Form 1100-001N (Rev. 10/12)

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item

Item No.

Tuesday 3B1

SUBJECT: Request that the Board approve the department implementation plan for hunting, fishing and trapping in Wisconsin State Parks in accordance with 2011 Wisconsin Act 168.

FOR: December 2012 Board meeting

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Dan Schuller, Director, Bureau of Parks and Recreation; Kurt Thiede, Administrator, Land Division.

SUMMARY:

On April 2, 2012, the State of Wisconsin enacted Wisconsin Act 168, generally referred to as the "Sporting Heritage Bill". As part of Act 168, Wisconsin State Park properties will now be open for hunting, fishing and trapping. This "open until closed" status is a change from the former status of "closed until open". State Park properties had been established as state wildlife refuges in the 1930's, with a number of state park properties opened for limited hunting since that time.

Under Act 168, the department may prohibit hunting, fishing, or trapping on a state park property, or a portion of a state park property, on lands within 100 yards of designated use areas. The Natural Resources Board may further determine, under the authority of Act 168, that prohibiting hunting, fishing, or trapping on a state park property or a portion of a state park property is necessary to protect public safety or to protect a unique animal or plant community.

The Natural Resources Board held five listening sessions (Fitchburg, Eau Claire, Merrill, Appleton, and Milwaukee, WI) on this subject matter during the period of October 29th to November 13th, 2012. In addition, the department took written comments through November 23rd, 2012.

Department staff will provide the Natural Resources Board with the plan for department permitted closures as well as recommend Board approval on additional closures on state park lands.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of department implementation plan for hunting, fishing and trapping in Wisconsin State Parks in accordance with 2011 Wisconsin Act 168.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS (check all that are applicable):

☒ Background memo ☐
☒ Appendices ☐

Approved by	Signature	Date
Dan Schuller, Bureau Director	Dan Schuller	12-6-12
Kurt Thiede, Administrator	[illegible]	12-6-12
Cathy Stepp, Secretary	[illegible]	12-7-12

cc: Board Liaison – AD/8

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: December 6, 2012

TO: All Members of the Natural Resources Board

FROM: Cathy Stepp, Secretary

SUBJECT: Approval of department implementation plan for hunting, fishing and trapping in Wisconsin State Parks in accordance with 2011 Wisconsin Act 168.

Background:

The Sporting Heritage Act of 2012 (Act 168) opens state park lands to hunting, fishing, and trapping. Prior to this act, state park lands were closed until opened. Under Act 168, they are opened until closed for hunting, fishing and trapping. The Act provides two provisions for closing state parks. The first allows (but does not require) the Department of Natural Resources to prohibit hunting, fishing and trapping within 100 yards of a designated use area. Secondly, the Act allows the Natural Resources Board, by majority vote, to prohibit hunting, fishing and trapping on a portion or all of a state park when necessary to protect public safety or to protect a unique animal or plant community.

Wisconsin Act 168 was formerly identified as Assembly Bill 311, and was introduced to the State Assembly on October 6, 2011. An amendment was later added creating Section 10, which amended Chapter 29.08 of the statutes and opened state parks to hunting, fishing and trapping. The bill, including the amendment to add hunting, fishing, and trapping in state parks, passed the Assembly on November 1, 2011 by a vote of 84 to 12. The bill passed the State Senate on March 7, 2012 by a vote of 32 to 1. The bill became law on April 2, 2012. Act 168 opens state park properties to hunting, fishing and trapping beginning on January 1, 2013.

During the summer and fall of 2012, the department held meetings on this subject with state park property staff and subject matter experts from the following programs: Parks, Forestry, Legal, Law Enforcement and Wildlife. The goal was to create a draft implementation proposal for Act 168 that could be reviewed by the public. During this time period the department also consulted on Act 168 and with all tribes in the ceded territory, and later consulted with the Voigt Task Force on November 1, 2012. The draft implementation proposal was made available by public notice for public review on the department's website on October 26, 2012 in advance of Natural Resources Board's Listening Sessions.

The Natural Resources Board held five public listening sessions around the state of Wisconsin between October 29 and November 13, 2012. The purpose of the sessions was to gain feedback from the public on the draft implementation proposal of Act 168 on state park lands. The department kept detailed information on each session and comments. After the public listening sessions ended, the department reviewed and made changes to its original proposal and created an "implementation plan" for managing Act 168. That adjusted implementation plan is included in this Green Sheet package, and is being presented to the Natural Resources Board for approval.

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Why this Implementation Plan is being proposed?

In its passage of Act 168, the state legislature provided to the department and the Natural Resources Board the ability to prohibit hunting, fishing, and trapping on state park lands. From Act 168:

> 29.089(1m) of the statutes is created to read:
> **(a)** Except as provided in par. (b), state parks shall be open to hunting, fishing, and trapping by persons who hold the appropriate approvals required under this chapter.
> **(b)** The department may prohibit hunting, fishing, or trapping in a state park or a portion of a state park if any of the following applies:
> **1.** The department prohibits hunting, fishing, or trapping within 100 yards of a designated use area.
> **2.** The natural resources board determines that prohibiting hunting, fishing, or trapping is necessary to protect public safety or to protect a unique animal or plant community. A determination to prohibit hunting, fishing, or trapping in a state park or a portion of a state park under this subdivision requires 4 or more members of the natural resources board to concur.

By insertion of this language, the legislature signaled its understanding that not all state park properties or all portions of state park properties, may be appropriate for hunting, fishing, or trapping. The department, after extensive review and public input, has developed an implementation plan meeting the standard established by law. This plan acknowledges the intent of the law and that many state park properties: are small; are in highly developed urban areas; are in municipalities where firearm prohibitions currently exist; have some areas near schools; are heavily utilized by other recreationists during normal hunting and trapping seasons; have special events and school activities; or have developed facilities that are utilized year-round. The department's plan to prohibit hunting within 100 yards of certain designated use areas is based on department knowledge of use patterns and from public input. The additional closures in the plan that are proposed for Natural Resource Board approval have been identified to protect public safety.

What is included in "state parks" under Act 168?

The Wisconsin State Park System is comprised by statute of state parks, state trails, state ice age and north country trail areas, state recreation areas and southern state forests. Act 168 covers "state parks", which by definition covers state parks, state trails, and state ice age and north country trail areas. The Act does not cover state recreation areas or southern state forests. There are 54 state parks, 41 state trails and 53 state ice age and north country trail areas covered by Act 168. A complete guide to each Wisconsin state park property can be viewed at http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/.

State park properties covered by Act 168:

State parks: (54) Amnicon, Aztalan, Belmont Mound, Big Bay, Big Foot Beach, Blue Mound, Brunet Island, Buckhorn, Campbellsport Drumlin, Capital Springs, Copper Culture, Copper Falls, Council Grounds, Cross Plains, Devil's Lake, Governor Dodge, Governor Nelson, Governor Thompson, Grand Traverse, Harrington Beach, Hartman Creek, Heritage Hill, High Cliff, Holzhueter Farm, Interstate, Kinnickinnic, Kohler-Andrae, Lake Kegonsa, Lake Wissota, Lakeshore, Lost Dauphin, Merrick, Mill Bluff, Mirror Lake, Natural Bridge, Nelson Dewey, New Glarus Woods, Newport, Pattison, Peninsula, Perrot, Potawatomi, Rib Mountain, Roche-A-Cri, Rock Island, Rocky Arbor, Straight Lake, Tower Hill, Two Creeks, Whitefish Dunes, Wildcat Mountain, Willow River, Wyalusing, and Yellowstone.

State trails: (41) 400, Ahnapee, Badger, Bearskin, Buffalo River, Capital City, Cattail, Chippewa River, Devils River, Eisenbahn, Elroy-Sparta, Fox River, Friendship, Gandy Dancer, Glacial Drumlin, Great River, Green Circle, Hank Aaron, Hillsboro, National and State Ice Age Trail, La Crosse River, Mascoutin Valley, Military Ridge, Mountain Bay, Newton-Blackmour, Nicolet, National and State North Country Trail, Oconto

River, Old Abe, Pecatonica, Red Cedar, Saunders, Stower Seven Lakes, Sugar River, Tomorrow River, Tuscobia, White River, Wild Goose, Wild Rivers, Wiouwash, and Wolf River.

State ice age trail areas (lands acquired for the Ice Age National Scenic Trail): These properties (47) are located in seventeen counties across the state. *State north country trail areas (lands acquired for the North Country National Scenic Trail):* These properties (6) are located in two counties in northwest Wisconsin.

State Park properties not covered by Act 168:

- Badger State Trail – The department does not own the land under this trail. It is being leased to the department for the singular purpose of allowing a recreational trail.
- Capital City State Trail – There are no state park lands on this trail.
- Certain segments of the Ice Age Trail and the North Country Trail where the department has acquired easements for the singular purpose of allowing a recreational trail.
- Certain segments of the Ice Age Trail and the North Country Trail where that portion of the trail is on department land that is non-state park land.
- Green Circle State Trail – The department does not own the land under this trail.
- Lower St. Croix State Park Riverway - The department owns scenic easements only on this land.
- Portions of the Nicolet State Trail – The department does not own all the land under this trail.

State Park properties owned by the department but managed by others and covered by Act 168:

State Parks: Belmont Mound, Capital Springs, Copper Culture, Heritage Hill and Lost Dauphin.

State Trails: Ahnapee, Capital City, Cattail, Devils River, Eisenbahn, Fox River, Friendship, Gandy Dancer, Green Circle, Hillsboro, Mascoutin Valley, Mountain Bay, Newton-Blackmour, Nicolet, Oconto River, Old Abe, Pecatonica, Saunders, Stower Seven Lakes, Tomorrow River, White River, Wild Goose, Wild Rivers, Wiouwash, and Wolf River.

The department will provide the Act 168 Implementation Plan to managing partners to follow once it is approved. Hunting and trapping was not previously approved by the department on these lands.

Total state park lands acreage covered by Act 168:
The total acreage of state park lands affected by Act 168 is 97,706. A complete listing of all acres by property is included below in Table 1.1.

Also included below are a map of all state parks and trails and a map indicating the placement of all 47 state ice age trail areas and six state north country trail areas.

Table 1.1 - Wisconsin State Parks by Acres

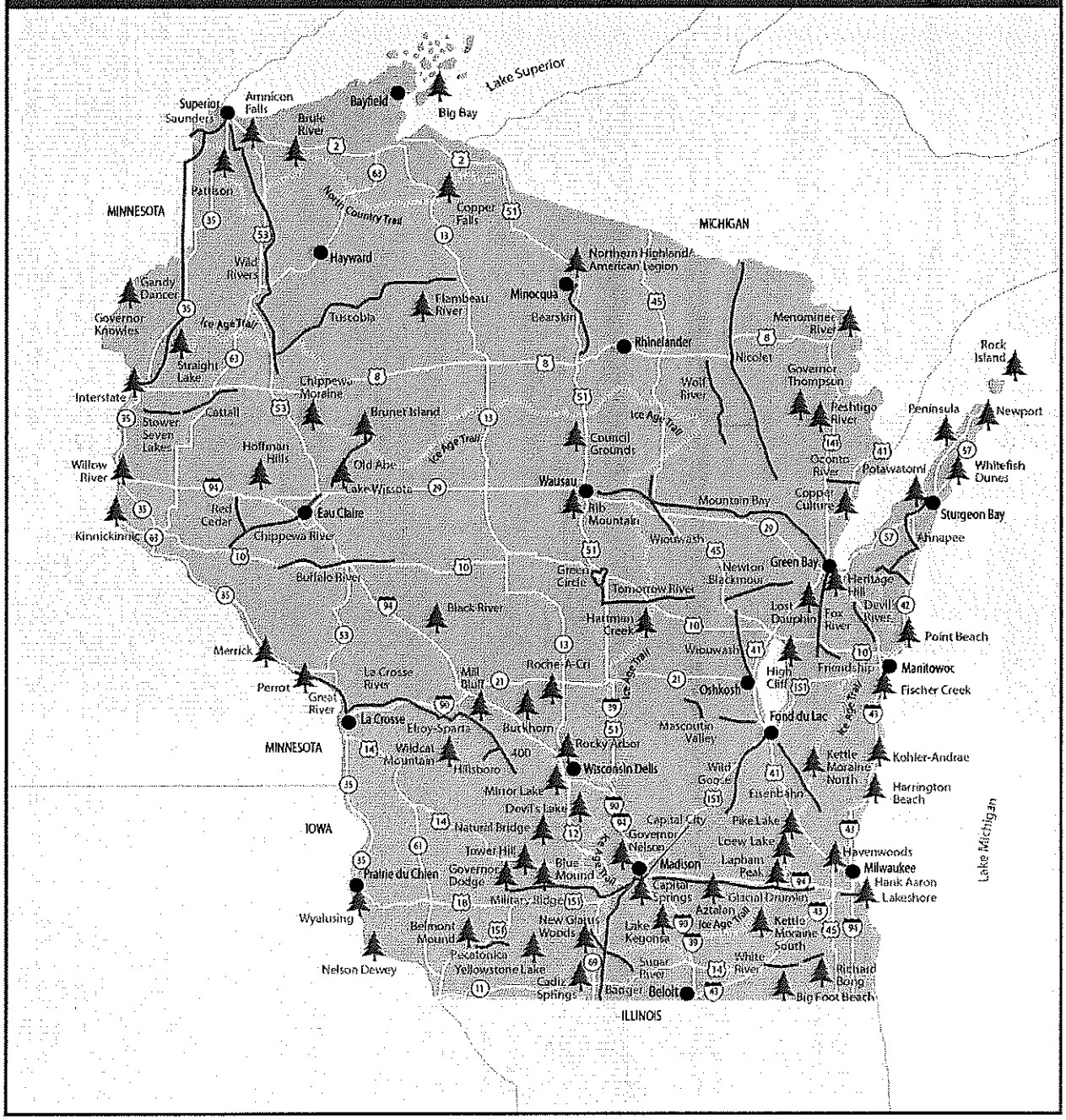
State Parks	Acres
Amnicon Falls State Park	825
Aztalan State Park	172
Belmont Mound State Park	274
Big Bay State Park	2475
Big Foot Beach State Park	271
Blue Mound State Park	1153
Brunet Island State Park	1297
Buckhorn State Park	4307
Campbellsport Drumlins State Park	10
Capital Springs State Park	291
Copper Culture State Park	42
Copper Falls State Park	3423
Council Grounds State Park	512
Cross Plains State Park	157
Devil's Lake State Park	9463
Governor Dodge State Park	5344
Governor Nelson State Park	422
Governor Thompson State Park	2687
Grand Traverse Island State Park	27
Harrington Beach State Park	714
Hartman Creek State Park	1468
Heritage Hill State Park	55
High Cliff State Park	1184
Holzhueter Farm Conservation Park	3
Interstate State Park	1330
Kinnickinnic State Park	1278
Kohler-Andrae State Park	964
Lake Kegonsa State Park	343
Lake Wissota State Park	1062
Lakeshore State Park	49
Lost Dauphin State Park	19
Merrick State Park	322
Mill Bluff State Park	1600
Mirror Lake State Park	2210
Natural Bridge State Park	530
Nelson Dewey State Park	756
New Glarus Woods State Park	415
Newport State Park	2373
Pattison State Park	1521
Peninsula State Park	3828
Perrot State Park	1270
Potawatomi State Park	1221
Rib Mountain State Park	1555
Roche-A-Cri State Park	492
Rock Island State Park	912
Rocky Arbor State Park	264
Straight Lake State Park	1598
Tower Hill State Park	77
Two Creeks State Park	25
Whitefish Dunes State Park	864
Wildcat Mountain State Park	3765
Willow River State Park	2918
Wyalusing State Park	2628
Yellowstone Lake State Park	929
All State Park ACREAGE:	**73689**

State Trails	Acres
400	410
Ahnapee	603
Bearskin	574
Buffalo River	448
Cattail	228
Chippewa River	320
Devils River	186
Eisenbahn	309
Elroy-Sparta	642
Fox River	294
Friendship	10
Gandy Dancer	822
Glacial Drumlin	1273
Great River	256
Hank Aaron	58
Hillsboro	66
La Crosse River	361
Mascoutin Valley	45
Military Ridge	516
Mountain Bay	1135
Newton-Blackmour	290
Nicolet	1300
Oconto River	91
Old Abe	254
Pecatonica	242
Red Cedar	427
Saunders	207
Stower Seven Lakes	177
Sugar River	265
Tomorrow River	378
Tuscobia	1086
White River & Burlington-Kansasville	247
Wild Goose	423
Wild Rivers	1140
Wiouwash	283
Wolf River	490
All Linear State Trail ACERAGE:	**15857**

State Ice Age Trail Areas & State North Country Trail Areas	Acres
All State Ice Age Trail Areas	7422
All State North Country Trail Areas	738
All SIATA and NCT ACERAGE:	**8160**

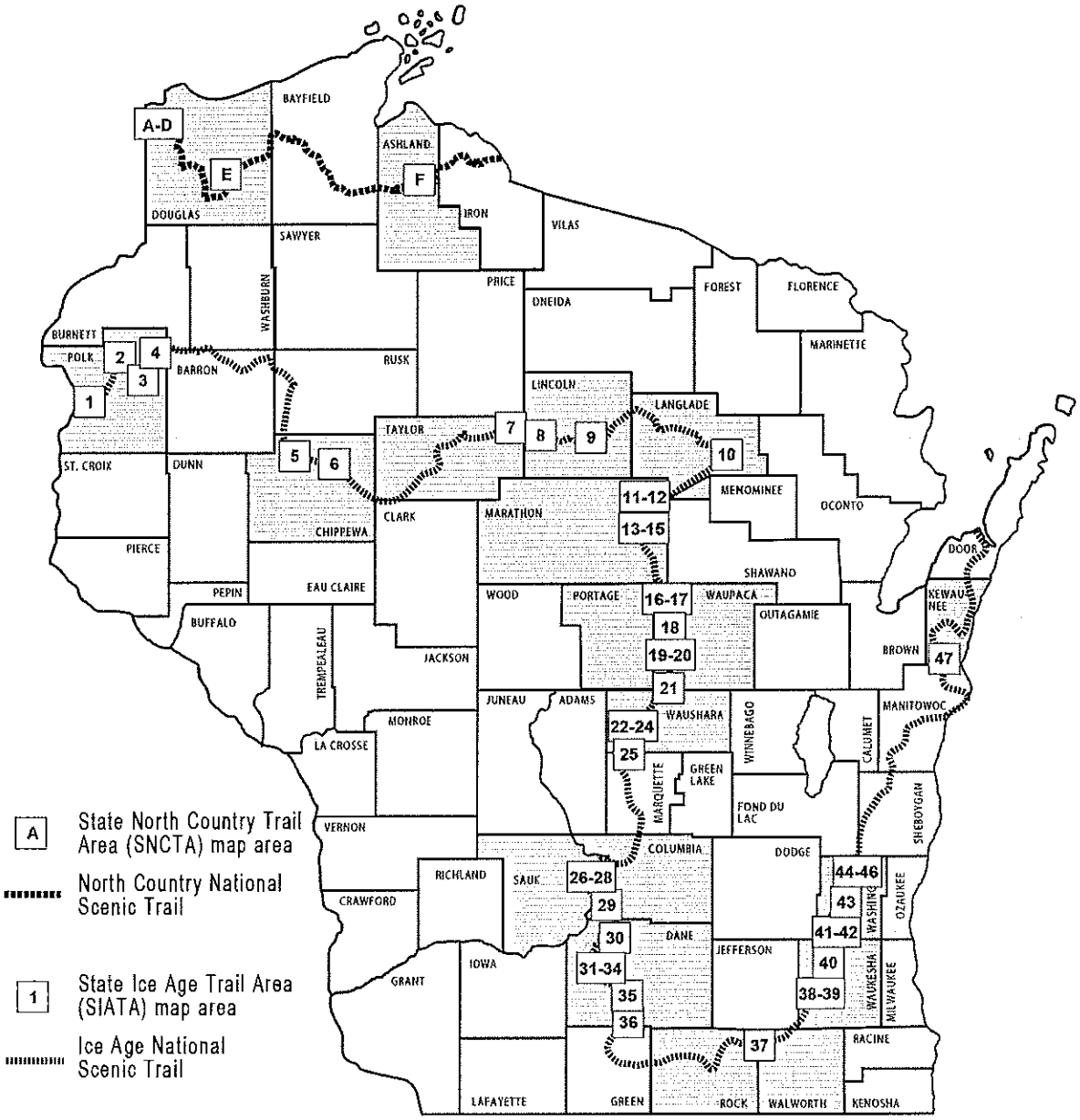
All State Park Properties	Acres
GRAND TOTAL	**97706**

Wisconsin State Parks, Forests, Recreation Areas & Trails



Wisconsin's National Scenic Trails

State Ice Age Trail Area & State North Country Trail Area Locations



Map areas are west to east along the National Scenic Trails

SIATAs:

Polk County (1-4)	Marathon County (11-15)	Dane County (30-36)
Chippewa County (5-6)	Portage/Waupaca Counties (16-21)	Rock/Walworth County (37)
Taylor County (7)	Waushara County (22-25)	Waukesha County (38-40)
Lincoln County (8-9)	Sauk County (26-28)	Washington County (41-46)
Langlade County (10)	Columbia County (29)	Kewaunee County (47)

SNCTAs:

Douglas County (A-E)

Ashland County (F)

The DNR proposed Implementation Plan for Act 168.

Except as provided below, the department is recommending that state parks shall be open to hunting, fishing, and trapping by persons who hold the appropriate approvals required under s. Ch. 29.

Department Closure Authority:

- The department will be prohibiting hunting in state parks within 100 yards of certain designated use areas. The areas proposed for closure generally include campgrounds, picnic areas, entrance stations, day use areas, beaches, boat ramps, towers and vistas, and educational areas. Closures are also being planned in some state parks for high-use trails and parking areas. For detail regarding each department plan, please refer to the individual map of each state park property. These maps are also located at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/hunt/index.html.

- The department will be limiting trapping in state parks to areas open to hunting with the additional provision that no trapping may occur within 100 yards of any state park designated trail. For trail locations, please refer to the individual map of each state park property. These maps are also located at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/hunt/index.html.

- The department will be prohibiting bow and spear fishing within 100 yards of a beach, boat launch, or fishing pier within a state park. Line fishing rules are accepted by the department as now set in statewide regulation.

- The department will be prohibiting hunting or trapping occurring within 100 yards of the trail tread on all state trails, except where noted on a map for the Ice Age Trail and North Country Trail where those two trails are located on state park lands.

- The department will be prohibiting, as it deems necessary, hunting and trapping, with public notice, within 100 yards of certain designated use areas and accompanying entry roads and parking areas for purposes of hosting special events at state park properties.

Natural Resources Board Closure Authority – Department Requests:

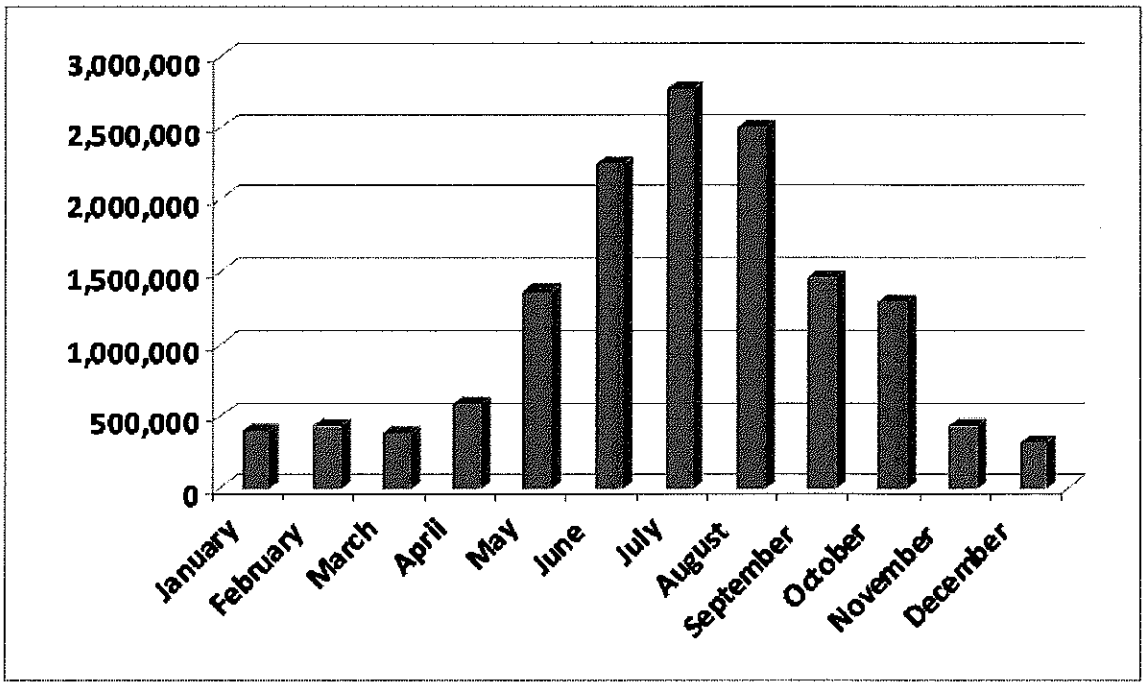
- The department is requesting approval to close the following state park properties completely to all hunting and trapping activity: Copper Culture, Cross Plains, Heritage Hill, Lakeshore, and Lost Dauphin state parks, and the Hank Aaron State Trail. These properties are either too small, have high density year-round use, or are completely within an urban zone.

- The department is requesting that the Natural Resources Board expand hunting and trapping closure areas in some state park properties. These closed areas will be beyond the department's 100 yard closure authority from designated use areas. This request is to protect public safety. Board closures of this nature would most generally be related to; 1) areas that are too small to safely hunt and trap. 2) areas that are near schools or significant residential development. 3) areas that are near heavily used trail systems, 4) state park properties with extensive equestrian use, and 5) state park properties with significant year-round visitor attendance. For individual state park properties affected by this closure request, please refer to the individual map of each state park property. These maps are also located at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/hunt/index.html.

- The department is requesting that the Natural Resources Board close all park properties to hunting and trapping between 11:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to Memorial Day to 6:00 a.m. on October 15th each year. This request is being made to protect public safety. The period of time between Memorial Day weekend and Columbus Day weekend is the highest use period for Wisconsin State

Parks. Graph 1.2 shows the three-year average attendance by month in the Wisconsin State Park System.

Graph 1.2 - Wisconsin State Park System 3-year average attendance by month:



- The department is requesting that in addition to the above stated closure dates, the following seven properties would have a portion of their lands delayed for opening for hunting and trapping until 6:00 a.m. on November 15th each year; Council Grounds, Hartman Creek, High Cliff, Lake Wissota, Peninsula, and Wildcat Mountain state parks, and the Elroy-Sparta State Trail. This request is due to the high volume of visitors and trail users at these properties, including late fall equestrian use. This request is also being made to protect public safety. The portions of these properties being requested to have a November 15th opening for hunting and trapping are found on the maps or can be viewed at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/hunt/index.html.

- The department is requesting that the portion of Rib Mountain State Park leased to Granite Peak Ski Corporation be closed to hunting and trapping until April 15th each year (when ski operations have ceased completely for the year) and be open until 11:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to Memorial Day each year.

- The department is requesting that the Natural Resources Board limit the hunting and trapping hours for safety reasons during open seasons as follows: Standard state park property hours are 6 a.m. – 11 p.m. Hunters and trappers can enter a state park property one hour prior to the daily hunting and trapping starting times. When department regulations do not establish daily season opening and closing times, hunters and may enter the state park property one hour prior to sunrise. All hunting activities will end at 11 p.m. Statewide trapping hours apply and are 4 a.m. – 8 p.m.

- The department is requesting for public safety that hunting be limited to archery only on all lands open to hunting at Big Foot Beach, High Cliff, Lake Kegonsa and Peninsula state parks, and the state ice age trail area north of Slack Road (Gibraltar Rock Area – map 29 of 47) in Columbia County. The department is also requesting that hunting be limited to archery on a portion of Rib Mountain State Park.

- There are currently 14 state parks where a park-specific deer management unit has been established under Wis. Admin. Code ss. NR 10.104 and 10.28. In these parks, a person hunting antlerless deer is required to possess a current valid antlerless permit for the unit (or for a surrounding or adjacent unit if hunting with a bow and arrow). Buck tags for both archery and firearm seasons are valid statewide. In addition, 11 state parks require an access permit prior to hunting deer with a firearm under Wis. Adm. Code s. NR 10.03(3)(e)2.

  There are currently 11 state parks where a park-specific turkey hunting zone has been established, and five state parks where disabled only turkey hunting zones have been established under Wis. Adm. Code s. 10.29. Wild turkey licenses and carcass tags are only valid for the zone and time period they are issued for, with the exception of youths participating in the youth turkey hunt (which are valid for the zone, but not limited by the time period).

  Act 168 does not address, and does not affect, deer management units, park firearm hunting access permits, or turkey zones in state parks where they have been created. These are management devices created by rule that address game management concerns and the quality of the hunt. They do not prohibit or close hunting in state parks, and therefore are not in conflict with Act 168. Parks that do not have park-specific units or zones will be incorporated into the surrounding zone. Access permits will not be required for parks not specified by rule. The department plans to evaluate these management devices in the larger context of hunting in state parks, and may pursue rulemaking in the future if it is determined that changes are needed to provide continuity or more effective management.

<u>Changes made to the department proposal after the listening sessions that are reflected in the Implementation Plan for Act 168:</u>

These changes were made after significant public involvement and after reviewing public safety concerns.

- A total of 20 state park maps were changed after the listening sessions. These maps were amended to reflect changes in the allowable hunting/trapping areas.

- A total of 14 state ice age trail area maps were updated. Most were minor updates closing very small areas cut off by the Ice Age Trail 100 yard buffer from the rest of the property. The most major change was made to the Gibraltar Rock State Ice Age Trail Area (map 29 of 47) where a portion of the property is proposed for firearm restrictions and a larger no hunt buffer was added.

- A total of 2,511 acres (as shown on the original public draft proposal) were removed from areas available for hunting and trapping at 34 state parks and state ice age trail areas.

- Certain highly used trail systems at Blue Mound, Council Grounds, Hartman Creek and Newport state parks are now being recommended for closure due to density of other park users during general hunting seasons.

- Hunting and trapping opening dates were recommended to be moved back to November 15th on portions of Hartman Creek State Park and Lake Wissota State Park due to heavy late season use by equestrians during the October 15th to November 14th time period.

State park land acres open to hunting under the Implementation Plan:

Table 1.3 shows that under the Implementation Plan, a total of 62,759 acres of state park lands will be open to hunting, which equates to 64.23% of all state park lands.

