Tell Your Friends and Co-Workers about our 2006 Lease Offering!

Potlatch recently announced that we are currently accepting applications for 2006 leases. The 2006 Potlatch Lease Program will offer 350 tracts totaling 45,000 acres.

Information regarding the lease offerings as well as instructions on how to apply for leases is currently available on our lease program website at www.pchhuntingleases.com. Applications for the 2006 leases will be accepted through 5:00 PM, December 29, 2005. Those interested in leasing for the 2006 hunting season must apply online.

Good lease candidates include landowners with property near or adjacent to Potlatch land, responsible hunters who have previously hunted on Potlatch land and ethical sportsmen and women who share Potlatch’s commitment to the land. This year, the company will also make an effort to match applicants who are not adjacent landowner’s or who don’t have ties to our land with leases.

Potlatch is the state’s largest forestland owner, with approximately 315,000 acres. We initiated the lease program four years ago in an effort to develop a more formal relationship with the users of our land, to offset ownership expenses, to reduce illegal garbage dumping, and to reduce damage to the land and trees from misuse of off-highway vehicles and ATVs.

Visit www.pchhuntingleases.com to:
- Review Land for Lease
- Apply for a Lease (Applications will be accepted from October 5, 2005 – December 29, 2005)
- Review Potlatch Lease Program Policies
- Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the lease program
- Be placed on a notification list for future lease openings

Forest Stewardship Council Certifies Potlatch Forestland

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept 01, 2005. National, regional and Minnesota conservation organizations joined in celebrating certification of Potlatch Corporation’s 319,000 acres of Minnesota forestland and its Bemidji sawmill as being in compliance with the rigorous environmental, social and economic standards of the internationally recognized Forest Stewardship Council - (FSC).

"Minnesota's natural resources are a fundamental part of our quality of life and it is our responsibility to be good stewards of those resources," Governor Tim Pawlenty said in a letter to the company. "Potlatch's milestone conservation achievements highlight Minnesota's national leadership and our vision for long-term protection and the proper management of our unique natural resources."

FSC President Roger Dower also noted, "In addition to Potlatch's forest management

(continued on page 7)
A few issues have arisen over the first couple years of the Lease Program that we would like to remind our customers about:

- **GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY**—The Lease program is a new program in Minnesota and its success depends on your cordial interactions with those who may not be aware of it. Please remember that the way you inform others that you are the leaseholder reflects on both you and Potlatch. Be friendly and courteous, and if a conversation gets heated, back off and contact the lease manager.

- **PROPER SIGNAGE**—All signs must be provided by Potlatch and must have lessees name and phone number. Signs that do have your name and phone number are not considered legally posted. Mark-A-Lot® brand permanent markers seem to survive the elements the best.

- **CAMP RULES** must be emailed to the lease manager prior to receiving “No Trespassing” signs.

- **LAW VIOLATIONS** result in removal from Lease Program (this has occurred!).

- **GATE INSTALLATION**—Gates may be installed only with permission from the Lease Manager and only to specifications that have been discussed previously. Chains, cables and wood structures are not permitted. Chains and cables are a serious safety hazard and are grounds for lease cancellation.

- **PUBLIC LAND ACCESS**—Forest roads that are the only or primary access to public land must remain open to the public...talk to the lease manager if you have questions.

- **DOUBLE-LOCKING GATES**—All gates with locks must be double-locked to allow Potlatch and other resource management agencies access when needed.

- **UPDATE EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGES AND MEMBER ADDITIONS/DELETIONS** on the “My Lease Account” section of the website. Failure to update email addresses has caused some lessees frustration! **There will now be a $25 administrative fee when we have to contact you due to a faulty email address.**

- **DEER STANDS CANNOT BE NAILED TO TREES!** Free standing and portable stands are OK, but must be no larger than 4’X6’ and 16’ tall.
Forkhorn Camps, Youth Waterfowl Clinic, Gun Safety

Potlatch sent 7 campers to Forkhorn Camp this past summer at the Deep Portage Learning Center near Hackensack and the Kiwanis Scout Camp near Marine on St. Croix. We plan on supporting both Forkhorn Camps and the Deep Portage/Ruffed Grouse Society’s Upland Bird Camp next year so look for more scholarship opportunities next spring! We also supported the Izaak Walton League Youth Waterfowl Clinic and gun safety courses in the Cloquet area.

