

Les Cheneaux Bike Path

Map and Activity Guide



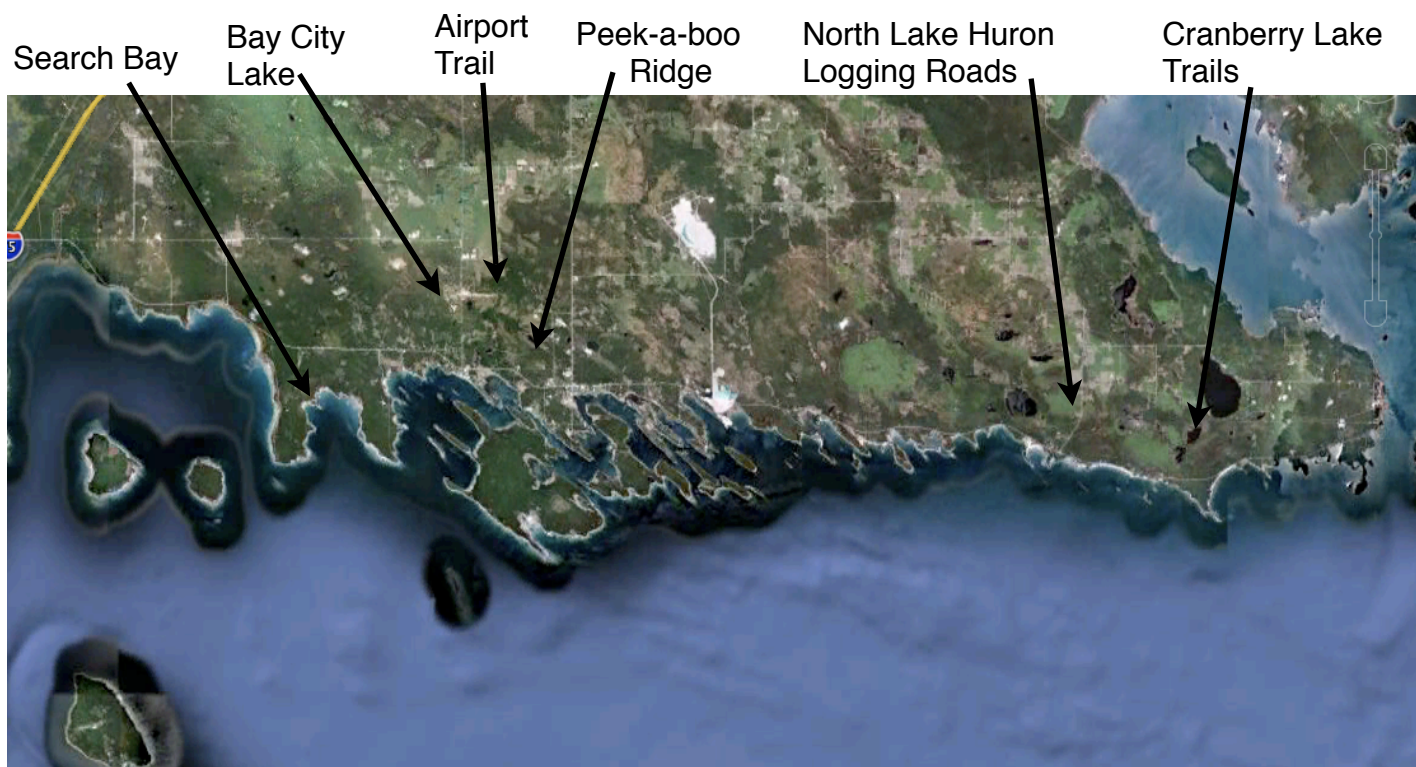
Connecting Our Communities...



...Celebrating Our Environment

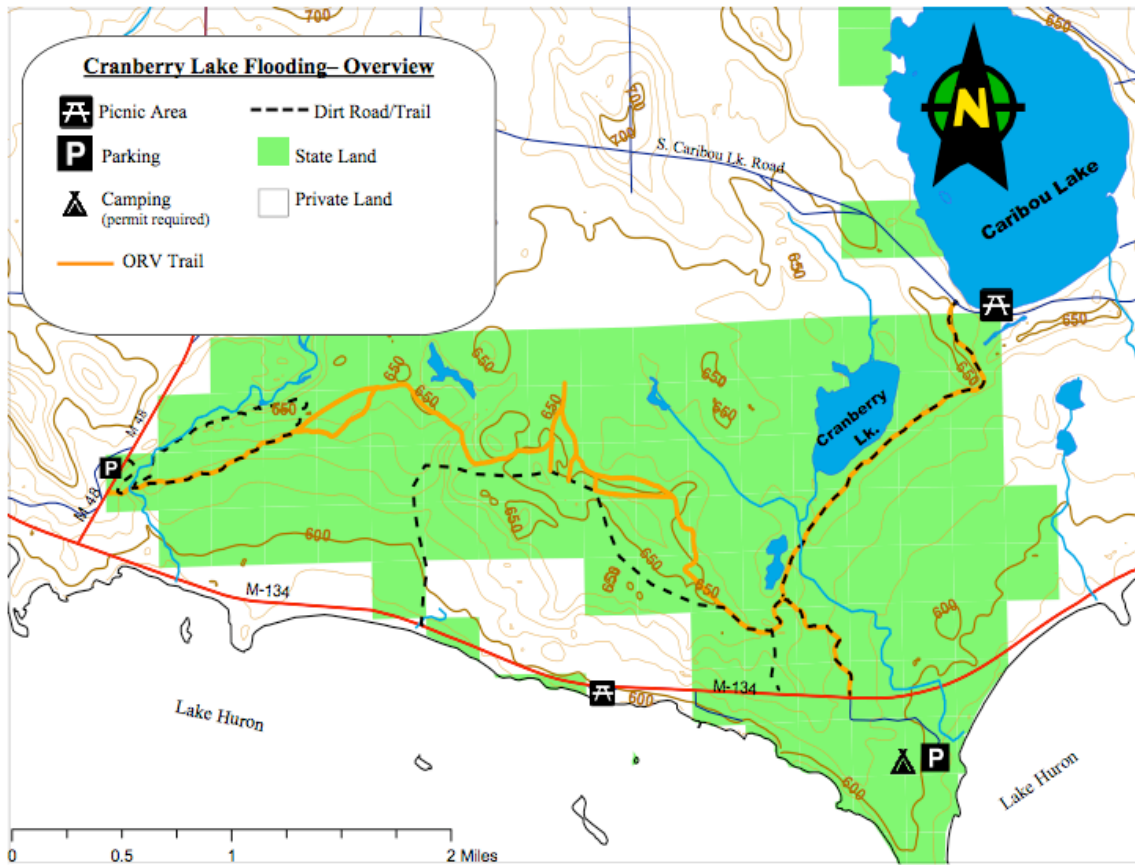
Table of Contents

Cranberry Lake Flooding.....	3
Cranberry Lake Additional Information.....	4
Cranberry Lake Flooding - Ridge Trail.....	5
Search Bay Trail.....	6
Search Bay Trail - Map.....	7
Hessel Airport Trail.....	8
Hessel Airport Trail - Map.....	9
Bay City Lake Trail.....	10
Bay City Lake Trail - Map.....	11
North Lake Huron Logging Roads.....	12
Low Springer Trail - Map.....	13
Ziegler Road Trail - Map.....	14
Peek-A-Boo Ridge Trail.....	15
Peek-A-Boo Ridge Trail - Map.....	16
Bike Trail Family Activities.....	17-20
Bike Trail Check List.....	21
Credits.....	22



