

BAYFIELD COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN  
 TABLE OF CONTENTS  
**CHAPTER 700**  
**ACCESS MANAGEMENT**  
**ROADS AND TRAILS**

	<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page</u>
700	<b>ACCESS MANAGEMENT/ROADS AND TRAILS</b>		<b>3</b>
	700.1	HISTORY	3
	700.2	CURRENT STATUS	4
	700.3	FUTURE NEEDS	4
710	<b>ROADS</b>		<b>5</b>
	710.1	ROAD CLASSIFICATIONS	5
		710.1.1 Primary Roads	5
		710.1.2 Secondary Roads	6
		710.1.3 Temporary Use Roads	6
		710.1.4 Unclassified Roads	6
		710.1.5 Minimum Road Standard	6
	710.2	ROAD PLANNING	6
		710.2.1 Road Analysis and Classification	6
		710.2.2 New Roads	7
720	<b>RECREATIONAL ACCESS</b>		<b>8</b>
	720.1	TRAIL CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND ABANDONMENT	8
725	<b>NON-MOTORIZED RECREATION</b>		<b>9</b>
	725.1	WALKING TRAIL	9
		725.1.1 North Country National Scenic Trail	9
		725.1.2 Bayfield County Walking Trails	9
	725.2	MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS	9
	725.3	CROSS COUNTRY SKI TRAILS	9
	725.4	DOGSLED TRAILS	10
730	<b>MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL</b>		<b>10</b>
	730.1	SNOWMOBILE TRAILS	11
	730.2	ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV) TRAILS	11
735	<b>AESTHETIC ZONE CLASSIFICATIONS</b>		<b>12</b>
740	<b>MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ADJACENT TO TRAILS</b>		<b>12</b>
	740.1	NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS	12
	740.2	MOTORIZED TRAILS	13
750	<b>SPECIAL USE AREAS</b>		<b>13</b>
755	<b>ACCESS TO PRIVATE LANDS</b>		<b>13</b>
	755.1	TEMPORARY ACCESS	13
	755.2	ACCESS PERMITS	13
	755.3	EASEMENTS	15
760	<b>UTILITY ACCESS</b>		<b>15</b>
765	<b>BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES</b>		<b>15</b>
770	<b>SIGNS</b>		<b>15</b>

775 **RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES .....15**  
780 **EXEMPTIONS.....16**  
785 **INTERFACE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT.....16**  
790 **TRIBAL FOREST USER GROUPS.....16**  
795 **SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS/PLAN MODIFICATIONS.....16**

## CHAPTER 700 - ACCESS MANAGEMENT

### **700 ACCESS MANAGEMENT/ROADS AND TRAILS**

#### 700.1 HISTORY

Most of the existing roads and trails on the Bayfield County Forest were originally developed as logging roads or railroad grades. Many of these roads and trails were constructed prior to the land being owned by the County.

Road maintenance has generally been done in conjunction with harvest activities, primarily by the holders of County timber sale contracts and secondarily by Forestry Department staff with department equipment. A few roads were closed to motorized use. This was largely done on forest roads that were converted to trails or in special use areas. In 1998 it was calculated that less than two percent of forest roads on the County Forest were closed to motorized use.

Due to a lack of policies and guidelines for roads within the County Forest, a variety of problems developed over time. For instance, roads constructed for winter only harvesting operations or which did not protect wetlands, streams, soils, or other forest components often remained open for recreational use. In some cases this use has caused erosion, non-point source pollution, has damaged roads needed for future access, or caused other resource degradation.

At the same time societal changes increased the demands on the County Forest's access system. Increased demand for recreational opportunities on the Forest resulted in a greater potential for conflict between different user groups. The explosive growth in the ownership and use of all terrain vehicles also led to greatly increased motorized use on the County Forest.

In response to these pressures in 1998 the County Board amended the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use plan. The amendment completely replaced the existing Chapter 700 and provided a new access management plan for the County Forest.

That plan provided a process for classifying all of the roads on the County Forest into one of three categories: Primary, Secondary, and Temporary County Forest Roads. The Plan further provided for placing appropriate use restrictions on roads as they were placed into one of these three categories.

These road designations have been completed for two of the management units on the County Forest. The Cable Management Area (County Forest Unit #7) was completed in 2002 and the Southern Barnes Management Area (County Forest Unit #6) in 2004. Input from numerous stakeholder groups in both of these areas was integral to the decision making process when the designations were made. Maps and road designations for these areas are included in chapter 900.

