

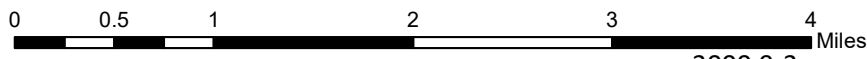
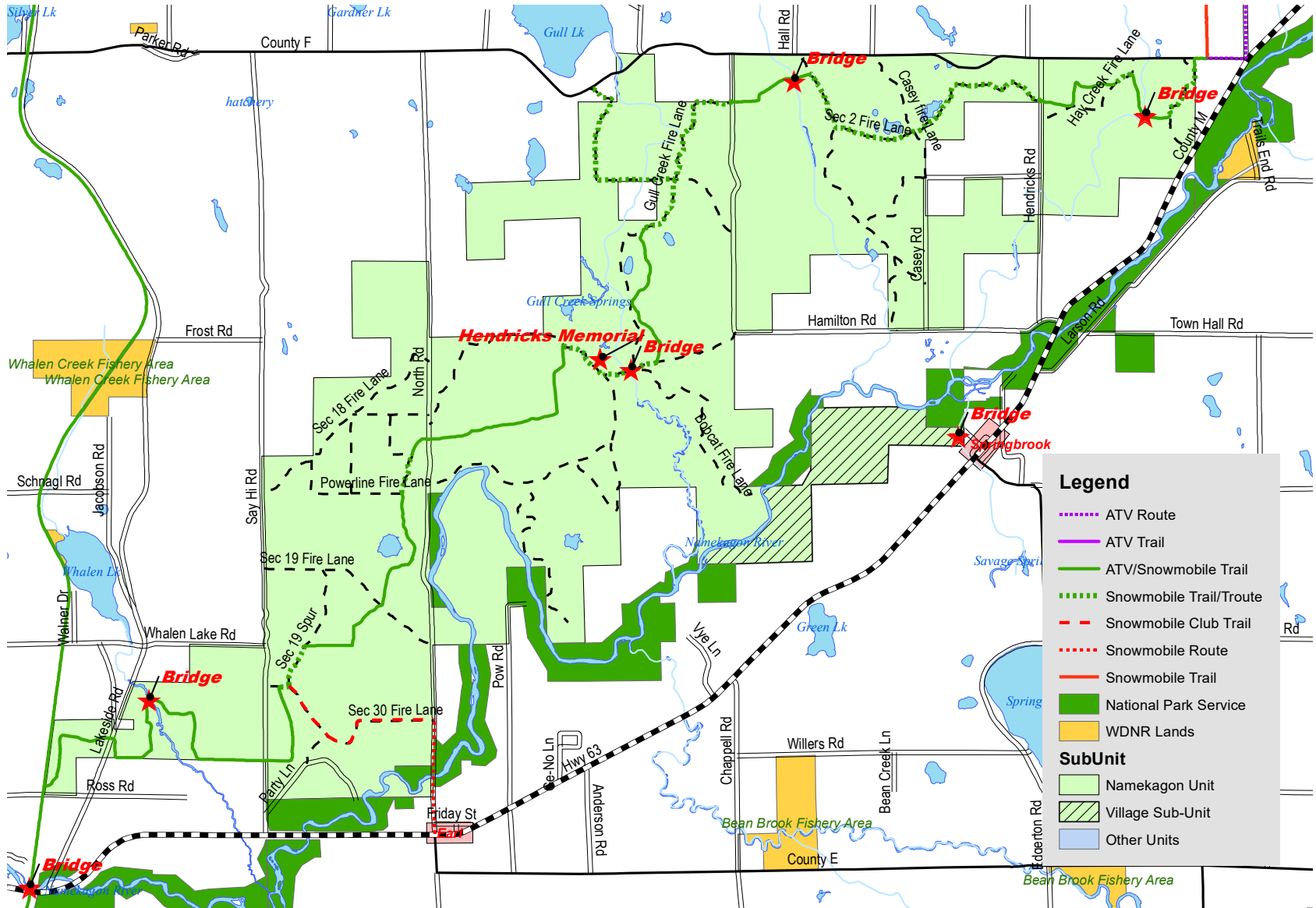
WASHBURN COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT UNITS
CHAPTER 3000.9 – NAMEKAGON UNIT