**Cranberry Lake Loop and Trail System - DeTour
Chippewa County, Michigan**

Cranberry Lake Flooding area, part of the state-managed Lake Superior State Forest, is just south and west of Caribou Lake, and about two [2] miles west of DeTour Village. The area features a network of trails that offer a variety of recreational opportunities, connecting trail users to M-134 and the Lake Huron shoreline and a family friendly, shallow bay for swimming in the south, and M-48 and Caribou Lake to the north and west. There are trailheads on the north side of M-134, almost directly across from sand dunes on the Lake Huron shore and the DeTour State Forest Campground further east, and another one off M-48. The mile-long public beach is just east of Albany Creek turnout, and offers swimming (at your own risk) and sand dunes. Please remember that these are fragile Great Lakes sand dunes, and you should always stay on the designated path to avoid trampling endangered species like the Lake Huron Tansy and Pitcher’s Thistle.



A Michigan Department of Transportation roadside park on M-134 offers restrooms and fresh water, a shady picnic area, and Lake Huron beach access. The roadside park is 17 miles east of the M-134/M-129 intersection in Cedarville, or 2.5 miles east of the M-134/M-48 intersection. Information about specific highlights of this area follows:

Ridge Trail:

Begins on the Cranberry Lake ORV trail, southeast from the trails entrance off M-48 (marked by a wooden ORV trail sign). Follow the road in the center to a bridge over Albany Creek beside a small dam, the site of a former lamprey weir. After crossing the bridge, park, and walk or ride up the road until reaching a single track trail on the left in the woods, about 40 feet from the parking area after you crossing the bridge. There are two, orange triangular markers on a tree at the trailhead. From here the trail briefly heads north before turning east. The trail follows a ridge with a steep drop down to Albany Creek and a large marsh, and then heads back to the two-track Cranberry Lake Road. The area is quite scenic, and features mature maples, balsam and tall pines.

Distance: 2.8 mile loop

Difficulty: easy to challenging. Portions of the loop are not maintained, so be prepared for rough trail conditions, large exposed roots, and narrow passage, especially along the ravine along the creek and marsh. Cranberry Lake Road is very sandy and soft in places, so stay close to the edges where the ground is more firm.

Points of Interest: Point A- Single track trail head (N45°58'33.04", W84°04'47.38")
Point B- Single track exits to ORV trail (N45°58'44.71", W84°03'50.72")

Cranberry Lake Trail

The Cranberry Lake Trail is located approximately two [2] miles west of the Village of DeTour, with trailheads on S. Caribou Lake Road, M-48 (south of S. Albany Rd.) and on M-134 just west of the DeTour State Forest Campground, this eight [8] mile ORV trail travels through state forest lands and along Cranberry Lake and through the Cranberry Flooding area. **Note:** A DNR map of this trail is at the Les Cheneaux Welcome Center in Cedarville, or can be found online at:

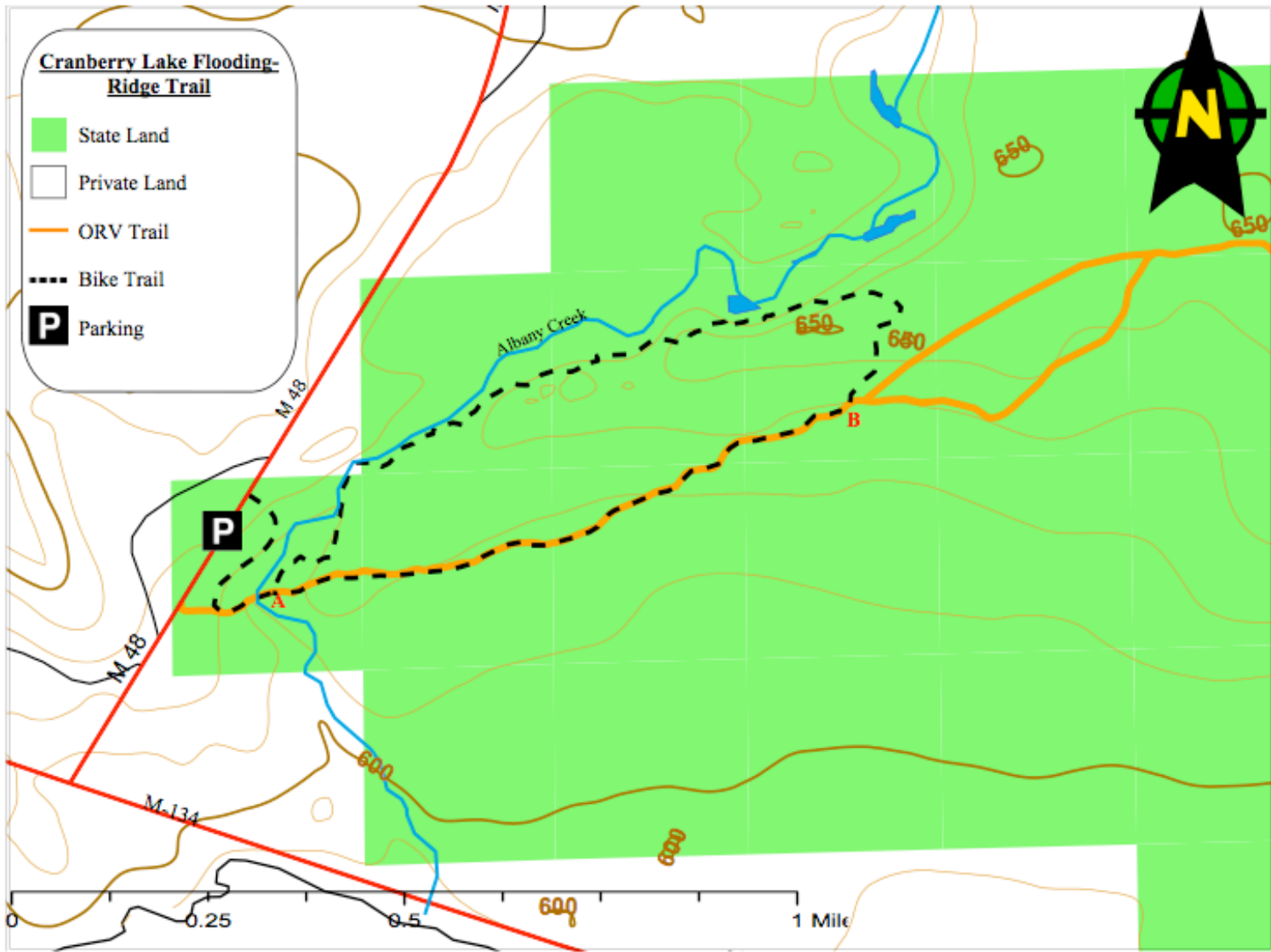
www.dnr.state.mi.us/publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/ORV/Maps-Trail/cranberry_lake_trail.pdf

