GREAT GLACIERS carved the physical features of what is today known as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) by scraping and gouging rock. The glaciers left behind rugged cliffs and crags, canyons, gentle hills, towering rock formations, rocky shores, sandy beaches and thousands of lakes and streams, interspersed with islands and surrounded by forest.

The BWCAW is a unique area located in the northern third of the Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota. Over 1 million acres in size, it extends nearly 150 miles along the International Boundary adjacent to Canada’s Quetico and La Verendrye Provincial Parks and is bordered on the west by Voyageurs National Park. The BWCAW contains over 1200 miles of canoe routes, 12 hiking trails and over 2000 designated campsites. This area was set aside in 1926 to preserve its primitive character and made a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System in 1964 with subsequent legislation in 1978.

Wilderness offers freedom to those who wish to pursue an experience of expansive solitude, challenge and personal connection with nature. The BWCAW allows visitors to canoe, portage and camp in the spirit of those travelers that came before them.
Plan Your BWCAW Trip and Accept the Wilderness Challenge.

Remember, successful wilderness trips don’t just happen. They are the result of careful planning. Please use this trip planning guide to get started. However, we suggest that you also use guidebooks and maps that can be found in bookstores, local libraries, and outdoor equipment stores. The expertise of outfitters and guides can also be used when planning a BWCAW trip.

As you begin to plan your trip, ask yourself about the type of experience you seek. Would your needs for solitude or your quest for the elusive lake trout best be met inside the BWCAW portion of the Superior National Forest, or would camping in areas of the Forest adjacent to the BWCAW better suit the type of trip you want?

Before You Leave Home

Check current Minnesota Department of Natural Resources fishing, hunting and boating regulations before your trip including:

- Canoe and boat registrations (Minnesota requires all watercraft to be registered and honors any state watercraft registration)
- Fishing licenses and trout stamps
- Fishing limits and possession of fish
- Hunting seasons
- Watercraft lights
- MN Department of Natural Resources
- www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations

Wilderness visitors face inherent risk of adverse weather conditions, isolation, physical hazards, and lack of rapid communications. Search and rescue takes longer in the wilderness than in an urban setting. Be prepared: Prevent the need for a search and rescue operation that may impact the integrity of the wilderness area or put others in danger. Acquire and maintain necessary skills for primitive travel by foot, canoe, or other non-mechanical means. You are responsible for your own safety and that of your group.

Consider specific survival gear to prevent becoming injured or lost in the wilderness such as:

1. Extra food
2. Rain gear
3. Warm clothing
4. Signaling mirror
5. Whistle
6. Emergency blanket
7. Map
8. Compass
9. Water filter or purifier
10. Fire starter
11. Water proof pouch
12. Nylon cord
13. Folding knife
14. First aid kit
15. Necessary medications

The BWCAW is only one of many recreation alternatives on the Superior National Forest. Wilderness recreation requires careful planning and preparation and involves some risk. Wilderness travel offers great personal freedom, but also requires self-reliance and good judgement.

Permits are required to enter the wilderness. The visitor must have knowledge of the entry points and routes; some research may be needed to gather this information. These steps are necessary in order to protect the BWCAW and to provide a quality wilderness experience.

Superior National Forest Recreation Alternatives

If something other than a wilderness trip is more your style, consider one of the following recreation alternatives in other beautiful areas of Superior National Forest. There are many ways to experience the great outdoors; explore what is best for you.

Backcountry Sites

There are a variety of camping options outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness that can offer the same peace and tranquility. In the Superior National Forest, there are over 200 sites outside the Wilderness called “backcountry campsites”. These areas offer remote paddling, camping, and fishing. Here you can experience solitude without fees or permits, and still have a fire grate and latrine. These areas also have fewer regulations. However, visitors to backcountry areas should follow the LEAVE NO TRACE ethic.

Campgrounds

The Superior National Forest has 23 developed campgrounds. Campgrounds are generally open from mid-May to mid-September; some are open all year with no water or garbage pickup off-season, though walk-in access may be required. Campground facilities vary from flush toilets and showers to rustic campgrounds with vault toilets and hand pumps. Each campsite has a picnic table, fireplace, tent pad and parking spot. For a fee, reservations may be made in advance at some of the campgrounds through the National Recreation Reservation System (NRRS) by calling 1-877-444-6777 or at www.recreation.gov.

Rustic. There are 17 rustic campgrounds with no fees. Water and garbage are not available.

Resorts & Private Campgrounds

Within the Superior National Forest are a variety of private resorts and campgrounds that may suit the needs of a visitor looking for a trip near the wilderness rather than in it. Some of these accommodations are set up with showers, electrical hookups, and numerous other amenities. If this describes your needs, you can get more information at the chamber of commerce located nearest to the area you would be visiting. See Page 8 for chamber of commerce and tourism contact information. Many of the chambers have web pages that may be accessed for more information.

Additional campgrounds information available at www.fs.usda.gov/activity/superior/recreation/camping-cabins
The Basics

Wilderness Permits
Permits are required year-round for all visitors to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). Please use the following information to help you determine which type of permit is appropriate for your group.

Quota Permits
Quota permits are required for any group entering the BWCAW between May 1 and September 30. If they are camping overnight (whether the group is paddling, motoring, or hiking) or if they are visiting during the day using a motorized boat. The quota system regulates how many groups may enter an entry point each day. In addition to daily quotas, motorized use is limited by a weekly motor quota. Groups may only enter the BWCAW on the entry date and through the entry point specified on the permit. Permits may only be picked up the day before or on the date specified on the permit. Permits may not be transferred to someone not listed on the permit. Reservations are recommended since there is a limited number of quota permits available for each entry point. Quota permits are issued only at Forest Service permit issuing stations and cooperating businesses under a Cooperative Agreement.

Non-Quota Self-Issuing Permits
Self-issued permits are required year-round for all non-motorized day use visitors, for any motorized day use into Little Vermilion Lake, and for all overnight visitors entering the BWCAW between October 1 and April 30. The self-issue forms are available at any Superior National Forest Office and in permit boxes at BWCAW entry points. No quota is applied to this use, so no reservations are needed. Please fill out the form carefully and review the rules on the back of the permit with your entire group. Carry the top copy of the permit with you at all times and place the duplicate copy in the box at the entry point or drop it off at the nearest Forest Service office when you return.

Special Use Permits
Outfitters and guides leading groups into the BWCAW must obtain a special use permit and must return it off at the nearest Forest Service office when you return. Special use permits are required year-round for all visitors under a Cooperator Agreement.

User Fees
User fees are charged for all overnight visitors to the BWCAW between May 1 and September 30. There are no user fees for day use visitors. Fees are as follows:

User Fees Per Person Per Trip

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (0-17)</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Senior/Access Card Holders</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Access Card Holders</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BWCAW Seasonal Fee Card
The purchase of a BWCAW Seasonal Fee Card fulfills the user fee requirements for the season, but does not eliminate the need for obtaining a BWCAW permit. For reserved permits it does not eliminate the need to pay the $6.00 reservation fee and user fee deposit. They may be purchased in person after May 1 from any Forest Service Permit Issuing Station.

Seasonal Fee Card Costs Per Person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$64.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (0-17)</td>
<td>$32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Senior/Access Card Holders</td>
<td>$32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Access Card Holder</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Permit Reservations
First-Come, First-Served
Permit reservations will be released on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 9:00 a.m. Central Time on the last Wednesday in January through recreation.gov or the reservation center at 1-877-444-6777. Visitors will see available entry points and dates, and make a reservation instantly for the permit that best meets their needs. A $6.00 non-refundable reservation fee is charged for each permit reserved. The entry point, entry date, group leader, and alternates cannot be changed after the reservation is complete. The exit date, issuing station, and group size may be changed.

Permit Lottery
The lottery has been retained for Moose and Fall Lake entry points only, including day use motor entry points D, F, and G; and overnight paddle and motor entry points 24 and 25. (Entry Point C Fall Lake only is not included in the lottery). Check the Superior National Forest website for lottery dates. And please remember to cancel any reservations you are unable to use so that others may use that quota. All reservations may be cancelled up to one day prior to the entry date. Day use motor permits may be cancelled even during the reserved week.

Overnight User Fee Deposit
When making advanced reservations, you will be charged a minimum of 2 adult overnight user fees. You will also have the option to pay for the entire group as well as changing the group size within a one day window prior to your entry date. If cancelled outside the 2-day window, the card holder will be fully refunded. If cancelled within the 2-day window, $32.00 for 2 adults is retained and additional payments will be refunded. The Forest Service will retain the entire payment if the group is a no show. A new confirmation letter will be emailed each time a change is made. Adjustments to group sizes will be made at the permit issuing station as needed.

Permit Issuing Station
When reserving a permit, the default issuing station will be the Forest Service (FS) Office responsible for that entry point. You may choose a cooperating business as a permit issuing station. Businesses are often open earlier and later than FS stations. See the list of permit issuing stations on page 16 of this brochure. Hours and contact information of the issuing station will be listed on your confirmation letter email. You may want to confirm dates, hours and location ahead of time. You may change your issuing station through your recreation.gov account.

Picking Up A Permit
Permits can only be picked up the day before or on the day of entry. Please check with your desired permit pick-up location to confirm their office hours. Remember to bring a photo ID when you pick up your permit.

Reserved Permits
Permits may only be picked up the day before or on the date of entry from a Permit Issuing Station by a group leader or alternate listed on the permit. Alternates cannot be added after a permit is reserved. Listing alternates gives your group options if the group leader must miss the trip. Remember to bring a photo ID with you. The person signing the permit must be with the group the entire trip. If your group size changes, additional user fees will be collected or a refund will be credited to the credit card used to pay for the reservation.

Non-Reserved Permits
Walk-up permits for any entry point with available quota may be obtained the day before or on the date of entry. User fees apply, but the $6 reservation fee will not be charged.

Payment
Credit cards are the preferred method of payment at all permit stations. Cooperating businesses cannot accept cash or checks for user fees. Any discount cards (Interagency Senior/Access and BWCAW Seasonal Fee cards) must be presented at the time the permit is issued for discounts. Cooperating businesses may charge up to $2.00 to issue an overnight permit.

