



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2017 LCCMR Work Plan

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**Date of Submission:** September 14, 2017  
**Date of Next Status Update Report:** January 1, 2018  
**Date of Work Plan Approval:**  
**Project Completion Date:** June 30, 2020  
**Does this submission include an amendment request?** No

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Mesabi Trail Segments T.H. 135 to Embarrass; and McKinley to Biwabik; and Soudan to Vermillion State Park Entrance Road.

**Project Manager:** Robert Manzoline  
**Organization:** St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority  
**Mailing Address:** 111 Station 44 Road  
**City/State/Zip Code:** Eveleth, MN 55734  
**Telephone Number:** (218) 744-2653  
**Email Address:** bamnzoline@rrauth.com  
**Web Address:** mesabitrail.com

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**Location:** St. Louis County

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<b>Total ENRTF Project Budget:</b>	<b>ENRTF Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$2,269,000</b>
	<b>Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$2,269,000</b>

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**Legal Citation:** M.L. 2017, Chp. xx, Sec. xx, Subd. xx

**Appropriation Language:**

**I. PROJECT TITLE: Mesabi Trail Segments T.H. 135 to Embarrass; and McKinley to Biwabik; and Soudan to Vermillion State Park Entrance Road.**

**II. PROJECT STATEMENT:**

**General:** The Mesabi Trail is a planned 155 mile long paved trail from Grand Rapids to Ely. Approximately 115 miles of the trail, from Grand Rapids to Embarrass, has been completed since the trail inception in year 1996. The Mesabi Trail is owned and maintained by the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA). The trail serves as an alternate transportation corridor namely for non-motorized pedestrian, bike, ski, horses, and motorized snowmobile use where designated. The trail extends from the Mississippi River in Grand Rapids to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Ely.

The St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (RRA) performs the trail development work including liaison with agencies & local jurisdictions, public meetings, contract administration, right-of-way acquisition and other administrative functions. LCCMR funds will be used for environmental work, engineering work and construction. The RRA is experienced at leveraging funds, meeting specific funder requirements, matching non-state & non-federal sources and completion dates. The TH 135 to Embarrass segment will be funded using State funds. The Soudan to Vermillion State Park Entrance Road will be funded using State funds. The McKinley to Biwabik segment will be funded by a combination of state, federal and local funds all with varying rules and guidelines. The most prescriptive grantor(s) rules will be used advancing this project.

Do to the extensive Mesabi Trail length, the trail has been divided into attainable segments for development and construction. Segment development entails route evaluations, right-of-way considerations, environmental impacts and other factors. We have experienced development delay because of landownership issues, endangered species avoidance and cultural resource preservation that are beyond our control. When development delay occurs that may jeopardize the use of grant funds (deadlines) we have requested from LCCMR and other grantors funds be shifted to other trail segments ready to be constructed. A funding shift using LCCMR funds is cumbersome do to Legislative procedures/actions necessary for approval. If needed, we request LLCCMR Staff be granted some latitude to approve a funding shift to other Mesabi Trail segments ready for construction.

**Specific:** grant funds will be used for Mesabi Trail construction within three segments each further described as follows:

**T.H. 135 to Embarrass**

Grant funds will be used to construct a 4,000 LF floating dock over a wetland and reconstructing the former Lane 51 road bridge (circa 1928) over the Embarrass River. These improvements will used for the Mesabi Trail and users of the MN DNR Darwin Meyers Wildlife Management Area.

The TH 135 to Embarrass segment of the Mesabi Trail is approximately 6 miles in length. The majority of the trail construction work will be done using the 2016 LCCMR appropriation ML 2016, Chapter 186, Section 2, Subd. 9e in the amount of \$1.2 million. An extensive environmental study of three alternative routes was conducted in years 2014 and 2015. The preferred alternate has been selected. All alternative routes involved crossing of the Embarrass River and adjoining floodplain and wetland complexes. The preferred alternative route mitigates wetland impacts by using a floating bridge to cross the wetland. A floating bridge does negatively impact vegetation but allows water movement through the wetland without soil disturbance. The preferred alternative route will reuse parts of an existing roadway bridge that crosses the Embarrass River. The exiting bridge abutments, wing walls and steel girders will be used without new impacts to the Embarrass River. The existing concrete bridge deck will be removed and replaced with a wooden deck and wooden side rails. The

reconstructed bridge will achieve a live load rating of 10 tons and will be from time to time used by the MN DNR for vehicle movements within Darwin Meyers WMA.

**McKinley to Biwabik**

This trail segment is 5.5 miles long making connections to the existing Mesabi Trail in the City of McKinley and within the City of Biwabik. This segment is a “key” piece of trail filling in a gap in the overall trail system that will make the Mesabi Trail continuous from Grand Rapids to Embarrass.

This segment is typical of other trail segments within the Mesabi Iron Range traversing the former McKinley and Mary Ellen mine sites.

This segment is has been worked on for several years resolving many environmental, land ownership and mining related issues. The environmental work on the trail is done with all agency permits/approvals received. Approximately 95% of the right-of-way has been acquired. The engineering work is also approximately 95% complete.

The estimated cost for constructing this segment is \$1,500,000. Federal High Priority Funds in the amount of \$1,004,976 have been secured for construction. The remaining funds needed to complete construction and project engineering/management will be from the 2017 Trust Fund.

**Soudan to Vermillion State Park( VSP) Entrance Road**

This trail segment is 1.5 miles long making connections to the existing Mesabi Trail in Soudan and the existing trail with the Vermillion State Park.

