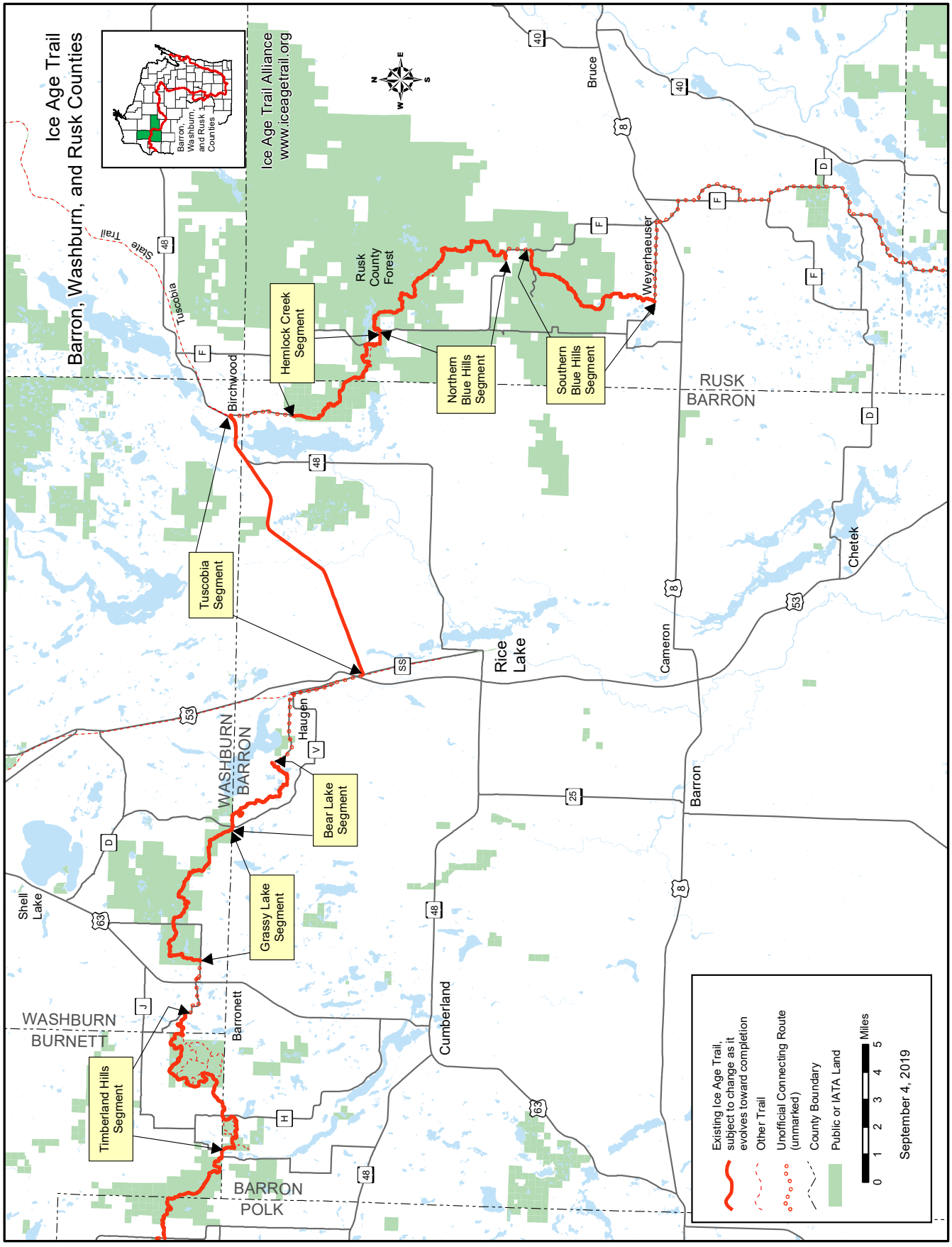
Barron, Washburn & Rusk Counties



Hemlock Creek Segment (Atlas Map 10f; Databook pages 10–11)

SNAPSHOT

7.0 miles: Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.) to S. Bucks Lake Rd. at CTH-F

This scenic segment through rolling county forest highlights the western edge of the Blue Hills and a loop around Hemlock Creek.

At the Murphy Flowage Picnic Area and Murphy Flowage Campground.

From Pigeon and Hemlock creeks and a few small intermittent streams and lakes/wetland areas.

Primitive camping on county forest lands.

At Murphy Flowage Campground and at Rusk County Remote Campsite 6 (see Area Services).