“Our sense of community and compassionate intelligence must be extended to all life forms, plants, animals, rocks, rivers, and human beings. This is the story of our past and it will be the story of our future”
— Terry Tempest Williams

Permit Reservations
Contact Recreation.gov to make your BWCAW permit reservation. Permits may be reserved online or by phone.

RESERVATION LINE
877-444-6777 Toll-Free
877-833-6777 TDD
518-885-3639 International

WEBSITE RESERVATIONS
www.recreation.gov

CUSTOMER SERVICE
888-448-1474

“...Our sense of community and compassionate intelligence must be extended to all life forms, plants, animals, rocks, rivers, and human beings. This is the story of our past and it will be the story of our future”
— Terry Tempest Williams
The Lakes Region is legendary in its richness and complexity. It exerts an ageless draw upon people who seek adventure, refreshment and the exhilaration of outdoor recreation. But, as these wildlands host more and more visitors, our collective presence in wildlands has an influence. Destruction parts of the natural world everyday. Our mere inhabitation.

The Leave No Trace Principles of outdoor ethics form the framework of the Leave No Trace (LNT) message and the BWCAW Rules and Regulations:

**Leave No Trace Principles**

*Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.* — Rachel Carlson

The Leave No Trace Principles of outdoor ethics form the framework of the Leave No Trace (LNT) message and the BWCAW Rules and Regulations:

**Plan Ahead and Prepare**
- Know area rules and regulations.
- Prepare for extreme weather.
- Use a map and compass.
- Reduce litter from the source — repackage food into reusable plastic bags or containers and remove excess packaging. Unwrap snack foods at home and bag them in bulk.

**Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces**
- Durable surfaces include established trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses, or snow.
- Keep campsites small — stay in area where vegetation is absent and don’t enlarge the campsites.
- Walk in single file in the middle of the trail even when the trail is muddy.

**Dispose of Waste Properly**
- Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit human or dog waste in the latrines.
- Wash yourself and dishes with biodegradable soap away from streams or lakes.
- Burning trash in firegrates pollutes and is illegal.
- Personal waste items such as cigarettes, cotton swabs, grease, wipes, paper towels, bandages, diapers, condoms, plastic baggies, and female products (tampons, pads and applicators), should always be packed out.

**Leave What You Find**
- Don’t take cultural or historical artifacts or structures.
- Do not introduce or transport non-native plants, live bait or animals.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.

**Minimize Campfire Impacts**
- Use a lightweight stove for cooking.
- When fires are permitted, use an established fire grate and keep fires small.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, and make sure the fire is completely out.
- Even after forest fires, you may see an ample supply of burned wood near your site. Collect firewood away from campsites to prevent enlarging and defacing the area and depriving the soil of nutrients.

**Disposing of empty propane cylinders**
- Contact your local liquid propane (LP) gas dealer or supplier for information on refilling and recycling empty LP cylinders.

**Be Considerate of Other Visitors**
- Take breaks away from trails, portages and other visitors.
- Let nature’s sounds prevail — avoid loud voices and noises.
- Don’t take campsites for day use, as this may prevent someone from camping overnight.

**Respect Wildlife**
- Do not follow or approach wildlife.
- Never feed animals. It can damage their health and alters wild natural behaviors.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations properly.
- Use lead-free tackle.

You can also do your part by viewing a 20-minute user education video as part of your trip planning process. After viewing this video, BWCAW visitors will understand how they can make a difference in the long-term health of the BWCAW by engaging in responsible recreation practices. This is an essential educational tool in protecting the fragile wilderness ecosystem and providing a quality recreation experience for current and future generations. To obtain a copy of the BWCAW Leave No Trace User Education Video, please contact any Forest Service Office found on page 16 of this publication.

**Respect the Boundary Waters**

To prevent someone from camping overnight.
TRAVEL PERMITS
- You must enter the BWCAW at the entry point and on the entry date shown on your permit.
- You may not re-enter on a different date using the same permit.
- Permit stubs become invalid when the group leader exits the wilderness.
- The person signing for and picking up the permit can only be responsible for one group during the specified time on the permit.

GROUP SIZE
- Nine (9) people and four (4) watercraft are the maximum allowed together in the wilderness.
- You may not exceed the limit as a group at any time or anywhere (on water, portages, campsites) in the BWCAW.
- Smaller groups enhance your wilderness experience and chances of seeing wildlife, and decreases resource impacts.

TOILET FACILITIES & WATER QUALITY
- Use wilderness latrines at designated campsites.
- Wilderness latrines are not garbage cans and should be used for the intended purpose only. Personal waste items such as cigarettes, cotton swabs, grease, wipes, paper towels, bandages, diapers, condoms, plastic bags, and female products (tampons, pads and applicators), should always be packed out and never go into the latrines. Personal waste in latrines prevents decomposition of bodily waste making latrines ineffective and can contaminate surrounding water. Remember all trash must be packed out.
- If you’re not near a latrine, dig a small hole 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet or more back from the water’s edge. When finished, fill hole and cover with needles and leaves.
- Barbe and wash dishes at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
- All soaps pollute water including soaps labeled “biodegradable”. Always remember the visitors that come after you and the water they will drink.

CONTAINERS
- Cans and glass bottles are not allowed.
- Containers of fuel, insect repellant, medicines, personal toilet articles, and other items that are not foods or beverages are the only cans and bottles you may keep in your original containers.
- Food may be packaged in plastic containers that must be packed out with you.

FOOD, FISH REMAINS & LIVE BAIT
- Try to plan your meals so you don’t have leftovers. If you do, pack them out.
- Dispose of fish remains by traveling well away from campsites, trails, portages and shorelines.
- When preparing for your trip, reduce litter at the source by minimizing packaging.
- State law prohibits dumping unused bait into the waters. Dumping bait on the ground is considered littering. Therefore, unwanted live bait should be packed out with you and placed in the trash, disposal bins or compost bins.

CAMPFIRES
- Fires are allowed within the steel fire grates at designated campsites or as specifically approved on your visitor’s permit.
- Bringing a small camp stove is a good idea because it heats food more quickly, has less impact than a fire, and comes in handy during rainy weather.
- Due to the potential fire danger, fire restrictions may be put into effect. Check on current conditions just prior to your trip. You may be required to use a camp stove if there is a campfire restriction.
- If you build a fire, burn only small diameter dead wood found lying on the ground. Do not burn trash.
- Cut firewood away from campsites by padding down the shore and walking into the woods where it is more abundant.
- Wood easily broken by hand or cut with a small folding saw eliminates the need for an ax.
- Drown your fire with water any time you are going to be away from your camp or at bedtime. Stir the ashes until they are cold to the touch with a bare hand.
- Transporting wood from out of state is prohibited due to the spread of tree diseases and pests.

STORING WATERCRAFT
- Only watercraft and equipment used in connection with your current visit may be stored and left unattended.
- All equipment and personal property must be carried out with you at the end of each trip.

CULTURAL HERITAGE
- Leave archaeological, historical, and rock painting sites undisturbed.
- The use of metal detectors is prohibited.

FIREARMS & FIREWORKS
- Discharging a firearm is prohibited within 200 yards of a campsite, or occupied area, or in any manner or location that places people or property at risk of injury.
- State game laws apply in the BWCAW.
- Fireworks of any kind are illegal.

PETS
- Dogs impact wildlife and barking intrudes on the experience of others. They must be under control at all times.
- Dispose of fecal matter 150 feet from water sources, campsites, and portages, or deposit it in a latrine.

LEAVE NO TRACE OF YOUR VISIT
- After you break camp and load your watercraft, do a final inspection of your camp. Pick up any remaining litter.
- Your fire must be cold to the touch.
- Please treat the BWCAW with care. Leave no trace of your visit to protect this special place for future generations.

MOTOR-POWERED WATERCRAFT REGULATIONS
- Motor-powered watercraft are permitted only on the following designated lakes. All other lakes or portions of lakes within the BWCAW are paddle-only. Motors may not be used or be in possession on any paddle-only lake. No other motorized or mechanized equipment (including pontoon boats, sailboats, sailboards) is allowed.

LAKE LINES 10 HORSEPOWER LIMIT
- On these lakes, the possession of one additional motor no greater than 6 horsepower is permitted, as long as motors in use do not exceed 10 horsepower.
- Clearwater, North Fowl, South Fowl, Seagull (no motors west of Three Mile Island), Sections of Island River within the BWCAW.

LAKE LINES 25 HORSEPOWER LIMIT
- On these lakes or portions of these lakes, the possession of one additional motor no greater than 10 horsepower is permitted, as long as motors in use do not exceed 25 horsepower.
- Basswood (except that portion north of Jackfish Bay and Washington Island), Saganaga (except that portion west of American Point), Fall, Newton, Moose, Newfound, Sucker, Snowbank, East Bearskin, South Farm, Trout.

LAKE LINES NO HORSEPOWER LIMITS
- Little Vermilion, Loon, Lac La Croix (not beyond the south end of Snow Bay in the U.S.A.), Loon River.

PORTAGE WHEELS
- Mechanical assistance is only permitted over the following: International Boundary, Four-Mile Portage, Fall-Newtown-Pipistone and Back Bay Portages into Basswood Lake, Prairie Portage, Vermilion-Trout Lake Portage.

