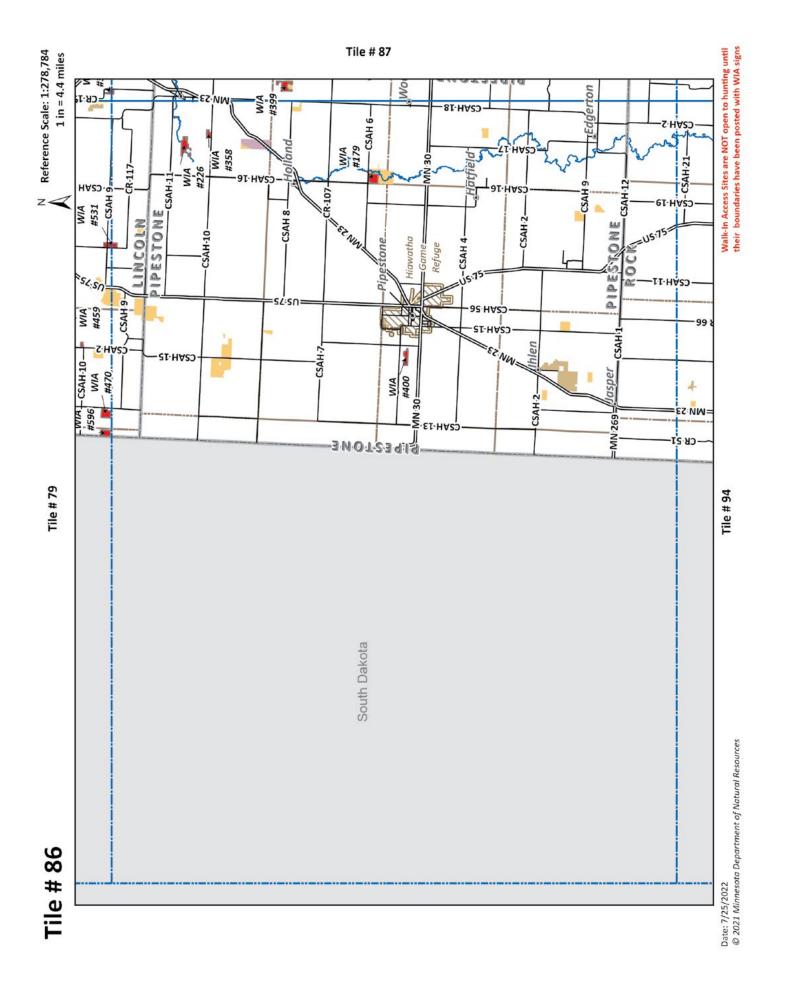


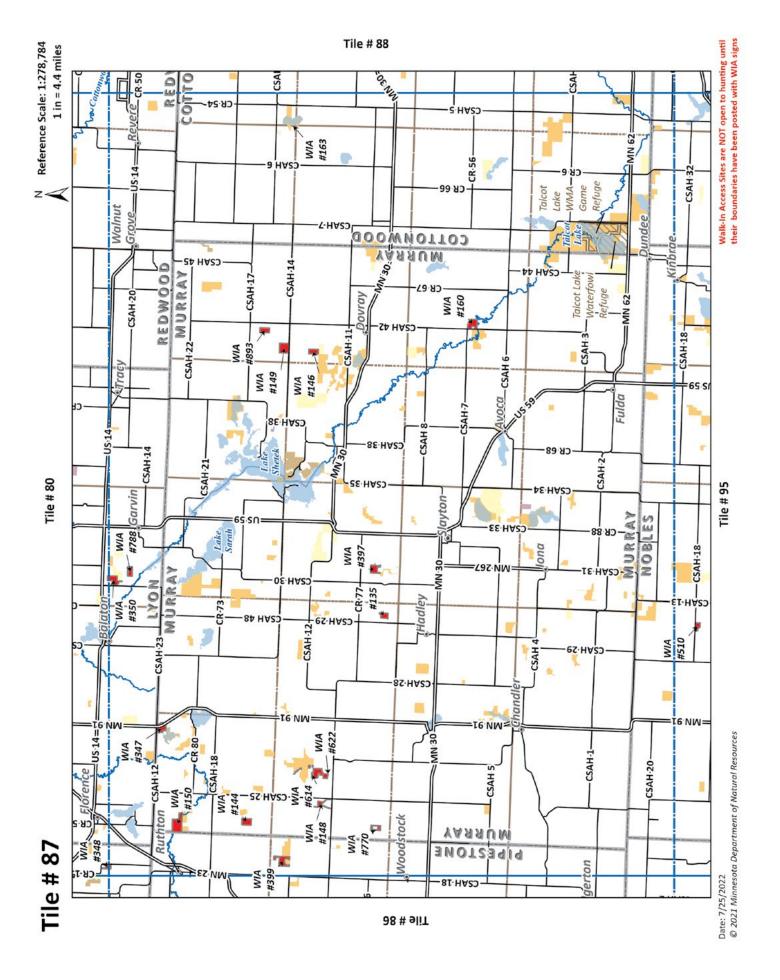


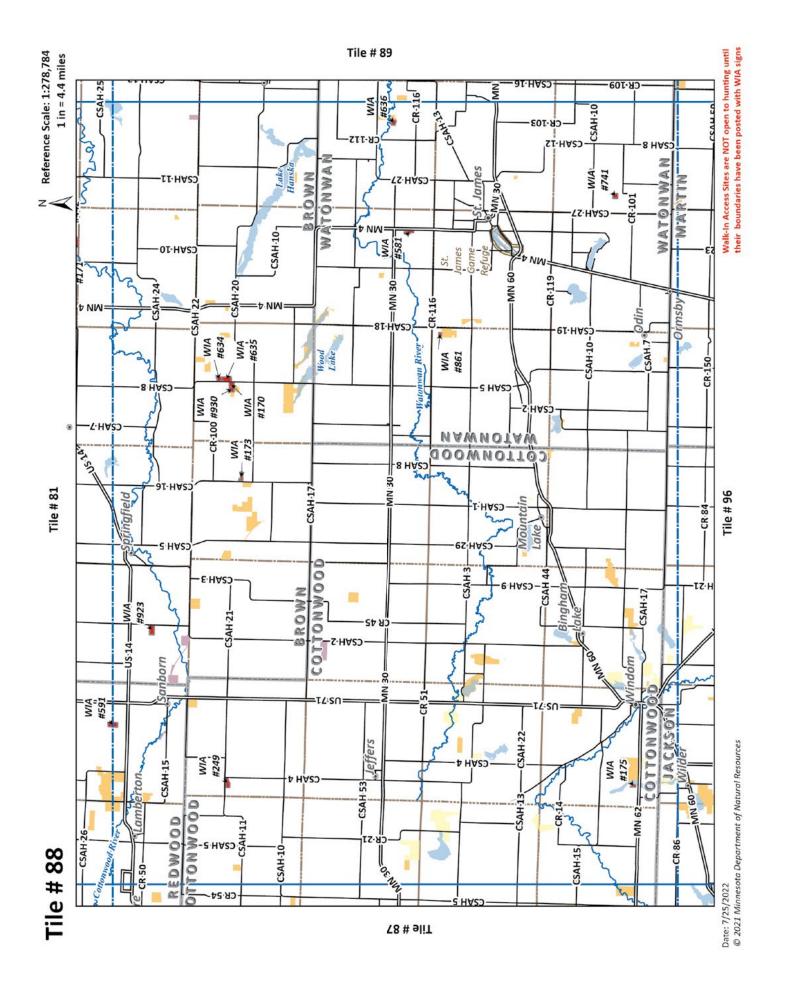


