ON THE COVER

In the depths of the roadless area.

F-380313
GOOSEBERRY FALLS, ALONG THE NORTH SHORE DRIVE.
An Invitation

BEYOND Lake Superior, in the northeastern corner of Minnesota and extending to the Canadian border, lies the Superior National Forest, largest national forest in the United States. Within its boundaries are more than 5,000 lakes.

Wooded trails, canoe routes, and crystal waters invite the nature lover; well-stocked streams and lakes lure the fisherman; deer and bear and duck and grouse attract the hunter. Here is a land of shining lakes and pine-clad hills where thousands of Americans each year find sanctuary.

Although primeval in its wildness and unspoiled in its beauty, the Superior National Forest may be reached easily by auto, train, boat, or airplane. You are invited to use it; you are asked to protect it. Its greatest enemy is fire, and in preventing forest fires you are assureing to future generations an American heritage of wealth and beauty.
MAP

A map of the Superior National Forest, with details including roads and points of interest, will be found on the inside of the back cover.
When the Superior National Forest was proclaimed in 1909 by Theodore Roosevelt, it contained 909,734 acres. Now it includes 3,728,932 acres gross area.

The Superior lies entirely within the Arrowhead country of Minnesota, the name of which describes its shape. This region extends from the northeast corner of Minnesota to International Falls, almost touches Bemidji on the west, and borders Lake Mille Lacs on the south. At its northeastern margin lies the Grand Portage Indian Reservation, and along a portion of its western boundary is the Bois Fort Indian Reservation. In this region Minnesota's three great iron ore ranges have been developed. It was still Indian country in 1842 when the United States purchased from the Chippewas that part of the area east of a line from Lake Mille Lacs to Crane Lake on the Canadian border. An historical marker has been placed at Buchanan, on the north shore of Lake Superior, approximately 15 miles from Duluth, where the first land office in the Arrowhead country was established in 1856.

Variety enhances the scenic beauty of this forest. Its 5,000 lakes vary in size from a few acres to 70 square miles; their shore lines vary from boulders and rock ledges to smooth, sandy beaches. Varied also is the flora of the forest, and always interesting whether it be May and June when there is the "smell of summer in the spring," summer when growth is at its peak, or fall when the leaves of the hardwoods hang scarlet and golden against the eternal green of the pines. The area is blessed also with an abundance and variety of fish and game species, managed for the benefit of nature lovers and sportsmen. Here, among more common wildlife, roams the moose in his natural habitat. It is one of the few areas in the United States where moose can be found.

It is estimated that 16,000,000 people live within a 500-mile radius of the center of this forest. Its main gateways are Duluth, Virginia, International Falls, Ely, Two Harbors, and Grand Marais. It is readily accessible by any mode of transportation.

IN DAYS GONE BY

French explorers, fur traders, and missionaries came to northeastern
Minnesota in the seventeenth century and found the Sioux Indians occupying the forest.

Warlike relations existed between the Minnesota Sioux, or Dakotas, and their northern neighbors, the Cree tribe, but it was the Chippewa Indians, coming from the east along the shores of Lake Superior, who gradually drove the Sioux south and west. The contest between the Sioux and Chippewas, begun in the seventeenth century, was not concluded until after the historic Sioux outbreak against the whites in 1832. However, in 1679 when Du Lhut came to Mille Lacs, the Chippewas were claiming by right of conquest the hunting grounds to the north and east of the headwaters of the Mississippi.

The westward trend of the white man's empire was heralded by Radisson and Groseillers, who explored the region in 1660 and loaded their fleet of canoes with rich furs to take back to Montreal. Between 1679 and 1689 the trader Du Lhut carried on operations along the north shore of Superior and established a post at Fond du Lac, south of the present city of Duluth, which bears his name. Father Hennepin, ascending the Mississippi in 1680, reached Mille Lacs.

Between 1731 and 1749 La Verendrye and his sons established a canoe route between Lake Superior and Lake Winnipeg, tracing the present international border. They sought the elusive Northwest Passage, and built a line of forts as far as Calgary, Canada.
For more than a hundred years Grand Portage was the premier fur market of the northwest. Here, where the tip of the forest juts into the great unsalted sea, Superior, a thousand Indians would camp at the height of the season. On occasion, when there were general assemblies of the tribes, it is estimated that as many as 10,000 would come on foot or in birch-bark canoes, from the Lake of the Woods and Saskatchewan, to hold their pow-wows and trade their peltries.

None of the French settlements were permanent, and only the picturesque names of various sites now mark the passage of the voyageurs. They were followed by English traders and American explorers. In the early nineteenth century William Astor's American Fur Co. established a station at Fond du Lac. As late as 1860, however, the present site of Duluth was a forest except for a few huts on Minnesota Point.

In 1842 this region was formally established as a part of the United States by the Webster-Ashburton Treaty between the United States and Great Britain. One provision of this treaty was unique. Because of numerous falls and rapids, the Pigeon River was impassable for canoes for a distance of approximately 12 miles from its mouth. Since the early days traders had left Lake Superior at the Indian village of Grand Portage and portaged about 9 miles northwest to a point above the falls. The treaty provided that Grand Portage "from the shore of Lake Superior to the Pigeon River, as now actually used, shall be free and open to the use of the citizens and
subjects of both nations." That this provision has been observed peacefully for a century is testimony of the good will existing on both sides of our unfortified northern boundary.

**Legend of the Painted Rocks.**—In several places on the Superior National Forest are rocks bearing painted Indian hieroglyphics. Scientists have not reached a satisfactory explanation of these symbols, but according to pioneer stories, they are associated with incidents sacred to the Indians.