DeTour State Forest Campground

This campground and adjoining state forest land is on a peninsula that extends from M-134 out into Lake Huron. Rich white spruce and white pine forest extends to the cobbled lake edge in some spots, and along dunes in other areas, where a number of rare and unique plants thrive. The endangered Pitcher's thistle and Houghton's goldenrod grow in the fore dunes closest to the water's edge, while creeping juniper, bearberry, reindeer lichen and American dune grass transition into the surrounding forest. This isolated and protected peninsula supports a rich variety of mammals as well as nesting and migrating forest and shorebirds. For those interested in an extended hike of about three [3] miles, park in the first pullout on the right after turning onto State Forest Campground Road. Follow the trail through the forest to the lake edge and hike around the point to the trail that continues to the campground. Return on the park road. Wheeled traffic (automobiles and bicycles) can continue south down Campground Road into the campground and day-use area. Fresh well water, outhouses and a fantastic sandy beach can be found at the end of the road. In the winter, the park's roads and trails offer outstanding cross-country skiing and snowshoeing routes.

DeTour Roadside Park

Nestled in the forest adjoining Lake Huron, the Detour Roadside Park provides a convenient rest stop for humans and birds traveling along the lakeshore. The grassy grounds offer picnic tables, vault toilets and drinking water as well as a dense canopy of hardwoods and conifers for migrating and nesting songbirds. While there is little understory vegetation in the park to attract ground-dwelling species, the open, park-like setting is ideal for spotting woodpeckers, nuthatches and brown creepers that search for insects on the tree trunks. The forested shoreline along this stretch of Lake Huron is critical habitat for the northern parula warbler that builds its nest from the lichens that hang from the tree limbs near the water's edge. These trees are also used by midges that hatch from the shallow lake edge and land on the leaves and branches to rest. This rich food source attracts and supports many species of forest birds that migrate along the lake edge to nesting grounds in the northern boreal forests of Canada. Small islands off the lakeshore are used by nesting ring-billed gulls.



Caribou Lake

Located north of M-134, approximately 3.5 miles from DeTour Village. Caribou Lake encompasses 825 acres and is known to carry many species of fish, including: smallmouth bass, rock bass, walleye, yellow perch, northern pike, pumpkinseed sunfish, brown bullhead and white suckers. Site amenities include a public boat launch, a Township park and sandy beach. The lake is bounded by North and South Caribou Lake Roads, which offer spectacular scenic drives from DeTour Village to M-48.

Disclaimer: Trails and roads on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. Stay on signed or marked trails if unfamiliar with the area. Use caution on all these multi-use trails, as walkers, pets, automobiles, ORVs and wildlife share the trails. Trails have two-way traffic.

**Search Bay Trails – Hessel
Mackinac County, Michigan**
46°00.875' N, 84°30.658' W

A beautiful two-track dirt road (Forest Road 3436) starts from Highway M-134 and meanders through aspen groves, cedar swamps, wildflowers, meadows and ponds to Lake Huron, and a family friendly shallow bay for swimming. Diverse habitat along the road attracts a variety of wildlife. During the breeding season in spring, watch for nesting bald eagles in the trees, or loons on the water. Porcupines, deer, hawks and other wildlife are frequently spotted. The edges of Search Bay in the spring and fall harbor migrating songbirds. In the summer, stop for a swim and watch for waterfowl feeding in the shallow bay. This section of public land comprises over 2,000 acres on St. Martin's Point, a forested peninsula that juts out into Lake Huron. This vast acreage is part of the East Side of the Hiawatha National Forest, which celebrated its centennial in 2009. More information about the Hiawatha National forest can be found at the Les Cheneaux Welcome Center in Cedarville, or www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/hiawatha/. There are secluded camp sites and outstanding limestone shorelines along Search Bay. Camping is primitive, with no facilities, and everything packed in must be packed out, including trash. Please contact the Forest Service prior to camping at (906) 786-4062. A Little Traverse Conservancy preserve along the lakeshore to the east of the Hiawatha Forest land provides another 245 acres and 1.5 miles of shoreline for further exploration by foot only.

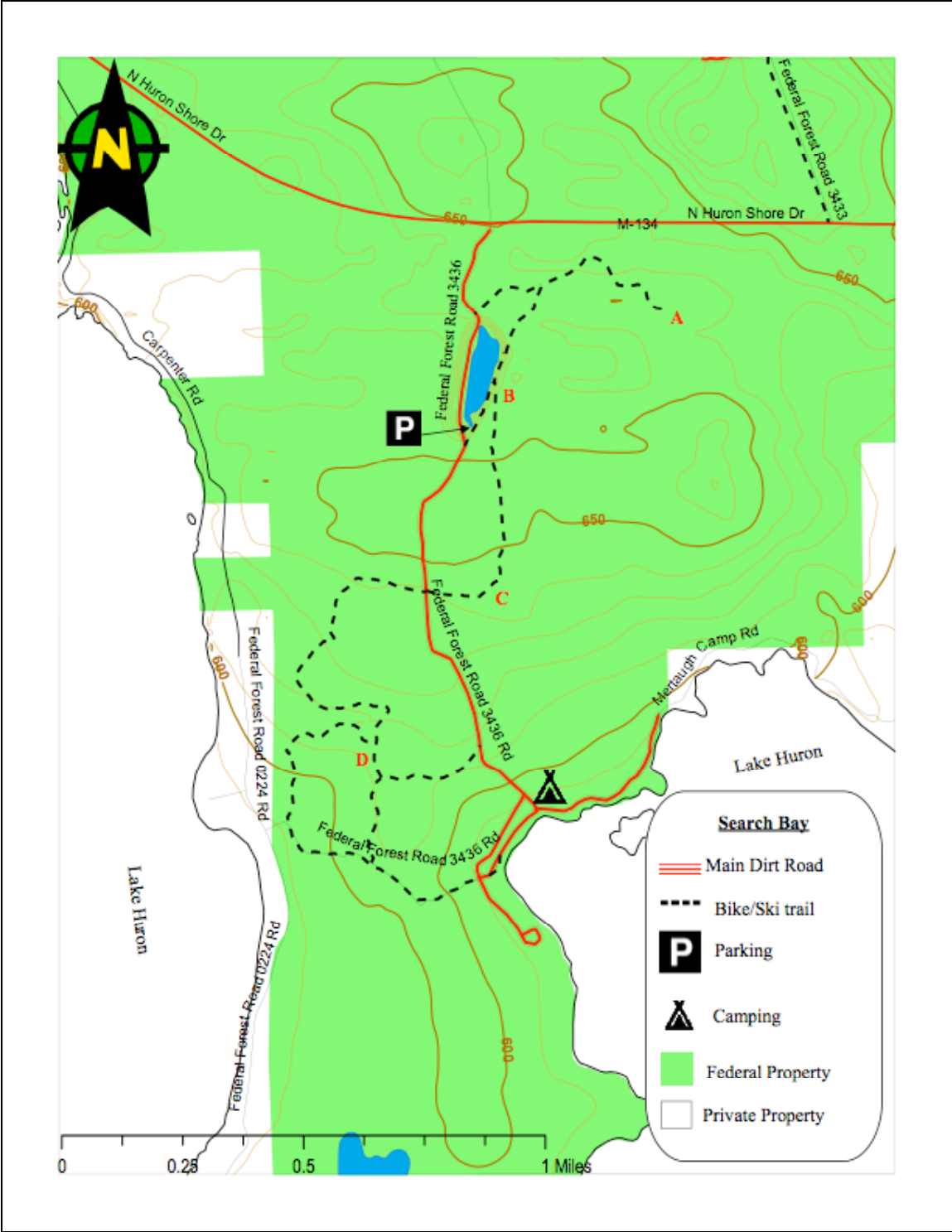
Directions and trail notes: Coming from the west, at I-75/M-134 intersection - Forest Road 3436 is 8.9 miles east of the M-134 off ramp, on the south side of M-134. Coming from east, the entrance to Search Bay is 7.7 miles west of the M-129/M-134 intersection, or 4.6 miles west of the village of Hessel. There are 2 types of trail at Search Bay. The main road that leads to Search Bay on Lake Huron is a wide gravel road that supports all vehicle traffic. Stay on this road (indicated by the red line on this map) for very easy biking along the lakeshore. Marked cross-country ski and hiking trails wind through the area (noted by the dotted black line) and cross the main road at places indicated on the map. These are narrow, dirt and grass-covered trails which are great for exploring on a mountain bike- they are marked by blue diamonds.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate

