

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forest Management Department

February 1, 2018



Objective of Meeting

1. Provide information regarding the request for motorized use of the Tealey Creek Game Loop under frozen-ground conditions.
2. Receive public comment to be considered in an analysis of the proposal and the development of a technical report.

- Motorized access to the Tealey Creek Game Loop is currently prohibited under the 2006-2020 County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, (except for limited-term ATV use by disabled hunters).
- Approval of the requested use would be a change in current policy & require a Plan amendment.
- Plan amendments require:
 - Public input
 - Approval of the County Board and DNR.

Public Input Process

2/1/18- Public Info. Hearing #1

-Present info. on the request

-Receive public comments

2/15/18 - Public Info. Hearing #2

-Present: Public Comments;
Staff analysis/ Draft technical report

-Receive comments on:
Staff analysis/Draft technical report

2/21/18 - LCFM Committee Meeting

-Present:

1. Public Comments
2. Draft technical report
3. Draft plan amendment

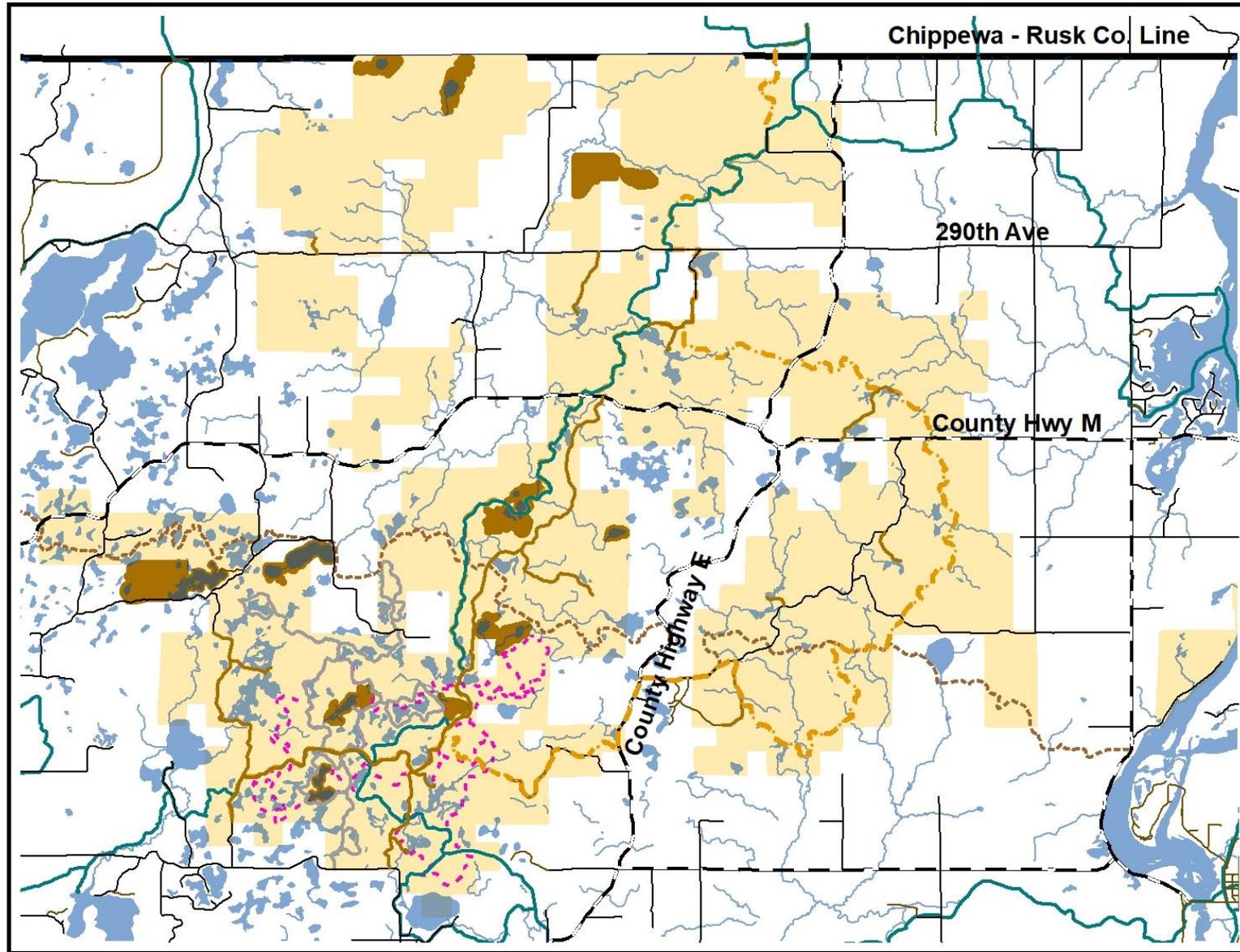
3/21/18 - LCFM Committee Meeting & Public Hearing