Countless moons ago, says a legend, when the braves were on their way to new hunting grounds or to wars with other tribes, medicine men painted these symbols as sacred omens for the undertakings. All the paintings are in red, and many are well preserved, indicating that the Indians found a pigment which, though exposed to severe climatic conditions, would last for centuries.

Rock paintings may be seen at Crooked Lake, on the east and west sides of Lac LaCroix, at North Hegman Lake, 1 mile north of the Ely-Buyck Road; Island River; and Kawishiwi River.

**Other Points of Historical Interest.**—Indian Village, Grand Portage, 6 miles east of U S 61.

Vermilion Indian Village, Vermilion Lake, 5 miles northwest of State Route 1.
LaCroix Indian Village, north shore of Lac LaCroix.
Wa-Kem-Up Village, southwest shore of Vermilion Lake.
Lac LaCroix Sentinel Post, an island off the southwest shore of Irving Island, used as a fortification by the early Indians in warfare with other tribes.
Fort Charlotte, an eighteenth-century trading post at Pigeon River, accessible overland only by the Grand Portage trail 5 miles west from US 61.
Indian Wartime Training Grounds, a long, sloping, rock ridge along the southwest shore of Irving Island in Lac LaCroix, used as a testing ground for the Indian braves. Prior to departing for war, they would race from the bottom to the top of the cliff, and this, if accomplished in a fixed time and under certain conditions, qualified them to accompany the war party.

The Magnetic Rock, an ancient Indian landmark, 42 feet high, located three-fourths mile north of the Gunflint Trail and 2 miles west of Gunflint Lodge.

Father Baraga’s Cross, a marker at the mouth of Cross River commemorating the cross erected by Father Baraga in thanksgiving for his safe crossing of Lake Superior in a canoe during a severe storm in 1846.

All of these points are situated along the main routes of travel. At numerous places in the roadless area are others of equal historical significance and interest.

March of the Loggers.—In 1884 the first railroad across the 72 miles from Lake Superior to the Iron Range was completed. Its advent marked the beginning of the huge harvest of the timber of northeastern Minnesota.
Logging operations were conducted on a gigantic scale, sawmills and camps grew up overnight, and lumberjacks by the thousands swarmed over the region.

The timber resource seemed inexhaustible, and the trees were cut to feed the industries of the East and the growing cities of the West. But no planting was thought necessary to rebuild the forest that had been cut, and few precautions were taken to safeguard that which was left. Fires followed the loggers and often spread in advance of them. Although the northern portion of the forest is still a tree-covered wilderness, sections of inferior growth in the southern part give evidence even today of lack of foresight concerning forests for future generations. Only about 100,000 acres of virgin red and white pine remain within the boundaries of the Superior forest, and about one-half of this is in private ownership. This is in addition to nearly a million acres of virgin jack pine and black spruce which have grown up following ancient fires.

THE FOREST TODAY

About the beginning of the twentieth century the American people and the American Government began to think of the future of the forests and to plan for administering them on a permanent basis. On February 13, 1909, the first unit of the Superior National Forest was established, to be protected and administered by the Forest Service. Of the forest's present 3,725,849 acres, 1,973,021 are Federal property, 612,393 are State land, and 1,140,435 are privately owned. Private holdings are acquired by the Government if a price agreement can be reached and the owners indicate a desire to sell. However, there will always be a certain amount of privately owned land, used for recreation or held for future development of its timber, mineral, or recreational resources.

The purpose in the establishment of this forest was to protect the watershed, conserve its resources, and use them wisely. Timber grows and is harvested on most of this area today, but the harvesting of this crop has been coordinated with the use of the forest for recreation and other purposes. The Superior, like other national forests, supplies timber for the Nation and employment for local communities, but it also constitutes a great forest playground, serving the people socially as well as economically.

The Superior is a coniferous forest, the home of white pine, red pine, jack pine, black spruce, white spruce, white cedar, and tamarack. It also contains large stands of white birch, yellow birch, poplar, ash, and maple. There are more than 25 species of native trees and several hundred species of herbaceous plants and shrubs in the forest.

The flowers on the Superior, like its trees, are of typical northern-zone
A typical stand of virgin timber on the Superior National Forest.

type. Trailing arbutus, wintergreen, Labrador-tea, dwarf kalmia, and the twinflower are common, and leatherleaf covers a large acreage of muskeg. Thimbleberries, raspberries, and blueberries are abundant.

The more inaccessible areas within the Superior have been set aside by the State of Minnesota as a refuge to preserve the rarer fur bearers and moose in a natural state. The rest of the forest is open to hunting and trapping in season, with the exception of smaller refuges designed to main-
tain the supply of wildlife and serve as an attraction to people who are unable to journey into the roadless areas. Fishing is allowed in season all over the forest. The fish and game resources are administered by the State of Minnesota with the United States Forest Service cooperating.

**Roadless Areas.**—Under formal approval of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief of the Forest Service, three separate roadless areas totaling 1,079,430 acres have been dedicated. They extend for 108 miles along the international border and embrace approximately 51 townships of wilderness country in the forest.

These areas have been established with the intention of keeping the means of transportation as primitive as possible. No roads passable during the summer season are permitted. Travel by canoe is the approved method in this area, and the labyrinth of lakes and rivers provides the way. Foot trails needed for protection and administration of the areas also form an excellent means of access.

The creation of the Superior roadless area was motivated by the desire to preserve a unique lake area in a perpetually primitive state. It represents an investment in public recreation and welfare. The attraction of the region is great, and the increase in annual use is consistent. Its dedication to permanent primitive conditions of transportation preserves the

![Cow Moose and Two Calves Swimming Across Stuart Lake in the Roadless Area](F-378066)
recreational stability of the region and enhances its value as a national health center. The two other roadless areas of similar character are the Caribou and the Little Indian Sioux.

The scenic and attraction value of the roadless area is much increased by the fact that a great portion of it is included within the boundaries of a State game refuge.