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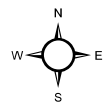
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*Approved by Washburn County Board of Supervisors October 19, 2021
No Revisions*

3000.9.1 RESOURCE MAP



3000.9-3



Legend

- ATV Route
- ATV Trail
- ATV/Snowmobile Trail
- Snowmobile Trail/Troute
- - - Snowmobile Club Trail
- Snowmobile Route
- Snowmobile Trail
- National Park Service
- WDNR Lands

SubUnit

- Namekagon Unit
- Village Sub-Unit
- Other Units

- 3000.9.2 COMPARTMENTS 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 111, 112
 3000.9.3 ACRES 8,098 (former units 16, 17)
 3000.9.4 FOREST TYPES

FOREST TYPE	1995 ACRES	1995 PERCENT	2005 ACRES	2005 PERCENT	2020 ACRES	2020 PERCENT
RED PINE	2549	34.9%	2555	35.0%	3255	40.1%
JACK PINE	2229	30.6%	1925	26.5%	1691	20.9%
ASPEN	1097	15.1%	1194	16.4%	1539	19.0%
LOWLAND BRUSH	543	7.5%	631	8.7%	646	8.0%
NON FORESTED WETLAND	203	2.8%	285	3.9%	285	3.5%
TAMARACK	70	1.0%	65	0.9%	129	1.6%
WATER	147	2.0%	141	1.9%	127	1.6%
SWAMP CONIFER	161	2.2%	139	1.9%	107	1.3%
RED OAK	131	1.8%	180	2.5%	95	1.2%
PIN OAK	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	59	0.7%
SWAMP HARDWOOD	34	0.5%	34	0.5%	57	0.7%
FIR / SPRUCE	28	0.4%	41	0.6%	49	0.6%
GRASS	14	0.2%	15	0.2%	21	0.3%
WHITE BIRCH	21	0.3%	24	0.3%	20	0.2%
UPLAND BRUSH	49	0.7%	33	0.5%	11	0.1%
WHITE PINE	0	0.0%	14	0.2%	6	0.1%
ROW	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
TOTAL	7276	100.00%	7276	100.00%	8098	100.00%

**changes from 1995 to 2005 are to be used for general comparison. Certain data sets are calculated due to restructuring of IRMU units in 2020. Other changes may reflect changes in mapping accuracy or changes in forest type definitions. 1995 and 2005 data is an estimate based on prior reported percentages applied to current acreage.*

The major acreage change from 1995 to 2020 results from the acquisition of the 822 acre Meteor Timber property.

3000.9.5 ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPES

Most of this unit lies within the Northwest Sands Ecological Landscape. The northern boundary of this unit overlaps into the North Central Forest.

3000.9.6 LANDFORMS

Landforms within this unit are undulating outwash plain with fans and stream terraces (*Danbury-Trego Plains LTA*), and rolling collapsed moraine with swamps common (*Hayward Moraines*).

3000.9.7 SOILS

Sands dominate a majority of the upland soils within this unit (*nearly all Menahga sands*). There are components of loamy sands along the north edge and southeast corner (*Graycalm-Menahga complex; Keweenaw-Sayner-Vilas complex; Mahtomedi Loamy Sand; and others*) and smaller areas of sandy loam in the far northwest (*Keweenaw-Pence complex*). This unit has some larger areas of hydric soils which are primarily muck (*Seelyevile and Markey soils; Lupton, Cathro and Tawas soils; Bowstring Muck; and others*), as well as smaller areas of peat (*Loxley Muck Peat*)

3000.9.8 FOREST HABITAT TYPES

A majority of this unit is dominated by PQGCe, indicating a suitability for the management of jack and red pine.

There are areas in the north and northwest, as well as the southeast (Village Sub-Unit) that are more dominated by PArVAm, indicating a best suitability for early successional species such as aspen.

See Section 800.1.3 for more detailed information on forest habitat types.