Table 1.3

Wisconsin State Parks Acreage Open for Hunting under Implementation Plan

Park Property	Total Acres	No Hunt Acreage	Huntable Acreage	% Open to Hunt
State Parks	73,689	19,229	54,461	73.91%
State Trails	15,857	12,784	3,073	19.38%
State Ice Age & North Country Trail Areas	8,160	2,935	5,225	64.03%
Totals:	97,706	34,948	62,759	64.23%

How does this plan affect existing policy?

Many of the existing hunting opportunities in state parks are limited by the type of weapon a hunter may permissibly use. For example, Council Grounds and other parks have shotgun only seasons; Wildcat Mountain and other parks have muzzleloader only seasons. These seasons were established under former s. 29.089, which generally prohibited hunting in state parks, except as authorized by rules promulgated by the department.

With the amendment to s. 29.089, both the general prohibition and the ability of the department to create these seasons were removed. The effect of the amendment is to remove these existing weapon-limited seasons to the extent that they conflict with general hunting rules for a particular type of game. Instead, the parks are generally open, subject only to closure as specified in s. 29.089 as amended.

The Natural Resources Board, pursuant to its closure authority for the protection of public safety, may limit the type of weapons authorized for hunting where compelling justification to do so exists. For example, the Board may permissibly determine that in a particular park, hunting with firearms is unsafe, and accordingly limit hunting to archery only. However, "public safety" is limited to humans only. The Board is without authority, for example, to limit the type of traps that may be placed in an area open to trapping to protect dogs, which are "property" and are not properly considered under a "public safety" standard.

While the authority of the Board to do so is not express, it is fairly implied from; 1) the authority to protect public safety, and; 2) the legislative intent to provide widely expanded hunting opportunities in state parks. A contrary reading would lead to results that are not intended by the clear legislative direction to provide more opportunity. Either: 1) all hunting activities would have to be deemed unsafe for the Board to close a park or area or 2) the existence of a public safety concern generated by a particular type of hunting would require the Board to close a park or area to all hunting activities, which would be unnecessary and would run contrary to the legislative intent.

A number of the state parks are within the jurisdictional boundary of a village, city, or township which possesses village authority. Under state law, those local units of government may enact ordinances, resolutions, or other restrictions to protect public health or safety if the restriction has only an incidental effect on hunting. Act 168 does not expressly preempt their ability to enact and enforce those restrictions on state lands. In many instances, the department will consider ordinances prohibiting the discharge of a firearm to meet the "incidental effect" standard; other restrictions may be impermissible if they do not meet the standard or are not protective of public safety.

The department does not have the authority to enforce local ordinances. The general police supervision over state parks given to park rangers and conservation wardens only extends to laws of the state and rules of the department. Accordingly, enforcement related to local restrictions is a matter between a hunter and the local unit of government. The department will only be involved where it is determined that a local restriction does not protect public safety or has more than an incidental effect on hunting.

Other state laws and department rules related to hunting, personal conduct, and the discharge of a firearm are similarly unaffected by Act 168. These include but are not limited to:

- Under Wis. Stat. s. 948.605, a person may not possess a firearm on school grounds (Class 1 felony) or within 1,000 feet of the grounds (Class B forfeiture), subject to some exceptions unless it is unloaded and encased. Likewise, a person may not discharge a firearm in a school zone, which includes the grounds and the 1,000' (Class G felony), again with some exceptions.

- Under Wis. Stat. s. 29.301(1), a person may not hunt within 1,700 feet of the grounds of a school, hospital, or sanatorium if the restricted area is designated by signs.

- Under Wis. Stat. s. 941.20(1)(d), a person, while on the lands of another, may not discharge a firearm within 100 yards of any building devoted to human occupancy situated on and attached to the lands of another without the express permission of the owner or occupant of the building. The department interprets "lands of another" to mean lands a person does not own, and as such to include state lands.

- Under Wis. Stat. s. 167.31(2)(d), a person may not discharge a firearm or shoot a bolt or an arrow from a bow or crossbow from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the center of a roadway. "Highway" includes roads in state parks open for the purpose of vehicular travel; "roadway" includes the improved portion of a highway. NOTE: There are exceptions to this prohibition, notably for disabled hunters (who can shoot near, but not down or across a roadway) and small game hunters (who can use muzzleloaders or shotguns with certain shot if the roadway is not concrete or blacktop).

Act 168 does affect a number of department rules related to firearms and hunting. These include:

- Wis. Admin. Code s. NR 45.09(1) prohibits the discharge of firearms and bows, as well as the possession of loaded or uncased firearms and uncased bows in state parks. This does not apply to the seasons established in Wis. Adm. Code s. NR 10.01(3), which are the existing state park seasons. There is currently no exception to account for this proposed Board action. However, given the statutory changes made by Act 168, this provision is unenforceable against a person holding the appropriate approval and hunting in an open area of a state park at an open time.

- Under Wis. Admin. Code ss. NR 45.06(1) and (2), dogs in state parks must be on a leash except for use in hunting in an area open to hunting. Act 168 greatly expands the areas and seasons open to hunting, thus expanding the permissible use of dogs off leash for hunting purposes.

Effects of Implementation Plan for Act 168

Effects to hunters and trappers:

Hunters and trappers will gain significant opportunity by the opening of state park lands to hunting and trapping. This includes opening additional park lands acreage that is not currently open to hunting and

trapping. In 2012, there were 55,017 acres open to hunting in the state park system. The vast majority of these acres were only open for gun deer hunting in 2012. Also included in 2012 are 11 state parks that have acreage open for the first three weeks of spring turkey hunting, and three state parks that have some acres open for small game hunting. Under the implementation plan, the department would be opening a total of 62,759 acres to hunting, or an additional 7,742 acres over 2012.

State park lands are currently not open to trapping. Under the implementation plan, all 62,759 acres, less lands in the 100 yard buffer from designated park trails where trapping would not be allowed, would be open to trapping.

The number of hunting days would grow significantly. Act 168 and the department's implementation plan would add a total of **18,198** additional hunting days at Wisconsin state parks, state trails, and state ice age and north country trail areas over the number of days of hunting currently offered in these state park properties. Trappers would gain an additional **21,970** trapping days on state park lands as there are no current trapping opportunities in 2012 on state park lands.

Effects to traditional state park property users:

Wisconsin's state parks and state trails have averaged over 4.4 million visits over the last three calendar years during the months of October-May. These traditional non-summer users (wildlife viewers, picnickers, hikers, runners, bikers, paddlers, geocachers, cross-country skiers, berry pickers, rock climbers, students and volunteers) will encounter the sights and sounds of hunters and trappers on state park lands. However, with the proposal of closed areas, the department has attempted to separate activities to the greatest extent possible. Act 168 and the department's implementation plan may reduce opportunity for traditional state park users if they elect, as many commenters on this topic suggested they would, not to utilize state park properties from October 15th through the Thursday before Memorial Day.

Effects to the Wisconsin State Park System.

The Wisconsin state park system relies on revenues supplied from user fees (79%), state general purpose tax dollars (16%), and federal revenues (4%). The growing reliance on user fee revenue has required the Wisconsin State Park System to reinforce and grow its unique and highly accepted brand in all areas and whenever possible. The state park system has averaged $5.3 million in user fee revenue over the last three years during the months of October-May. The department will monitor any changes to revenue trends in the initial years of this law.

With the enactment of Act 168 came the responsibility for the department to create an expanded opportunity for two user groups (hunters and trappers). It has not been a simple task, yet the department has listened to a significant number of citizens and crafted a plan that is designed to mitigate user conflicts to the greatest extent possible, support the needs and quality experiences of all users on all state park lands, while minimizing impacts to the valued state park brand.

Effects to small businesses

The department is not anticipating significant impacts to small businesses related to implementing Act 168.

Do other states allow hunting and trapping in state parks?

Most park systems in other states allow some form of hunting on park lands on at least some properties. With this implementation plan, Wisconsin would be one of ten states that allow extensive hunting opportunities.

Attached to this memo is a breakdown of each state park system's hunting provisions. The department was not able to determine which other state park systems allow trapping in state parks.

Table 1.4
Classification of Hunting Policies of 50 State Park Systems

Extensive Public Hunting Allowed	Limited Public Hunting Allowed	Restricted Public Hunting Allowed	No Public Hunting Allowed
Colorado	Alaska	Connecticut	Alabama
Illinois	Arizona	Georgia	Arkansas
Indiana	Delaware	Hawaii	California
Massachusetts	Maine	Idaho	Florida
Michigan	Maryland	Iowa	Louisiana
New Mexico	Minnesota	Kansas	Missouri
Ohio	New Hampshire	Kentucky	Montana
Pennsylvania	New Jersey	Mississippi	Nebraska
Vermont	New York	Nevada	North Carolina
Wisconsin	Oklahoma	North Dakota	South Carolina
	Wyoming	Oregon	Washington
		Rhode Island	West Virginia
Total: 10	**Total: 11**	South Dakota	
		Tennessee	
		Texas	
		Utah	
		Virginia	
		Total: 17	**Total: 12**

Public Comments on the Draft Proposal for Implementing Act 168

The department made its draft proposal available on October 26, 2012 to the general public and thereafter took public comments through November 23, 2012. The public comment period included five listening sessions around the state with the Natural Resources Board where oral and written comments were taken.

> **Oct. 29, Fitchburg** - Quality Inn and Suites, 2969 Cahill Main, with board members Preston Cole and Jane Wiley present.
> **Oct. 30, Eau Claire** - Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC), 620 W. Clairemont Ave., with board members Dave Clausen and Jane Wiley present.
> **Nov. 5, Merrill** - Merrill High School, 1201 N. Sales St., with board members Christine Thomas and Jane Wiley present.
> **Nov. 8, Appleton** - The Bordini Center, Fox Valley Technical College Campus, 5 Systems Drive, with board members William Bruins, Terry Hilgenberg and Jane Wiley present.
> **Nov. 13, West Allis** - Tommy Thompson Youth Center (State Fair Park), 640 S. 84th St., with board members Gregory Kazmierski and Jane Wiley present.

In total, the department received 2,033 comments via email and letter, including written and oral comments provided at the listening sessions. There were 157 oral comments alone taken at the five listening sessions.

The department staff read and tallied each of the comments received and synthesized them into usable data blocks for analysis. Many of the comments were directed at reducing hunting and trapping in specific state parks, and the department reviewed each of those circumstances and made appropriate adjustments to the implementation plan where warranted under Act 168.

Public Comments on Act 168- Hunting, Fishing and Trapping in State Parks.

Total number of comments received: 2,033

Identified as Individual: 1,244. Organization: 789

Municipalities represented: 278

Number of Petitions received: 18

Support: 84 or Oppose: 1,949 the department's draft plan.*

Support.

- Supports hunting proposals: 32
- Supports trapping proposals: 5
- Supports both: 45

Opposed.

- Opposed for safety impact: 1,750
- Opposed for sensitive ecological impact: 377
- Opposed to the legislation: 1,262

Proposed modifications:

- Delay opening date: 244
- Earlier closing date: 234
- AM/PM closures: 38
- Complete closure of park property: 887
- Larger designated use buffer: 239
- Close around trails: 404
- Restrict rifle use: 112
- Restrict trapping: 152

Number of individual park properties mentioned in comments: 40

*Note: Those in support of the department proposal were those that clearly indicated their preference to open state parks to hunting and trapping. They may have offered suggested improvements in the plan. Those opposed clearly indicated a preference to keep state parks closed to hunting and trapping. They may have offered suggested improvements in the plan.

Raw data of the tabulation of the public comments can be viewed at http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/reports.html

Appendix A: Wisconsin State Park System Proposed Huntiug Acreage

State Parks	Acres	Approximate Acres in Proposed "No Hunt" Zone 2013	Total Approx. Acres Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. % Proposed Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. Acres Closed to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. Acres Open to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. % Open to Hunting 2012	Approximate Difference 2012 vs. 2013
Amnicon Falls State Park	825	110	714	87%	825	0	0%	714
Aztalan State Park	172	102	70	41%	172	0	0%	70
Belmont Mound State Park	274	11	263	96%	13	261	95%	2
Big Bay State Park	2,475	580	1,895	77%	506	1,969	80%	(74)
Big Foot Beach State Park	271	249	23	8%	271	0	0%	23
Blue Mound State Park	1,153	775	378	33%	398	755	65%	(377)
Brunet Island State Park	1,297	359	938	72%	364	933	72%	5
Buckhorn State Park	4,307	322	3,985	93%	2,823	1,484	34%	2,501
Campbellsport Drumlins State	10	0	10	100%	10	0	0%	10
Capital Springs State Park	291	59	232	80%	291	0	0%	232
Copper Culture State Park	42	42	0	0%	42	0	0%	0
Copper Falls State Park	3,423	1,483	1,940	57%	2,264	1,159	34%	781
Council Grounds State Park	512	301	211	41%	59	453	88%	(242)
Cross Plains State Park	157	157	0	0%	157	0	0%	0
Devil's Lake State Park	9,463	1,931	7,531	80%	1,736	7,727	82%	(195)
Governor Dodge State Park	5,344	876	4,468	84%	391	4,953	93%	(485)
Governor Nelson State Park	422	291	131	31%	422	0	0%	131
Governor Thompson State Park	2,687	434	2,252	84%	516	2,171	81%	82
Grand Traverse Island State Park	27	0	27	100%	27	0	0%	27
Harrington Beach State Park	714	393	322	45%	255	459	64%	(138)
Hartman Creek State Park	1,468	648	820	56%	538	930	63%	(110)
Heritage Hill State Park	55	55	0	0%	55	0	0%	0
High Cliff State Park	1,184	757	427	36%	428	756	64%	(329)
Holzhueter Farm Conservation	3	3	0	0%	3	0	0%	0
Interstate State Park	1,330	441	889	67%	853	477	36%	412
Kinnickinnic State Park	1,278	139	1,139	89%	0	1,278	100%	(139)
Kohler-Andrae State Park	964	419	544	56%	514	450	47%	95
Lake Kegonsa State Park	343	188	155	45%	343	0	0%	155
Lake Wissota State Park	1,062	273	789	74%	135	927	87%	(138)
Lakeshore State Park	49	49	0	0%	49	0	0%	0
Lost Dauphin State Park	19	19	0	0%	19	0	0%	0
Merrick State Park	322	260	62	19%	322	0	0%	62
Mill Bluff State Park	1,600	86	1,514	95%	77	1,523	95%	(9)
Mirror Lake State Park	2,210	342	1,868	85%	342	1,868	85%	0
Natural Bridge State Park	530	20	510	96%	118	412	78%	98
Nelson Dewey State Park	756	270	486	64%	252	503	67%	(17)
New Glarus Woods State Park	415	115	300	72%	88	327	79%	(27)
Newport State Park	2,373	968	1,405	59%	203	2,170	91%	(765)
Pattison State Park	1,521	231	1,290	85%	1,521	0	0%	1,290
Peninsula State Park	3,828	1,548	2,279	60%	1,576	2,252	59%	28
Perrot State Park	1,270	283	987	78%	362	908	71%	79
Potawatomi State Park	1,221	527	694	57%	185	1,036	85%	(342)
Rib Mountain State Park	1,555	327	1,228	79%	553	1,002	64%	226
Roche-A-Cri State Park	492	121	371	75%	492	0	0%	371
Rock Island State Park	912	112	800	88%	0	912	100%	(112)
Rocky Arbor State Park	264	23	241	91%	0	264	100%	(23)
Straight Lake State Park	1,598	391	1,207	76%	0	1,598	100%	(391)
Tower Hill State Park	77	42	34	45%	60	17	22%	18
Two Creeks State Park	25	0	25	100%	25	0	0%	25
Whitefish Dunes State Park	864	130	734	85%	130	734	85%	0
Wildcat Mountain State Park	3,765	527	3,238	86%	461	3,303	88%	(66)
Willow River State Park	2,918	750	2,167	74%	1,320	1,598	55%	570
Wyalusing State Park	2,628	425	2,203	84%	289	2,339	89%	(136)
Yellowstone Lake State Park	929	265	665	72%	113	817	88%	(152)
All State Park ACREAGE:	**73,689**	**19,229**	**54,461**	**74%**	**22,967**	**50,722**	**69%**	**3,739**

Appendix A: Wisconsin State Park System Proposed Hunting Acreage, continued:

State Trails	Acres	Approximate Acres in Proposed "No Hunt" Zone 2013	Total Approx. Acres Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. % Proposed Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. Acres Closed to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. Acres Open to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. % Open to Hunting 2012	Approximate Difference 2012 vs. 2013
400	410	356	53	13%	410	0	0%	53
Ahnapee	603	603	0	0%	603	0	0%	0
Bearskin	574	450	124	22%	574	0	0%	124
Buffalo River	448	0	448	100%	0	448	100%	0
Cattail	228	228	0	0%	228	0	0%	0
Chippewa River	320	201	119	37%	201	119	37%	0
Devils River	186	186	0	0%	186	0	0%	0
Eisenbahn	309	309	0	0%	309	0	0%	0
Elroy-Sparta	642	0	642	100%	147	495	77%	147
Fox River	294	294	0	0%	294	0	0%	0
Friendship	10	10	0	0%	10	0	0%	0
Gandy Dancer	822	822	0	0%	822	0	0%	0
Glacial Drumlin	1,273	1,094	179	14%	1,273	0	0%	179
Great River	256	103	153	60%	103	153	60%	0
Hank Aaron	58	58	0	0%	58	0	0%	0
Hillsboro	66	66	0	0%	66	0	0%	0
La Crosse River	361	361	0	0%	361	0	0%	0
Mascoutin Valley	45	45	0	0%	45	0	0%	0
Military Ridge	516	479	36	7%	479	36	7%	0
Mountain Bay	1,135	1,135	0	0%	1,135	0	0%	0
Newton-Blackmour	290	290	0	0%	290	0	0%	0
Nicolet	1,300	1,300	0	0%	1,300	0	0%	0
Oconto River	91	91	0	0%	91	0	0%	0
Old Abe	254	121	133	52%	121	133	52%	0
Pecatonica	242	242	0	0%	242	0	0%	0
Red Cedar	427	236	191	45%	329	98	23%	93
Saunders	207	207	0	0%	207	0	0%	0
Stower Seven Lakes	177	177	0	0%	177	0	0%	0
Sugar River	265	228	37	14%	228	37	14%	0
Tomorrow River	378	378	0	0%	378	0	0%	0
Tuscobia	1,086	127	958	88%	0	1,086	100%	(127)
White River & Burlington-	247	247	0	0%	247	0	0%	0
Wild Goose	423	423	0	0%	423	0	0%	0
Wild Rivers	1,140	1,140	0	0%	1,140	0	0%	0
Wiouwash	283	283	0	0%	283	0	0%	0
Wolf River	490	490	0	0%	490	0	0%	0
All Linear State Trail ACREAGE:	**15,857**	**12,784**	**3,073**	**19%**	**13,253**	**2,604**	**16%**	**469**

State Ice Age Trail Areas (SIATA) & State North Country Trail Areas (SNCTA)	Park Acres	Approximate Acres in Proposed "No Hunt" Zone 2013	Total Approx. Acres Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. % Proposed Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. Acres Closed to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. Acres Open to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. % Open to Hunting 2012	Approximate Difference 2012 vs. 2013
All State Ice Age Trail Areas	7,422	2,774	4,648	63%	5,731	1,891	23%	2,957
All North Country Trail Areas	738	161	577	78%	738	0	0%	577
All SIATA and SNCTA ACREAGE:	**8,160**	**2,935**	**5,225**	**64%**	**6,469**	**1,691**	**21%**	**3,534**

All State Park Properties	Park Acres	Approximate Acres in Proposed "No Hunt" Zone 2013	Total Approx. Acres Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. % Proposed Open to Hunting 2013	Approx. Acres Closed to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. Acres Open to Hunting as of 2012	Approx. % Open to Hunting 2012	Approximate Difference 2012 vs. 2013
ACREAGE GRAND TOTAL:	**97,706**	**34,947**	**62,759**	**64.23%**	**42,689**	**55,017**	**56.31%**	**7,742**

Much of the acreage open to hunting in 2012 is for gun deer hunting only. The 2013 acreage will be open to all species available during open periods Oct/November - Thurs. prior to Memorial Day. Trapping will be open for the first time in state parks in 2013.

Appendix B: Three-Year Average Attendance (Fiscal Years 10-12)

Property Name	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	3 yr. ave
"400" State Trail	4,658	2,558	2,125	2,590	2,608	1,783	3,283	3,780	23,387
Amnicon Falls State Park	1,185	414	366	368	387	546	1,106	4,985	9,356
Aztalan State Park	4,209	1,398	376	294	387	1,309	4,521	5,192	17,687
Badger State Trail	11,145	6,359	6,625	3,735	1,806	4,675	6,167	11,354	51,866
Bearskin-Hiawatha State Trail	10,005	3,698	6,328	12,710	13,632	6,311	4,535	8,668	65,887
Big Bay State Park	8,882	3,750	1,287	1,014	1,989	2,315	2,561	4,092	25,890
Big Foot Beach State Park	11,289	3,459	905	1,009	800	2,193	7,123	13,222	39,999
Blue Mound State Park	11,854	4,699	4,226	5,768	4,081	2,990	4,970	16,450	55,040
Browntown-Cadiz Springs SRA	11,492	6,183	5,862	4,545	4,361	6,966	7,196	11,448	58,052
Brunet Island State Park	8,694	7,810	5,703	4,434	5,770	8,910	9,408	14,861	65,591
Buckhorn State Park	6,653	5,275	1,901	2,793	2,791	4,328	5,269	10,653	39,663
Buffalo River State Trail	5,701	3,443	2,352	4,003	2,499	2,604	3,196	4,145	27,942
Capital Springs State Recreation Area	4,637	3,715	2,369	1,831	1,215	3,980	9,793	6,707	34,246
Chippewa Moraine Ice Age State Rec. Area	5,312	2,265	1,166	1,861	1,745	1,498	2,181	2,596	18,624
Chippewa River State Trail	10,045	4,754	2,228	1,374	1,294	1,435	2,089	4,856	28,075
Copper Falls State Park	11,522	3,374	1,662	3,064	3,303	1,748	4,731	14,213	43,617
Council Grounds State Park	41,898	11,535	16,957	9,034	12,734	14,923	25,005	87,535	219,621
Devil's Lake State Park	49,139	13,815	29,499	14,473	18,767	59,746	60,546	219,005	464,990
Elroy-Sparta State Trail	9,868	5,023	3,088	4,393	3,773	5,155	6,380	8,228	45,908
Glacial Drumlin State Trail East	14,977	8,248	5,383	6,000	5,402	9,255	9,734	16,063	75,062
Glacial Drumlin State Trail West	25,200	8,512	5,658	6,567	6,289	9,119	8,791	25,896	96,033
Governor Dodge State Park	31,816	10,708	7,482	9,291	7,460	9,646	13,927	46,128	136,458
Governor Nelson State Park	7,853	9,029	5,971	7,641	7,095	8,458	9,375	16,143	71,564
Governor Thompson State Park	2,550	2,365	1,817	1,252	2,544	1,858	2,694	5,691	20,771
Great River State Trail	6,502	3,142	5,146	2,754	3,883	3,603	4,950	9,835	39,814
Harrington Beach State Park	12,635	7,056	4,114	8,762	6,246	7,981	10,949	15,647	73,391
Hartman Creek State Park	5,073	2,091	2,119	8,385	6,041	6,373	7,870	10,614	48,565
Havenwoods State Forest	17,611	5,742	4,397	4,261	5,371	5,721	9,508	19,105	71,716
High Cliff State Park	26,617	18,883	22,517	7,550	8,067	15,880	23,680	38,583	161,777
Hoffman Hills State Rec. Area	19,132	2,557	2,087	1,852	3,600	3,241	7,123	14,677	54,268
Interstate State Park	39,504	6,512	3,127	4,644	5,715	13,152	19,127	49,650	141,430
Kettle Moraine State Forest--Northern Unit	71,544	13,371	4,693	15,431	18,194	10,698	26,537	95,969	256,436
Kettle Moraine State Forest--Southern Unit	91,677	23,165	7,193	26,109	32,391	17,470	40,709	120,544	359,259
Kinnickinnic State Park	28,046	7,281	4,056	3,820	4,103	5,931	8,008	17,094	78,340
Kohler-Andrae State Park	26,366	11,069	7,470	7,967	9,228	13,847	17,584	28,400	121,931
La Crosse River State Trail	9,292	3,651	3,701	3,911	3,720	3,132	4,814	9,506	41,728
Lake Kegonsa State Park	11,657	4,854	4,241	5,906	5,126	6,329	5,372	21,166	64,652
Lake Wissota State Park	6,585	3,664	2,748	2,790	2,490	4,499	5,554	11,458	39,787
Lakeshore State Park	21,094	8,291	12,168	12,810	9,811	12,423	13,393	19,428	109,418
Lapham Peak Unit Kettle Moraine State Forest	29,652	13,414	19,614	18,276	15,516	21,241	18,656	22,602	158,970
Merrick State Park	8,103	4,789	3,581	3,399	2,966	4,161	4,639	9,233	40,871
Military Ridge State Trail	8,165	5,733	3,356	2,327	1,932	2,628	4,674	7,533	36,348
Mill Bluff State Park	9,488	3,632	4,014	6,072	4,313	4,310	5,617	11,409	48,856
Mirror Lake State Park	16,152	5,603	6,587	10,755	7,808	8,613	9,652	25,263	90,433
Natural Bridge State Park	853	485	326	1,044	1,930	2,183	1,101	2,184	10,106
Nelson Dewey State Park	3,631	4,236	1,059	639	561	996	1,434	2,949	15,506
New Glarus Woods State Park	10,921	3,174	3,108	1,188	1,909	3,730	2,495	5,588	32,113
Newport State Park	14,328	4,909	2,935	2,588	3,100	2,939	6,003	11,424	48,226
Pattison State Park	44,388	9,154	5,086	10,789	17,913	9,563	28,866	31,550	157,310
Peninsula State Park	77,305	24,075	7,320	20,074	35,184	31,160	67,418	59,949	322,484
Perrot State Park	22,836	10,037	4,036	5,899	5,669	9,558	16,265	32,084	106,384
Pike Lake Unit, Kettle Moraine State Forest	22,567	10,347	5,790	6,876	6,659	8,402	13,062	29,395	103,097
Point Beach State Forest	32,243	13,540	5,743	6,771	6,368	8,022	12,198	32,596	117,480
Potawatomi State Park	11,920	4,992	3,765	4,809	4,713	5,972	7,785	14,537	58,492
Red Cedar State Trail	5,393	2,067	10,381	13,321	13,355	9,976	5,394	8,183	68,070
Rib Mountain State Park	28,152	18,492	23,311	27,506	29,437	17,565	14,204	23,423	182,090
Richard Bong State Recreation Area	20,404	19,191	6,124	5,473	6,179	11,228	15,952	26,857	111,409
Roche-A-Cri State Park	1,447	527	158	293	310	523	631	5,481	9,370
Rock Island State Park	932	610	231	463	498	606	754	2,165	6,260
Rocky Arbor State Park	1,864	1,598	2,092	1,304	905	972	1,832	4,259	14,826
Sugar River State Trail	2,725	1,931	2,567	1,945	420	1,270	1,502	2,450	14,811
Tower Hill State Park	953	127	177	347	412	238	237	1,639	4,129
Tuscobia State Trail	5,979	1,260	791	1,422	1,604	1,629	1,637	5,064	19,387
Whitefish Dunes State Park	18,018	6,796	2,863	3,240	3,490	3,921	7,480	9,582	55,389
Wildcat Mountain State Park	32,100	10,200	4,245	3,589	4,448	3,672	4,719	23,442	86,416
Willow River State Park	23,933	7,745	3,400	2,800	3,555	10,670	15,083	48,333	115,520
Wyalusing State Park	16,111	5,652	2,671	7,084	5,365	6,433	9,667	30,333	83,317
Yellowstone Lake State Park	8,025	1,721	1,229	1,750	2,869	3,515	24,035	50,812	93,954
3 Year Average Attendance	1,182,505	449,757	347,674	399,039	426,108	497,729	722,749	1,583,906	5,609,466

Appendix C: Comparison of Hunting in other State Park Systems

Many state park systems that allow hunting have identified areas on the park map where hunting is and is not permitted.
Hunting is typically not uniform within state park systems. If hunting is allowed, it varies by the park property (some parks open, some closed, some partially open, some by permit only, etc.).
Typically, to find out what type of hunting is allowed in a park, visitors are encouraged to contact the individual park where they intend to hunt.

