

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Classification of State Forest Lands in the Vicinity of the Chippewa National Forest in Beltrami, Cass, and Itasca Counties of Minnesota with Respect to Motor Vehicle Use

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commissioner of Natural Resources orders the classification of state forest lands described below with respect to motor vehicle use. These classifications of state forest lands with respect to motor vehicle use are pursuant to *Minnesota Laws 2003*, Chapter 128, Article 1, Section 167, (as amended in 2005 and 2007) and *Minnesota Rules* Chapter 6100.1950.

The commissioner further orders that state forest lands described below be designated as areas with limitations on off-trail and non-designated trail use pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 84.926, Subd. 5.

WHEREAS

1. *Minnesota Laws 2003*, Chapter 128, Article 1, Section 167, (as amended in 2005 and 2007) and *Minnesota Rules* Chapter 6100.1950 require the Commissioner of Natural Resources to classify all state forest lands with respect to motor vehicle use.
2. *Minnesota Statutes 2006*, Section 84.926, Subdivisions 2 and 4 allow some hunting- and trapping-related motor vehicle uses on state forest lands classified as 'limited' or 'managed' with respect to motor vehicle use. Section 84.926, Subdivision 5 authorizes the commissioner to designate areas on state forest lands that are not subject to the exceptions provided in subdivisions 2 and 4.
3. The Department of Natural Resources published its proposed motor vehicle use classifications; proposed forest road and trail designations; and proposed areas with limitations for state forest lands in the vicinity of the Chippewa National Forest in a draft plan in August 2006.
4. All notice and procedural requirements in *Minnesota Statutes*, and other applicable laws and rules have been met.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the following state forest lands be classified as 'closed' with respect to motor vehicle use, pursuant to authority vested in me by Minnesota law:

- State forest lands in the Battleground State Forest;
- State forest lands in the Welsh Lake State Forest; and
- State forest lands in section 36, township 147N, range 33W in the Buena Vista State Forest.

These state forest lands are depicted as 'closed' on the maps in *Exhibits A-1, A-2, and A-3*, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following state forest lands be classified as 'limited' with respect to motor vehicle use, pursuant to authority vested in me by Minnesota law:

- State forest lands in the Bowstring State Forest;
- State forest lands in the Remer State Forest;

- State forest lands in the Buena Vista State Forest, except for lands in section 36, township 147N, range 33W.
- Approximately 30,000 acres of state forest lands outside of statutory state forest boundaries in northern Cass County; and
- Approximately 2,800 acres of state forest lands outside of the statutory boundaries of state forests and south of U.S. Highway 2 in Itasca County.

These state forest lands are depicted as *'limited'* on the maps in ***Exhibits A-1, A-2, and A-3***, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following state forest lands be classified as *'managed'* with respect to motor vehicle use, pursuant to authority vested in me by Minnesota law:

- State forest lands in the Big Fork State Forest;
- State forest lands in the Blackduck State Forest;
- Approximately 7,000 acres of state forest lands outside of statutory state forest boundaries in southeastern Beltrami County; and
- Approximately 48,000 acres of state forest lands outside the statutory boundaries of state forests in northwestern Itasca County

These state forest lands are depicted as *'managed'* on the maps in ***Exhibits A-1, A-2, and A-3***, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that state forest lands within the areas described below be designated as areas with limitations on off-trail and non-designated trail use pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 84.926, Subdivision 5:

