

## UPPER WISCONSIN RIVER LEGACY FOREST



*Wisconsin River*

This project is a proposed partnership between two private landowners and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, designed to protect 1,042 acres of forestland and riparian habitat for long-term sustainable forestry, multiple-use public access and a clean Wisconsin River watershed. Support for this effort is provided by Partners in Forestry Cooperative and American Acquisitions, LLC.



*Pine bolts and pulpwood*



*A valuable wildlife pond is dissected by the east boundary with the National Forest.*

After leaving the headwaters of Lac Vieux Desert, the Wisconsin River traverses National Forest lands for less than two miles prior to entering the lands included in this project. Located just east of Highway 45 and southeast of Land O' Lakes, this well-forested tract is in close proximity to the Spruce Grouse State Natural Area, borders the Nicolet-Chequamegon National Forest for over a mile on the east and is very close to the Ottawa National Forest and Sylvania Wilderness. The protection of these lands can contribute a corridor among the complex of undeveloped lands that are critical habitat for Northwoods wildlife, and would expand the public access in this region.

## THE FOREST

Forest habitat on this tract includes jack pine, aspen and red pine covering a majority of the upland areas, with areas of white pine, spruce, fir and northern hardwood. The wetlands in proximity to the river corridor include dense stands of cedar, black spruce and tamarack.

Over 1,500 cords were sent to market in April and May of 2015, as prescribed by MFL Stewardship plans. Significantly more mature aspen and jack pine are slated for harvest in the next 5 years according to the management plan, along with more red pine thinning. Over 40% of total project acreage is mid-age jack pine, scheduled for harvest in 2030-2045.



*Cutting mature jack pine*



*Seed trees remain after cutting mature jack pine and aspen*



*Loading aspen pulpwood*



*Individual tree selection in 35-year old pine*



*A group attending a Partners in Forestry and UW Center for Cooperatives workshop view the thinned stand*



*Processor*

## PUBLIC ACCESS

The tract can be accessed from Crystal Lake Road to the north, and County Road E on the south. An access road is provided to a parking area +/- 1 mile from County Road E.



*County Road E*



*Entrance on County Road E*



*Parking area in heart of project*

## HABITAT

These project lands include diverse habitat types, from dry uplands to river wetlands. This tract also includes the confluences of Crystal Creek and a second unnamed stream, entering the river from the north. The threatened Calypso Orchid has been documented on the project, under the dominant cedar-black spruce stands in the river wetlands. Spruce Grouse (*Falci pennis canadensis*) have been observed nesting on the project lands, and management strategies outlined for the large jack pine stands are designed in a way that provides increasingly-rare habitat for the endangered Kirtland's warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*).



*Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*) is common upland ground cover*