	Extensive Public Hunting Allowed	Most parks are open to most hunting seasons
	Limited Public Hunting Allowed	Hunting seasons limited, fewer parks open, time restrictions
	Restricted Public Hunting Allowed	Very few properties open to hunting, few seasons, weapons restrictions, day and time restrictions
	No Public Hunting Allowed	No hunting open to the public, all managed by professionals or park staff OR 1 park open for deer only

State	Type of Hunting	Times of Hunting	Example of Park
Alabama	NONE	NONE	
Alaska	Most to all hunting seasons. Discharge of firearms within ½ mile of any developed park facility is prohibited. Target shooting and firearms sighting is prohibited.	Varies by Park and Seasons.	Chugach State Park allows hunting for black bear, bull moose; and by permit only: brown bear, moose, Dall sheep and goat. Hunting is allowed for hare, grouse, ptarmigan, and waterfowl. No hunting is allowed for squirrels, wolf, wolverine, coyote, and unclassified game. Tokle Creek drainage (Arctic Valley Ski Area) is closed to all hunting.
Arizona	Varies.	Varies by Park and Seasons. Not all Parks are open to hunting. Designated areas for hunting in some parks.	
Arkansas	NONE, except one park (Hobbs State Park-Conservation Area)	NONE, except one park (Hobbs State Park-Conservation Area)	One park open to most of the state's hunting seasons. See link to right for more info.
California	NONE in state parks, however hunting permitted in some designated recreation areas	NONE in state parks, however hunting permitted in some designated recreation areas	Auburn Recreation Area. Hunting allowed in specific locations, species, weapons and times. Hunting is only allowed September 1 to January 31 and spring turkey season for the species listed and only during the respective open season as established by the Fish and Game Commission. See link to right for more info.
Colorado	Seasons vary by park.	Mostly Labor Day to Memorial Day. Varies by park and season. Not all parks are open to hunting. (hunting not permitted with 100 yards of buildings and facilities)	Spinney Mountain State Park: Waterfowl opportunities exist for geese, mallards, teal, bufflehead, widgeons or gadwalls on the reservoir. Larger game hunters may find mule deer and the occasional pronghorn antelope. Jackrabbits and coyotes are abundant for small game hunters. Open seasonally, approximately April to November.
Connecticut	Varies.	Varies by Park and Seasons. Not all parks are open to hunting.	Collis P. Huntington State Park, open to archery deer hunting only.
Delaware	Various Seasons for Small Game, Waterfowl and Deer.	Varies by park. Not all parks are open to hunting.	
Florida	NONE	NONE	No Parks, but State Reserves offer special hunting seasons.
Georgia	Deer quota hunts for management	Deer quota hunt varies by park. Not all parks open to hunting.	
Hawaii	Limited. Varies by Park.	Varies by Park and Season. Not all parks open to hunting.	Kahana State Park: Pig hunting in public hunting area on weekends and holidays. Napali Coast Park: Shore fishing and seasonal goat hunting only.
Idaho	Limited. Varies by Park.	Varies by Park and Season. Not all parks open to hunting.	Heyburn State Park: Waterfowl hunting.
Illinois	Varies by park. Most to all hunting seasons.	Varies by Park and Seasons.	Matthieson State Park. Different Areas of the park open to different species. Some species have more restricted areas to hunt than others.
Indiana	Varies by Park. Some parks also have Deer reduction hunts.	Varies by Park and Seasons.	Patoka Lake State Park hunting opportunities include quail, rabbit, dove, squirrel, deer, turkey, grouse, snipe, woodcock, waterfowl. Night hunting (raccoon, fox). Open during legally established seasons. Park Open to Trapping without a bidding process (subject to change). See link to right for more info.
Iowa	Varies by Park. Special Deer Hunts for management.	Varies by Park and Seasons. Most parks are closed to hunting except management hunts. Most recreation areas open to all hunting seasons.	Elk Rock State Park, special deer hunt, antlerless only, muzzleloader only. Volga River Recreation Area is open to public hunting during regular hunting seasons: white-tailed deer and wild turkey are popular quarries.
Kansas	Varies by park and seasons. Few parks open to some hunting seasons and only certain areas.	Varies by park and seasons. Most parks open to some hunting seasons or adjacent to wildlife areas.	Eisenhower State Park: Hunting within the state park is by written permit only. Glen Elder State Park: The west part of the park is managed primarily as a waterfowl refuge including large agricultural fields, demonstrating the area's agricultural heritage. These fields are key to enhancing special hunting opportunities for waterfowl, upland birds, and deer.
Kentucky	Hunting allowed in 5 parks. Varies by park and seasons.	Hunting allowed in 5 parks. Varies by park and seasons.	Greenbo Lake State Resort Park offers special lodging and hunting packages for deer and turkey hunters. Packages include meals and lodging at the Jesse Stuart Lodge. Available hunts include archery-only deer hunts, or turkey hunts in the fall or spring seasons. These are not quota hunts, but are bonus hunts open to those who purchase this package.
Louisiana	NONE	NONE	
Maine	Varies by Park.	Varies. Hunting is not permitted between May 1 and September 30 at several state parks. Hunting is not permitted at all for several other state parks. 100-yd buffer of use areas.	
Maryland	Varies by Park.	Varies by park. Hunting time frames vary greatly by park and species, some only open October to January.	Gunpower Falls State Park: Hammerman, Hart-Miller Island, Days Cove and North Point Areas: Waterfowl blinds by lottery and/or by daily reservation. 7:30am–11:30am. mf, Sweet Air Area: Managed deer hunt (shotgun) by lottery, 7:30am–11:30am, Hereford Area: Deer bow hunting only
Massachusetts	Varies by Park. Some form of hunting (with restrictions) allowed in most state parks.	Sunday hunting is prohibited in Massachusetts.	
Michigan	Most hunting seasons. Special Deer Hunt for management on some properties.	All state parks and recreation areas are closed to hunting from April 1 through Sept. 14, except in areas designated open during the early Canada goose season and spring wild turkey season.	Sleepy Hollow State Park, open to hunting.
Minnesota	Varies by Park. Some parks are closed to hunting. Some parks have limited hunts for Deer only. Some parks have portions of the property open to different hunting and trapping seasons.	Varies by Park and Seasons. Deer hunts mostly for management. For Minnesota State Trails, hunting is only allowed Sept. 15 to March 30.	Great River Bluffs State Park: There will be a deer hunt in Great River Bluffs State Park from sunset on October 26 through 8 a.m. on October 29. The park will be closed to the public during these dates, and open only to hunters.
Mississippi	NONE, except two parks only. Most seasons in those two parks.	NONE. All parks closed to hunting except for two (Leroy Percey Wildlife Management Area and Natchez State Park)	NONE. All parks closed to hunting except for two (Leroy Percey Wildlife Management Area and Natchez State Park)
Missouri	NONE, except three parks with a managed deer hunt in 2012	NONE, except three parks with a managed deer hunt in 2012	managed deer hunt three parks December 8-9, 2012
Montana	NOT typically in State Parks. State Wildlife Management Areas open to hunting.	NOT typically in State Parks. State Wildlife Management Areas open to hunting.	Makoshika State Park: The largest state park in Montana, open to Bow Hunting, Deer Hunting, and other Hunting
Nebraska	NOT typically in State Parks. State Recreation Areas open to hunting.	NOT typically in State Parks. State Recreation Areas open to hunting from the first Tuesday following Labor Day through the conclusion of the Spring Turkey season.	State Recreation Areas or portions thereof are open to hunting subject to general hunting regulations from the first Tuesday following Labor Day through conclusion of the Spring Turkey season, unless prohibited or restricted by appropriate signs or specific area regulations. Hunting is prohibited within 100 yards of any public-use facility or activity area, including picnic areas, campgrounds, private cabin and concession areas, boat ramps and parking lots.

Appendix C: Comparison of Hunting in other State Park Systems, continued:

Nevada	Varies by Park. Not all parks open to hunting. Recreation areas typically open to hunting.	Varies by Park and Species. Hunting must take place in designated zones within park boundary.	Washoe Lake State Park: Hunting with shotgun only is permitted in specified areas during the hunting season – October through February. Hunting zone maps are available at the ranger station.
New Hampshire	Varies by Park. 41 park properties advertised as open to hunting on Fish and Game website. Hunting not an activity search on Bureau of Parks website.	Hunting is not appropriate near recreational trails, campgrounds, and other developed recreation facilities. Hunters are prohibited from discharging firearms within 300 feet of any developed recreation area, occupied building, trail or road on state parks and forests.	Much of Monadnock State Park is inappropriate for hunting because of the preponderance of recreation trails in the park.
New Jersey	Most State parks open to hunting. Species varies by park.	Varies by park and species. Certain percentages of each park open for hunting. Approx. 71% all park land open to hunting.	Allaire State Park. 40% of land open to hunting, deer only. Stephens State Park: 59% of land open to hunting, deer, small game and turkey only, not waterfowl.
New Mexico	Varies by Park and species.	Varies by Park and species.	Hunters must be a legally licensed hunter during a designated hunting season and within park areas designated as open to hunting for the species the hunter is licensed to hunt.
New York	Varies by Park. Many state parks offer waterfowl, small game and big game hunting.	Varies by Park. Some have NO Sunday hunts. Some only open to archery or muzzleloader. Some by permit only. Hunters encouraged to contact Regional Offices or visit the state parks website.	Montauk State Park: Hunting by permit only. No hunting weekends. Mine Kill State Park: open by permit from the park manager with special regulations.
North Carolina	NONE	NONE	North Carolina state parks are wildlife preserves. The hunting, trapping, pursuing, shooting, injuring, killing or molesting of any bird or animal is prohibited. Feeding or baiting wildlife is prohibited.
North Dakota	Varies. Closed unless open by director or proclamation. Special restrictions may be set.	No person may hunt, trap, pursue, catch, or kill any wild bird or wild animal in a state park unless specifically allowed by the director or by proclamation.	Closed unless opened.
Ohio	Varies by Park. Not all parks open to hunting. Recreation areas typically open to hunting.	Most parks do not allow hunting before October 15 or after March 1 unless special hunts are offered, or as otherwise noted in the official hunting map.	Alum Creek State Park: Hunting permitted in designated areas.
Oklahoma	Varies by Park.	Varies by Park.	Lake Thunderbird State Park: Hunting in designated areas only, contact Park for a map of designated areas.
Oregon	Varies by Park. Limited	No person shall hunt, pursue, trap, kill, injure, or molest any wildlife or disturb their habitats. In special park areas where hunting is permitted, the rules and regulations of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife will apply to hunting and fishing.	Some parks open in northwest region of the state.
Pennsylvania	Most parks open.	Most parks open to hunting seasons.	Canoe Creek State Park: About 550 acres (Out of 958) are open to hunting, trapping and the training of dogs during established seasons.
Rhode Island	Varies. Undeveloped State Parks open to hunting.	Varies. Undeveloped State Parks open to hunting seasons.	Hunting (deer) is permitted in these Undeveloped State Parks: Cocumcussoc, Washington Grove, Burlingame (special permit required) and Snake Den (archery only).
South Carolina	NONE	No parks, except one GMA managed by Parks. Wildlife Areas or Preserves are open to hunting.	H. Cooper Black Game Management Area (GMA) allows hunting if an event is NOT being held at the park. You may not hunt during an organized event. Deer may be hunted from Oct.1-Jan.1. Turkey may be hunted April 1-30. Other small game, such as rabbit, may be hunted during season. You MAY NOT hunt quail at any time on the park.
South Dakota	Varies by park.	Varies by park and seasons. Trapping by permit only (valid Nov. 1 to March 31). Some species are "resident only".	"Resident Only" pheasant hunt in state parks and recreation areas. No hunting in National Parks or Monuments.
Tennessee	Varies by Park.	Guns and bow hunting are allowed at some parks. Seasons and quotas are set. Some parks have Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) where regular game hunting is permitted. Check with the individual park for details.	Tims Ford State Park Huntable Lands Permit required, available at the Park Office. Same seasons and regulations as Owl Hollow Mill WMA.
Texas	Varies by Park.	Public Hunting allowed by annual permit or a drawing system. The permit allows access to some state parks.	Big Bend Ranch State Park's approximate 311,000 acres, of which approximately 52,000 acres are open to public hunting by special and/or regular permit.
Utah	Varies by Park. Hunting is prohibited unless opened. Some parks open to certain species. All trapping on park areas is prohibited except when authorized and permitted by the park manager.	Hunting with rifles and handguns on park areas designated open is prohibited within one mile of all park area facilities, including, but not limited to buildings, camp/picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps and developed beaches. Shotguns and archery equipment are prohibited within one-quarter mile of above stated areas.	Deer Creek State Park open to small game and waterfowl only. Yuba State Park open to small game only.
Vermont	Varies by Park.	Hunting allowed in some parks during "off-season". The Park off-season camp schedule is typically around November 1 to May 1.	Hunting is not permitted in developed recreation areas like state parks during the regular operating season. Operating Season is when visitor fees are being collected. Hunting is allowed on most state lands in the parks off-season
Virginia	Varies by Park. Includes managed hunts for deer.	Varies by Park and seasons. Hunting allowed in designated areas within park boundaries.	Hunting opportunities range from open hunting in designated areas to managed deer hunts where individuals participate through a reservation or lottery system. Managed deer hunts are a tool in DCR's overall deer management program. Specific sites that offer hunting may change from year to year.
Washington	NONE.	NONE	State parks are closed to hunting and trapping. Most other state lands are open to hunting unless they are closed by state, local, or municipal laws.
West Virginia	NONE	NONE	Hunting is prohibited in all state parks; however, legally authorized hunting is permitted in state forests, and state wildlife management areas.
Wisconsin	Varies by Park. Some parks are closed to hunting. Most parks have limited hunts for Deer only. Some parks have portions of the property open to turkey seasons. Three parks allow small game hunting.	Varies by Park and Seasons.	In 2012: Governor Dodge State Park open to small game, turkey and deer hunting. Three different maps for the three different seasons. Peninsula State Park open to the 9-day gun deer hunt only. Aztalan State Park closed to all hunting.
Wyoming	Five parks show up in search as having hunting available.	Firearms or other projectile devices are prohibited within 400 yards of any public use facility or activity area, including picnic areas, campgrounds, private cabin and concession areas, boat ramps, hard surfaced roads, designated trails, and parking lots.	Unless otherwise posted, park lands or portions thereof are open to hunting subject to general hunting regulations prescribed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.

Appendix D: Wisconsin Conservation Congress Hunting/Trapping in State Parks Question from 2011

Question 52-53- Allow Trapping and Hunting on State Park Lands (# 540210): Wisconsin State Statute s. 29.089 does not allow any trapping or hunting on Wisconsin state park land, except for deer, elk, wild turkeys or small game in a state park or portion of a state park if the department has authorized by rule the hunting of that type of game in a state park or portion of a state park. This means that state park lands are closed to hunting unless specifically opened by an administrative rule. Once lands are designated as part of the state park system, there are no provisions to allow trapping of any kind and no opportunity for bear hunting. Currently Wisconsin operates 46 state parks totaling 84,000 acres (32 of the 46 parks are more than 600 acres in size). The DNR continues to purchase private land and put it into the state park system. In private ownership, many of these areas may have been open to hunting and trapping. Trapping techniques have changed in recent years and the use of dog-proof traps, cable restraints, and the late seasons that allow the trapping of some furbearers under the ice have made possible the opportunity for multiple land uses with minimal user conflicts. In addition, safe hunting techniques, education, and hunter awareness efforts have made hunting an extremely safe activity, even on lands that are simultaneously open to other uses and activities.

- Would you support legislation that would require lands purchased as state parks to be open to hunting and give the authority to the DNR to regulate hunting on these state park lands according to the wise use of the natural resource?

  YES_____ NO_____

- Would you support legislation that would require lands purchased as state parks to be open to trapping and give the authority to the DNR to regulate trapping on these state park lands according to the wise use of the natural resource?

  YES_____ NO_____

	Votes Yes	Votes No	Majority	Counties Approving	Counties Rejecting	Counties Tie vote	Counties Not Voting
52. Allow Hunting on State Park Lands (# 540210)	3,710	872	Yes	72	0	0	0
53. Allow Trapping on State Park Lands (# 540210)	3,488	1,078	Yes	71	1	0	0

Big Foot Beach State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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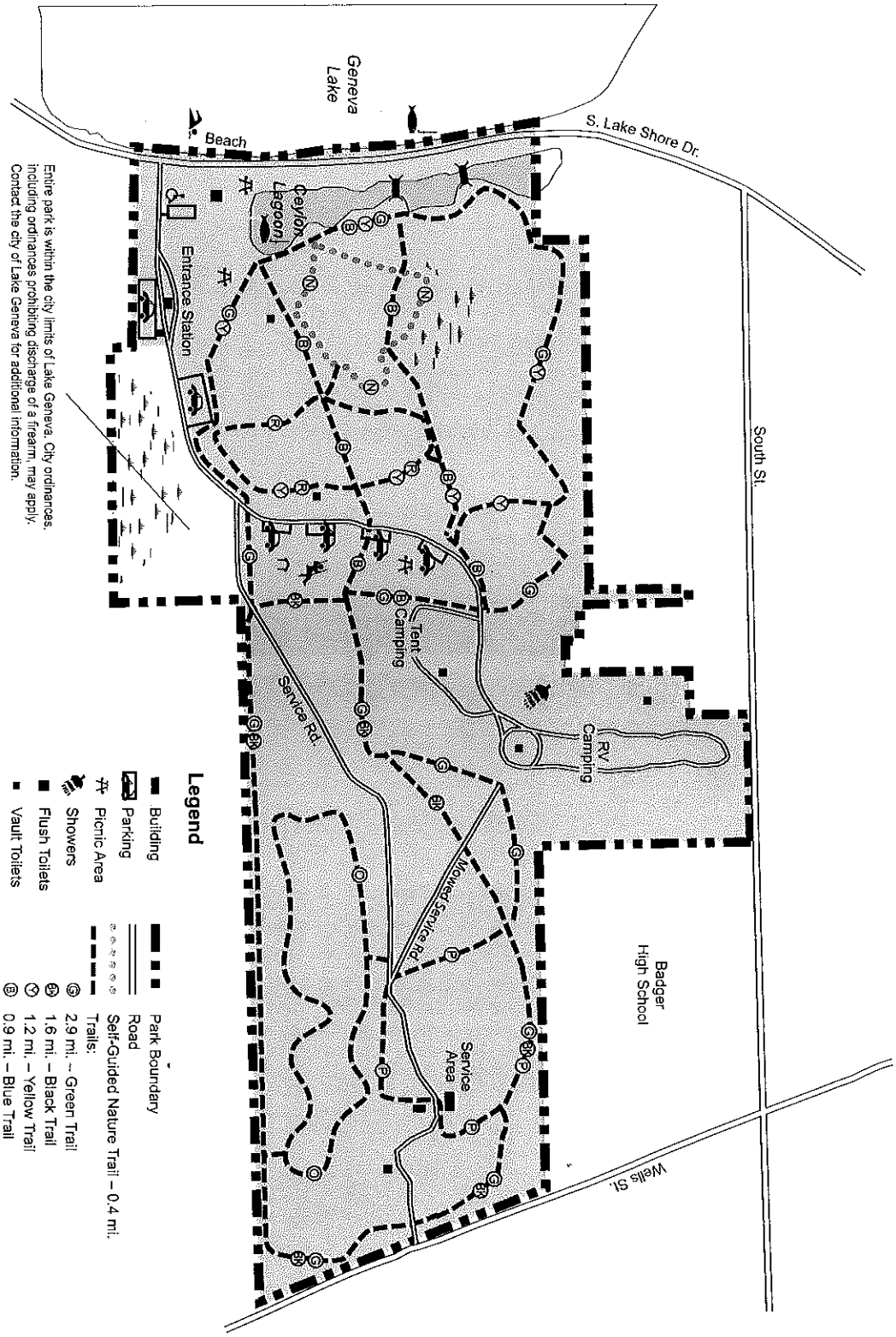
11/30/12



Open hunting area limited to archery only

Entire park is within the city limits of Lake Geneva. City ordinances, including ordinances prohibiting discharge of a firearm, may apply. Contact the city of Lake Geneva for additional information.

REVISED

Closed

Open Oct. 15

Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*

Blue Mound State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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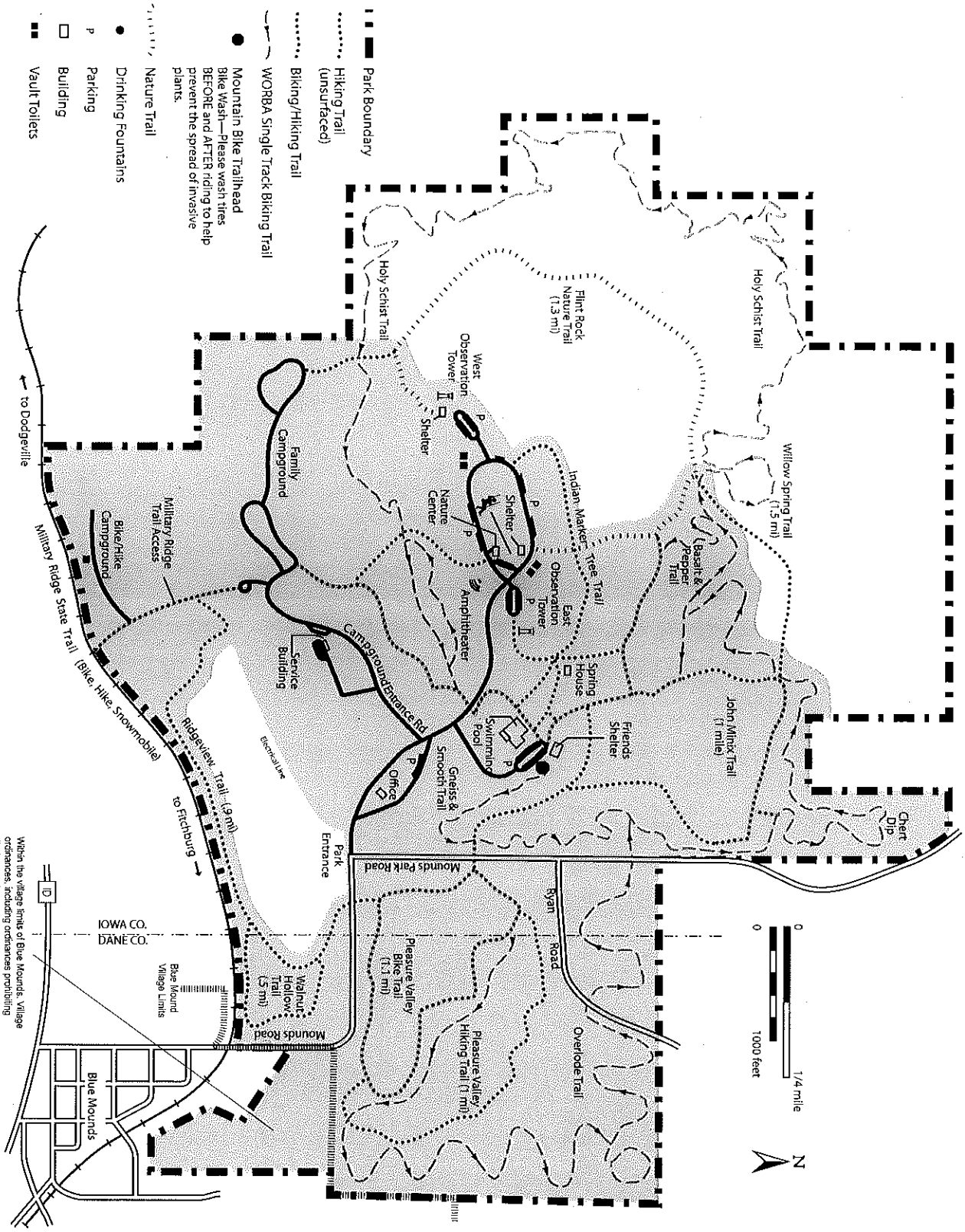
11/30/12



Closed

Open Oct. 15

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Brunet Island State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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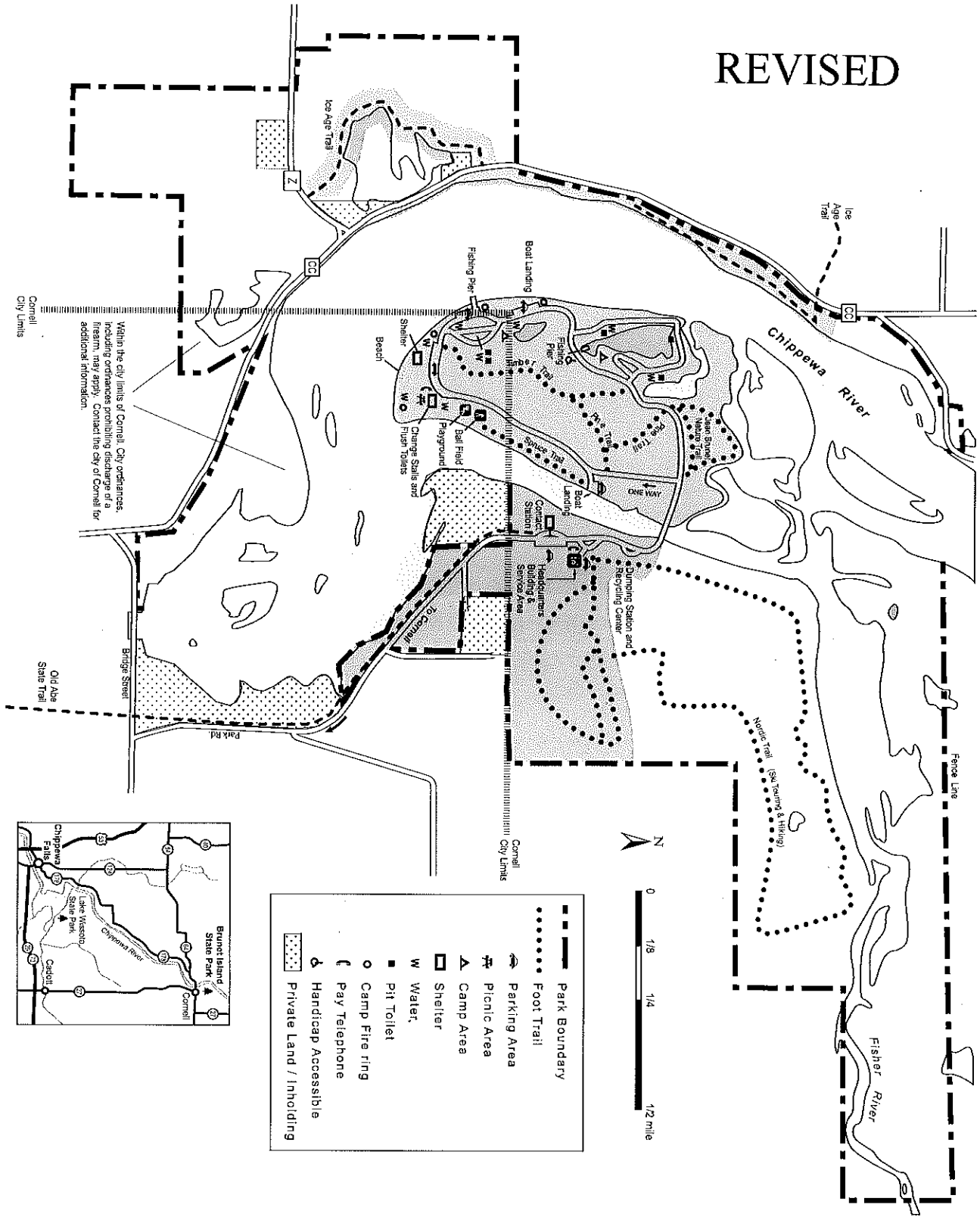

Closed

Open Oct. 15

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Council Grounds State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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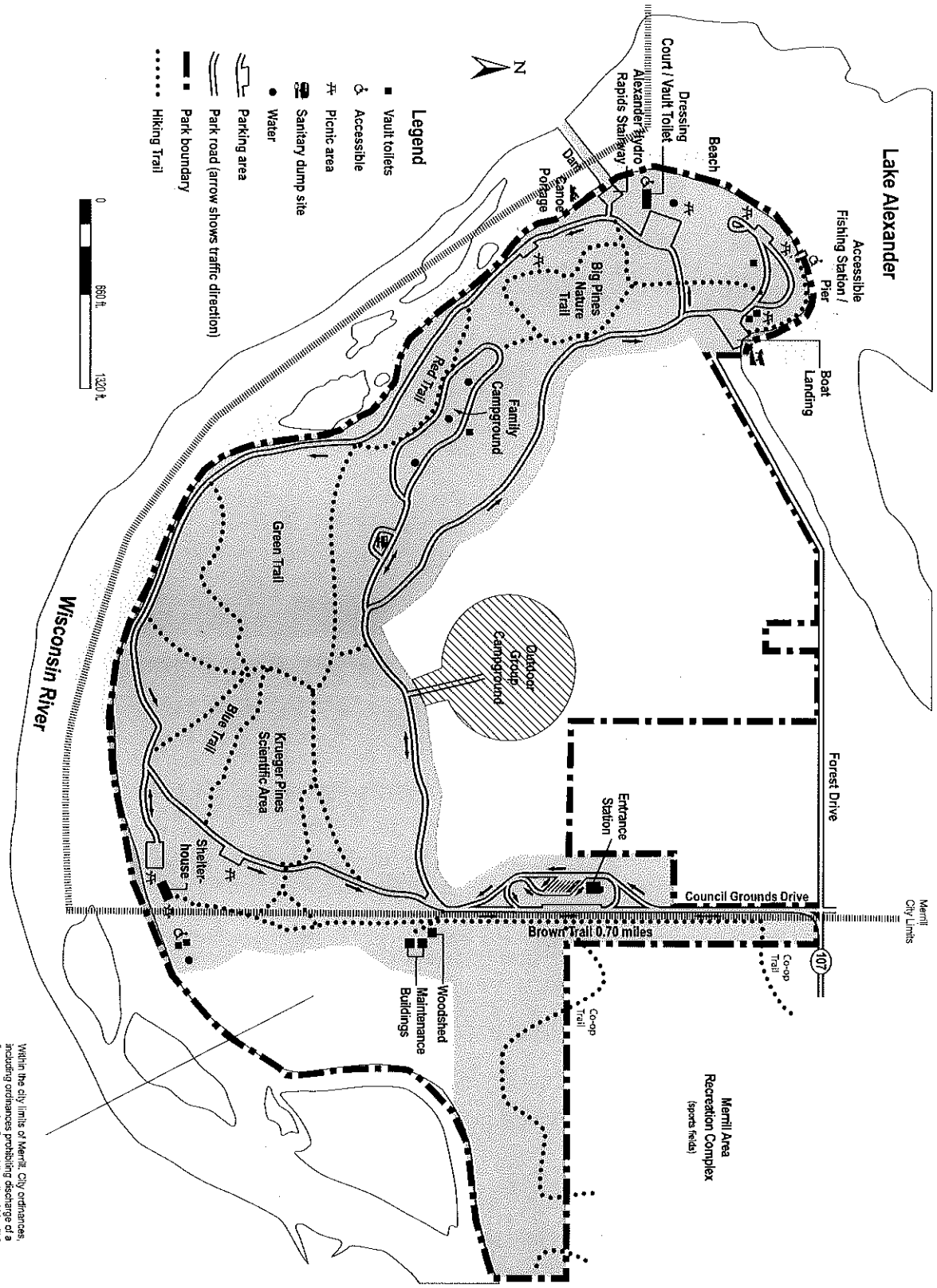
11/30/12



REVISED

Closed
Open Oct. 15
Open Nov. 15

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Devil's Lake State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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11/30/12