-Receive public comment on draft plan amendment

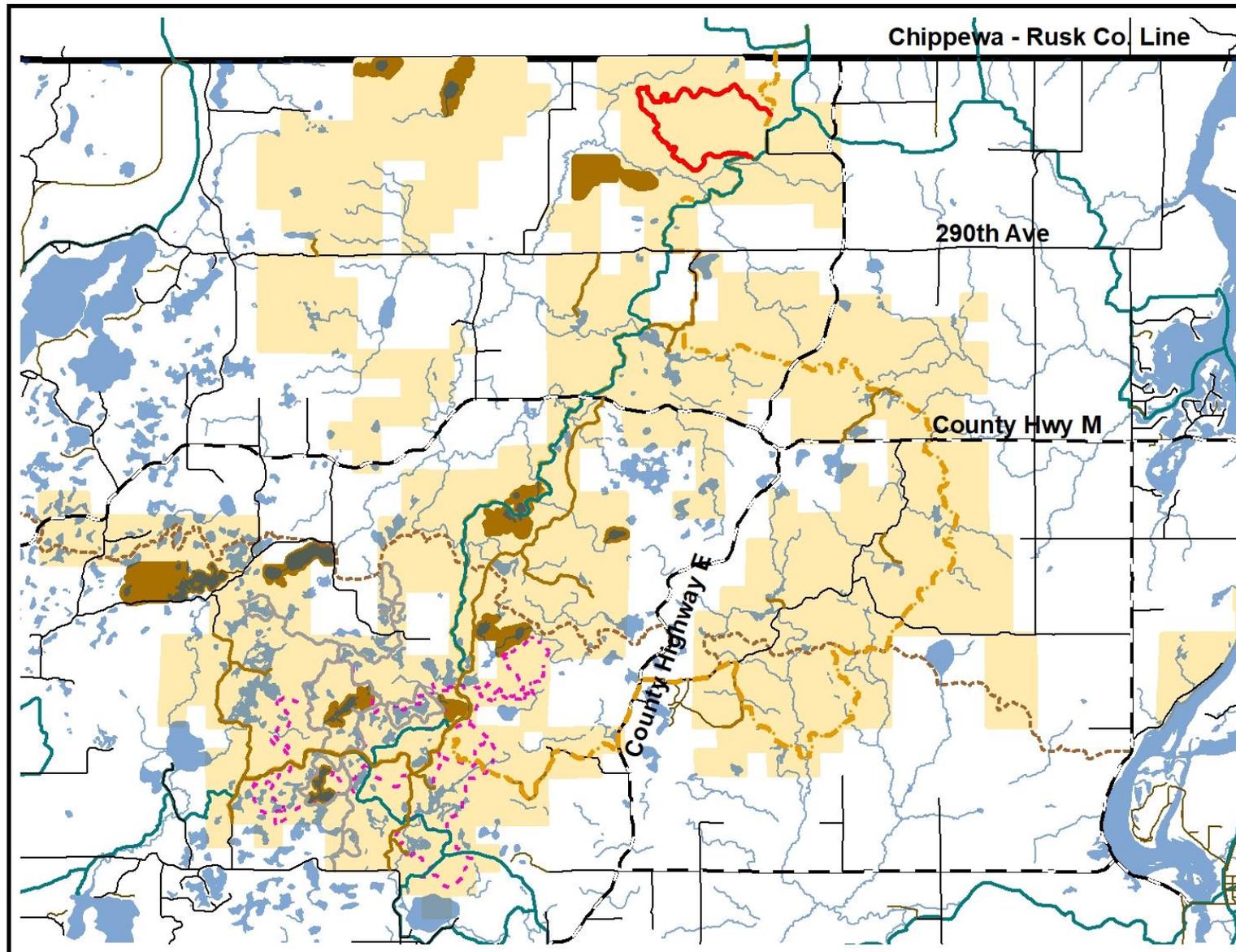
3/29/18 - LCFM Committee Special Meeting

