
General

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Last Update

20 Feb 2020 11:27:33

Park or Trail Name

Pine Valley Recreation Area

District

1

Location Description

Pine Valley Recreation Area, a city owned recreation area of 243 acres, is in Cloquet Minnesota at 1106 Olympic Dr. (latitude 46 42 22 longitude 92 27 45). It is located one quarter mile west of MN State Hwy 33, one mile north of the MN Hwy 33 and I35 Interstate, and 1.5 miles south of the St. Louis River. Hwy 33 is a major corridor for north-south traffic between the Metro Area and the Arrowhead Region. Pine Valley lies on the west edge of Cloquets major shopping district. To the west of Pine Valley are a few scattered houses, the Fond du Lac Reservation, and many acres of northern Minnesota forests. See attached map.

Pine Valley Recreation Area is recognized both locally and regionally as a multipurpose outdoor recreation and sporting area. 14,000 years ago the last continental glacier deposited a kame and an esker in this location forming the backbone for Pine Valley. The 1918 devastating Cloquet Fire wiped out most of the forest in Pine Valley and all of Cloquet, but left scattered red and white pines which have become old growth remnants. Today Pine Valley has 11 miles of multi-use hiking, biking, skiing, and snowmobile trails along with 4 ski jumps from beginner to expert, a chalet, picnic area, parking lots, and hockey facility.

Park/Trail Address

1102 Olympic Dr.

City

Cloquet

Park/Trail State

Minnesota

Zip

55720

Latitude

46.703

Longitude

92.465

Map of Park/Trail

Description: Pine Valley Recreation Area as it lies within Cloquet

[Pine Valley as it lies within Cloquet_ efd63e.pdf](#)

Description: Pine Valley Site Map

[Pine Valley - Site Map 4ab381.pdf](#)

Facility Website

https://www.cloquetmn.gov

Organization

City of Cloquet

Lead Contact Person

Caleb Peterson

Title

Director of Public Works

Mailing Address

101 - 14th Street

City

Cloquet

State

Minnesota

Zip

55720

Phone

218 879 3347

Email

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Joint Applicants**Joint Applicant #1**

City of Cloquet resolution

Upload Resolution

[20-06 - Supporting Regional Park Designation App for PV \(1\)_d5fbaf.pdf](#)

Joint Applicant #2**Joint Applicant #3****Joint Applicant #4****Other project supporters**

Cloquet Public Works, Cloquet Parks Commission, Cloquet Nordic Ski Club, Cloquet Esko Carlton Mountain Bike Club, Carlton County Commissioners, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Cloquet School District, Pine Knot News, Northern Minnesota Track Club, Troop 171 Boy Scouts of America, Andrew David, John Cavanaugh, Tim Krohn, Tom Urbanski, Greg and Karen Williams, John Fryc, Mark Hagen

Description

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Regional Significance Statement

Pine Valley recreation Area created in 1961 is 243 acres of northern Minnesota forest containing pre-1918 Cloquet fire old growth trees on a well-drained kame and esker. It is heavily used for ski jumping, Nordic skiing, mountain biking, running, hiking, picnicking, events, hockey, and snowmobiling. Due to its unique soils, its trails are available in nearly all weather conditions - wet or dry. Its ski jump is one of only a few in the nation.

Classification

Natural Resource Based Regional Park

Overview/Description of Park or Trail

Pine Valley Recreation Area encompasses 243 acres of northern Minnesota forest that has a kame and an esker, some dry flat lands, and wet lands that act like a sponge. Most of the forest grew up after the infamous 1918 Cloquet Forest Fire that devastated Cloquet making the woods between 60 and 100 years old. A few old growth red and white pine escaped the fire.

Pine Valley is year round facility - biking, running, hiking, dog walking year round and ski jumping, Nordic skiing, and snowshoeing when there is snow. The mountain bike and ski trails are multi-use all year while the ski jumps are used only in winter. The chalet is used all year.

Pine Valley's attractions are 4 ski jumps from 5 meter to 45 meter, a 5.5 K competition quality skate and classic ski trail, a 2.3 mile mountain bike trail to be extended to 5 miles, a 2.3 recreation skate and classic ski/snowshoe trail, 1.5 miles of groomed snowmobile number 238, a chalet and picnic area, two ice hockey arenas, one outdoor ice hockey rink, and parking lots.