This segment has also been worked on for several years and is prepared to begin construction in Fall 2016. The environmental work on the trail is done with all agency permits/approvals received excepting for the , MN State Historic Preservation Office do on September 19, 2016. The right-of-way has been secured by way of easements and leases from Breitung Township and the State of Minnesota. The engineering work is approximately 98% complete with final plan and specifications revisions being made.

This project is estimated to cost \$970,000 which is a very high cost in comparison to other Mesabi Trail miles built. The excessive cost is due to ledge rock removal that needs to occur near the Soudan Underground State Park in order for the trail to meet ADA accessibility. Rock removal costs are estimated to be \$300,000. This trail is currently funded by a Legacy grant in the amount of \$512,000 and DNR funds in the amount of \$300,000. Funds needed to complete construction and project engineering/management will be from the 2017 Trust Fund.

**III. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:**

**Project Status as of January 1, 2018**

**Project Status as of July 1, 2018**

**Project Status as of January 1, 2019**

**Project Status as of July 1, 2019**

**Project Status as of January 1, 2020**

**Overall Project Outcomes and Results:**

**IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:**

**ACTIVITY 1: Environmental work needed to comply with the Federal National Environmental Policy Act and the State of Minnesota Environmental Protection Act and Local Rules/Ordinance**

**Description:** Work involves securing the necessary approvals and permits from agencies before construction work can proceed. Agencies involved are the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Fish & Wildlife, Federal Army Corps of Engineers, MN Department of Natural Resources, MN Department of Transportation, MN State Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Local Board of Soil and Water Conservation.

The environmental work will be supported by engineering and surveying to locate alternative trail routes, locations of cultural resources, wetlands and land ownership and land use.

Work will be performed by a person or firm accredited by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) hereafter known as "Consultant". Consultant will perform work needed to comply with NEPA and MEPA documenting trail route alternatives, cultural resource identification, wetland delineation & mitigation, fish & wildlife, endangered species, social impacts, economic impacts, state waters impacts, land use (4f) and other. Consultant will further evaluate and assure compliance with local ordinances, planning, zoning and codes.

As said within the Project Narrative, environmental work for the McKinley/Biwabik and Soudan/VSP Entrance Road segments is complete or nearly complete. Wetland mitigations have occurred on each of these segments.

Approximately 50% of the environmental work needed on the TH 135/Embarrass segment is complete. Preliminary reviews have been conducted by the Corps of Engineers and BWSR. Remaining environmental work will be performed following design. Wetland impacts cannot be avoided and a disturbance will take place. Impacted wetlands will need to be replaced at a ratio of 1.5:1 (1.5 = new wetlands created; 1 = wetlands impacted).

If this budget amount is not used for environmental work, a request will be made to shift remaining funds to Activity 3, Construction.

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$ 40,000**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$ 40,000**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<b>1. COE, EPA, SHIPO, Easements, MN DNR, MPCA &amp; Other secured</b>	August 2018

**Activity 1 as of January 1, 2018**

**Activity 1 Status as of July 1, 2018**

**Activity 1 Status as of January 1, 2019**

**Final Report Summary:**

**ACTIVITY 2: Engineering design, survey, plans, specification and construction management.**

**Description:** Engineering work will be done in accordance with the MN Dot Standards for Bicycle Trails. Engineering work begins with route(s) identification needed for NEPA work and then to more specific survey work once a preferred trail route alternative is selected. Engineer survey includes topographic, paying particular attention to vertical alignment for Americans’ with disabilities access and horizontal curve for minimum speed, and property lines and other features needed for design. Engineer trail design is in accordance with MN Dot Standards, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and ASHTO and on-site conditions such as waterways, wetlands, hills, valleys determining the final trail design and plan. Engineer is also required to provide a MN Dot Project Memorandum which is a document summarizing the project including NEPA, right-of-way, design and other elements. Engineer is required to provide a Project Specification document that includes special construction needs, bidding documents, contracts and other. Engineer is required to provide construction management that includes on-site inspections, testing oversight, processing payments and other work for a completed project.

As said within the Project Narrative, engineering design, environmental support and survey work for the McKinley/Biwabik and Soudan/VSP Entrance Road segments is complete or nearly complete. Engineering work for bidding, construction management, on-site inspections, testing oversight and processing payments will be needed.

Approximately 30% of the engineering work on the TH 135/Embarrass segment is complete.

If this budget amount is not used for environmental work, a request will be made to shift remaining funds to Activity 3, Construction.

**Description:**

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$ 300,000**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$ 300,000**

Outcome	Completion Date
2. Plans, specifications, bid documents for/and construction	July 1, 2020

**Activity 2 Status as of January 1, 2018**

**Activity 2 Status as of July 1, 2018**

**Activity 2 Status as of January 1, 2019**

**Activity 2 Status as of July 1, 2019**

**Activity 2 Status as of January 1, 2020**

**Final Report Summary:**

**ACTIVITY 3: Trail Construction**

**Description:** The trail will be constructed by a responsible contractor. Contractor selection is based on a bidding process acceptable to MN Dot, FHWA. Contractor constructs the trail in accordance with engineers plan and specifications. Contractor is responsible to perform construction using methods that are in accordance with OSHA, NEPA and other industry standards. The following is a general description of each trail segment:

**T.H 135 to Embarrass**

Construct a 4,000 LF floating dock over a wetland and reconstructing the former Lane 51 road bridge (circa 1928) over the Embarrass River and related trail connection work to existing trails on either side of the Darwin Meyers WMA.

