



### 1. Silent Woods Benchmark Area

The area north of this point is a 725 acre unit on the Washburn County Forest that is set aside as a biological reserve. No harvesting or management has occurred in this unit since the white pine was removed in the late 1800's. It serves as a research area to determine biological conditions that will occur without forest management. The focal point of this unit is the over 3 miles of undisturbed river frontage on the Totogatic River.

### 2. Totogatic State Wild River

The Totogatic, dedicated in 2009 as a Wild & Scenic River, is a beautiful, undeveloped river crossing the northern portion of Washburn County. The Totogatic River begins in Bayfield County and ultimately meets up with the Namekagon River, a tributary of the St. Croix River. The lower portion of the river is quite calm and serene. The upper portion on the other hand is quite rugged and drops in elevation approximately 160 feet over a nine mile span. Legends surround the Totogatic River with stories of buried gold, spirits and murder.

### 3. Hemlocks Scientific Area

From this vantage point, the Totogatic Highlands Hemlock State Natural Area can be seen in the distance. This 160 acre old growth area lies about 2 miles due east and contains one of the western-most stands of Hemlock in Wisconsin. Old growth hardwood and cedar are also present on this very remote parcel of state owned lands within the Washburn County Forest.

### 4. Canadian National Bridge

In the past, ATV and snowmobile traffic on the Stony Brook Trail were required to cross the Canadian National Railroad on the Highway 77 Bridge. Due to concerns about mixing recreational vehicle traffic with road traffic, Washburn County applied for and received grant funds to construct a bridge over the railroad. This bridge was constructed in 2012. The bridge spans 98 feet and is 25 feet from the bottom of the bridge to the top of the rail. To the east of this point is a designated utility corridor on the Washburn County Forest, containing four pipelines,

mouth of Beaver Brook. 1870 and removed in 1910 are still visible near the property, and remnants of an old logging dam built in openings make up the other habitats of the wildlife area. Remnants of several homesteads can be found on the hardwood and conifer, tamarack, pine, old fields and swamp throughout the property. Red oak stands, aspen, mixed with the brook, springs and lakes can be found and many bank seeps. Numerous wetlands associated trout streams, fed along its course by 10 spring ponds is one of the area's premiere Class 1 brook and brown located in south central Washburn County. Beaver Brook Beaver Brook Wildlife Area is a 1,964 acre property located in south central Washburn County. Beaver Brook

### 28. Beaver Brook Wildlife Area

up with a dozer blade, allowing white birch to grow. conditions for white birch. On this site, ground was turned disturbed ground. Historically, wildfires created seedbed White birch is a pioneer species and grows on recently This is a forest with an abundance of white birch trees.

### 27. White Birch Management

rely on young forests to survive. habitat as well as a wide range of non-game species that this unit are managed to create a range of aspen forest ages and sizes. This diversity provides ideal grouse Lake Grouse Management unit. Aspen forests within This sign marks the southern boundary of the Harmon

### 26. Grouse Management Unit

eventually take over this site once again. Over time, little evidence is left and forests will thousands like it across northern Wisconsin. Farming there are remnants of foundations in this area and on Little is known about the history of this specific site, but This brushy area once contained a farm and a home.

### 25. Homestead Site

a 345 kv power line, and the Canadian National railroad. Trains pass under this bridge at least hourly and watching one go under is worth the wait for the next train.

### 5. Lost Lake Swamp

As you travel north along trail 39, you can see the large expanse of the Lost Lake Acid bog through the trees to the east. This bog is over 1000 acres and contains a 41 acre lake in the center. This is one of only about 15 large bogs of this type in Wisconsin. There are legends of a derailed locomotive that was lost and buried in this swamp in the early 1900's.

### 6. Wetland Bridge

This bridge is a "punchoon" style wetland crossing structure. This bridge, and several others in this general area, was constructed as a "floating" bridge set on stringers over the top of wetlands. Wetland fill is strictly regulated by the State of Wisconsin and the Army Corps of Engineers. In order to link trail systems in northern Washburn County, wetland crossings were minimized but still necessary in some cases. These bridges were constructed under WDNR and Army Corps of Engineer permits.

### 7. Stony Brook Rest Area

Built in 2009, the Stony Brook Rest Area was built by the Minong Trails Club to provide ATVers with amenities such as a pavilion, grills, shelter, and public restrooms while on this beautiful stretch of trail.

