

Fire and Ice



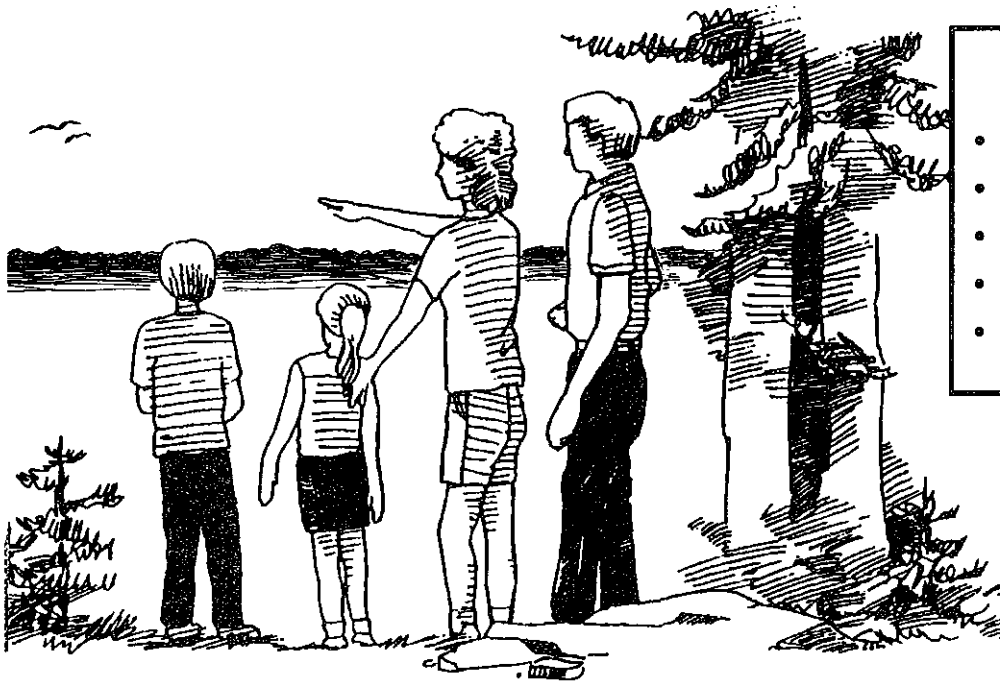
SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

LaCROIX DISTRICT

COOK, MN 55723

218-666-6257

0020



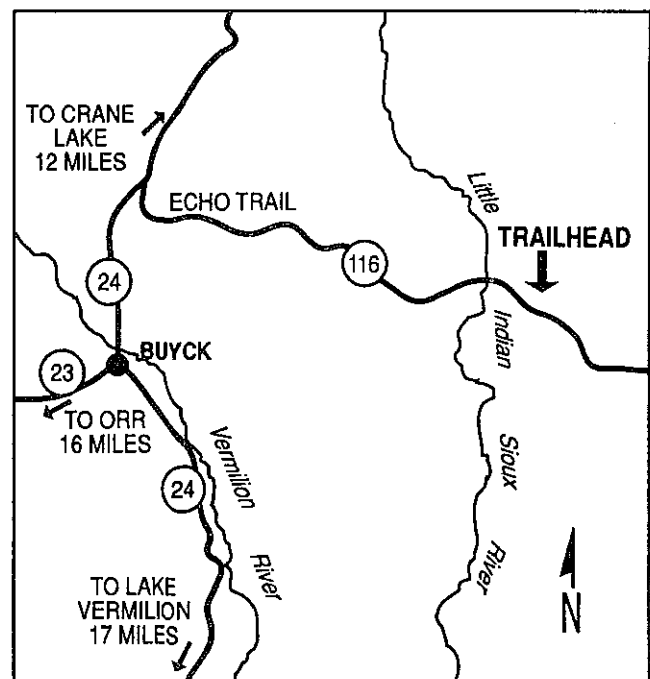
FEATURES

- 1/8-mile gravel trail
- Overlook
- Interpretive signs
- Picnic table
- Blueberries (in season)

LOCATION

The Sioux fire overlook is located on the Echo Trail, 31 miles northeast of Orr.

- From Orr, take St. Louis County 23 to Buyck (16 miles)
- At Buyck, County 23 turns into County 24
- Continue on County 24 for 4 miles to the Echo Trail
- Turn right, 18.1 miles to the overlook. (1.3 miles past Little Indian Sioux River)
- Watch for signs. Overlook on left.