3000.9.9 WATER RESOURCES

All of the water resources within this unit are part of the Middle Namekagon River watershed and they generally flow south and southeasterly into the Namekagon River, above Trego Lake, then westerly into the St. Croix River.

Lakes with County Forest Frontage

Name	Acres	Frontage	Fishery	Designations
None				

Lakes within County Forest

Name	Acres	Fishery	Designations
Gull Creek Spr Ponds	8.0	No	None
16 Unnamed Ponds	47.1	No	None

Rivers and Stream with County Forest

Name	Miles	Type	Fishery	Designations
Namekagon River	3.7	Warm Water	Yes, Warm Water	ORW

Gull Creek	5.1	Cold Water	Class I Trout	ERW
Hay Creek	2.7	Warm Water	No	None
Spring Creek	1.7	Cold Water	Class II Trout	None
Whalen Creek	0.7	Warm Water	No	None
Spring Brook	0.1	Cold Water	Class I Trout	ERW
1 unnamed	0.1	Warm Water	No	None

This unit contains numerous spring fed ponds that lie on the headwaters and along streams feeding the Namekagon River. Gull Creek Springs, Earl Creek Springs, and small spring ponds in Sections 8, 10, 11 and 16 may periodically hold trout.

3000.9.10 RECREATION

- This unit receives a high level of recreational uses, primarily due to its proximity to Hayward and Spooner. The Namekagon River bisects the south edge of this unit and is heavily used by people floating the river.
- There are numerous canoe campsites on and adjacent to the County Forest
- Snowmobile/ATV trail 39 bisects this unit and is consider a major trail corridor connecting north and south through the County.
- The high density of roads in this unit attracts fairly high hunting pressure. Bear training and hunting with hounds is especially popular.

3000.9.11 HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, ARCHEOLOGICAL

- Abandoned homestead sites are scattered throughout the unit.
- There is evidence of logging camps and logging activity associated with the “Pinery” era of the late 1800’s.
- Native American activity along the Namekagon River was likely common.

3000.9.12 PROTECTION NEEDS

- The unit is a high fire danger unit. Spring ATV closures, as well as campfires restrictions should remain in place.
- Firelanes should be periodically mowed and maintained to assure reasonable access during fire season.
- Continue to manage the vegetative fuel breaks as identified in Section 605.6.

- Most of the oak within the unit is comprised of northern pin, which is more susceptible to oak wilt. Consider pre-salvage and conversion to other forest types to mitigate losses.
- Jack pine is common throughout the unit, along with potential jack pine budworm outbreaks. Attempt to minimize the amount of mature jack pine within the area to minimize impacts.
- The Village Sub-Unit will remain closed to public motor vehicle travel in accordance with terms and conditions of a land trade between the County and National Parks Service that gave the County property that accessed the unit.
- Aesthetic considerations are required with the Namekagon National Scenic Riverway, as identified in Section 530.2.3

3000.9.13 AESTHETICS

- The Namekagon National Scenic Riverway Zone is managed as an aesthetic zone, with requirements defined in Section 530.2.3.
- An aesthetic zone is required as part of a deed restriction with Wisconsin DOT along Hwy 63 in Section 12.

3000.9.14 LAND CONTROL

Easements to County

- NWSE 14 T40N-R11W. Easement granted from Anna Potter to Washburn County in 1984. Easement connects Village of Springbrook streets to County Forest Land. Recorded 189643.
- NW1/4, SW1/4 19 T40N-R11W. Easement granted from Nekoosa Papers to Washburn County for firelane purposes in 1981. Recorded 182162. Easement now obsolete since County acquired property.

Road Use Agreement to Private

- SWNE, SENW 18 T40N-R11W. Access from Section 18 Firelane to NENW 18 T40N-R11W. Issued to Stauffer. Expires 12/19/2029

Utility Easements/Agreements

- SENE 11 T40N-R11W. Overhead electrical easement west of town road granted to Barron Electric. Unknown date. No evidence of recorded easement.
- Section 17 T40N-R11W. Electrical easement on west 15 feet lying east of town road granted to Barron Electric. Unknown date. No evidence of recorded easement.