Dogs should be leashed (8-ft max) and under control at all times.

Small portions overlap a snowshoe trail and logging/forest roads.

A blue-blazed spur trail and a white-blazed loop south of Hemlock Creek.

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.): From Birchwood at the intersection of Main St. and STH-48, take STH-48 west 1.0 mi. At Loch Lomond Rd. (28¾ St.) turn left and go south then west 2.5 mi. At Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.) turn left and go south 0.1 mi to the Trail access. Roadside parking.

S. Bucks Lake Rd. at CTH-F: From Birchwood at the intersection of Main St. and STH-48, take STH-48 east 2.3 mi. At CTH-F turn right and go south 8.5 mi to S. Bucks Lake Rd. Roadside parking on S. Bucks Lake Rd.

Additional Parking: (i) Bolger Rd. (25½ Ave.) parking area, 1.2 mi west of CTH-F. (ii) Murphy Flowage Picnic Area 0.5 mi north of S. Bucks Lake Rd. on the west side of CTH-F. Follow access road around to the picnic area.

THE HIKE

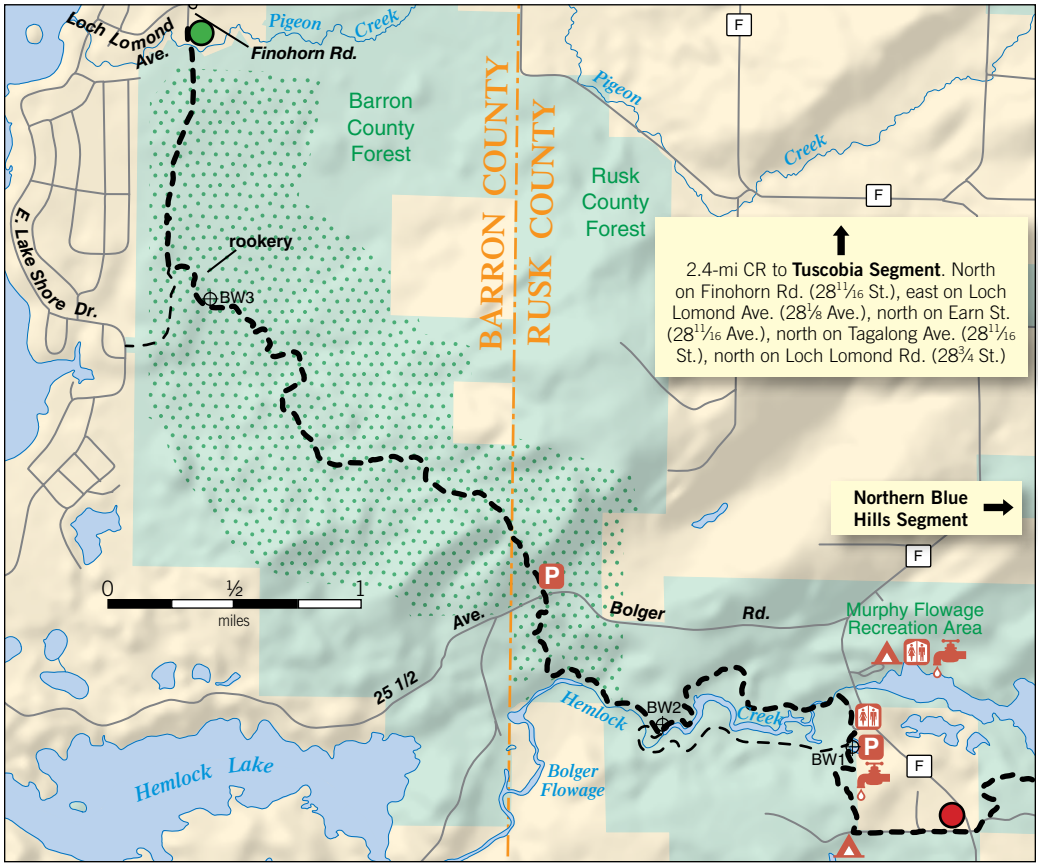
From its starting point on Finohorn Road (28 11/16 Street) the segment heads south and quickly crosses Pigeon Creek. It continues over flat terrain and in about 0.9 mi intersects a blue-blazed spur trail that leads south to E. Lake Shore Drive. A little farther on, the segment passes an abandoned blue heron rookery (**BW3**), now home to nesting osprey.

South of the rookery the segment reaches a boardwalk; hikers should use caution when passing through this area and will likely come out with wet feet. An alternative is to walk on top of a beaver dam that parallels the segment.