## 700.2 CURRENT STATUS

Resource management and protection activities, recreational uses, and other public uses on the Bayfield County Forest require several different types of road and trail access. Since the Forest is large and diverse, a broad network of access routes has developed. On the Bayfield County Forest there are approximately:

- 24 miles of Primary County Forest Roads for which the County is receiving County Forest Road Aids (currently \$336/mile/year).
- 66 miles of designated Secondary County Forest Roads.
- 72 miles of designated Temporary County Forest Roads.
- 959 miles of unclassified forest roads.
- 89\* miles of snowmobile trails.
- 11\* miles of ATV trails.
- 78 miles of walking trails.
- 30 miles of cross country ski trails.
- 17 miles of mountain bike trails.
- 29 miles of dogsled trails.

\*Trail miles on Town Roads within the Forest are not included.

There are more than 22,000 acres of private land within the County Forest blocking, which over time has led to an increase in requests for access. The Forestry Committee has handled these requests on a case-by-case basis. Where appropriate the Committee has issued a ten-year access permit. There are currently 36 valid private land access permits on the County Forest.

In a few rare cases Bayfield County has issued permanent easements across County Forest land. Generally these have been granted as part of a reciprocal easement or for public utility access.

## 700.3 FUTURE NEEDS:

Road and trail use has increased in types and volume, and now includes off road vehicles, snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles (ATVs), mountain biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, horseback riding, dog sledding, hunting access, scenic driving, mushroom/berry picking, wildlife viewing, and forestry activities. As the population of Wisconsin and surrounding states increases and as more private lands are posted closed, Bayfield County can expect continued increases in use. The range of demands this will produce shall be considered during planning to achieve the following objectives:

1. Provide a safe, economical, efficient, and properly engineered and maintained network of roads and trails on the County Forest for resource management activities such as timber sale establishment, harvesting operations, reforestation activities, timber stand improvement (TSI), and protection from insect, disease, and fire.

2. Provide safe, sustainable public access for a variety of recreational activities on County Forest lands and when appropriate, links to adjacent lands.
3. Have an ecologically, economically, and socially sound access management plan for the forest.

The management guidelines in this plan will be used to meet these objectives. In addition to insure that this plan is properly implemented and the objectives are met, Bayfield County will:

1. Inventory and maintain a record of all of the current roads and trails.
2. Evaluate current road infrastructure and plan a transportation system that meets current and future needs.
3. Maintain the transportation system so that it is safe, efficient, and environmentally sound.
4. Monitor the transportation system and make adjustments to it as needed to meet future needs.

## **710 ROADS**

### **710.1 ROAD CLASSIFICATIONS**

Most of the roads on the Bayfield County Forest have been or will be placed into one of three road classifications. These classifications are primary, secondary, and temporary use forest roads. Any road that has not been placed in one of these three categories is designated an unclassified road. These classifications will provide long term direction for how individual roads on the County Forest will be used, closed, improved, constructed, and maintained.

#### **710.1.1 Primary Roads**

Roads in this category have been enrolled in the County Forest Road Aids program. Qualifying roads must meet minimum design standards. State law requires a 16-foot surface width and a 20-foot roadway width. A yearly aid payment is made by the State of Wisconsin for the maintenance of these roads. There are currently 24 miles of roads in this program. Maps of all of these roads are in Chapter 900.

These primary roads will be maintained and will remain open for public use. Use by motorized vehicles other than licensed highway vehicles may be restricted. These roads may be temporarily closed only to resolve an emergency such as public safety, fire suppression, environmental damage, law enforcement, or other critical event requiring immediate action.

### 710.1.2 Secondary Roads

These roads serve as the main access corridors for multiple use management on the County Forest. They usually serve a variety of uses including forest management, fire protection, and recreation. These roads are maintained as part of a permanent road system but are built and maintained to a lower standard than primary roads. Some of these roads are designed for use only when the ground is frozen or during unusually dry periods.

Secondary County Forest Roads will be designated closed or open to appropriate motorized uses. The Administrator will designate which roads are open and the approved motorized use(s) permitted. These uses may include licensed highway vehicles, ATVs, snowmobiles, or a combination of them. Signs designating which motorized uses the road is open to will be posted on all Secondary County Forest Roads. A closure device (gate, berm, etc.) will be used to restrict access to Secondary County Forest Roads that are closed to all motorized vehicles.

