

PROPOSED STATE NATURAL AREAS



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After the designation of Land and Recreation Management Areas, and identifying their specific resource management prescriptions, the state forest examined opportunities to further protect areas with exceptional natural features. The Department evaluated sites that could contribute to critical habitat for rare species, provide ecological reference areas, or which contain significant geological or archaeological features. These sites are proposed for designation as State Natural Areas (SNAs). In many cases, the Black River State Forest

offers the best representations of these unique attributes in the state or within the central sand plains ecological landscape.

The goals set by the Division of Forestry are developed and presented to the public before the Bureau of Endangered Resources submits candidate sites for SNA designation. As a result, SNAs are considered overlays to Land Management Areas. In this way, the same piece of land can achieve the goals of two different Department programs. Activities for each proposed SNA are the same as the land management prescriptions as well as the recreation uses designed to meet forestry goals. For example, a SNA located within an area managed for white pine will follow the objectives for that land management area, rather than a separate SNA management plan. The exact same timber management and recreation uses would occur with or without SNA designation. See Appendix A for details on the designation process for State Natural Areas.

TABLE 2.25 PROPOSED STATE NATURAL AREAS

Management Area Number and Name		State Natural Areas*			
		SNA Name	Existing Acres	Proposed New Acres	Total Proposed Acres
Native Community Management Areas			614	3,899	4,513
6	Upper Black River	Upper Black River	--	1,454	1,454
7	Arbutus Oaks	Arbutus Oaks	--	215	215
8	Castle Mound Pine Forest	Castle Mound	91	27	118
9	East Fork of the Black River	East Fork of the Black River	--	471	471
10	Ketchum Creek Headwaters	Ketchum Creek Pines	140	284	424
12	Peatlands	Washburn Marsh	298	267	565
		Starlight Wetlands**	--	233	233
13	Catfish Eddy Terraces	Catfish Eddy Terraces	--	75	75
14	Robinson/Millston Pines	Robinson Creek Pines	85	41	126
17	Starlight Wetlands	Starlight Wetlands**	--	832	832
Recreation Management Area			--	379	379
18	Overmeyer Hills	Wildcat Ridge	--	379	379
Totals			614	4,278	4,892

*State Natural Areas are part of Land Management Areas. Management objectives of these areas are consistent with overall Land Management Area objectives.

**Starlight Wetlands SNA is one SNA which extends into two different management areas. The total size of the SNA is 1,065 with 233 acres within the Peatlands Native Community Management Area and 832 acres within the Starlight Wetlands Native Community Management Area. The Peatlands therefore have two different SNAs within its boundary.

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MAP 2.26 PROPOSED STATE NATURAL AREAS