As the segment makes its way to Bolger Road, it ascends into Barron quartzite hills, the first taste of the Blue Hills highlighted on segments farther east in Rusk County. Hikers should watch carefully for signage in this area as the route intersects many grassy logging roads.

Now in Rusk County, south of Bolger Road the segment drops steeply toward Hemlock Creek. Along the way the Trail passes some small, quickly flowing creeks. After paralleling Hemlock Creek for half a mile the segment reaches a junction (**BW2**) with a white-blazed trail that highlights the southern side of the creek.

From the junction with the white-blazed loop, the main segment continues east along the north side of Hemlock Creek with several trailside benches pre-



senting scenic views of the wetland below. The segment crosses the creek on an abandoned road bridge and enters the Murphy Flowage Picnic Area.

The segment continues south through a forested area, then reaches a primitive road and turns left. In 0.1 miles the Trail intersects another forest road that heads southwest 0.1 miles to the Rusk County Remote Campsite 6. The segment continues to follow the main primitive road east to its terminus on CTH-F.

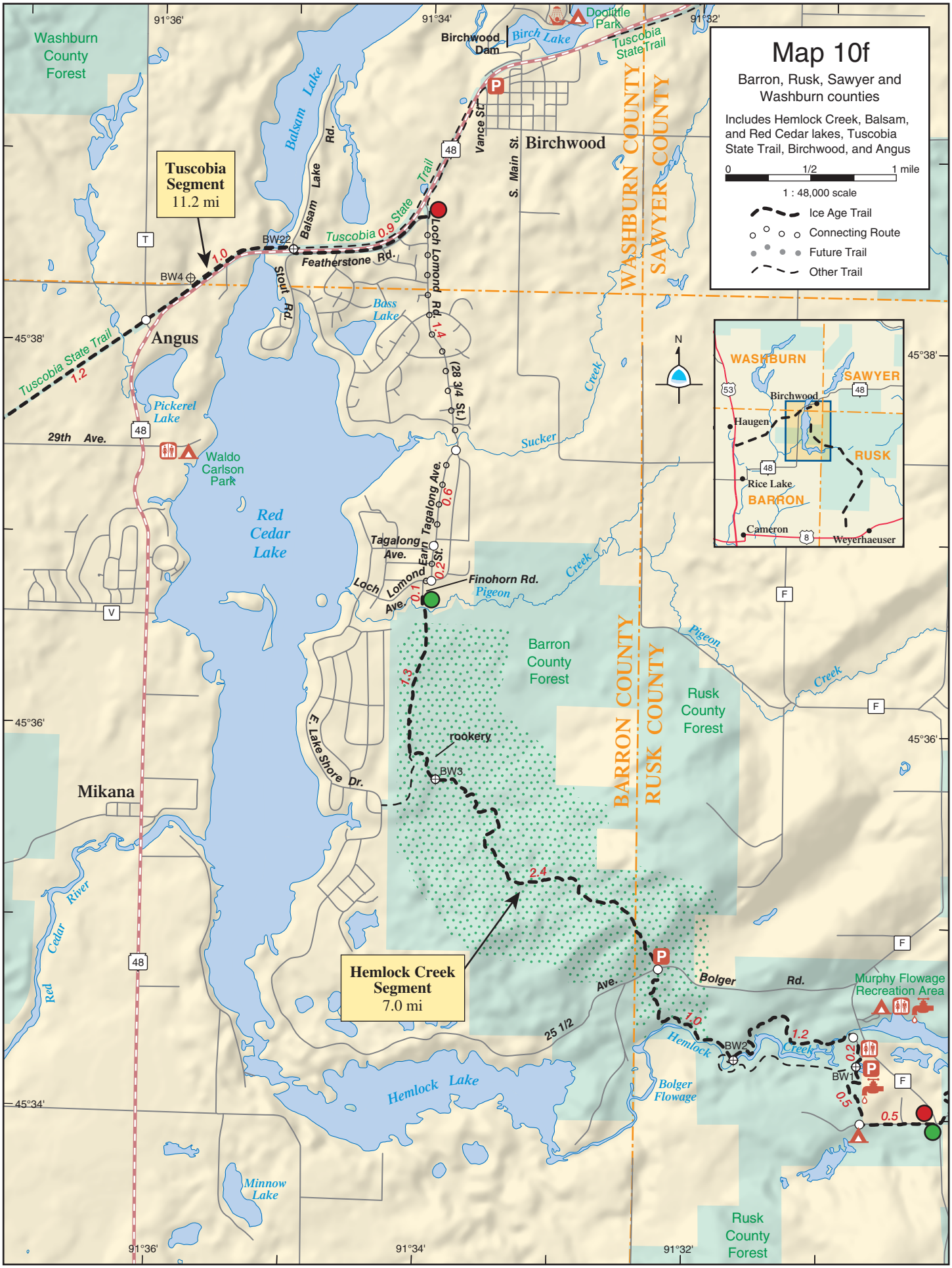
Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2007, 2008, 2013, 2014, 2016