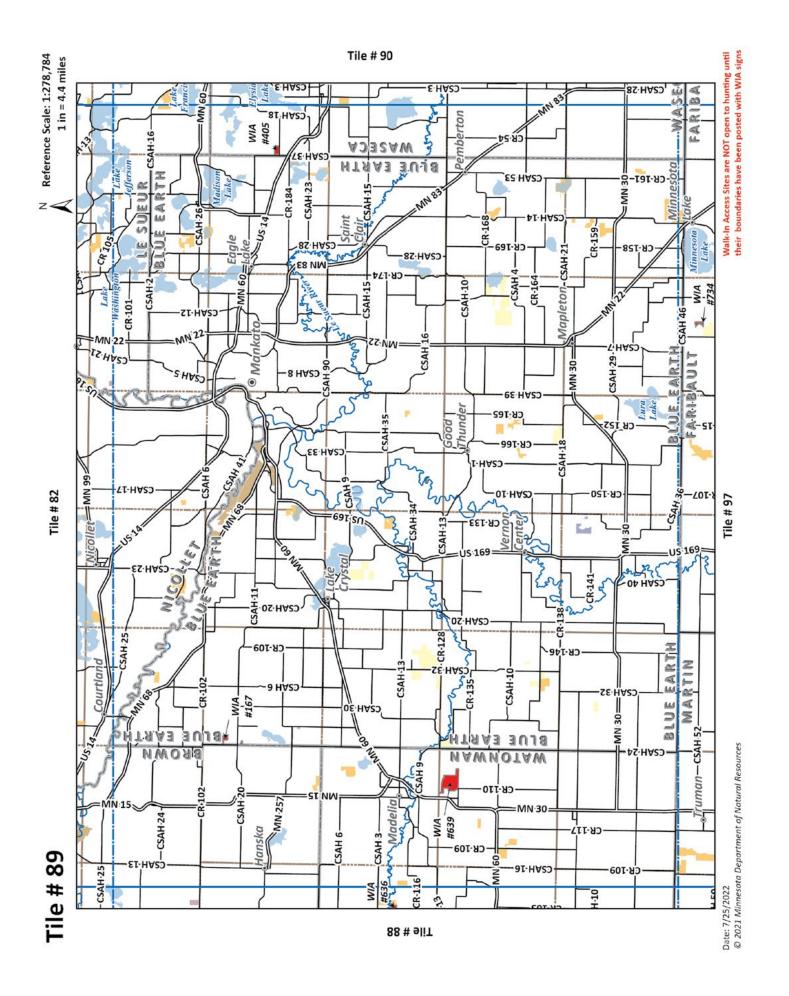


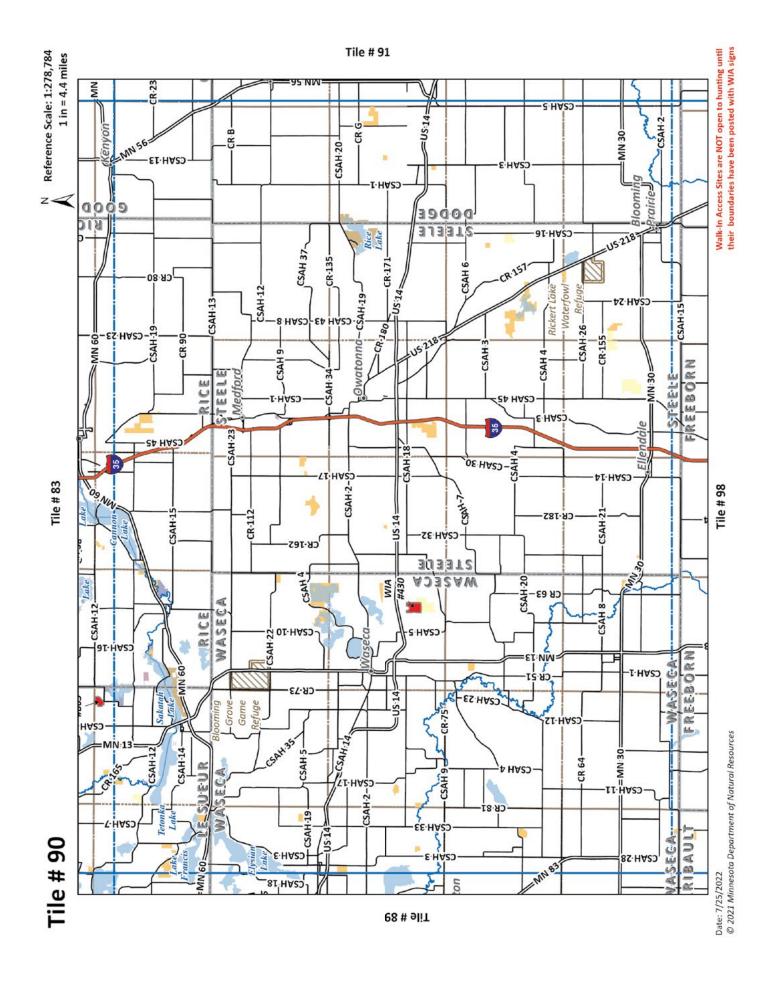


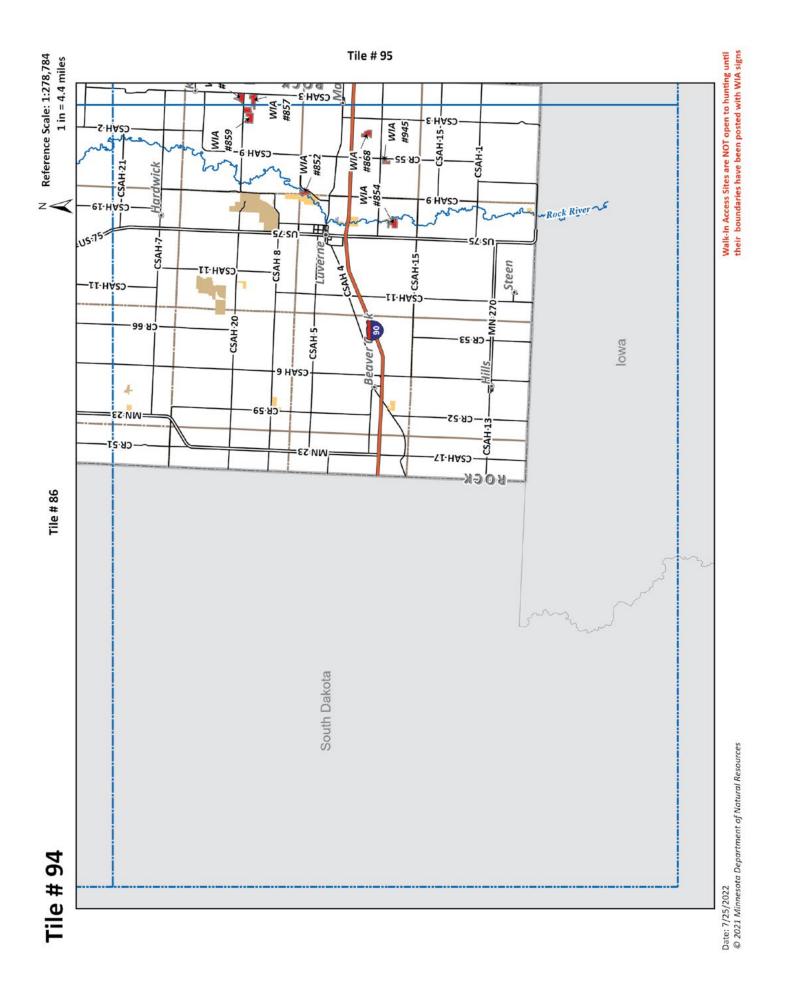


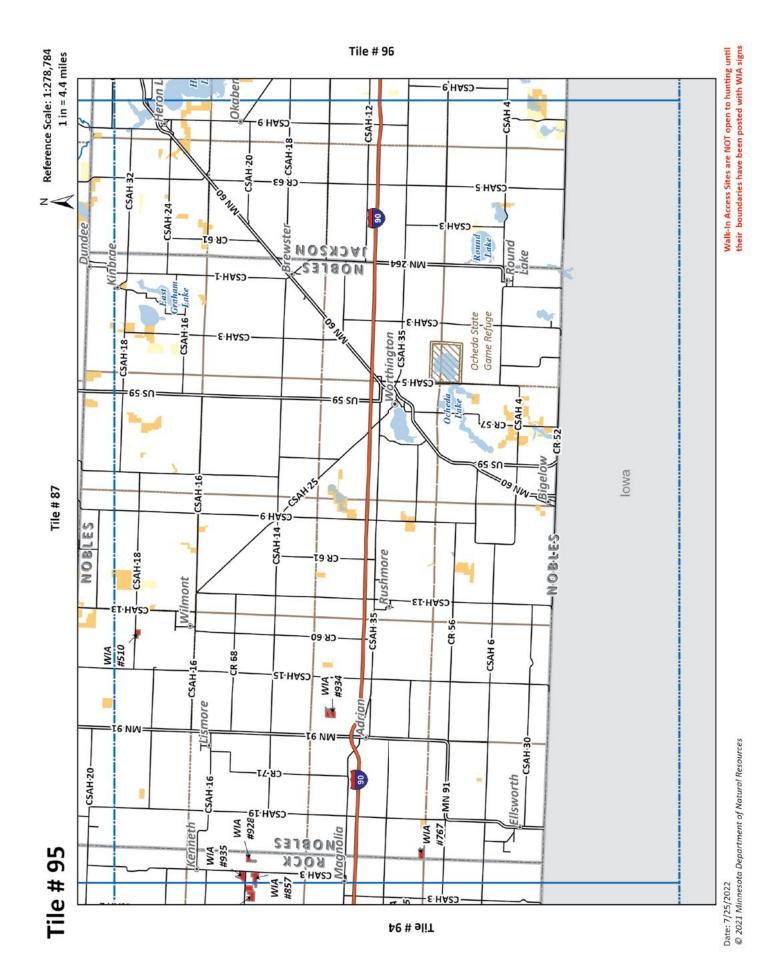