Distance: Up to 6.8 miles

Points of Interest: Point A- Trail ends here (N46°00'41.10", W84°30'30.69")
Point B- Trail Doubles back along lake (N46°00'32.04", W84°31'03.48")
Point C- Look for marked trail to the north (N46°00'06.35", W84°31'03.05")
Point D- Goes through clearing (N46°00'06.35", W84°31'03.05")

Disclaimer: Trails and roads on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. Stay on signed or marked trails if unfamiliar with the area. Use caution on all these multi-use trails, as walkers, pets, automobiles, ORVs and wildlife share the trails. Trails have two-way traffic.



**Hessel “Airport Trail” – Hessel
Mackinac County, Michigan**

Lat: 46° 02-09.0590' N

Long: 84° 25-11.1290' W

This is a well-developed two-track trail that runs between Hessel and Cedarville. It provides a challenge to ride the entire trail, owing to deep sand and wet areas, as well as ruts from ORVs and other trail users. Those up to the challenge will find it worthwhile to travel the only contiguous, woodland trail between Hessel and Cedarville, and a refreshing change from the highway that connects the villages. The trail cuts through more than 700 acres of Lake Superior State Forest, where abundant wildlife, birds and mature hardwoods and mixed conifer forest can be found. White-tail deer, beavers, porcupines, ruffed grouse, coyotes, fox and pileated woodpeckers are a few of the species found in these woods. The Albert J. Lindberg Airport south of the trail serves Clark Township and Mackinac County, and is owned by Clark Township. The paved runway extends approximately 3,700 feet.

Directions: From the M-129/M-134 intersection in Cedarville: Head west on M-134 toward Hessel to 3-Mile Road, then turn right onto 3-Mile and head north, just past the Albert J. Lindberg Airport. The parking area for the trail is 2.2 miles north of M-134, on the right side of 3-Mile Road, immediately after the Airport. Park at the Clark Township ball diamonds, or in a clearing, but avoid the airport property south and east of the ball diamonds, and stay off the tracks alongside the runway (a berm separates the airport property from the state land). Pick up the trail north or east of the parking area. The trail cuts through a small patch of woods before dropping into a sand pit and continuing on the east side of the pit. The trail will run alongside the airport runway before heading southeast, leading to a bridge over a creek, with a steep hill on the other side. At the top of the hill, (point “A”) take a right and follow the trail south. The trail becomes very sandy at this point and can be challenging to ride through, so expect to walk a bike through this section, or stay on the sides of the trail. The trail will turn and head east toward Cedarville and Blindline Road. At point “B” one can continue straight toward the Clark Township Water Treatment Facility, or take a left and follow the trail toward Linderman Road, Cedarville. Take Linderman east to Blindline or M-129 for a longer ride, or into the villages of Cedarville and Hessel.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate. Difficult in some areas.