Dear Potlatch,

Thank you very much for your $250.00 contribution to the 2005 Youth Waterfowl Clinic. The clinic was a huge success. It was standing room only, with about 50 young people plus many parents and grandparents. Our day began with an update on hunting regulations and season predictions, followed by duck calling and duck cleaning demonstrations. Our guest speaker, Mike Furtman presented a slide show on the “Magic of Waterfowl.” Joe Deloia talked about the importance of dogs in game conservation. Our special guest speaker was 92 year old Art Hawkins, one of the country’s pioneer waterfowl biologists. Mr. Hawkins spoke about “A Duck’s Eye View of the Big Duck Factory” as well as his years as a student of Aldo Leopold.

After lunch, which included duck on the grill, our youth went to sessions on gun safety, clay bird shooting, setting up blinds and decoys, wetlands ecology, water dog retrieving and upland dog retrieving. All the kids went home with a duck or goose call provided by Gander Mountain.

Enclosed are a couple of photos from the event showing the kids at the sessions.

Thanks again for your help and interest.
Sincerely,
Rick Lundquist

Dear Potlatch:
Thank you for sending me to the Forkhorn II Camp. I had a great time having fun, making friends and being in the outdoors. I learned a lot while I was here and had fun. My favorite thing was the stalking game where a person was the deer and we were supposed to touch him without him catching us first. The muzzle-loading was a blast. Shooting at 3-D targets was fun too.

Sincerely,
Ryan

Gun safety training in Cloquet has been taking place for about 30 years now. Each year approximately 230 students go through the class. Classes are held at Albrook, Wrenshall, Barnum, and Cloquet, which has the largest class of about 130 students. Your donation of $250.00 will be used for new training videos, three new multiple gun cases and gun cleaning equipment. Donations like yours are greatly appreciated by the thirteen firearm safety instructors we have in the area. Without your help we wouldn't be able to expand our programs.

Thank you very much!
Bob Wait
Gun Safety Instructor

Youth are the future of our sport! Do what you can to encourage youths to be safe, ethical hunters who appreciate the privilege of hunting and caring for both the public and private land we hunt on.
The mild winters of the past few years, combined with some very good deer habitat in northern Minnesota, has resulted in significant growth of the deer population in certain areas. Due to this very large deer herd, the Minnesota DNR has liberalized doe harvest options in many units across northern Minnesota. Because doe survival is the main factor in managing herd growth, doe harvest has a much more significant impact on population size than does buck harvest. In fact, buck harvest accomplishes very little in regards to population control.

As forestland owners, the size of the deer herd in some parts of our ownership has created challenges to forest regeneration. We have seen a significant increase in locations where deer have browsed our planted seedlings. This is particularly true in Wadena, Hubbard, Cass, Crow Wing, Becker and Beltrami counties.

Thus, we encourage our leaseholders to utilize the doe permits that have been provided by the DNR, as they are an extremely valuable wildlife management tool in bringing the deer herd in line with what the local habitat can support. We also encourage you to talk to camp members, friends and neighbors about the importance of harvesting does and to also find others who may want some extra venison in the freezer.

On one of our large leases in 2006 we will begin collecting deer harvest data such as age, sex and weight on all the deer harvested from the tract. In addition, we are instituting some requirements to harvest does. This data collection will allow us to get a better picture of the overall health of both the deer on this property as well as (continued on page 8)

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### 2005 Photo Contests Announced

Deer season means its time for our annual photo contest for leaseholders. Due to the importance of an increased doe harvest in certain parts of our ownership, we are again having a “Habitat Conservation” Contest (i.e., doe photo contest), as well as a Buck Contest. The winners of these contests will each receive $100 off their 2006 lease. The rating system will be on photo quality, which includes background, presentation and taste (watch the blood and tongue hanging out of the mouth!). Archery, gun and muzzleloader hunters are eligible.

A panel of judges (foresters, wildlife biologist, lease manager, office staff) from Potlatch will make final selections.