### 710.1.3 Temporary Use Roads

These roads are designed and constructed for short-term use for a specific project, usually for timber harvest access. These roads are used only for a short duration and when the activity is done, the road is closed. Generally these roads are naturally or artificially revegetated. Unless designated otherwise these roads are closed to all motorized use.

### 710.1.4 Unclassified Roads

This category includes any existing road on the County Forest that has not been placed into one of the other classifications. These roads are not maintained, receive little use, and do not warrant the expense of closure due to resource needs. Unless designated otherwise these roads are closed to all motorized use.

### 710.1.5 Minimum Road Standard

Travelways that are less than 50 inches wide are not considered to be a road under this plan. Motorized use is prohibited on these Travelways.

## 710.2 ROAD PLANNING

It is the policy of Bayfield County to plan, develop, and maintain an environmentally sound road system.

### 710.2.1 Road Analysis and Classification.

The Administrator will evaluate the current road network, future access needs, and engineering/environmental factors and select for long term use the routes that best meet the County's needs. For each road the Administrator will select the classification and the

appropriate motorized use designation that best meets current and future needs. The following criteria will be used to evaluate forest roads in the classification process.

1. Road density as it relates to the areas management requirements.
2. Presence of threatened or endangered species or other wildlife considerations.
3. Soil characteristics and the corresponding ability of the road to support vehicles.
4. Expected maintenance requirements of individual roads.
5. Suitability for seasonal use – priority will be given to roads which can be used 3 seasons or year round.
6. Water quality concerns: BMPs and proximity to wetlands, streams, or lakes.
7. Present and future needs for forestry activities in the area.
8. Presence of steep topography that will impact the road's use and maintenance requirements.
9. Protection of special use areas, features, or other ecological considerations.
10. Recreation needs and user group desires.
11. Presence of known archeological or cultural sites.

The Administrator will keep the appropriate Red Cliff Tribal Government person(s) advised of all transportation planning within the Reservation boundary that may affect tribal interests. In addition, the Administrator will cooperate with other agencies and landowners to resolve access needs which span different ownerships, and to find mutually agreeable solutions.

#### 710.2.2 New Roads

The Administrator will evaluate the needs for additional roads and for relocations of roads or parts of roads. The Administrator will determine the location and classification for new and relocated roads, will determine the standards to which new and relocated roads will be constructed, and will prepare plans and specifications for their construction. New roads will be constructed in accordance with Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality and with all applicable County, State, and Federal regulations. The Administrator will inspect all road construction projects to ensure that work is in compliance with contract plans and specifications. Often these roads will be constructed by loggers or other users.

## **720 RECREATIONAL ACCESS**

An important role of the Bayfield County Forest is to provide sustainable recreation opportunities. These opportunities include both cooperatively maintained trails systems and dispersed recreation. Efforts will continue to be made to provide a rewarding recreational experience for all of the user groups on the County Forest while minimizing conflicts between them. Input from the various groups and from other interested members of the public will assist Bayfield County in achieving this goal.

Management activities adjacent to recreational trails will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and when possible, attempts will be made to minimize the impact that these activities have on trail users. However, recreational users will encounter forest management activities. The Administrator has the authority to temporarily close or relocate trails to insure a safe and rewarding experience for the users of the trails.

Existing trail systems will be identified in sections 725 and 730 of this chapter. Maps of existing trail systems are available in Chapter 900.

### **720.1 TRAIL CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND ABANDONMENT**

Requests for recreational trails will be reviewed by the Administrator. Groups requesting specific trail development or use must present a plan for the long term funding and maintenance of proposed trails. The Administrator will make a recommendation to the Committee on whether the trail plan should be approved. If the Committee approves the trail plan, a ten year permit will be issued that specifies the conditions under which the trail may be developed and used. When recreational trail permits expire the Committee will renew the permit or document to the user group the reason that the permit will not be renewed.

Bayfield County may require that the organizations associated with the trails and that groups sponsoring activities on the County Forest carry liability insurance coverage and provide a certificate of insurance as proof of coverage. Construction or maintenance of any recreational trail in which the activity would impact one acre or more of land is subject to state and federal storm water runoff requirements. Recreational trail development will employ Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality and will comply with all applicable County, State, and Federal regulations.

The Administrator will inspect all trail construction and maintenance projects to ensure that work is in compliance with permit specifications. Any changes to original specifications must be approved in writing by the Administrator.

Before any trail or special use area is discontinued or abandoned, the permitted individual or group must complete all rehabilitation and closure requirements specified by the Administrator.

