

# Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

## CLASSIFICATION OF THE FINLAND STATE FOREST AND OTHER STATE FOREST LANDS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMISSIONER IN LAKE COUNTY, MINNESOTA WITH RESPECT TO MOTOR VEHICLE USE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Commissioner of Natural Resources orders the classification of state forest lands pursuant to *Minnesota Laws 2003, Chapt. 128, Art. 1, Sect. 167 (as amended in 2005 & 2007)* and *Minnesota Rules Part 6100.1950*.

The commissioner orders the classification of State Forest Lands within Lake County, including lands located within and outside the Finland State Forest, as either ‘*managed*’ or ‘*limited*’, with respect to motor vehicle use, as shown in *Exhibit A*, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

The commissioner further orders that all State Forest Lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and within three areas known as *Cabin Creek*, *Beaver Ridge*, and *Upper Baptism / Manitou*, be classified as ‘*closed*’ with respect to motor vehicle use, as shown in *Exhibit A*, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

The commissioner further orders that four sites located within St. Louis County, identified as *Kawishiwi*, *Trumpeter Rainy Swimmer*, *Spruce Road* and *Greenstone Lake*, as shown in *Exhibit B*, attached hereto and incorporated herein, be subject to limitations on off-trail and non-designated trail use pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes, Sect. 84.926, Subd. 5*.

### **WHEREAS:**

1. *Minnesota Laws 2003, Chapt. 128, Art. 1, Sect. 167 (as amended in 2005 & 2007)* and *Minnesota Rules Part 6100.1950* require the Commissioner of Natural Resources to classify all state forest lands with respect to motor vehicle use.
2. *Minnesota Statutes, Sect. 84.926, Subd. 2 and Subd. 4* do allow certain big game hunting and trapping-related motor vehicle operation exceptions on forest lands classified as ‘*managed*’ or ‘*limited*’ with respect to motor vehicle use. *Subd. 5* authorizes the Commissioner to designate state forest lands not subject to the exceptions provided for in *Subd. 2 and Subd. 4*.
3. The agency published its’ proposed motor vehicle use classification and forest road and trail designations in a draft plan in March 2007. Public meetings were held and written comments and submissions were received regarding the public’s use of forest lands, roads and trails in Lake County.

4. All public notice and procedural requirements in *Minnesota Statutes*, and other applicable rules and legal obligations have been fulfilled.
5. The state forest classification is both needed and reasonable.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED** that all state forest lands located within Lake County, including the Finland State Forest, be classified with respect to the operation of motor vehicles as shown in *Exhibit A*, attached hereto and incorporated herein, pursuant to authority vested in me by Minnesota Law.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that state forest lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and other lands under the authority of the commissioner within the areas described below be classified as ‘closed’ with respect to motor vehicle use pursuant to authority vested in me by Minnesota Law. These areas are depicted in *Exhibit A*, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

- *Cabin Creek* – State lands located in T59N R6W, Sections 16, 20, 29 and 30, and state lands located north and east of Moose Creek in Sections 31 and 32 consisting of about 1,504 acres. This area is bounded on the south by US Forest Service lands.
- *Beaver Ridge* – State lands in T55N R8W located south of the Beaver River between the confluence with the West Branch on the west and Glen Avon Falls on the east, and north of State Highway 61 consisting of about 733 acres.
- *Upper Baptism / Manitou* – State lands in T58N R7W located north of the Sonju Lake Road, south of the South Branch of the Manitou River and Art Lake, east of the eastern terminus of the “KC” Road, and west of Lake 23 and the Baptism River consisting of about 1,878 acres.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that state forest lands, and other lands under the authority of the commissioner, within the areas described below be designated as areas with limitations on off-trail and non-designated trail use pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes, Sect. 84.926, Subd. 5*. These areas are depicted in *Exhibit B*, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