The Cloquet Nordic Ski Club makes Pine Valley its home. Ski jump practice for anybody is Tuesday and Thursday nights. Sunday afternoon is Nordic ski and jumping day for all kids beginning at age 3. The club sponsors two jumping and Nordic ski events a season, which brings in participants from as far away as Chicago. High school teams will stay in Cloquet and use Pine Valley for a day while on their way to other events further north. Recreational skiers come from around the area to ski.

The Cloquet Esko Carlton Mountain Bike Team uses Pine Valley as one of their practice sites. Runners, hikers, walkers, bikers, and dog owners use all the trails at Pine Valley on a daily basis.

The most unique natural feature about Pine Valley is its well-drained esker and kame. In this area of Minnesota there are many acres of poorly drained wetlands and wet clay soil hillsides. Pine Valley trails are open for use shortly after spring break up. The mountain bike trail was especially constructed on this well drained kame and esker to be open a few hours after any major rain. This feature attracts bikers and hikers from other areas closed due to wet conditions.

Pine Valley is home to multiple sporting events, such as the City Ski Meet, the Pine Valley Invitational Nordic Combine, the Pine Valley 5.5K, 11K, and Lost Forester runs, the Rotary Color Run, the NMTC Pine Valley Trail Series Run, and the Easter Egg Hunt. The hockey facility is home to the Cloquet Hockey Association,

1.5 miles of groomed snowmobile trail number 238 pass through Pine Valley. The Wood City Riders maintain trail 238, which is on the DNR snowmobile trail map. Pine Valley's parking lots can be used as a trail-head for the snowmobilers.

Total Acreage or Mileage

243

Acquisition and Development Status

Existing Park or Trail

Pine Valley consists of 243 acres city owned property

100

Development status

Some development, but more proposed

Facility Listing

This section provides an overview of existing and proposed site facilities and general site characteristics .

Existing Facilities

- Picnicking and picnic shelters
- Hiking Trails (natural)
- Mountain Biking Trails (natural)
- Cross-country Skiing Trails
- Restrooms/sanitation building
- Roads and Parking Areas

Proposed Facilities

- Picnicking and picnic shelters
- Hiking Trails (natural)
- Mountain Biking Trails (natural)
- Nature Center/Interpretation Trails
- Restrooms/sanitation building
- Roads and Parking Areas

Existing Facilities Other Information

3 ski jumps and rope tow - 45, 20, 15, and 10 meter jumps

Chalet

2 Hockey arenas and outdoor rink

Snowmobile trail

Parking lots

Proposed Facilities Other Information

Upgrade the following:

Extend mountain bike trail

Chalet

Ski jumps

Snow making infrastructure

Parking lot

General Site Characteristics

Pine Valley is natural outdoor recreation area with a unique land formation and a forest created by the 1918 Cloquet fire and the loggers saw. The main part of Pine Valley, about 160 acres, contains an esker, a kame, a meltwater fan deposit, and a valley with wetlands. The remaining 80 acres also contains gravelly and sandy drift, but is much flatter. These soils are very well drained and dry out very quickly after being wet. There are about 10 to 15 acres of forested wetlands within the area.

Geologically, Pine Valley encompasses a very rare geological formation. As per the Geologic Atlas of Carlton County and the Southern Portion of St. Louis County, Pine Valley has an exceedingly rare Qli formation, an ice-contact deposit, having an esker, a kame, and a meltwater fan deposit.

Ice-contact deposits are glacial deposits containing sand, gravelly sand, and cobbly gravel. They are chiefly associated with esker, fan, and kame deposits.

Eskers are a sinuous, narrow ridge of predominantly sand and gravel, interpreted as having been deposited in an ice-tunnel or ice-walled channel by a glacial meltwater stream. When the ice melted, the sand and gravel formed mounds on the surrounding topography. Currently the mountain bike trail encircles the top of the esker while the main ski trail encircles the base of the esker.

Kames are a conical hill composed predominantly of sand and gravel. Interpreted to be a deposit within the confines of supporting ice. When the ice melted, the sand and gravel formed mounds on the surrounding topography. The Pine Valley ski trail and ski jump are on the kame.