-Committee action to adopt, reject, or further refine draft plan amendment

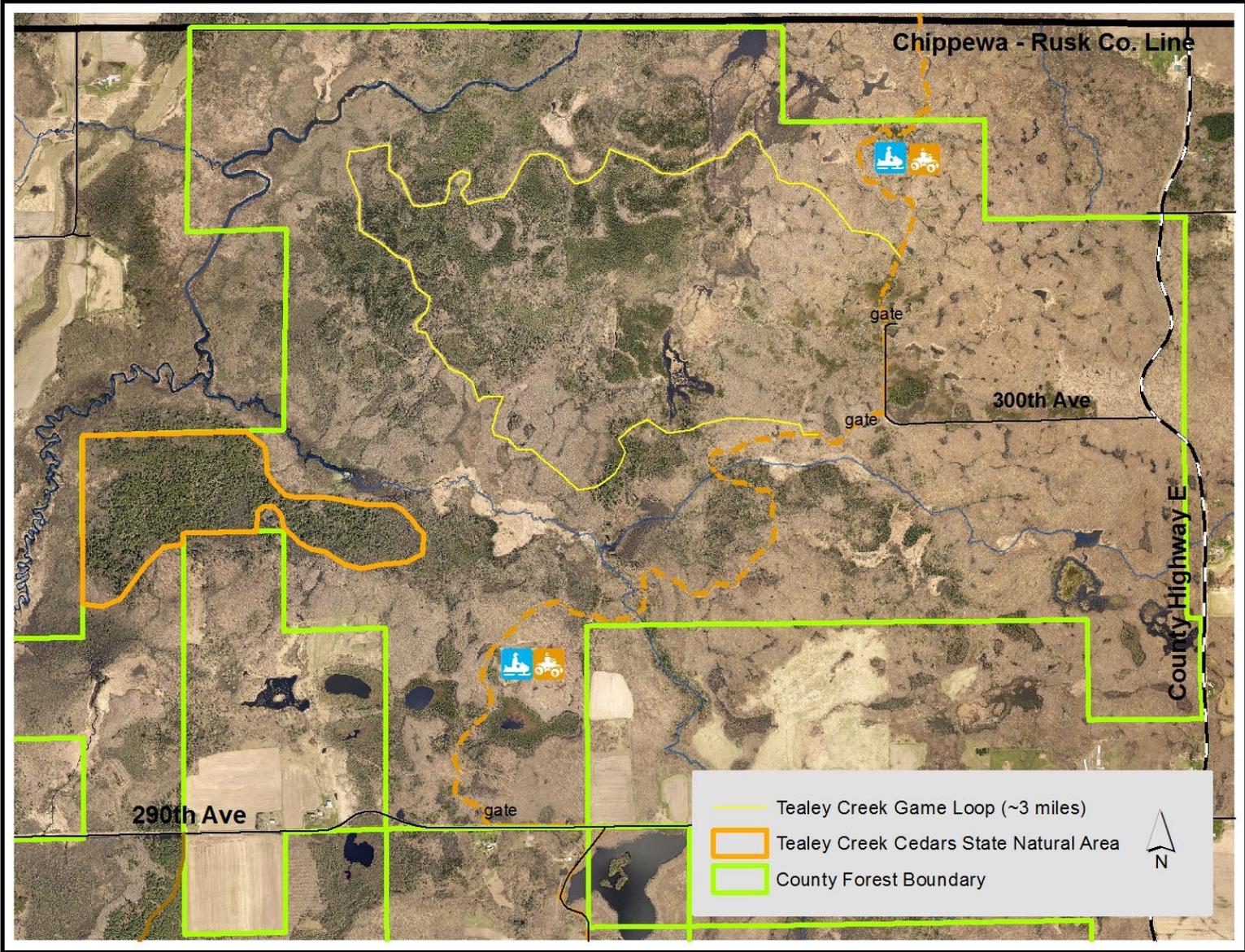
Overview of County Forest West of Chippewa River