- *Dishpan – Fiske Lake* – Beginning at the intersection of Itasca County Highway 26 and Itasca County Highway 29 west of Dora Lake; then westerly along County Highway 29 to the intersection with US Forest Service Road 2229; then northwesterly along US Forest Service Road 2229 to the West Bowstring Snowmobile Trail; then north along the snowmobile trail to Itasca County Highway 31; then north and east along County Highway 31 to the intersection with US Forest Service Road 2240; then southeasterly along US Forest Service Road 2240 to the crossing of a tributary stream to Moose Brook; then southeasterly along the tributary stream and Moose Brook to Itasca County Highway 26; then south along County Highway 26 to the point of beginning.
- *Drumbeater Lake* – Beginning where the Soo Line Trail crosses the Leech Lake River near Federal Dam; then northwesterly along the Soo Line Trail to Cass County Highway 8; then northerly along County Highway 8 to the Pipeline Snowmobile Trail; then easterly along the Pipeline Snowmobile Trail to US Forest Service Road 2130; then southeasterly on US Forest Service Road 2130 to the crossing of Sixmile Brook near the outlet of Six Mile Lake; then southeasterly along Sixmile Brook to US Forest Service Road 2266; then southwesterly along US Forest Service Road 2266 to the boundary of the Mud-Goose Wildlife Management Area; then south and east along the WMA boundary to the Leech Lake River; then westerly along the Leech Lake River to the point of beginning.
- *Morph Meadows NE* – Beginning at the intersection of US Forest Service Road 2207 and the Hunter Walking Trail near the border between Beltrami and Itasca counties; then easterly along the Hunter Walking Trail to Castle Creek; then southeasterly along Castle Creek to the forest access route in section 11, township 147N, range 29W; then northeasterly along the forest access route to US Forest Service Road 2203; then northeasterly along US Forest

Service Road 2203 to Crane Creek; then southerly along Crane Creek to the Third River; then west along the Third River to the Third River Flowage; then west along the Third River Flowage to Island Lake Creek; then west along Island Lake Creek to US Forest Service Road 2171; then north on US Forest Service Road 2171 to the eastern boundary of the Morph Meadows Wildlife Management Area; then north and west along the Morph Meadows WMA boundary to US Forest Service Road 2207; then north along US Forest Service Road 2207 to the point of beginning.

- *Willow River* – Sections 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, and that portion of section 36 north of the South Fork of the Willow River in township 142N, range 25W. This includes all state forest lands in the eastern portion of the Remer State Forest, east of State Trunk Highway 6, east of US Forest Service Road 2139, and north of the South Fork of the Willow River.

These areas with limitations on off-trail and non-designated trail use are depicted on the maps in *Exhibits A-1, A-2, and A-3*, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above motor vehicle use classifications and designations of areas with limitations shall become effective December 31, 2008.

