

# Woody Biomass Harvesting & Utilization in Minnesota

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# Program Outline

- **Background**
- **Harvesting Guidelines**
- **Superior National Forest Study**
- **Discussion**



# Background

- **Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy**
  - International NGO founded in 1986
  - Promotes resilient family farms, rural communities and ecosystems around the world through research and education, science and technology, and advocacy.



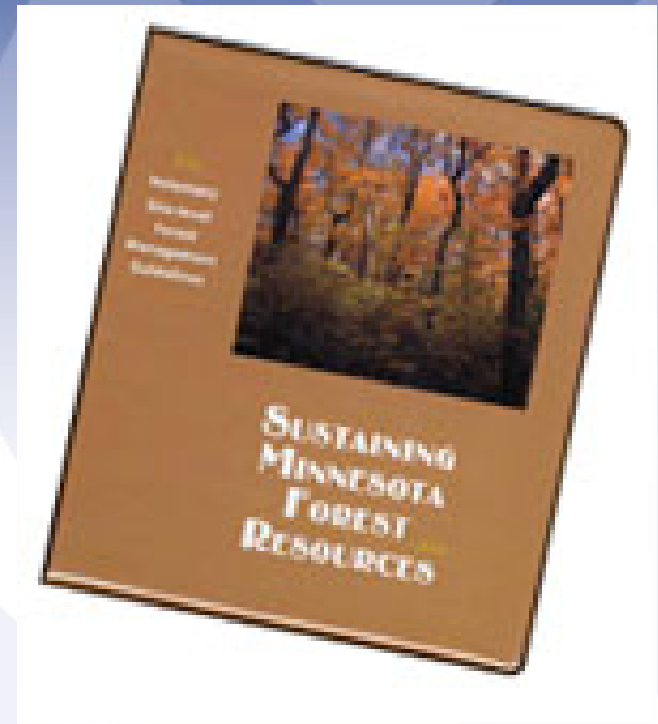
# Harvesting Guidelines

- DNR Ecological Services, Fish and Wildlife and Forestry and the Minnesota Forest Resources Council are developing standards for sustainable harvest of woody biomass
- IATP was instrumental in passing 2005 legislation requiring and funding the development of standards



# Harvesting Guidelines

- Focus on practices that conserve
  - Soil productivity
  - Water quality
  - Wildlife habitat



# Harvesting Guidelines

- Guidelines for forest and brushland will be finalized by July 1, 2007.
- **Contact MFRC at (651) 603-0109 or see [www.frc.state.mn.us](http://www.frc.state.mn.us)**