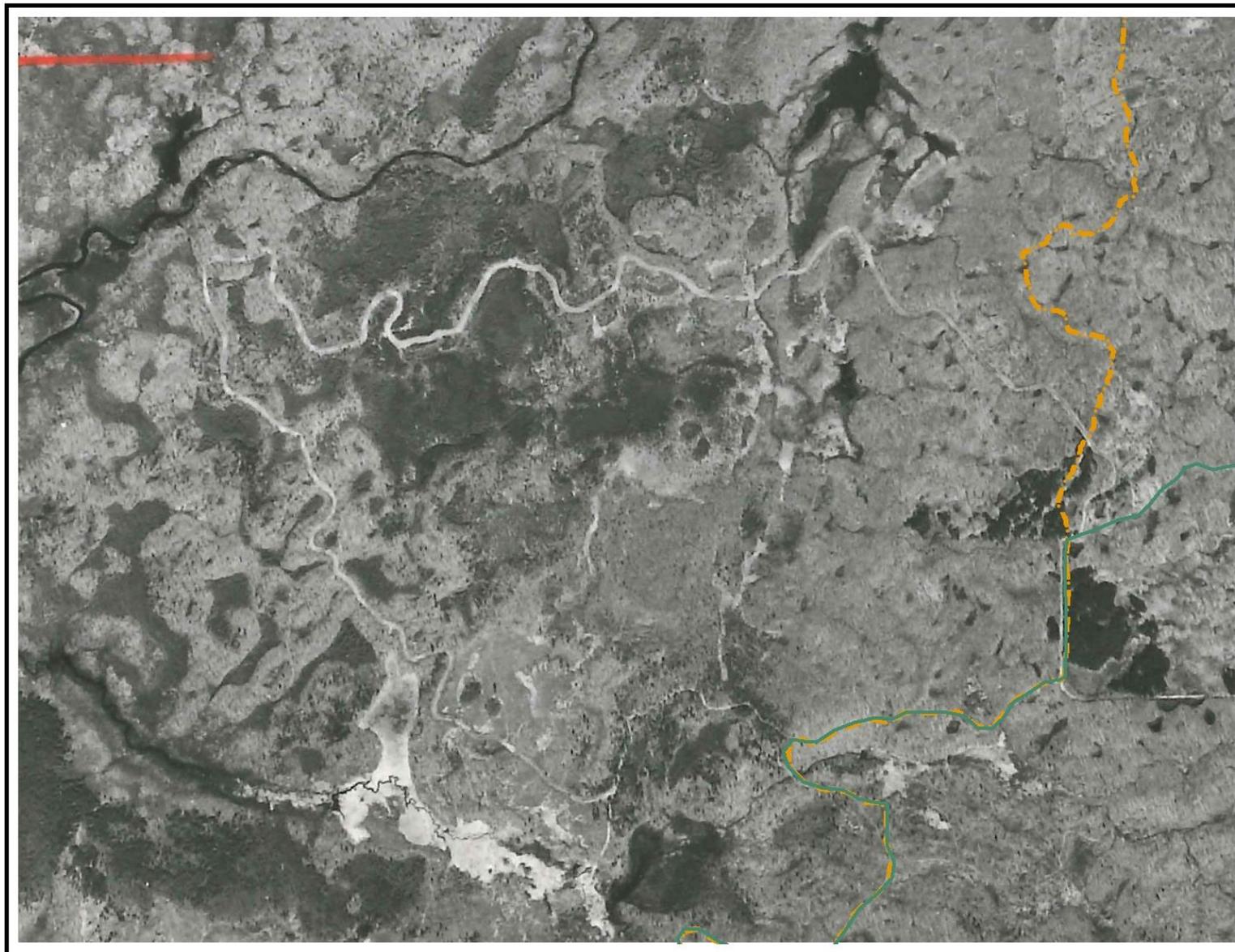
Overview of County Forest West of Chippewa River - Showing Tealey Creek Game Loop



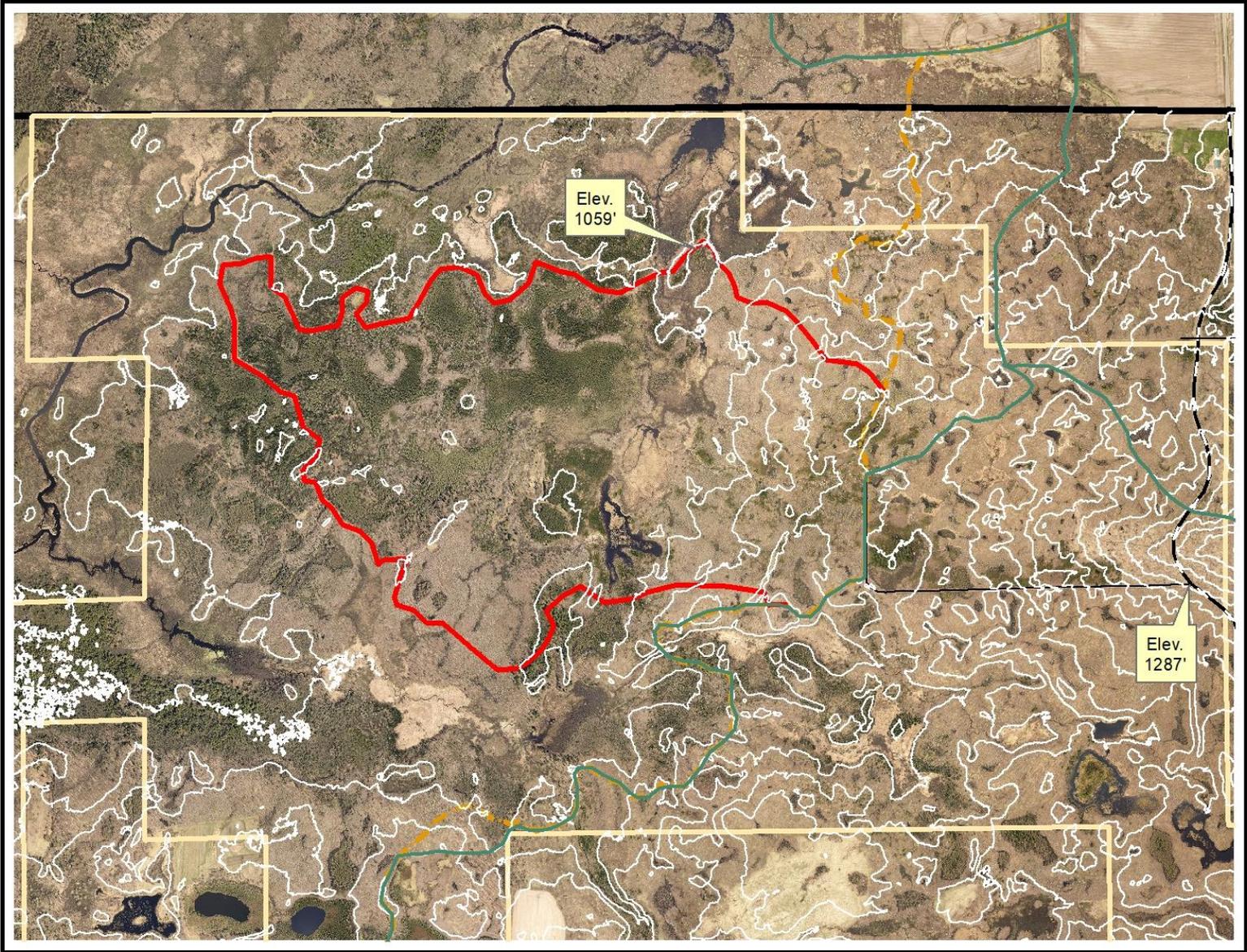
Overview of County Forest Area Surrounding The Tealey Creek Game Loop



