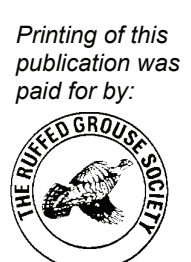
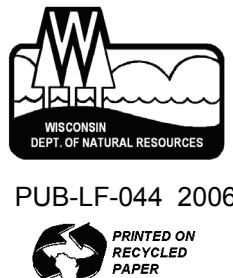


Hunting Opportunities in the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area



Hunting Opportunities

The Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area encompasses approximately 35,000 acres. The diverse topography, vegetative cover and water resources offer a wide variety of hunting and trapping opportunities. Deer, bear, ruffed grouse, woodcock, turkey, snowshoe hare, raccoon, coyote, bobcat, red fox, mink, beaver, otter, fisher, muskrat, and a variety of waterfowl call the area home.

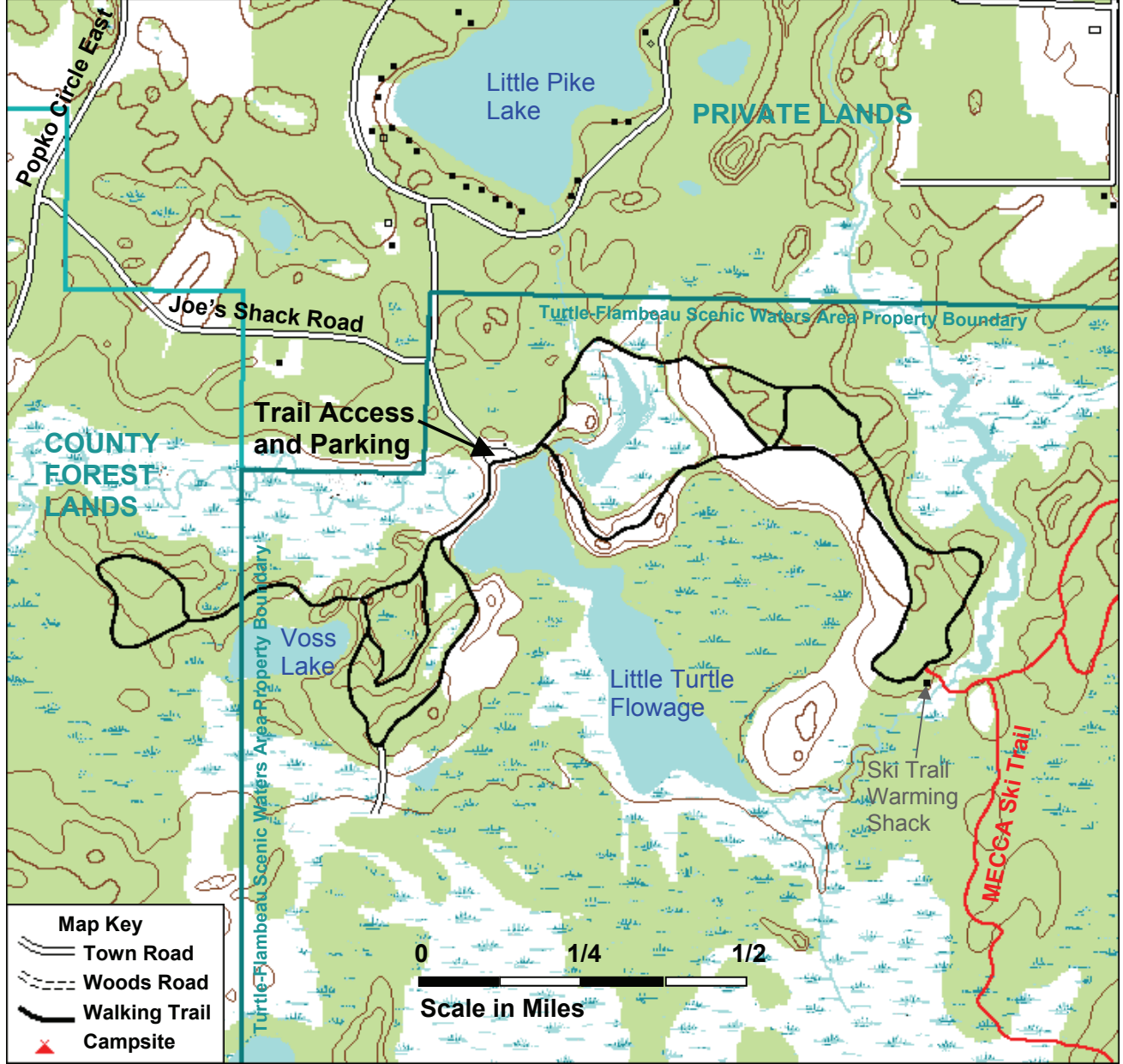
Two special wildlife management units are located within the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area. The **Deadhorse Ruffed Grouse Management Demonstration Area** is intensively managed in cooperation with the Ruffed Grouse Society to enhance habitat for ruffed grouse. The emphasis is to provide a variety of habitat types of various age classes. Managing for ruffed grouse entails maintaining a relatively young, highly productive forest as well as encouraging mast (acorns) and berry crops. The **Little Turtle Waterfowl Management Area** encompasses the Little Turtle Flowage where maintaining breeding and nesting habitat for waterfowl is emphasized. The open grasslands and wetlands help protect nesting waterfowl from predators.