### 8. Aspen Management

This is a young aspen forest. Aspen in managed forests are grown to approximately 50 years old and then clearcut. Aspen trees thrive in full sunlight and sites rapidly grow into thriving young forests. This site was harvested in 2009.

### 9. Minong Rifle Range

The Minong Rifle Range is owned by Washburn County and lies on county forest lands. The facility is maintained

excellent walleye structure. deep bays, gravel bars and rocky shorelines provide ago, it reaches depths of over 70 feet. Long Lake's cool Washburn County. Created by glaciers millions of years ago, it reaches depths of over 70 feet. Long Lake's cool

### Wallaye Capital of Wisconsin Over 19 miles in length, Long Lake is known as the Walleye Capital of Wisconsin. This picturesque spring

### 24. Long Lake:

Railroad Memories Museum. Northwestern Depot still stands and is home to the the turntable. A majority of the original Chicago & roundhouse, leaving only seven stalls standing next to turntable. A fire in 1925 destroyed a large portion of the depot in 1902 along with a 26 stall roundhouse and (originally known as the Chandler settlement), built a and rail lines being laid through the area, Spooner the name of "the great Omaha X." With so many trains state; the crossing of these major lines quickly earned Minneapolis and Omaha in the Northwest Region of the activity for the four original rail lines, Chicago, St. Paul, The City of Spooner was once a major hub of railroad

### 23. Spooner Railroad Park

in Spooner every July. reminds passersby of the annual professional rodeo held he stands proudly at Bullik's Amusement Center and recent years, he moved to his current residence where out at Mel's Truck Stop on the south end of Spooner. In made Spooner his home for over 40 years. He started

### 22. Giant Cowboy

The giant cowboy on the North side of Spooner has Hop on board a historic train car and take a tour of Wisconsin's beautiful Northwoods. Wisconsin Great Northern Railroad is a historical excursion train operating on approximately 20 miles of former Chicago & North Western track between the Northern Wisconsin towns of Spooner/Trego and Springbrook along the picturesque Namekagon River.

### 21. Excursion Train

by local volunteers and was recently upgraded with the generous help of labor and funds from the Safari Club International Chapter in Minong. It is located ½ mile north of this location on Taylor Lake Road. The facility includes a shooting shelter, trap range, and bathroom (if needed during your trail ride)!

### 10. Oak Lake Fire

This location is in the center of one of the largest forest fires in Wisconsin's history. The Oak Lake Fire started on April 22, 1980 and burned over 16,000 acres and 159 structures. Over 200 firefighters worked on this fire and the cause was never proven. All of the forests in this area originated from that event.

### 11. Jack Links Beef Jerky

If you ever wondered where all of that amazing beef jerky is made, you found it! Minong is home to Jack Link's Corporate Headquarters and is the location where the Link family began their jerky business. If you're looking for the jerky outlet, stop on over to Henson's Grocery, the Jack Link's Outlet store.

### 12. Oak Management

This is a forest made up of red oak trees. Most red oak within northern Wisconsin exists due to an ecological coincidence; a mix of hardwood trees sprouted after the Pinery era in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Forest fires in the 1920's and 1930's killed many of the hardwood trees, but allowed oak to survive since its bark is resistant to fire. This area was thinned in 2008 and will be every 15-20 years until about 130 years of age, after which, it will need to be harvested and a new oak forest grown on this site.

### 13. Northern Hardwood Management

This is an area of northern hardwood timber type. Northern hardwood sites are generally dominated by sugar maple, basswood, ash, oak and yellow birch. These forests are generally thinned every 15 years. Each thinning opens small gaps in the canopy allowing northern hardwood to regenerate in the understory.

the Namekagon to Stillwater, MN.

great Veazie Dam impounded water for log drives down Veazie Settlement, located two miles upriver where the logging supplies on the road from Stillwater to Chippewa rivers. During the 1870's, ox teams hauled the Namekagon route between the St. Croix and used by explorers, missionaries, and fur-traders traveling camp-site, home of a band of Chippewa Indians and long Great South Bend of the Namekagon was a natural muskrat, beaver, turtles and blue herons. Here on the experience. The riverbanks are abundant with deer, offering kayakers and canoeists a genuine wilderness the Namekagon portion of the river way is undeveloped, under the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Most of which is a tributary to the St. Croix River and is protected The Namekagon River is a nearly 100 mile long river