**McKinley to Biwabik**

Construction of a 5.5 mile long, 10 feet wide bituminous surface trail beginning in the City of McKinley and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail at County Road 21. The trail will then be constructed easterly to the City of Biwabik ending and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street North.

**Soudan to VSP Entrance Road**

Construction of a 1.5 mile long, 10 feet wide bituminous surface trail beginning in Soudan and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail west of Stuntz Bay Road, The trail will then be constructed easterly to the Vermillion State Park Entrance Road and making connection to the existing Mesabi Trail.

**Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:**

**ENRTF Budget: \$ 1,929,000**  
**Amount Spent: \$ 0**  
**Balance: \$ 1,929,000**

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<b>3. Construction</b>	July 1, 2020

**Activity 3 Status as of January 1, 2018**

**Activity 3 Status as of July 1, 2018**

**Activity 3 Status as of January 1, 2019**

**Activity 3 Status as of July 1, 2019**

**Activity 3 Status as of January 1, 2020**

**Final Report Summary:**

**V. DISSEMINATION:**

**Description:** Mesabi Trail news and updates are provided through a variety of media, marketing and publications. Web site is: Mesabitrail.com. The following are some of the groups & organizations that disseminate Mesabi Trail information and typically include updates of newly completed trail segments:

- Club Mesabi (15,000 maps & web site)
- Iron Range Tourism (30,000 brochures & web site)
- MN Office of Tourism
- MPR
- Parks & Trails, Home & Away, other private magazines
- 180,000 trail users per year
- Named by the Star Tribune as “Best of Minnesota” in year 2013

**Status as of January 1, 2018**

**Status as of July 1, 2018**

**Status as of January 1, 2019**

**Status as of July 1, 2019**

**Status as of January 1, 2020**

**Final Report Summary:**

**Final Report Summary:**

**VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:**

**A. Preliminary ENRTF Budget Overview:**

**\*This section represents an overview of the preliminary budget at the start of the project. It will be reconciled with actual expenditures at the time of the final report.**

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>\$ Amount</b>	<b>Overview Explanation</b>
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts:	\$340,000	Consultant services for Environmental & Engineering,
Capital Expenditures over \$5,000:	\$1,929,000	Trail, bridge and facility construction
<b>TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$2,269,000</b>	

**Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:** N/A

**Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000:** Trail construction costs vary depending on the type of terrain or base being used. For example, constructing trail on an abandon railroad grade may cost a \$100,000 per mile while construction through a rocky terrain with bridges may cost in excess of \$500,000 per mile. This Project also includes one bridge rehabilitation and construction of a new floating bridge estimated to cost \$1.2 million.

**Total Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation: 18**

**Total Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation: 6**

**B. Other Funds:**

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
<b>Non-state</b>			
Federal	\$1,004,000	\$0	McKinley/Biwabik Construction
<b>State</b>			
Legacy	\$512,000	\$0	Soudan/VSP Entrance Construction
DNR	\$300,000	\$0	Soudan/VSP Entrance Construction
<b>TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:</b>	<b>\$1,816,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	

**VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:**

**A. Project Partners:**

- Lead - St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority with assistance from St. Louis County Public Works
- Local Assistance – Breitung & Eagles Nest Townships, St. Louis County Land Department, MN DNR Forestry
- Funding and Trail Development Contributors – MN DNR, MNDOT, FHWA Enhancements, MN Legacy and Local Funds

**Partners receiving ENRTF funding: None**

**Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding**

- *Name, Title, Affiliation, Role*

**B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:**

Long-term strategy for the Mesabi Trail has not changed since 1995 which is to construct a trail from Grand Rapids to Ely connecting 26 communities along the way as seen on enclosed map. A key component in this strategy is to maintain the completed trail as some parts/segments will be over 20 years old by the time the overall trail is finished. The Regional Railroad Authority has committed to maintain the trail and currently budgets over \$300,000 per year for maintenance costs.

Short-term impacts make local trails connections between communities and destinations.

**C. Funding History:**

LCCMR 1999 to present	5,380,000
State Legacy 2014 to present	2,300,000
State Bond 2006 to present	3,450,000
Federal 1999 to present	10,534,981
Local 1996 to present	3,000,000

**VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:**

- **The project is for 3 years, will begin on July 1, 2017, and end on July 1, 2020.**

**Periodic project status update reports will be submitted** Periodic work plan status update reports will be submitted no later than at six month intervals beginning January 1, 2018 and ending July 1, 2020. A final report and associated products will be submitted between July 1 and August 15, 2020.

**IX. VISUAL COMPONENT or MAP(S):** see attached





**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
M.L. 2017 Project Budget**



**Project Title:** Mesabi Trail, Wetland Crossing and Bridge Rehabilitation for the TH 135 to Embarrass Trail Segment

**Legal Citation:** occur after the 2017 legislative session.

**Project Manager:** Bob Manzoline

**Organization:** St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

**M.L. 2017 ENRTF Appropriation:** \$2,269,000

3 years, June 30, 2020

**Date of Report:** September 14, 2016

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 1 Balance	Activity 2 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 2 Balance	Activity 3 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 3 Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<i>Environmental</i>		<i>Engineering</i>			<i>Construction</i>					
<b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts</b>											
<i>Environmental work preliminary to construction in accordance with Federal NEPA &amp; EPA; Minnesota MPCA, SHIPO, DNR; Local jurisdictions.</i>	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000							\$40,000	\$40,000
<i>Engineer for trail design, plans, specifications, bidding and construction administration.</i>				\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000				\$300,000	\$300,000
<b>Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000</b>											
<i>Trail, bridge and facility construction</i>							\$1,929,000	\$0	\$1,929,000	\$1,929,000	\$1,929,000
<b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>		<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$1,929,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,929,000</b>	<b>\$2,269,000</b>	<b>\$2,269,000</b>