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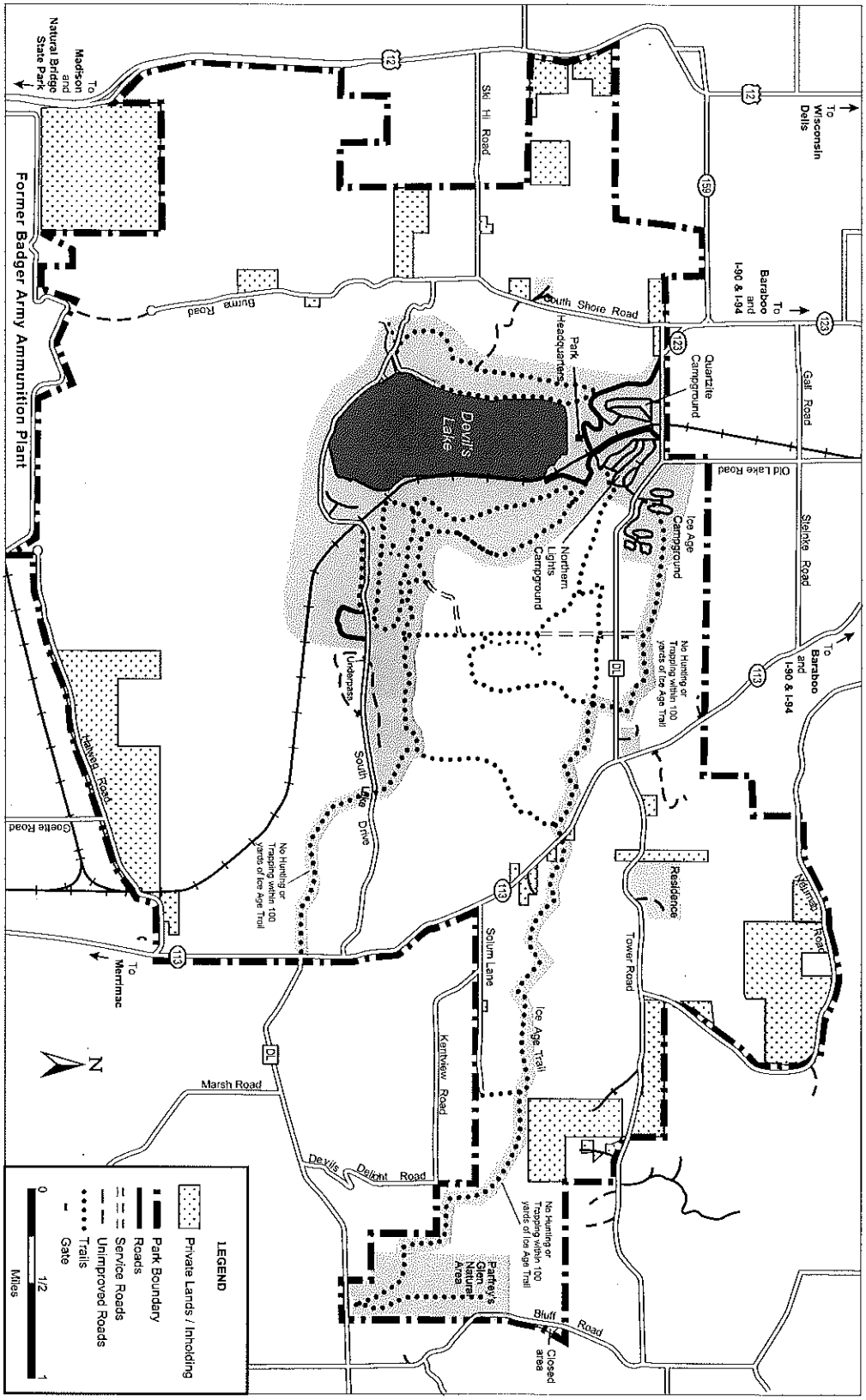

Closed

Open Oct. 15

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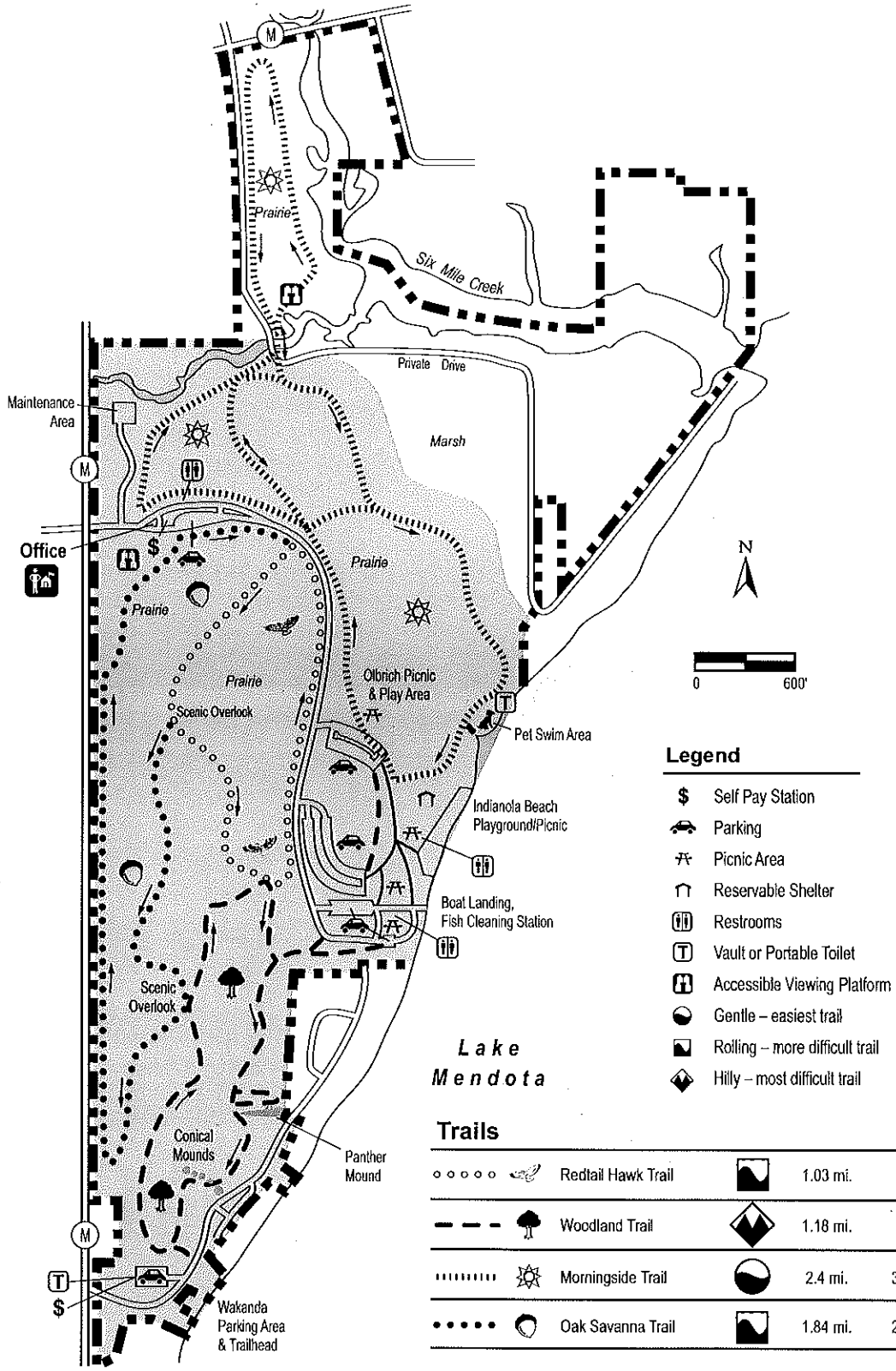
Governor Nelson State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

DRAFT
11/30/12

REVISED



Legend

- $ Self Pay Station
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Reservable Shelter
- Restrooms
- Vault or Portable Toilet
- Accessible Viewing Platform
- Gentle – easiest trail
- Rolling – more difficult trail
- Hilly – most difficult trail

Trails

Redtail Hawk Trail		1.03 mi.	1657 m.
Woodland Trail		1.18 mi.	1907 m.
Morningside Trail		2.4 mi.	3862.6 m.
Oak Savanna Trail		1.84 mi.	2961.2 m.

Closed

Open Oct. 15

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Harrington Beach State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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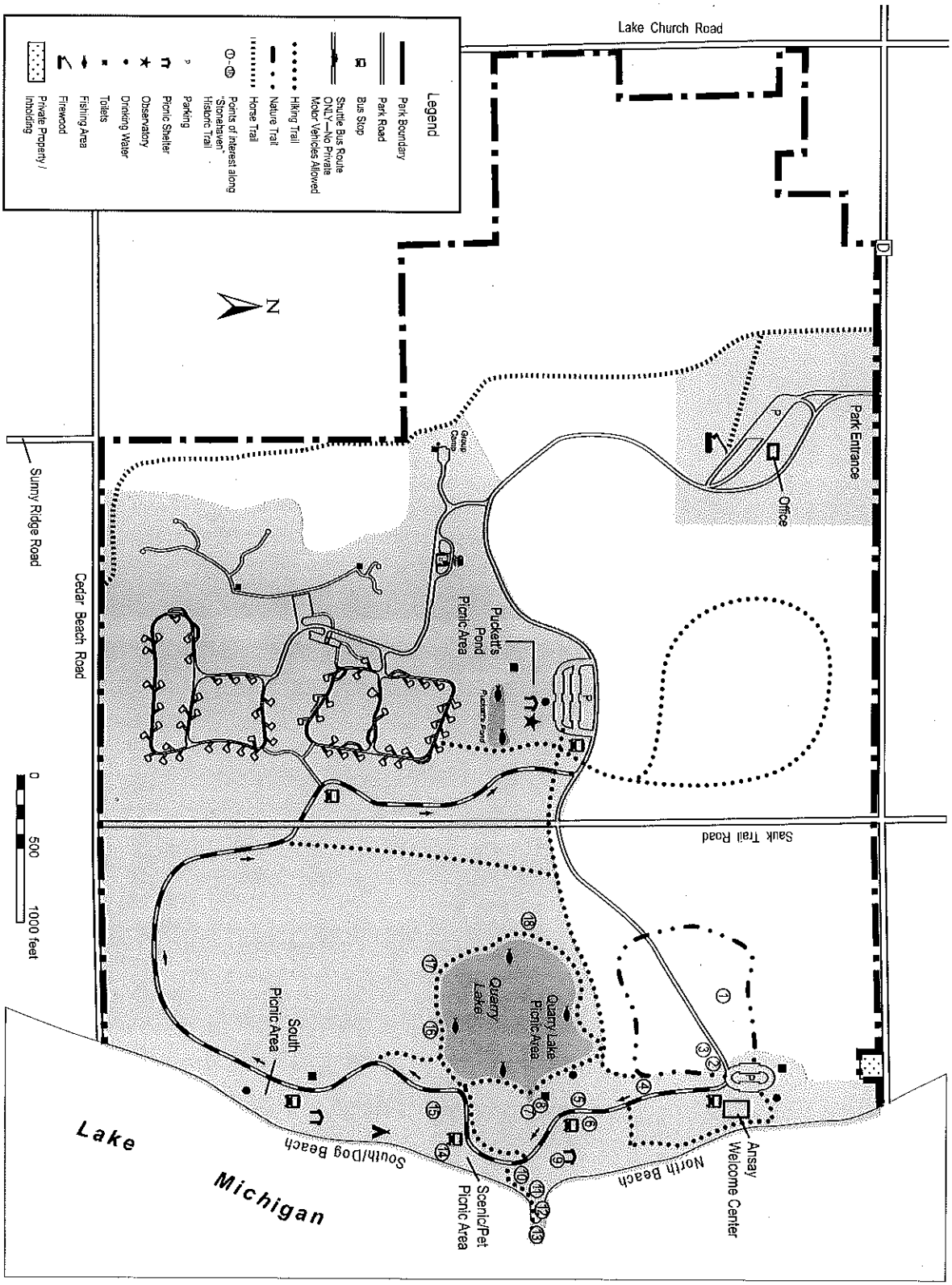
11/30/12



REVISED

Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	

7

Hartman Creek State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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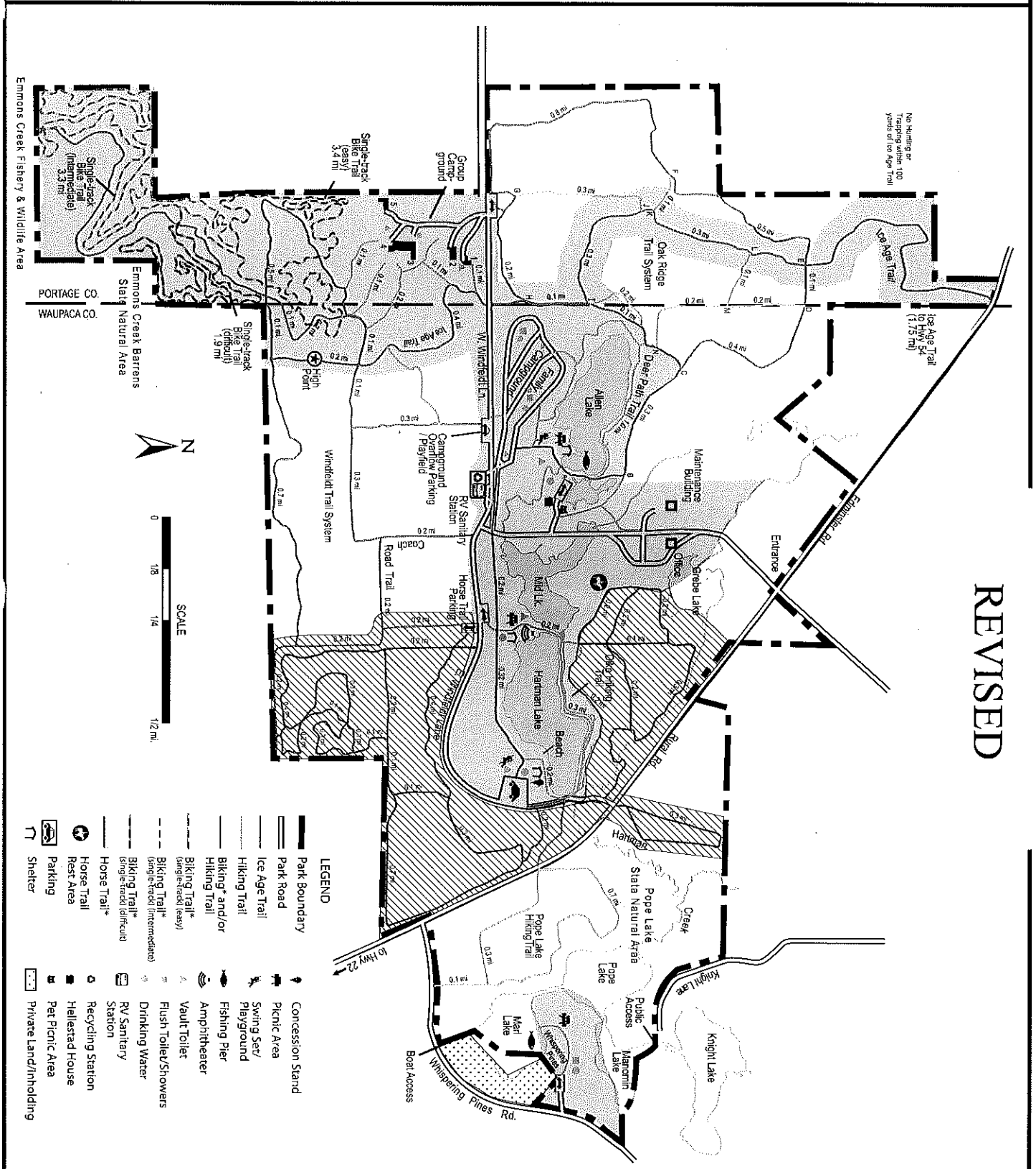
11/30/12



Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	
Open Nov. 15	

High Cliff State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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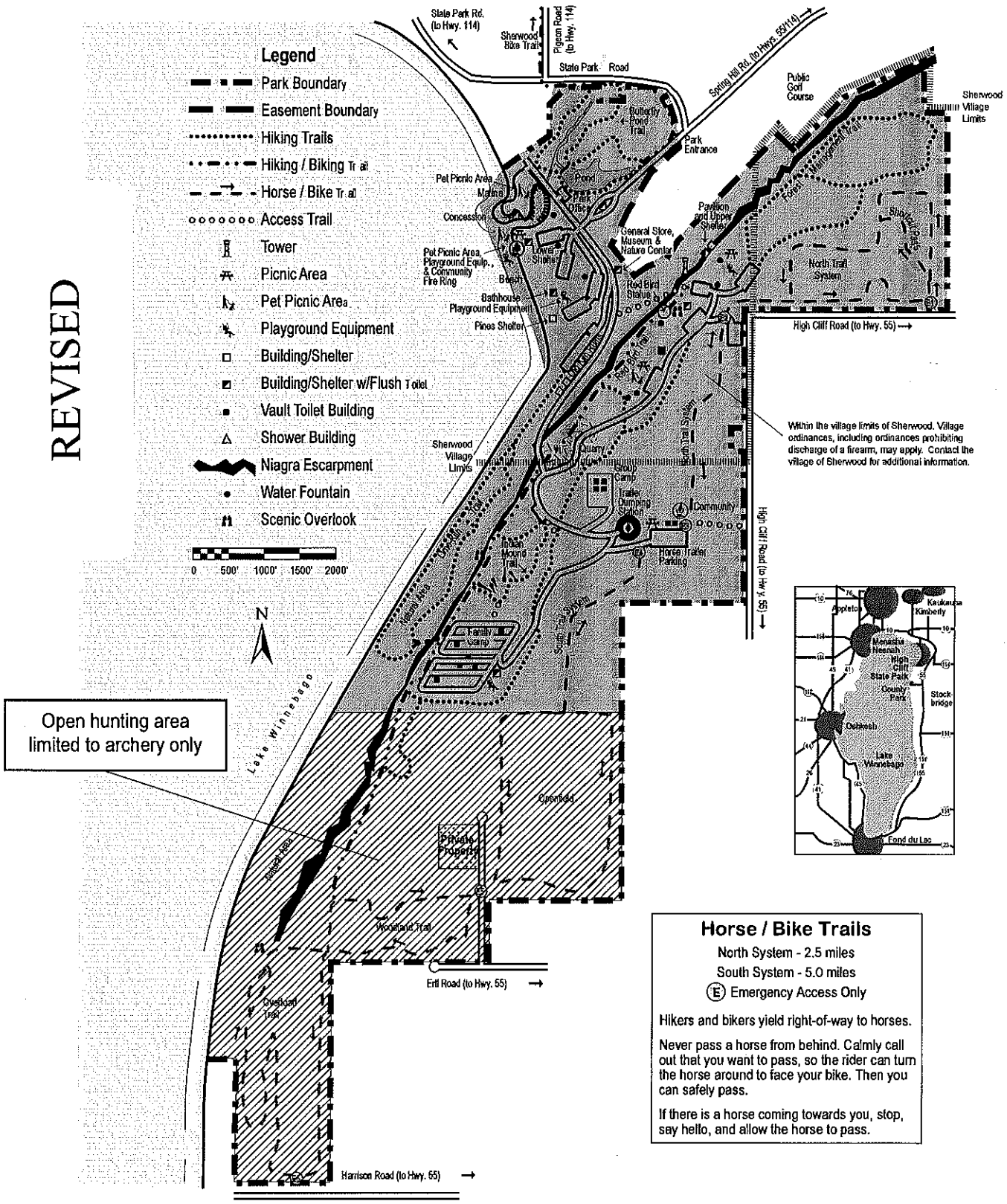
11/30/12



Horse / Bike Trails

North System - 2.5 miles
South System - 5.0 miles
(E) Emergency Access Only

Hikers and bikers yield right-of-way to horses.

Never pass a horse from behind. Calmly call out that you want to pass, so the rider can turn the horse around to face your bike. Then you can safely pass.

If there is a horse coming towards you, stop, say hello, and allow the horse to pass.

Closed

Open Nov. 15

Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*

Park Name: **Holzhueter Farm Conservation Park**
Total Acreage of Property:3

Estimated Acreage Open to Hunting and Trapping (Oct. 15-Thurs Before Memorial Day):
Estimated Acreage Closed to Hunting and Trapping:

Estimated Annual Attendance:

For public safety considerations, we request the NRB: **- Prohibit hunting and trapping in WSP prior to Oct. 15 and after the Thursday prior to Memorial Day each year as noted on the map in gray.** **- Prohibit hunting and trapping in areas beyond 100 yards of designated use areas shown on the map in gray.**	**Yes.** **No.**
	Owned by Department, Operated by Jefferson County Parks. Closed areas: Department- the parking lot at the entrance to the park on the SW corner. There is also a private inholding in the center of the park that would be closed. The parking lot is currently utilized year around by bikers, high school cross country teams, runners, and cross country skiers.

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Kinnickinnic State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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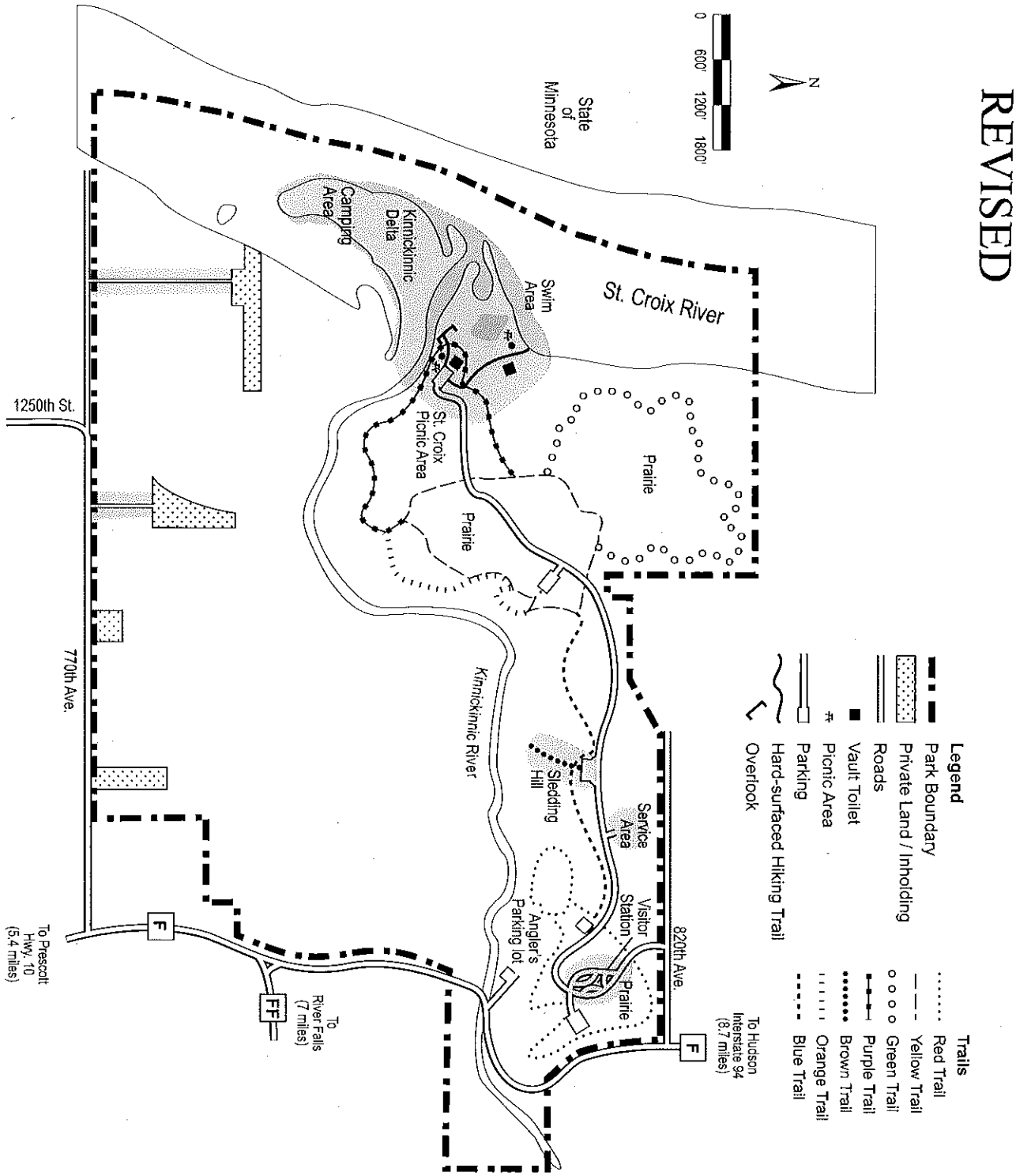

Closed

Open Oct. 15

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11

Lake Kegonsa State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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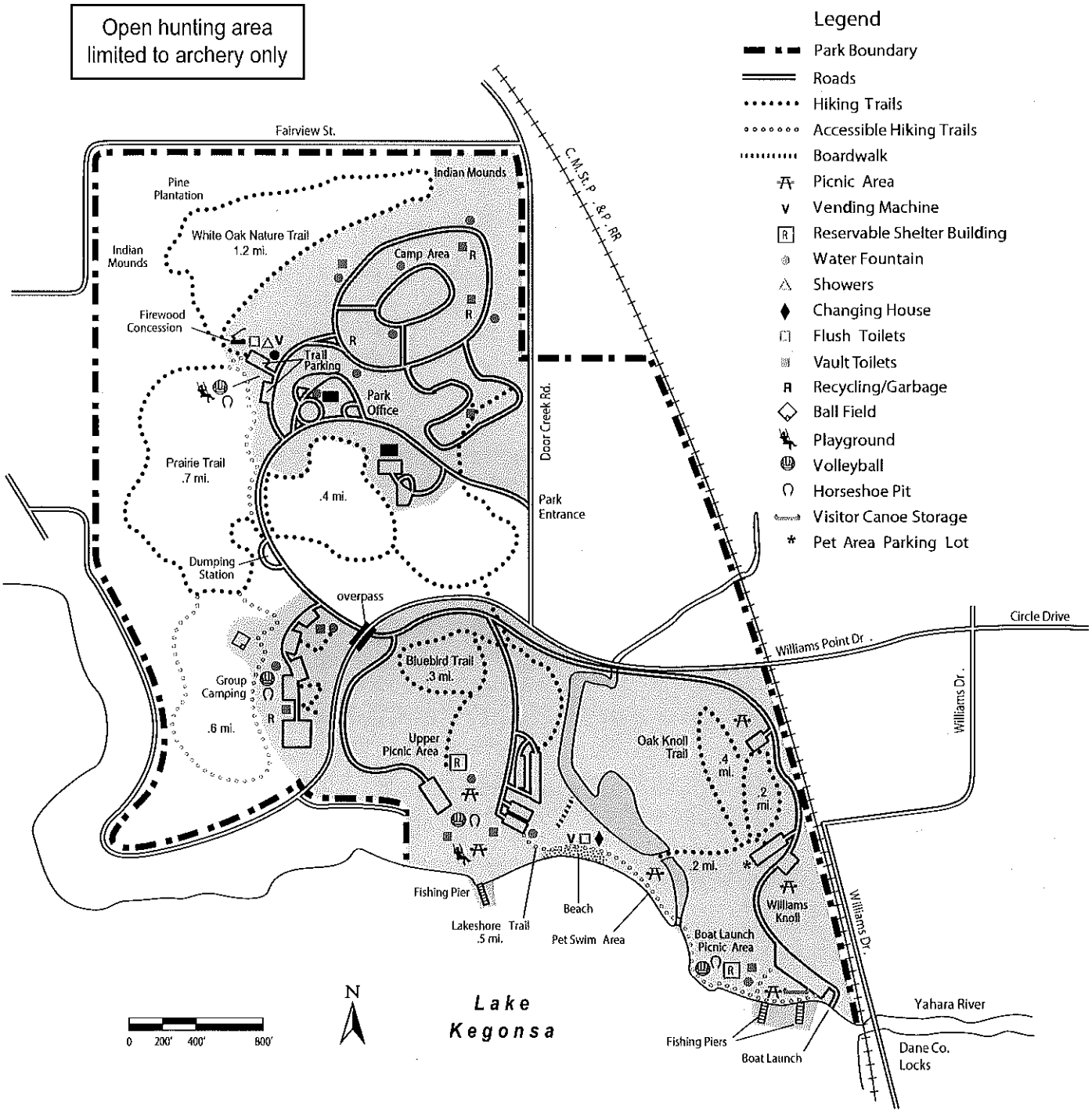

REVISED

Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	

Lake Wissota State Park
Hunting & Trapping Map

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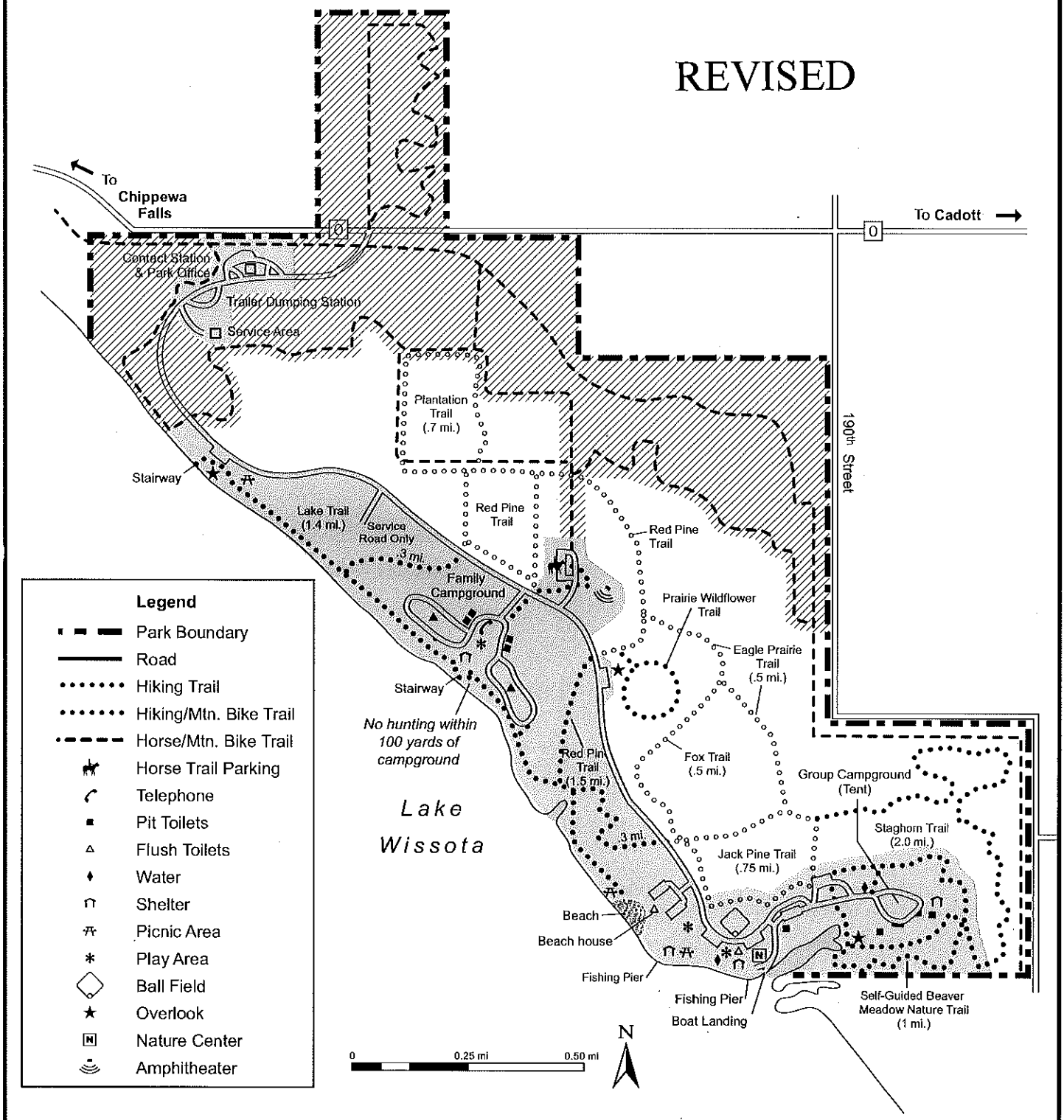
11/30/12



Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	
Open Nov. 15	

Mill Bluff State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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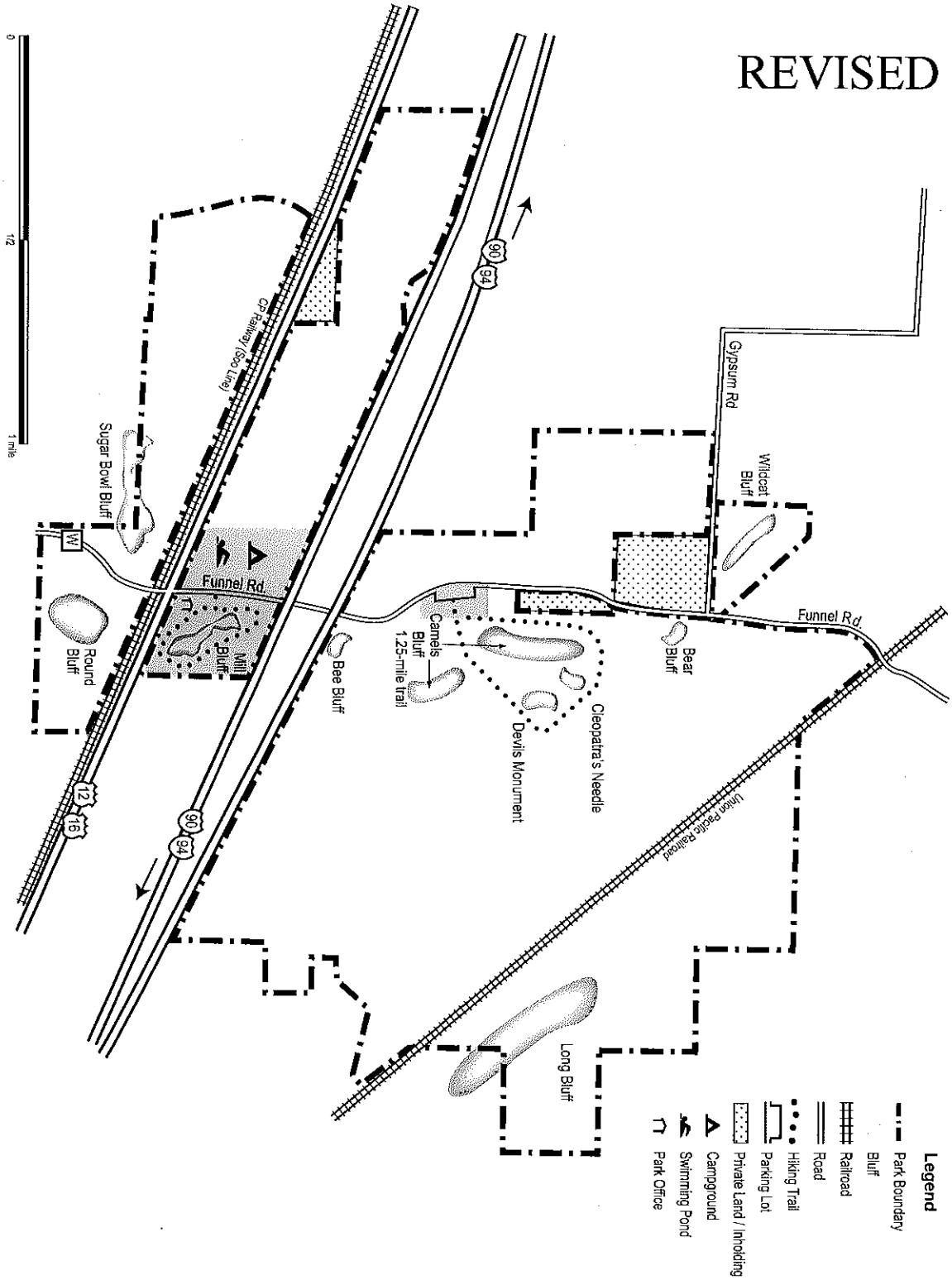
11/30/12



Closed

Open Oct. 15

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Nelson Dewey State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

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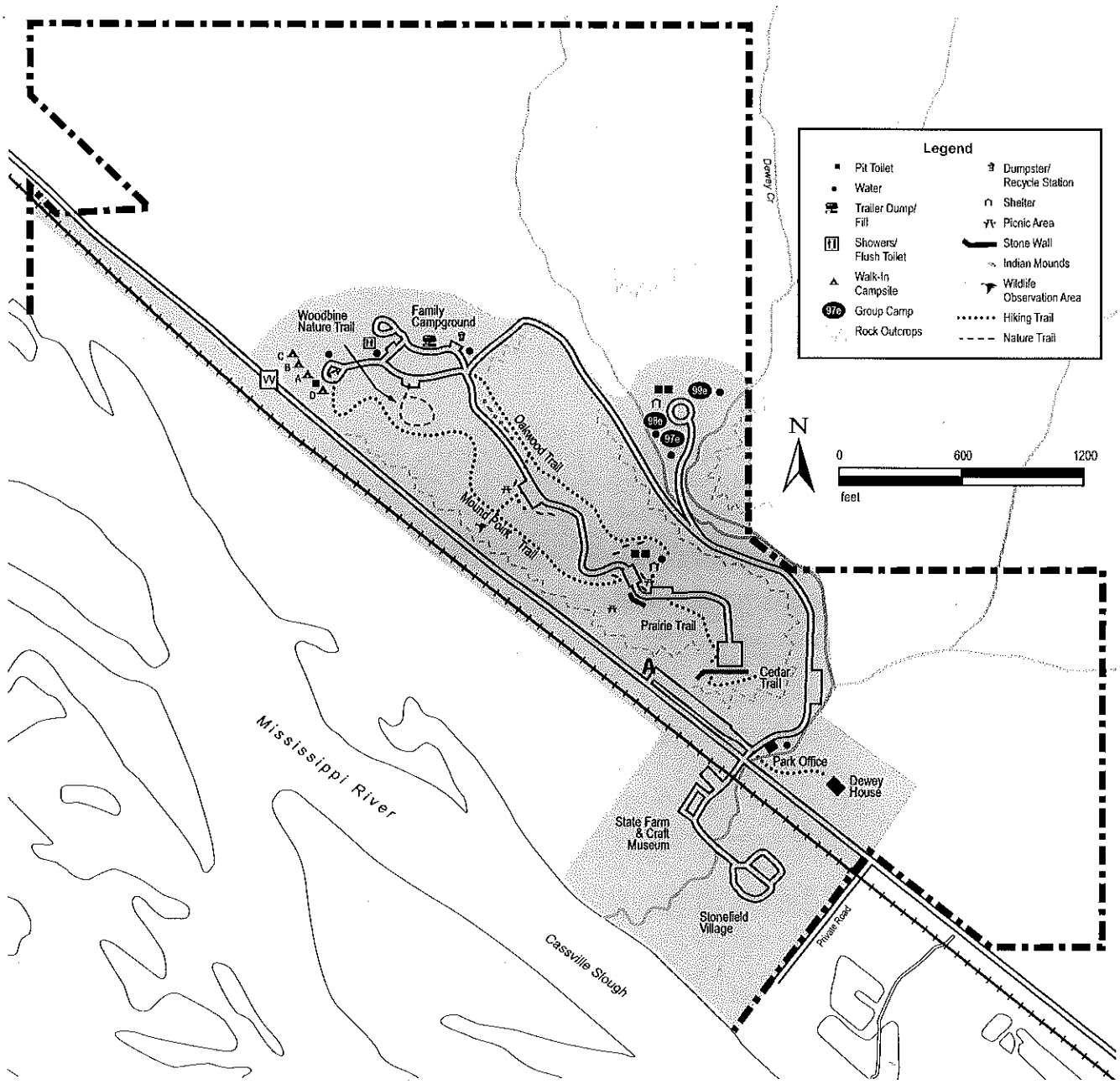
11/30/12

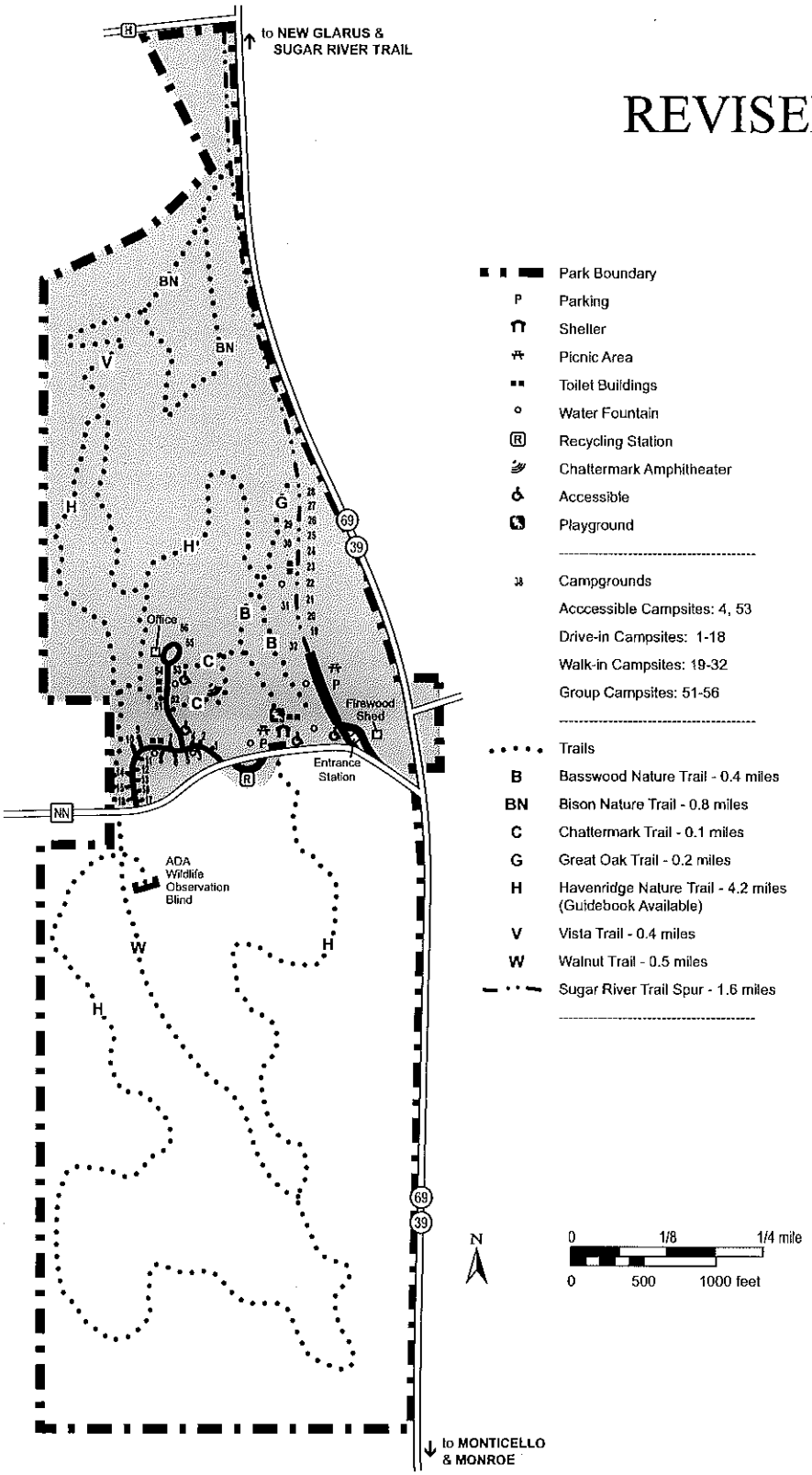


REVISED

Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	

New Glarus Woods State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

DRAFT
11/30/12



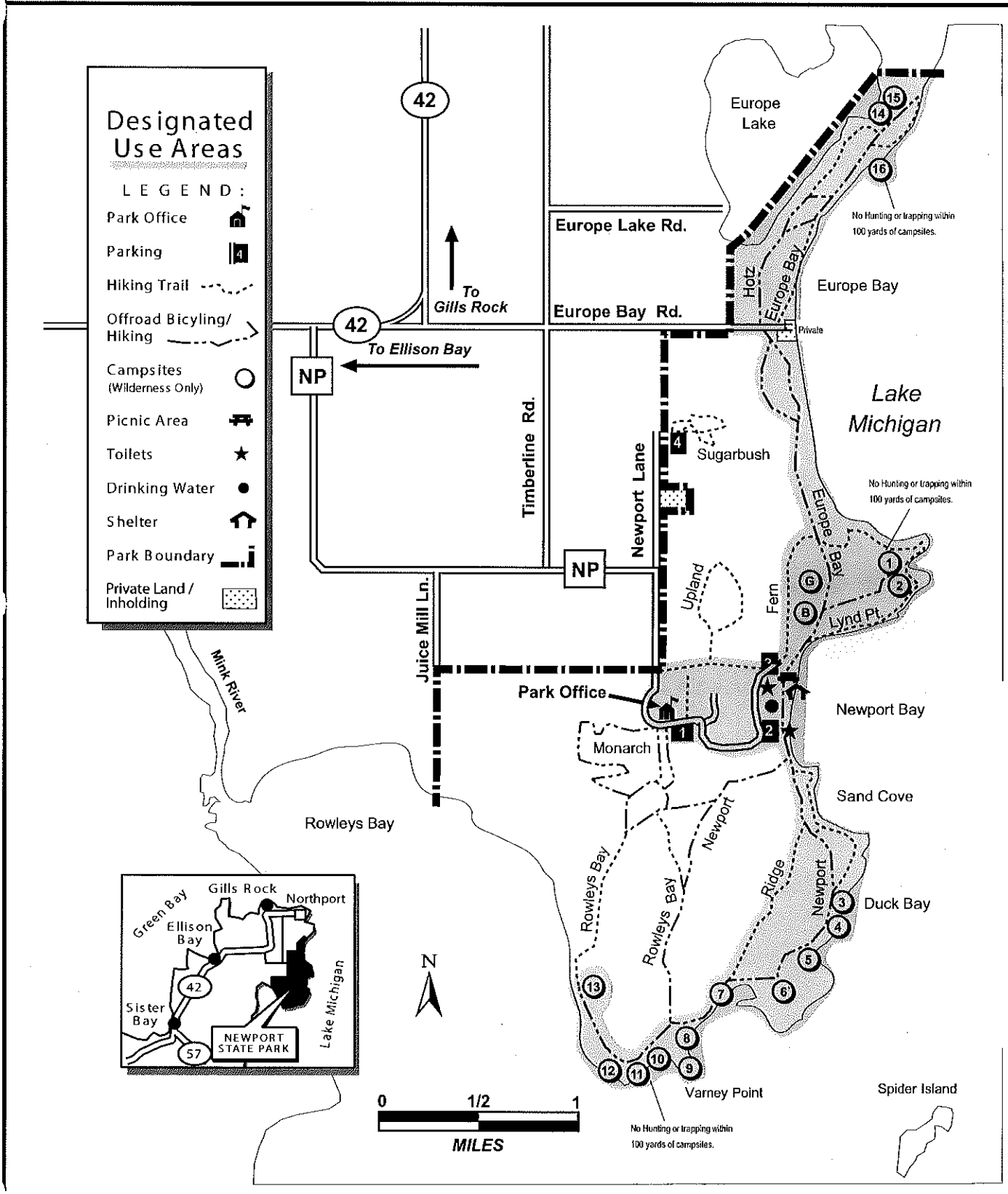
Closed

Open Oct. 15

Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*

Newport State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

DRAFT
11/30/12



REVISED

Closed

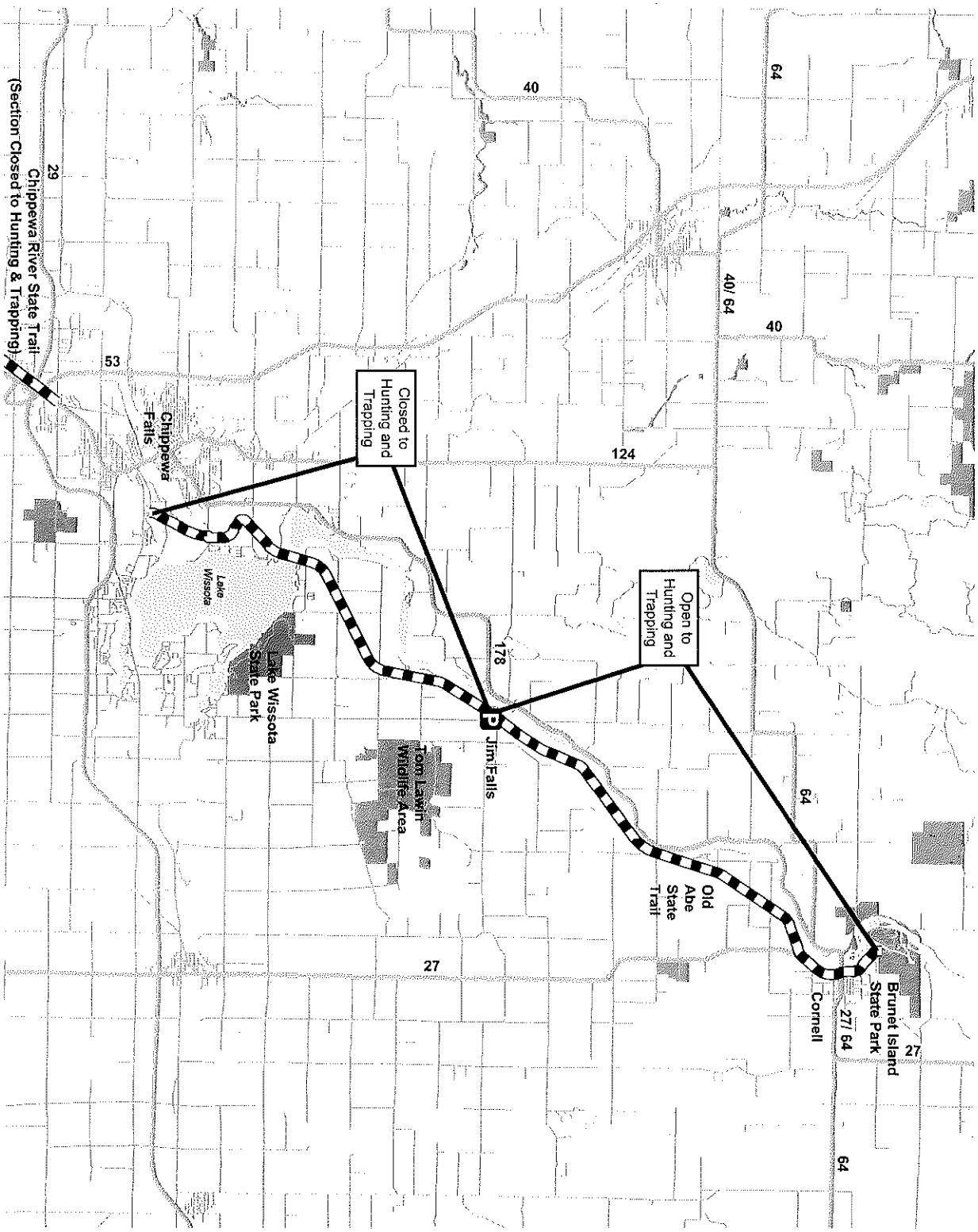
Open Oct. 15

Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*

Old Abe State Trail
Hunting and Trapping Map

REVISED

DRAFT
11/30/12



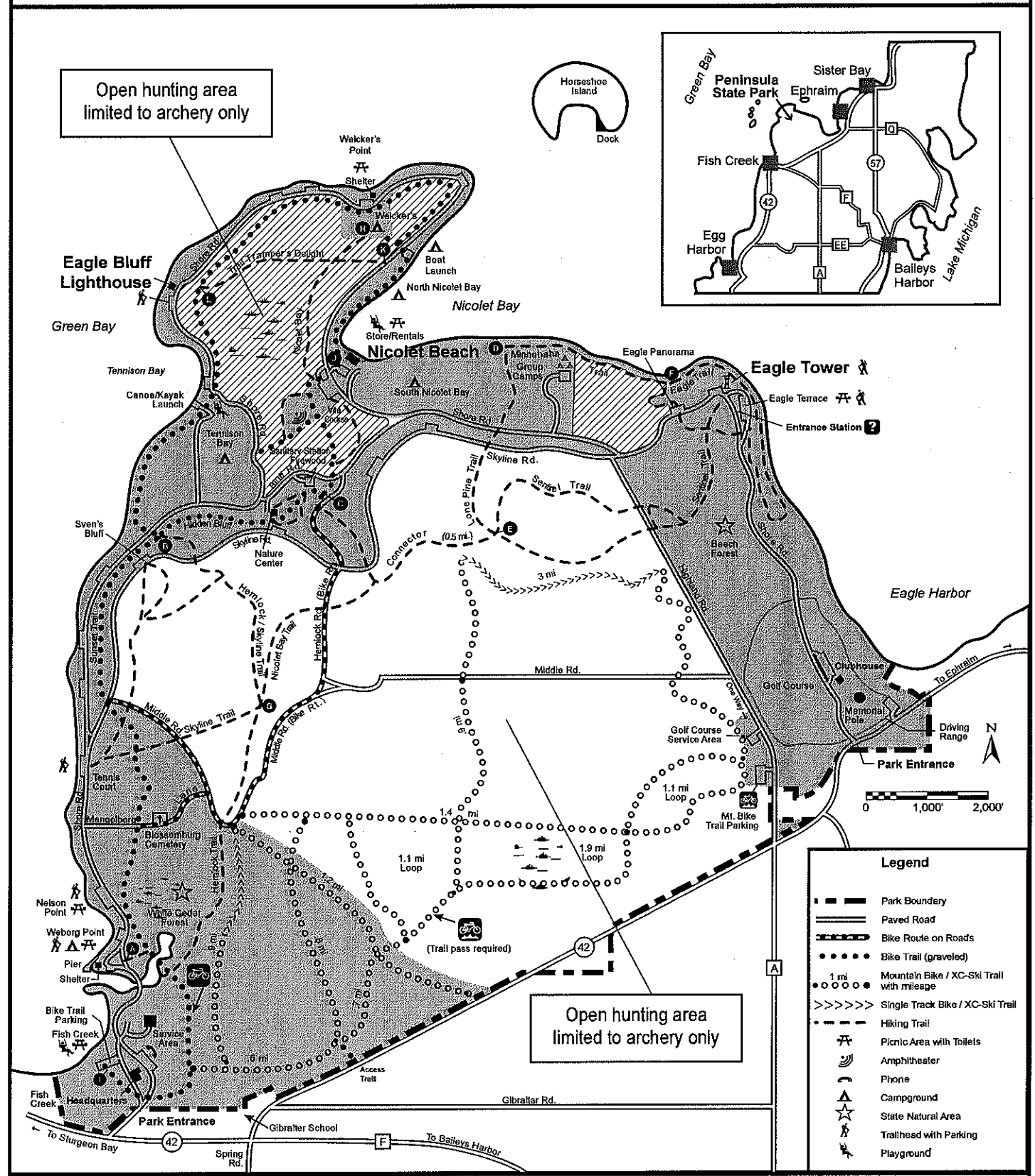
The Old Abe State Trail corridor is open to hunting from County Highway S in Jim Falls north, approximately 10 miles, to State Highway 64 in Cornell.

Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at http://dnr.wi.gov. See reverse for more information.

