

Connecting People with the Land

BENEFITS OF NATIONAL FORESTS IN THE EASTERN REGION



U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE EASTERN REGION

THE EASTERN REGION



The 20-state Eastern Region is as diverse culturally as it is geographically. We provide recreation to rural communities whose way of life is integrally tied to the national forests as well as millions of people within a day's drive of the Eastern Region lands, including those who live in some of the nation's largest metropolitan centers.

IS IDEALLY POSITIONED



THE EASTERN REGION CONTAINS:

- 9 out of the top 20 U.S. metropolitan areas
 - 13 of the top 20 U.S. newspapers
 - 40% of U.S. Senate seats
 - 47% of U.S. House seats
 - 43% of the nation's population
 - 28% of all national forest wildlife viewing visits
 - 90% of all Federal land in the Eastern U.S.
 - 28% of all national forest freshwater fishing visits
 - 85% of all registered snowmobiles in the U.S.
 - 15,339 miles of streams, 68% containing trout
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E A S T E R N R E G I O N



The national forests of the Eastern Region and the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie play a special role in the lives of the people in the East and Midwestern United States. These are places where people recreate, reflect, reconnect, and recharge their spirits.



The Eastern Region's "Connecting People with the Land" focuses on defining our niche and related benefits to achieve the goals highlighted in these emphasis areas: Relationships, Settings, Partnerships, Services, and Conservation Education and Interpretation.

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R E L A T I O N S H I P S



We work with the public to define the unique roles of the national forests and tallgrass prairie.

We create a common vision of the future of the forest lands.

We forge unique relationships with individuals and partners, and we reach out to underserved communities.

...through this, people have a sense of connection



We identify, protect and manage many special places. These special places reflect the region's diversity and include shorelines, blue ribbon trout streams, songbird habitats, nature watch places, and other designated areas.

We focus funds on the settings and facilities that enhance the unique aspects or niche of each forest to ensure high-quality recreation for year-round enjoyment.

We provide safe, accessible, well-maintained facilities.

S E T T I N G S

...through this, people have a special sense of place

P A R T N E R S H I P S



We work with partners to focus our niche and to connect people with the land.

We share information with our partners to improve service to visitors.

We explore opportunities to manage facilities with partners through volunteers, private-public ventures, and concessionaires.

...through this, people have a sense of ownership



We improve customer service through research and work with other recreation providers for seamless and efficient delivery of services.

We assess, plan and manage recreation within social and ecological capacities.

We connect surrounding rural and especially nearby urban populations with the opportunities available in the Eastern Region.

S E R V I C E S

...through this, people have a sense of the benefits

INTERPRETATION
EDUCATION



We emphasize educational and interpretive experiences.

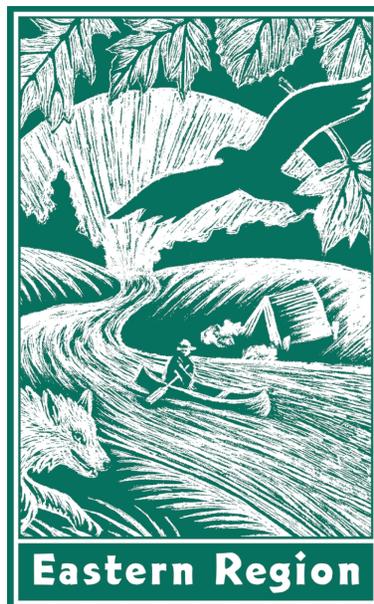
We help connect people with natural resources through history and culture.

We teach people how to care for their land.

...through this, people have a sense of awareness



Whether it be the headwaters of the Mississippi River in Minnesota's glaciated plains, the Garden of the Gods among the rural farmlands of the Ohio River valley, the Presidential mountain range in New Hampshire, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness on the Canadian Border, the snow-sport wonderland in northern Michigan, the lush hardwoods of the Allegheny High Plateau, or simply the woods in your backyard, we can all be refreshed through the lands and waters of the forests and prairie.



U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE
EASTERN REGION
310 W. WISCONSIN AVENUE
MILWAUKEE, WI 53203

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