- SESE 1 T40N-R11W. Electrical easement granted to Barron Electric in 1969. No evidence of recorded easement.
- NWNW 1 T40N-R11W. Overhead electrical easement south of Cty Hwy F granted to Barron Electric in 1987. Recorded 204332.

Encroachments

- NESE, SESE 1 T40N-R11W. Encroachment of septic and mobile home addition. Washburn County executed an encroachment agreement with Rhinehart in 2010. Agreement expires 10/20/2020. Recorded 344748.

Other

- SESE 1 T40N-R11W. Scenic easement executed between Washburn County and State of Wisconsin in 1970. Recorded 143207.
- NENW 9 T40N-R11W. Land trade between Washburn County / Hintz of 2.6 acres in 1982. Recorded 183701/183700.
- NWNE Section 17 T40N-R11W. A 1 acre parcel is reserved on the far northwest corner. The property measures 165' by 264' and was originally deeded to the Spooner School District. This parcel was somehow deeded to private party in 2019.

3000.9.15 FOREST MANAGEMENT GOALS AND GUIDELINES

1. The primary forest management emphasis in this unit should be the retention of jack pine. Mature stands should be harvested in conjunction with pre-sale scarification. Direct seeding as a supplement may be an option and considerations may also be given for conversion to plantation jack pine in situations where natural regeneration may not be effective.
2. This unit has a large amount of red pine plantation. Additional red pine plantations are not recommended but existing stands should be replanted to red pine when they reach rotation age. Slight reduction in red pine acres is allowable providing the conversion is to a lacking forest type. Replanting jack pine, as an example, may be feasible.
3. Maintain existing aspen acreage. Consider converting aspen stands to other lacking forest types, on a limited basis, when opportunities present themselves.
4. There are small areas of oak within the unit. Stands that are typed as northern red oak need to be carefully evaluated to assure that they are not high quality northern pin oak. True red oak stands should be considered a critical resource to maintain and possibly expand (these would lie primarily in the northwest corner and northern edge of the unit).

