

Our nation as a whole provides us with a tremendous amount of opportunities to enjoy the wild country all around us. When you're in this country, please mind your actions, and consider the important responsibility we each have to maintain it for future generations. Even now the stars are more difficult to see due to the growing number of city lights. The sound of

automobiles and planes can be heard miles from civilization. And all too often, our waste is evident even in remote sections of back country. What is more, the creatures that make the wild country their home, are not inexhaustible, and neither is the water we drink or paddle through. There is a healthy balance we are challenged to pay attention to – that is if we wish to enjoy this country in the future.

Both state and national forest lands – millions of acres across our country supply us with enough adventure for twenty lifetimes. Be encouraged to take a part in seeing what is over the next hill or mountain, as we'll never know what awaits us there. As you paddle your way down wild and scenic rivers, recognize this water route has carried travelers for thousands of years – making it even more amazing, to share the same passage with those who came before us.

As you walk among the growing White Pine, take note of their growth, some now approaching 200' – something that hasn't occurred since the lumbering era of the 1800's. Enjoy this wild country, be sure to appreciate it, and protect it. Pick up garbage, and when hunting, show proper sportsmanlike behavior – you'll be glad you did so thirty years from now.