The following information must be included on either the back of the photo or in the email: name, address and phone number of hunter, camp name and tract ID number and type of harvest (bow, gun, muzzleloader).

Other rules: Person in photo must be hunter who harvested the deer; entries may be used in future newsletters, on our website, etc.; and only deer harvested from your lease may be submitted.

**Habitat Conservation Contest** — This contest will be focused on **doe harvest**. To enter, simply submit a photo of the hunter(s) and the doe (or does – hint!!) harvested.

**Buck Contest**—This contest is for bucks, but the “biggest” buck may not necessarily be the winner, as there is more to the hunt than just antler size.

Optional: a **maximum** 50 word or less description of the photo may be included. **Submissions greater than 50 words will not be read!**

Email your photos to mnhuntingleases@potlatchcorp.com or send a photo (send duplicates as originals will not be returned) by **January 31, 2006**

2005 Potlatch Deer Photo Contest
Potlatch Corporation
PO Box 504, 105 Arch Street
Cloquet, MN 55720
Lease Program in Star Tribune Article

Many of you have seen the recent articles published in the Minneapolis Star Tribune including the one mentioning Potlatch’s leasing program. Our “Monday morning quarterbacking” of the news articles concludes that the very concerns the reporter expressed about land becoming unavailable to hunting are in fact preserved through a leasing program. It is our desire to keep these leased lands in an intact forest landscape that provides quality habitat and opportunities for hunting and recreation. The economics of land ownership in Minnesota are causing landowners to choose between selling lands for development and keeping lands for forest management. Leasing helps allow us to maintain our lands in forest and provide you the opportunity for a quality hunting and recreation experience.

10 Commandments of Gun Safety

1) Always point the muzzle of a gun in a safe direction, even if you think it is unloaded. By always keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction nobody can ever get hurt, even if the gun does fire unexpectedly. Think of a gun in your hands as if it is loaded and the safety is off.

2) Keep the safety on and your finger out of the trigger guard until the instant you are ready to fire. Remember, the safety of a gun should never be a substitute for careless handling.

3) When unloading a weapon double check the chamber and the magazine, then check it again. Next, always leave the action open. Even a loaded weapon can’t fire if the action is open.

4) Always be 110% sure of your target. A lot of people have been shot because somebody thought they were a bird or animal they were hunting. You also need to be sure of what is behind your target. Don’t assume that your target will stop your bullet or shot. What happens if you miss the target?

5) Never cross a fence, jump out of your duck boat or climb in a boat with a loaded firearm. When crossing a fence or exiting your boat either hand your gun to your partner, or lay it down in a place that will be accessible after you cross the fence or when outside of your boat. When entering your boat either hand your gun to your partner first, or lay it down inside of your boat before entering.

6) Always be aware of your surroundings. Think ahead of time about the directions you can not shoot due to other hunters, buildings, farms, etc. (continued on page 8)

“How TO” Corner

How To: purchase No Trespassing signs:
- Go to: www.pchhuntingleases.com
- Click on My Lease Account
- Enter Lease number and PIN
- Click on Purchase Signs
- Fill out order form
- Click Make Payment button

How To: update your personal information such as address, e-mail, phone, camp name**:
- Go to: www.pchhuntingleases.com
- Click on My Lease Account
- Enter Lease number and PIN
- Click on Change Personal Information
- Update pertinent information
- Click the Update Contact Information box

**Camp Name is a new field on the My Lease Account page. All lessees will need to update this information. Please do so ASAP.

Potlatch PFM

Our Private Forest Management (PFM) foresters provide assistance for forest management planning, timber harvest and reforestation. We can also help you improve your wildlife habitat to promote deer, grouse and other non-game wildlife on your property. Potlatch can help you enroll your property into various landowner assistance programs, potentially saving you hundreds of dollars every year. For more info, visit our website at www.pchpfm.com.

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6) Always be aware of your surroundings. Think ahead of time about the directions you can not shoot due to other hunters, buildings, farms, etc. (continued on page 8)
Just three years ago, it wasn’t clear if Minnesota had a breeding population of Canada lynx, or if lynx were simply visiting from Ontario. A study led by the Natural Resources Research Institute, using the newest technologies, is starting to turn up interesting answers.