### Wisconsin's Moving National Park 20. Namekagon River:

prepared and harvested in 2013. equipment to grow new jack pine forests. This site was managers rely on ground disturbance with mechanical pine needed forest fires to regenerate, but today forest This is a forest of young jack pine trees. Historically, jack

### 19. Jack Pine Management

three thinnings were harvested by Joe Hendricks. red pine on this site was planted in 1951 and the first recognizes his and his family's conservation ethic. The on the Washburn County Forest. The memorial most of his life as a logger, harvesting many timber sales Joseph Hendricks and the Hendricks Family. Joe spent This area of red pine is designated as a memorial to

### 18. Hendricks Memorial

to visit the Lampson "Mall", Lampson's claim to fame. If you're looking for a great photo opportunity, be sure

### 17. Lampson "Mall"

Northern hardwood are more tolerant of shaded conditions and each thinning creates a new "age class" of forest.

### 14. Tranus Lake Natural Area

This site marks the western boundary of the Tranus Lake State Natural Area on the Washburn County Forest. Tranus Lake is a 174 acre shallow lake with abundant vegetation, including native wild rice.

### 15. Biological Community Change

Wisconsin can be split into numerous ecological landscapes. This point is a general boundary between the Northwest Sands and North Central Forest landscapes. To the south, you will see sandier soils and forests dominated by pine trees. To the north you will see heavier soils and forests more dominated by aspen and hardwood.

### 16. Red Pine Management

This is a forest of planted red pine. Red pine was generally planted in areas of old farm fields or in some cases replanted on poor quality sites for other species. Red pine was planted on this site in 1976. Once these forests reach 30 years of age, they are thinned every 8 to 10 years until they reach 120 to 140 years of age, at which time they will be harvested and re-planted.





## 29. Washburn County Forest

A majority of the ATV trails in Washburn County lie on County Forest lands. The Washburn County Forest has existed since 1929, when the county first took possession of abandoned properties under tax delinquency. Today, the Washburn County Forest is 150,000 acres and part of a larger County Forest system totaling 2.4 million acres. These lands are sustainably managed for forest products along with a wide variety of recreational opportunities, such as the ATV trail you are riding. These lands are established under a permanent program within Wisconsin Statutes called the County Forest Law.

## 30. Stone Archway

If you're feeling adventurous and want to stretch your legs, carefully make your way down the side of the railroad grade to view a hand-crafted stone archway that serves as a bridge over a dry wash (drains water during spring months.) This archway appears to be hand-crafted and fitted with limestone which is not readily available anywhere in Washburn County. A walk through this archway will have you feeling like you're stepping back in time. Be sure to notice the unique fitting of blocks in to the curved ceiling.

## 31. Shell Lake's Two Tailed Walleye

Shell Lake's mascot, the walleye, is located along Hwy 63 greeting visitors to this beautiful downtown park area. You are sure to notice that there is something special about this fish; not only does he have one tail, he has two!

## 32. Birchwood: Bluegill Capital of Wisconsin

The southeastern portion of Washburn County, and the Washburn County Forest, lies within a geographical area termed the Birchwood Lakes. There are more than 125 lakes larger than 10 acres within this area. Many of the lakes are extremely deep (over 60 feet) and most have populations of panfish and bass. The lakes were formed during the last glacial period on terminal end moraines. One unique feature of many of the deeper lakes is that they are set in sheltered basins with heavily timbered shorelines. This particular lake is Elbow Lake and has a public boat launch.

## 33. Berry Road Rest Area

In 2012, Washburn County constructed a trailhead and rest area at this location using user generated ATV grant funds. The facility includes a bathroom, pavilion, parking area, fire rings, grills, and picnic tables.

## 34. Town of Sarona

The first settler arrived in what would soon be Sarona in 1898. The town was partially named after the first resident, Fran Sauer. With abundant farmland and the rail line passing through, Sarona was once a bustling community. The Post Office was established in 1899 and is still in operation.