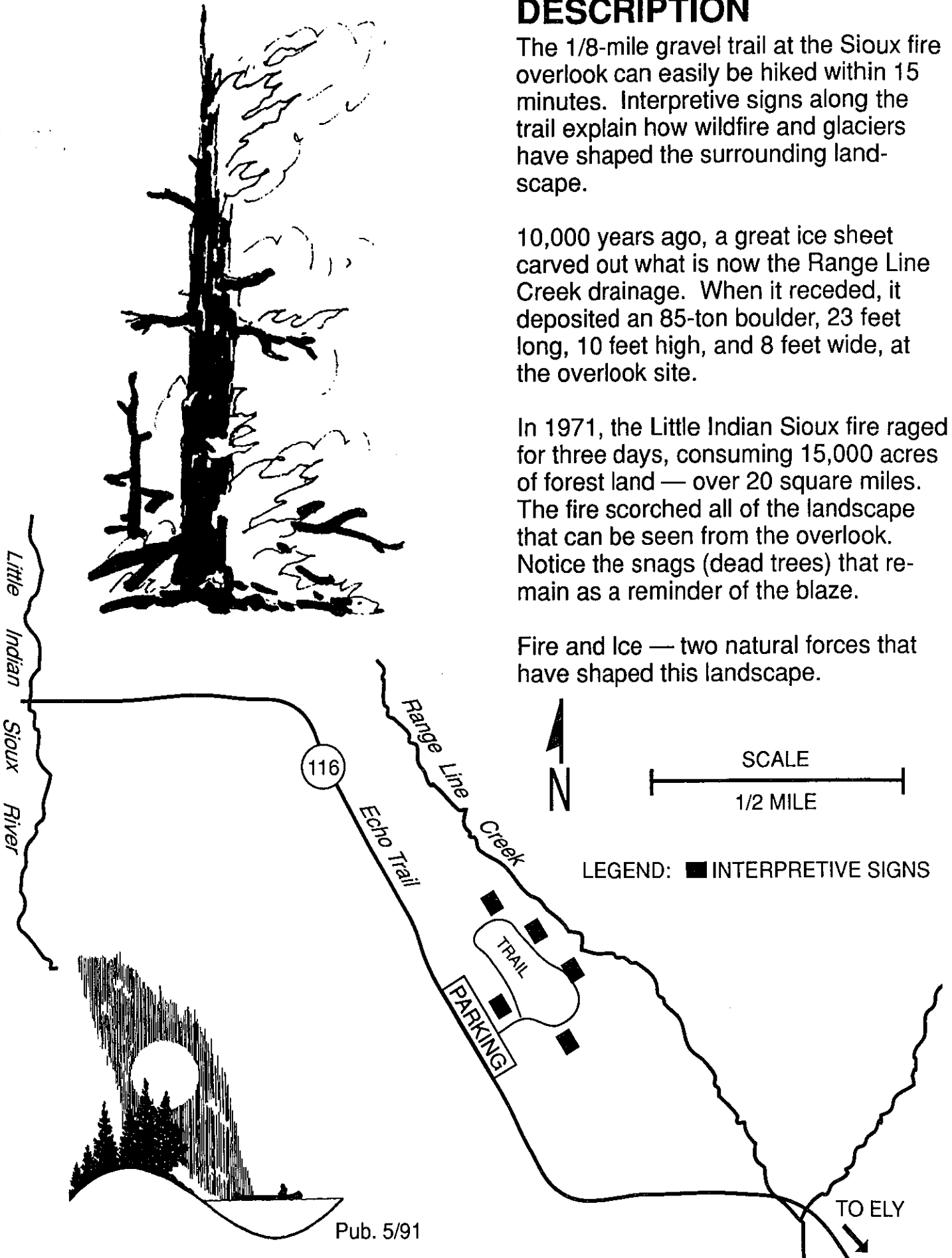
DESCRIPTION

The 1/8-mile gravel trail at the Sioux fire overlook can easily be hiked within 15 minutes. Interpretive signs along the trail explain how wildfire and glaciers have shaped the surrounding landscape.

10,000 years ago, a great ice sheet carved out what is now the Range Line Creek drainage. When it receded, it deposited an 85-ton boulder, 23 feet long, 10 feet high, and 8 feet wide, at the overlook site.

In 1971, the Little Indian Sioux fire raged for three days, consuming 15,000 acres of forest land — over 20 square miles. The fire scorched all of the landscape that can be seen from the overlook. Notice the snags (dead trees) that remain as a reminder of the blaze.