AREA SERVICES

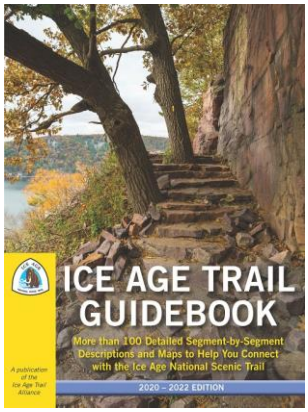
Birchwood: See Tuscobia Segment, p. 38. From the Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.) Trail access go north then east 3.6 mi. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

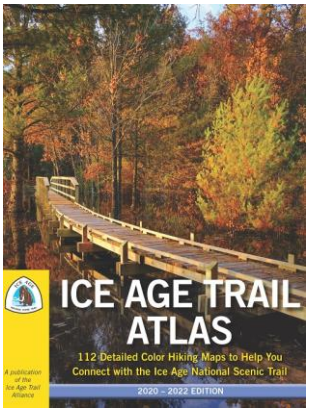
Murphy Flowage Recreation Area: Camping. On Trail. Picnic area is on the west side of CTH-F on the Trail route. The campground is on the east side of CTH-F, 1.0 mi north of S. Bucks Lake Rd. Rusk County Forestry Deptartment (715-532-2113, RuskCounty.org/department/ forestry /camping-information).

Rusk County Remote Campsite 6: Camping. From S. Bucks Lake Rd. at CTH-F Trail access go west 0.4 mi on primitive road (recommend 4WD). At "Y" junction, go southwest 0.1 mi on another primitive dirt road to campsite. For more information contact Rusk County Forestry Department (715-532-2113, RuskCounty.org/department/forestry/camping-information). A very remote site established for hunter use. No facilities.


Map 10f
Barron, Rusk, Sawyer and Washburn counties
Includes Hemlock Creek, Balsam, and Red Cedar lakes, Tuscobia State Trail, Birchwood, and Angus
0 1/2 1 mile
1 : 48,000 scale
Ice Age Trail
Connecting Route
Future Trail
Other Trail
Tuscobia Segment 11.2 mi
Hemlock Creek Segment 7.0 mi
Washburn County Forest
Barron County Forest
Rusk County Forest
Angus
Mikana
Birchwood
Birchwood Dam
Doolittle Park
Waldo Carlson Park
Murphy Flowage Recreation Area
Red Cedar Lake
Balsam Lake
Birch Lake
Bass Lake
Pickerel Lake
Hemlock Lake
Minnow Lake
Bolger Flowage
Red Cedar River
Sucker Creek
Pigeon Creek
Hemlock Creek
Tuscobia State Trail
Loch Lomond Rd.
Tagalong Ave.
Finohorn Rd.
E. Lake Shore Dr.
Bolger Rd.
Vance St.
S. Main St.
Stout Rd.
Featherstone Rd.
29th Ave.
25 1/2 Ave.
(28 3/4 St.)
WASHBURN COUNTY
SAWYER COUNTY
BARRON COUNTY
RUSK COUNTY
rookery
BW1
BW2
BW3
BW4
BW22
Haugen
Rice Lake
Cameron
Weyerhaeuser
91°36'
91°34'
91°32'
45°38'
45°36'
45°34'

Must-Have Ice Age Trail Books!





The **Ice Age Trail Guidebook** features more than 100 detailed segment-by-segment descriptions and maps to help you connect with the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Written for those seeking a wide range of adventures on the Ice Age Trail.

The **Ice Age Trail Atlas** is a set of 105 color, shaded relief–style maps at 1:48,000 scale. In contrast to the smaller map excerpts in the Ice Age Trail Guidebook, each map in this package is printed on an 8.5" x 11" sheet and includes not just the Ice Age Trail route but also a wider snapshot of the area around the Trail.

Both books were written and published by the Ice Age Trail Alliance. All proceeds for each book help build and maintain the Ice Age Trail. Please call the IATA at (800) 227-0046 with any questions.

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5/25/2017