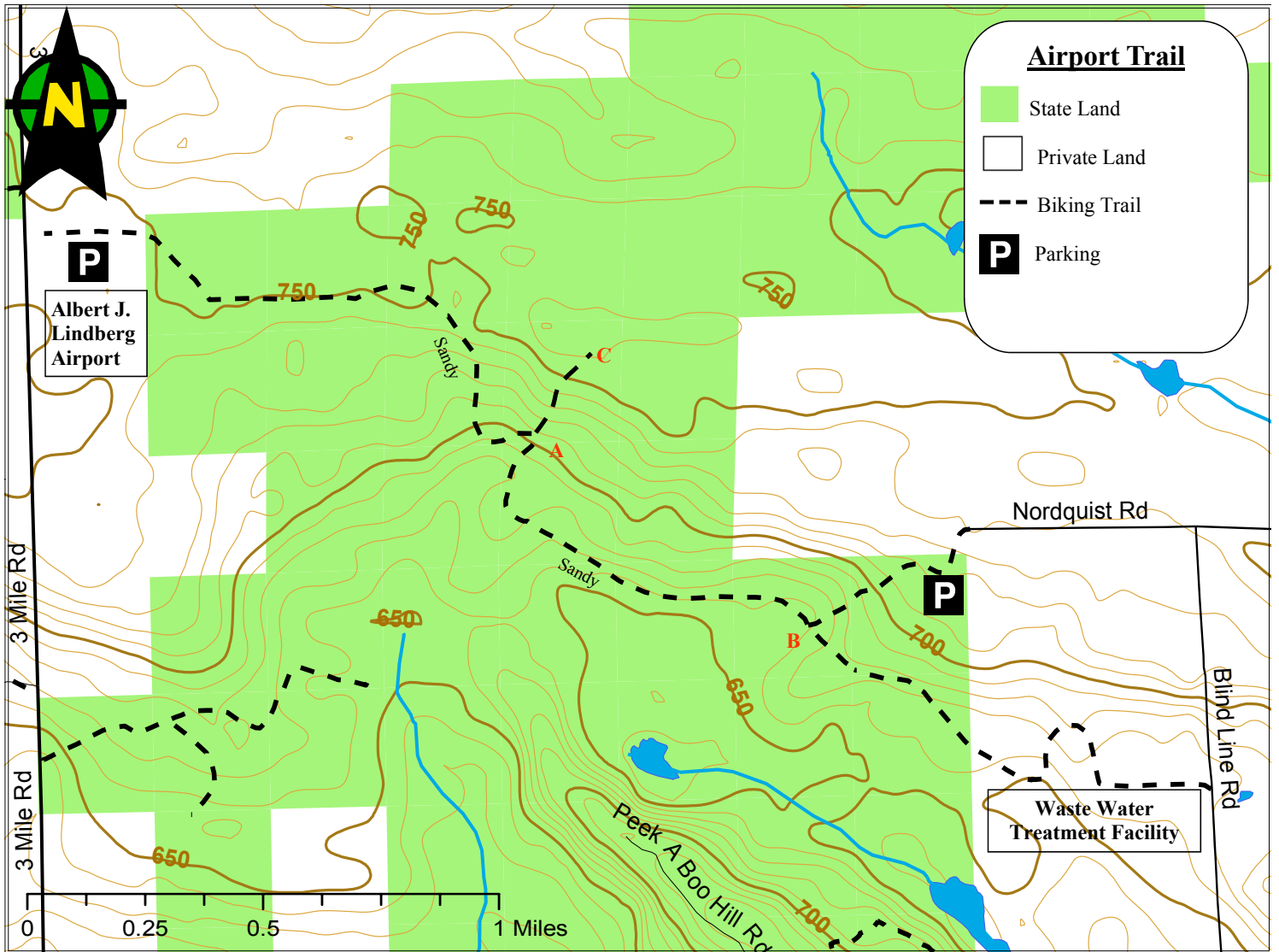
Distance: Up to 3.3 miles

Points of Interest: Point A – Turn right and head south on trail (N46°01'53.99”, W84°24'12.27”)

Point B – Head straight toward Blindline Rd. or Turn left toward Linderman Rd.
(N46°01'33.02”, W84°23'29.77”)

Point C – Trail gets very swampy at this point and is unmapped.

Disclaimer: Trails and roads on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. Stay on signed or marked trails if unfamiliar with the area. Use caution on all these multi-use trails, as walkers, pets, automobiles, ORVs and wildlife share the trails. Trails have two-way traffic.



**Bay City Lake – Hessel
Mackinac County, Michigan**

Impressive stands of mature oak, pine, maple and hemlock surround a 25-acre, secluded lake within nearly 1,500 acres of state land. A complex network of trails laces the woods throughout this section of the Lake Superior State Forest. These multi-use trails are shared by hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders, hunters, anglers, wildlife and motor vehicles. A 7.8-mile ORV trail is marked, and winds through the area. All trails and routes have two-way traffic, so be aware of oncoming trail users. Bay City Lake recreation area offers many rustic campsites, some with crude, stone fire pits. The terrain here is mostly sandy and rolling, and trails are primarily hard, dirt two-track roads, with some soft and sandy sections. The area has been managed for wildlife, and some of the dense forest will give way to grassy clearings and meadows, which have been cleared to encourage birds and deer to congregate there. Spring is the wettest season, and riders may want to avoid the area until late in the season, when most of the standing water has dried. Summer roads are ideal for bicycling, and the area offers excellent roadside blueberry picking opportunities. In the fall, the area's deciduous trees change color and offer some of the most brilliant fall scenery in the Les Cheneaux area. In the winter, Bay City Lake's roads and trails offer outstanding cross-country skiing and snowshoeing routes.

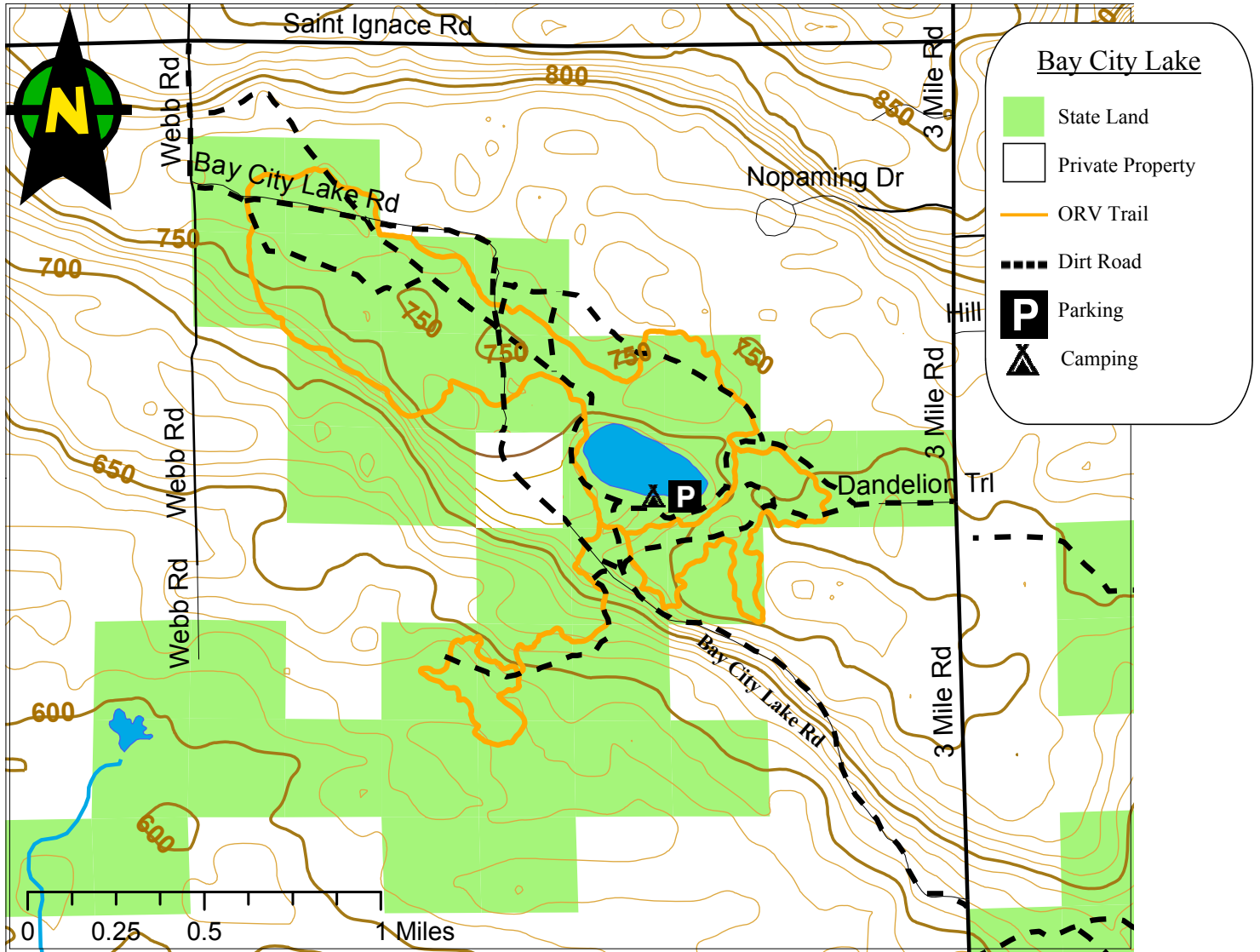
Directions from Cedarville: Head west on M-134 toward Hessel to 3-Mile Road. Head north on 3-Mile approximately 3 miles, past Hessel Airport, to Bay City Lake Road (Dandelion Trail on some maps) on the west side of 3-Mile Road. Turn left onto Bay City Lake Road and park in clearings along the road, or follow map directions to the lake. Ample parking is at the southeast end of Bay City Lake.

