

MCCARTHY BEACH STATE PARK

VISITOR FAVORITES

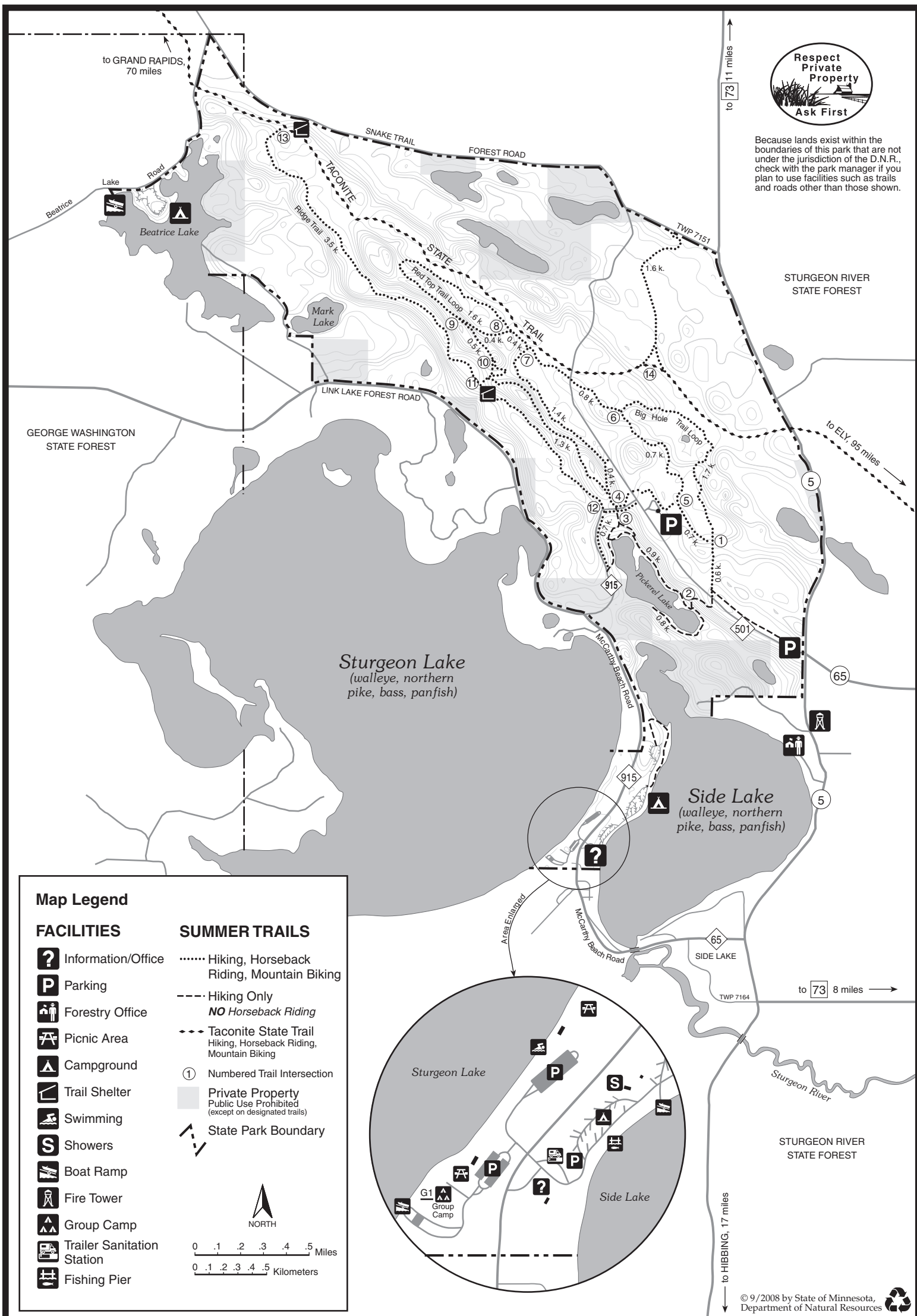
- Sandy swimming beach with changing house and boat access on Sturgeon Lake.
- Majestic red and white pines.
- Trails along ridge tops and valley floors.
- A chain of clear lakes for a variety of water recreation.
- Seven lakes for fishing—trout, walleye, northern pike, bass, and panfish.

FACILITIES AND FEATURES

- 59 semi-modern campsites (17 with electricity) with showers and flush toilets, trailer dump station, and fish-cleaning house on Side Lake.
- 30 rustic campsites with vault toilets and hand-pump water on Beatrice Lake.
- Class III group camp on Sturgeon Lake.
- Trails: 18 miles of hiking trails, 12 miles of snowmobile and horseback trails, 9 miles of cross-country ski trails.
- Picnic area and shelter on Sturgeon Lake.
- Midpoint of Taconite Trail.
- Boat docks & fishing pier.