The greatest single element of public interest within the region is represented by the canoe routes which traverse it. Natural waterways including streams and lakes of moderate size, form a network over which the scenic wonders of the country may be viewed and enjoyed. The strenuous mode of travel by canoe and back packs has an appeal, historic, sentimental, and healthful. The regretted abandonment of old travel routes with the opening up of wilderness country is a frequent source of lament by visitors. The roadless area will save from this destruction a remnant of land still typical of pioneering days. It will endeavor to keep the traveled routes as the land looker, timber estimator, and ore prospector of the seventies found them.

What to do When Lost

The Forest Service suggests the following simple and common-sense rules to be remembered when lost in the woods:
1. Stop. Sit down and try to figure out where you are. Use your head and not your legs.
2. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered place. Build a fire in a safe spot. Gather plenty of dry fuel as soon as possible after selecting a camping place.
3. Do not wander about. Travel only downhill.
4. If you are injured, choose a clear spot, on a promontory or hill if possible, and build a signal smoke.
5. Do not yell; do not run; do not worry; and above all do not quit.
6. The SOS call of the wilderness is three signals of any kind, either audible or visible—three whistles, three flashes from a light, etc. The answer to a distress signal is two audible or visible signals.
Within this territory the timber in public ownership is managed with special care along all shore lines, trails, and portages. Lake levels are
stabilized by law, and this prohibits further development of water-power facilities.

Many lakes and rivers in this area are navigable by boat or canoe only because of a water level that is maintained by populated beaver dams. As the food supply used by the beavers becomes exhausted, the beavers move to new territories. Were the dams left unmaintained, they would gradually deteriorate, water levels would drop, and travel routes would soon become impassable. The preservation of normal water levels is essential to canoe travel.

Nearly 90 percent of the lakes in the forest are concentrated in the roadless area where they form the major part of the canoe transportation system. There are no living accommodations in this part of the forest except resorts on private land. To safeguard this region and accommodate the recreationist, numerous primitive canoe campgrounds are being developed, where parties may camp with little risk of their campfires escaping and where they can find good water and sanitary facilities.

The State of Minnesota manages its lands in the area in the same manner, and a portion of Canadian territory to the north has been set aside as the...
SEVEN-YEAR-OLD JACK PINES ON THE MESABA RANGER DISTRICT.

Quetico Provincial Park to be administered in a very similar manner. Together the American and Canadian areas form a picturesque and primeval vacationland, a majestic canoe country, where cold, crystal waters, teeming with fish, and rough, rugged shore lines covered with pine, spruce, birch, cedar, and poplar create a panorama of ever changing beauty.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

The timber on Federal land in the Superior National Forest is primarily suitable for pulpwood, although nearly half of it is of sawlog size. About 35 percent of the volume is jack pine, 25 percent is spruce, and the remaining 40 percent consists of aspen, birch, balsam fir, red and white pine, ash, maple, cedar, and tamarack.

The forest has been divided into five working circles, for which management plans have been prepared. Harvesting operations will be under the sustained-yield principle; the annual cut will not exceed the annual growth. Cutting operations are carefully supervised by forest officers to insure that only mature trees are cut and that the area is kept in a satisfactorily productive condition.

The total cut which can be made annually without in any way reducing the productive capacity of the forest is estimated to be 315,000 cords of
pulpwood and 21,000 M feet of saw timber. This timber should have a value of at least $50,000. It is anticipated that the demand for pulpwood and other products will, in the future, make possible the sale of the full allowable cut. An increase in the annual cut will be possible through reforestation and more adequate fire protection.

It is estimated that, in addition to the timber on Federal land, there are 2,000,000 or more cords on private and State land within the forest’s outer boundaries.

The financial returns from timber sales, as well as those from special-use permits for summer homes, resorts, camps, hunting cabins, rock quarries, cultivation, grazing, etc., are divided between county and Federal governments. The counties in which the national forest is located receive 25 percent for the benefit of their public schools and roads. An additional 10 percent is expended by the Forest Service for the construction and maintenance of roads and trails within the national forests of the State. The remaining 65 percent goes to the United States Treasury.

There are more than 300,000 acres of immature timber stands within the Superior National Forest in need of thinning, release, and other silvicultural work. This work is being done as fast as funds are made available, and it results in increased growth of the remaining trees. Approximately 97,000 acres of young stands were treated silviculturally during the 7 years 1934–40.
PLANTING PROGRAM.—Because of the fires which frequently followed logging operations on private lands in the early days, planting will be a major activity on the Superior National Forest for many years. The largest areas requiring planting before they can become fully productive are in sections recently added to the forest.

To date 27,700 acres have been planted, for the most part with spruce and red, white, and jack pine. The management plan calls for planting at the rate of 6,000 acres a year.

The forest has two nurseries to supply stock for its planting program, one near Eveleth and the other northwest of Two Harbors.

PROTECTION FROM FIRE

The greatest single enemy of the forest is fire. The area which now comprises the Superior National Forest has suffered repeatedly from forest fires, many of which occurred prior to the establishment of the present system of protection.

During the 9-year period 1931–39, records show that lightning caused 32.5 percent of the fires in this forest and that the remaining 67.5 percent resulted from human activities. The man-caused fires are preventable.

Travelers in certain parts of the forest, will see blackened trunks and

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**Rules for Fire Prevention**

No entrance charge is made on the Superior National Forest. It is yours to use, to enjoy, and to protect. Your cooperation is especially needed in the prevention of fire. As a good woodsman, you will observe the following rules:

1. MATCHES.—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.
2. SMOKING.—Smoke only while stopping in a safe place clear of all inflammable material.
3. CAMP.—Never break camp until your fire is out—completely out. Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.
4. FIRES.—Extinguish any small fires you can. Report others to the nearest forest ranger or to the telephone operator.
charred stumps mutely testifying to a once glorious forest destroyed by fire. Also in well-protected areas, young natural growth may be seen.