“This spring and last, we found lynx dens with kittens in Minnesota,” says NRRI biologist Ron Moen, who is leading the Canada lynx research project. “And at least one kitten from all three of last year’s litters is still alive. Whether or not they’ll continue to live and breed here will take more time to answer.”

This spring 13 lynx kittens were found in four separate dens in northeast Minnesota. Like the kittens found last spring, they were ear-tagged so they can be kept track of from year to year. Last year’s kittens will be of breeding age next year. If they do, this is the next step to documenting the continued existence of the lynx population in Minnesota.

Meanwhile, the scientists are learning more than ever about these fascinating felines, thanks in part to public sightings reported to NRRI or the Department of Natural Resources. Rich Baker, DNR non-game research coordinator, says these sightings help the scientists know how far the cats are wandering.

“Five years ago we would have said there are very few lynx in Minnesota,” Baker said. “But today our Web site map shows 291 sightings. We appreciate all the information about lynx we can get.”

Much of what biologists have learned since then has been gathered through the efforts of scientists at NRRI and the U.S. Forest Service in a radiotelemetry project which began soon after the Canada lynx was listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Resource managers needed to know how many lynx there were, where they lived and hunted, and what they ate.

Since the project began in 2003, 32 adult lynx and 21 kittens have been handled, providing interesting data about their life—and death—in Minnesota’s woods. Last winter 25 lynx with radio collars were monitored. Most of the males visit Ontario for a few days or for several months each year. Adult females, with or without kittens, tend to stay within a 20 square mile area. Seven monitored lynx died over the past two years—six deaths were probably related to humans and one by a hungry fisher.

“We have almost 10,000 locations from the GPS collars that some of the lynx in this project are wearing,” says Chris Burdett, a graduate student working on the project. “I will be using the GPS locations from collared animals to develop a habitat use model for lynx in Minnesota.”

In Minnesota, as elsewhere, lynx prefer living in young forests with a conifer understory that attracts their favorite food, the snowshoe hare. Lynx have also been seen feeding on road-killed deer. Lynx can be active any time, but they are most active in the early morning and late afternoon according to data from the GPS collars worn by lynx in this project.

Pictures and more information on the Canada lynx research project can be found at www.nrri.umn.edu/lynx. If you see a lynx, this web site also tells you how to report the sighting.

“Minnesota once had the largest lynx population in the Midwest,” said Moen. “Ultimately, people will decide whether lynx continue to survive here. How we manage our forests, our daily activities, even climate change, will all affect Minnesota’s lynx population.”

Article courtesy of Ron Moen, Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota. Potlatch is supporting this project with both financial assistance and access to land that radiocollared lynx are using.
Potlatch Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Penn Siegel received documentation of the certification during ceremonies at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus from Dave Bubser, USA Manager for SmartWood, FSC's registered certifier. In presenting the certificates, Bubser noted, "With the FSC certification of their 319,000 acres of Minnesota forestlands as the final step in achieving certification for their entire 1.5 MM acre land base, Potlatch has placed themselves among the vanguard of industrial timber companies in the United States. Our audit of Potlatch makes it clear that Potlatch has fully integrated the FSC standards into their core operating systems and has truly embraced the value of responsible stewardship. Potlatch has clearly distinguished itself as a leader among their peers, both regionally and nationally," he concluded.

Siegel stressed that the Minnesota FSC certifications represent yet another link in a chain of commitments to third-party oversight of the company's management practices. "With today's announcement, Potlatch's management practices on its entire forestland ownership is third-party certified under FSC and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative(R) (SFI), while our internal Environmental Management System (EMS) is certified to the International Organization for Standardization's (ISO) 14001 standards," he stated. He added that third-party certification demonstrates a commitment to stewardship publicly in ways that can benefit Potlatch shareholders as well as society and the environment. "In addition, with the chain of custody certification of our Bemidji mill nearly all of our lumber and plywood manufacturing facilities are FSC chain-of-custody certified and authorized to market products with the FSC label," he continued.

"The Trust for Public Land is proud to work with Potlatch Corporation in Minnesota and elsewhere to protect our state's working forests," said Cynthia Whiteford, Regional Director for the Trust for Public Land. "Potlatch's Forest Stewardship Council certification is an even further commitment to manage the lands at the highest level of sustainability," added Whiteford. "The company's commitment to sustainability serves the interest of the community and supports TPL's mission of protecting land for people."