HIKING
- While canoeing is the travel option for most visitors, the BWCAW is also host to several hiking trails with opportunities ranging from short day hikes to multiple-day backpacking trips. No matter what length of hike you plan to take, hiking in the wilderness is not something you should attempt without proper preparation, skills and equipment. Wilderness trails vary in their level of use and maintenance. Signage is minimal so it is a good idea to talk to someone at the nearest Ranger District Office for current trail conditions.
- There are a few restrictions that are slightly different for those traveling by foot. Hikers should use developed campsites along the trail or lake. Campsites along the trails are located on short spur trails off the main trail and contain a fire grate and wilderness latrine. Most campsites are signed from the main trail with a tent symbol. If for some reason, (i.e. an approaching storm, full campsites, emergency, no developed campsite nearby) you must camp off a site other than a developed site, hikers may do so with the following restrictions:
  - Trail users are encouraged to minimize impact by limiting use to one night on non-developed sites.
  - You must camp more than 200 feet from a developed site or another group.
  - You must camp at least 200 feet from any trail, portage, lake or other water source.
  - Most importantly, be sure to use common sense and follow the safety guidelines recommended on Page 6-7. Wilderness permits are required year round for hiking in the BWCAW. Happy Trails!
Smart & Safe Wilderness Travel

Wilderness travel offers great personal freedom, but also requires self-reliance and good judgment. By using common sense and following these important safety tips, you can have a safe BWCAW experience.

LIFE JACKETS
• Always wear a life jacket.
• Minnesota state law requires all watercraft, including canoes, to have one wearable U.S. Coast Guard–approved personal flotation device (PFD) on board and readily accessible for each person in the watercraft.

MANDATORY CHILD LIFE JACKET WEAR LAW:
Minnesota law requires a life jacket to be worn by children less than 10 years old when aboard any watercraft underneath.

For more on Minnesota state law, see www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/boatwater/index.html

RAPIDS
• Rapids in the BWCAW are not safe to “run”, so use the provided portages.
• Powerful currents can trap swimmers under water, or sweep them towards dangerous waterfalls.
• Fast moving water can push swimmers and boats into rocks and logs.
• Even with life jackets on, rapids are dangerous.

WATER QUALITY
• Giardia lambia is a parasite that can cause an internal illness that will need medical attention.
• All drinking water should be treated by one of the following methods: 1. Bring water to a full boil for 3 to 5 minutes — then let stand until cool enough to drink. 2. Purify with a filter specifically designed to remove Giardia lambia. 3. Treat with a chemical specifically designed to kill Giardia lambia.

FISH
• Chemicals such as mercury, PCBs, and dioxin have been found in some fish from certain waters.
• Eat more pan fish and fewer predator fish and trim the skin and fat, to reduce your risk.
• Check with the Minnesota Department of Public Health for current information on limits of fish consumption at (651) 201-4911.

HYPOTHERMIA
• A low body temperature can be serious, even fatal.
• Early warning signs are uncontrolled shivering, slurred speech, bluish tinge to lips, lack of coordination, and poor concentration.
• To prevent hypothermia, layer clothing and get adequate food and water.
• To treat hypothermia, seek shelter from the wind, replace any wet clothing, and share body heat if necessary.
• Give warm fluids if the person is conscious and have them rest until thoroughly warmed.

FIRST AID AND EMERGENCIES
• Each permitted group should carry a well stocked first aid kit and have group members that know how to provide first aid.
• Note the location of the lake, campsite, trail or portage on a map to help emergency people locate any seriously injured group members.
• Document the extent of the injury and a basic physical description of the injured person.

DEHYDRATION
• The body becomes dehydrated when more fluids are lost than replaced.
• Drink plenty of water throughout the day.
• Signs of dehydration include headache, cold and flu symptoms, and infrequent urination.

TRAVEL
• There are no directional signs in wilderness.
• A compass and accurate map are essential.
• Bring reliable maps. Maps can be purchased at some Forest Service offices, area businesses and outfitters, or directly from the map companies—see page 8 for details.
• If you get lost, don’t panic. Sit down, relax, and think. Chances are that you will figure out your location in a few minutes.
• If you plan to use a Global Positioning System (GPS) for navigating, be sure you also bring a compass as a back up in case your GPS unit fails.

WEATHER
• Canoe close to shore. It lessens the chance of being endangered by sudden changes of weather. If a storm threatens, get off the water.
• Dress in layers and be prepared for every kind of weather situation.
• If it is a lightning storm on the water, get to shore. If on land among trees of similar height, put yourself an equal distance between two trees. Avoid the tallest trees.
• Avoid being a bridge between an object and the ground. For example, do not lean against tent poles or trees.
• Avoid potential paths of conduction such as wet, lichen-covered rocks, cracks and crevices (wet or dry), and areas subject to the “spark gap” such as overhangs, wet ropes, and tree roots.
• If your skin tingles, or your hair stands on end, stand on a life jacket or sleeping bag, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet.
• Place your hands on your knees with your head between them. Make yourself the smallest target possible, and minimize your contact with the ground.
• When camping, hiking or paddling in high winds, be mindful of safety concerns including worsening weather, high waves, possible blowdown, etc.

BEAR AWARENESS
• Keep a clean campsite. Never eat or store food in your tent.
• Take all precautions to discourage bears from visiting your site, including hanging your food pack or using a bear-resistant container, as well as garbage and anything that has a strong or sweet odor (soap, toothpaste, etc.).
• Some bears overcome their fear of humans and approach campsites looking for food. This includes island sites since bears are good swimmers.
• If you do encounter a bear, most will be scared off if you make noise (shout, bang pots, or throw fist-sized rocks at the bear, etc.).
• A very persistent bear may be discouraged by spraying pepper spray into its eyes.

CAN SPREAD DISEASE, TICKS INCLUDING LYME DISEASE:
Most tick bites do not result in disease, but it is a good idea to recognize and watch for the early symptoms of some of the more commonly encountered tick-transmitted diseases.

Where can I be infected?
Ticks are found in wooded or brushy areas, on the edge of hiking or animal trails, or on the edge of a field where it meets a wooded or brushy area. They are in the BWCAW.

Protect yourself:
• Use insect repellent that contains 20–30% DEET. Natural oils such as geranium, lavender, lemongrass, citronella, eucalyptus, and cedar wood can repel ticks as well.
• Wear clothing that has been treated with permethrin.
• Look for ticks on your body. Ticks can hide under the armpits, behind the knees, in the hair, and in the groin.
• See a doctor if you develop a fever, a rash, severe fatigue, facial paralysis, or joint pain within 30 days of being bitten by a tick.
• For more information about Lyme disease, visit www.ca.gov/Lyme or: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/tickborne/diseases.htm

“The word ecologel is derived from the Greek oikos, the word for home.”
— Robin Wall Kimmerer
Winter Wilderness Travel

“I love the deep silence of the winter woods. It is a stillness you can rest your whole weight against... so profound you are sure it will hold and last.” — Florence Page Jaques

The BWCAW in the winter is a truly unique experience, whether traveling by dog sled, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, or snowmobiling. Visitors who come to the wilderness during this time of the year have a very different kind of experience than those that visit during the summer season. You are less likely to run into other visitors and can experience a sense of solitude and self reliance in a way that few other places allow. Winter wilderness travel requires a high degree of preparation, planning, skill, and self-reliance.

Winter temperatures in the BWCAW average 15-20 degrees Fahrenheit, with overnight lows from zero to 7 below zero. During severe cold spells, daily highs can remain below zero, with low temperatures falling into the 20 to 30 below zero range. Wind chill exacerbates the cold, and blowing snow can make travel difficult. Average snowfall is 50-60 inches, with 70-90 inches along Lake Superior. Snow depths in late February to early March may be 15-25 inches with some higher terrain receiving over three feet.

Winter conditions make self-reliance, good judgment, and knowledge of your limits critical. Whether you are dog sledding, skiing, hiking, or snowmobiling, it is important to plan well and prevent hypothermia and frostbite:

• Be prepared for extreme cold, windy or wet conditions. Dress in layers to remain comfortable by adding or removing clothing depending on conditions and your energy level. Change into dry clothing as needed.

• Drink plenty of water and eat often. Avoid alcoholic beverages. Alcohol causes the body to lose heat more rapidly, even though one may feel warmer after drinking.

• Avoid open water and thin ice. Never walk on ice less than four inches thick.

• Hypothermia is a dangerous lowering of the body temperature. Warning signs include uncontrollable shivering, disorientation, slurred speech and drowsiness. Frostbite causes a loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, tip of the nose and ear lobes. If symptoms of either condition are detected, get medical care immediately.

TRAVEL PERMITS
Permits are required year-round for all visitors to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. For day or overnight travel from October 1–April 30, it’s easy! Fill out a self-issued permit at any Superior National Forest office, or at a BWCAW entry point. Carry one copy with you during the trip and drop the other copy in the permit box at the entry point.

Choose a Campsite
• Bury human waste in snow 200 feet from water, campsites, summer trails and portages (pack out toilet paper and all personal waste items).

• When lakes are open, camp at designated sites using firegrates and lattines.

• When lakes freeze, camp on ice in sheltered bay, or in a natural forest opening. Locate camp at least 200 feet from trails or summer campsites, and out of sight of other groups.

• Make just one trail connecting the shoreline to camp.

• Bury human waste in snow 200 feet from water, campsites, summer trails and portages (pack out toilet paper and all personal waste items).

Camfires
It is preferable to make a campfire on the ice to minimize fire scars on rocks and shorelines. Use base logs or a portable fire pan for your campfire on the ice. Use a campstove or fire pan for a campfire on land to avoid leaving fire scars on vegetation or rocks.

• Collect only dead and down wood far from shorelines, trails or campsites.

• Make sure your fire is out cold to the touch when you leave.

• Scatter ashes in the woods away from the shoreline and cover the campfire scar with snow.

Live Vegetation
Do not cut green vegetation for tent poles, bedding for humans or dogs, or to create new dogged trails.

Reduce Dog Impacts
• Keep dogs under control at all times.

• To avoid damaging or “girdling” trees with rope when staking out dogs, use webbing straps around trees and attach dog picket line to webbing.

• Tether teams out on the ice with ice screws to avoid damaging shoreline vegetation.

• Never bring hay or straw for bedding because they introduce non-native plants.

• Scatter dog feces in the woods at least 200 feet from the water’s edge. Keep the entry points clean for others by picking up feces before and after hitting the trail.

TRAVEL TO AND FROM CANADA

All U.S. citizens are now required to present a passport book, passport card, or WHTI-compliant document when entering the United States. See CPV.gov for identification document examples.

