



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Superior National Forest
Kawishiwi Ranger District

1393 Highway 169
Ely, MN 55731
Phone: (218) 365-7600
Fax: (218) 365-7605

File Code: 1950-1

Date: April 21, 2009

Dear Interested Public:

The Kawishiwi Ranger District, Superior National Forest is proposing to thin about 68 acres of red pine and other species on national forest system land at the Birch Lake Plantation, located near Babbitt, MN. This letter provides summary information on the project and how to comment.

The Birch Lake Plantation was established in 1916 and has a long history of hosting research on silviculture and other forest management disciplines. The Superior National Forest is partnering with researchers at Northern Research Station to continue the invaluable research that may be conducted on this long-term research site. Information on the proposed project is enclosed in the preliminary decision memo.

The purpose of this comment period is to involve the public in the planning process before I make a decision. I look forward to your comments and appreciate your involvement in national forest management. Please send your comments to Mark Van Every, Kawishiwi District Ranger, ATTN: Birch Lake Plantation Project.

- Written comments may be mailed to 1393 Highway 169, Ely, MN 55731
- Oral comments must be provided during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm) or via phone at (218) 365-7600
- Faxed comments may be sent to (218) 365-7605
- E-mail comments should include an identifiable name and be sent to: comments-eastern-superior-kawishiwi@fs.fed.us Comments submitted as electronic documents must be in plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf) or word (.doc) format. When you submit your comments to this e-mail address, you should receive an automated electronic acknowledgement as confirmation of receipt. If you do not receive acknowledgement, it is your responsibility to ensure timely receipt by other means.

We shall accept comments for 30 days following the date of publication of the legal notice for the comment period on this project in the Ely Echo. You must provide comments during this 30 day comment period and provide your name and address to have standing for an appeal (36 CFR 215.6). Information on appeal rights will be contained in the final decision memo. Those who submit comments will be notified when the final decision memo is available on the Superior



National Forest website at www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/superior. If you wish to receive a paper copy, please indicate this in your comment.

If you have any questions on this project, please contact David Hernandez at (218) 365-7624 or dhernandez@fs.fed.us

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark E. Van Every". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "E".

MARK E. VAN EVERY
District Ranger