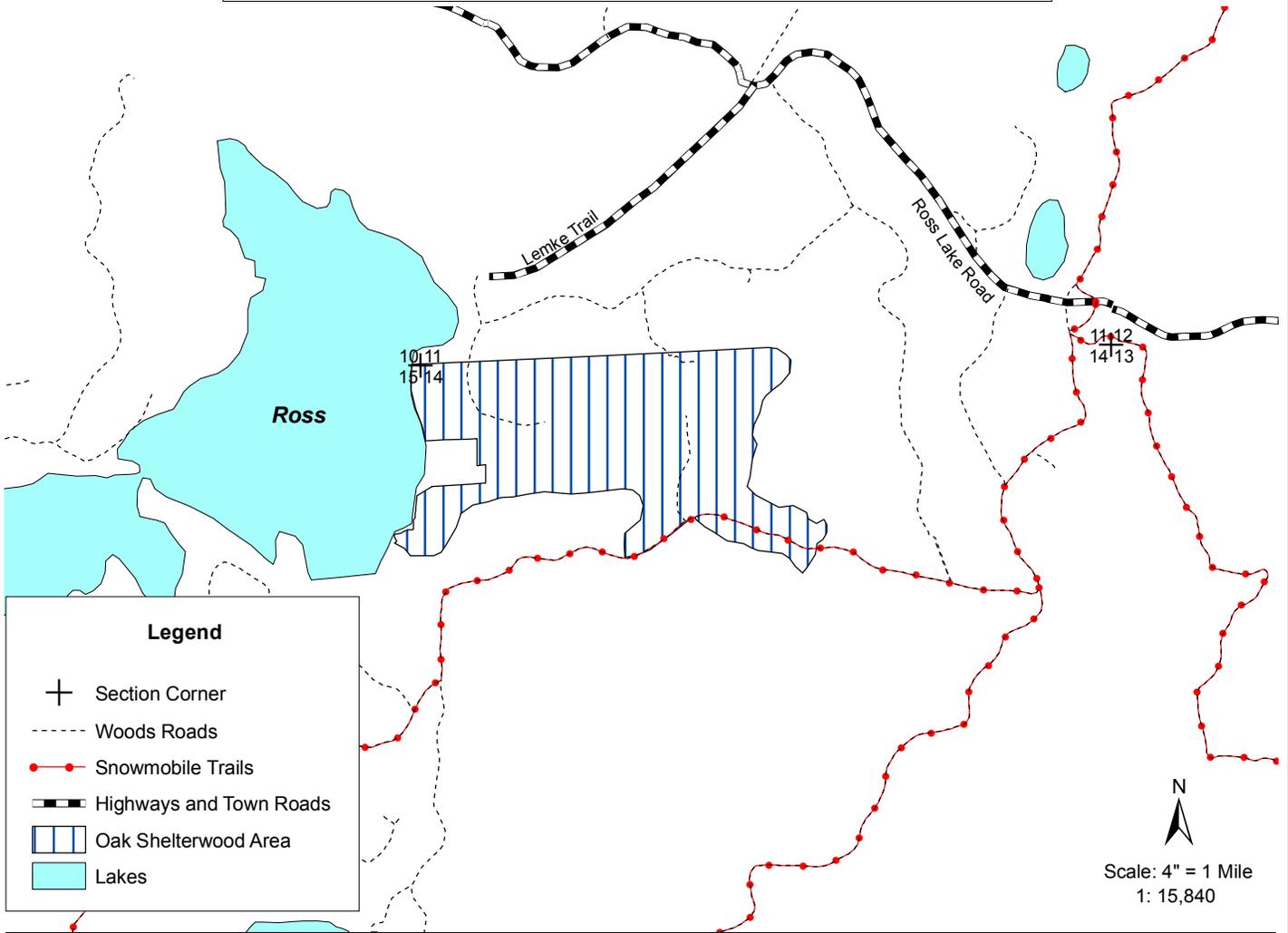


**Northern Highland - American Legion State Forest  
 Compartment 104H - Ross Lake Oak - 75 Acres  
 Town of Arbor Vitae, Vilas County, T40N-R7E Sec. 14 & 15  
 Master Plan: Management Area 4 -  
 Vilas Sandy Plains Central Forest Production Area**



The goals for the Vilas Sandy Plains Forest Production Area are to increase the presence and age of red and white pine, maintain early successional forest types such as aspen and white birch, manage for current levels of red oak, assuring natural regeneration through harvest and site disturbance.

The Oak Shelterwood Area, in stand 10, consists of 75 acres of 88 year old red oak that is scheduled for an oak shelterwood harvest to regenerate the oak. This oak stand was last thinned in 2007 to develop the crowns of the most dominant oak. At the time of the last harvest all of the aspen and white birch were designated to be cut along with some marked maple and oak. The basal area in this stand is well stocked at 112 sq.ft./acre. It is now ready for an initial shelterwood harvest in which the proper crown diameter distribution will be retained. This harvest will leave the best formed oak as a seed source for future regeneration. This process produces acorns and allows additional sunlight to the forest floor. To assist in natural regeneration post sale scarification, ground disturbance, would be beneficial in regenerating the stand back to oak. Once the mineral soil is exposed the acorns will drop and naturally seed in from the residual crop trees creating a new stand of oak seedlings.

Access to this area is primarily off a snowmobile trail south of Ross Lake Road. The snowmobile trail will be maintained in a rideable fashion and signed for user safety, if logged in the winter. Lemke Trail is also located north of the proposed sale area. The State Forest maintains an easement to use this road, if necessary, for forest management. Oak wilt restrictions will be implemented to reduce the spread of this undesirable disease which kills oak. Biomass harvesting is not allowed on this sale area due to the fact that the majority of the soils are nutrient poor.