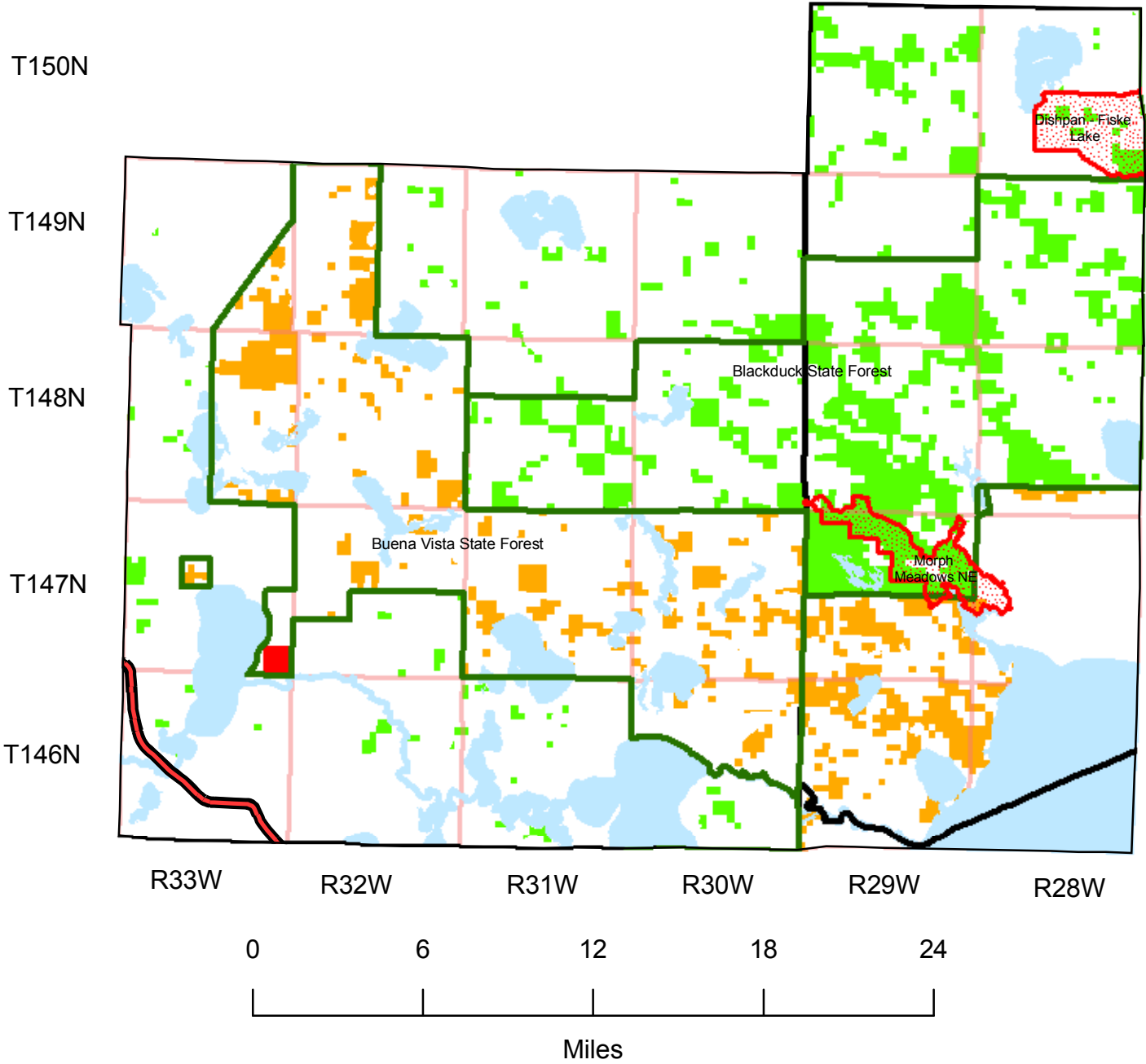
Date: 6-4-08



Mark Holsten, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

Exhibit A-1

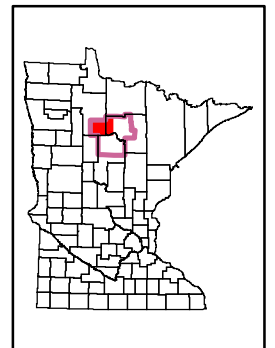
State Forest Land Classification Motor Vehicle Use Northwestern Chippewa Area



State Forest Land Classification

- closed
- limited
- managed
- Areas with Limitations (No hunting exception)

