

PAUL BUNYAN STATE TRAIL - SOUTH

(CROW WING STATE PARK TO HACKENSACK)

CASS AND CROW WING COUNTIES



MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Information Center
500 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-646-6367 | mndnr.gov/trails



SHARE THE TRAIL

- Stay on designated trail.
- Keep right so others can pass.
- Keep pets on leash and pick up waste.
- Obey traffic signs and rules.
- Pack out all garbage and litter.
- Respect adjoining landowner's rights and privacy.
- Verbally warn other trail users when passing from behind.
- Overnight camping and campfires are permitted only on designated campsites. Do not leave them unattended.
- Enjoy the beauty of wild plants and animals, but leave them undisturbed for all to enjoy.
- Trail users are legally responsible for obeying the rules and regulations provided in Minnesota Rules, 6100.3000.

ABOUT THE TRAIL

The **Paul Bunyan State Trail** is 123 miles long, not including short on-road connections through the city of Baxter. Extending all the way from Crow Wing State Park to Lake Bemidji State Park, it is the longest of Minnesota's state trails and the longest continuously paved rail-trail in the country.

Most of trail follows the former Burlington Northern Railroad grade and is generally level and wheelchair accessible. The exception is a challenging, 9-mile stretch with many hills and curves on the northern trail segment (see the Hackensack to Lake Bemidji trail map for details).

Enjoy forests, lakes, streams and communities during your travels. Many towns along the trail are popular vacation destinations with trail access points, rest areas and other services.

You can connect with the paved Heartland State Trail from the Paul Bunyan State Trail between Akeley and Walker to the north. At the north end of Lake Bemidji State Park, snowmobilers can connect to hundreds of miles of trails.



PARKING AVAILABLE


DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR VEHICLE

Parking

Backus: Off Washburn Ave.
Baxter: On Excelsior Road. From the intersection of State Highway 210 and the Highway 371 bypass in Baxter, go north 1 block to Excelsior Road, then go east 3/4 mile to Conservation Drive; parking lot is on the left.
Brainerd: (See "Baxter" description above)
Crow Wing State Park: Parking available within the park. Vehicle permit required.
Hackensack: Off Lake Ave. in Hackensack City Park.

Jenkins: Off Highway 371.
Merrifield: Off Train Bell Road.
Nisswa: NE of Hubert Lake off County Road 13.
Nisswa: Off Smiley Road.
Pequot Lakes: From Highway 371, exit onto County Road 11, and go west into Pequot Lakes to the stoplight at the intersection with Patriot Avenue. Turn left (south) onto Patriot Avenue, then take the next left (east) onto Woodman Street for 1/2 block. The parking lot is on the left.

DON'T GET LOST!

 Navigate with your phone! The Avenza Maps® app uses GPS location tracking, so you can stay found, even off the grid. After you have downloaded the app and map, no internet or cell service is needed.

Search "MNDNR" plus the park or trail name in the Avenza app store to download our free maps, or scan the code here to download.



PLEASE NOTE

Snowmobilers must be registered or have a valid state trail sticker. For more information, call the DNR Information Center or visit mndnr.gov/snowmobiling.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

This information may be available in alternative format upon request.

 **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

TRAIL PROFILE - PAUL BUNYAN STATE TRAIL

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