## **725 NON-MOTORIZED RECREATION**

All portions of the County Forest, except for designated snowmobile trails between December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>, are open to non-motorized use unless marked with signs closing an area. This includes but is not limited to the categories of use listed within this section. Developed non-motorized recreation opportunities on the County Forest include:

### **725.1 WALKING TRAILS**

#### **725.1.1 North Country National Scenic Trail**

The North Country Trail is unique as only one of eight such dedicated national scenic hiking trails in the Country. It crosses approximately 8 miles of Bayfield County Forest. Use on this trail is restricted to non-motorized activities.

#### **725.1.2 Bayfield County Walking Trails**

1. Lost creek Walking Trail
2. Flag River Walking Trail
  - a. Includes the William E. Hepner Loop
3. Henkins Walking Trail
4. Ruth Lake Walking Trail
5. Big Sand Bay Walking Trail
6. Ahmeek Lake Walking Trail
7. Spring Creek Walking Trail
8. Raspberry River Walking Trail
  - a. This trail is maintained by Friends of the Raspberry River Walking Trail

### **725.2 MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS**

1. CAMBA Trail
  - a. This trail is maintained by the Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association. It utilizes forest roads and off season ski trails, in addition to a single track trail built through the County Forest.

### **725.3 CROSS COUNTRY SKI TRAILS**

1. Tomahawk Ski Trail

2. North End Ski Trail
  - a. This trail is maintained by the North End Ski Club. A trailhead is also maintained that includes a warming cabin, outhouse, informational sign and a donation tube.
3. Birkebeiner Ski Trail
  - a. The Birkebeiner ski trail traverses 2.6 miles of County Forest land as part of its 33 mile length. The trail was established exclusively for the American Birkebeiner ski race and is maintained by the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation.
4. Kortelopet Ski Trail
  - a. The companion event to the Birkebeiner, the Kortelopet trail is also maintained by the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation.
5. CHASTA Ski Trail & Jolly Pike's Creek Trail
  - a. This trail is maintained by the Chequamegon Area Ski Trail Association
6. Telemark Ski Trail
  - a. This trail is maintained by Telemark Ski Resort. All portions of the trail on the County Forest are open to the public.

#### 725.4 DOGSLED TRAILS

The Northern Wisconsin Dog Musher's Association maintains three trail networks on the County Forest. The Sand River Trail hosts the annual Apostle Island Sled Dog Race. The three trails are the:

1. Hollander Road Trail
2. Sorenson Road Trail
3. Sand River Trail

#### 730 MOTORIZED RECREATION

Primary, secondary, temporary, and unclassified roads are in some cases designated and signed open to snowmobiles, ATVs, and/or licensed highway vehicles. In order to protect these roads, they are closed to motorized vehicles in the spring during the same period that the state funded ATV trail system is closed.

In addition, there is a network of ATV and Snowmobile trails which provide riding opportunities within the County Forest. No cross-country motorized vehicle travel is permitted. Motorized vehicles other than snowmobiles, ATV's and licensed highway vehicles are not allowed on the County Forest.

For the purposes of this plan All Terrain Vehicle or ATV has the meaning specified in Section 340.01 (2g), Wis. Stats. Snowmobile has the meaning specified in Section 340.01 (58a), Wis. Stats. A licensed highway vehicles means any wheeled vehicle that meets all legal requirements for use on a state highway.

### 730.1 SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Currently there are 89 miles of groomed snowmobile trails on the County Forest. Most of these are on improved forest roads. There are two types of groomed snowmobile trails on the Forest; state-funded trails and local club trails.

State trails: A system of state approved and funded snowmobile trails is authorized on designated trails and roads. This system is part of the statewide network of snowmobile trails, which links Bayfield County with adjoining Counties as well as the rest of the state. Snowmobile registration, motor fuel tax, and out-of-state user fees are used to support trail development, enforcement, signing, maintenance, grooming and bridge construction.

Local trails: A smaller network of local club-sponsored snowmobile trails is also permitted on designated trails and roads. Maintenance of these trails is supported by club membership fees and fund raising activities.

For safety reasons cross country skiing, dog sledding, pedestrian traffic, skiing while being pulled by dogs, off-road biking, and other non-motorized activities are not allowed on snowmobile trails from December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> without written approval from the Administrator.

### 730.2 ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAILS (ATV)

Currently there are 11 miles of ATV trails on the County Forest. Most of these are on improved forest roads. There are two types of ATV trails that may be authorized on the Forest; state-funded trails and local club trails.