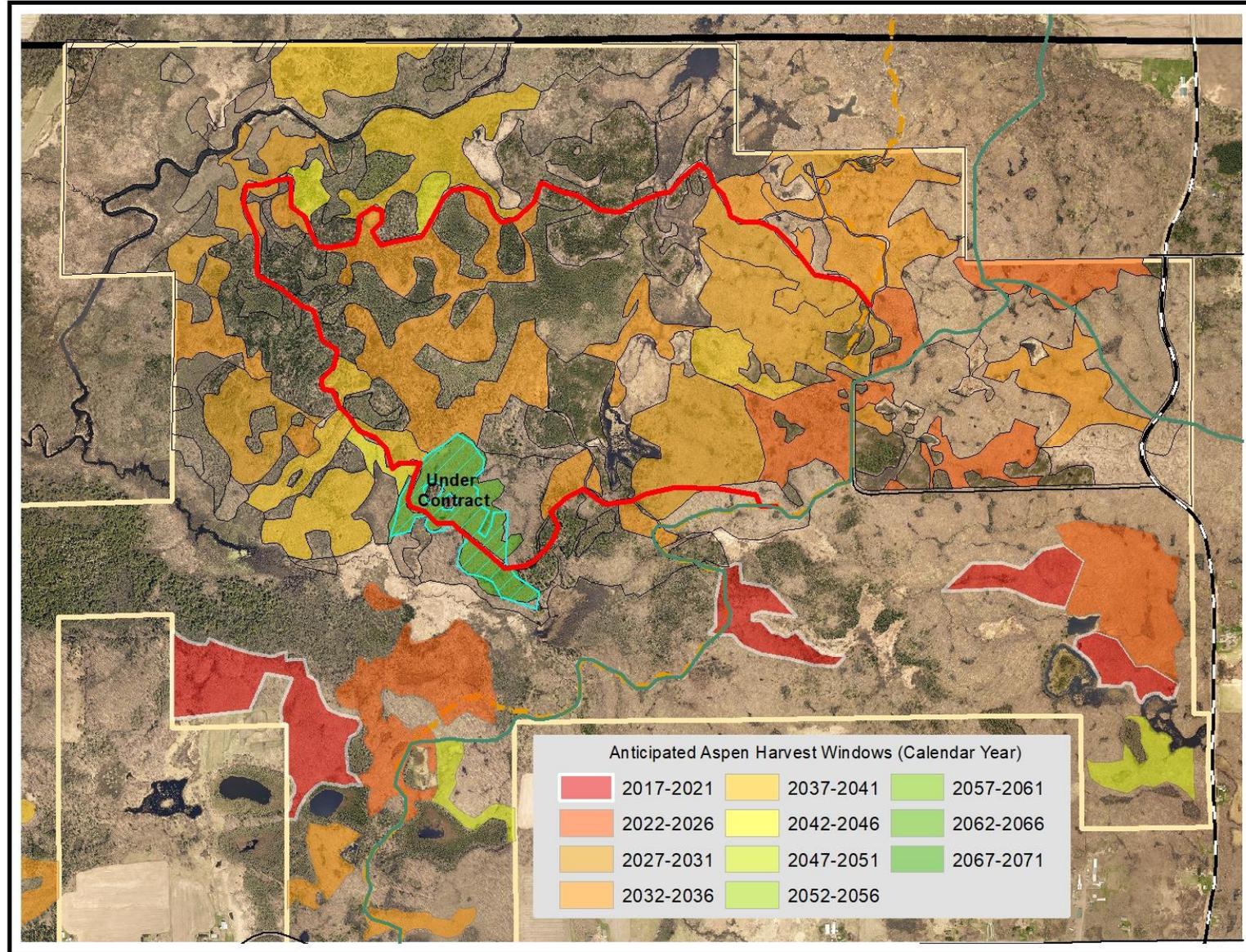
Tealey Creek Game Loop Area In 1981



Tealey Creek Game Loop Topography - 20' Countour Interval

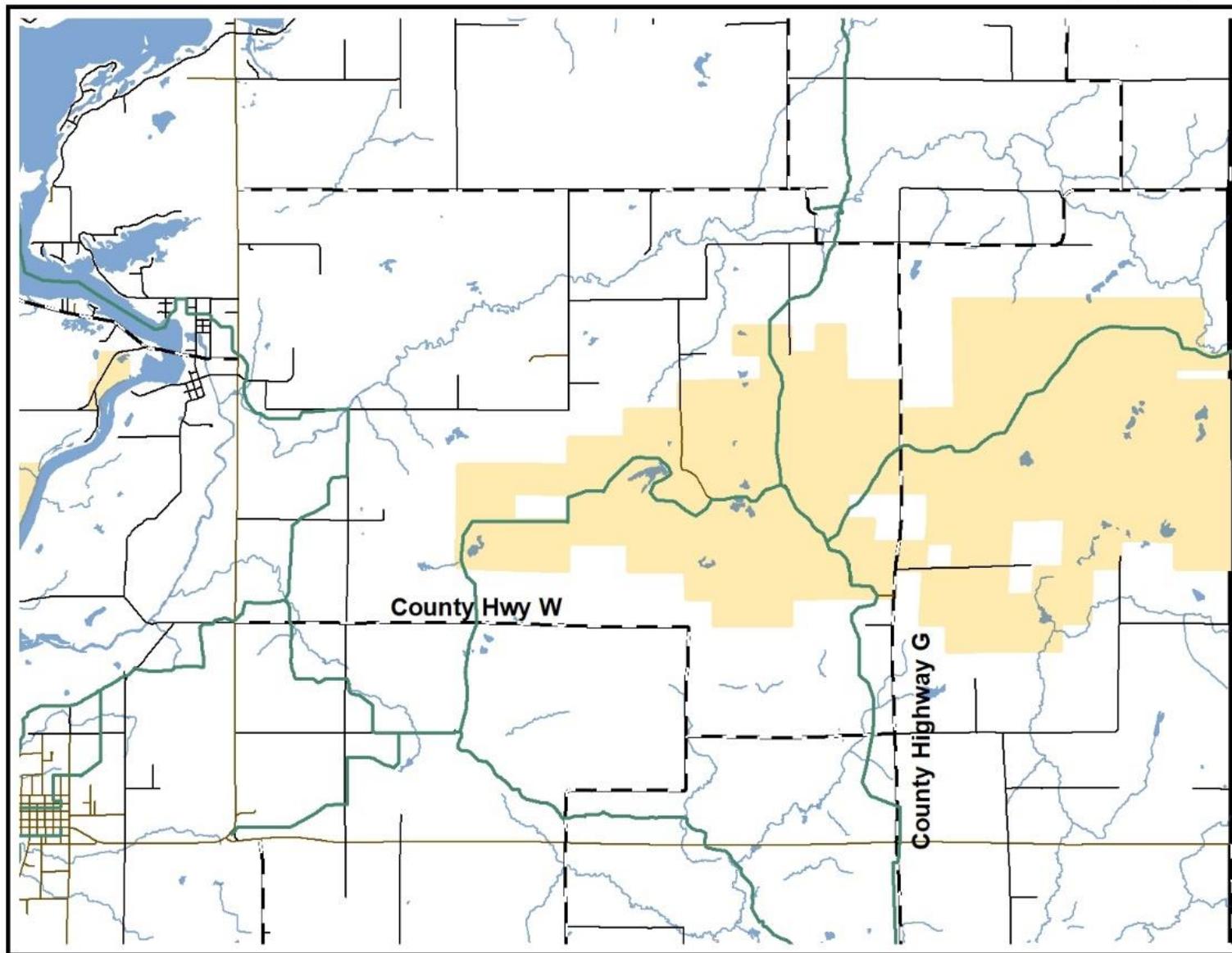


Anticipated Timber Management Using Tealey Creek Game Loop



Overview of County Forest East of Chippewa River

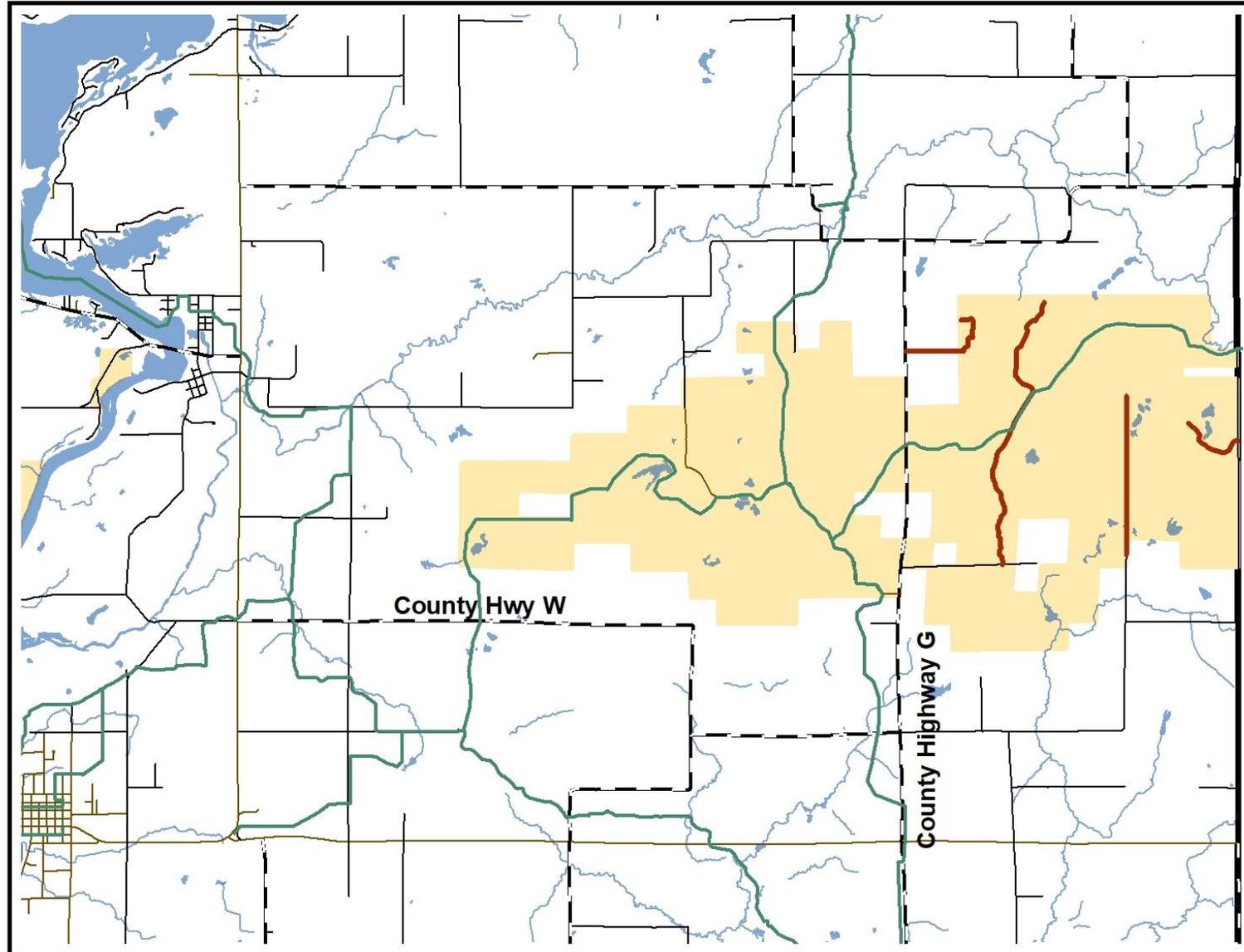
Rusk Co. Line



Taylor Co. Line

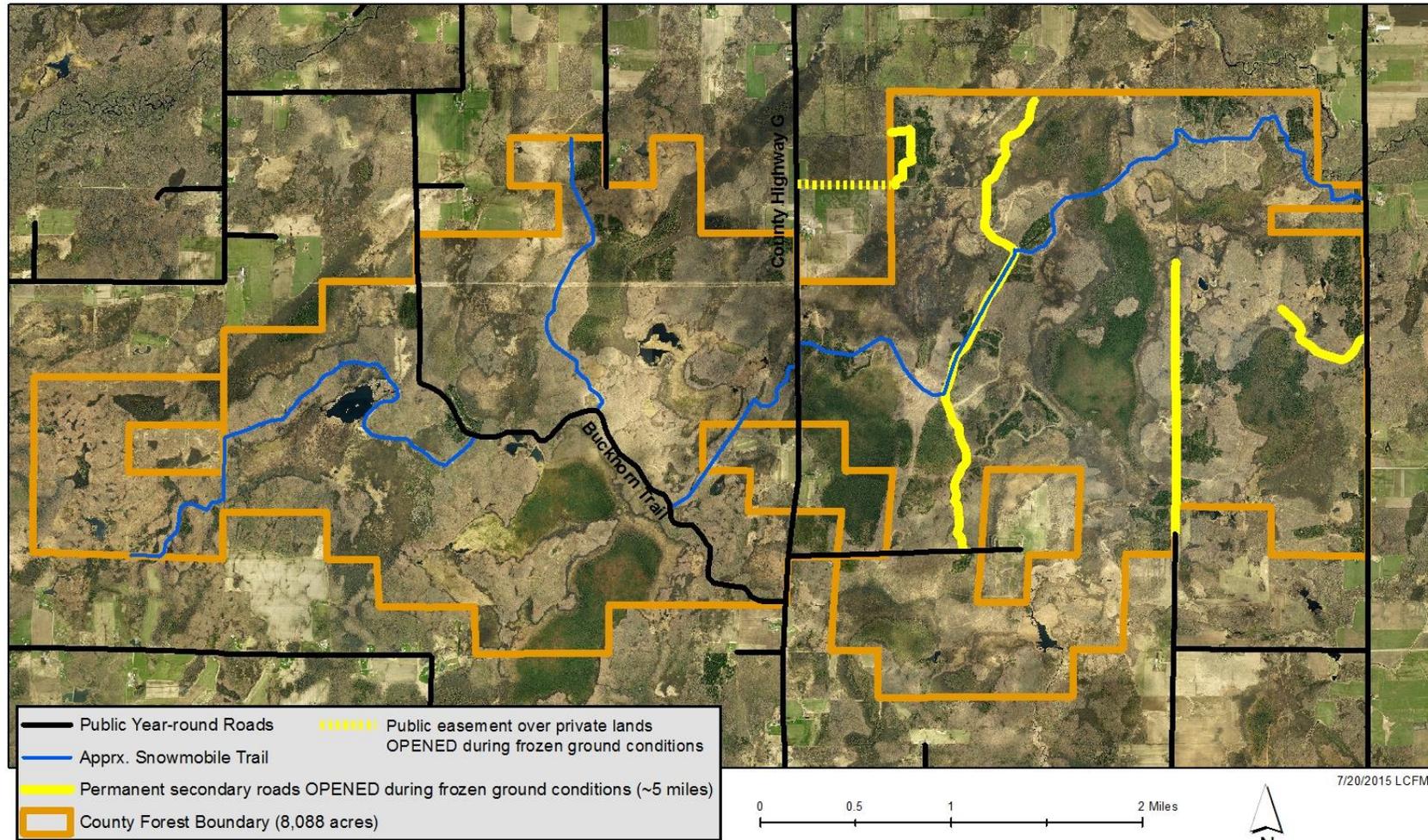
Overview of County Forest East of Chippewa River - Showing Frozen Ground Access

Rusk Co. Line



Taylor Co. Line

925.13 Permanent Secondary Roads In Town of Ruby County Forest Open To Motorized Vehicle Use During Frozen Ground Condition After The Traditional Gun Deer Season



Terms & Conditions Relating To Secondary Roads Currently Open to Frozen Ground Access