Path: P:\PT\REGRA\1272405-final-dsgn\Fig\_1 TRAIL LOCATION.mxd



615 - 9th STREET NORTH  
VIRGINIA, MN 55792  
PHONE: (218) 305-4725  
www.sehinc.com

Project: REGRA 127240  
Print Date: 4/8/2014

Map by: jasp  
Projection: SLouis CC  
Source: SEH and MNGEO

**Mesabi Trail**  
Phase 1  
Sudan, Minnesota

Figure  
1

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey map and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information, and data gathered from various sources listed on this map and is to be used for reference purposes only. SEH does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) Data used to prepare this map are error free, and SEH does not represent that the GIS Data can be used for navigational, tracking, or any other purpose requiring exacting measurement of distance or direction or precision in the depiction of geographic features. The user of this map acknowledges that SEH shall not be liable for any damages which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.





# County Land Explorer

St. Louis County, Minnesota



St. Louis County MN



St. Louis County, MN - Enterprise GIS, St. Louis County - Enterprise GIS, St. Louis County - Land & Minerals Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus, USDA, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

## Mesabi Trail

McKinley to Biwabik

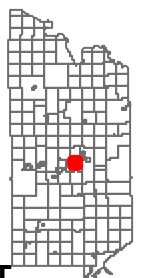


### County Land Explorer

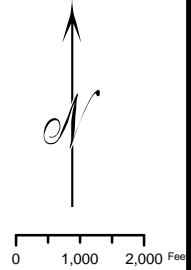
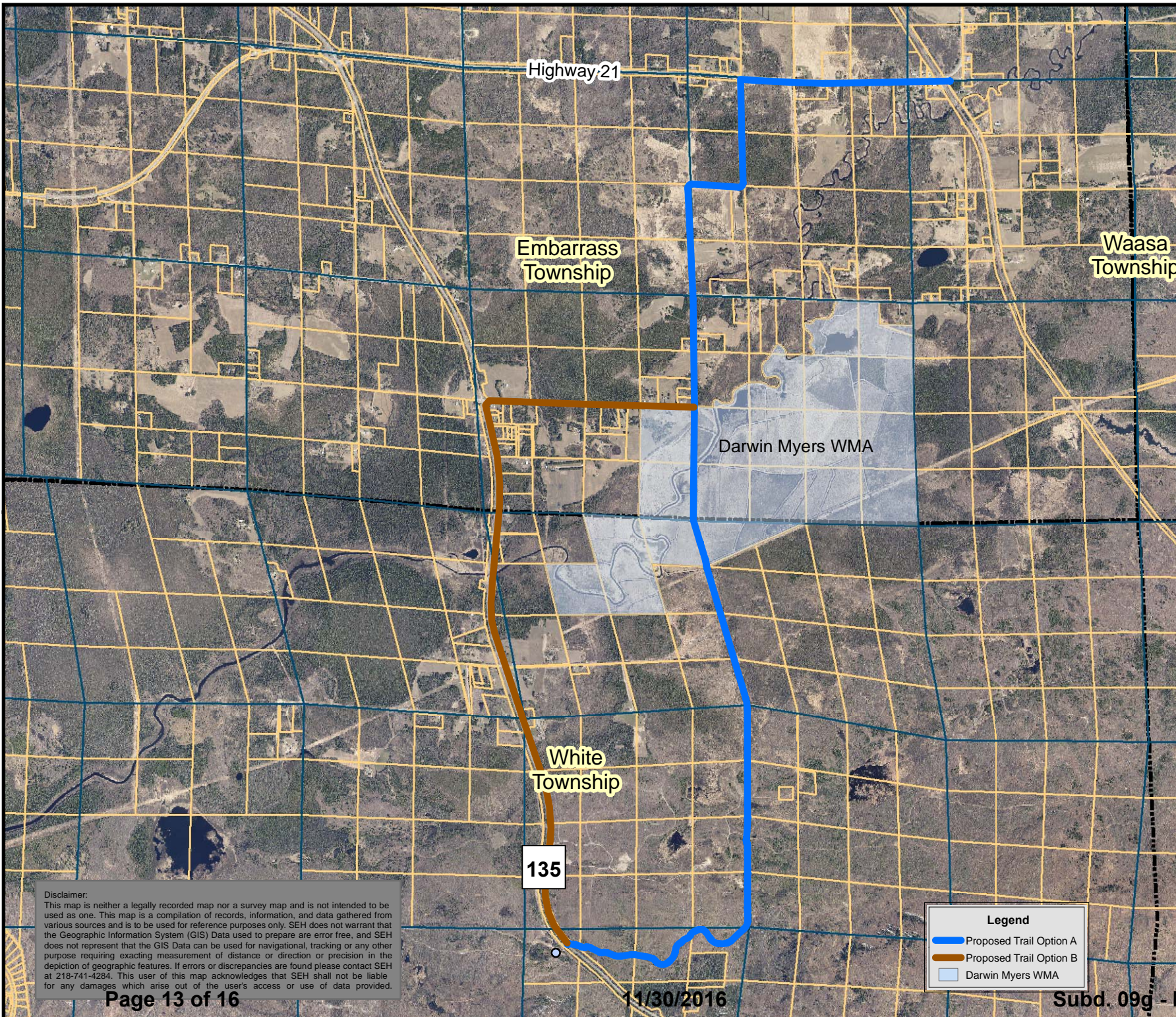
St. Louis County [www.stlouiscountymn.gov/CountyLandExplorer](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/CountyLandExplorer) Minnesota