Please Note: Children under age 16 will be able to continue crossing land and sea borders using only a U.S. birth certificate or a copy. Please check with www.cbsa-asp.gc.ca for your permit needs.

FISHING IN CANADA
If you plan on fishing in Canada, including the Canadian side of the border lakes, you must have a Canadian fishing license. Non-resident fishing licenses are available through the mail by calling the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources at 1-800-667-1940. For more information visit www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/fishing.

REENTRY INTO THE US FROM CANADA
If you enter the United States from Canada on your BWCAW trip, you must report to a Customs Border Protection (CBP) officer for inspection at the Grand Portage port of entry or designated inspection locations in Grand Marais, Crane Lake and Flyby every time you enter the U.S. from Canada by boat. For more information about the Customs and Border Protection call 1-877-227-5511 or visit www.cbp.gov/travel/pleasure-boats-private-flyers.

“What we are doing to the forest of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we and doing to ourselves and to one another.” — Mahatma Gandhi
Maps and guidebooks are available from the following list of sources. A list of organizations that will assist you in locating guides and outfitters in the area you plan to visit is provided.

### Maps & Publications
- W.A. Fisher Maps & Publications
  - 121 Chestnut St.
  - Virginia, MN 55792
  - (218) 741-9544
  - www.fishermaps.com
  - info@fishermaps.com
- McKenzie Maps, Inc.
  - 8479 E. Frye Rd.
  - Minong, WI 54859
  - 800-749-2113
  - www.bwcmaps.com
- Voyager Maps, Inc.
  - PO Box 2403
  - Minneapolis, MN 55419
  - www.voyagermaps.com
  - info@voyagermaps.com

### Chambers of Commerce
- Cook Chamber of Commerce
  - PO Box 206
  - Cook, MN 55723
  - www.cookminnesota.com
  - cookchamber@gmail.com
- Ely Chamber of Commerce
  - 1600 E. Sheridan St.
  - Ely, MN 55731
  - 218-365-6123 • 800-777-7281
  - www.ely.org
  - fun@ely.org
- Explore Minnesota
  - 121 7th Place E. Metro Square, Suite 100
  - St. Paul, MN 55101
  - 888-TOURISM 888-868-4746
  - www.exploreminnesota.com

### Visitor & Tourism Bureaus
- Crane Lake Tourism Bureau
  - 7208 Hamberg Road
  - Crane Lake, MN 56725
  - 218-993-2901 • 800-362-7405
  - www.visitcranelake.com

### Travel to Canada
- Quetico Provincial Park
  - PO Box 2430
  - 108 Summit Ave.
  - Atikokan, Ontario
  - P0T 1C0
  - 807-597-2735
  - www.ontarionparks.com
  - www.queticoprovincialpark.com

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*These entry points and associated quota are for paddle only permits. However, motor boat quotas are also available for these areas, (see Overnight Paddle or Motor section on page 9) and motors may be encountered for the following entries of the routes. To check availability for the following entry points, please visit www.recreation.gov.

### OVERNIGHT Paddle only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY POINT</th>
<th>ENTRY POINT NAME</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE Ranger DISTRICT &amp; TOWN</th>
<th>OTHER REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cook Lake &amp; Commissary Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access from Burntside Lake with a 360-rod portage to Cook Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Slid Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a 900-portage to Slid Lake Portages to three additional lakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>From Big Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to the Point Lake with a 1000-portage from outside the BICANW on Big Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Moose River South</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing heading South from the Echo Trail. Three portages to enter Big Moose Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Little Indian Sioux River South</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Heading South from the Echo Trail. Difficult route. Four portages to Bootleg Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Little Indian Sioux River North</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access to a 400-portage heading North from the Echo Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Moose/Portage River North of Echo Trail</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access to a 160-portage heading North from the Echo Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Staut River</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a 480-portage to the Staut River.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Anglewink Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a 640-portage to Anglewink Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Mudlu Lake/Restricted</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to Mudlu Lake involves portages ranging from 20-195 rods. Restriction is no camping on Home Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Mudlu Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to Mudlu Lake involves portages ranging from 20-195 rods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Snowbank Lake Only*</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Must camp all nights on Snowbank Lake. Paddle day trips to other lakes are permitted. Access is a land landing or canoe launch at Snowbank Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>North Kawishiwi Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to the North Kawishiwi River through Ojibway Lake and Triangle Lake using two portages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Lake One</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Lake One.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Lake One Restricted</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Entry point shares the same physical location but no camping on the Kawishiwi River.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>South Kawishiwi Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a 140-portage to the river.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Little Golden Lake</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a 200-portage from the parking lot to Little Golden Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Island River</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Two small portages leading to Isabella River.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Isabella Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 200-portage to Isabella Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Hog Creek</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 15-portage to Hog Creek heading into Pine Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Kawishiwi Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Kawishiwi Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Silet Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Silet Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Baker Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Baker Lake with a 10-portage into Peterson Lake to reach first campsites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Homer Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Homer Lake. Port of Homer Lake is outside of the BICANW where motors are allowed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Bruce Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Bruce Lake. Large lake with several campsites. Must camp at nights on Bruce Lake. Use only after Entry Point 41 is full. Day trips to other lakes permitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Bruce Lake Only*</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Must camp all nights on Saganaga Lake. Use only after Entry Point 42 is full. Day trips to other lakes permitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Boundary Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to Boundary Lake with a 360-portage to Boundary Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Rain Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 9-portage from the parking area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Morgan Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 320-portage to Morgan Lake. No campgrounds on Morgan Lake—short portages to further lakes for campgrounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Lott S. Spring Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 15-portage to lakes North and South of Lott S. Spring Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Meeds Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 320-portage from Meeds Lake to a 220-portage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Bower Trout Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 320-portage from Poplar Lake to Bower Trout Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Cross Bay River</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to the Cross River with two portages to Rams Lake and a 24-portage to Cross Bay Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Washkuk Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Washkuk Lake with a 142-portage to Washkuk Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Brod Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Brod Lake with a 85-portage to further lakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Saugat Lake Only*</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Saugat Lake. Large lake with several campsites. Must camp all nights on Saugat Lake. Use only after Entry Point 52 is full. Day trips to other lakes permitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Saganaga Lake Only*</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Must camp all nights on Saganaga Lake. Use only after Entry Points 50 &amp; 51 are full. Day trips to other lakes permitted. Large lake with many campsites and easy access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Magnetic Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to Magnetic Lake and Granite River from Gunflint Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Little Island River</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to Little Island River from Gunflint Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Snowbank Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 180-portage to the river.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Duncan Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 120-portage to Duncan Lake. If motors are used, you are limited to the first campsites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Bower Trout Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 320-portage from Poplar Lake to Bower Trout Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Crocodile River</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to Crocodile Lake from Crocodile River or East Bearskin. Must spend all nights on Crocodile Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Bog Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 230-portage into Bog Lake. Four campsites. Bog Lake does not provide access to other lakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Pine Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to Pine Lake from a boat landing at Pine Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>North Fowl Lake*</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing from a 180-portage and a 360-portage to get to North Fowl Lake. Breder lake between U.S. &amp; Canada.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>From Canada</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Lake Vermilion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Little Island River</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 20-portage to the Little Island River. Several short portages before you reach the Islander River.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>South Vermilion Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 80-portage to South Vermilion Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>Lutsen Lake</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a canoe landing at Lutsen Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Snake River</td>
<td>Tofte/Tofte</td>
<td>Access to a 180-portage to Snake River &amp; several short portages before reaching Ralid Eagle Lake.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Method of Entry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY POINT NUMBER</th>
<th>ENTRY POINT NAME</th>
<th>MOTOR HORSE-POWER LIMIT</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE RANGE</th>
<th>OTHER REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Trout Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access from Vermilion via a 100-md canoe portage or 100-md portage that allows the use of portage wheels. For more information, visit the Forest Service office or wilderness outfitter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Little Vermilion Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access from Vermilion via a 100-md canoe portage or 100-md portage that allows the use of portage wheels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12A</td>
<td>Lac La Croix</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access from Crane Lake. Must camp all nights on Lac La Croix. Day trips to other lakes permitted. Use only after Entry Point 12 is full. Very difficult to reach Lac La Croix by paddle in one day. Commercial shuttle service available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Fall Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access is a boat landing at Fall Lake. Paddle trip option to Newton, Basswood, and Alder Lakes with additional portages. Entry Point 24 is closed. Commercial shuttle service available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Moose Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access is a boat landing or canoe launch at Moose Lake. Many trip options for paddlers with additional portages. Membership required for shuttle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Snowbank Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access is a boat landing or canoe launch at Snowbank Lake. Many trip options for paddlers. Membership required for shuttle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Farm Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access is a boat landing on Farm Lake with access to South Farm Lake. Paddlers access North Farm Lakes River from Farm Lake. Some trip options available for paddlers with additional portages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Seagull Lake</td>
<td>10 HP</td>
<td>Gunflint/Grand Marais</td>
<td>No motors (use or possession) west of Three Mile Island. Large lake with several campsites. Landing at Seagull Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Saganaga Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Gunflint/Grand Marais</td>
<td>No motors (use or possession) west of American Point. Access to Canada (the Crown land and Quetico Park). Large lake with many campsites and easy access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Clearwater Lake</td>
<td>10 HP</td>
<td>Gunflint/Grand Marais</td>
<td>Motors allowed on Clearwater Lake only. Access on Clearwater Lake only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>East Brule Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Gunflint/Grand Marais</td>
<td>Motors allowed on East Brule Lake only. Access on East Brule Lake only. No restriction on Alder or Canoe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Trout Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access from Vermillion via a 100-md portage suitable for portage wheels. Commercial portage service available. No restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Fall Lake Only</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Valid only on Fall Lake not Newton or Basswood. Access is a boat landing at Fall Lake. No restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Fall Lake, Newton, Pipestone &amp; Beyond</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Access is a boat landing at Fall Lake. Valid on Fall, Newton, and Basswood. No restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Moose Lake to Prairie Portage to Basswood</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>No motors (use or possession) west of Three Mile Island. Commercial portage service available. Valid on Moose, Newton, and Basswood Lakes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Sego Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Motors allowed on Sego Lake only. Access on Sego Lake only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>East Brule Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Motors allowed on East Brule Lake only. Access on East Brule Lake only. No restrictions on Alder or Canoe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ken nan Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Small lake with limited portage options. No restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Blindie Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>Access from Lake Vermilion via a 100-md portage suitable for portage wheels. Commercial portage service available. No restrictions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sisson-Rather Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>La Croix/Cook</td>
<td>30 mile round trip with lopes. Provide trail not well maintained.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Angleworm Lake</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Trail loops around Angleworm Lake. 12 miles. If paddling, see entry point #20.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Kekul el Lake—East</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>No motors (use or possession) west of American Point. Access to Canada (the Crown land and Quetico Park). Large lake with many campsites and easy access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Portage Lake/South Lake Trail</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>4 miles. If paddling use Entry Point #96.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Kekul el Lake West/Snowbank</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Trail loop includes 27 miles of the Snowbank Trail, plus the 46 mile Kekul el Lake Trail that continues to the east side trail head. Access on Kekul el Lake Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Big Moose Lake Trail</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>No leas options. 2 miles to Big Moose Lake. If paddling use Entry Point #96.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Brule Lake Trail</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>Trailhead is on Forest Road 326, 0.5 mile south of the Brule Lake parking lot on the east side of the road. Parking at Brule Lake lot. Total trail distance is 7 miles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>Eagle Mountain Trail</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>No leas options. 3 miles to the top (one way). Provides access to Brule Lake Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>Brule Route Trail—West</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>50 miles. Shallow options available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Brule Route Trail—Center</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>53 miles. Shallow options available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Brule Route Trail—East</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>Kawishiwi/Ely</td>
<td>53 miles. Shallow options available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Pigeon River Trail</td>
<td>25 HP</td>
<td>St. Croix</td>
<td>30 mile loop trail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) is a Class I air quality area as defined by the Federal Clean Air Act. It is an international boundary between the United States and Canada. BWCAW is the most heavily used wilderness in the United States, receiving 10% of the use in the entire National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS), but one percent of the acreage of the National Parks System. The BWCAW contains the largest contiguous areas of uncut forest remaining in the eastern United States.