- Access shall not be limited to specific user groups.
- Access shall be authorized under frozen ground conditions only, as determined by, the County Forest Administrator or their designee, during the time period from approximately December 11 – March 30. Sufficiently frozen ground conditions are such that a $\frac{3}{4}$ ton pickup can drive on all of the subject roads at all times during the day, without breaking through the ground surface.

Terms & Conditions Relating To Secondary Roads Currently Open to Frozen Ground Access

Chippewa County Land Conservation & Forest Management Department Staff shall be responsible for maintenance required to facilitate access and/or minimize environmental damage, including:

1. Brushing and removal of wind throws and deadfalls.
2. Installation and maintenance of road infrastructure such as culverts, at-grade crossings, ditches, and road surface.
3. Snow removal (i.e. plowing) may be required to achieve and maintain frozen ground. In situations where maintained snowmobile trails use open permanent secondary roads, snow removal shall maintain adequate snow coverage on the road.
4. Repair of rutting, erosion, and damage to vegetation.

Terms & Conditions Relating To Secondary Roads Currently Open to Frozen Ground Access

Chippewa County Land Conservation & Forest Management Department Staff shall be responsible for monitoring the permanent secondary road surface, corridor, and adjacent lands, including coordination with law enforcement, to identify:

1. Environmental damage to soil, vegetation, water resources.
2. Unauthorized dumping/litter.
3. Increase in unlawful activities.
4. Public safety concerns.

Questions Relating To Proposal Or Site ???

Public Testimony

- The subject matter and testimony at this public informational hearing shall be limited to the pending request to open gates that currently restrict motorized access to a 3.2 mile-long secondary road in the county forest commonly referred to as the Tealey Creek Game Loop. To meet this requirement, public testimony that relates to matters not under consideration at this time, will be curtailed.
- Oral testimony will be limited to 5 minutes per person. The hearing record will remain open to receive written comments received or postmarked no later than February 15, 2018.