#### Disclaimer

This is a compilation of records as they appear in the Saint Louis County Offices affecting the area shown. This drawing is to be used only for reference purposes and the County is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein







**Mesabi Trail**  
**Trunk Hwy 135 to Embarrass**



Short Elliott Hendrickson  
 615 9th Street North  
 Virginia, MN 55792-3761  
 Phone: 218.741.4284  
 www.sehinc.com

File No.  
**REGRA 133733**

Date:  
**DECEMBER 2015**

Legend	
<span style="color: blue;">—</span>	Proposed Trail Option A
<span style="color: brown;">—</span>	Proposed Trail Option B
<span style="background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid lightblue; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	Darwin Myers WMA

**Disclaimer:**  
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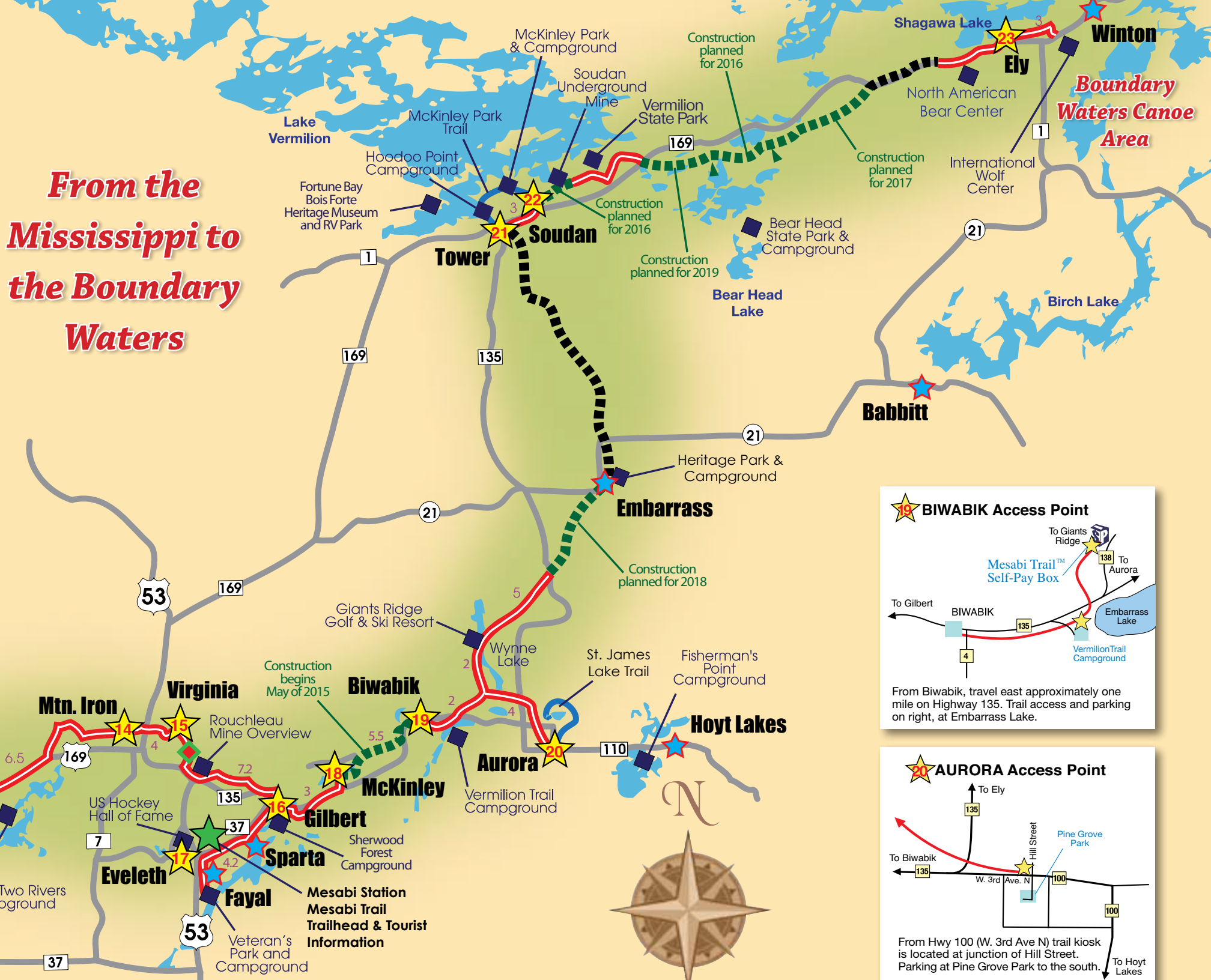




# From the Mississippi to the Boundary Waters

**For Mesabi Trail Information:**  
mesabitrail.com  
877-637-2241

Wheel pass required for ages 18 and older using wheels on the trail. \$15 annually or \$5 for 3-days. Available online at mesabitrail.com or at pass vendors listed on other side.  
Join Club Mesabi and get a FREE wheel pass! See other side of this map for more information!