To protect the forest heritage, the Forest Service asks the cooperation of every forest visitor in exercising the greatest care with fire in the woods. One burning match, one lighted cigarette, or one campfire left unextinguished may destroy millions of trees and with them the wildlife and recreational value of the forest. Many years are required to grow the trees which fires destroy in a few hours. Five minutes spent in extinguishing a campfire, or even 1 minute devoted to stamping out a cigarette may be the equivalent of 100 years of patient forest growth. Never handle a fire carelessly. Make it a business to put out any fire discovered, or if this is impossible, report it at once to the nearest forest ranger station.

During the summer season when the forest-fire hazard is high, the 25 lookout towers are occupied by men who keep a constant vigilance for the first thin wisp of smoke above the treetops. Each lookout tower is
planes are used to detect fires and to transport men and equipment. This plane is being loaded at the Ely Dock.

equipped with telephone or radio set to report fires to the district ranger. Fire-fighting equipment is strategically located throughout the forest area in sufficient quantity to meet normal needs. Red boxes along roads, trails, and canoe routes contain fire tools for the use of anyone needing equipment for fire suppression work. They should not be used for other purposes. All men in work camps are trained and organized to fight fires. Local people fill key positions in the fire-fighting organization, often take the initial action, and in many cases handle the fire completely. Hydroplanes are very important in this area for detection of fires as well as for transporting men, equipment, and supplies to fight them. This is the only national forest in the United States where hydroplanes are so used.

Since the United States Forest Service instituted its program of protection and reforestation, fire suppression has had highest priority among all phases of the forest program. However, since human agencies are responsible for the majority of forest fires, the success of the fire-prevention program depends on the cooperation of the American public.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Wildlife species native to the northern coniferous forest commonly seen within the Superior are deer, black bear, and moose. Red fox appear
occasionally, and very rarely the timber wolf, coyote, fisher, and otter may be sighted.

Of the smaller animals, beaver, snowshoe hare, red squirrel, muskrat, skunk, woodchuck, and chipmunk are common. Of the birds, people from regions farther south are usually most interested in the pileated woodpecker, the spruce grouse, the Canada jay or "whiskey jack," and the ever-present loon.

The aim of the Forest Service is to maintain a favorable habitat for a well-balanced wildlife population. The harvesting of the crop of game and fish is regulated by the State Conservation Department, and a Minnesota hunting or fishing license is required. Information on hunting and fishing laws may be obtained at any tourist information booth, at most sporting goods stores, from game wardens, and from Federal and State forest rangers. In order to keep abreast of biological information as it is acquired, and because conditions change considerably, these regulations may be changed from year to year.

In order to maintain wildlife in abundance, the life requirements of the various species must be available. These consist largely of three basic needs—food, cover, and water. Management activities to increase and maintain the supply of wildlife include:
Surveys.—These determine the number and distribution of the animals and the amount and distribution of food and cover. Censuses are made of the various species at regular intervals. Studies are made of the numbers taken by hunters and fishermen during legal seasons and also of the losses resulting from natural causes. Habits and requirements of the species are determined by studies in cooperation with the United State Biological Survey and the University of Minnesota. Detailed surveys are being made of streams and lakes to determine the proper species of fish to be planted and improvements which might be made to develop fish life, waterfowl, and fur-bearing animals.

Improvements.—These include the development of trout streams by the construction of dams, deflectors, and shelters, and by the planting of cover along the banks. All of these are designed to cool the waters and provide a habitat conducive to increased numbers of trout. Wild rice, duck potato, and wild celery are being planted in suitable lakes with gratifying results, as waterfowl are quick to take advantage of the increased food supply. Plants best adapted as food for big game and upland birds are propagated in the forest nurseries and planted in locations lacking in these species.
RESTOCKING.—A trout-rearing pond has been constructed on the Cascade River with a capacity of 100,000 3- to 4-inch trout annually. Approximately 30,000,000 fish from State and Federal hatcheries are planted each year in various lakes and streams. These include wall-eyed pike, largemouth bass, crappies, sunfish, herring, and lake, brook, rainbow, and brown trout. Beaver are frequently moved from areas where they are abundant, or where they are doing damage, to understocked lakes and streams.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

A labyrinth of water highways makes the Superior a matchless canoe country; numerous lakes, rivers, and streams offer superlative fishing; and the large wildlife population provides sport for those who hunt with cameras as well as for those who hunt with guns.

The superb views of Lake Superior’s rocky shore, the winding forest trails, the tree-framed canoe routes, and the wilderness areas attract thousands of people to the forest annually, and the Forest Service is constantly improving and extending its recreational facilities. Ample opportunity is provided for touring, camping, picnicking, canoeing, wilderness travel, fishing, hunting, hiking, and swimming. Summer trails may be used for skiing and snowshoeing in winter. Local towns and cities have developed some excellent winter sports facilities and, eventually, as the need develops, improvements may be constructed by the Forest Service.

Thousands of inland lakes and Superior, the deepest and coolest lake on the continent, temper the climate. The average temperature during the

THE FOREST YIELDS HEALTH—WEALTH—SECURITY

EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS  
BE SURE YOUR FIRE IS OUT—DEAD OUT
summer months is 62° F., and the average during the winter is 13° F. The forest offers immediate and welcome relief to hay fever sufferers, and they come to the Superior in increasing numbers each year.