Peninsula State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

REVISED

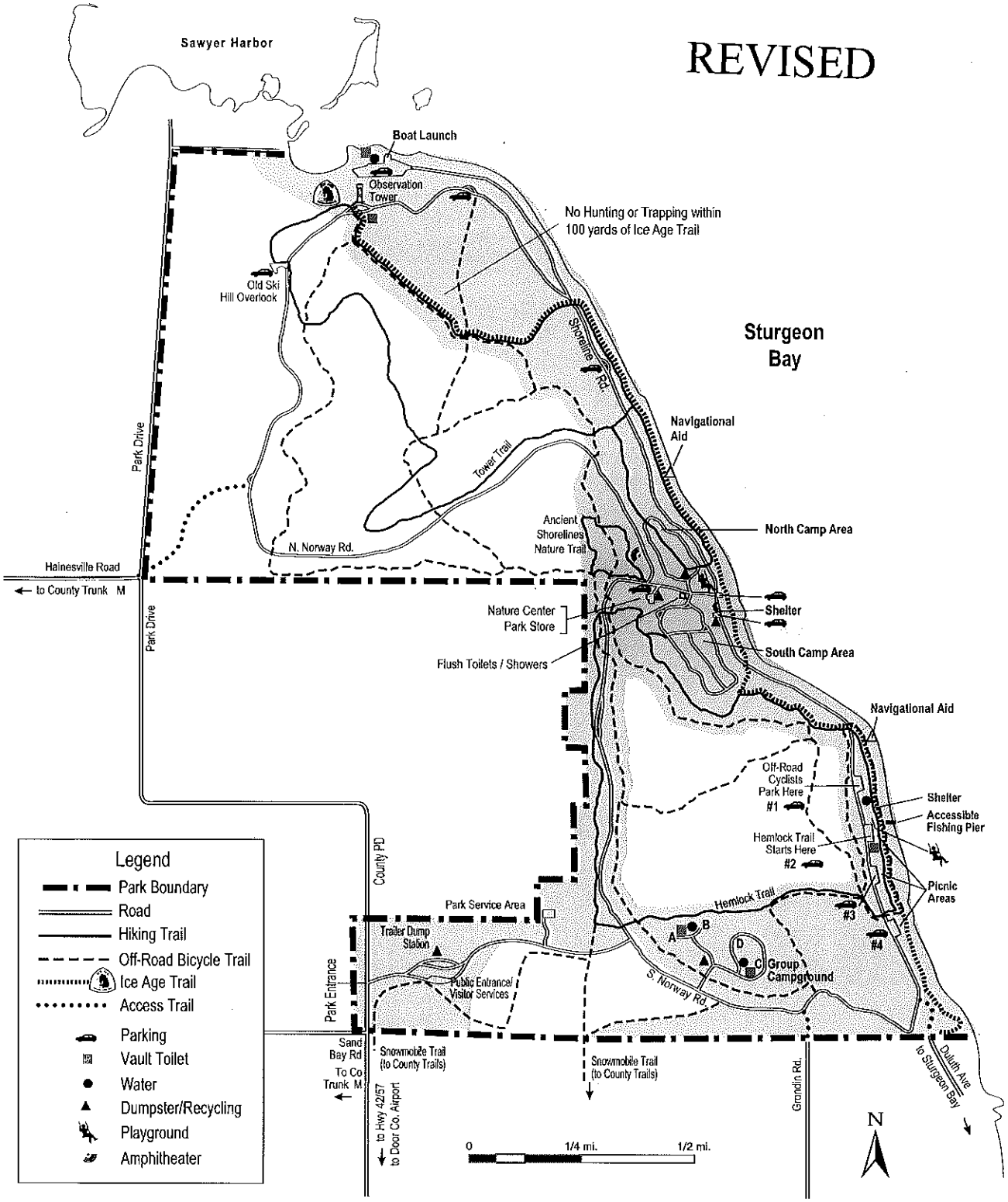
DRAFT
11/30/12



Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	
Open Nov. 15	

Potawatomi State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

DRAFT
11/30/12



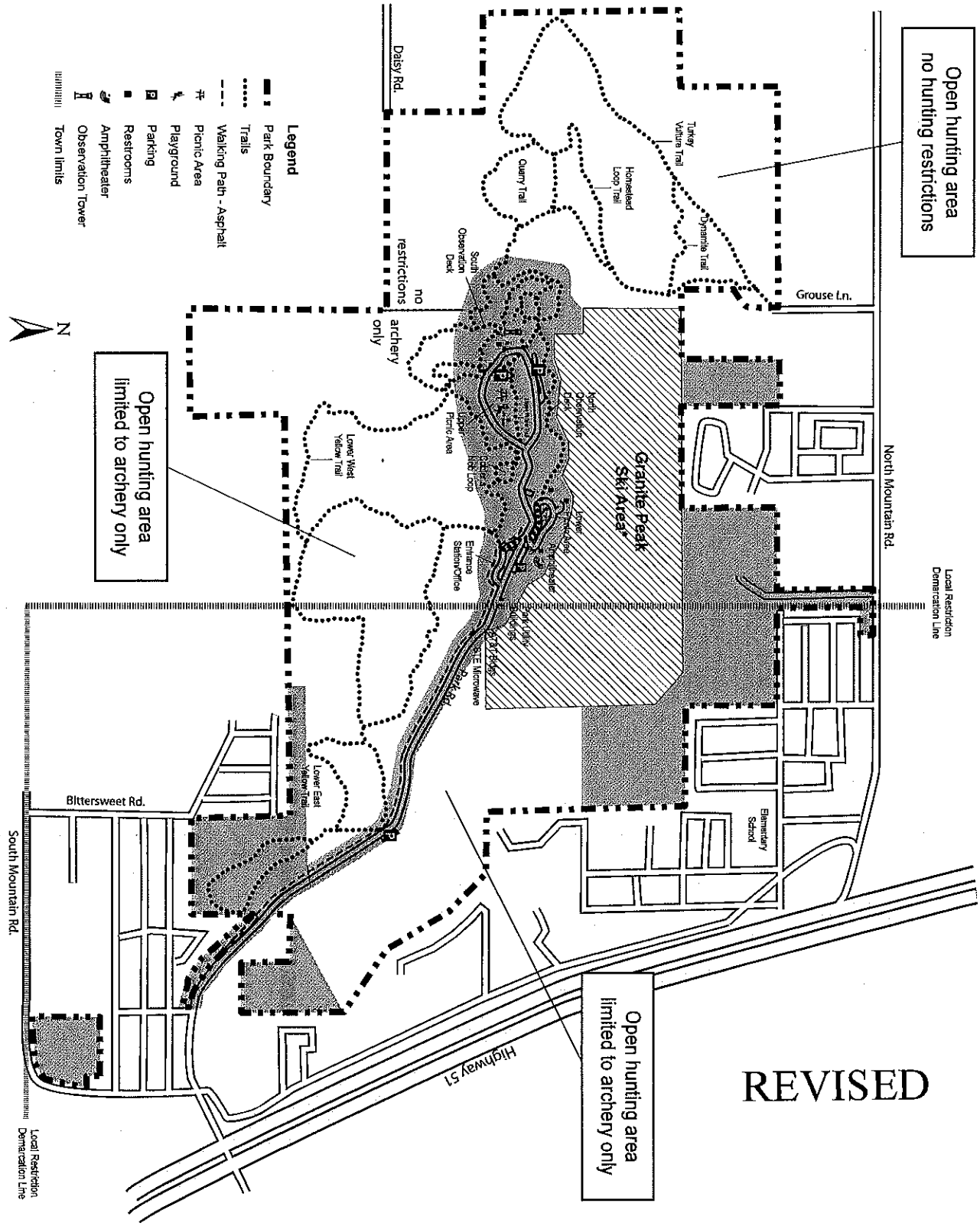
Closed

Open Oct. 15

Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*

Rib Mountain State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

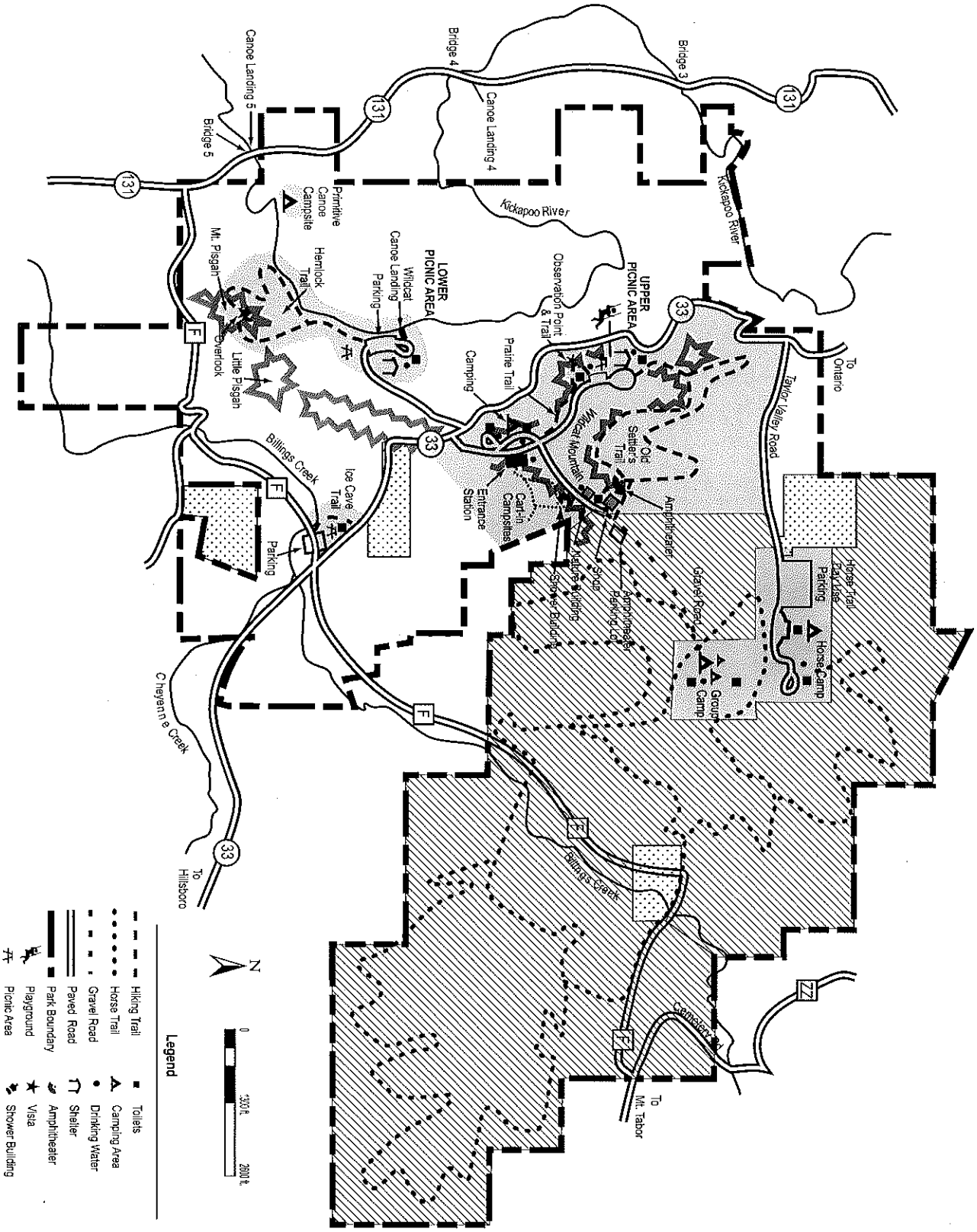
DRAFT
11/30/12



Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	
Open Apr. 15	

Wildcat Mountain State Park
Hunting and Trapping Map

DRAFT
11/30/12



Closed	Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day Weekend unless marked closed on the map above. Trapping is not permitted in closed areas as noted on this map or within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails. Updates will be posted at the park office. See reverse for more information. *Map not to scale.*
Open Oct. 15	
Open Nov. 15	

Park Name: **STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS (SIATA) and STATE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL AREAS (SNCTA)** -lands owned and managed by the Department of Natural Resources for the National Scenic Ice Age Trail and National Scenic North Country Trail.

Total Acreage of Property: 8,160

Estimated Acreage Open to Hunting and Trapping (Oct. 15-Thurs Before Memorial Day): 5,225

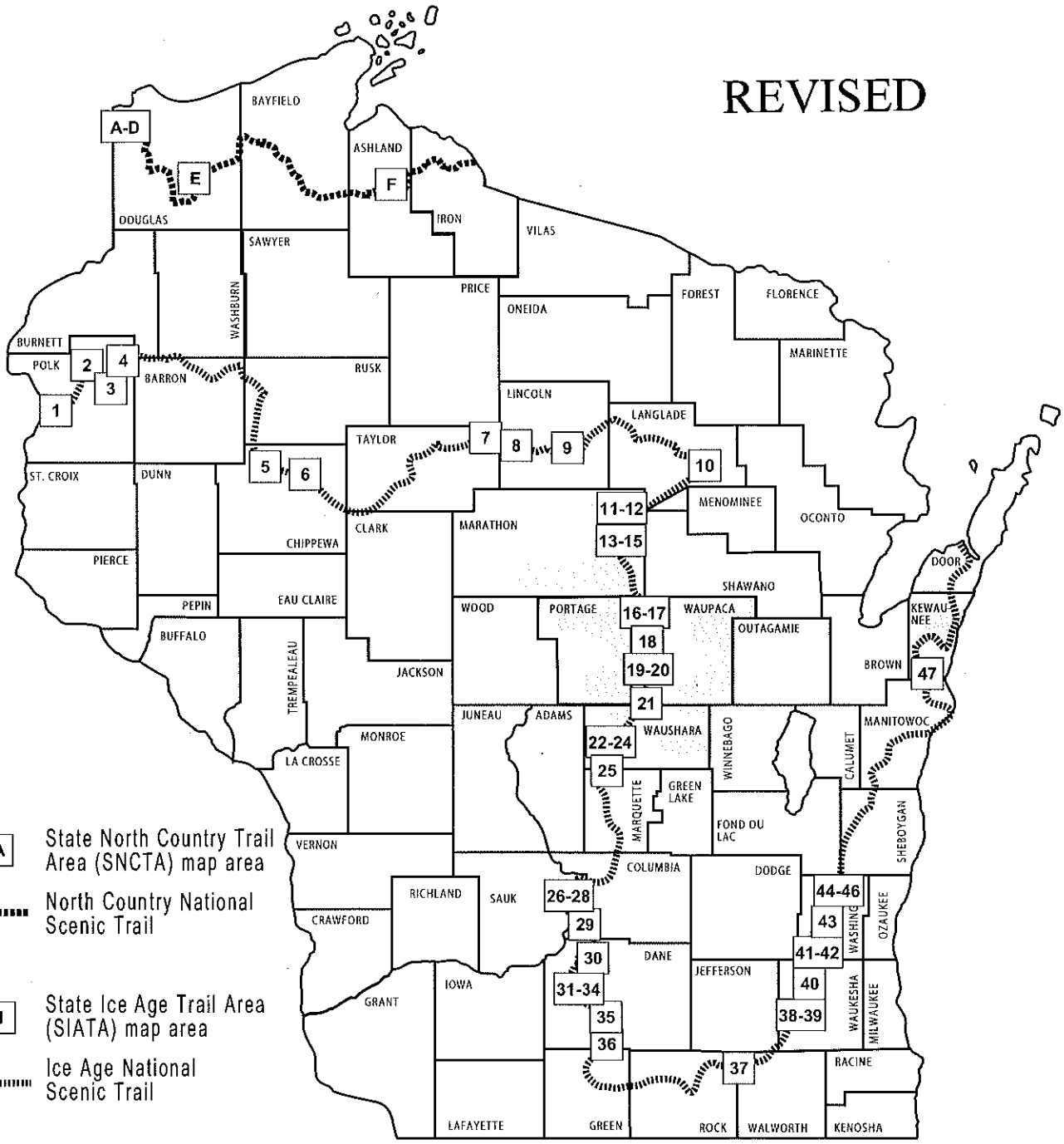
Estimated Acreage Closed to Hunting: 2,935

For public safety considerations, we request the NRB: **- Prohibit hunting and trapping in WSP prior to Oct. 15 and after the Thursday prior to Memorial Day each year as noted on the map in gray.** **Prohibit hunting and trapping in areas beyond 100 yards of designated use areas shown on the map in gray.**	**No** **No**
DNR Designated Use Closure	
• The Ice Age Trail and North Country Trail are national hiking trails which are a state park system designated use area.	Where it is developed and open, State Ice Age Trail Areas and State North Country Trail Areas will be closed for hunting and trapping within 100 yards on either side of the trail. Where the trail is not yet developed and open, hunting and trapping will be allowed on the full property unless otherwise restricted.
Other Closure Considerations:	
Lands Open to Hunting and Trapping; Local Ordinance Prohibits Discharge of Firearms:	Local ordinances may apply within the boundaries of the properties, prohibiting actions such as the discharge of firearms. Please contact local officials for additional details.
Department Does Not Own Hunting Rights for Property:	On several properties the department has easement rights for hiking, but has not purchased hunting rights. In these areas, hunting and trapping will be prohibited. The areas will be shown on a property map.

REVISED

Wisconsin's National Scenic Trails

State Ice Age Trail Area & State North Country Trail Area Locations



Map areas are west to east along the National Scenic Trails

SIATAs:

Polk County (1-4)
Chippewa County (5-6)
Taylor County (7)
Lincoln County (8-9)
Langlade County (10)
Marathon County (11-15)
Portage/Waupaca Counties (16-21)
Waushara County (22-25)
Sauk County (26-28)
Columbia County (29)
Dane County (30-36)
Rock/Walworth County (37)
Waukesha County (38-40)
Washington County (41-46)
Kewaunee County (47)

SNCTAs:

Douglas County (A-E)
Ashland County (F)

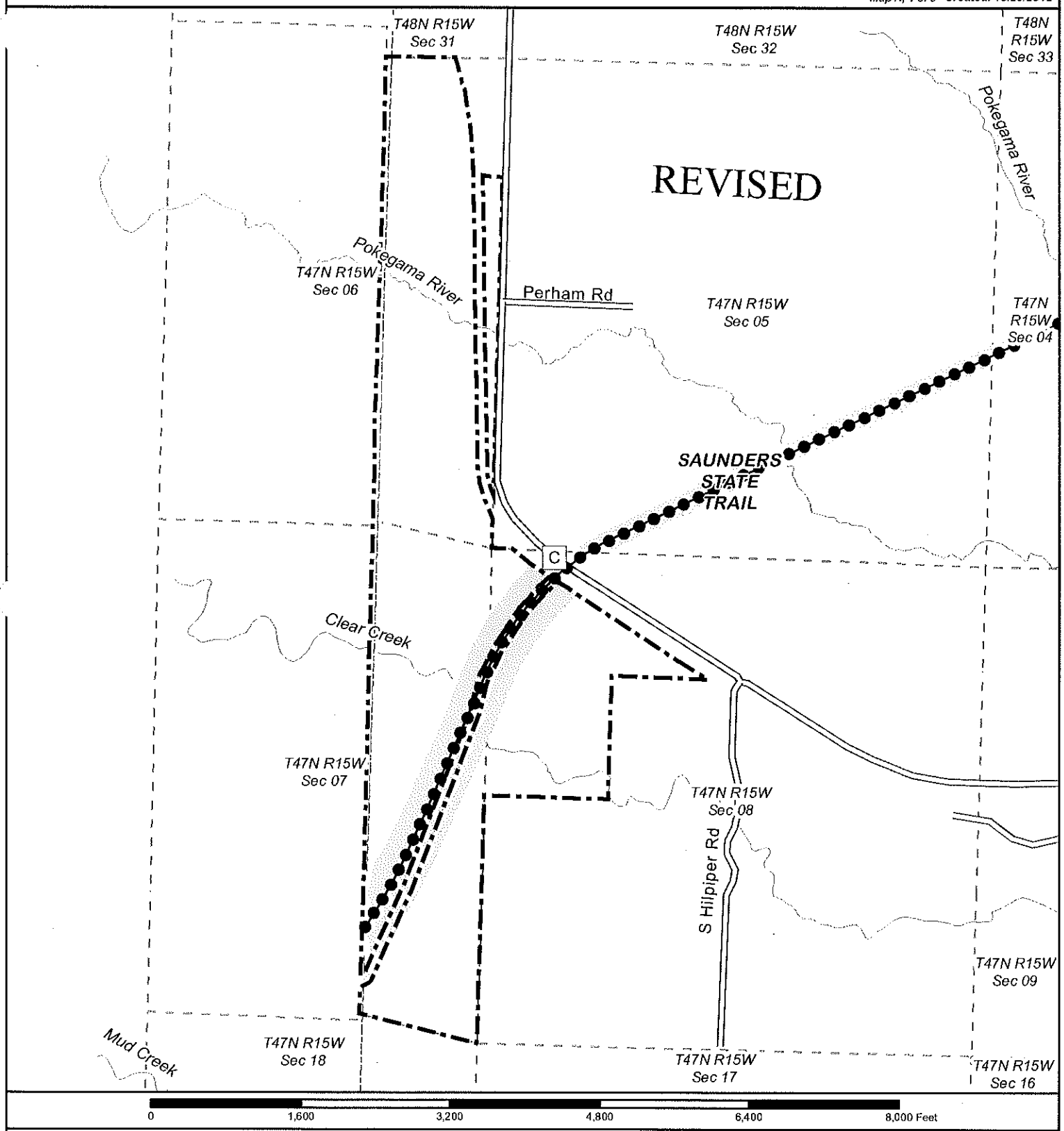
North Country Scenic Trail-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Superior--Minnesota Border

T47N R15W Sec 08, Town of Superior, Douglas County

N

Map A, 1 of 6 Created: 10/25/2012



'unting Status

- Open Oct 15
- Closed
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- North Country Scenic Trail
- State Trail

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL.Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including North Country ScenicTrail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the North Country ScenicTrail. See reverse for more information.

25

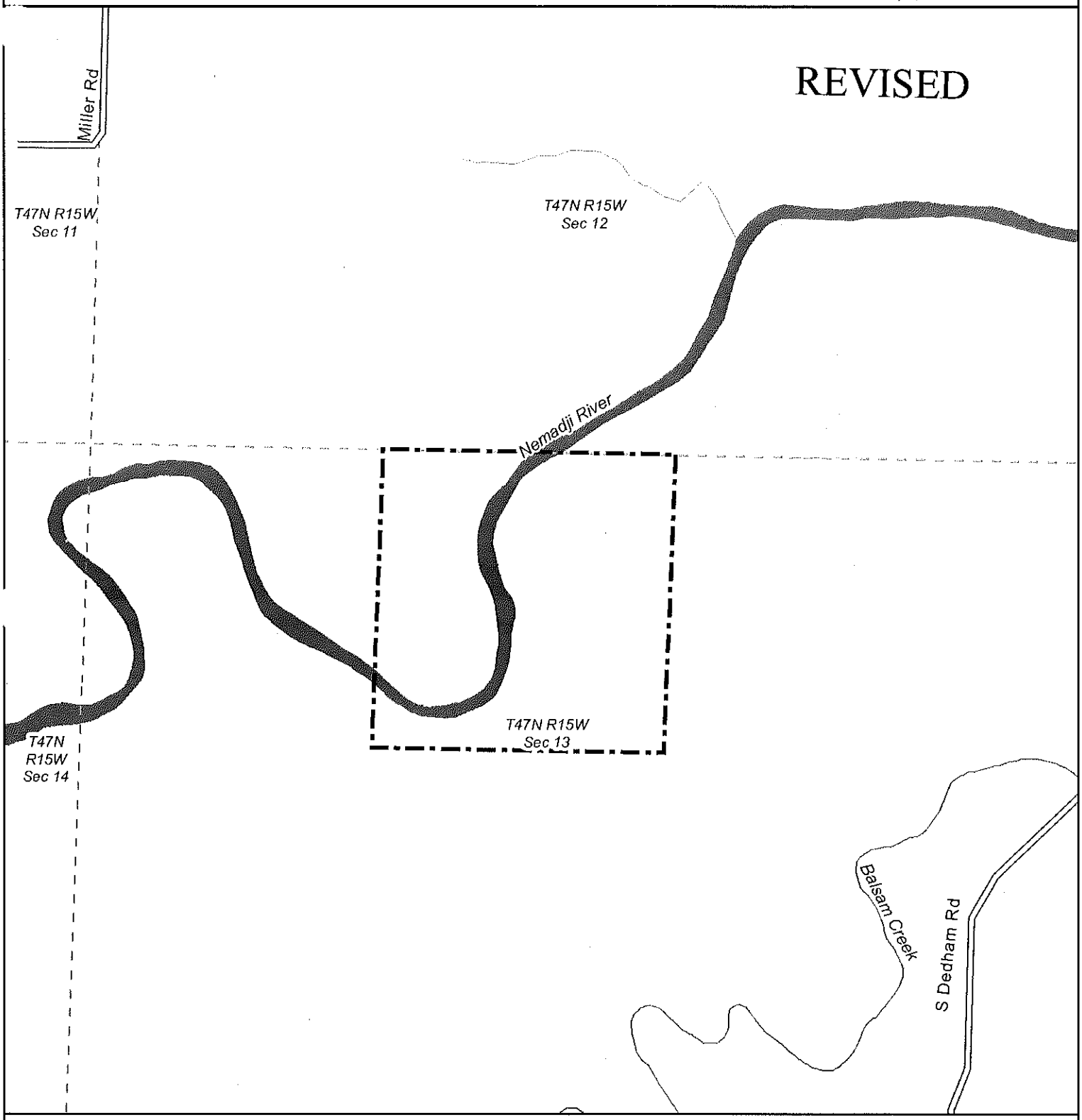
North Country Scenic Trail-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Superior--Nemadji River

T47N R15W Sec 13, Town of Superior, Douglas County

N

Map B, 2 of 6 Created: 10/25/2012



'unting Status

- Open Oct 15
- Closed
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- North Country Scenic Trail
- State Trail

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL.Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including North Country ScenicTrail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the North Country ScenicTrail. See reverse for more information.

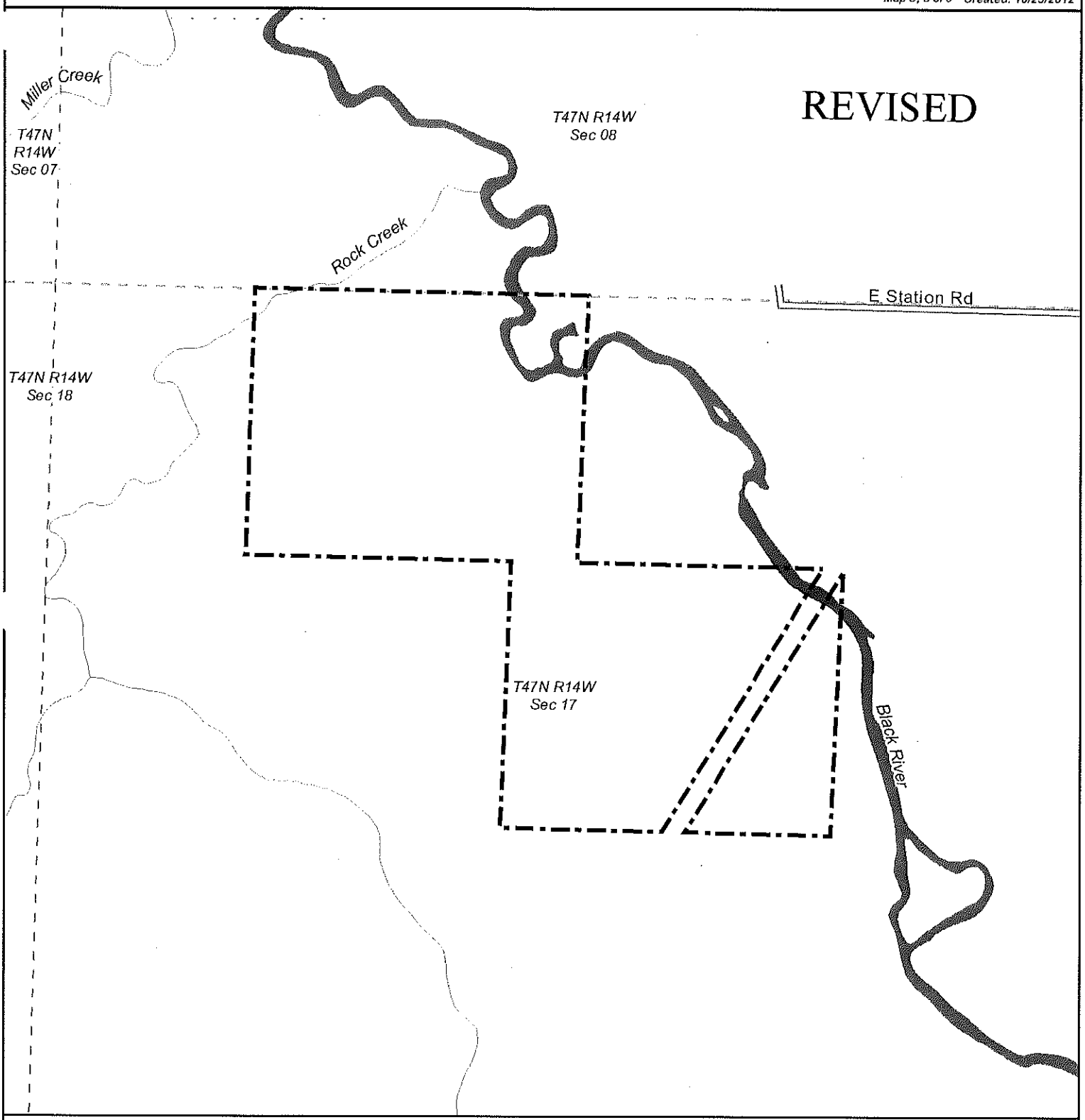
North Country Scenic Trail-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Superior--Black River

T47N R14W Sec 17, Town of Superior, Douglas County

N

Map C, 3 of 6 Created: 10/25/2012



0 770 1,540 2,310 3,080 3,850 Feet

Hunting Status

- Open Oct 15
- Closed
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- North Country Scenic Trail
- State Trail

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including North Country ScenicTrail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the North Country ScenicTrail. See reverse for more information.

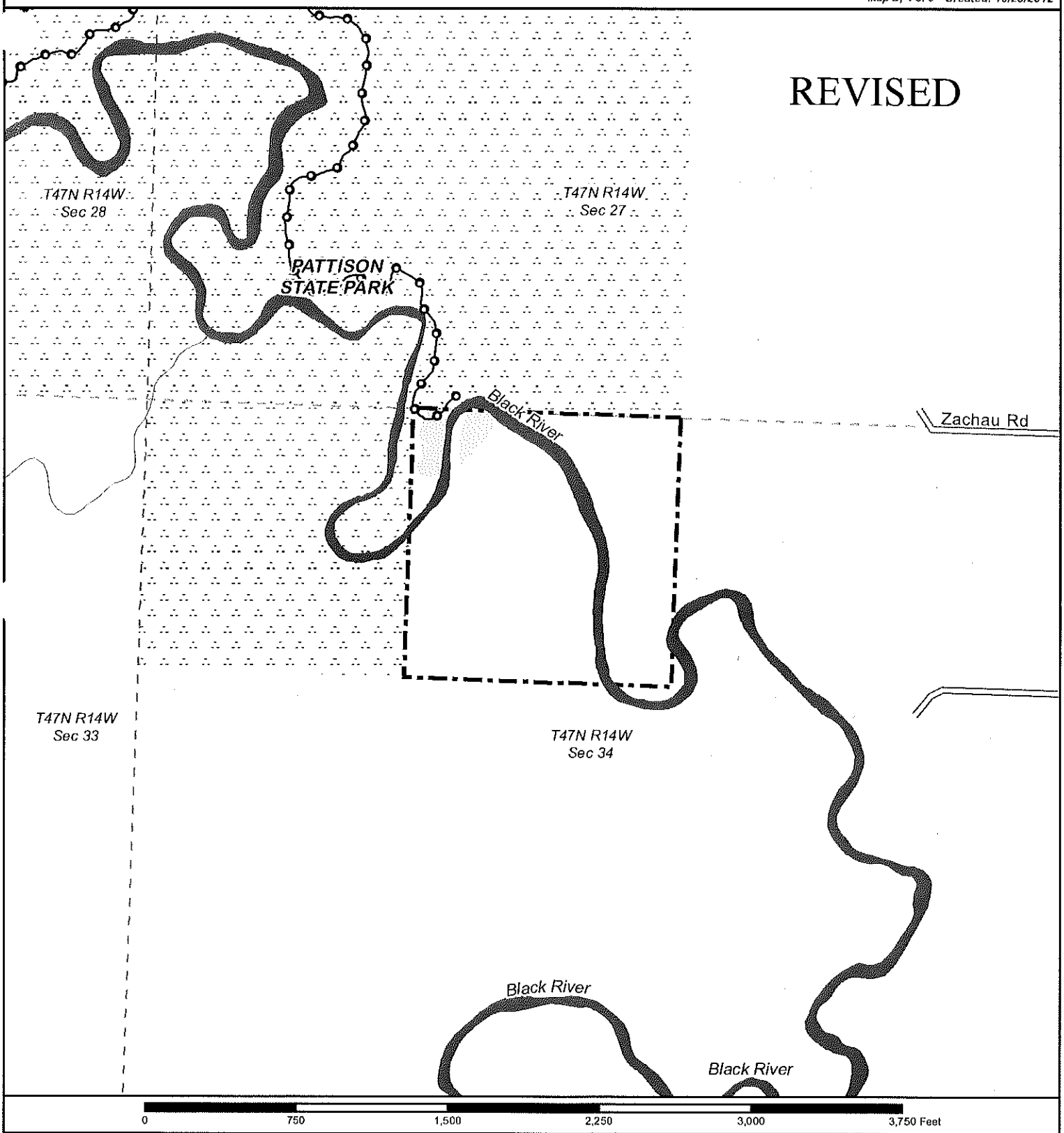
North Country Scenic Trail-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Pattison State Park

T47N R14W Sec 34, Town of Superior, Douglas County

N

Map D, 4 of 6 Created: 10/25/2012



'unting Status

- Open Oct 15
- Closed

- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- North Country Scenic Trail
- State Trail

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL.Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including North Country ScenicTrail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the North Country ScenicTrail. See reverse for more information.

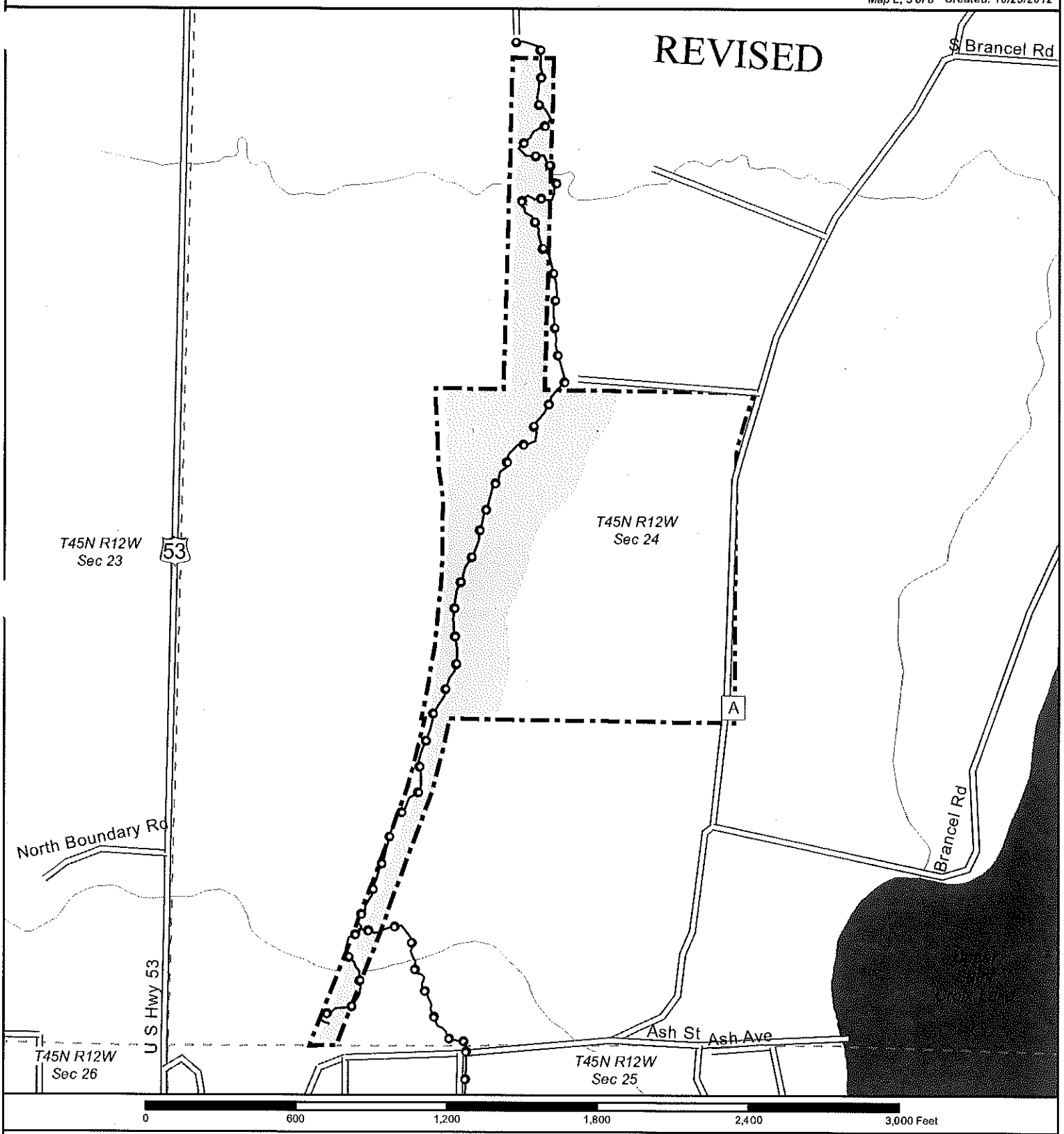
North Country Scenic Trail-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Solon Springs

T45N R12W Sec 24, Town of Solon Springs, Douglas County

N

Map E, 5 of 6 Created: 10/25/2012



Hunting Status

- Open Oct 15
- Closed
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- North Country Scenic Trail
- State Trail

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL.Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including North Country ScenicTrail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the North Country ScenicTrail. See reverse for more information.