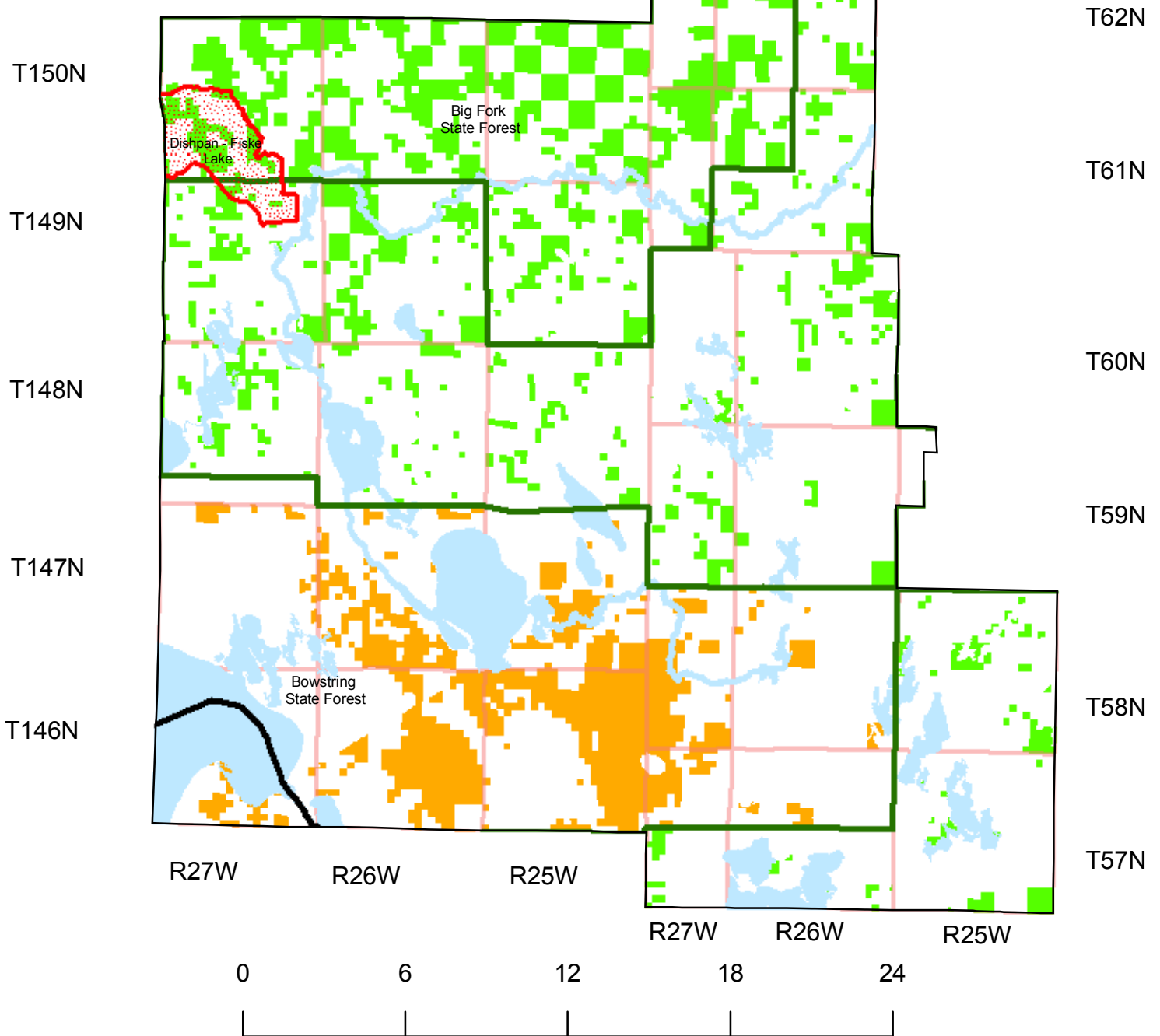
- State Forest Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Large Lakes (500+ acres)
- PLS Townships
- US Highway 2



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Exhibit A-2

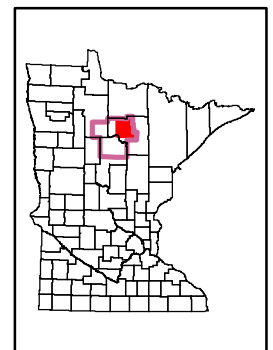
State Forest Land Classification Motor Vehicle Use Northeastern Chippewa Area



State Forest Land Classification

- closed
- limited
- managed
- Areas with Limitations (No hunting exception)