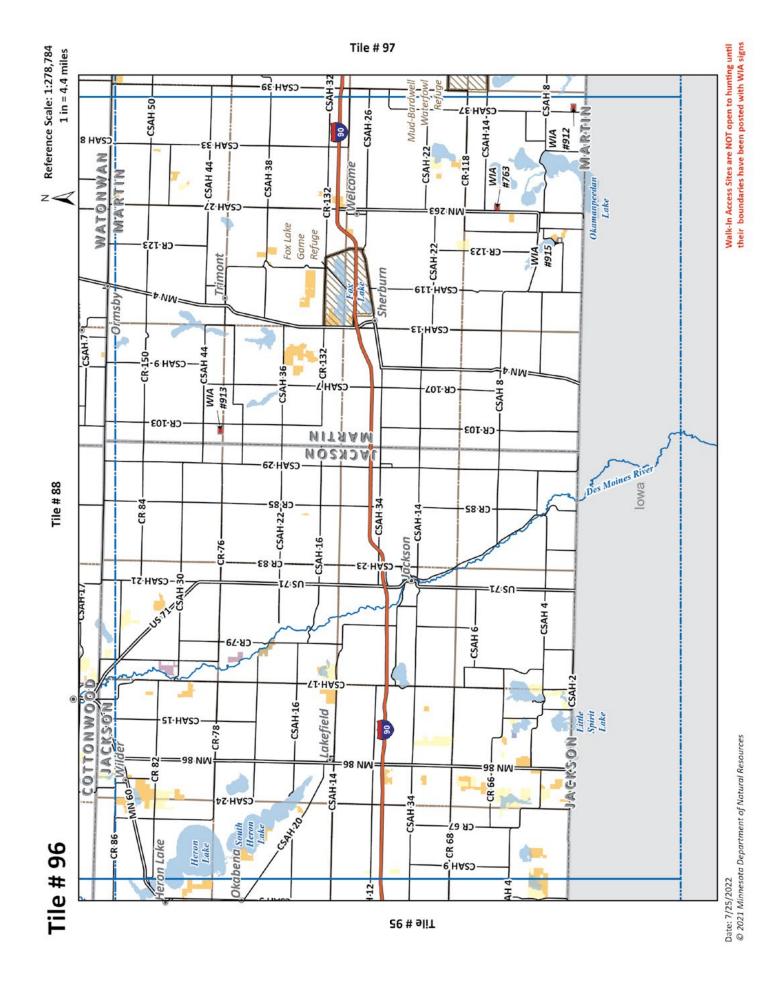


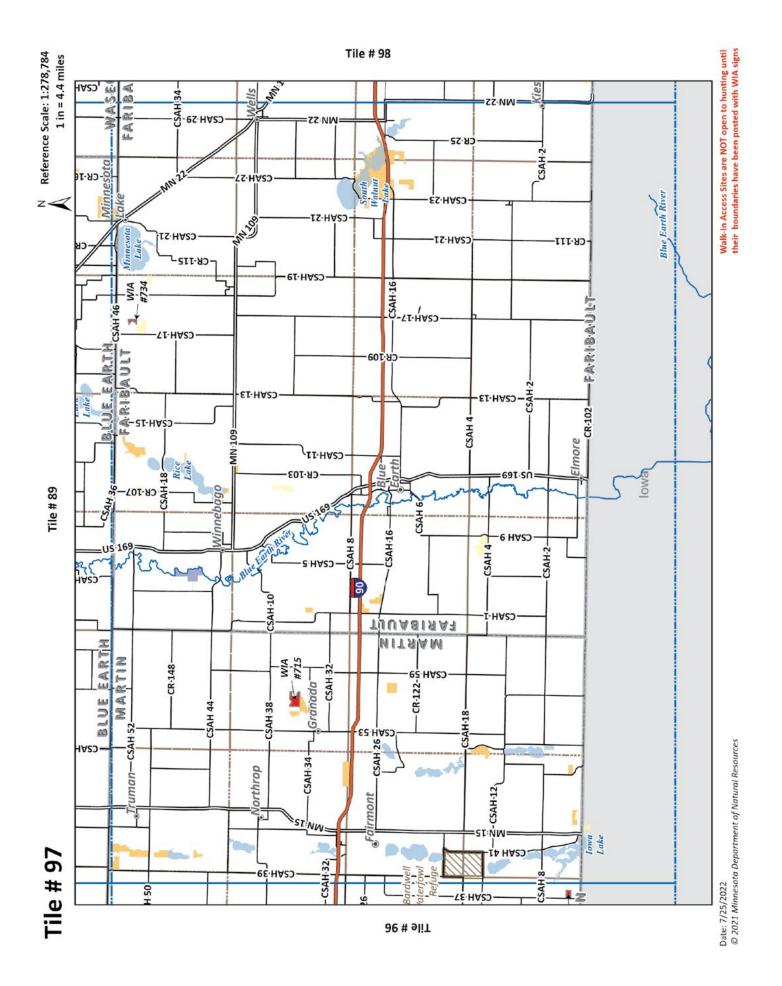


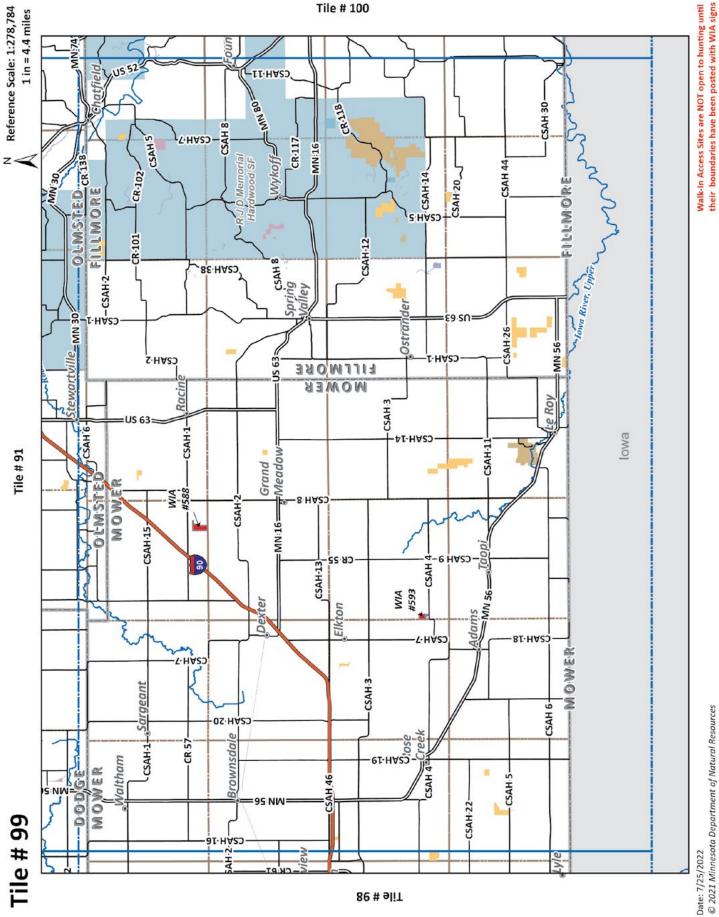




