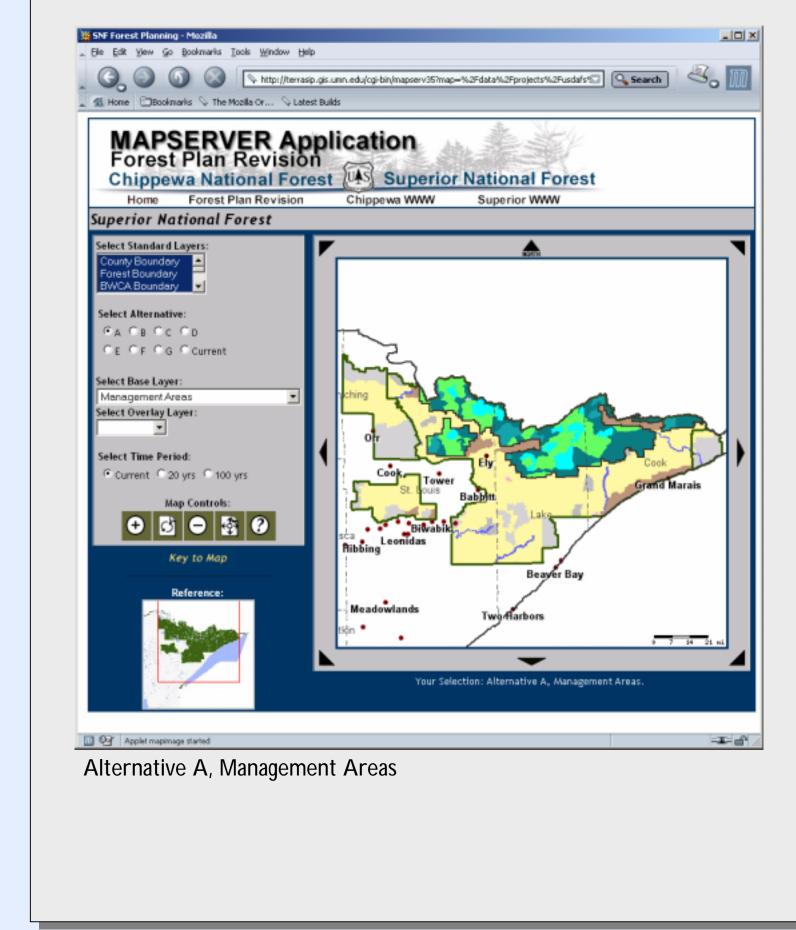
Public Access to Draft Forest Plan Geospatial Data

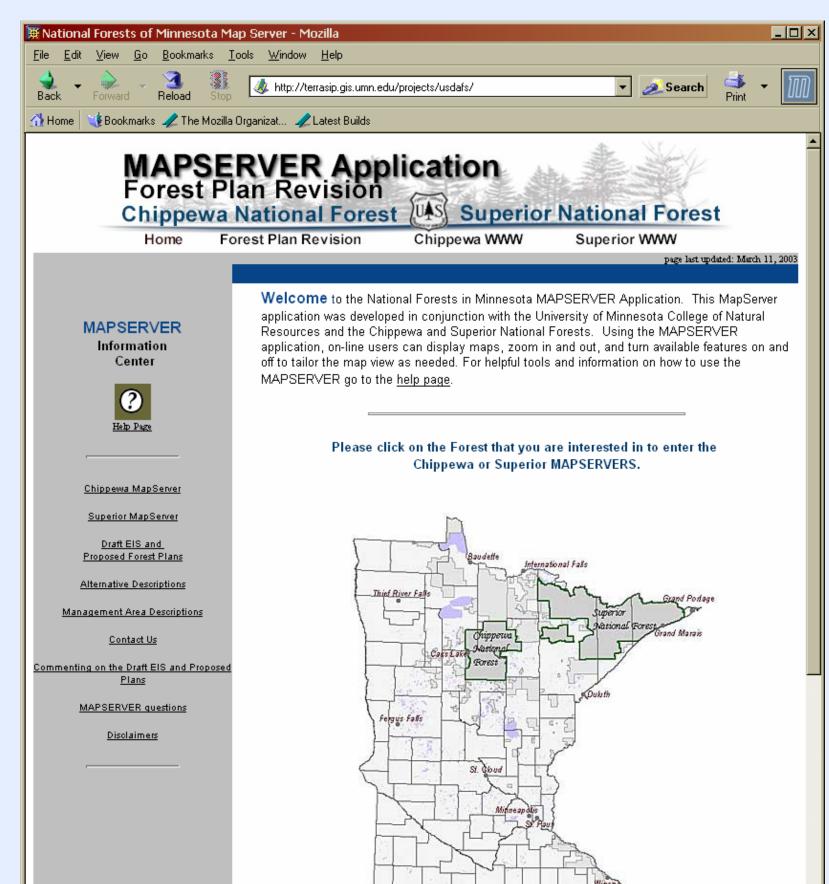


Forest Planning MapServer

The Superior National Forest MapServer includes seven proposed management plan alternatives and relevant information about how each alternative might alter the vegetation types, scenic integrity,