**The Mesabi Trail**

Grand Rapids	16.3	29.3	39.3	46.3	51.3	64.3	74.5	83
Hibbing	13	23	30	35	48	58.2	66.7	
Virginia	10	17	22	25	35	45.2	53.7	
Buhl	7	12	15	25	35.2	43.7		
Chisholm	5	18	28.2	36.7				
Mckinley	13	23.2	31.7					
Virginia	10.2	18.7						
Keewatin	8.5							

**Legend**

- Trailhead Communities With Access Points
- Completed Trail
- Future Construction
- Future Trail
- Attractions
- Communities
- Local Trails
- Indicates a hill with up to 8% grade

**BIWABIK Access Point**

To Biwabik, travel east approximately one mile on Highway 135. Trail access and parking on right, at Embarrass Lake.

**AURORA Access Point**

From Hwy 100 (W. 3rd Ave N) trail kiosk is located at junction of Hill Street. Parking at Pine Grove Park to the south.

**GRAND RAPIDS Access Point**

From Hwys. 169 & 2, turn north onto 3rd Ave. NE to Itasca County Fairgrounds. Trail access and parking at north side of fairgrounds.

**TACONITE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north onto Hwy 15. Trail access at Bennett Street. Parking is available at the Community Center and on Bennett Street.

**PENGLILLY Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn south onto Howard St., follow to 3rd Ave. E. Turn right and go 1/2 mile. Trail access at Greyhound Bus Museum parking lot on left.

**HIBBING Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit west onto Howard St., follow to 3rd Ave. E. Turn right and go 1/2 mile. Trail access at Greyhound Bus Museum parking lot on left.

**KINNEY Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north at Hwy 25 and go .3 mile towards downtown. Trail access and parking lot are on the left.

**GILBERT Access Point**

From Hwy 37 (Broadway) turn east on Wisconsin Ave. to trail access. Bathrooms, parking, and water at Sherwood Forest Campground.

**TOWER Access Point**

From Hwy 169 turn south onto Pine Street. Parking is available at Civic Center and trail access is two blocks away.

**BOVEY Access Point**

From Hwys. 169 & 2, turn north onto 3rd Ave. NE to Itasca County Fairgrounds. Trail access and parking at north side of fairgrounds.

**MARBLE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north onto Co. Rd 80/Alice Avenue. Trail access and parking will be .5 miles on left, just past ball field.

**NASHWAUK Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north on Hwy 65 to parking lot on west side of road. Access is directly across Hwy 65.

**CHISHOLM Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit onto 4th Ave. SE to Lake St., veering left. Parking is on Lake St. and 1st Ave. SE.

**MTN. IRON Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north onto Hwy 102 and travel .75 mile into downtown. Turn left, go 2 blocks on Main Street. Turn right at Mountain Ave. Trail access and parking 1 block ahead.

**EVELETH Access Point**

From Hwy 53, exit onto Hwy. 37. Turn west on 37 (Fayal Road) to Fayal Pond Parking. .1 mile on left or continue to Fayal Ave, turn left and follow signs to parking at Southside Park.

**Soudan Access Point**

From Hwy 169 turn north into Breitung Monument Park. Parking and restrooms.

**COLERAINE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn onto Curley Avenue and travel .3 mile. Trail access is off parking lot at junction of Hwy 61 and Cole Ave. For parking, follow Cole Ave. to Longyear Park.

**MARBLE Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north onto Co. Rd 80/Alice Avenue. Trail access and parking will be .5 miles on left, just past ball field.

**NASHWAUK Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north on Hwy 65 to parking lot on west side of road. Access is directly across Hwy 65.

**CHISHOLM Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit onto 4th Ave. SE to Lake St., veering left. Parking is on Lake St. and 1st Ave. SE.

**MTN. IRON Access Point**

From Hwy 169, exit north onto Hwy 102 and travel .75 mile into downtown. Turn left, go 2 blocks on Main Street. Turn right at Mountain Ave. Trail access and parking 1 block ahead.

**EVELETH Access Point**

From Hwy 53, exit onto Hwy. 37. Turn west on 37 (Fayal Road) to Fayal Pond Parking. .1 mile on left or continue to Fayal Ave, turn left and follow signs to parking at Southside Park.

**Soudan Access Point**

From Hwy 169 turn north into Breitung Monument Park. Parking and restrooms.

**ELY Access Point**

From Hwy 169, turn north onto N. Central Ave/Pioneer Road and continue for 3 blocks. Trail access and parking is on the right.



## Mesabi Trail™

From the Mississippi to the Boundary Waters

The Mesabi Trail offers an abundance of natural and outdoor experiences. Bike, hike, skate, ski, snowshoe and in some areas snowmobile, along the Trail as it traverses over 120 miles through 28 communities. Explore historic buildings, mining artifacts, early industry and ethnic history, plus other treasures well worth the discovery. Forests teeming with wildlife can be found between rolling hills. Streams and creeks provide habitat for birds and animals. Grand heaps of earth provide man-made mountains that are becoming re-growth forests lining the edges of some of the world's largest mines. These former mines are fast becoming a linked chain of watery passageways. Come enjoy a quality guest experience in the Land of Mesabi, via the Mesabi Trail.

### Get your Mesabi Trail Wheel Pass:

- Online at [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com)
- At any local Wheel Pass vendor
- At self pay boxes along the Trail

### Lodge to Lodge Bicycling

Let us design a package to suit your style! A romantic B&B getaway, a family bike camping trip, a trip for two . . . or a trip for 20! We can help you plan lodging, luggage shuttles, box lunches and we can shuttle you and your bikes back to your vehicle.

Packages include suggestions on great places to eat, awesome overlooks, cool historical sites to visit, and practical things like convenience stores and rest stops! Hosted rides, group rides for up to 25, and sag-wagon supported rides are available too.

The Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service is based at the Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort in Biwabik:

- 1-800-688-7669 ext. 8025
- 218-865-8025
- [chris.johnson@giantsridge.com](mailto:chris.johnson@giantsridge.com)

## Love the trail?

### Join the Club!

Have you fallen in love with the Mesabi Trail? Show your love by joining Club Mesabi! Membership supports the Mesabi Trail, plus you get some great perks - like your annual wheel pass, discounts from Mesabi Trail Town merchants, on Trail merchandise and the Great River Energy Mesabi Trail Tour.

#### Join the Club:

[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) 218-749-4331  
PO Box 139, Virginia, MN 55792  
[tourinfo@mesabitrail.com](mailto:tourinfo@mesabitrail.com)

### Rules for Conduct

- Wheel Pass required for ages 18 years and older using a bicycle, inline skates or other non-motorized wheeled device.
- Passes must be displayed while on the Trail.
- The Mesabi Trail is a non-motorized trail, except snowmobiles where designated.
- Non-motorized vehicles and motorized wheelchairs shall not exceed 36" in width.
- Keep pets on a leash no longer than 6' long
- Holes or trenches may not be dug.
- No signs or advertisements.
- Start fires only in officially designated fire rings, stove or grills. Do not leave a fire unattended. Be sure fire is extinguished before leaving the area.
- No hunting, loaded weapons or alcohol.
- Do not remove, alter, injure or destroy any tree, plant, rock, soil or mineral.
- Camping and horseback riding are allowed only in designated areas.
- **EMERGENCY CALL 911.**
- Report all violations to the Mesabi Trail office at (218) 744-1388.
- Audible signal when passing: "on your left"

**Snowmobiles allowed within the corridor of these areas only:** Grand Rapids to Hwy 61; Coleraine to connection of Taconite Trail, and; Hibbing to Buhl.

### Mesabi Trail™ Shuttle Service

Call the Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service and we'll "portage" you and/or your gear to your hotel or to the next completed trail segment - all you have to do is enjoy the ride! We can also help you plan your trip. Email us at: [chris.johnson@giantsridge.com](mailto:chris.johnson@giantsridge.com)

#### Hours & Dates of Operation

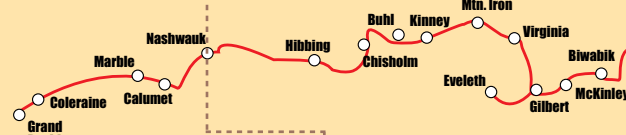
May 1-31: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
June 1 - August 31: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
September 1 - October 15: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**For more information and to make reservations:**  
218-865-8024 or 800-688-7669 (ext 8024 or 8025)  
or 218-780-4541 (cell) or 218-749-9278 (cell)

The Mesabi Trail Shuttle Service is based out of Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort near Biwabik.

#### Service Areas and Pricing

Shuttle services are available to trail users from Grand Rapids to Aurora and all points in between, up to 12 bikes and passengers per trip. Prices vary with distance traveled but are packaged into two zones. For regular shuttle service, please call at least one day in advance.



#### Zone 2: Nashauk-West

1 Person: \$54  
2 People: \$64  
3 People: \$74  
4 People: \$84  
5 or 6 People: \$104  
7+ people: Call for details

#### Zone 1: Nashauk-East

1 Person: \$39  
2 People: \$49  
3 People: \$59  
4 People: \$69  
5 or 6 People: \$89  
7+ people: Call for details

**Due to fuel cost, printed prices are subject to change without notice. Shuttle must be booked with a credit card. Cancellations less than 24 hours prior to scheduled shuttle will be charged a 25% cancellation fee (inclement weather is an exception).**

Longer distance shuttles beyond zones one and two are available with advance notice and a deposit. Group rates available for more than six people. Please call for details.

### Mesabi Trail™ wheel pass vendors

A wheel pass is required for ages 18 and over using a wheeled device such as a bicycle or inline skates. Hikers, joggers and walkers are not required to purchase a pass. Cost is \$15 for an annual and \$5 for a three-day pass. Revenue from Wheel Pass sales helps support the Mesabi Trail. Passes are available at [mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com), at any of these vendors, or at self-pay boxes along the Trail.



Towns are listed from West to East. All Numbers (218) Area Code

Grand Rapids	Itasca Trail Sports	326-1716	316 NE 4th St.
Grand Rapids	Reed Drug Store	326-3453	417 NW 1st Ave
Grand Rapids	Glen's Army-Navy Store	326-1201	701 NW 4th St.
Grand Rapids	Morning Glory B & B	326-3978	726 NW 2nd Ave
Grand Rapids	TimberLake Lodge	866-800-2200	144 SE 17th St.
Bovey	Hollywood Bait Shop	245-1612	50 County Rd 10
Marble	Ron's Komer Market	247-7351	Hwy 169
Pengilly	Swan Lake Sinclair	885-3806	31277 Hwy 65
Nashauk	Nashauk Little Store	885-3105	121 1st St.
Keewatin	Keewatin Sinclair	778-6140	210 N First St.
Hibbing	Bikes on Howard	262-0899	407 E Howard St.
Hibbing	Hibbing Park Hotel	262-3481	1402 E Howard St.
Hibbing	Hibbing Parks & Rec.	362-5940	400 E 23rd St.
Hibbing	Hibbing Tourism Center	262-4166	1202 E Howard St.
Hibbing	Hull-Rust Mineview	262-4900	401 Penobscott Rd.
Chisholm	Chisholm Inn & Suites	254-2000	501 Iron Dr. (Hwy 169)
Chisholm	Chisholm Area Chamber	800-422-0806	223 West Lake St.
Chisholm	Minnesota Discovery Center	800-372-6437	801 Hwy 169
Buhl	Buhl City Hall	258-3226	300 Jones Ave
Mtn. Iron	Spring Creek Outfitters	735-8719	8873 Main St.
Mtn. Iron	Holiday Inn Express/Suites	741-7411	8570 Rock Ridge Rd
Mtn. Iron	Americinn Lodge & Suites	741-7839	5480 Mtn. Iron Drive
Virginia	Mesabi Recreation	749-6719	720 9th St. N
Virginia	Natural Harvest Foods	741-4663	505 3rd St. N
Virginia	The Shop Coffee House	248-8157	235 Chestnut Street
Eveleth	Iron Range Tourism Bureau	749-8161	111 Station Road
Eveleth	Super 8	744-1661	US Hwy 53
Gilbert	Sherwood Forest Campground	748-2221	301 Ore-Be-Gone Dr.
Biwabik	Biwabik City Hall	865-4183	321 Main St.
Biwabik	Giants Ridge Bike Shop	865-8024	6325 Giants Ridge Rd
Biwabik	The Villas at Giants Ridge	865-4155	6266 Giants Ridge Rd
Ely	Piragis Northwoods Co.	365-6745	105 N. Central Ave.