TPL and Potlatch are in the process of protecting nearly 5,000 acres in the Brainerd area through the Forest Legacy Program. A working forest easement will allow these lands to be harvested sustainably while also giving the public access for hunting, hiking and other passive outdoor recreation. This will be the largest example of the use of this conservation tool to date in Minnesota.

"The Conservation Fund applauds Potlatch for its commitment to sustaining Minnesota's working forests. This effort demonstrates a balanced approach to forestry that integrates environmental and economic objectives for land and water resources worthy of future generations," stated Tom Duffus, MN/WI State Director for The Conservation Fund (TCF). Potlatch is currently working with TCF to facilitate purchase of a portion of Potlatch lands to expand Crow Wing State Park.

The Potlatch Chief Executive Officer also praised the company's dedicated resource professionals and foresters in Minnesota and throughout the company. "In the final analysis, it is our forestry professionals, working on the ground, that make it possible for us to earn third party certifications," he said. "It is their commitment to stewardship in the forest that makes the difference," said Siegel. Siegel also extended thanks to conservation and contractor organizations that have endorsed the company's decisions to certify under FSC, including several organizations that participated in the public presentation of the FSC certificate in Minneapolis. "We are most grateful to the Forest Stewardship Council and its registered certifiers, SmartWood and Scientific Certification Systems. We deeply appreciate the support and encouragement we've received from conservation and wildlife interests, particularly the Rainforest Alliance, World Wildlife Fund and the National Wildlife Federation, as well as Trout Unlimited and the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association."

To qualify for FSC certification, Potlatch's management practices in Minnesota underwent a rigorous audit by SmartWood, the forest certification arm of the Rainforest Alliance. The findings in the audit process and Potlatch's willingness to adapt certain practices resulted in Potlatch being awarded the FSC certification.
**Moose Research in Northeast Minnesota**

Biologists working for the Minnesota DNR, the US Geological Survey and three Chippewa Bands have captured and radio-collared 114 moose in Lake County since 2002. The objectives of the study are to understand survival rates of adult and calf moose, determine causes of mortality and use radio-collared animals to improve techniques for the annual survey of moose numbers. The results of this survey are then used to set moose harvest numbers. Currently there are 65 bull and cow moose on the air in an arc across Lake County from near the intersection of Forest Highway 11 and Lake County 2 in the southwest to Silver Island Lake in the northeast. Most of these moose have a mix of public and private lands within their home ranges which average about 20 miles. When a collared moose dies biologists are alerted by a mortality signal from the collar. A team goes in as soon as possible to the carcass to recover the collar and determine the cause of death. From time to time these activities may take place on Potlatch lease land. Researchers from these institutions have permission to access Potlatch land as needed to carry out their project.

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**10 Commandments of Gun Safety (continued from page 5)**

7) Control your emotions when it comes to safety. After downing your target remember to return the safety of your gun to its on position. If you lose control of your emotions you may do something careless.

8) Wear hearing and eye protection. When shooting at clay birds or when you're in the field, you should always wear hearing and eye protection. It is very important to remember that God you only gave two eyes, and two ears. These wonderful eyes and ears have to last you for your entire life.

9) Don't drink alcohol or take drugs before or while handling firearms. These substances can drastically affect normal physical and mental body functions.

10) Always be aware of additional circumstances that could affect your safety, or another individual's safety. If your partner is doing something stupid tell him about it. Just because something isn't listed under these "Ten Commandments Of Shotgun Safety" doesn't mean you can ignore it if it is dangerous!

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**Cameron Conrad, with his first deer from the 2004 hunting season.**

Congratulations Cameron!

**Questions or Comments on the Lease Program? Email Ed at ed.patrias@potlatchcorp.com**

(Doe Harvest Increase—continued from page 4)

the habitat. We may expand this to other properties in the future as well.

The Minnesota DNR will be investigating various options to manage the deer population over the next few years and regardless of the option, hunters will be the agents of change! Get involved in these public processes to help find solutions that work for both hunters and the habitat!