**Interesting Motor Routes Through the Forest.**—All roads in the forest are lined with beauty, but several are noted for their unusual scenic value. Detailed information concerning the Gunflint Trail from Grand Marais to Saganaga Lake, the Sawbill Road from Tofte to Sawbill Lake, and the Ely-Buyck Road from Ely to Buyck, and the campgrounds and accommodations along them is given in the section of this booklet on "Roads and Campgrounds." Notable among the scenic drivers also are U.S. 61 from Duluth, Minn., to Port Arthur, Ontario, Canada; the Honey-moon Trail, from Lutsen to Sawbill Road; and State Highway No. 1, from U.S. 61 to Ely.

**Points of Scenic Attraction.**—Among points of especial scenic attraction are Cross River Falls, Temperance River Falls, Poplar River Falls, and Cascade River Falls, all on the north shore of Lake Superior; Carlton Peak, near Tofte, Minn.; Devils Cascade, north of the Ely-Buyck Road; and Rebecca Falls, Curtain Falls, Lower Basswood Falls, and Upper Basswood Falls, all on the International Boundary.
Picturesque Foot Trails.—Numerous foot trails throughout the forest lead from roads and campgrounds to places of special interest. These places are identified by signs at the starting point.
Resorts.—More than 170 resorts and housekeeping accommodations operated by private enterprise are located within or near the forest boundaries. Rates for accommodations vary according to location and conveniences offered, but are on a reasonable basis.

Information for Fishermen.—Good fishing is the rule rather than the exception in most of the lakes on the Superior National Forest. This is especially true of the more inaccessible lakes, which are fished but little and have good populations of large fish. In the more accessible lakes restocking has helped to maintain the fish supply. Certain designated areas have been set aside as spawning refuges, but other than these all waters are open to fishing during the fishing season. May, June, September, and October are the best months for fishing.

Lakes have been classified by their physical and chemical characteristics and their principal species into the following groups:

Trout Lakes.—These are deep, clear, cold water lakes with rocky shore lines, principally along the Canadian border from Lac LaCroix to the northeastern tip of Minnesota. Of approximately 70 lakes in this class, many are large. They include Lac LaCroix, Trout Lake (north of Lake Vermilion), Burntside, Snowbank, Kekekabic, Gabimichigami, Sea Gull, Saganaga, and Gunflint. The principal game fish is the lake trout, although northern pike is common, and bass and wall-eyed pike are found in the shallower portions of some lakes. Rainbow trout are also being successfully introduced into some of these lakes. Before the waters become warm in early summer, the trout may be taken on flies and surface baits, but after this period deep trolling equipment must be used.

Pike Lakes.—Larger, warmer, and shallower than the trout lakes, these are the most common of all and are widely distributed throughout the forest. The characteristic fish are wall-eyed pike and northern pike, with, occasionally, a few bass, crappies, or sunfish. In the lakes draining into Lake Superior and in those along the Gunflint Trail, the successful introduction of wall-eyed pike has demonstrated the adaptability of this species.

Bass—Sunfish Lakes.—These are comparatively small and shallow, with sand, mud, and gravel shore lines and abundant aquatic vegetation. Bass, crappies, sunfish, and occasionally pickerel, rock bass, and wall-eyed pike
may be taken in these lakes. The naturally stocked lakes of this class occur north and west of Ely. Such lakes in other parts of the forest are being stocked where conditions are suitable, to diversify fishing. The crappie is not native, but is being introduced into many of these lakes.

**Trout Streams.**—These streams are found along the north shore of Lake Superior. Trout are famous for their beauty and for the thrilling sport they furnish anglers who prefer this type of fishing. The brook trout is the predominate species, but rainbows and browns are common. These streams are kept well stocked, and the improvements which have been made help to insure good fishing.

**Information for Hunters.**—Hunting draws many sportsmen to the forest. Deer hunters are the most numerous, and on the average 7,000 come to the Superior annually. Of this number, 60 to 65 percent succeed in taking deer. Normally there is an open season on deer of both sexes and all ages each even-numbered year. The big-game license also permits one bear to be taken. Most resorts are prepared to accommodate deer hunters, but many hunters prefer to bring their own equipment and establish a camp in spite of snow and temperatures which may drop below zero.

The main flight of waterfowl passes to the west of the forest, but rice beds have been established in many lakes and are now attracting more ducks to this area. Numerous local birds also contribute to duck shooting, especially in the early season.

Ruffed grouse hunting is very good during the periods of abundance. The grouse is a cyclic species, increasing to great numbers for a period of 4 to 5 years and then decreasing for a similar period. Because of the small number of grouse hunters, these birds are comparatively tame and easy to bag.

The pinnated and sharptail grouse are restricted to burned and cut-over areas. They are not sufficiently abundant to provide much non-local hunting.

A large part of the forest is open to hunting. It is not permitted, however, immediately adjacent to CCC camps or in the game refuge, which includes most of the roadless area. The refuge boundary is marked at every road and trail crossing it.

**Roads and Campgrounds**

In general, the use of campgrounds and picnic areas is free to the public. Sanitary facilities, pure water, fireplaces, rough firewood, and tables are provided free at each camp or picnic ground. A small fee is charged for fuel if cut into usable form. The only requirement of users is that they comply with the rules governing the site and that they conduct themselves
in an orderly manner. Visitors can best express their appreciation of these campgrounds by putting out their campfires completely whenever they leave camp.

At a Forest Camp, please—

1. Register your entire party at the Register Box.
2. See the caretaker for a tent site if he is on the ground; if he is not present, use your own judgment.

Campgrounds and facilities along some of the more popular forest roads are indicated in the following lists:

Gunflint Trail.—Junction with U S 61 at Grand Marais (mileage from Grand Marais). From "The Gateway to Gunflint Trail" at Grand Marais the famous Gunflint Trail swings northwest through the eastern section of the Superior National Forest. Wilderness scenery and deep lakes, with game bass, pike, and trout haunting their clear waters, will tempt you to pitch your tent on some of the many fine camping spots this route provides.