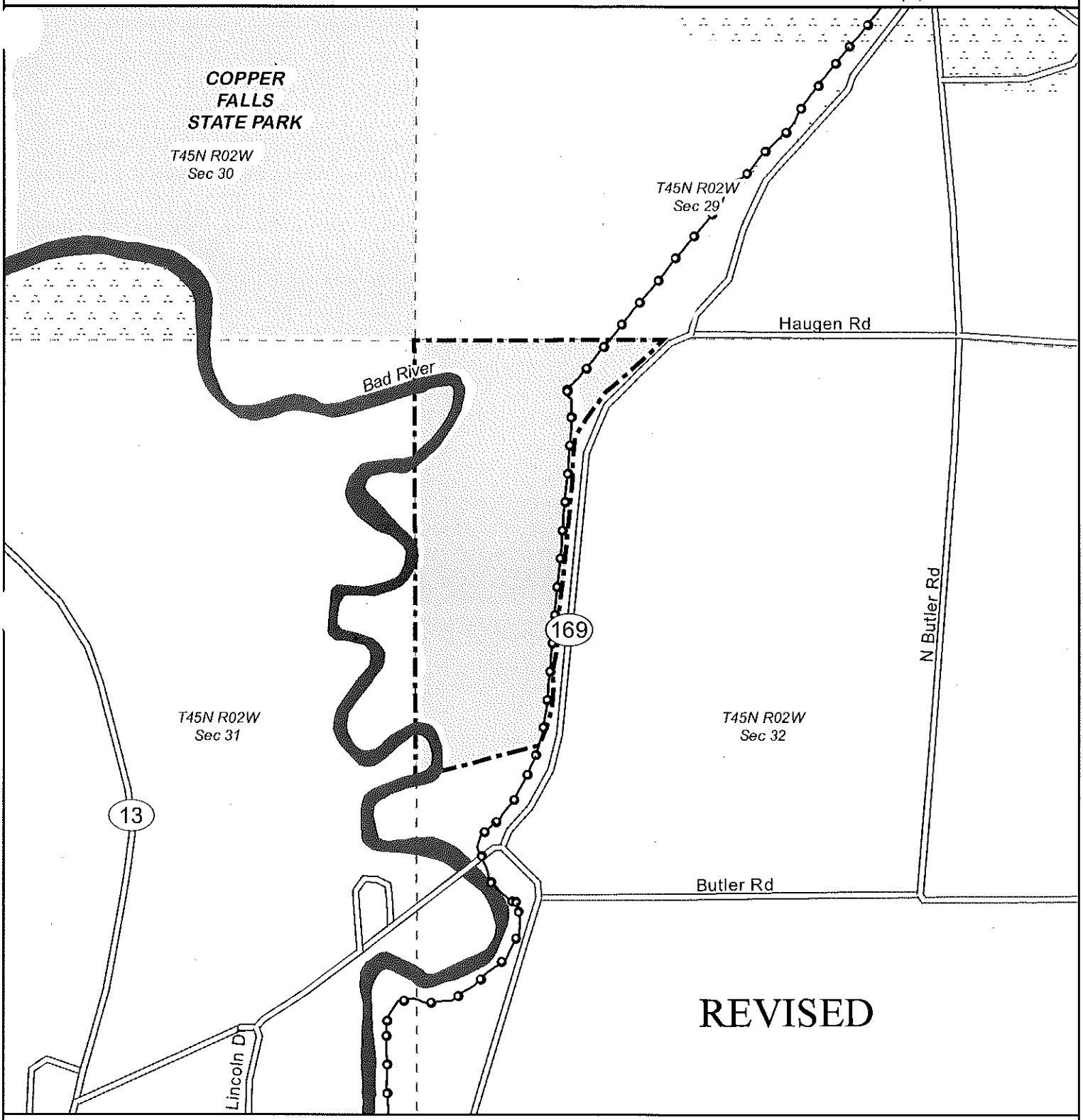
North Country Scenic Trail-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Copper Falls State Park

T45N R02W Sec 32, Town of Morse, Ashland County

N

Map F, 6 of 6 Created: 10/25/2012



0 760 1,520 2,280 3,040 3,800 Feet

'unting Status

- Open Oct 15
- Closed
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- North Country Scenic Trail
- State Trail

NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY SCENIC TRAIL.Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including North Country ScenicTrail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the North Country ScenicTrail. See reverse for more information.

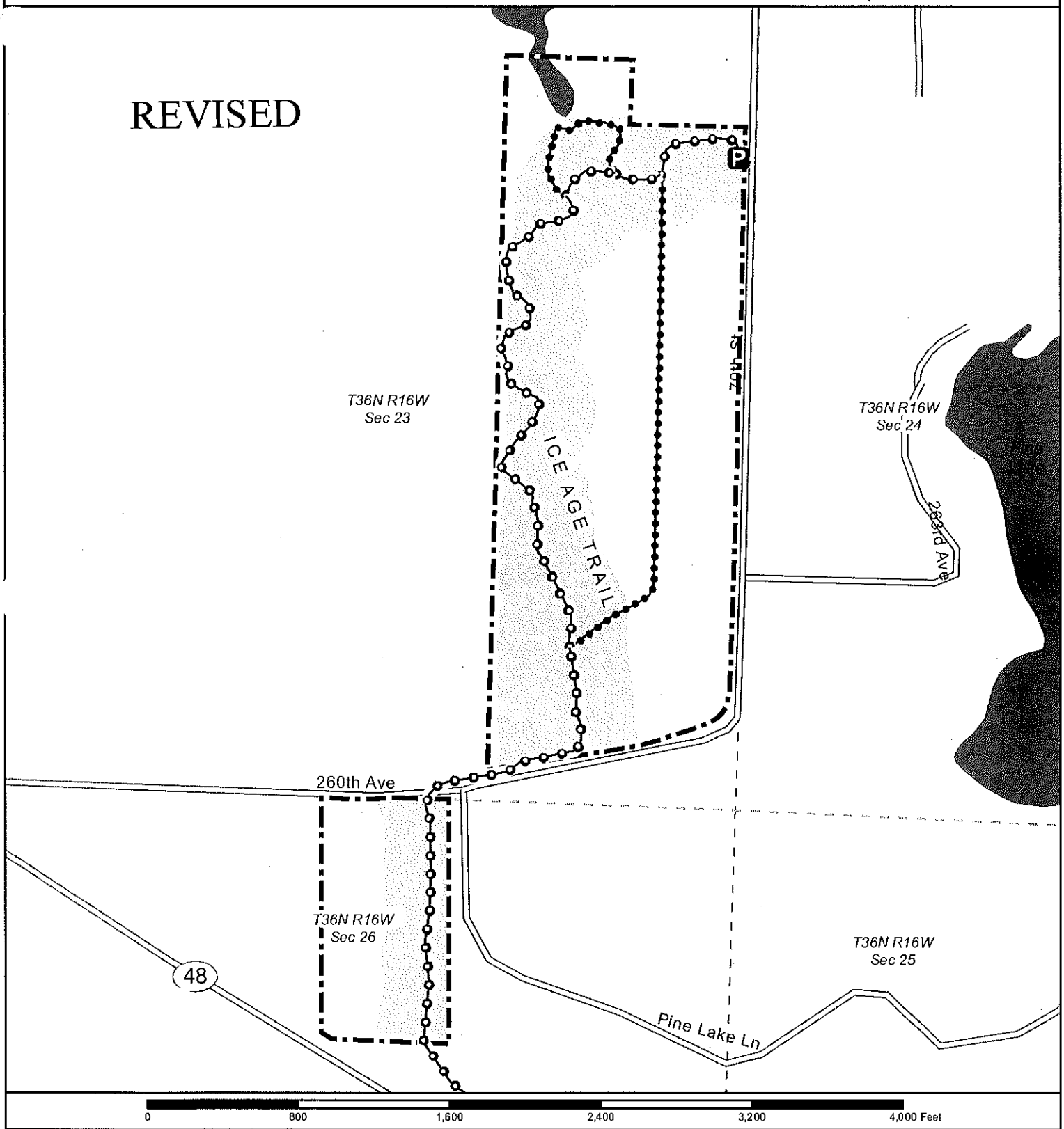
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Pine Lake SIATA

T36N R16W Sections 23 & 26, Town of Bone Lake, Polk County

N

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

31

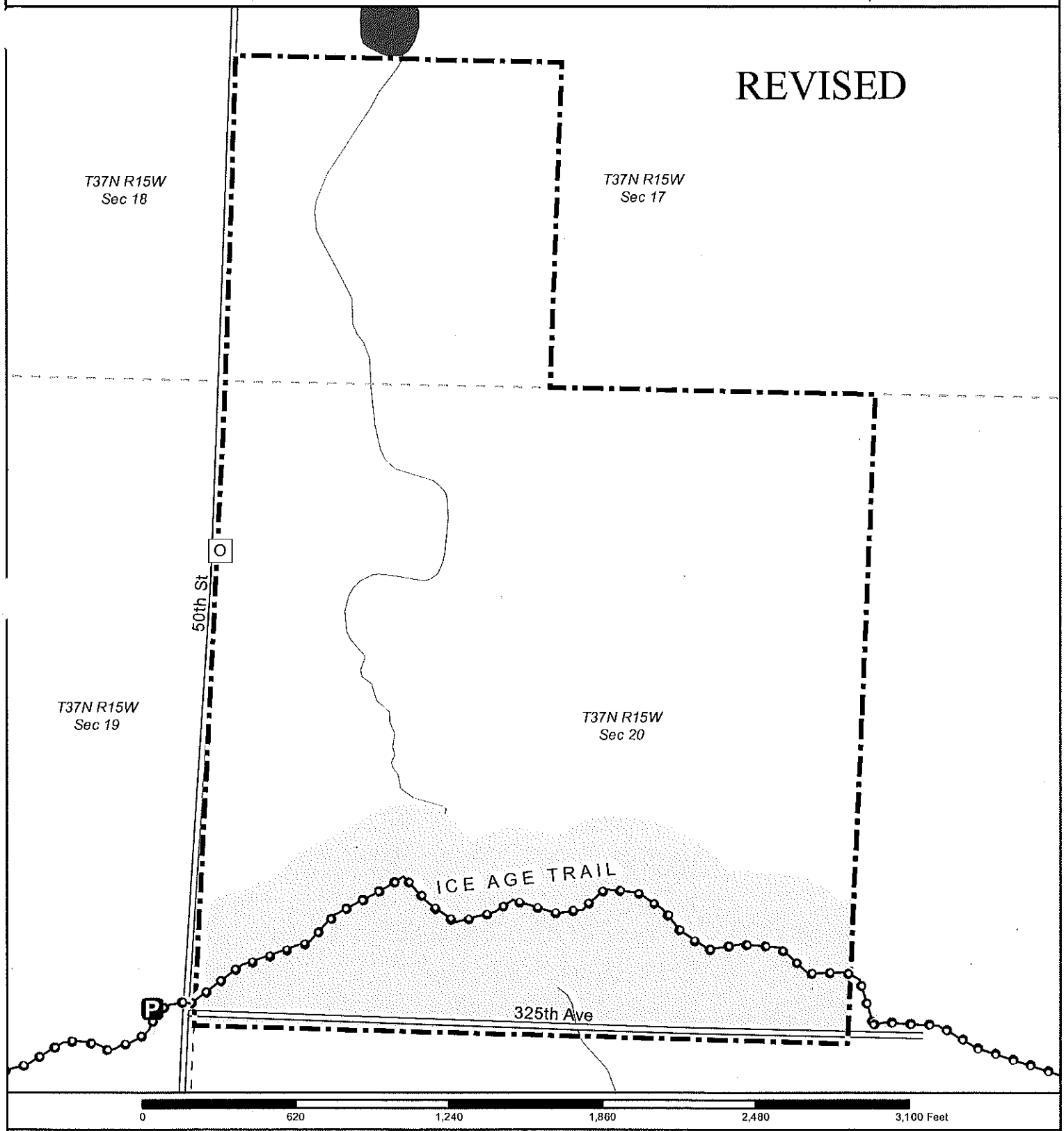
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Lorain SIATA

T37N R15W Sections 17 & 20, Town of Lorain, Polk County

N

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

32

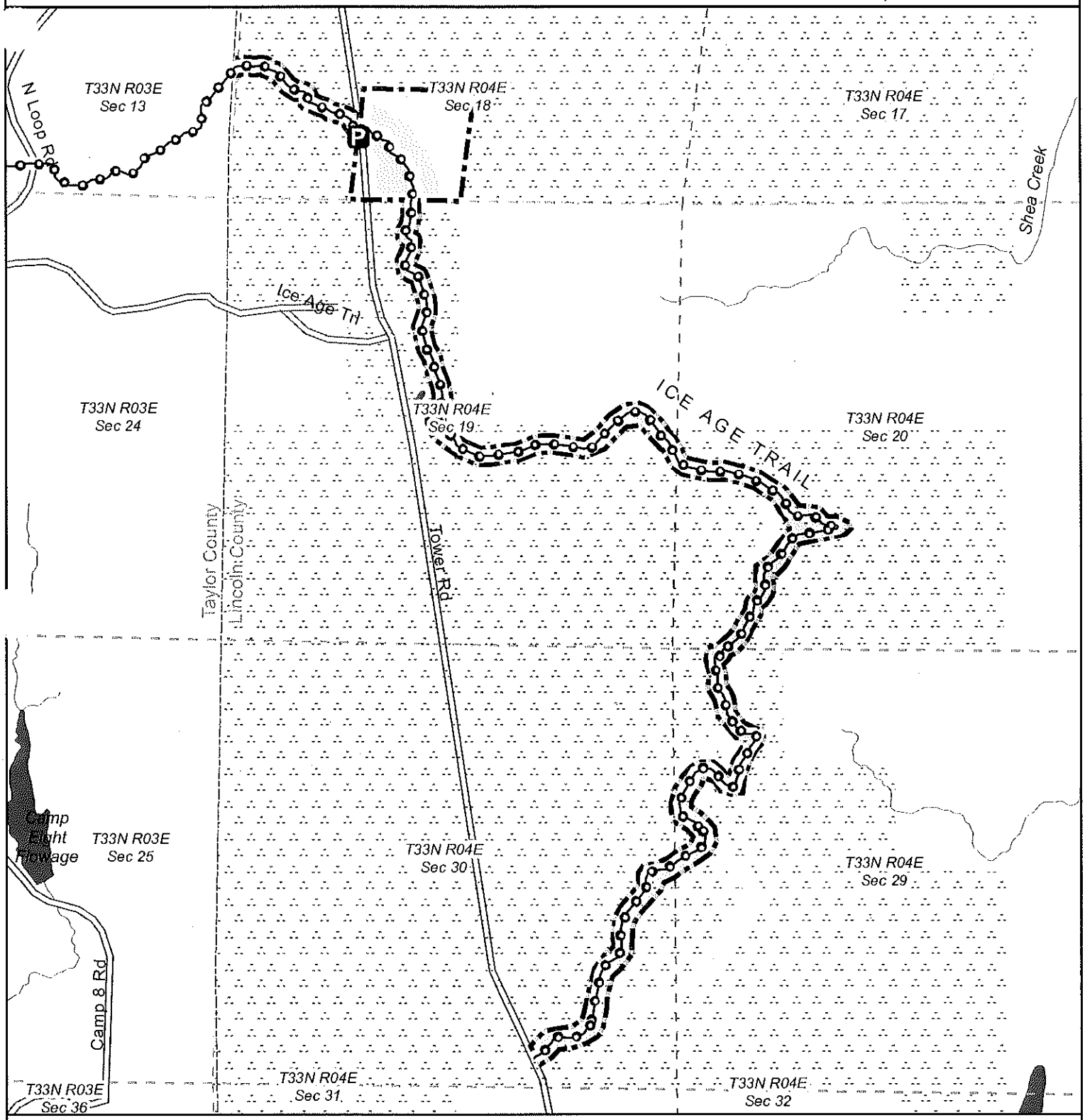
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Corning SIATA

REVISED

T33N R4E Sections 18, 19, 20, 29 & 30 Town of Corning (N), Lincoln County

Map Created: 11/27/2012 8 of 47



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Harrison SIATA

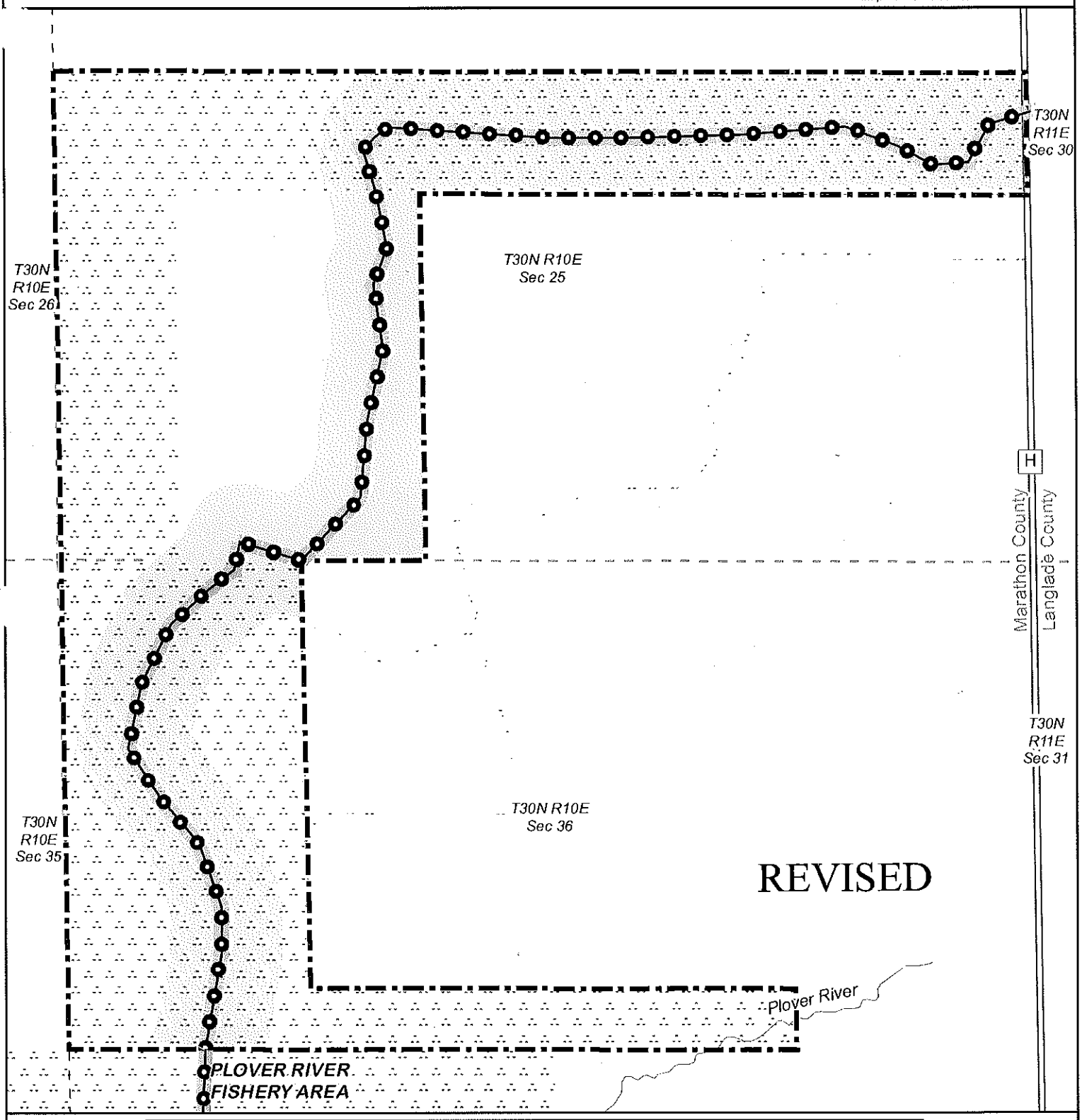
T30N R10E Sections 25 & 36, Town of Harrison, Marathon County

N

Wisconsin DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Wisconsin State Park System

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

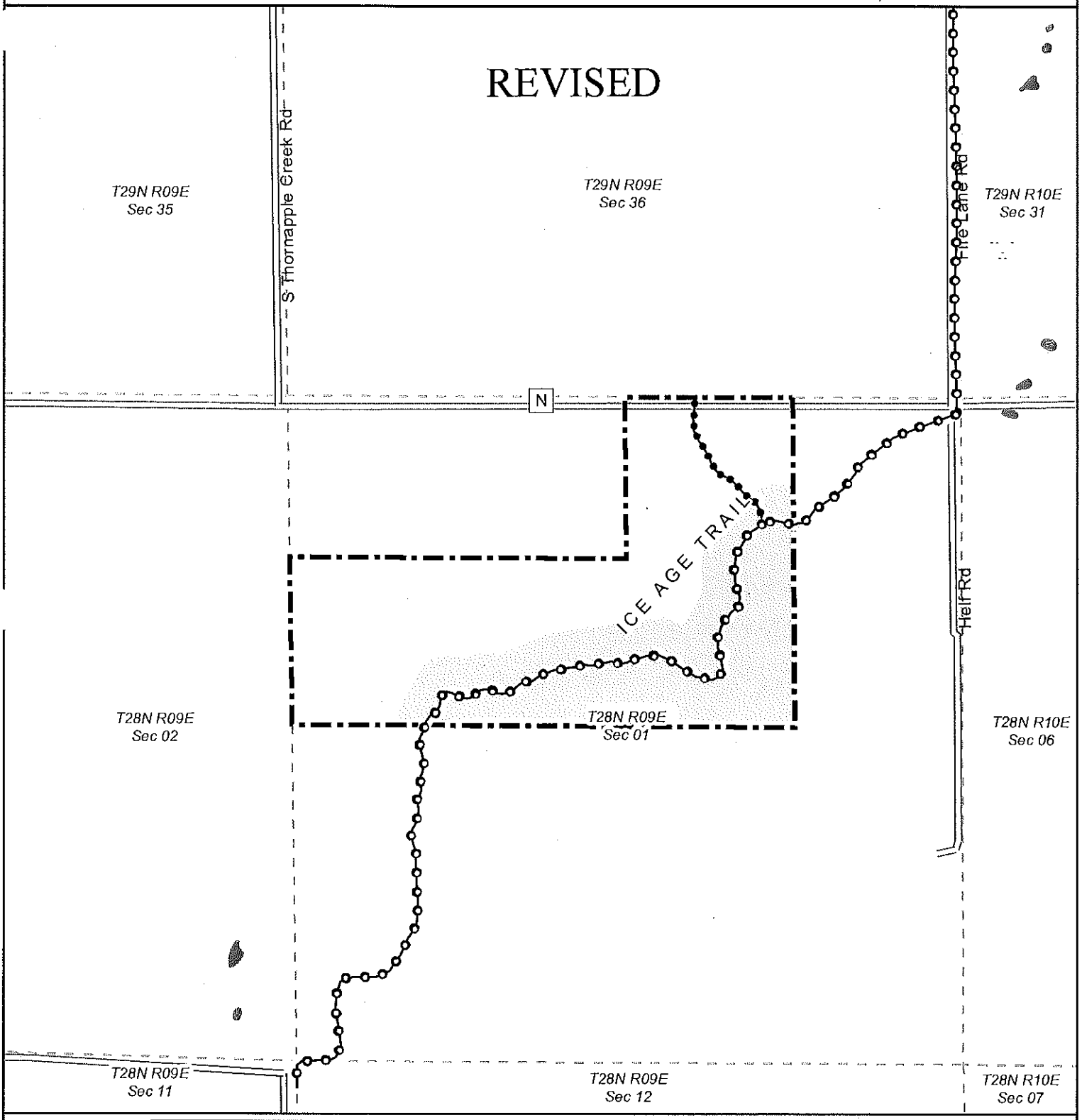
34

State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Northern Ringle SIATA

T28N R9E Section 1, Town of Ringle, Marathon County

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

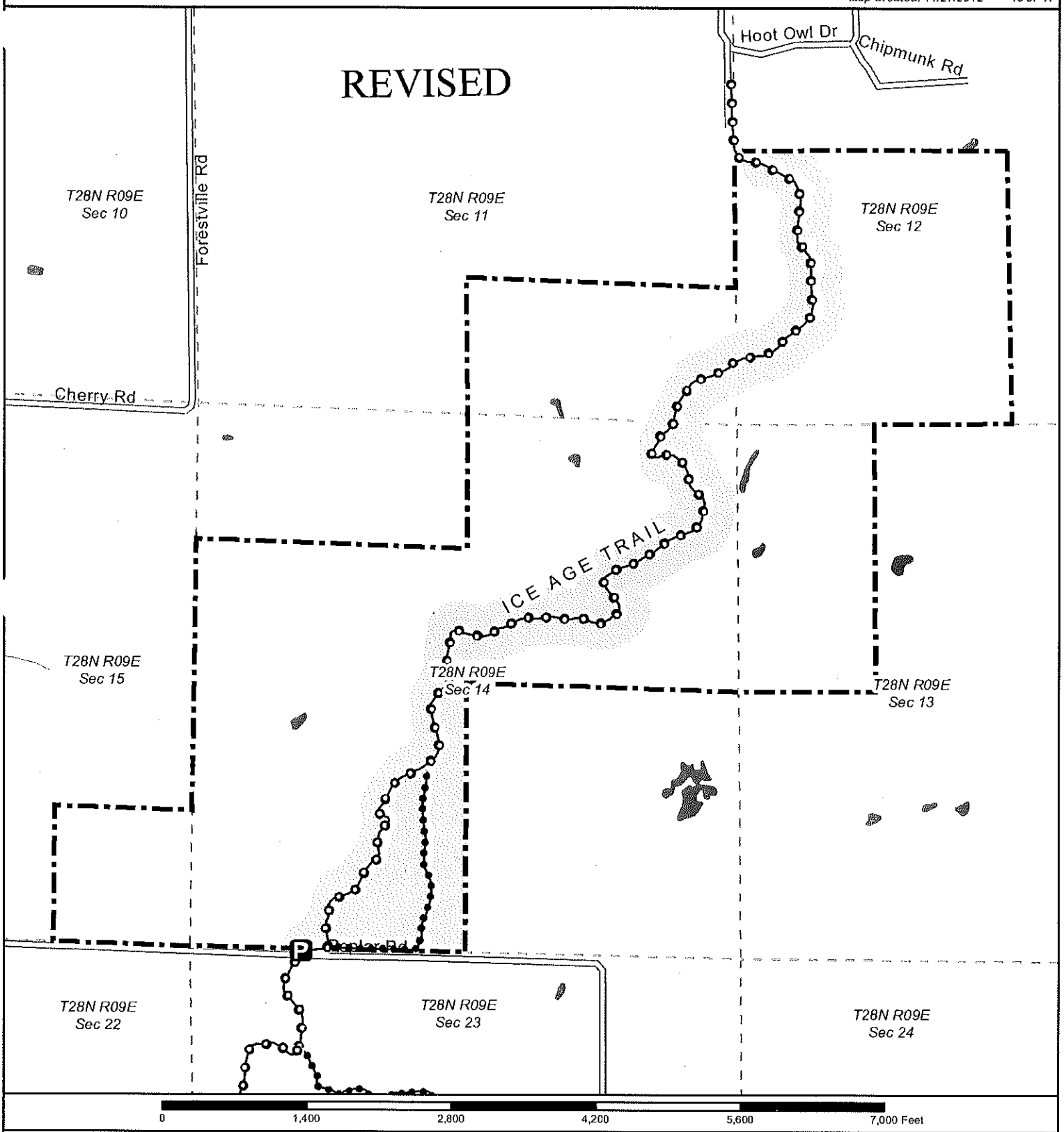
35

State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Southern Ringle SIATA

T28N R9E Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, Town of Ringle, Marathon County