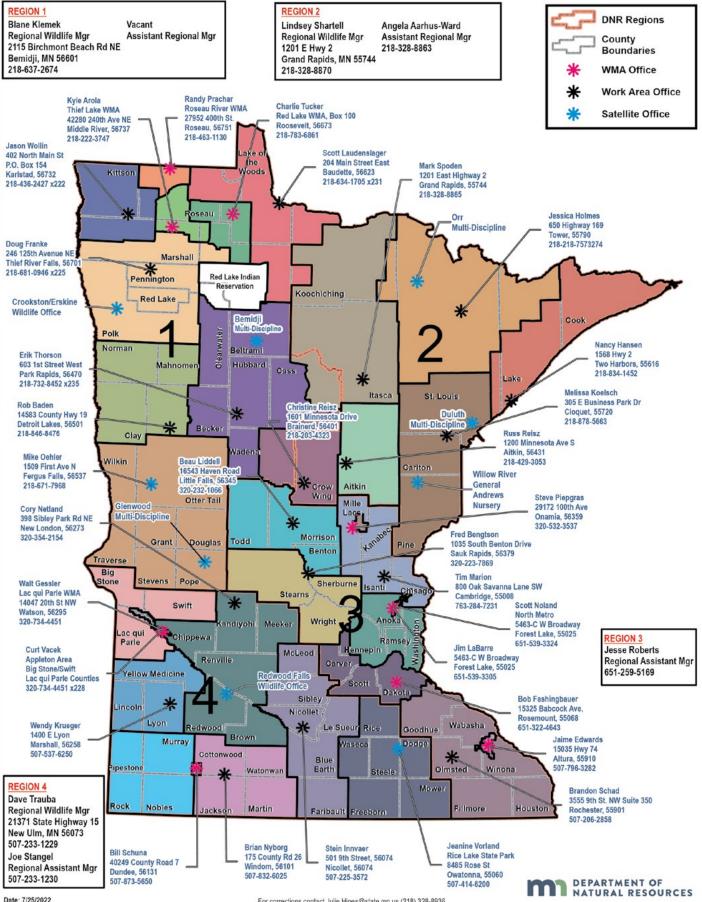








Minnesota DNR Wildlife Area Contacts

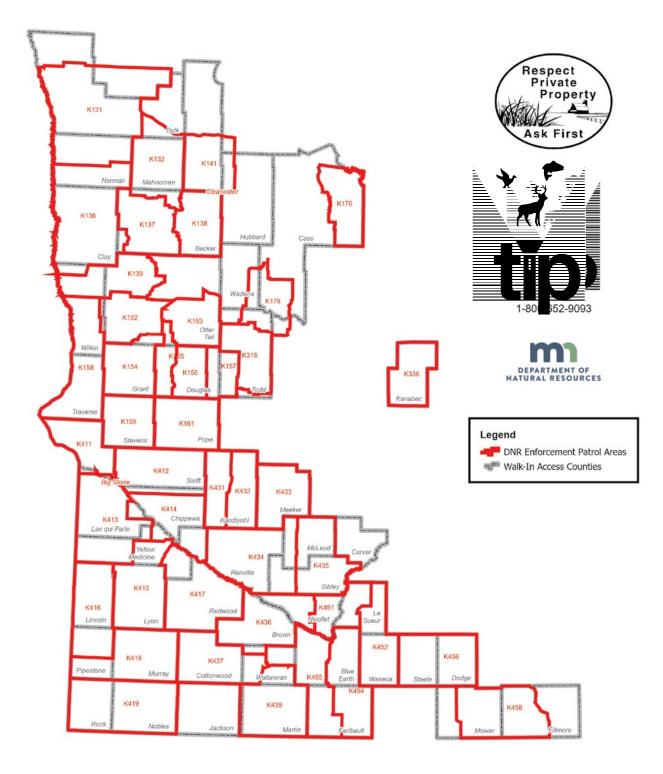


Date: 7/25/2022

For corrections contact Julie.Hines@state.mn.us (218) 328-8936

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 **www.mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas** or contact the DNR Information Center at 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-646-6367. Please refer to the following two pages for specific contact information for each Conservation Officer patrol area. In the event of an emergency, call 911.