Because lands exist within the boundaries of this park that are not under the jurisdiction of the D.N.R., check with the park manager if you plan to use facilities such as trails and roads other than those shown.



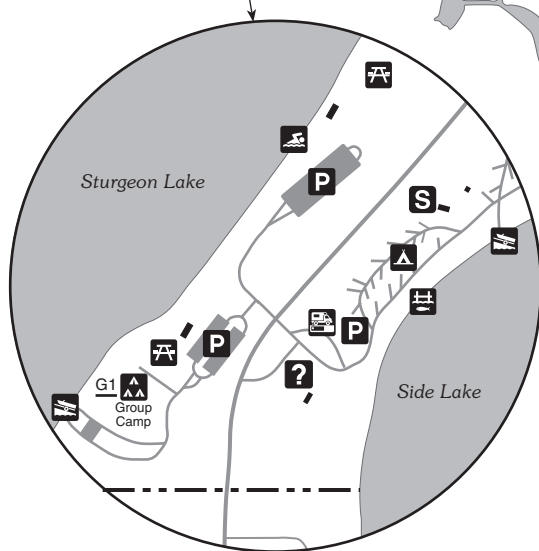
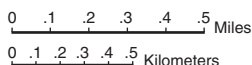
Map Legend

FACILITIES

- Information/Office
- Parking
- Forestry Office
- Picnic Area
- Campground
- Trail Shelter
- Swimming
- Showers
- Boat Ramp
- Fire Tower
- Group Camp
- Trailer Sanitation Station
- Fishing Pier

SUMMER TRAILS

- Hiking, Horseback Riding, Mountain Biking
- Hiking Only
NO Horseback Riding
- Taconite State Trail
Hiking, Horseback Riding, Mountain Biking
- Numbered Trail Intersection
- Private Property
Public Use Prohibited (except on designated trails)
- State Park Boundary





McCARTHY BEACH STATE PARK

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 McCarthy Beach State Park
 7622 McCarthy Beach Road
 Side Lake, MN 55781
 218-254-7979

Department of Natural Resources
 Information Center
 500 Lafayette Road
 St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

(651) 296-6157 (Metro Area)
 1-888-646-6367 (MN Toll Free)

TDD (Telecommunications
 Device for Deaf)
 (651) 296-5484 (Metro Area)
 1-888-646-6367 (MN Toll Free)

DNR Web Site: www.dnr.state.mn.us
 State Parks page: www.mnstateparks.info

McCarthy Beach State Park is located in St. Louis County near Hibbing. Take U.S. Highway 169 north out of Hibbing to St. Louis County Road 5. Follow this county road 15 miles north to the park. Highway map index: K-7.

McCarthy Beach offers excellent water

and land recreation. The park is between two major lakes; Sturgeon Lake and Side Lake. In and around the park, five additional lakes provide opportunities to fish for trout, walleye, and panfish. The park's terrain is that of rolling hills with many small valleys.

WILDLIFE: The park's hills and trails allow good bird and animal watching. Over 175 different species of birds visit the area. Visitors can see loons glide on lakes and great blue herons stalk small fish in the shallows. Thirty-three species of wildlife—deer, black bear, timber wolf, chipmunk, red squirrel, raccoon—and several species of reptiles and amphibians inhabit the park. Please remember that these animals are wild. Enjoy the animals, but do not approach or feed them.

GEOLOGY: Creeping glaciers over 1,000 feet high gouged and tore at the region's bedrock (the cooled lava of ancient volcanoes). The glaciers flowed south, retreated north, and flowed south again. The first glacier stopped where McCarthy Beach is now located. It left low, rolling hills with steep sides called moraines—actually accumulations of boulders, stones and other debris. Between the hills, the glaciers gouged valleys. In the larger valleys, lakes were formed.

Trails from McCarthy Beach lead visitors along the ridge tops of the park's moraines. There, visitors can imagine the titanic forces that moved and shaped the region. These trails are used year-round. Summer hiking trails are used in winter for snowmobiling and for cross-country skiing.

HISTORY: Giant red and white pines reached as far as the eyes of early settlers could see. One homesteader could spend

years just logging a single 40-acre tract. These old giants attracted loggers to the Sturgeon Lake area.