State trails: A system of state approved and funded ATV trails is authorized on designated trails and roads. This system is part of the statewide network of ATV trails, which links Bayfield County with adjoining Counties as well as the rest of the state. ATV registration, motor fuel tax funds, and out-of-state user fees are used to support trail development, enforcement, signing, maintenance, grooming and bridge construction.

Local trails: A smaller network of local club-sponsored ATV trails is also permitted on designated trails and roads. Maintenance of these trails is supported by club membership fees and fund raising activities.

At the present time all of the ATV trails on the County Forest are State funded however local trails may be developed in the future.

## **735 AESTHETIC ZONE CLASSIFICATIONS**

This section designates which Aesthetic Management Zone classification that individual recreational trails will be placed in. Aesthetic Management Zones are addressed in Section 520 of this plan.

1. The Birkebeiner and Kortelopet ski trails are classified as aesthetic zone A.
2. Non-motorized trails listed in 725.2 thru 725.4 and the North Country Trail (725.1.1), are classified as aesthetic zone B.
3. Walking trails as listed in 725.1.2 and motorized recreation trails are classified as aesthetic zone C.

## **740 MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ADJACENT TO TRAILS.**

### **740.1 NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS.**

Bayfield County will work to mitigate the impact that management activities have on the users of non-motorized trails. When planning management activities the following guides and actions will be used:

1. The group or organization that maintains the trail will be notified of pending management activities adjacent to the trail.
2. A slash free zone will be maintained within 25' of trails that are classified as aesthetic zone A or B.
3. To avoid unnecessary increases in road density, trails may be used as a haul road (many trails utilize roads that were built for logging.)
4. At the completion of management activities trails will be left free of any slash or other debris and if necessary will be graded flat.
5. Landing and decking wood on trails will be avoided whenever possible.
6. Seasonal restrictions will be used when possible to minimize conflicts.
7. When establishing plantations along trails, where possible, the rows of trees will be planted parallel to the trail to minimize the aesthetic impact.
8. Where practical, big tree silviculture will guide management within 100 feet of trails that are classified as aesthetic zone A.
9. Where practical, a biological rotation age will be used instead of an economic rotation age within 100 feet of trails that are classified as aesthetic zone A.

10. Where practical, harvests will maintain a residual stocking basal area of 80 sq. ft. within 100 feet of trails that are classified as aesthetic zone A. Silvicultural requirements for some species or catastrophic events such as fire, insect, or disease outbreaks, or wind damage may require heavier harvests.
11. Sun rotation, slope direction, and angle will be considered when clearcuts are necessary along trails that are classified as aesthetic zone A.

#### 740.2 MOTORIZED TRAILS

The primary concern when planning and executing management activities adjacent to motorized trails is safety. When possible, seasonal restrictions will be used to minimize potential hazards. Hauling and decking on trails will be avoided whenever possible, however many trails utilize roads that were built for logging and may need to be used again. Whenever trails are crossed, or utilized as roads, signs will be posted to warn users.

#### 750 SPECIAL USE AREAS

Access management within special use areas is addressed in chapter 530 of this plan.

#### 755 ACCESS TO PRIVATE LANDS

##### 755.1 TEMPORARY ACCESS

The Administrator may grant permission for a temporary access route for silvicultural activities on private land. Road construction, reconstruction and/or improvements, upgrading, and road closure at the completion of operations will be done to standards approved by the Administrator and in accordance with Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality.

##### 755.2 ACCESS PERMITS

Applications by private parties to use, build, or improve access roads through County Forest land will be reviewed by the Administrator on a case-by-case basis. Access across County Forest lands must be demonstrated by the applicant to be a better option than access across other adjacent private lands. The Administrator will make a recommendation to the Committee on whether the proposed access permit should be approved. If the Committee approves an access permit the following conditions will apply.

1. Permit may only be issued to cross County Forest lands. It is the responsibility of the landowner to arrange access across any other lands that may need to be crossed.
2. Permits will only be valid for the period of time that the access is needed, not to exceed 10 years, and may be renewed at the discretion of the Forestry Committee. The permit does not constitute a legal easement.