Contact Information for Conservation Officers Covering the Walk-In Access Counties

К#	OFFICER NAME	WORKSTATION	COUNTY
K131	Thomas Hutchins	Crookston	Polk/Norman
K132	Angela Warren	Fosston	Becker/Mahnomen/Polk
K136	Steven Chihak	Moorhead	Clay/Norman/Wilkin
K137	Jake Swedberg	Detroit Lakes	Becker
K138	Alan Peterson	Osage	Becker
K139	William Landmark	Pelican Rapids	Otter Tail/Wilkin
K141	Alan Peterson	Bemidji #2	Clearwater/Hubbard
K141	Angela Warren	Bemidji #2	Clearwater/Hubbard
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	Tricia Plautz	Osakis	Douglas/Todd
K157	Mitch Lawler	Osakis	Douglas/Todd
K157	Daniel Baumbarger	Osakis	Douglas/Todd
K158	Hanna Wood	Wheaton	Traverse/Wilkin
K159	Emily Douvier	Morris	Stevens
K161	Daniel Baumbarger	Glenwood	Роре
K176	Jacque Hughes	Remer	Cass
K178	Adam Seifermann	Staples	Cass/Todd/Wadena
K318	Keith Bertram	Long Prairie	Todd
K336	Michael Krauel	Mora	Kanabec
K411	Derek Daniels	Ortonville	Big Stone
K412	Matt Loftness	Benson	Chippewa/Swift
K413	Derek Daniels	Madison	Lac Qui Parle/Yellow Medicine
K414	Matt Loftness	Montevideo	Chippewa/Renville/Yellow Medicine
K415	Matt Loftness	Marshall	Lyon/Yellow Medicine
K416	Derek Daniels	Lake Benton	Lincoln/Pipestone
K417	Luke Gutzwiller	Redwood Falls	Redwood/Yellow Medicine
K418	Jim Robinson	Slayton	Murray/Pipestone
K419	Jim Robinson	Worthington	Nobles/Rock
K431	Shane Vernier	Willmar #1	Kandiyohi
K432	Cassie Block	Willmar #2	Kandiyohi
K433	Nicholas Klehr	Litchfield	Meeker
K434	Brett Wiltrout	Hutchinson #1	McLeod/Nicollet/Renville
K435	Zachary Larson	Hutchinson #2	McLeod/Sibley
K436	Thor Nelson	New Ulm	Brown/Nicollet/Watonwan
K437	Dustin Miller	Windom	Cottonwood/Watonwan
K439	Eric Schettler	Fairmont	Martin/Watonwan

К#	OFFICER NAME	WORKSTATION	COUNTY
K451	Chris Howe	St. Peter	Le Sueur/Nicollet
K452	Brent Ihnen	Waseca	Le Sueur/Waseca
K454	Jamie VanThuyne	Mankato #1	Blue Earth/Faribault
K455	Corey Wiebusch	Mankato #2	Blue Earth/Faribault/Watonwan
K456	Chad Davis	Owatonna	Dodge/Steele
K458	Meng Moua	Spring Valley	Mower
K437	Dustin Miller	Windom	Cottonwood/Watonwan
K438	Mike Gruhlke	Jackson	Jackson
K439	Eric Schettler	Fairmont	Martin/Watonwan
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/Watonwan
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



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.

CALL US

Interpreters are available to answer all of your questions. 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. 888-MINNDNR (646-6367) or 651-296-6157



TURN IN POACHERS

24-hour hotline, 800-652-9093

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

500 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4040 651-296-6157 888-MINNDNR (646-6367) MN Toll Free

www.mndnr.gov

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