# Superior National Forest Study

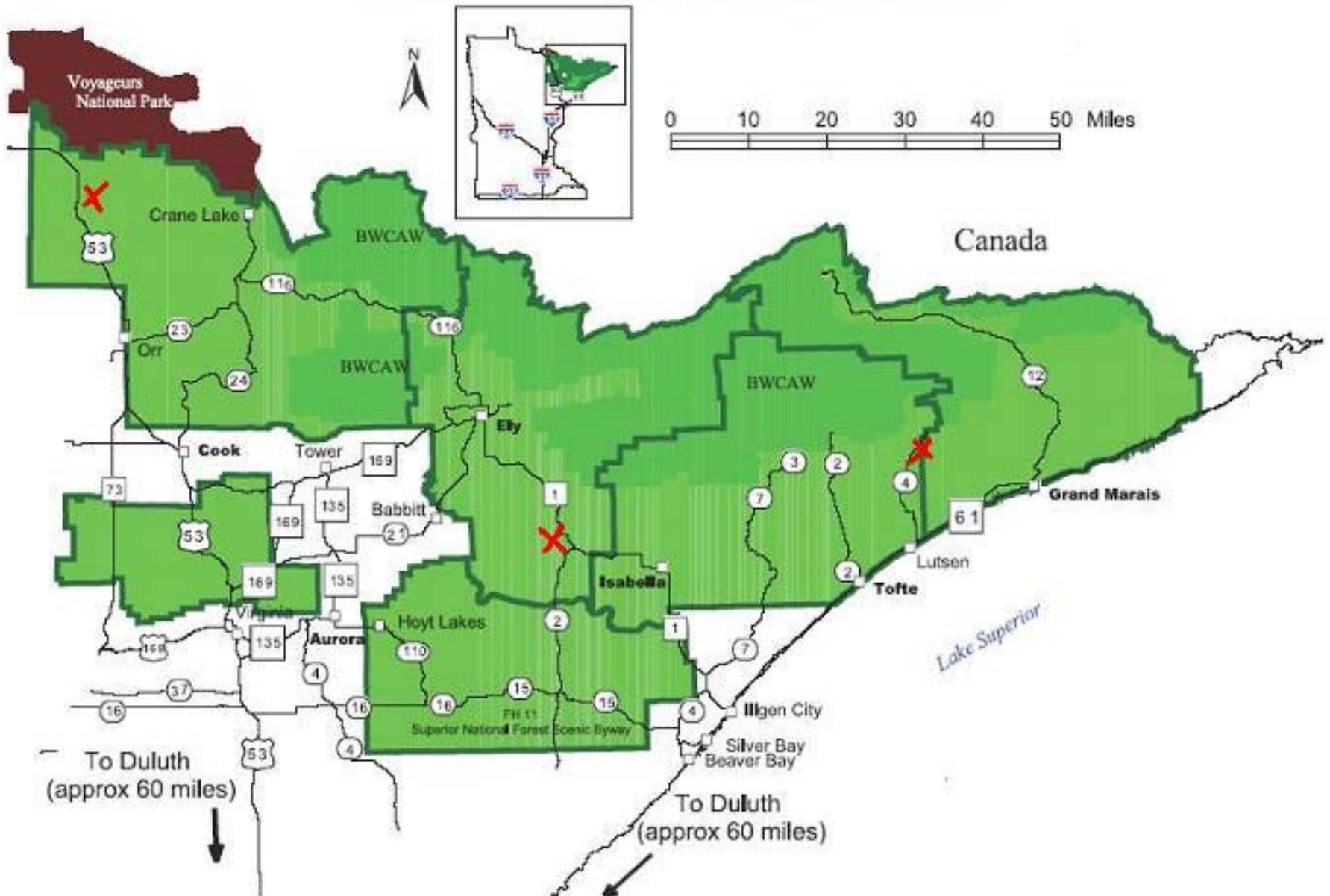
- **Woody Biomass Utilization Grants**
  - Program of USDA Forest Service
  - Aim is to create markets for small-diameter and low-grade material from fuel reduction activities





# Superior National Forest

including Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness





# Superior National Forest Study

- Partners & Collaborators
  - IATP
  - U.S. Forest Service
  - Laurentian Energy Authority
  - Forest Management Systems
  - University of Minnesota
  - University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point



# Superior National Forest Study



[www.uwsp.edu](http://www.uwsp.edu)



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# Superior National Forest Study

- **Project Objectives: address barriers hindering removal of woody biomass from the Superior National Forest**
  - **Barrier 1: Logger unfamiliarity with equipment, operating conditions, productivity and cost**
  - **Barrier 2: Lack of information for establishing Best Management Practices for biomass removal**



# Superior National Forest Study



[www.iatp.org](http://www.iatp.org)



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# Superior National Forest Study

- **Project Outcomes:**
  - Job Creation
  - Ecological Improvement
  - Fuel Reduction
  - Ecosystem Goals
  - Established standards for sustainable biomass removal





# Superior National Forest Study



[www.iatp.org](http://www.iatp.org)



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# Superior National Forest Study

- **Methods:**
  - 9 test biomass harvests
  - High-priority fuel reduction areas
  - Low potential for commercial timber harvest
  - Varied equipment and techniques used
  - Pre- and post-harvest ecological and silvicultural data collection





# Superior National Forest Study



[www.iatp.org](http://www.iatp.org)



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# Superior National Forest Study

- Report released in mid-2007
  - Economic evaluation
  - Ecological impact
  - Experiences with equipment
  - Analysis of administrative barriers
- **For information call (612) 870-3407**  
**or see [www.forestrycenter.org](http://www.forestrycenter.org)**



Thank You!



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