3. A prospective buyer may apply for and be granted an access permit if he/she presents the Administrator with a signed purchase agreement for the parcel to be accessed.
4. The permit is nontransferable.
5. Road construction, reconstruction and/or improvements, or upgrading will be done to standards specified by the Administrator. Administrator must be notified three (3) days prior to the start of any construction work.
6. The Permittee must follow Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality.
7. All temporary access roads will be obliterated to standards specified by the Administrator by the person receiving the permit at the conclusion of his/her use of the road. A bond sufficient to cover the cost of obliteration may be required for each temporary access permit.
8. All wood that will be removed under an access permit will remain the property of Bayfield County until it has been paid for, cut, and removed from County Property.
9. The County continues full ownership of the improved roadway; however, it shall not be liable for maintenance or upkeep of the road.
10. Access permit will only be valid after approval of the Committee, the Permittee pays all costs and fees, and both the Permittee and that Administrator sign the permit.
11. Roadway is open to the public through County land. Permittee may not gate or otherwise restrict the road, however, the Administrator may elect to gate the road in which case the Permittee will follow the Administrator's direction as to when the gate must be kept closed.
12. Permittee waives any rights to any declaration of ownership or interest in the road on County land. This includes rights acquired through adverse possession.
13. The Committee will set appropriate fees and costs for an "Access Permit". The value of any trees needing to be cut will be based on an appraisal by the Administrator.
14. County Forestry activities have priority for use of the permitted access road. Permittee agrees not to interfere with forestry activities requiring the use of the permitted road.
15. The standard Land Use Agreement Access permit is included in Chapter 900.

### 755.3 EASEMENTS

In rare cases granting an easement across County land may be considered. Generally this will only be done as part of an exchange for either land or a reciprocal easement granting access to County land. If an easement is considered the County's Corporation Counsel and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be consulted.

### 760 UTILITY ACCESS

Access across the County Forest for the purpose of a utility route is covered under Chapter 515, Special Uses.

### 765 BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The layout and construction of any new road or trail on the County Forest shall adhere to Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality.

### 770 SIGNS

Signs on the County Forest will be used to appropriately to inform the public. Private signs promoting personal, commercial or political objectives will not be permitted. Signs erected by the County for management purposes or by permitted non-profit recreational trail groups will be as follows:

1. Informational Type Signs
  - A. Interpretive Signs - to educate the general public about management of the County Forest.
  - B. Public Land Signs - to identify the land as Bayfield County Forest property.
  - C. Trail Markers - to provide direction and safety for trail users.
  - D. Scientific, Historical or Geological Markers - to identify points of interest.
  - E. Recreational Facility Markers - to identify parking areas, etc.
2. Regulatory Type Signs - to regulate the use of the County Forest in specific areas.

### 775 RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Bayfield County will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations. The Administrator may issue a special access permit to hunters who have received a WDNR disabled hunting permit or to non-hunters who meet the physical requirements

for a State disabled hunting permit. The following conditions will apply to these permits.

1. Permits will be issued allowing motorized access point to point on a specific route.
2. The permit will include conditions to protect the resource. For instance it may be restricted to ATV use only if the road in question will not support a heavier vehicle.
3. The Administrator will decide whether or not to issue a permit. Environmental concerns, potential conflicts with other user groups, or other issues may result in a permit not being issued.
4. The Permit will allow one assistant to aid the disabled hunter. The assistant must be named on the permit form.
5. The Permit will be issued for a fixed time period which may not exceed a year. The Administrator will select an expiration date that matches the concluding date (i.e. end of deer season) for the activity in question.

#### **780 EXEMPTIONS**

Motorized and non-motorized access for administrative and forest management purposes are exempted from the provisions of this plan. Administrative traffic will be limited to periods of time when resource damage will not occur. Other limited exemptions from the provisions of this plan may be authorized in writing in terms of time and specifications when in the judgment of the Administrator adequate evidence of a need is demonstrated.

#### **785 INTERFACE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT**

The Administrator and the Forestry Department staff will cooperate with federal, state, and local law enforcement officers as well as the agents of the various resource management agencies to assure that all applicable ordinances are followed and resource management goals are accomplished. The Administrator will also work to develop consistent standards and regulations with agencies managing adjacent forest lands to reduce confusion over permitted uses.

#### **790 TRIBAL FOREST USER GROUPS**

The Administrator will accommodate tribal members in exercising their off-reservation gathering rights, as outlined in chapter 525 of this plan.

#### **795 SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS/PLAN MODIFICATIONS**

The Administrator may temporarily suspend policies specified in this plan to resolve an emergency such as public safety, fire suppression, environmental damage, law enforcement, or other critical event requiring immediate action. Suspension may be given

in writing or if time does not permit maybe verbal. If given verbally a written follow up will be prepared documenting the reason(s) and specifications for the verbal suspension. When appropriate, signs explaining the special designation will be placed. As soon as the emergency event is over, the Administrator will rescind the temporary suspension of policies in writing.