Fire and Ice — two natural forces that have shaped this landscape.



Meander Lake



SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

LaCROIX DISTRICT

COOK, MN 55723

218-666-5254 0620



LOCATION

Meander Lake is located on the Echo Trail, 32 miles northeast of Orr.

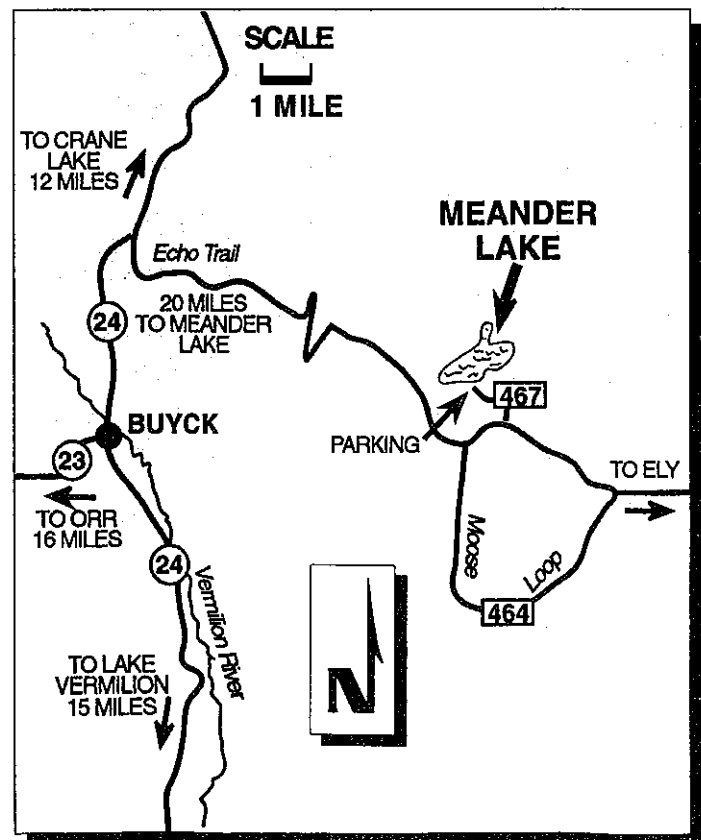
- From Orr, take St. Louis County 23 to Buyck (16 miles)
- At Buyck, County 23 turns into County 24
- Continue on County 24 for 4 miles to the Echo Trail
- Turn right, 20 miles to Meander Lake entrance road
- Turn left onto entrance road