The camp and picnic grounds listed have tables, fireplaces, tent sites, water, and sanitary facilities. As indicated, some of the larger sites have improved swimming beaches and accommodations for auto trailers.

Kimball Lake Campground (On Mink Lake Road, 13.8 miles). A minor campground with good hunting and fishing.
East Bearskin Lake Campground (29.8 miles). A major campground, on canoe route, offering much in the way of sport and adventure, with picturesque scenery, plentiful game and fish, and portages kept well opened.

Flour Lake Campground (31.7 miles). A major campground, on canoe route, with virgin pines and good fishing and hunting.

Iron Lake Campground (39.5 miles). An intermediate campground with excellent fishing and splendid scenery.

Devils Track Lake Camp and Picnic Grounds (13 miles). A major camp and picnic grounds on Devils Track Lake Road, offering ample opportunity for picnicking, swimming, camping, fishing, and hunting.

Cascade River Campground (16 miles). A minor roadside campground at the junction of Devils Track and Bughouse Roads, with two accommodations for auto trailers and surrounding streams which make it a fisherman’s paradise in the spring.

Pike Lake Picnic Ground (14 miles). An intermediate picnic ground at the end of the Pike Lake Road, with excellent swimming beach.

Sawbill Road.—Junction with U S 61 at Tofte (mileage from Tofte). This splendid scenic road to the north follows the Temperance River for part of the way to beautiful Sawbill Lake. Many unusual and distant vistas can be seen from its high ridges. A few campgrounds are available along it and along branching roads in the surrounding country.

Ox-Bow Campground (6 miles). An intermediate campground, with excellent trout fishing in the river and hunting in the surrounding forest, in a region noted for its remarkable scenery; especially beautiful in the fall.

Sawbill Campground (24 miles). A major campground at the end of the road, on a main canoe route; fine opportunities for fishing, hunting, swimming, and hiking over scenic trails.

Poplar River Campground (via Sawbill Road, 17 miles). A minor roadside campground, with choice fishing and hunting, on Honeymoon Road.

Finland-Isabella-Ely Road (State Highway No. 1). Junction with U S 61 at Illgen City (mileage from Illgen City). Forest, lakes, and streams contribute to the beauty of this route and provide picturesque scenery for many optional side trips. Resorts and camp sites are numerous throughout the area.

Dumbell Lake Campground (26.3 miles). A minor campground with fine

PRESERVE NATURAL BEAUTY
HELP PREVENT FIRES
fishing and hunting. (At Isabella, 22.5 miles from Finland, Wanless Road branches east; 3.8 miles east of this junction is the Dumbell Lake Camp­
ground.)

Isabella River Campground (27.5 miles). An intermediate campground, which in the spring of the year affords excellent trout fishing in the Isabella river; contributory fishing waters in vicinity.

Kawishiwi River Camp and Picnic Grounds (51 miles). A major camp and picnic ground, with accommodations for auto trailers; situated on an interesting canoe route leading to picturesque lakes and streams well supplied with trout, pike, pickerel, and other fish; fine swimming and varied scenery.

Mesaba Ranger District.—North of Virginia, Minn.

Lake Leander Picnic Ground (19 miles northwest of Virginia). A major picnic ground with excellent swimming beach.

Long Lake Campground (10 miles north of Chisholm). A major campground with swimming and excellent fishing and hunting; accommodations for auto trailers.

Pfieffer Lake Campground (20 miles northwest of Virginia). A major campground with swimming beach.

CANOEING ON DUNCAN LAKE NEAR THE START OF THE PORTAGE TO ROSE LAKE.
Aurora Ranger District.—East of Virginia, Minn.

Colby Lake Camp and Picnic Grounds (5 miles east of Aurora). Major camp and picnic grounds on Allen Junction Road, offering ample opportunity for camping, picnicking, swimming, fishing, and hunting.

Ely-Buyck Road—or Echo Trail.—(Mileage from Ely). The Ely-Buyck Road runs northwest through wilderness of the Superior National Forest. Winding through fine stands of virgin white, red, and jack pine, it is probably the most picturesque forest road in Minnesota. It is the gateway to the many deep and beautifully clear lakes of the famous Lac LaCroix region, and each year a host of canoeing enthusiasts follow it to this enchanted area. Steep, rocky shores with verdant cover screen gem-like lakes from high winds. Connecting channels take the place of portages between many of these lakes. Game trout thrive in the clear, cold water, and wildlife, living in security, is comparatively tame. Invigorating breezes carry the scent of firs, and in general you will find here a welcoming wilderness rather than one which hides its secrets and its beauty from the casual observer.

The United States Forest Service maintains for the free use of the public a number of camp and picnic grounds adjacent to this road. They are identified by signs. All have recreational facilities and some have accommodations for auto trailers.

Fenske Lake Camp and Picnic Grounds (11.5 miles). A major recreational site on a canoe route; excellent facilities for swimming, camping, group picnics, and nature study; good fishing and hunting in nearby lakes and forests.

Portage River Campground (25.5 miles). A minor roadside campground on a canoe route.

Meander Lake Picnic Ground (31.2 miles). A minor roadside picnic spot; picturesque lake; good bluegill fishing.

Sioux River Campground (34.8 miles). A major campground situated on an old canoe route used by the Sioux Indians; excellent facilities for camping; fishing in nearby lakes; accommodations for auto trailers, and special auto parking for anyone taking the scenic canoe trips to the north.

Canoe Routes and Trips

Canoe trips through the Superior National Forest are popular. They offer thrill and adventure; scenery is picturesque, game is much in evidence, and fish are plentiful.

Portages are well kept, and camp sites for one or two parties are provided at various portages and some of the numerous islands and peninsulas
through the canoe routes. Here food can be prepared over a campfire or set to sizzle over a rustic fireplace.