AUGUST 1, 2015



Coleraine to Eveleth



From the Mississippi River to the Boundary Waters



Includes information about the

Great River Energy/Mesabi Trail Bike Tour '15



In Support of Ampers - Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

# August 1, 2015 Join the fun on Minnesota's Premier paved bike trail!

### A UNIQUE RIDING EXPERIENCE

Ride for the fun or for the challenge - either way, mark your calendar for August 1, 2015, when Great River Energy and the Mesabi Trail join forces in northern Minnesota to support two state traditions: recreational trails and Ampers - Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities. The Great River Energy Mesabi Trail Tour '15 offers great food, music and family entertainment. Charitable proceeds will be donated to Ampers and the Mesabi Trail.



In Support of Ampers - Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities



Choose from **four** routes - and they all lead to fun!

The Great River Energy Mesabi Trail™ Tour is designed for families and serious trail riders alike. Four starting points allow riders to customize their route, from 11 to 72 miles. At the end of the day, all trails lead to Eveleth, for a picnic and concert. Whichever start point you choose, you'll encounter historic and scenic points of interest with fun stops along the way. We'll even transport you and your bike to your start point.

Route	START POINT (MILES)	Registration & FINISH LINE
<b>Route 1</b>	CENTURY LINK RIDE START POINT (72 MILES)	
Coleraine	Starting Time: 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	
The start point for the "CenturyLink Ride" is the Hodgkins-Berardo Arena.		
<b>Route 2</b>	START POINT (53 MILES)	
Nashauk	Starting Time: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	
Start the 53 mile route at the Nashauk Recreation Center. This is also a rest stop, with music, food and refreshments.		
<b>Route 3</b>	START POINT (25 MILES)	
Buhl	Starting Time: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	
The Community Center in Buhl is the start of the 25 mile route and is also a rest stop with music, food and refreshments.		
<b>Route 4</b>	START POINT (11 MILES)	
Virginia	Starting Time: 11:00 - 12:00 noon	
The 11 mile route starts at Olcott Park and is also a rest stop with music, food and refreshments.		
Eveleth		The finish for all routes is at Mesabi Station in Eveleth. Riders can catch the FREE bus shuttle here on Saturday morning to all start points. The finish line party is here with a picnic and concert.

**For more detailed schedule information:**  
[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com) or 877-637-2241

**Bicycle Transportation:** Since this is not a circular route, you will end your ride at a different location from where you start. The goal is to get your bike to your chosen start point and have your vehicle waiting for you at the finishing point. We can do it for you, or you can do-it-yourself on Friday night or Saturday morning.

**Rider Bus Transportation:** Saturday morning from the finish line in Eveleth to all start locations:

• 7:00 a.m. to Coleraine • 10:00 a.m. to Buhl  
• 8:00 a.m. to Nashauk • 10:30 a.m. to Virginia  
There is no transportation of bikes/riders at the end of day.

**Entertainment:** 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. Mesabi Station in Eveleth, and at most start points.

**Food:** Snacks and beverages at five rest stops. Picnic dinner at Mesabi Station/11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



### What riders said about the 2014 tour:

"Best Ride in Minnesota."

"A number one, class act event"

"A delightful tour. Done top notch year in and year out."

### Great River Energy Mesabi Trail™ Tour '15

in support of Ampers and THE MESABI TRAIL™  
**A Great Deal for a Great Cause**

To register online, and for more information  
[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com)  
or toll free: 877-637-2241

Registration Fees:	AFTER JULY 22, 2015
Individual:	\$ 45.00 Individual: \$ 60.00
Couple:	\$ 90.00 Couple: \$ 120.00
Family:	\$ 90.00 Family: \$ 120.00

Kids 18 and under ride free when accompanied by an adult.

**Join Club Mesabi and SAVE 10%**

Contact Club Mesabi at 218-749-4331 about group discounts including - scout troops, church groups, bike clubs, family reunions or workplace wellness programs.



For more information, registration and event updates:  
[mesabitrail.com](http://mesabitrail.com)  
877-637-2241

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<b>Mesabi Trail</b>	<b>KBIR 6 Range 11</b> in touch.	<b>CenturyLink</b> <b>IronRange.org</b> <b>Villas AT GIANTS RIDGE</b>
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