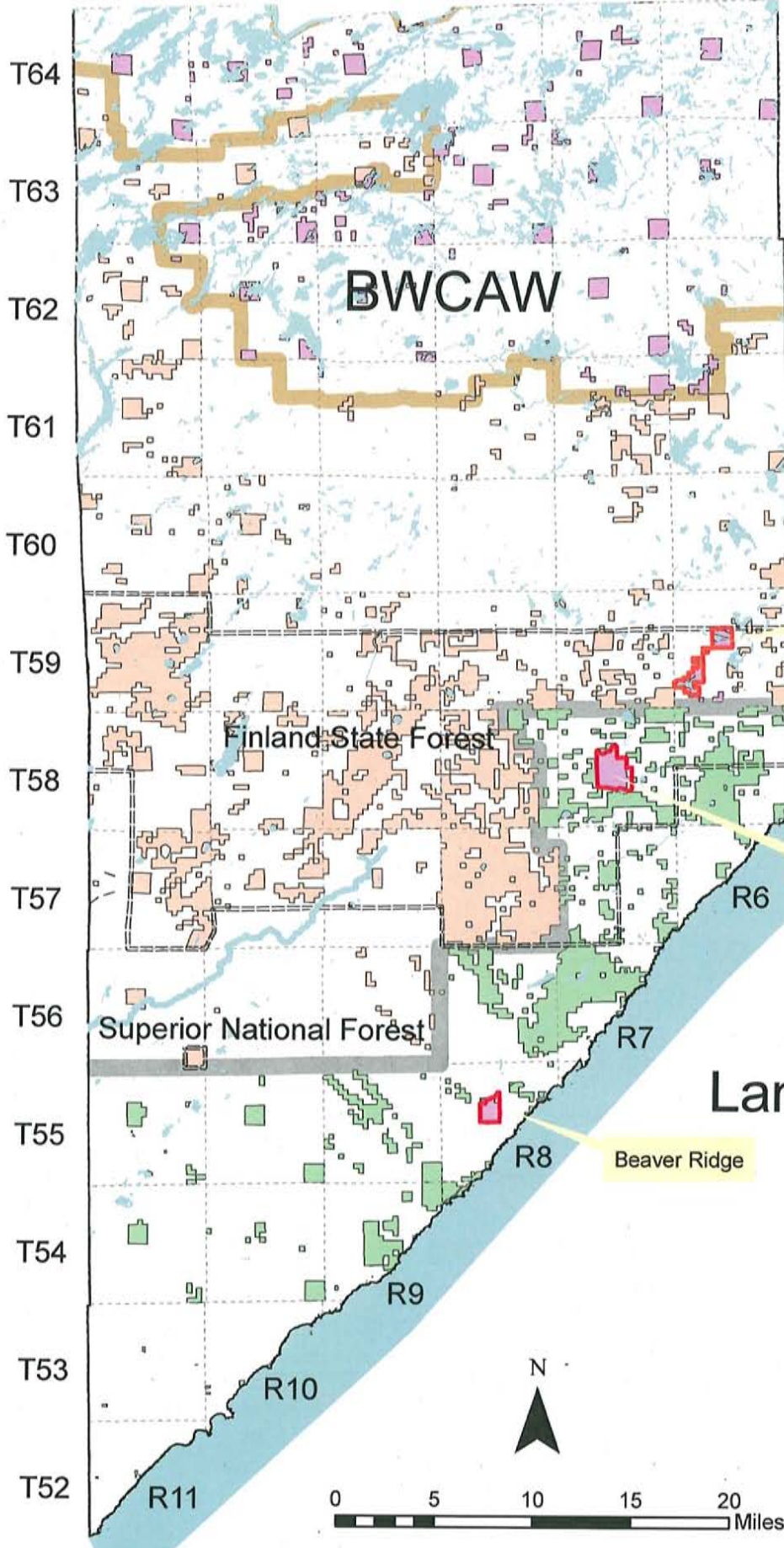
- *Kawishiwi* – State lands in T62N R11W located north of the South Kawishiwi River, west of Crocket Lake, and adjoining the north and east sides of the Kawishiwi Pines Scientific and Natural Area consisting of about 675 acres.
- *Trumpeter Rainy Swimmer* – State lands in T57 & 58N – R10 & 11W located south of the South Greenwood River, west of Lake County #2 and Weber Creek, east of the Nelson Road and Pine Lake, north and west of Murphy Creek, and north of the railroad tracks. The area is bounded on the north by USFS Road 813 and by winter access trails that connect to the Nelson Road. This area consists of about 5,490 acres.

- *Spruce Road* – Beginning at the intersection of State Highway 1 and Lake County 23 (Spruce Road), those lands located north of State Highway 1, west of USFS Road 1468 to the point where the road crosses the township line between T61N R11W and T61N R10W, west of the township line between T61N R11W and T61N R10W and T62N R11W and T62N R10W until the township line crosses the Tomahawk State Snowmobile Trail, west of the Tomahawk Trail until its intersection with County Road 23, and south of County Road 23; consisting of about 1,380 acres.
- *Greenstone Lake* – Lands located south of Lake County Highway 18 (Fernberg Road) in T63N R10W Section 16; consisting of about 550 acres.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the above motor vehicle use classifications and motor-limited area designations shall become effective September 1, 2008.

*Dated 10/30/07*

*Mark Holsten, Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources*



**Classification**

- Closed
- Limited
- Managed
- State Forest
- Superior National Forest
- BWCaw

# Exhibit A

## State Forest

### Land Classification