The international boundary between the BWCAW and Quetico Provincial Park is a beautiful historical travel and trade route retraced by visitors every year.

• BWCAW is the most heavily used wilderness in the country with approximately 250,000 visitors annually. BWCAW represents less than one percent of the acreage of the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS), but receives 10% of the use in the entire NWPS.

• The BWCAW is a Class I air quality area as defined by the Federal Clean Air Act. It is the only wilderness in the country that has an airspace reservation that prohibits flights below 4,000 feet.

• The BWCAW is the most heavily used wilderness, and has an intrinsic value hypothesizing that plants, animals, inanimate objects and the ecosystems that they inhabit, have rights of their own to exist.

• Has an aesthetic value appreciated through intimate experience sights, sounds and feelings they are unable to experience in other less natural settings.

• Holds, for some, philosophical and religious value. To them wilderness is a place with natural cathedrals where people can celebrate the creative forces behind life.

• Has a scientific value relating to the understanding of life on Earth. It is a natural lab in which we can study natural processes. Society can benefit from this scientific research as it enlarges our understanding of the world and our roles in it.

• Holds educational and training value for schools and universities. It is an important classroom for learning primitive outdoor skills such as orienteering, survival, mountaineering and stock packing.

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• Has an intrinsic value hypothesizing that plants, animals, inanimate objects and the ecosystems that they inhabit, have rights of their own to exist.

Why Wilderness?
When we talk about wilderness it is important to differentiate when we are talking about wilderness based on our personal definition, wilderness as defined by non-federal land managers, and federally designated wilderness.

There are now 765 federally-designated wilderness areas nationwide with a total of 109,129,657 acres. These areas provide multiple benefits including:
• Protects watersheds and plays an important role in oxygen production, CO2 absorption, soil building, biomass decomposition, insect regulation, and filtering air pollution.

The BWCAW Act
There has always been, and there will likely always be, controversy over the management of the BWCAW. Everyone agrees that the BWCAW is a unique natural resource and they love it. The controversy arises because they love it for different reasons.

What is Wilderness?
On September 3, 1964 The Wilderness Act was signed into law.
The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness was also designated with the passing of this Act. The Wilderness Act provided a legal definition of wilderness, created the National Wilderness Preservation System, established a process to be used for designating wilderness areas, and set provisions for the use of wilderness areas. The intent of the Wilderness Act was to establish wilderness areas “for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness.” Legal wilderness, “in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape,” is “recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.”

Four federal agencies manage designated Wilderness in the United States: National Park Service, the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Fish and Wildlife Service.

A civilization which destroys what little remains of the wild, the spare, the original, is cutting itself off from its origins and betraying the principle of civilization itself. 
– Edward Abbey

The BWCAW Past and Present

What is the BWCAW?
The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness was recognized for recreational opportunities in 1926, named the Superior Roadless Area in 1938, the BWCA in 1958, and federally designated under the Wilderness Act in 1964. It wasn’t until October 21, 1978, The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act was established to provide specific guidance for managing the million plus acres of the Superior National Forest. The BWCAW Act was signed into law:
• to establish the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Mining Protection Area,
• for the protection and management of the fish and wildlife of the wilderness so as to enhance public enjoyment and appreciation of the unique biotic resources of the region,
• protect and enhance the natural values and environmental quality of the lakes, streams, shorelines and associated forest areas of the wilderness,
• maintain high water quality in such areas,
• minimize to the maximum extent possible, the environmental impacts associated with mineral development affecting such areas,
• prevent further road and commercial development and restore natural conditions to existing temporary roads in the wilderness, and
• provide for the orderly and equitable transition from motorized recreational uses to nonmotorized recreational use on those lakes, streams, and portages in the wilderness where such mechanized uses are to be phased out under the provisions of this Act.

The BWCAW is and has been popular throughout time because of its unique characteristics:
• Approximately 1175 lakes varying in size from 10 acres to 10,000 acres and several hundred miles of streams comprise about 190,000 acres (20%) of the BWCAW surface area.
• BWCAW is the largest and only federal wilderness of substantial size east of the Rocky Mountains and north of the Everglades at over a million acres. BWCAW contains the largest contiguous areas of uncut forest remaining in the eastern United States.
• The international boundary between the BWCAW and Quetico Provincial Park is a beautiful historical travel and trade route retraced by visitors every year.

• BWCAW is the most heavily used wilderness in the country with approximately 250,000 visitors annually. BWCAW represents less than one percent of the acreage of the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS), but receives 10% of the use in the entire NWPS.

• The BWCAW is a Class I air quality area as defined by the Federal Clean Air Act. It is the only wilderness in the country that has an airspace reservation that prohibits flights below 4,000 feet.

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• Has an intrinsic value hypothesizing that plants, animals, inanimate objects and the ecosystems that they inhabit, have rights of their own to exist.
Occasionally You May Encounter Wilderness Fire

A lightning strike approximately 13 miles east of Ely, MN started the Pagami Creek Wildfire, now within the BWCAW. The fire smoldered in a bog for several days and produced barely enough smoke to indicate its existence. In September 2011, a series of extraordinary and unusual conditions came together that caused the fire to demonstrate unprecedented behavior spreading 16 miles in one day. Although it was the largest wildfire in the Superior National Forest at approximately 93,000 acres, and the largest in Minnesota in half a century, it impacted less than 1% of the BWCAW.

Of the more than 2,100 camp sites in the BWCAW, approximately 114 campsites were affected by the fire although most received light to moderate effects. Most were reopened in 2012 after minor restoration. Closed campsites, portages and trails with the most fire effects will need additional site work before reopening, and some will need more time for regeneration. Individual campsites will be posted closed. Maps showing closures can be found on the Superior National Forest website.

Be aware of changes to BWCAW entry points due to impacts from the Pagami Creek Fire. Check your entry point for important information specific to the area you are planning to travel. You may find a reduction in the number of groups allowed per day, campsites posted closed due to public safety concerns and resource protection, as well as travel.

There may be important information regarding the following entry points. Please contact the nearest Forest Service office.

- Pigeon River - #24 Isle Royale
- #30 Lake One, #30F Lake One (NEW restricted entry point, same physical location)
- #34 Island River
- #35 Isabella Lake
- #67 Bog Lake
- #75 Little Isabella River
- #84 Snake River
- #86 Pow Wow Trail

Entry points can lead to distant travel routes, so please check with the nearest Forest Service office for condition alerts if you think your travel plans may intersect with the fire area.

Some campsites were reopened for use, but with some cautions. Take the following precautionary measures in the burned campsites:

- Visitors will need to be aware of “snags” (charred standing trees, as well as some green trees), that look solid but the root system may have burned making them unstable.
- Be aware of charred logs sticking up from the ground along the portages.
- Keep clear of any burnt stumps.
- Keep any wooden structures short and secure (a camp stove can be used instead of a campfire)
- Use caution when portaging.
- Some campsites intersect with the fire area.
- Most were reopened in 2012 after minor restoration.

To Help Reduce Fire Risk in the BWCAW

Choose a camp stove instead of a campfire. If a campfire is allowed, build it in the fire grate and keep it small. Like a candle in your home, never leave a fire unattended at any time. Keep all flammable materials away from your campfire.

Always make sure your campfire is dead out before leaving your campsite, even for a short time. Drown your fire with water, extinguishing all embers, leaving it cold to the touch. Did you know that 50% of fires in the BWCAW are caused by escaped campfires?

Watch For Hazards

Keep a hazards up! Weakened trees can still pose a hazard during high winds. Avoid camping around or under damaged or leaning trees. Root wads above ground may also be unstable and dangerous.

Know About Campfire Restrictions

Restrictions are implemented during high fire danger to decrease the threat of destructive wildfires. Fire restrictions are put in place for your safety and the safety of firefighters. Always check for potential restrictions just prior to your trip. Camp stoves may be required if restrictions are implemented.

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CAMPING AND FIRE

For current fire restriction information contact any Superior National Forest District Office or Headquarters, (218) 626-4300, or our website at www.fs.usda.gov/superior.