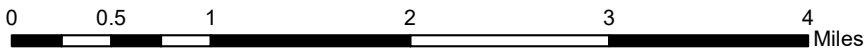
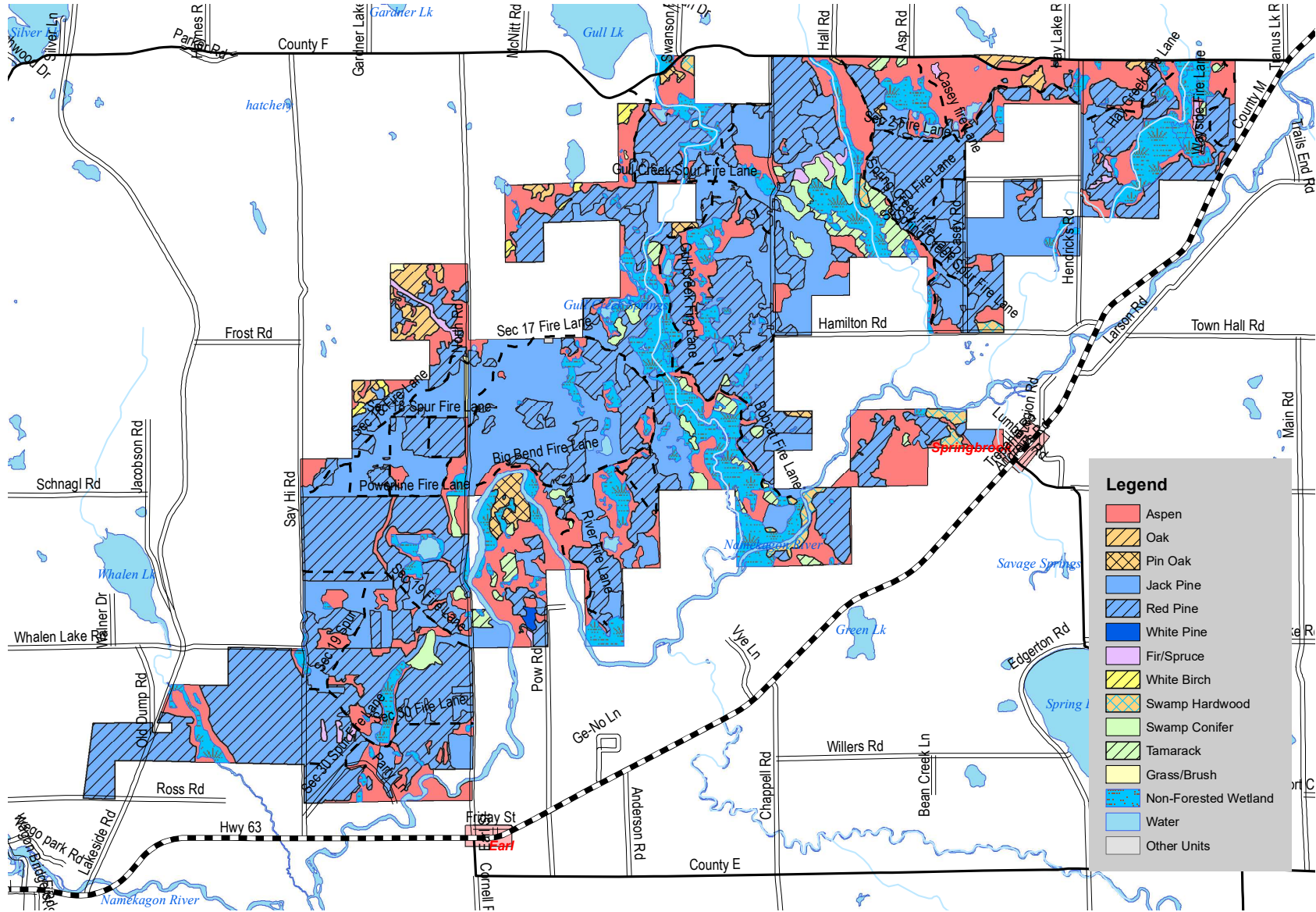
5. Prior plans recommended reserving/protecting certain oak stands within this unit. Given the proximity of oak wilt infections around this unit, the high likelihood of oak wilt spreading into this unit; the high underground transmission rate in pin oak stands; and the advanced age of the oak within this unit, it is a recommendation of this Plan to convert as much oak to other forest types as possible within this unit. Look for opportunities to convert to jack pine, aspen and red pine, in order of priority.
6. There are likely very good opportunities to scarify pin oak sites and artificially seed jack pine. Aerial seeding may provide the most feasible options.
7. Look for opportunities to maintain, enhance and expand natural stands of red and white pine.
8. Emphasize white birch management in areas of PArVAm habitats.
9. Look for opportunities to manage the vegetative fuel breaks as part of adjacent timber sale operations.
10. There may be options to manage older red pine plantations into stands mimicking natural stands of pine on a limited basis.

3000.9.16 SITE SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND GOALS

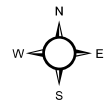
1. The County, as a priority, should pursue the following parcels for acquisition if they come available:
 - Private lands in Section 21 T40N-R11W
 - NENW Section 9 T40N-R11W
 - N1/2NE Section 4 T40N-R11W
 - That part of the NWNW Section 4 T40N-R11W lying south of Cty F
 - That part of the SW1/4 Section 15 T40N-R11W not owned by National Parks Service.
 - That part of the NE1/4 Section 15 T40N-R10W lying south of the river
 - That part of the SWNW Section 14 T40N-R10W lying south and west of the river
2. Collect GPS data on National Parks Service campsites to determine if which ones are on County Forest. There are a number that are suspected to be on County land. Develop formal agreements for these encroachments
3. Research and develop more formal boundaries between County Forest and National Park Service Lands. Many of the original legal descriptions used for land sale were likely insufficient to formally describe the properties.
4. Upgrade County Forest Roads with gravel cap, prioritizing those serving as ATV/UTV trail connectors.
5. Replace the bridge over Gull Creek.

6. Continue to maintain the Hendricks Memorial sign.
7. Support any DNR initiatives to enhance trout fishing opportunities on the streams and spring ponds.