Note: The Department of Natural Resources' ORV map of Bay City Lake is a good companion piece to this map, and copies can be obtained at the Les Cheneaux Welcome Center in Cedarville or http://www.midnr.com/publications/pdfs/forestslandwater/ORV/Maps-Trail/bay_city_lake_trail.pdf

Difficulty: easy to moderate

Distance: 7.9 miles (ORV trail)
Up to 8.4 miles (Dirt Roads)

Disclaimer: Trails and roads on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. Stay on signed or marked trails if unfamiliar with the area. Use caution on all these multi-use trails, as walkers, pets, automobiles, ORVs and wildlife share the trails. Trails have two-way traffic.



Northern Lake Huron Logging Roads - Between Cedarville and DeTour Mackinac/Chippewa Counties, Michigan

Low and Springer roads are rough dirt roads with many exposed rocks and ruts, which make riding moderately rough, challenging and fun. These roads are historic logging roads and navigation routes that existed long before the highways that now connect communities in this area. Many of the trails are currently used by logging trucks and other vehicles. This network of trails can be rode throughout a patchwork of state and private land, to the nearby villages of Goetzville, Raber, Pickford and DeTour by using a combination of gravel trails and paved roads (follow the map). The parcels of state land are part of the Lake Superior State Forest, and riders should remain on the trail to avoid trespassing on the private property along the trails. Riders may also encounter bears or wolves, which are shy of humans, in this area of the Eastern Upper Peninsula. The area is characterized by a combination of hardwoods and mixed conifer forest, including mature stands of aspen and maple. There is also some sandy, rolling landscape in this area.

Directions: Low Road is 9.4 miles east of the M-129/M-134 intersection on the north side of M-134. Low Road heads north and intersects Springer Road, which continues further north and can be taken all the way to highway M-48, or all the way south back to M-134. At the Low/Springer Road intersection, one can either turn right, and head east on Springer, or turn left and head further north, where Springer road meets up with Zeigler Lake Road. One may also choose to take the marked snowmobile trail west from Springer Road to Prentiss Bay road, which will take you back south to M-134. Parking is available along the Shoulders of M-134. Park at your own risk. The Michigan DNR has two maps that would be good companion pieces to this map, including the Foreman Lake Trail map:

www.midnr.com/publications/pdfs/forestslandwater/ORV/Maps-Trail/Foreman_Lake_Motorcycle_Trail.pdf, and the Birch Hill Trail map:

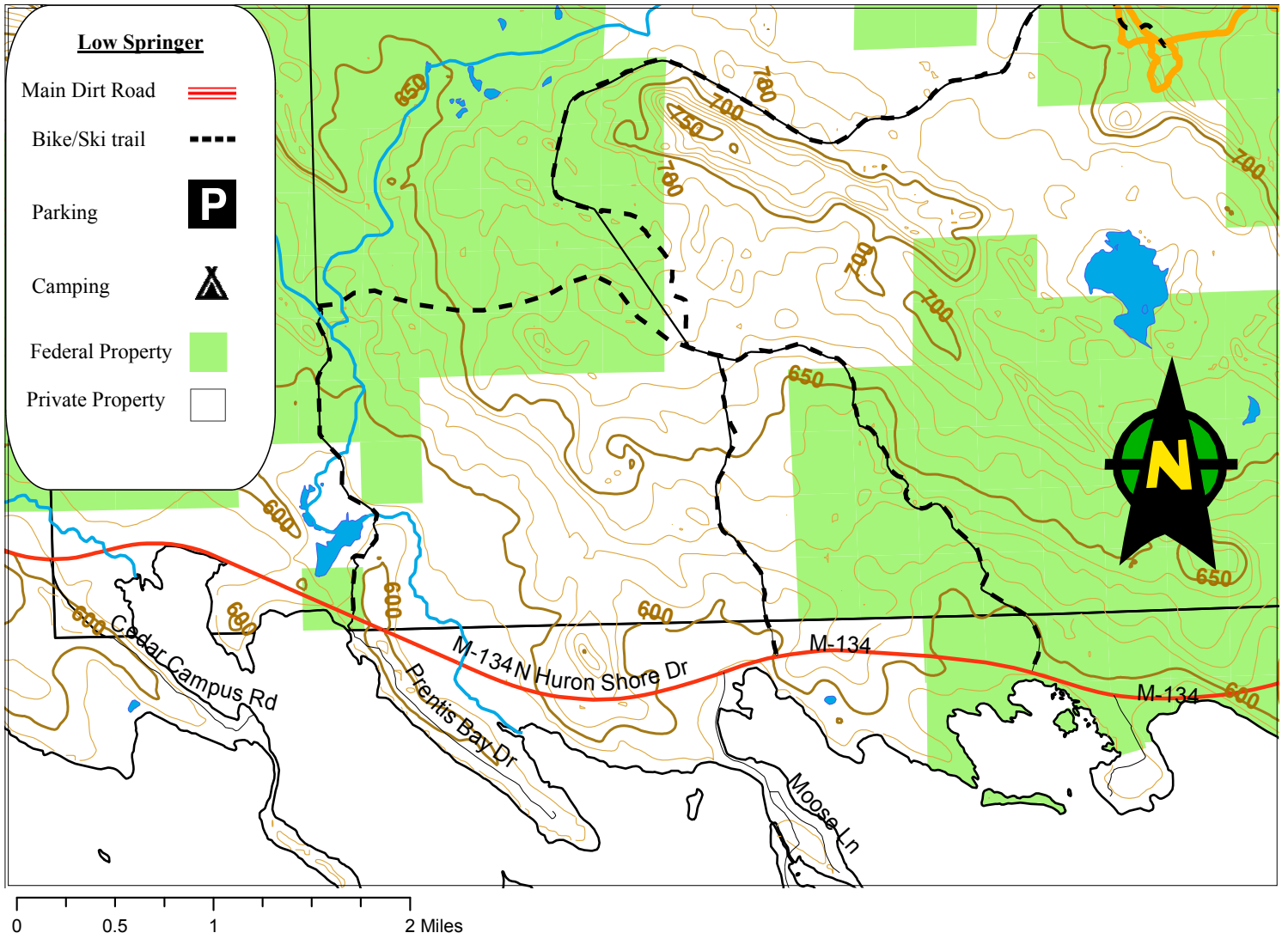
www.midnr.com/publications/pdfs/forestslandwater/ORV/Maps-Trail/Birch_Hill.pdf.