Your Permit Reservation

If an entry point is closed and alternates are not available, reservation and user fees will be refunded. If the entry point is not closed and you choose not to use your reservation because there is a fire, you will not be refunded the reservation fee and user fees may be retained if inside the cancellation window.

If You See Or Smell Smoke, Don’t Panic

The fire may be miles from you and pose no threat to your safety.

If you encounter a wildfire as you travel in the BWCAW, follow these steps:

1. Watch The Weather

Wind — Most fires travel north and east or with the prevailing wind. Make sure you have a safe route to follow if wind direction changes. Keep in mind that strong winds can carry fire embers causing spot fires ahead of the original fire.

Evening Humidity — Humidity increases in the early morning and late evening. Fire activity may decrease with higher humidity making travel safer at these times.

Tall Smoke Plumes — If you see or experience a large smoke plume close to you, take precaution; seek a point of refuge such as a lake, and be prepared for resulting high winds.

2. Make A New Plan

Look at alternate travel routes staying close to larger bodies of water. If it is safe, consider traveling out of the fire area. If you must travel through burned areas watch for burned snags and hot stump holes which could be hazardous.

3. Find A Safe Place

If you feel threatened find a large lake. Keep away from the fire’s path. If the fire is upon you, don’t panic. Put on your life jacket and take your canoe into the water. Paddle to the middle of the lake, tip your canoe and go under it. You can breathe the cool air trapped under the canoe until the fire passes.

To help reduce fire risk in the BWCAW choose a camp stove instead of a campfire. If a campfire is allowed, build it in the fire grate and keep it small. Like a candle in your home, never leave a fire unattended at any time. Keep all flammable materials away from your campfire. Always make sure your campfire is dead out before leaving your campsite, even for a short time. Drown your fire with water, extinguishing all embers, leaving it cold to the touch. Did you know that 50% of fires in the BWCAW are caused by escaped campfires?

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Protecting Your Natural Resources

Fisheries
The Superior National Forest has 695 square miles of surface water and more than 2250 linear miles of streams that offer a wide range of fishing opportunities in all seasons. Coldwater game species include lake trout, walleye, brook trout, pike and smallmouth bass. Some lakes and streams within the Superior National Forest have special regulations, so always check the Minnesota DNR fishing regulations when you plan your trip.

We work in collaboration with several agencies to accomplish our management objectives and discuss employing the minimum tool necessary to administer the area as wilderness. Through this effort we maintain healthy aquatic resources on the Superior National Forest.

Stocking
Limited stocking occurs in BWCAW lakes and they are stocked primarily with brook trout, lake trout and walleye. Lake trout and brook trout populations can be very susceptible to overfishing. They may require regular stocking to maintain a fishable population.

Large Groups
If you are planning a trip for a non-profit organization, there is a limit of no more than 3 permits in a season to be reserved using the non-profit organization name as the group leader. Please contact any Superior National Forest office for more information, or visit www.recreation.gov under general rules for the BWCAW.

Keep these tips in mind when planning for large groups to reduce environmental and social impacts:

• If your group is more than nine people, no matter what the age, you may not enter the BWCAW. You should consider other options, such as camping at a primitive or developed campground and boating on lakes outside the designated wilderness area.

• If your group of more than the maximum size wishes to break into smaller groups to enter the BWCAW, each smaller group must have its own permit.

• Each group should have an adult who will be responsible for the leadership and safety of the group.

• Each group must travel and camp separately. This means each should have its own food, first aid kit, and essential gear. To make it easier for the groups to travel separately, reserve different entry points and plan separate routes.

• And if you do know other visitors in the area, don’t purposely congregate in a group larger than 9 while traveling, visiting a destination area, or camping.

• Portages and waterways can become very congested. Wait for another group to cross the portage before you begin, portage your gear efficiently, and find another place for your break. Keep your distance from other groups on the waterways.

• Begin looking for campsites early in the day and share tents since many wilderness sites only have one or two good tent pads.

• Encourage your group members to use campsite areas that have already been hardened rather than trampling vegetation and causing erosion.

Noise
Being considerate of other wilderness visitors is one of the 7 Leave No Trace Principles. A courteous group can do wonders to minimize the impact of noise. Sound carries a long distance over water, mostly in the evening when people are listening more than moving. Try to avoid banging pots and pans, dragging canoes over rocks, shooting guns, singing loudly, and screaming, especially in the morning and evening. If your group is rambunctious, consider staying in a more isolated area such as a lake with only one campsite. When you keep noise down, your group and others will have a better chance of experiencing wildlife and a sense of solitude.

Bats and Other Wildlife Habitat
Firewood needs to be dead and down wood that was collected far from shorelines, trails or campsites. Over 1,200 wildlife species in the United States rely on dead, dying, or hollow trees for dens, roosts, and feeding sites. Even fish benefit from trees that have been exposed. Researchers estimate that over 5.5 million bats have died as a result of being infected with WNS. To find out more about WNS, please visit www.whitenausymdrome.org

Heritage Resources
View of a prehistoric Knife Lake Siltstone biface identified within the BWCAW. Bifaces are considered “tools” that have been flint knapped on both sides, are easily transported, and can be eventually worked down into spear points.

Leave No Trace wilderness principles apply not only to the natural environment but also to archaeological resources. Over 1,200 archaeological sites have been identified within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. These sites include Native American rock art, stone tools and pottery sherds, glass beads and fur-trade artifacts, and mining and logging camps. These sites provide us with a fascinating window into the history of human use of the Boundary Waters over the past 10,000 years. However archaeological materials are a non-renewable resource and must be protected. Once an artifact is removed from its context within a site we lose much of the valuable information it can provide us about who was using the site, when, and for what. Respect cultural resources as you would natural resources. If you come across an archaeological site do not remove or disturb artifacts. Excavating, defacing, or removing an archaeological resource from federal lands without a permit is a crime, punishable by fines or imprisonment. Write down a description of what you found, including the location, and report it to Forest Service personnel. Photos, sketches, maps, or GPS information are all useful information to include when describing archeological finds.

What You Can Do
Care for the fish, their aquatic habitat, and their terrestrial neighbors. Regulations are meant to ensure sustainable fish populations and healthy lakes and rivers.

• Practice catch and release, even when you are within the allowable catch.

• Handle fish gently, quickly, and in the water.

• To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, obey AIS laws and use artificial bait.

• Choose lead-free tackle. To prevent adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems and ultimately humans.

• Leaving fish remains along shore can alter natural behaviors, expose animals to predators, cause stress, and even cause unnatural fluctuations in numbers, as with increased gulls in some areas. Scatter remains back in the woods away from the shore or camping areas.

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• Practice catch and release, even when you are within the allowable catch.

• Handle fish gently, quickly, and in the water.

• To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, obey AIS laws and use artificial bait.

• Keep fish horizontal for pictures.

• If you plan to keep a fish, kill it right away and be prepared to keep the gutted fish on ice.

“We often speak of the great silences of the wilderness and of the importance of preserving them and the wonder and peace to be found there. When I think of them, I see the lakes and rivers of the North, the muskegs and expanses of tundra, the barren lands beyond all roads… they will always be there and their beauty may not change, but should their silences be broken, they will never be the same”
— Sigurd F. Olsen
Non-native and Invasive Species

Non-native invasive species (NNIS) are plants, animals, insects or other organisms whose introduction to an area cause or are likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Other names for NNIS include exotic species, noxious weeds, pests, etc. Invasive species can occur on land or in the water. Some examples in Minnesota include purple loosestrife, gypsy moth, emerald ash borer, Eurasian water milfoil, earthworms, spiny water flea, rusty crayfish and orange hawkweed. If you see these species in the photographs to the right or other know NNIS, report their locations if you can.

Because invasive species do not respect property lines, we are working with other agencies, non-governmental organizations, and citizens like you to increase awareness of this resource management issue and take action to stop the spread of NNIS in our area. For more information about invasive species in Minnesota, go to the MN Department of Natural Resources website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/index.html

**Prevention:**
- Clean your gear/boat before entering and leaving the wilderness or recreation site.
- Remove mud and seeds from clothing, pets, boots, gear and vehicles.
- Burn only local or certified firewood.
- Do not pick wildflowers and transport them from one location to another.

**What you can do:**
- Carefully inspect your vehicles, equipment, firewood, etc. for egg masses.
- Do not transport egg masses. Remove and destroy them. (Burn, squash, wrap in sealed bag, flash…)
- Follow any restrictions, including quarantines and inspections.
- Visit the Superior National Forest and MN Department of Agriculture web sites at:
  - www.fs.usda.gov/superior
  - www.dnr.state.mn.us/gypsymoth

**Stop Aquatic Invaders**

The introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), such as spiny water flea and rusty crayfish, to new water bodies negatively impact native organisms in some lakes and rivers. To prevent the spread of AIS, visitors should inspect their equipment, remove mud and aquatic vegetation, and lay their equipment out to dry when possible. In accordance with Minnesota law, bait containers and other water containing devices must be drained before leaving a water body (this excludes devices such as water bottles).

Q. How do I dispose of unwanted bait?
A. State law prohibits dumping unused bait into waters of the state. DUMPING BAIT ON THE GROUND IS CONSIDERED LITTERING. Therefore, unwanted live bait should be placed in the trash, disposal bins, or compost bins.

Q. How can I comply with draining portable bait containers when portaging from one lake to another?
A. If you are portaging a canoe or other watercraft, you will need to drain the water from the bait container on land where it won’t drain into any water body and refill the bait container with water from the new water body.

**Q. What should I do when leaving a lake or river?**
A. Inspect your watercraft and equipment and remove any aquatic plants or animals. Remove drain plugs, open water draining valves, and drain portable bait containers before leaving the water access.

**Q. How long does the drain plug need to be removed?**
A. Keep the drain plug out and water draining devices open the entire time that a boat is being transported.