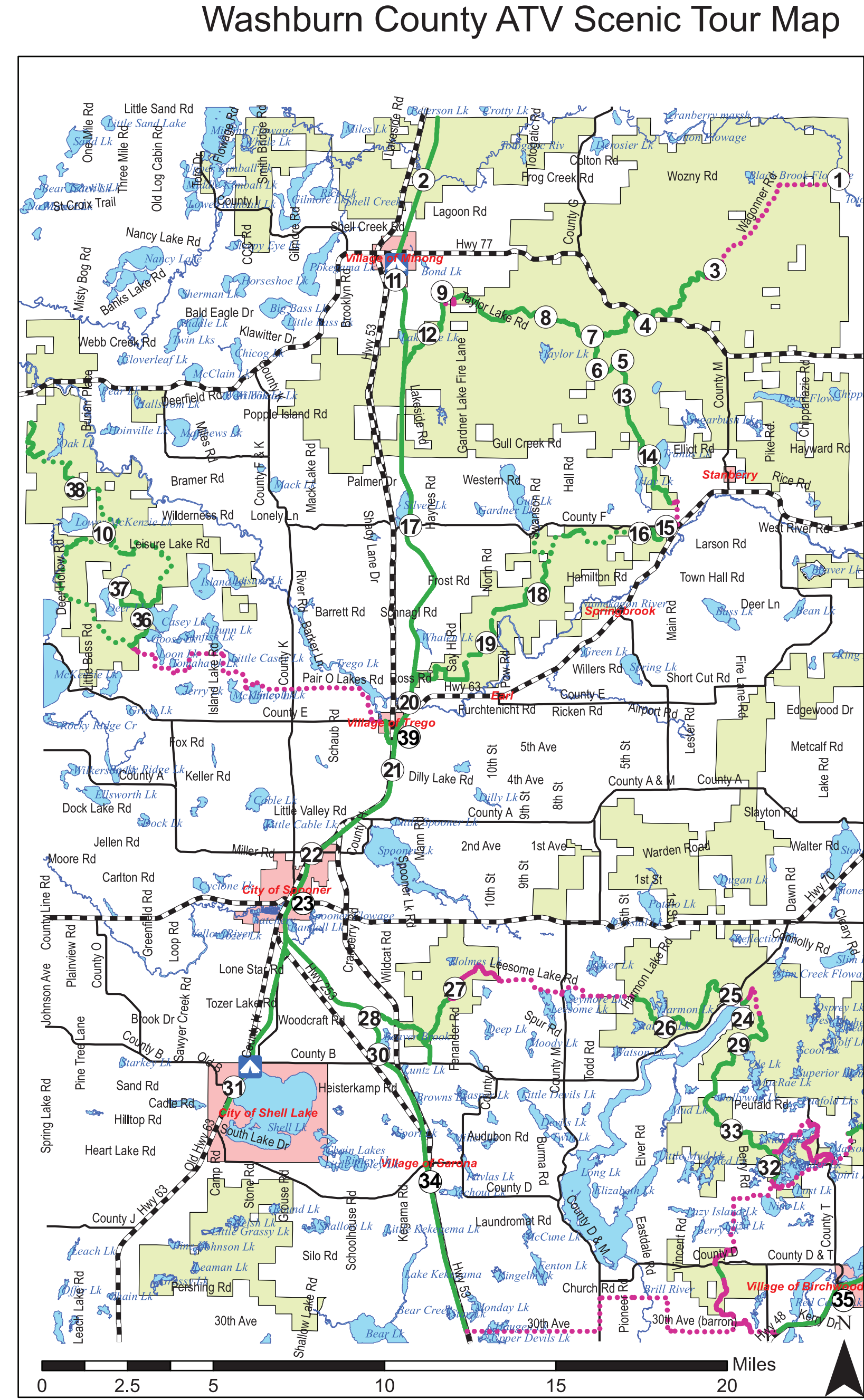
## 35. Giant Bluegill

Located along the Tuscobia State Trail, this giant bluegill welcomes you to Birchwood. We've affectionately named him Billy and he LOVES getting his picture taken. Be sure to tag us in your photos #WashburnCounty. Billy represents the mighty bluegill that the Birchwood area lakes are so well known for.



## 36. Muskeg Bog

The wetland area alongside the trail here is a muskeg, also called a treed bog. There are acidic, sparsely wooded peat



## 38. McKenzie Creek

A tributary to the McKenzie Lake Chain, McKenzie Creek is a Class I trout stream. The McKenzie Lake Chain consists of Lower, Middle and Big McKenzie and are connected by McKenzie Creek.

## 39. Town of Trego

Originally named Superior Junction, its name changed to Trego in roughly 1906. The first store and post office in Superior Junction were built in 1886. For many years, Trego was a major hub for blueberry shipments to the twin cities. The State Bank of Trego building, built in 1910, is still standing as a reminder of Trego's long history.