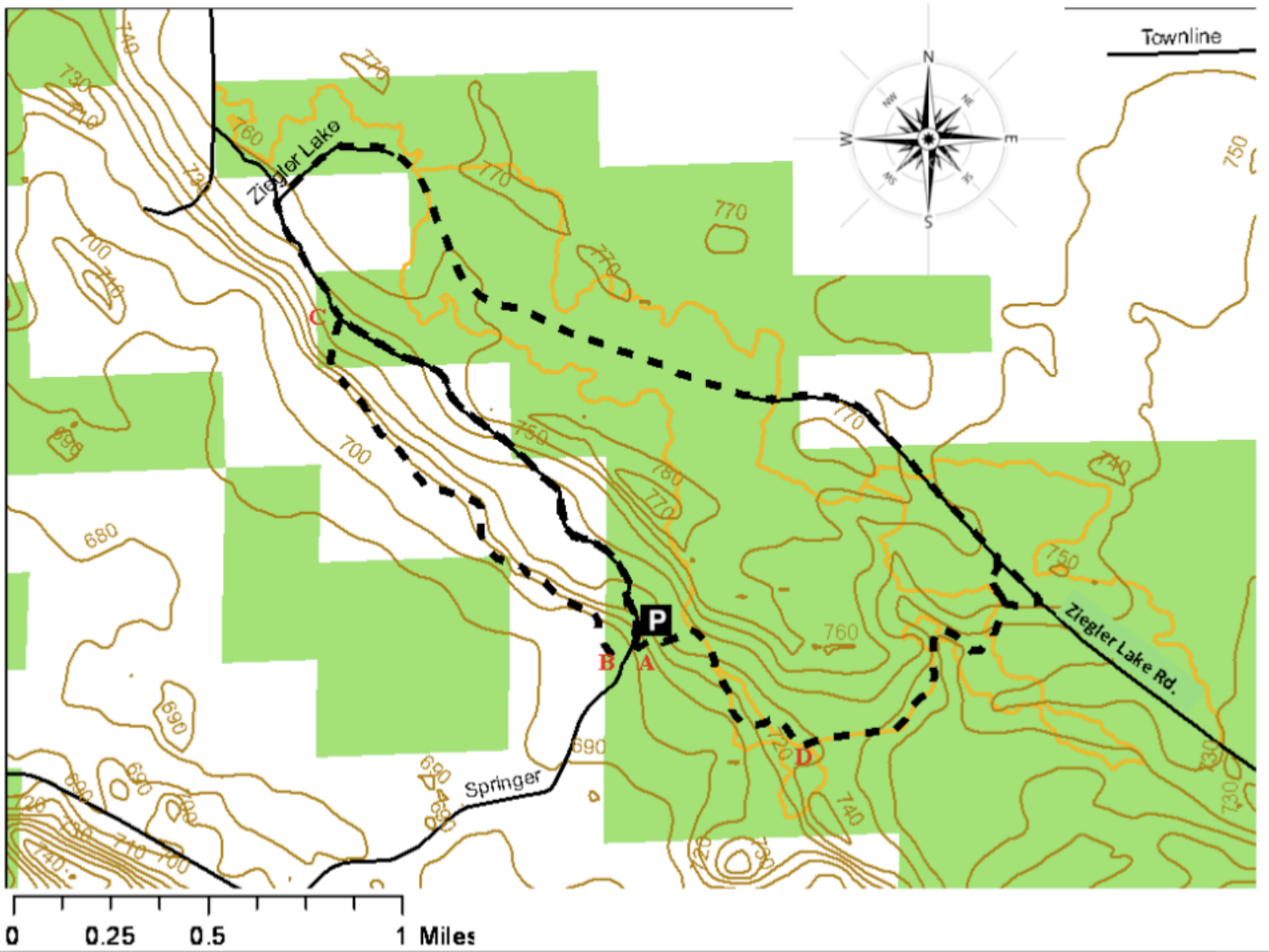
Both maps can also be obtained at the Les Cheneaux Welcome Center in Cedarville.

Difficulty: Easy-Moderate

Distance: Up to 8.2 miles

Disclaimer: Trails and roads on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. Stay on signed or marked trails if unfamiliar with the area. Use caution on all these multi-use trails, as walkers, pets, automobiles, ORVs and wildlife share the trails. Trails have two-way traffic.





Ziegler Trail

Peek-A-Boo Trail - Cedarville
Mackinac County, Michigan

This multi-use recreational trail is just over two (2) miles in length. Most of the trail is on state land (part of the Lake Superior State Forest) and is managed by the Les Cheneaux Nordic Ski Club. Points of interest include views of the Les Cheneaux Islands, Straits of Mackinac and Mackinac Island from the peaks of a ridge facing south, best viewed in late fall and winter, when the trees have shed their leaves. The trail is surrounded by deciduous trees and mixed evergreen forest, with a few towering pines. This trail is on the Niagara Escarpment, a large limestone bedrock crescent that stretches from Wisconsin in the west, along the northern shores of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, all the way to the Niagara region and New York State. The Niagara Escarpment is characterized by large limestone rock outcroppings that can be seen along this trail and throughout the Les Cheneaux region. Many song birds and other wildlife are abundant in the area. There are other recreational opportunities nearby, including an easy walking path at the 40-acre Les Cheneaux Community Schools Forest on the east side of the parking lot. A sign marks the entrance to the School Forest pathway, and there is interpretative signage along the path. There are also other trails on the state forest land. The bicycling route on this map is at the Les Cheneaux Community Schools Athletic Track on State Avenue in Cedarville. The trail is used for Nordic skiing in the winter, so the surface is not maintained. Trail users in the summer and fall will encounter many rocks, exposed roots and a few wet areas where the trail intersects marsh. Other nearby bicycling opportunities include State Avenue and Blindline Road, which provide easy, flat surface rides through forest and agricultural areas.

Directions from M-129/M-134 intersection in Cedarville: head west on M-134 to Blindline Road, which is on the north side of the highway. Turn right onto Blindline Road and head north about a block to State Avenue, then turn left onto State (a gravel road). Continue west to the first driveway on the north side of State. Turn into the driveway marked by the sign, "Robert W. Smith Track," and park at the entrance if the gate is closed, or in the parking area if the gate is open. The gate to the track is sometimes closed seasonally.

The trailhead is at the northwest corner of the athletic track. Follow the chain-link fence to the north until you see the opening in the woods. This trail is marked by blue diamonds, which make navigation easier. There are also some trail maps posted along the path for reference.