In the process of drafting forest plan revisions for the Superior and Chippewa National Forests, the University of Minnesota is working with the USDA Forest Service to implement a delivery tool for geospatial information about the proposed management alternatives.



Background

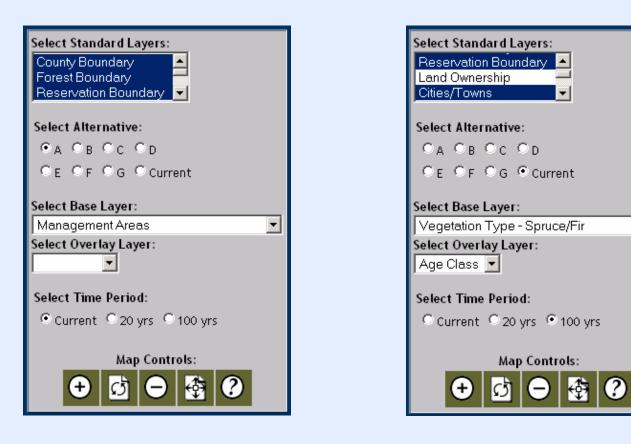
The USDA Forest Service has been a leader in federal forest planning since the late 1800's. With the new Forest Service in 1905, plans were devised for managing the 150 million acres of national forest system lands. At the national forest level, grazing plans were written and enacted in the 1910's and 1920's. After the end of the second world war, a great expansion of the Forest Service timber program necessitated the need for better timber/working circle plans. The Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of 1960 set into motion plans for timber, recreation, grazing, mining, and many other resources. Passage of of the Wilderness Act of 1964 set up another planning process (called RARE). In 1974, the Resources Planning Act (RPA) established a long-term analysis and evaluation process to collect and interpret data from across the U.S. The National Forest Management Act of 1976 instituted a process for devising regional plans (guides) and national forest plans. This leads us to the present emphasis on large-scale planning projects like the FEMAT, Sierra, ICBEMP, Southern Appalachians, and others.

and recreational opportunities in the national forest.

	http://terrasip.gis.umn.ed	du/projects/usdafs/cn 🖸 🔍 Search
Home Bookmarks & The Mozilla Or & Latest Builds Chippewa National Forest Legend		
N Chippewa N. F. Boundary	Very High	Dry Pine
🕂 Leech Lake Res. Bnd.	High	Dry Mesic Pine-Oak
	Moderate	Dry Mesic Pine
√√ County Boundaries	Low	Mesic Northern Hardwood
N Roads	Recreation Opportunity	Boreal Hardwood Conifer
∕√ Trails	Spectrum	White Cedar Swamp
/ v Trails	<u> </u>	Wet Sedge Meadow
Recreation Areas	Urban	Tamarack Swamp
🔼 Camp Sites	Rural Roaded Natural	Management Areas
Picnic Areas	Semi-primitive Motorized	General Forest Emphasis
	Semi-primitive Non-motorized	Longer Rotation Emphasis
Land Ownership		Recreation Use in a Scenic Landscape
Forest Service Ownership	Vegetation Types	Potential Candidate Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rive
Other Ownership	Aspen/Birch	Semi-primitive Motorized Recreation
		Semi-primitive Motorized & Non-motorized Recreation
Hydrography	Spruce/Fir	Semi-primitive Non-motorized Recreation
🖾 Watershed Boundary	Northern Hardwood	Unique Biologic, Aquatic, Geologic, or Historical Areas
✓ Streams	Lowlands	Special Management Complexes
Lakes	Jack Pine	Minimum Management Natural Area
Lakes	Red Pine	Riparian Emphasis Areas
Riparian-Road Interaction	White Pine	Existing Research Natural Areas
Index		Recommended Research Natural Area
High	Age Class Distribution	Proposed Wilderness
Medium	(Vegetation Types) Typing	Lakes Greater than 400 Acres