Fishing seasons are set by State laws. The best months for fishing are May, June, September, and October. Camping conditions are especially good during July, August, and September. The lakes are usually ice-free by May 10. The freeze-up begins about mid-October, and by November 20 most of the lakes are covered with ice.

Accurate maps of the area which the canoeist plans to travel are essential. Maps and information may be obtained from Chambers of Commerce and from outfitting companies. Outfitters can also arrange for competent guides, suitable canoes, equipment, and provisions, and assist travelers by handling many of the preparatory details. Additional information concerning canoes and equipment for the trips outlined and for other similar trips may be obtained from such civic groups as the Minnesota Arrowhead Association, Duluth, Minn.; Ely Commercial Club, Ely; and the Gunflint Trail Association, Grand Marais.

Canoeists are cautioned not to run rapids in strange waters. They may lead to falls or impassable waters.

**International Boundary Route.**—*Time.*—22 days one-way trip. *Dis-
Distance.—235 miles of paddling; 9 miles of portaging. Currents vary and are treacherous at the lower end of the Basswood River and Curtain Falls. Most of the portages are marked by signs showing the names of lakes and distances.

**General Route.**—McFarland Lake, Mountain Lake, Rose Lake, Gunflint Lake, Saganaga Lake, Cypress Lake, Knife Lake, Prairie Portage, Upper Basswood Falls, Crooked Lake, Iron Lake, Lac LaCroix, Loon Lake, Crane Lake, Namakan Lake, Rainy Lake to International Falls. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This route affords picturesque scenery, primitive portages and numerous rapids, falls, and narrows. Picture Rocks can be seen on Crooked and LaCroix Lakes, about 5 feet above the water’s edge. They are painted with dull red ochre and represent a moose, a goat, hands, bear paws, a deer, a circle, and a man holding a spear.

**Fishing.**—Excellent for lake trout, wall-eyed pike, and northern pike.

**Clearwater Bearskin Loop Route (from Gunflint Area).**

**Time.**—3 days round trip. **Distance.**—38 miles of paddling; 5 miles of portaging. Most of the portages are marked by signs showing the names of lakes and distances.

**General Route.**—East Bearskin Lake, Flour Lake, Hungry Jack Lake, Bearskin Lake, Clearwater Lake, West Pike Lake, McFarland Lake, Pine Lake, Canoe Lake, Alder Lake, East Bearskin Lake. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This trip offers much in the way of sport and adventure, and the scenery is picturesque throughout the route.

**Fishing.**—Wall-eyed pike, northern pike, and lake trout fishing, with some large-mouth bass.

**Poplar Brule Loop Route (from Gunflint Area).**

**Time.**—6 days round trip. **Distance.**—47 miles of paddling; 5 miles of portaging. Portages are marked by signs showing the names of lakes and distances.

**General Route.**—Poplar Lake, Winchell Lake, Brule Lake, Cherokee Lake Long Island Lake, Henson Lake, Poplar Lake. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This route passes through several burned-over and logged areas
A BEAVER DAM BETWEEN SQUARE AND KAWISHWI LAKES WITHIN THE ROADLESS AREA.

which mar the scenery. However, the lakes and shores are beautiful, and the trip offers many interesting features.

Fishing.—Good fishing for wall-eyed pike, northern pike, and lake trout.

LITTLE SAGANAGA ROUTE (from Gunflint Area). Time.—3 days one-way trip. Distance.—25 miles of paddling; 4 miles of portaging. Most of the portages are marked by signs. Current in rivers sluggish.

General Route.—Round Lake, Tuscarora Lake, Little Saganaga Lake, Gabimichigami, Ogishkemuncie, Alpine, and Sea Gull Lakes. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

Scenery.—This route passes through a wild and scenic region, and the trip is well worth while.

Fishing.—Good fishing for lake trout, wall-eyed pike, northern pike, and black bass.
SEA GULL-RED ROCK LOOP ROUTE (from Gunflint Area).

**Time.**—2 days round trip.

**Distance.**—23 miles of paddling; 0.5 mile of portaging. Current in Sea Gull River sluggish. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances.

**General Route.**—Sea Gull Lake, Red Rock Lake, Saganaga Lake, and Sea Gull Lake. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This is one of the finest scenic routes, with many beautiful islands and rugged lake shores, which are becoming more popular with canoeists as their attractions become better known.

**Fishing.**—This route furnishes good sport for the fisherman interested in getting the limit of lake trout and northern pike.

SAWBILL LOOP ROUTE (from Sawbill Area).

**Time.**—6 days round trip.

**Distance.**—62 miles of paddling; 5 miles of portaging. River currents are sluggish except in Kawishiwi River. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances.

**General Route.**—Sawbill Lake, Alton Lake, Lake Polly, Little Saganaga Lake, Tuscarora Lake, Snipe Lake, Long Island Lake, Cherokee Lake, and Sawbill Lake. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This route traverses picturesque waters and primitive portages. Numerous beaver dams and much wild game can be seen. The trip takes the canoeists over the Laurentian Divide.

**Fishing.**—The fishing for wall-eyed and northern pike and lake trout is good throughout the trip.

KAWISHIWI LOOP ROUTE (from Ely Area).

**Time.**—11 days round trip.

**Distance.**—83 miles of paddling; 9 miles of portaging. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances. Currents vary.

**General Route.**—Lake One, Lake Three, Hudson Lake, Lake Insula,
Kawishiwi River, Lake Polly, Parent Lake, Isabella Lake, Isabella River, Bald Eagle Lake, Gabbro Lake, Kawishiwi River, and Lake One. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

Scenery.—The beautiful lakes and rivers along this route cast their charm over the many canoeists lucky enough to dip a paddle in their rippling waters. Primitive portages, rapids, and narrows, and the wilderness of the region afford excellent sport. Picture rocks can be seen along Kawishiwi River.