The property also includes twenty-four miles of designated **hunter walking trails** at four locations. Trails are mowed approximately once every two years to maintain the grass and clover for wildlife and to provide hunter access. Maps of the trails are located on the facing pages.

Camping on state land is only allowed at designated campsites. The Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area offers 60 rustic campsites accessible by water only. For more information and camping regulations, contact the Mercer Ranger Station.

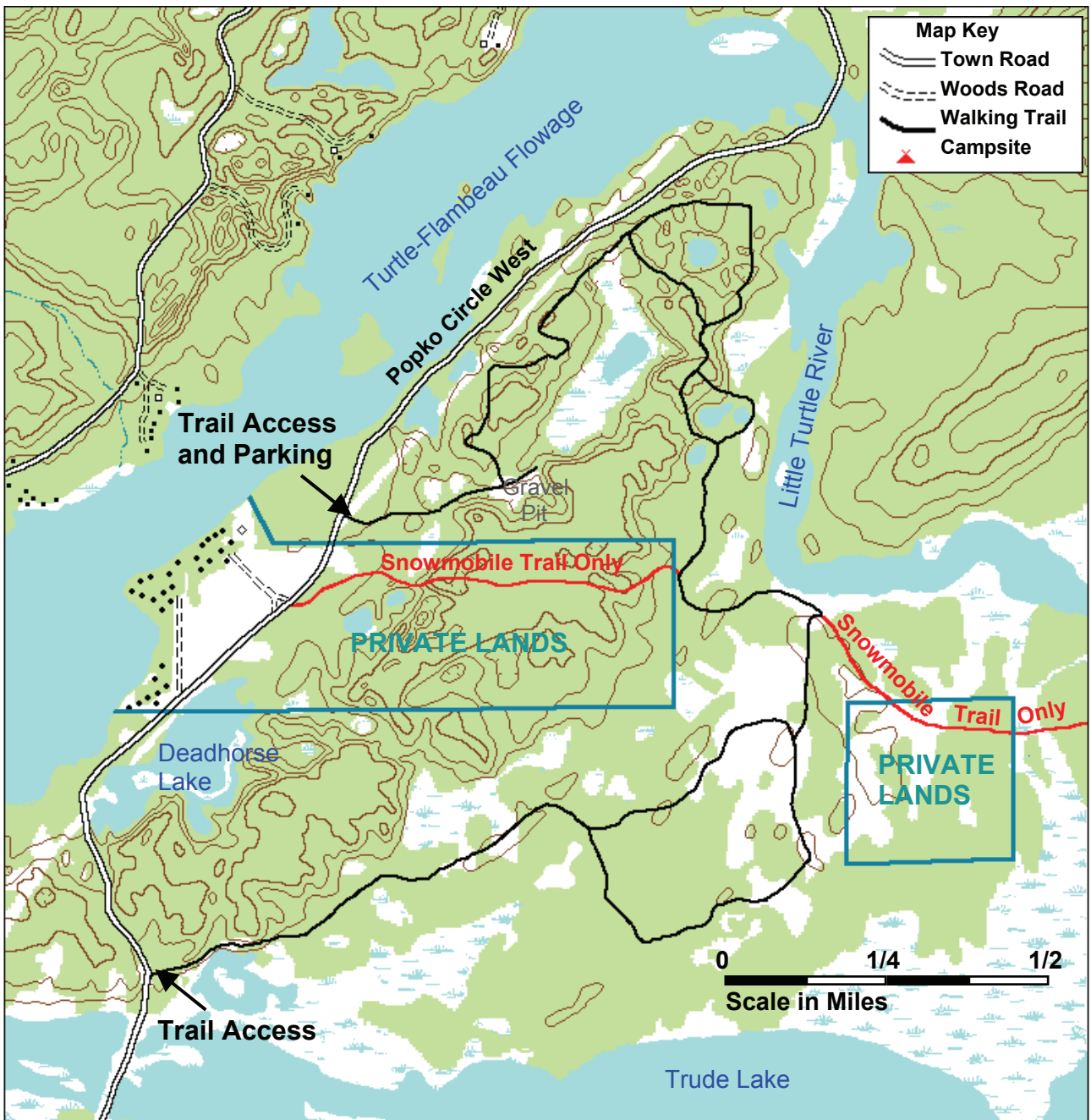
Little Turtle Trail

There are 5.2 miles of mowed trail in the Little Turtle Waterfowl Management Area. To access the trail take Popko Circle East south from County Highway FF approximately 1.1 miles to Joe's Shack Road. At the end of Joe's Shack Road turn right to the trail head parking area on the north edge of the Little Turtle Flowage. *Note: Between the dates of December 15 and April 15 this hunter walking trail is designated part of the MECCA Cross Country Ski Trail. You may not walk or hike on the groomed portion of this trail any time the ground is snow covered between these dates.*



Deadhorse Trail

The Deadhorse Trail is located in a special management unit dedicated to intensive management for ruffed grouse. Interpretive signs explaining ruffed grouse management techniques are included on this 4.6 mile trail. Access is off Popko Circle West, approximately 2.0 miles south of County Highway FF.



Hunting Regulations/Rules in the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area

All general hunting and trapping regulations apply within the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area, but you should take special note of the following regulations before hunting or trapping on this or other state properties.

It is illegal to:

- Hunt or possess a loaded or uncased firearm or bow within 100 yards of any campsite.
- Build or use any elevated device or ground blind unless it does not damage any trees and it is completely removed from the property each day at the close of hunting hours.
- Damage any trees or shrubbery. *Note: The cutting of shooting lanes and the use of screw-in tree stands or steps are considered damaging and are illegal.*
- Operate any ATV's or snowmobiles on state lands except on designated trails posted open to their use. *Note: There are no designated ATV trails on the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area.*

The Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area is located in Deer Management Unit 29A, Bear Zone A, Fisher Zone B, Turkey Zone 45 and the Northern Zones for Otter and Waterfowl.

Other Considerations

Many areas of private land lie scattered within the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area. Care should be taken to stay on state-owned land and not trespass on adjacent lands without the permission of the landowner. Maps showing the location of public and private land within the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area are available at the Mercer Ranger Station and also in map boxes located at a number of boat access sites and trail heads throughout the property.

Most trail access points are gated. Please do not park in front of gates. Access to these gated trails is needed for emergency rescue activities, fire suppression, and forest management operations.

Because the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area is used by many other recreationists, hunters should be especially aware of gun safety and his/her conduct while hunting. Hunting near any trail while it is being used by hikers, bikers, and skiers is discouraged. The most heavily used trails are the MECCA Ski Trail and the Hidden Rivers Nature Trail between Fisherman's Landing and Blair Lake.

Contact Information

In case of EMERGENCY:

Call the Iron County Sheriff's Department at 1-800-243-2131 or dial 911.

For additional information on the Turtle-Flambeau Scenic Waters Area contact:

DNR Ranger Station
5291 N. Statehouse Circle
Mercer, Wisconsin 54547
Phone: 715-476-2240.

Support ethical responsible hunting by reporting violations. Call 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367).

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in Braille, audio cassette, large print or computer format upon request. To order, call 608-266-8204.

Big Island Trail

This trail begins at the bridge to Big Island. From County Highway FF go south on Popko Circle West approximately 3.6 miles and turn right on a woods road heading west towards Big Island. There is a grass parking area for 2 - 3 vehicles about 100 yards before the bridge. There are 8.8 miles of trail on the Island.



Wilson Hills Trail

There are 5.5 miles of maintained trail in two segments between Wilson Lake and the Bonies Mound area of the Turtle-Flambeau Flowage. To access the trails from County Highway FF go south on Popko Circle East approximately 3.6 miles to Wilson Lake Road East. Take Wilson Lake Road East 1.1 miles to a woods road heading east. There are several access points along this woods road.