**Q. How can I prepare my boat for the lake or river?**
A. Inspect your watercraft and equipment and lay their equipment out to dry when possible. In accordance with Minnesota law, bait containers and other water containing devices must be drained before leaving a water body (this excludes devices such as water bottles).

**Q. How do I prepare my boat or canoe for the water?**
A. Inspect your watercraft, motor, and trailer for aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species from your boat or canoe and remove any that you find. State law prohibits placing your watercraft, trailer, or equipment with aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or invasive species into the water. For a list of prohibited invasive species and invasive species laws, visit: www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html

**Q. What should I do when leaving a lake or river?**
A. Inspect your watercraft and equipment and remove any aquatic plants or animals. Remove drain plugs, open water draining valves, and drain portable bait containers before leaving the water access.

**Stop Aquatic Invaders**

The non-native gypsy moth is a threat to the forests of the BWCAW and the rest of northeast Minnesota. Gypsy moth caterpillars consume the foliage of several types of trees and can destroy millions of acres of forest each year.

During late summer, the female moth lays fuzzy, tan-colored egg masses about the size of a quarter. Each mass contains 500-1,000 eggs which hatch the following spring when the weather is right.

Egg masses can be found on living and inanimate objects, including trees, logs, firewood, campers, canoes, vehicles, and lawn chairs. People may unintentionally help spread the gypsy moth by moving these objects with egg masses attached. This is how the moth got its name.

The Superior National Forest has worked with other agencies for several years to slow the spread of the gypsy moth in our area through various treatments. Quarantines are the next step to slowing the spread of gypsy moth.

**Q. How do I dispose of unwanted bait?**
A. State law prohibits dumping unused bait into waters of the state. DUMPING BAIT ON THE GROUND IS CONSIDERED LITTERING. Therefore, unwanted live bait should be placed in the trash, disposal bins, or compost bins.

**Q. What do I do with bait containers?**
A. The law requires all water to be drained from portable bait containers before leaving the water access, including from bait containers that have not been placed in lake or river water.

**Q. How can I comply with draining portable bait containers when portaging from one lake to another?**
A. If you are portaging a canoe or other watercraft, you will need to drain the water from the bait container on land where it won’t drain into any water body and refill the bait container with water from the new water body.

**Q. After draining water from bait containers can I keep unused bait?**
A. Anglers can keep unused bait after draining their bait containers. You can replace the water in portable bait containers with tap or bottled water before transporting the bait. Some angling related businesses have developed products to help transfer bait from a bait container in the boat to a container in a motor vehicle without the water.

**Q. Where do invasive species laws come from and how do I find out about new laws?**
A. Contact the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (651-296-6157 or 888-646-6367) for updates on AIS regulations.

**The following are Prohibited:**
- Moving fish from lake to lake by releasing fish off of strings (Many common species, such as walleye and smallmouth bass are themselves not native to large areas of the BWCAW)
- Using live minnows on designated stream trout lakes, including those in the BWCAW
- Disposing of earthworms in the forest. A person must not dispose of bait in waters of the state. (84 D.16, subd. 4.) Dump all unwanted bait in the trash.

Unlike much of the U.S., the Arrowhead Region and the Superior National Forest are fortunate because many of the species that are a problem in the upper Midwest are not well established here yet. However, terrestrial and aquatic NNIS can quickly spread once introduced into the environment. NNIS can spread via air, water, and on watercraft, equipment, firewood and even the mud on your boots. Some NNIS seem harmless, like earthworms, but can alter an entire forest floor changing the vegetation.

**What to do:**
- Remove any aquatic plants or animals. Remove and destroy them. (Burn, squash, wrap in sealed bag, flash….)

**Q. How do I prepare my boat or canoe for the water?**
A. Inspect your watercraft, motor, and trailer for aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species from your boat or canoe and remove any that you find. State law prohibits placing your watercraft, trailer, or equipment with aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or invasive species into the water. For a list of prohibited invasive species and invasive species laws, visit: www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html

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About the Program

The Forest Service manages over 192 million acres of national forests and grasslands that comprise the National Forest System (NFS). Today, our growing population and mobile society have created a demand for a variety of uses of these federal lands. Often these diverse needs require specific approval. The Forest Service provides services that support our national policy and federal land laws. The Agency’s special- uses program authorizes uses on NFS land that provide a benefit to the general public and protect public and natural resources values. Currently there are over 74,000 authorizations on the NFS lands for over 180 types of uses.

Each year, the Forest Service receives thousands of individual and business applications for authorization for use of NFS land for such activities as water transmission, agriculture, outfitting and guiding, recreation, telecommunication, research, photography and video productions, and granting road and utility rights-of-ways. The Forest Service carefully reviews each application to determine whether the request affects the public’s use of NFS land. Normally, NFS land is not made available if the overall needs of the individual or business can be met on nonfederal lands.

When Do I Need a Filming or Photography Permit for National Forest Land?

Personal use

If you are shooting still photographs or ‘home movies’ for personal use (i.e. that does not involve advertisement of a product or service, the creation of a product for sale) then a special use permit is not required.

Commercial Filming

A special use permit is required for all commercial filming activities on National Forest System lands. Commercial filming is defined as the use of motion picture, videotaping, sound recording, other moving image or audio recording equipment on National Forest System lands. The Forest Service reviews the advertisement of a product or service, the creation of a product for sale, or the use of actors, models, sets or props, but not activities associated with broadcasts for news programs. For purposes of this definition, creation of a product for sale includes but is not limited to a film, videotape, television broadcast or documentary of historic events, wildlife, natural events, features, subjects or participants in a sporting or recreation event and so forth, when created for the purpose of generating income.

Commercial or still photography will not be permitted if the Forest Service determines that any of the following criteria apply (designated wilderness has separate criteria):

- There is a likelihood of resource damage that cannot be mitigated.
- There would be an unreasonable disruption of the public’s use and enjoyment of the site (beyond short term interruption).
- The activity poses health or safety risks to the public that cannot be mitigated.

What Are the Criteria for Commercial Filming in Designated Wilderness?

Proposed commercial activities in designated wilderness areas, such as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, are reviewed for compliance with existing regulations and acts (Wilderness Act of 1964 and the BWCAW Act of 1978). Commercial filming activities may be allowed in wilderness if it is proper for realizing wilderness management goals of the area, but filming outside the designated wilderness should first be considered. In general, the Forest Service will authorize commercial filming or photography activities within designated wilderness areas only when all of the following apply, and there is still no guarantee of a permit:

- The Proponent will accept the terms, conditions, restrictions and limitations of the Permit as issued.
- The purpose of the film is not to advertise any product or service.
- The Proponent will accept the terms of the film’s commercial use.
- There is a likelihood of resource damage that cannot be mitigated.
- The activity poses health or safety risks to the public that cannot be mitigated.

You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.
— Jane Goodall

Research and Monitoring

During the summer, you may notice people working on the Boundary Waters lakes in the BWCAW. They may be other land management agencies, universities, or research organizations conducting research and monitoring on various lakes in the BWCAW. They may be other measuring and monitoring activities within designated wilderness areas only when all of the following apply, and there is still no guarantee of a permit.

Acidity Of Rain And Snow

The Superior National Forest is home to one of over 200 sites spanning the continental United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands that sample rain and snow weekly to check its chemistry. The Superior National Forest is home to one of over 200 sites spanning the continental United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Acidity Of Rain And Snow stations. The information gathered is used to develop long term resource management strategies. Use of motorized equipment or transportation in the non-motorized areas of the BWCAW will be limited to what is absolutely necessary to manage the area as wilderness.

- There is a likelihood of resource damage that cannot be mitigated.
- The activity poses health or safety risks to the public that cannot be mitigated.

Who Needs an Outfitter/Guide Permit?

All individuals or organizations including non-profit organizations conducting outfitting and/or guiding activities on National Forest Land or adjacent waters should make an inquiry as to whether or not such activity would be properly classified as “commercial”. This includes anyone assisting others in providing outdoor recreation experiences on the Superior National Forest. Some examples are: commercial guides, church or youth groups, ski instructors, bus tours, or canoe livery operators. If commercial, such activity may only be conducted after applying for and receiving an Outfitter/ Guide Permit. If there is no charge, fee, donation or tuition related to the program activity and if the group leader is not paid, an Outfitter/ Guide permit may not be required. A Forest Service representative will make the decision on whether a permit is needed. For more information, visit www.fs.nps.gov/superior, “Permits” or call the Forest Service.

Learn About Air Pollution: It is important for you to know that even if you live hundreds of miles away, your actions can affect the air quality here on the Superior National Forest. Air masses travel long distances over a number of days and along their path they pick up air pollution from industrial and populated areas and carry it to the Forest. The more you know the more you can do to reduce air pollution. See information about air quality monitoring on the Superior National Forest website.

Pack Out Your Trash: State law does not permit the open burning of refuse in包括 camping areas. Some things that can cause severe health problems and pollute air, soils and water due to carcinogens like dioxin.

Acidity Of Rain And Snow

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What You Can Do

- Conserve Electricity and Fuels: Most air pollutants come from transportation and the generation of electricity. People are driving more miles and using more electricity each year. If you can save gas and reduce your electrical use, your air quality will be better and your National Forest will be healthier.

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Youth Activity Page

Using a Map and Compass

Maps always have a symbol for north; compasses have a needle that points north. As you stand on a trail with your map and compass, line up north on the map with the north on the compass. North is one of the four cardinal directions. Once you are facing north you can find the other three cardinal points.

South is behind you, east is to your right, and west is to your left.

Measuring Distances on a Map

In a national forest, a map will help you figure out distances from one place to another. Use the map at the left to figure out distances for an imaginary hike. First, locate the Ranger Station. This is where you’ll start from. Then, find the Trailhead.