Points of Interest: Point A- Trail marker with map (N 46°00'41.00", W84°22'56.69")

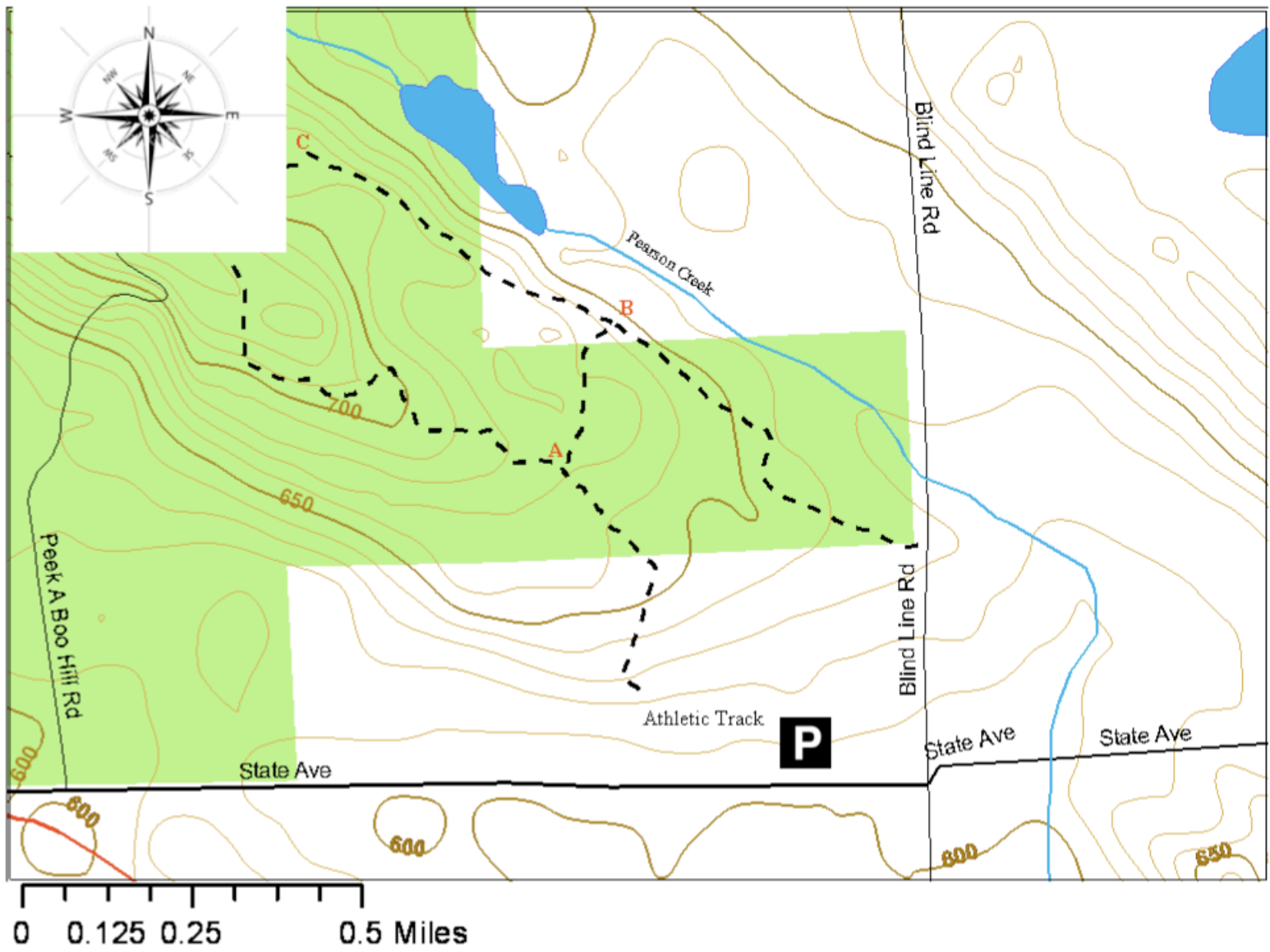
Point B- Trail Marker with map (N46°00'49.95", W84°22'51.84")

Point C- Continue east on trail (N46°01'00.88", W84°23'19.35")

Difficulty: easy to moderate

Distance: Up to 2.6 miles

Disclaimer: Trails shown on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. Stay on signed or marked trails if unfamiliar with the area. Traffic along these trails is multi-use and two-way, so be wary of on-coming trail users.



Peek-A-Boo Trail

Bike Trail

Family Activities

Photograph Scavenger Hunt-Use your camera to take a picture of each item

Wild Flowers	Stream or Creek	Eroded Soil	Trash	Small Pebble	Animal Tracks	Butterfly	Ladybug
Dead Tree	Blade of Grass	Smooth or Shiny Rock	Pine Needle	Unusual Shaped Leaf	Worm	Moth	Spider Web
Pine Cone	Clover Leaf	Mud	Acorn	Multi-Colored Rock	Caterpillar	Snail	Bird Nest
Berries	Moss	Sand	Tree Blossom	Dew Drop	Squirrel	Beetle	Frog
Vine	Pine Tree	Fern	Hole in a Tree	Mushroom	Bird	Feather	Animal Shelter
Poison Ivy	Seed Pod	Y-Shaped Twig	Green Leaf	Signs of the Seasons Changing	Ant	Lizard	Nurse Log



Bike Trail

Family Activities

Alphabet Scavenger Hunt-Find an item for each letter of the alphabet

A	B	C	D	E
F	G	H	I	J
K	L	M	N	O
P	Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X	Y/Z



Bike Trail

Family Activities

GPS Shutterspotting-A GPS scavenger hunt for the perfect places for you to take family photos.

We have searched the forest and shoreline for the most beautiful locations for taking pictures and have the coordinates listed below. It is your job to use your GPS unit and the listed coordinates to find these locations along the trails and capture the beauty that the Les Cheneaux area has to offer.

Location #1:

Location #2:

Location #3:

Location #4:

Location #5:

Good luck and happy picture hunting!



Bike Trail Family Activities

Family Bike Trail Log

Trail name	Distance	Time started	Time finished	Notes	Date



Bike Trail Check List

Make sure everyone has:

- Rain protection
- A snack
- An adequate amount of water
- Close-toed shoes

It is a good idea to have one person carry:

- A hand pump
- An extra tube (for each wheel size if riders have different wheels)
- A patch kit
- A multi-tool

Before you leave, make sure:

- All of the tires have enough air in them
- To check the brakes
- To check the wheels

*Do not leave on a ride if a bike has a mechanical problem, it is best to get the bike repaired before heading out on a trail.



Credits

Many thanks go out to:

Jeff Bantle: Central Michigan University Student. Project coordinator

Dr. Dave Patton: of Central Michigan University

Jessie Hadley: Owner Operator of Woods & Water Ecotours

Tim Gallaway: Kayak instructor/Guide of Woods and Water Ecotours

Nate Phelps of the Michigan Mountain Bike Association (MMBA)

Amy Polk of the Les Cheneaux Islands Tourist Association

Board members of the Les Cheneaux Bike Path, and Clark Township for funding the start-up of this project.