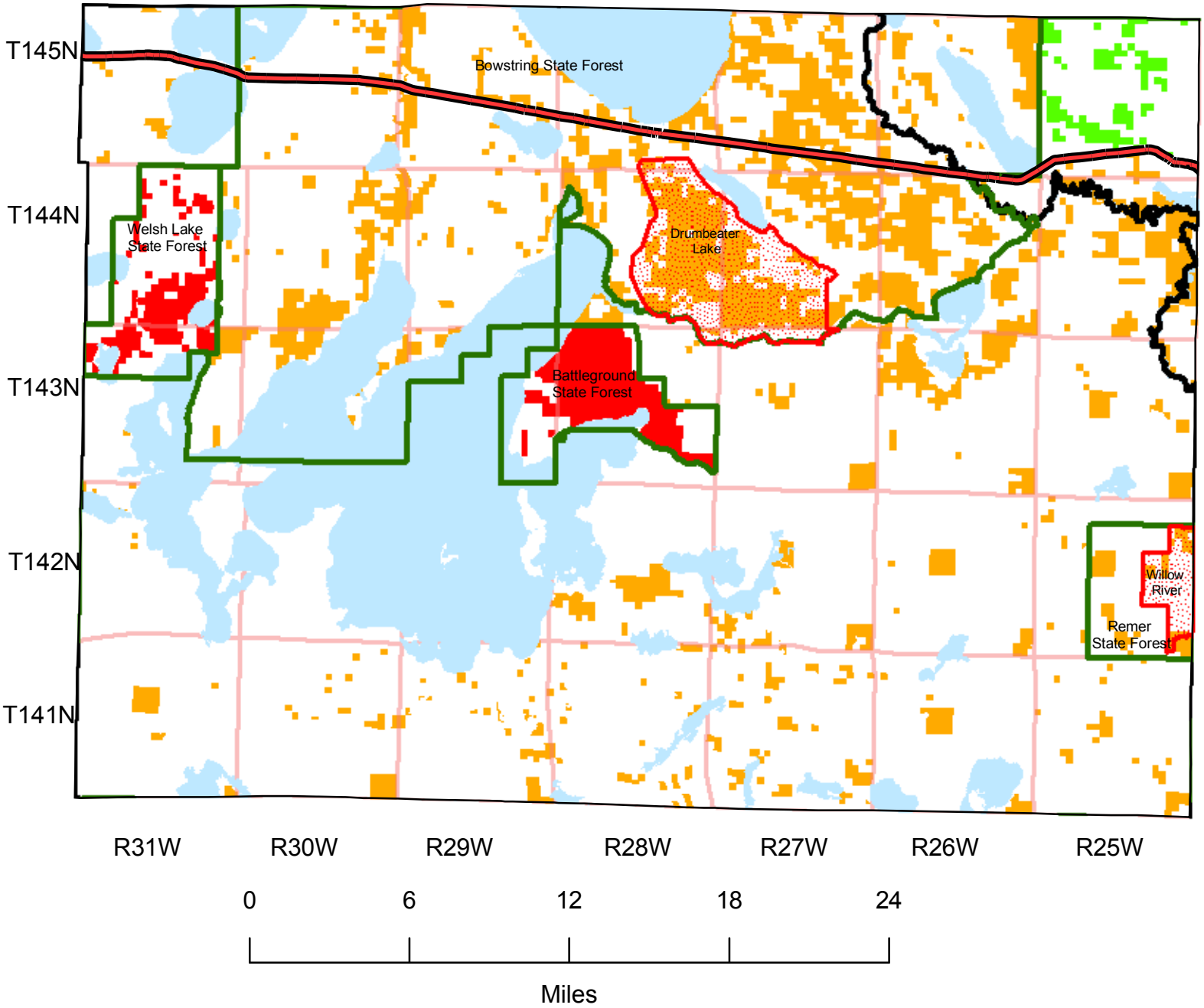
- State Forest Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Large Lakes (500+ acres)
- PLS Townships
- US Highway 2



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Exhibit A-3

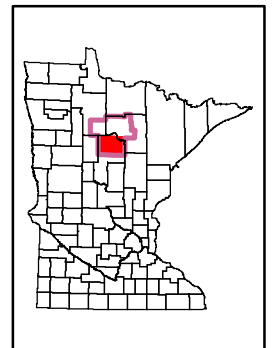
State Forest Land Classification Motor Vehicle Use Southern Chippewa Area



State Forest Land Classification

- closed
- limited
- managed
- Areas with Limitations (No hunting exception)

- State Forest Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Large Lakes (500+ acres)
- PLS Townships
- US Highway 2



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