Fishing.—Good fishing for wall-eyed and northern pike.

North and South Kawishiwi River Loop Route (from Ely Area).  
Time.—3 days round trip.  Distance.—30 miles of paddling; 2 miles of portaging.  Current in Kawishiwi River sluggish; rapids, fast. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances.

General Route.—White Iron Lake, Farm Lake, Clear Lake, South Kawishiwi River, Birch Lake, and White Iron Lake. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

Scenery.—This route has excellent scenery along the rivers.

Fishing.—Good fishing for wall-eyed and northern pike along this route.

Winton-Basswood Lake Route (from Ely Area).  Time.—1 day, one-way trip.  Distance.—13 miles of paddling; 141 rods of portaging or 4.2 miles over truck portage if east route is preferred. Either of these routes is

FOREST HOLIDAY ON CYPRESS LAKE, INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY WATERS.
a direct entry to the International Boundary waters. No portage sign on this route.

**General Route.**—Fall Lake, Newton Lake, Pipestone Bay, and Basswood Lake.

**Scenery.**—Interesting falls at Newton Lake and Pipestone Bay.

**Fishing.**—Good fishing for northern and wall-eyed pike, with lake trout fishing in Basswood Lake.

**Fenske Lake Route (from Ely Area).**

**Time.**—3 days, one-way trip.

**Distance.**—20 miles of paddling; 4.5 miles of portaging. Current in rivers is negligible. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances.

**General Routes.**—Burntside Lake, Everett Lake, Fenske Lake, Grassy Lake, Murphy Lake, Horse River to Lower Basswood Falls. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This is an interesting scenic route to the International Boundary waters. Moose may occasionally be seen along Horse River.

**Fishing.**—Good fishing for bass, wall-eyed pike, and northern pike along this route.

**Stuart River Route (from Ely Area).**

**Time.**—3 days, one-way trip.

**Distance.**—26 miles of paddling; 6 miles of portaging. Current in Stuart, Dahlgren, and Boulder Rivers very slow. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances.

**General Route.**—Burntside Lake, Big Lake, Stuart River, Dahlgren River, Boulder River, and Lac LaCroix. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—Scenic splendors and observation of moose and other wild game are the usual thrills along this route.

**Fishing.**—This route offers good fishing for bass, wall-eyed pike, and northern pike.

**Moose River Route (from Ely Area).**

**Time.**—4 days, one-way trip.

**Distance.**—31 miles of paddling; 4.75 miles of portaging. Current in river negligible. Portages are marked by signs showing names of lakes and portage distances.

**General Route.**—Burntside Lake, Cummings Lake, Big Moose Lake, Moose River, Nina Moose Lake, Lake Agnes, Boulder River, and Lac LaCroix. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

**Scenery.**—This trip offers much sport and adventure, and the scenery is picturesque. Moose may be seen, and other wild game is much in evidence.

**Fishing.**—Good fishing for bass, wall-eyed pike, and northern pike.

**Moose-Kekekabic Loop Route (from Ely Area).**

**Time.**—4 days, round trip.

**Distance.**—35 miles of paddling; 3½ miles of portaging. Current in Thomas River is sluggish. Portages are good, but are unmarked.
General Route.—Moose Lake, Ensign Lake, Fraser Lake, Kekekabic Lake, Knife Lake, Birch Lake, and Moose Lake. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

Scenery.—This is a convenient scenic route to International Boundary waters. Many waterfalls, primitive portages, and crystal lakes can be seen on this route.

Fishing.—A variety of good fishing—wall-eyed and northern pike, bass, and lake trout—is in store for the canoeist on this trip.

Sioux River Route (from Ely Area). Time.—5 days, one-way trip. Distance.—57 miles of paddling; 5.5 miles of portaging. Currents in rivers are sluggish. Most portages are marked.

General Route.—Vermilion Lake, Trout Lake, Little Indian Sioux River, Gun Lake, and Lac LaCroix. (Contributory branch routes optional.)

Scenery.—This route takes the canoeist over the Sioux Indians' scenic old canoe route. While there are several rapids and portages to make, little difficulty need be experienced on the trip. Moose, bear, and other wild game are found throughout this region.

Fishing.—Good fishing for wall-eyed and northern pike, bass, and lake trout.

Vermilion River Route (from Ely Area). Time.—4 days, one-way trip. Distance.—59 miles of paddling; 2 miles of portaging. Current in river negligible. Portages are unmarked.

General Route.—Vermilion Lake, Vermilion Dam, Vermilion River, and Crane Lake.

Scenery.—This route, used by the Indians and early explorers, is picturesque, passing by many small farms and through several wild rice beds where wild ducks may be seen.

Fishing.—Good fishing for wall-eyed and northern pike.

SHOULD YOU DISCOVER A FIRE,
REPORT IT TO
THE NEAREST RANGER STATION
OR TO
THE TELEPHONE OPERATOR
**Forest Administration**

The forest supervisor, whose office is at Duluth, is in charge of the forest. Under him are district rangers, with headquarters as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LaCroix</td>
<td>Ely.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kawishiwi</td>
<td>Ely.</td>
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<td>Halfway</td>
<td>Halfway Ranger Station, Ely.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Isabella.</td>
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<td>Tofte</td>
<td>Tofte.</td>
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<td>Gunflint</td>
<td>Grand Marais.</td>
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<td>Two Harbors</td>
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<td>Aurora</td>
<td>Aurora.</td>
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<td>Mesaba</td>
<td>Sand Lake Ranger Station, Brittmount.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kabetogama</td>
<td>Cook.</td>
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