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

36

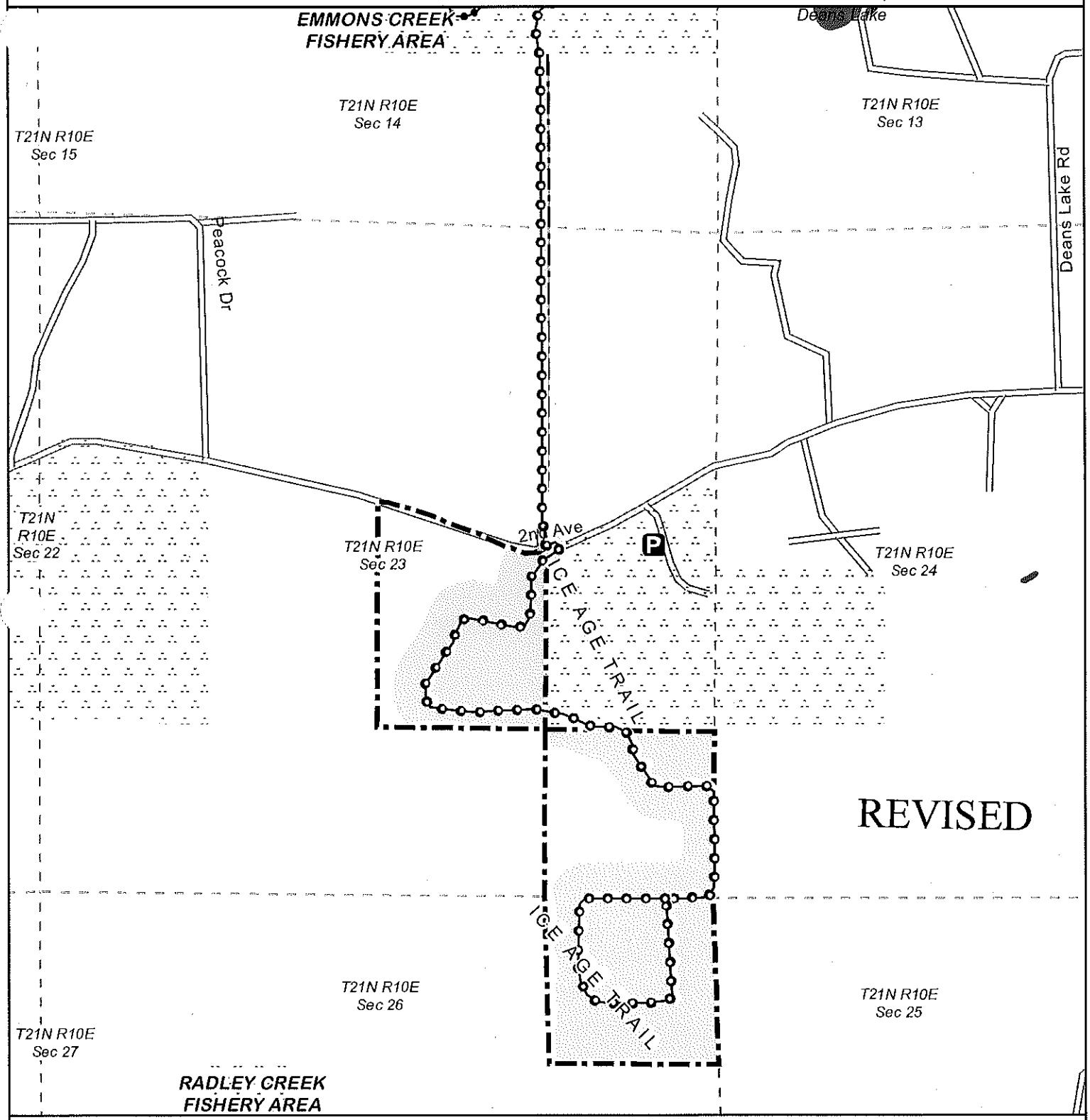
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Radley Creek SIATA

T21N R10E Sections 23 & 26, Town of Belmont, Portage County

N

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

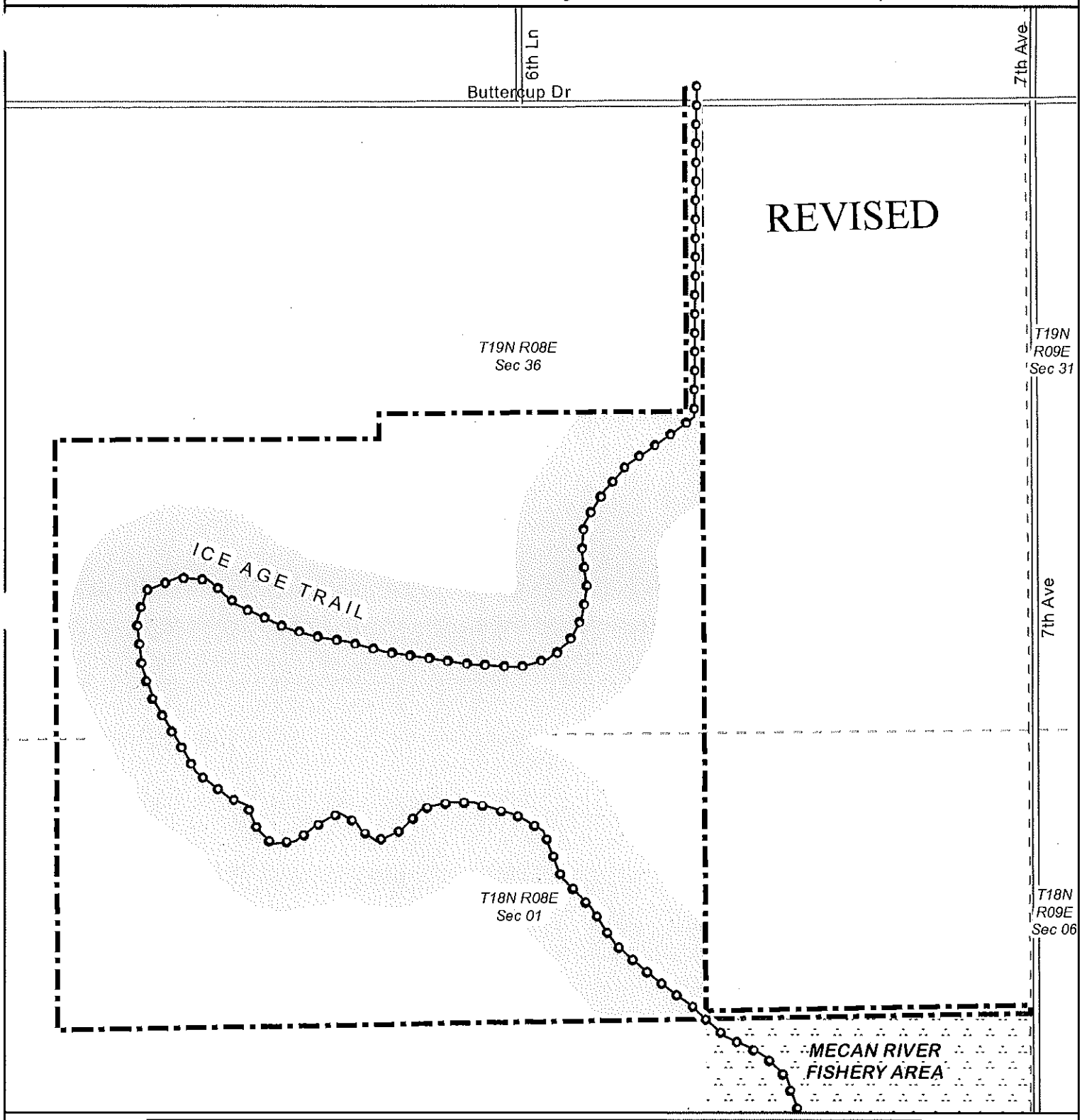
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Hancock/Coloma SIATA

T19N R8E Section 36, Town of Hancock, Waushara County
T18N R8E Section 1, Town of Coloma, Waushara County

N

Map Created: 11/27/2012



0 630 1,260 1,890 2,520 3,150 Feet

- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

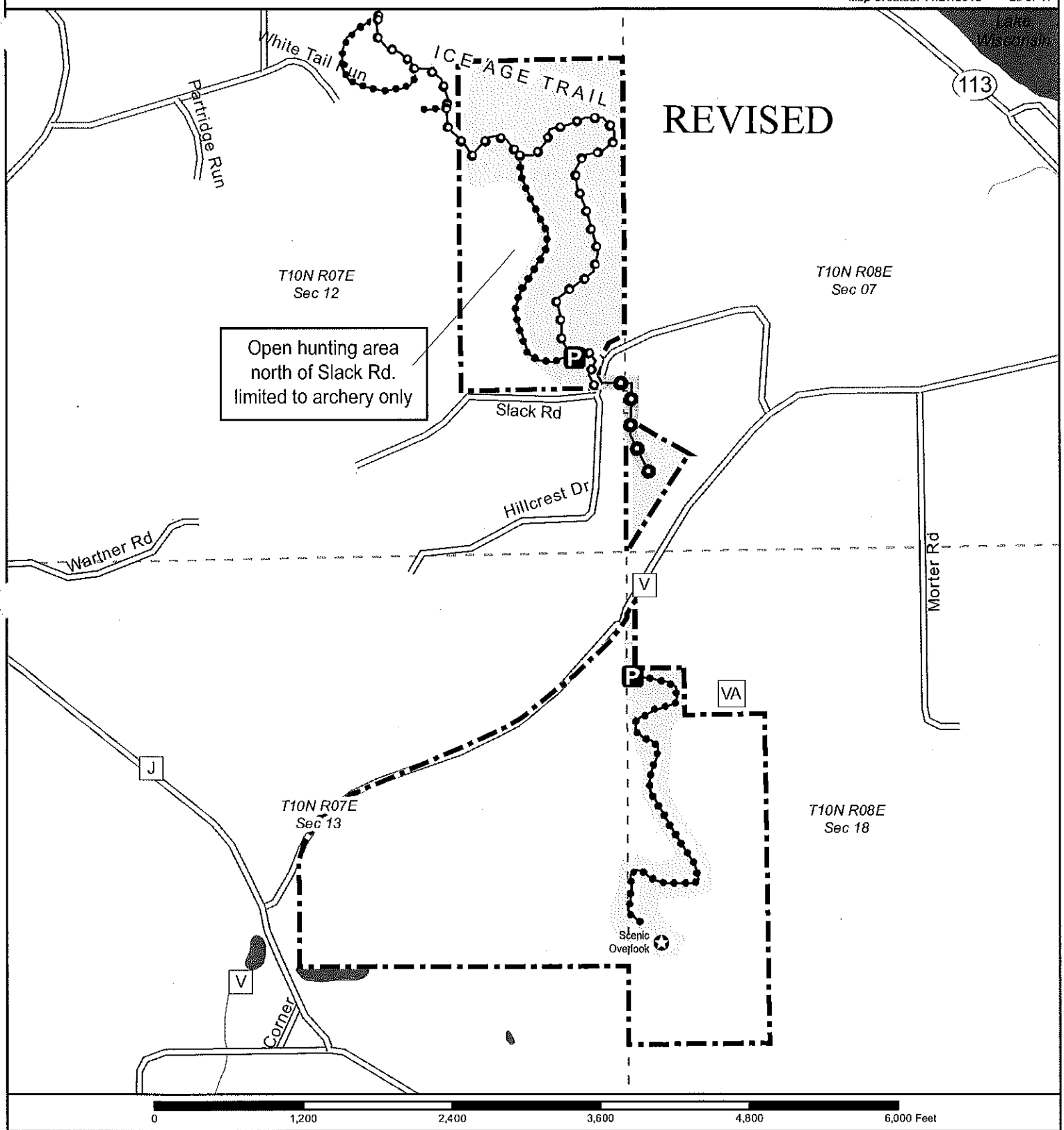
ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Gibraltar Rock Area SIATA

T10N R7-8E Sections 7, 12, 13 & 18, Town of West Point, Columbia County

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

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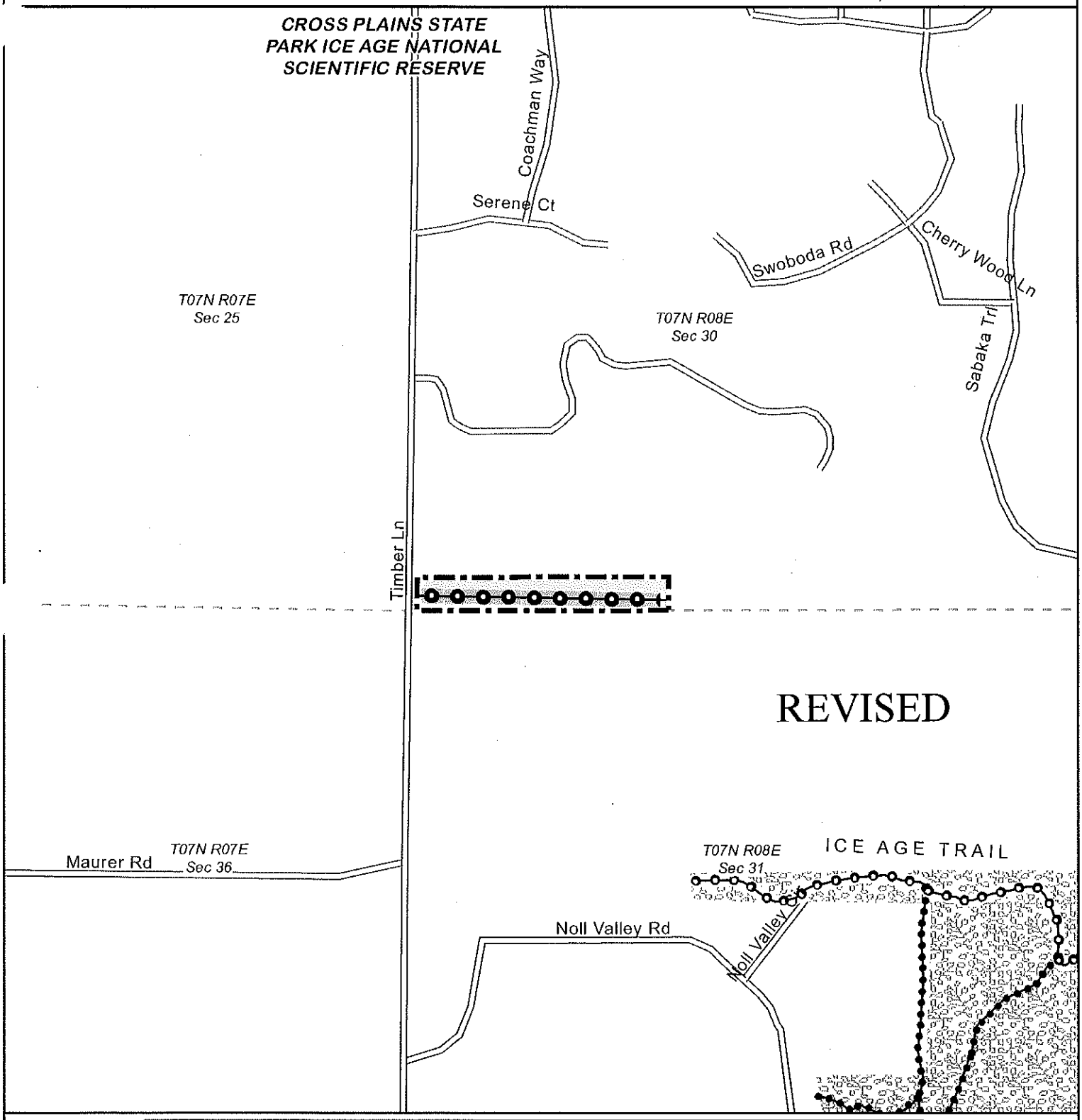
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Middleton SIATA

T7N R8E Section 30, Town of Middleton, Dane County

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

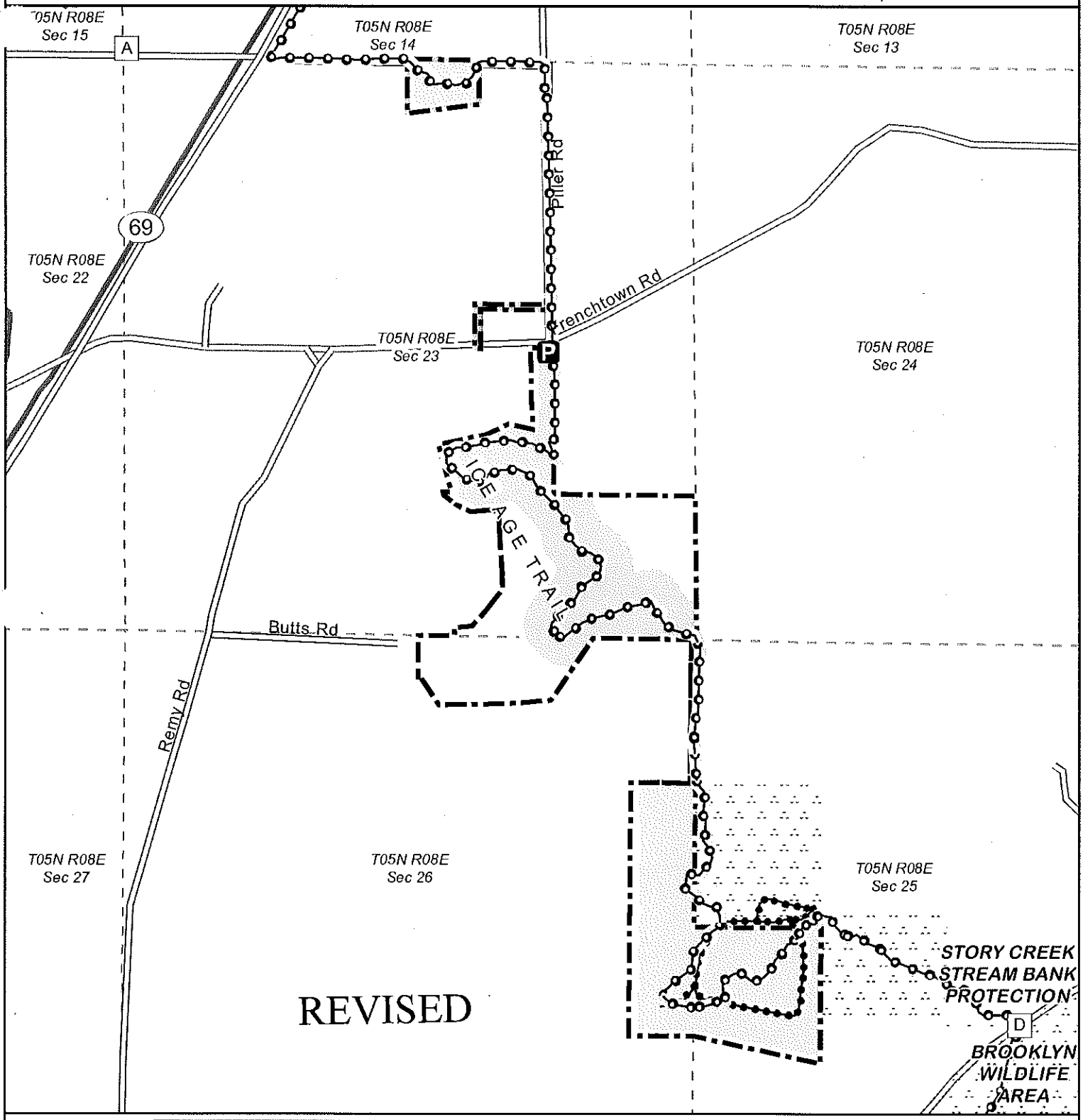
ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Montrose SIATA

T5N R8E Sections 23, 25, 26, Town of Montrose, Dane County

Map Created: 11/27/2012



0 1,400 2,800 4,200 5,600 7,000 Feet

- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

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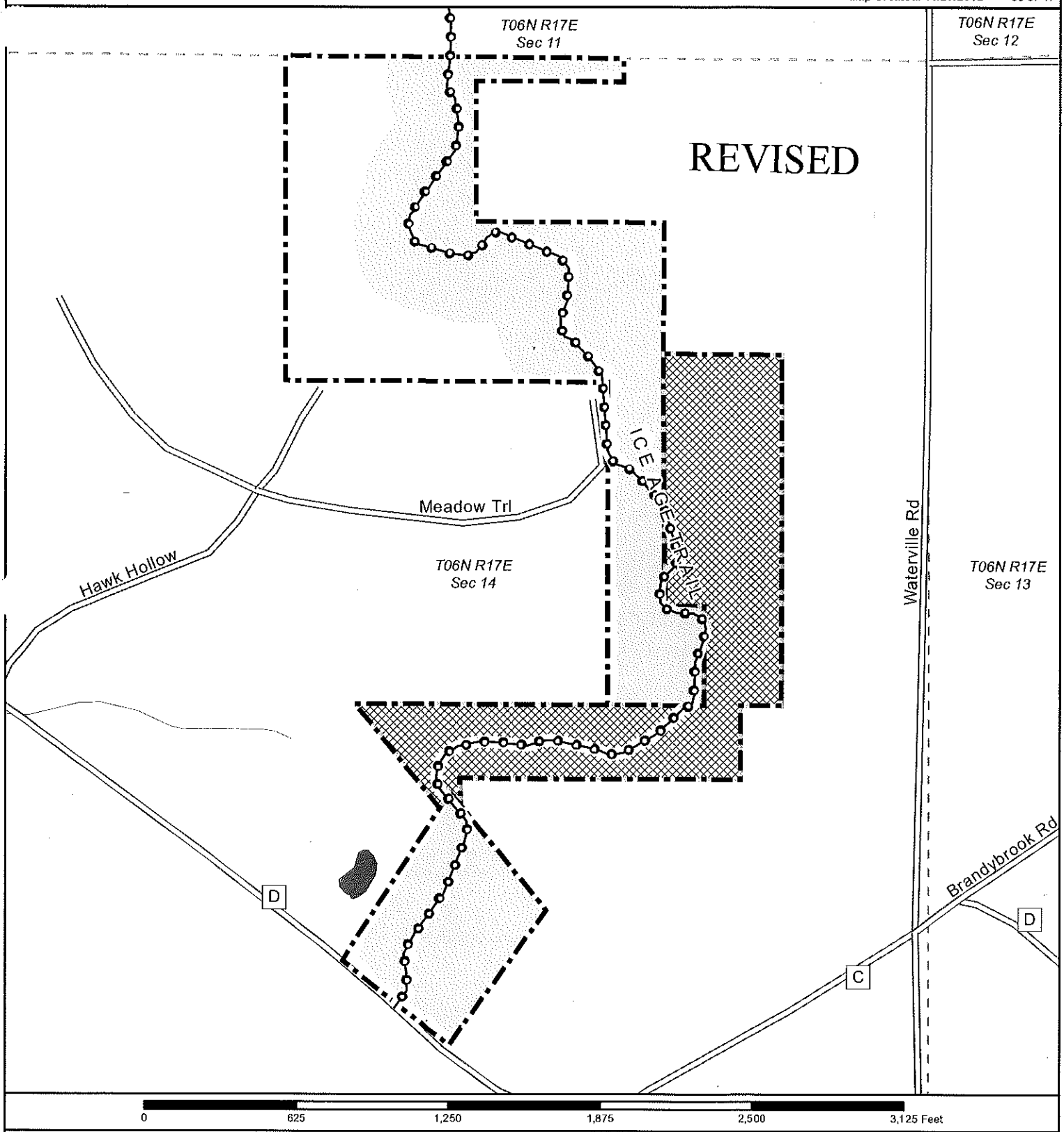
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Ottawa SIATA

T6N R17E Section 14, Town of Ottawa, Waukesha County

N

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

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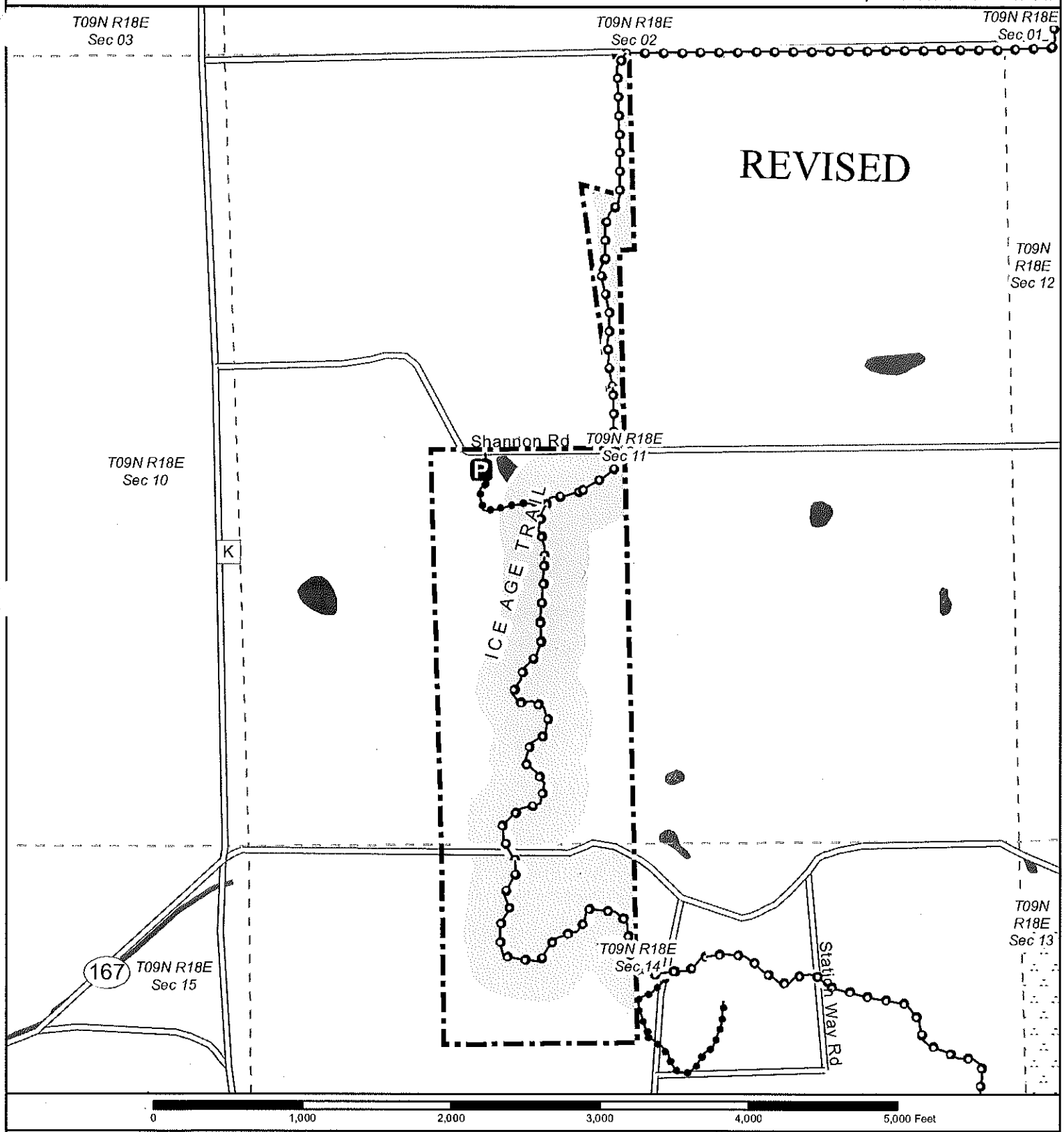
State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Holy Hill SIATA

T9N R18E Sections 11, 13, 14, Town of Erin, Washington County

N

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

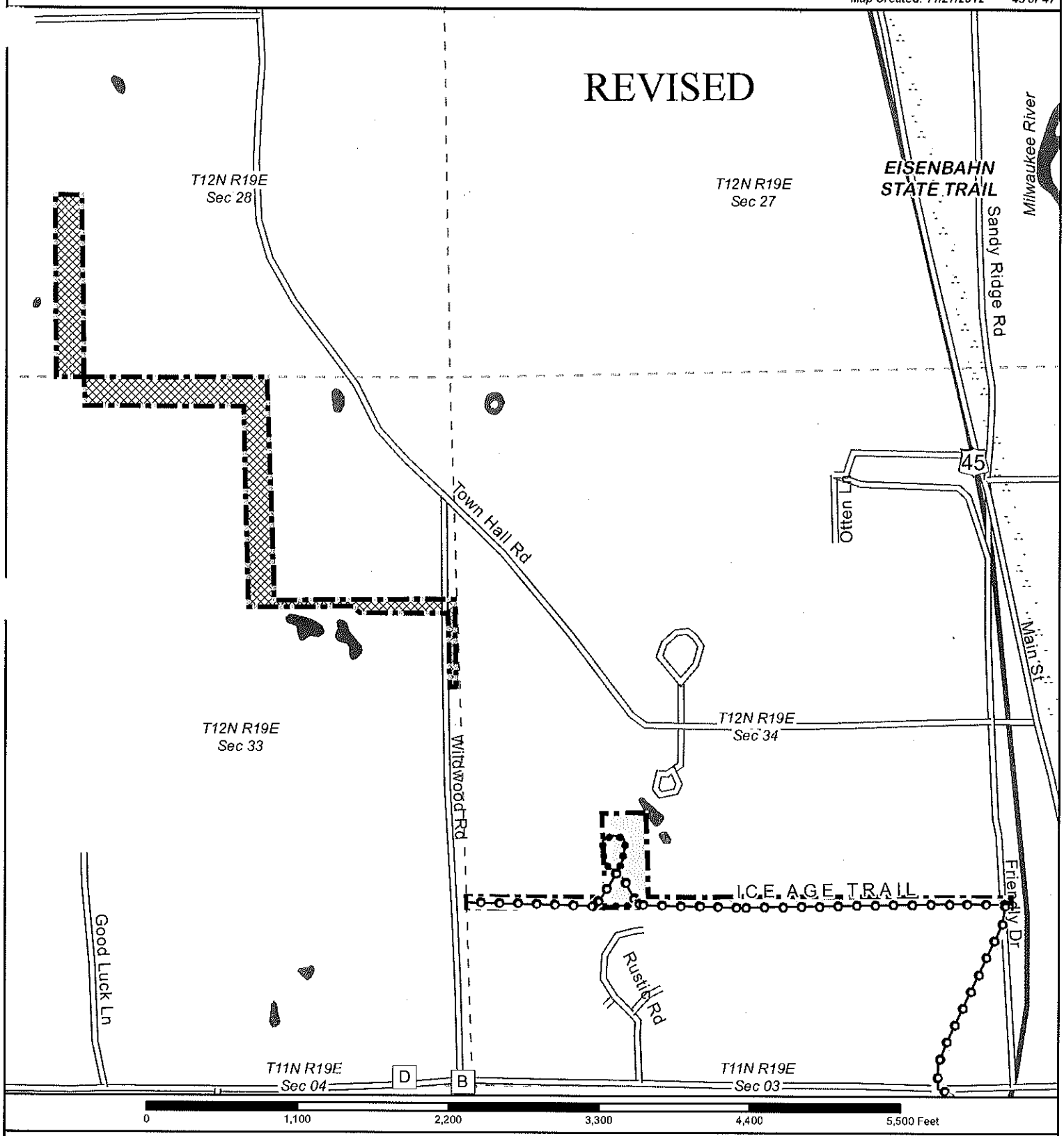
ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

State Ice Age Trail Area-- Hunting & Trapping Map

Town of Barton SIATA

T11N&12N R19E Sections 33, 34, Town of Barton, Washington County

Map Created: 11/27/2012



- Fee Simple
- Easement
- No Hunting Rights
- Closed to Hunting
- DNR Managed Land
- Other Public Land
- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Section Line

ALL STATE ICE AGE TRAIL AREAS ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING FROM THE FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH OCTOBER 14, AND YEAR AROUND FOR 100 YARDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL. Hunting and trapping is allowed in State Parks, including State Ice Age Trail Areas, from October 15 through the Thursday immediately preceding Memorial Day weekend. Trapping is not permitted within 100 yards of any designated use area, including trails that are not the Ice Age Trail. See reverse for more information.

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