

HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FOREST

BEAR ISLAND IN LEECH LAKE

Size: 138.2 Acres

Location: All county administered land in Sections 2, 11, 12-142-29 on Bear Island in Leech Lake falling within a larger matrix of Leech Lake Reservation lands, U.S.F.S. Chippewa National Forest lands, and private land.

- HC Values**
- 1) Bear Island is an undeveloped island in Leech Lake with significant American Indian heritage and contains unusual plant communities because of its location in a warmer lake-effected micro-climate.
 - 2) Bear Island has known populations of rare plants and forest communities as indicated on the Natural Resource Heritage Database.

Therefore, 138.2 acres of county administered land has a potential to contain American Indian cultural sites, endemic species, and rare plant and forest communities.

Activities: No timber harvesting will be allowed.
The county may sell or exchange out of any or all of the 138.2 acres with the following stipulations:
-The acquiring party is either DNR, U.S.F.S., Leech Lake Band of Chippewa, The Nature Conservancy **OR**
-A conservation easement protecting or enhancing the High Conservation Value Forest is in place.

Monitoring: If a land sale or exchange takes place involving any or all of the HCVF, monitoring shall ensure that the above stipulations have been met.

Annual monitoring will occur to ensure that no harvest activities have taken place by Cass County or through trespass any other entity.

The Natural Heritage database will be monitored at least once every five years to determine whether the status of any species that occur or potentially occur within the HCVF has changed.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office database will be monitored at least once every five years to determine whether the status of any sites that exist or potentially exist within the HCVF have changed.