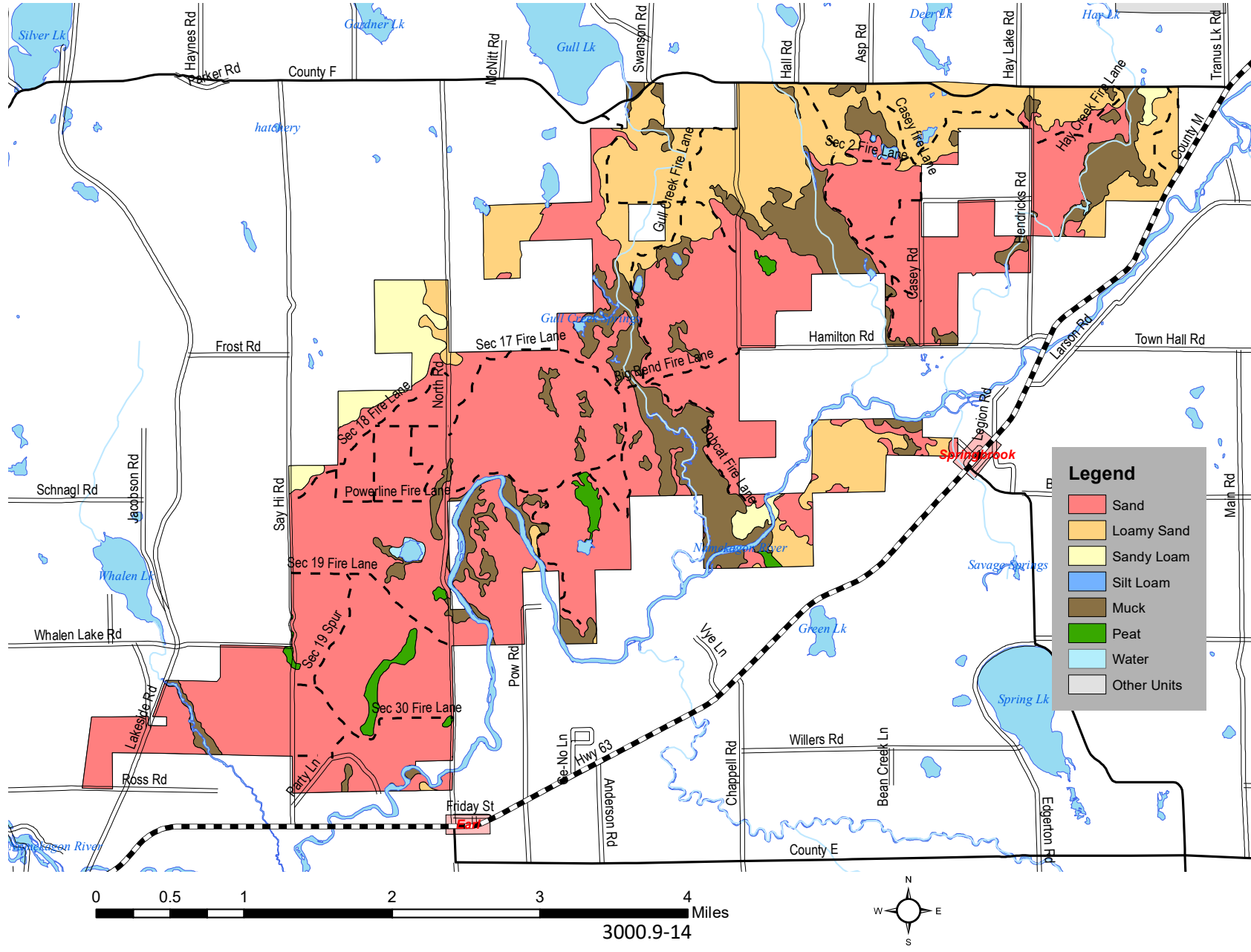
3000.9.17 GENERAL FOREST TYPES MAP



3000.9-13



3000.9.18 GENERAL SOIL TYPES MAP



3000.9-14