*Hardwood on hill offers diversity to the upland pine-aspen areas*



*100+ year old cedar in river wetlands*



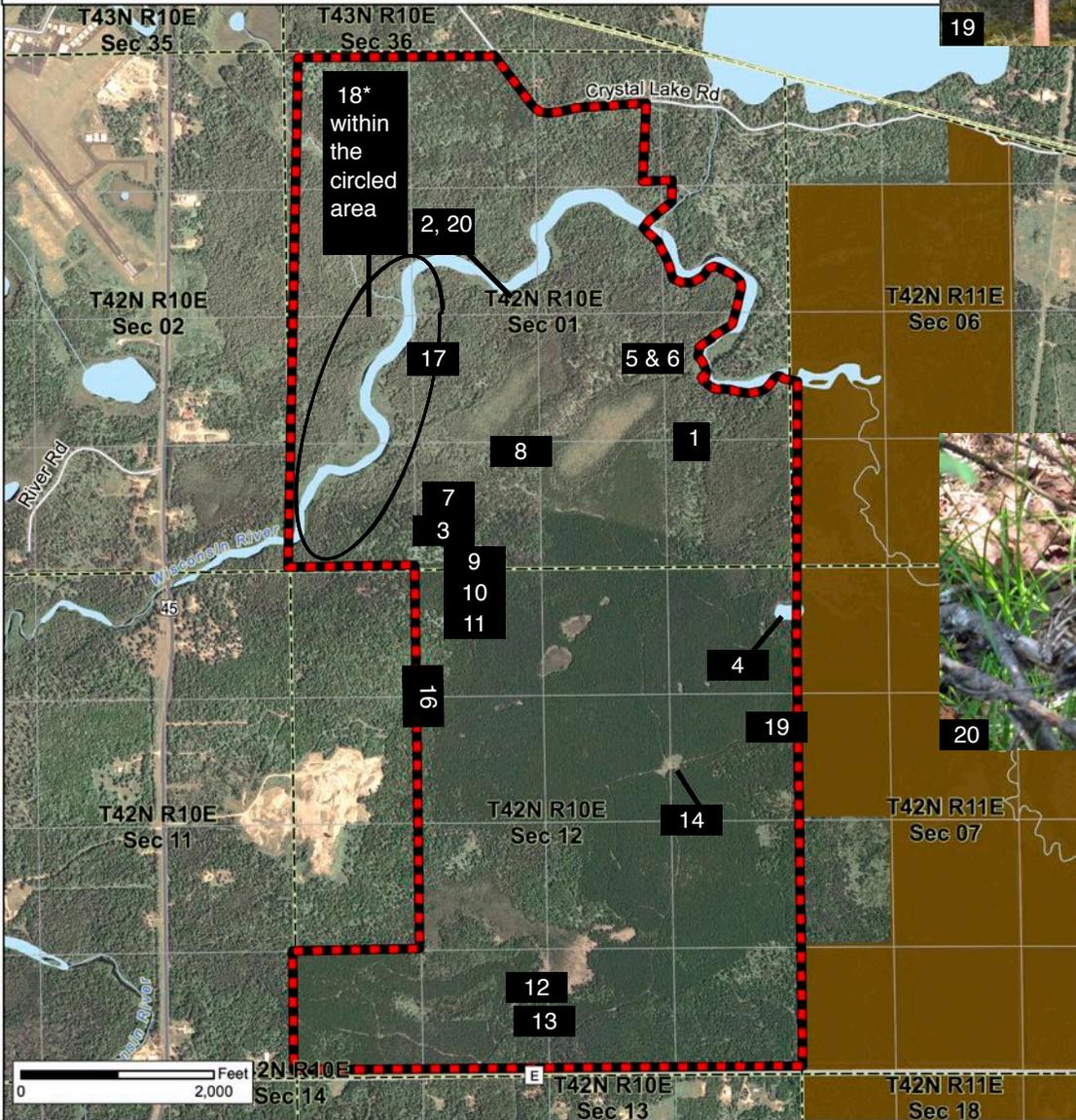
*Calypso Orchid (*Calypso bulbosa*) .*

# LOCATION: T42N R10E Sections 1 and 12

1/4-1/2 mile east of Hwy 45, 1/2 mile north of the Spruce Grouse State Natural Area, 1/4 mile north of Vilas County Forest, 1/4 mile south of the Michigan border and the Ottawa National Forest, bordering Nicolet National Forest, fronting on County Road E and Crystal Lake Road.



T42N R10E Sec 1 & Sec 12, Town of Land O'Lakes, Vilas County



Spruce Grouse chick

- National Forest
- Section Line
- QQ Section Lines

Oct 03, 2014 drs  
 Real Estate Section  
 Bureau of Facilities and Lands

The data shown on this map have been obtained from various sources, and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. This map is not intended to be used for navigation, nor is this map an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. Users of this map should confirm the ownership of land through other means in order to avoid trespassing. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, applicability for a particular use, completeness, or legality of the information depicted on this map.

- Numbered black boxes are approximate locations.
- Photo 15 - not a specified area as Wintergreen is throughout the project.
- Photo 18\* - 51-acre area where Calypso Orchid has been observed in the past.
- Photo 20 - photo of Spruce Grouse chick was taken in the same area of Photo 2.