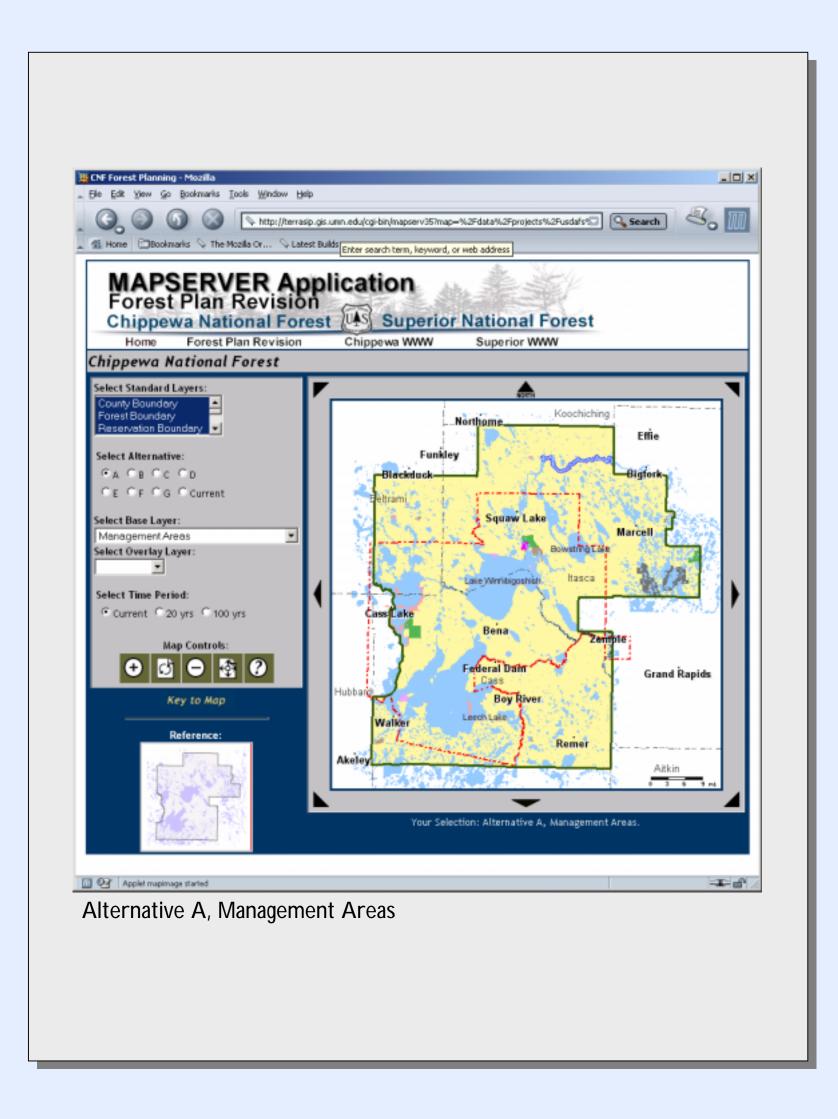
The Forest Planning MapServer was developed to provide access to geospatial data for Chippewa and Superior National Forests.



The interface has been categorized into logical groups to hide the very large number of available layers.

Today, planning is proceeding once again into an unknown arena, that of collaborative stewardship. It is unclear how collaborative planning will hold up in the courts, especially when national special interest groups argue that they have been left out of the process. The legend was kept in a separate window from the main application window to reduce clutter.

The Forest Planning MapServers for Chippewa and Superior National Forests are accessible from http://terrasip.gis.umn.edu/projects/usdafs/ and http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/chippewa/plan/revision/dra ft/index.shtml



The Chippewa National Forest MapServer includes seven proposed management plan alternatives and relevant information about how each alternative might alter the vegetation types, scenic integrity, and recreational opportunities in the national forest.

How The Applications Are Used

1. As an internal communication tool where employees from the two national forests use the application to gain a better understanding of how the alternatives are responding to issues in their own particular programs.

2. As an external communication tool where members of the Planning Team work one-on-one with members of the public to look at how Plan alternatives might affect a particular area of interest to them. Generally, the public wants to zoom in around a cabin or into an area where they camp, hunt, bike, snowmobile, etc. to see how the different alternatives will enhance or detract from the setting or change management direction.

The Forest Planning MapServers for Superior and Chippewa National Forests have been received positively by both the forest service staff and the general public.

Pericles S. Nacionales, Thomas E. Burk University of Minnesota

> John Rickers, Robert A. Carr USDA Forest Service