Use the map scale (1 square equals 1 mile) and the cardinal directions to answer the questions below:

1. From the Ranger Station to the Trailhead is about: (a) 1 mile (b) 2 miles (c) 5 miles (d) 10 miles
2. From the Trailhead to the Fire Lookout is about: (a) 1 mile (b) 2 miles (c) 4 miles (d) 5 miles
3. What direction is the Lake from the Fire Lookout? (a) west (b) east (c) north (d) south
4. From the Fire Lookout to the Campsite is about: (a) 1 mile (b) 2 miles (c) 5 miles (d) 10 miles
5. To get from the Mountain Peak Trail back to the Trailhead you would primarily travel in what direction? (a) west (b) east (c) north (d) south
6. From the Mountain Peak to the Trailhead is about? (a) 1 mile (b) 2 miles (c) 5 miles (d) 10 miles

Word Search Puzzle

Find the hidden words and circle them. The following words can be found horizontally, vertically, and diagonally.

Flashlight Canoe Map
West North Hiking
Bearbag Permit Compass
Motor Paddle Tent

The BWCA Wilderness Education Kit

Engage. Explore. Inspire. A learning journey through the BWCAW…

The BWCA Wilderness Kit is a curriculum of hands-on activities, colorful maps, exciting games, and real artifacts that will engage middle school aged youth.

Use of this Kit varies from 50 minutes to 5 hours or more. Through interactive and small group activities, this curriculum will help kids explore and discover the history, and physical and social science, of Minnesota’s largest designated wilderness—the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The BWCA Wilderness Kit was created by the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness and Superior National Forest. Please contact the Forest Service to find out more about this unique education tool and how to schedule it to use with your class or youth group.

To reserve call: (218) 626-4300 or email: r9_superior_NF@fs.fed.us.

For more information visit the Learning Center at: www.fs.usda.gov/superior
A n increasing number of people recreate on Forest Service managed lands every year, yet congruently appropriated funding does not keep pace with the existing need. Meeting the increasing needs of these visitors, delivering quality recreation, heritage and wilderness opportunities; and protecting our natural and cultural resources can be challenging. Your overnight permit fees go directly back to the BWCAW to maintain and improve natural resources, recreation facilities, and services including:

- BWCAW visitor education videos are part of a visitor’s wilderness experience. A short video is shown to visitors when they pick up their wilderness permit and reviews rules and regulations. Visitor contact by Forest Service staff in the wilderness is also an important part of wilderness education.
- Additional seasonal staff for increased field maintenance and restoration work, assistance at contact stations and law enforcement training for routine back-country patrols.

**Your User Fees At Work!**

- Campsite improvements such as transplanting native vegetation to encourage campsite recovery, improving tent pads, naturalizing illegal sites, cleaning and repairing fire gores, latrine replacement, hazard tree removal, non-native species removal and erosion control.
- Winter dog sled program as a means of transporting equipment and/or supplies needed to complete maintenance work on campsites, portages and trails as well as for public user education and law enforcement contacts. This helps prevent the need for using motorized transport.
- Portage and hiking trail improvements such as clearing brush and fallen trees, installing water barriers to prevent erosion, and repairing trail tread and structures.

**Campsites are inspected and rehabilitated for ressource protection.**

**Top:** Before rehabilitation.  **Bottom:** After rehabilitation.

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**What is the Heart of the Continent Partnership?**

The Heart of the Continent Partnership (HOCP) is a Canadian/American coalition of land managers and local stakeholders working together on cross-border projects that promote the economic, cultural and natural health of the lakes, forests and communities on the Ontario/Minnesota border. Representing a broad array of organizations, the partnership seeks to develop a common identity and conservation goals.

Spanning the international border between northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Ontario lies an international treasure: the largest expanse of public green space in the heart of North America. This 5.5 million acre landscape comprises a blend of working forest, rugged scenery, clean watersheds, abundant wildlife and outstanding biodiversity. Several separately managed natural areas are encompassed by this ecosystem at the “heart of the continent,” including Quetico Provincial Park, Superior National Forest, Voyageurs National Park, Grand Portage National Monument, La Verendrye Provincial Park, numerous Minnesota state forest lands and parks, and other Ontario provincial parks.

Participants have identified five broad action strategies as they work together on common goals and cross-border projects:

- Developing an identity for the region as a single whole, and supporting economic growth and cultural empowerment in the surrounding communities.
- Providing a forum for separate groups to plan and work together on projects that reach beyond their separate boundaries and to build mutual respect and understanding.
- Cooperating in the areas of scientific research and management, and promoting the region as a global scientific research opportunity.
- Joining forces in outreach, education, and support for public lands in the Heart of the Continent region.
- Sharing resources for capital improvements such as trail development and maintenance.

If you are interested in learning more about this partnership, please visit www.heartofthecontinent.org.

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**BWCAW Permit Issuing Stations/Cooperators**

**Aurora Area**
- Forest Service Office – Aurora
- Cook & Orr Area
- Forest Service Office – Cook
- Anderson Canoe Outfitters
- Greulens’ Marine
- Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry
- Zap’s Fishing Resort & Canoe Outfitters

**Duluth Area**
- Forest Service Headquarters – Duluth
- Frontier Trading Company
- Duluth Pack – Duluth

**Tofte/Isabella Area**
- Forest Service Office – Tofte
- Beaver Bay Sports Shop
- Knutson Pine Inn
- Maple Grove Motel & Bait Shop
- Sawbill Canoe Outfitters
- Sawtooth Outfitters

**Grand Marais/Flint Creek Area**
- Forest Service Office – Grand Marais
- Anonymous Canoe Outfitters
- Lake County Sheriff
- Lake Superior Trip & Canoe Company
- Pine Lodge & Canoe Outfitters
- Rocky Point Resort & Canoe Outfitters

**Ely Area**
- Forest Service Office – Ely
- Big Lake Wilderness Lodge
- Boundary Waters Guide Service
- Camp Voyageur, Inc.
- Canadian Border Outfitters
- Canadian Waters, Inc.
- Canoe Country Outfitters
- Cliff Veidt’s Canoe Trip Outfitting Co.
- Custom Cabin Rental
- Duane’s Outfitters
- Echo Trail Outfitters
- Ely Outdoors Co.
- Jordan’s Wilderness Shop & Outfitters, Inc.
- Kawishiwi Lodge & Canoe Outfitters
- Land of Lakes - Girl Scouts
- LaRussell’s Resort & Outfitters
- Lodge of Whispering Pines
- Moose Track Adventures
- North Country Canoe Outfitters
- Northern Tier BSA

**For More Information**

**In Case of Emergency**

*In case of emergencies or if search and rescue assistance is needed, call 9-1-1 or the nearest county sheriff’s office.*

**Cook County Sheriff**
- Grand Marais/Tofte area (218) 387-3030

**Lake County Sheriff**
- (218) 387-8590

**St. Louis County Sheriff**
- Ely/Cook area (218) 726-2340

**National Park Service**
- Grand Portage National Monument
- La Verendrye Provincial Park
- Superior National Forest
- Voyageurs National Park

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**BWCAW Reservation Center**
- PO Box 662
- Ballston Spa, NY 12020
- 877-444-6777
- www.recreation.gov

**Forest Service Offices**
- Forest Supervisors Office
- 8901 Grand Avenue Place
- Duluth, MN 55808
- (218) 626-4300
- www.fs.usda.gov/superior

**Gunflint Ranger Station**
- 2820 W. Highway 61
- Grand Marais, MN 55615
- (218) 387-1750

**Kawishiwi Ranger Station**
- 1995 Hwy 169
- Ely, MN 55731
- (218) 365-7600
- (218) 365-7565 (5-1-9-30)
- People who are deaf or hard-of-hearing call 800-627-3529 or 711

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**In-Season Information**

- BWCAW visitor education videos are part of a visitor’s wilderness experience. A short video is shown to visitors when they pick up their wilderness permit and reviews rules and regulations. Visitor contact by Forest Service staff in the wilderness is also an important part of wilderness education.

- Additionally seasonal staff for increased field maintenance and restoration work, assistance at contact stations and law enforcement training for routine back-country patrols.

- Campsite improvements such as transplanting native vegetation to encourage campsite recovery, improving tent pads, naturalizing illegal sites, cleaning and repairing fire gores, latrine replacement, hazard tree removal, non-native species removal and erosion control.

- Winter dog sled program as a means of transporting equipment and/or supplies needed to complete maintenance work on campsites, portages and trails as well as for public user education and law enforcement contacts. This helps prevent the need for using motorized transport.

- Portage and hiking trail improvements such as clearing brush and fallen trees, installing water barriers to prevent erosion, and repairing trail tread and structures.

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**Maple Grove Motel & Bait Shop**
- 1393 Hwy 169
- Kawishiwi Ranger Station
- Grand Marais, MN 55604
- 218-283-6600

**Forest Service Office – Tofte**
- 218-475-0123

**Grand Marais Canoe Outfitters**
- 318 Forestry Road
- Grand Marais, MN 55615
- (218) 663-8060

**La Croix Ranger Station**
- 320 N. Hwy 53
- Cook, MN 55723
- (218) 666-0309

**Laurentian Ranger Station**
- 318 Forestry Road
- Aurora, MN 55705
- (218) 229-8800

**Tofte Ranger Station**
- Box 2179
- Tofte, MN 55615
- (218) 663-8060

**Travel to Quetico**
- Quetico Provincial Park
- 170 Mile Creek Road
- Grand Portage, MN 55605
- (218) 475-0123
- www.wps.gov/wps/po/index.htm

**Voyageurs National Park**
- 366 Hwy 11 East
- International Falls, MN 56649
- (218) 283-6600
- www.wps.gov/nap/index.htm

**Customs and Immigration**

**Canadian Immigration**
- If calling from the U.S.: 1-413-944-4000
- (807) 274-3815
- www.cic.gc.ca

**Canadian Customs**
- (807) 274-3655

**U.S. Customs**
- (218) 476-2500
- www.cbp.gov

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security**
- 1-202-282-6003
- www.dhs.gov/ios-crossing-us-borders

**U.S. Immigration**
- (218) 726-5297

**MN Dept. of Natural Resources**
- License Bureau
- 500 Lafayette Road
- St. Paul, MN 55155-4026
- (651) 296-2316—Metro area
- (800) 285-2800—In Minnesota
- DNR General Information:
- 888-646-6367
- www.dnr.state.mn.us