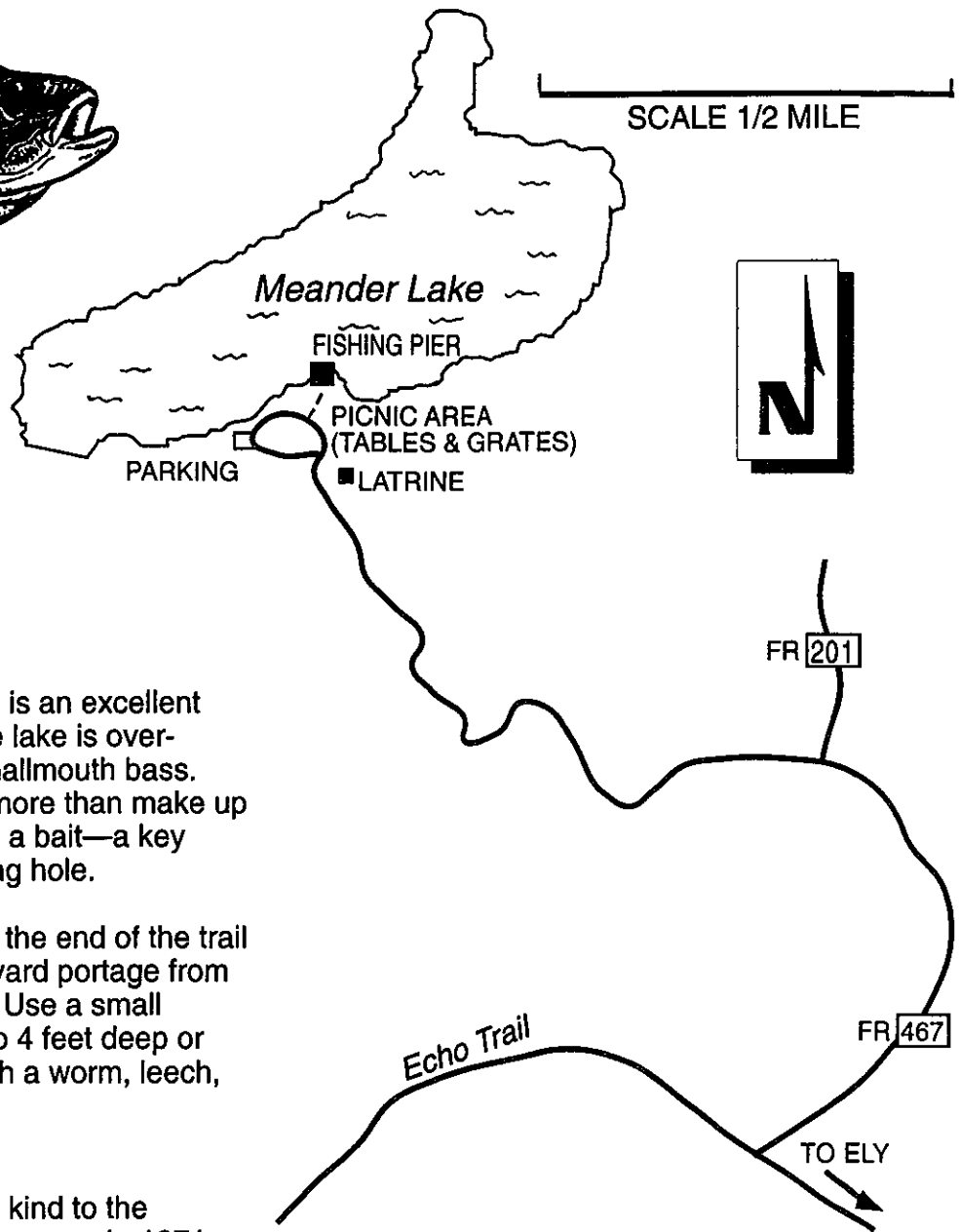
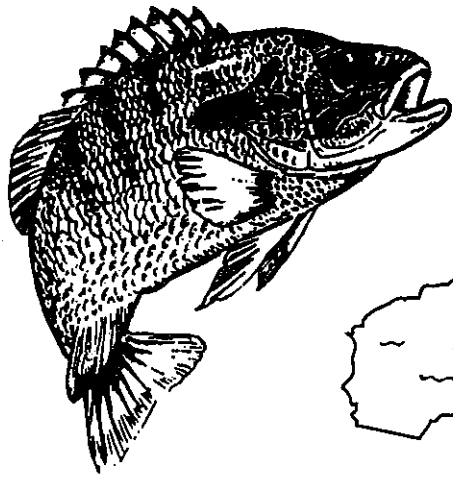
FEATURES

- Smallmouth Bass Fishing
- Picnic Tables
- Fire Grates
- Latrine
- Blueberries (in season)
- Barrier-Free Fishing Pier



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DESCRIPTION

Fishing

This remote, clear water lake is an excellent spot to take kids fishing. The lake is overcrowded with 6 to 10 inch smallmouth bass. What they lack in size, they more than make up for in their willingness to take a bait—a key criteria in finding a kid's fishing hole.

Fish from the rocks or pier at the end of the trail or from a canoe. It is a 150-yard portage from the parking area to the lake. Use a small bobber with a hook set at 3 to 4 feet deep or small lead head jig tipped with a worm, leech, or minnow.

Fire and Wind

Natural forces have not been kind to the Meander Lake area in recent years. In 1971, the Little Indian Sioux fire swept across 15,000 acres of the Superior National Forest. As you gaze across the lake from the picnic area, you can still see evidence of the blaze—dead white pine snags. A stand of jack pines around the picnic area escaped the flames only to fall prey to a powerful windstorm in July of 1988. A timber sale salvaged many of the blown down trees during the winter of 1988-89 and the area was replanted the following spring. You can still see many of the uprooted stumps and also the new seedlings.



Blueberries

You won't see many large trees around Meander Lake, but it is one of the better blueberry picking spots on the District. Blueberry plants thrive in open, sunlit areas such as those created by the fire and windstorms. So if you plan your visit in July or August, don't forget your blueberry pails. Yields and ripening dates vary from year to year, so contact our District office for the most up-to-date blueberry report.

For more information, contact:

Superior National Forest
LaCroix Ranger District
Cook, MN 55723
218-666-5251 0020