



SCIENTIFIC NATURE AREAS

SNAs are public lands open to recreational activities that do not disturb natural conditions. Most SNAs do not have trails, restrooms or drinking water, so you will need to come prepared. Some have interpretive kiosks to introduce you to key features, but signs and parking do not exist at all sites.



MINNESOTA PINE FOREST

As visitors enter the cool, shady forest with its towering red and white pines, the benefits of its preservation are abundantly clear. There is nowhere else in Minnesota quite like it.

This SNA is a 7-mile long sandbar where wave-washed shoreline and open beach transition to beachgrass dunes, then to juniper dune shrubland, and finally, to the pine forest comprised of red and white pines anchored in the sandy soil. Many are between 120 and 200 years old, their crowns rising higher than 100 feet.

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

- Year-Round Access
- Clearly Marked Trails
- Hiking (leashed dogs allowed)
- Birding Area

From the Pier B parking lot go right on Railroad Street to the first stoplight and take a right on South Lake Avenue. Follow this over the Lift Bridge and as it turns into Minnesota Avenue to the end of Park Point. Parking is available in the public lot outside of the airport and the kiosk is on the backside of the fence.



MOOSE MOUNTAIN

Moose Mountain SNA is located in Duluth, in the North Shore Highlands. It was selected for protection as an excellent example of northern hardwoods, in particular a 55-acre stand of old-growth sugar maple-basswood forest. With its cover of sugar maple, basswood, yellow birch, northern red oak and aspen, this SNA is a flash of color in autumn, which is also the peak time for the bird migration through the Duluth area.

A power line corridor crosses this site, which is sometimes used by visitors as an informal trail. Please note that this SNA features steep/sloped terrain throughout.

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

- Year Round Access
- Hiking (leashed dogs allowed)
- Berry Picking and Birding Area

From the Pier B parking lot take I-35 going north and follow it as it turns into London Road for an additional 3 miles. Take a left on South 61st Avenue East. This road turns into Lester River Road as you pass Lester River Park. Follow it for just under a mile to the parking lot on your right.