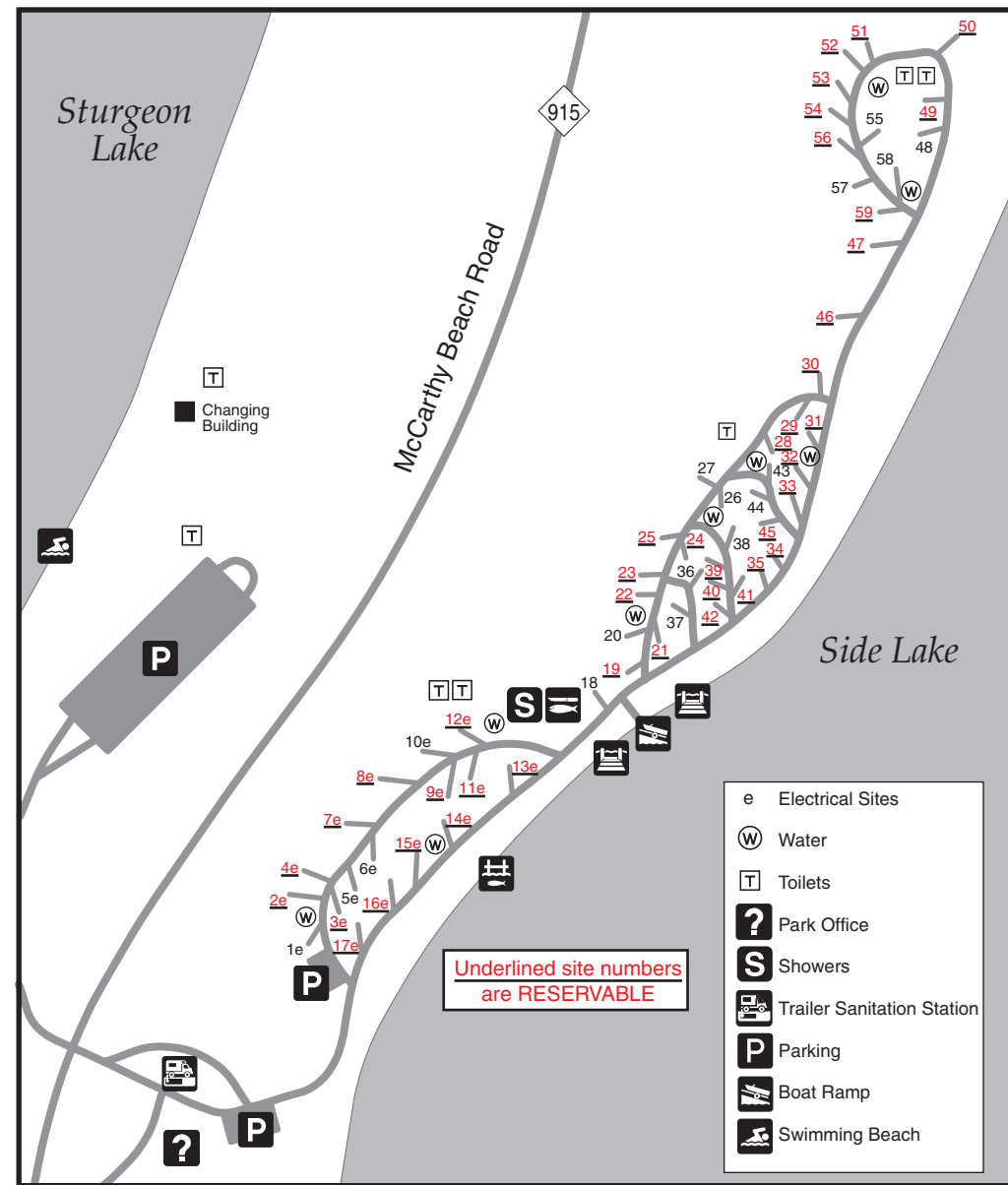
Two men named Hibbing and Trimble started the first sawmill at the townsite of Hibbing. Wood from the mill built this booming mining town.

In 1895, the Swan River Logging Company owned by Wright and Davis of Saginaw, Michigan, built a railroad to Sturgeon Lake. Logging started around this time. The railroad hauled the logs to the Swan River. There they were driven to the Minneapolis sawmills via the Mississippi River.

INTERPRETIVE: Visitors interested in learning about the natural and human history of the park should check for displays at the ranger station, campgrounds and picnic area.

SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK...

- The park belongs to all Minnesotans. Treat it with respect and consideration.
- Hunting in the park is prohibited.
- Pets must be kept on a leash not longer than six feet, and attended at all times.
- Motorized vehicles may not use park trails.
- Enjoy the animals, but do not approach or feed them.
- Leave rocks and plants where they are. They make up much of the park's beauty. Do not collect them.
- Information on facilities, boating, navigation, and water safety is available from park managers.
- Park only in designated parking areas.
- The park is closed from 10:00 P.M. until 8:00 A.M. except in campgrounds. Loud noises or other disturbances are prohibited after 10:00 P.M.
- Park permits are required for every vehicle. Purchase them at park headquarters.



- For more information about Minnesota state parks, see the sidebar to the left.

This information is available in alternative format upon request.

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DNR Maps