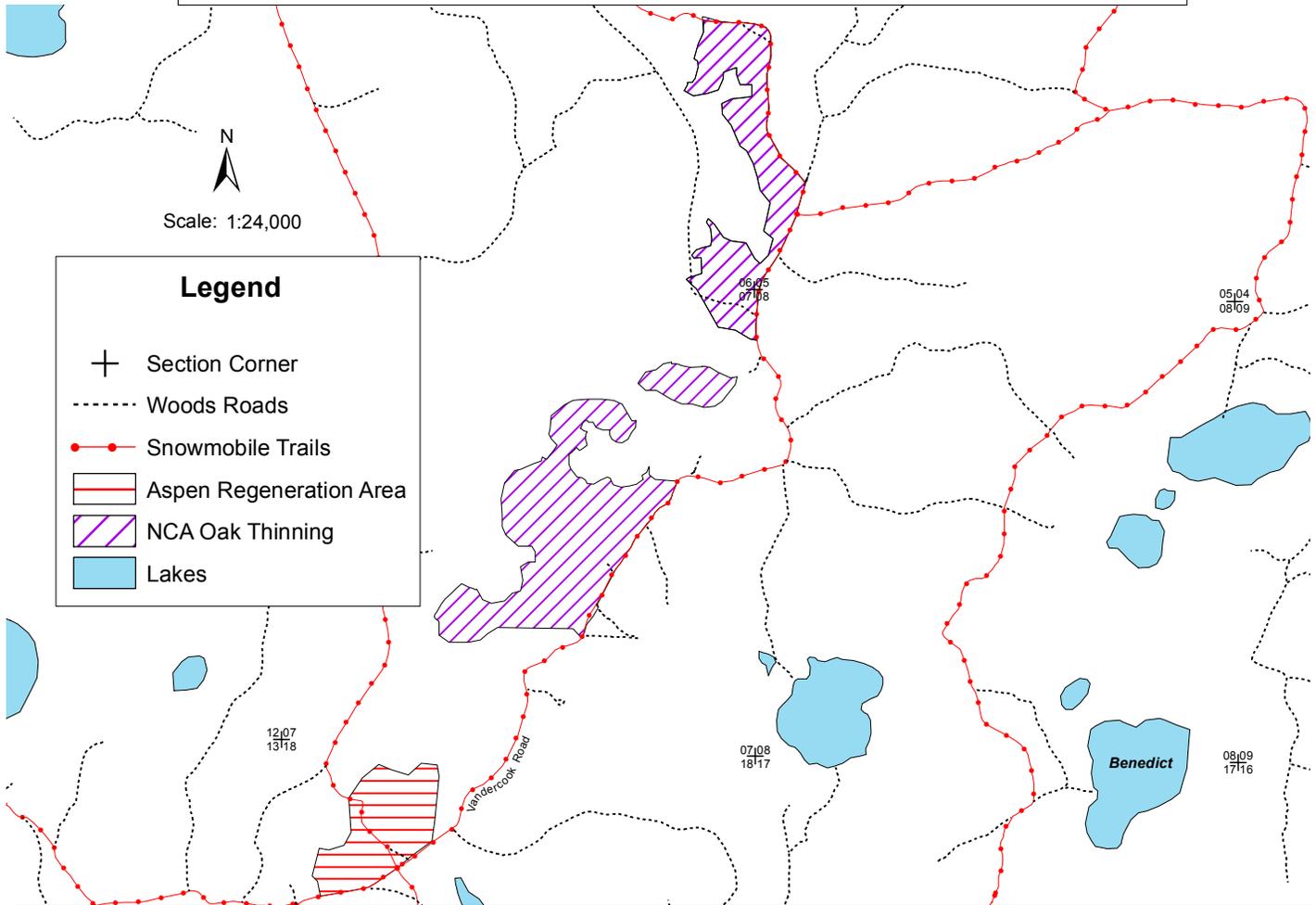


**Northern Highland - American Legion State Forest  
 Compartment 164H - Vandercook Aspen & Oak - 153 Acres  
 Town of Arbor Vitae, Vilas County, T40N-R7E Sec.5,6,7 &18  
 Master Plan: Management Area 5 -  
 Big Arbor Vitae Loamy Hills Forest Production Area  
 Management Area 12 - Mixed Forest - Native Community Area**



The goals for the Big Arbor Vitae Loamy Hill Forest Production Area are to maintain aspen as a strong component across the landscape in a variety of stand sizes and ages. The goals for the Mixed Forest Native Community Area are to maintain sites with old-growth pine, oak and mixed northern hardwood stands. This includes leaving large amounts of coarse woody debris, leaving large cull trees and increased snag tree densities.

The NCA Oak Thinning, in stand 1, is comprised of 125 acres of 86 year old well stocked oak, average basal area of 153 sq.ft./acre. This stand was last harvested in 2001 when the short-lived species were removed. This variable thinning will harvest about one third of the smaller trees so that the remaining oak and associated hardwood can grow larger and develop more old-growth characteristics. Emphasis will be on the creation of old-growth characteristics and on the establishment of coarse woody debris by retaining the majority of snag, den and potential cavity trees during marking operations.

The Aspen Regeneration Area, in stand 15, consists of 28 acres of a 47 year old aspen stand. This stand is older than adjacent stands that were cut in 1972. This harvest will help to maintain aspen while providing some age and stand size diversity at the landscape level.

Access to this area is primarily, along Vandercook Road, which also serves as a snowmobile trail during the winter months. The snowmobile club will be contacted for signage as necessary. Seasonal oak wilt restrictions will be implemented on this sale. Biomass harvesting is allowed in the aspen type but not in the oak area as it conflicts with management objectives.