Meltwater fan deposits consist of sand and gravel; interpreted to be an alluvial fan at an ice margin. All fans located between Cloquet and Park Lake were deposited by a series of tunnel valley streams. Eskers associated with these tunnel valleys formed as stream flow decreased along the terminal and recessional ice margins of the Split Rock phase.

This natural area contributes to the biodiversity of Cloquet. On the high ground the woods comprise of areas of trees between 60 and 100 years old and other areas 25 to 30 years old. There are remnant old growth red and white pines over 100 years old. The trees in this area comprise red and white pines, oaks, white spruce, balsam firs, maples, birch, and white cedar. There are tamaracks, spruce, and tag alder in the wetlands that act like a sponge in adsorbing and holding excess water runoff during heavy rains. There are beaver in the

wetlands. Other wildlife are squirrels, skunks, deer, bear, and in the western edge of the recreation area the Otter Creek wolf pack makes occasional appearances.

The ski trails are divided into two parts the main competitive and hilly trail and the west flatter trail. The main ski trail is 5.5 km long and during winter is used for skiing only. The west trail is 2.3 miles long. It has its own parking lot at the intersection of two roads. This trail is used for skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, skijoring, and dog walking in winter. During no snow seasons all trails are open to biking, hiking, and running.

A major part of the west trail is on Fond du Lac Reservation land and has a permit issued by the Fond du Lac Band. The permit is for three years; and, as of date, the city and band have had 3 sets of permits. It may be possible to expand the mountain bike trails by building on Fond du Lac land.

The only development in the area other than the trails are the chalet, ski jump, picnic area, hockey arenas, and parking lots. There are two roads that divide the main 160 acres from the west 80 acres. The developed area encompasses about 12 acres. The city maintains the city garage within this area, but its acreage was not included in the park size.

Site characteristics upload

Description: Carlton Co & Fond du Lac Geologic Atlas shows the effect of glaciers on Carlton County and Pine Valley

[Carlton Co & Fond du Lac Reservation Geologic Atlas_78ba48.pdf](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: The Otter Creek wolf pack is tracked by the Fond du Lac Wildlife Ecologist. This map shows data points from a tracking collar and an estimated boundary for the pack.

[Otter Creek Wolf Pack boundary_ac0763.JPG](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Soil Conditions and Topo Map

[soil_types_b4df91.pdf](#)

Site characteristics upload

Description: Waterways within or bordering the Park

[Waterways_6e3eb4.pdf](#)

Master Plan

Master Plan Status:

No Master Plan is Available

Additional Supportive Information:

In 1961 the Northwest Paper Company donated initial 40 acres of the Pine Valley Recreation Area. This was shortly followed by a chalet and ski jump. Throughout the 1960's, 70's, and 80's Pine Valley was the home of high school championships and Olympic athletes. A master plan for the Cloquet parks and trails was made in 2014. However, this online application software was not able to attach it to the application. The master plan was not made for the GMRPTC's strategic plan so it will not make GMRPTC's requirements. A strategic plan meeting GMRPTC's requirements will be provided. Many items in the plan were implemented; one of them being the initial 2.3 miles of mountain bike trail. The final length of the mountain bike trail is planned to be 5 miles. The master plan also includes updating the current chalet and renovating the ski jump. In addition to the woods

and trails of Pine Valley, two ice hockey arenas, one outdoors hockey rink, and a senior center exist within the recreation area. We realize that these facilities are outside the scope of the GMRPTC's mission and funding is not available to them. However, they do bring in a large number of people for daily hockey practices and club, high school, and semi pro games. A small percentage of these people also use Pine Valley's trails throughout the year. Also within the recreation area is the city's garage. It too does not meet the scope of the GMRPTC's mission. It is well screened from view so as not to detract from a user's natural experience. The vision for Pine Valley is to complete the planned 5 miles of mountain bike trail, rebuild or remodel the chalet, renovate the ski jump, pave the parking lot, install snow making equipment, build an interpretative center, and provide more signage to the entrance to the Recreation Area. Of these items, only the completion of the mountain bike trail is currently slated for construction in the summer of 2020. It has a budget of \$125,000, which is being paid for by grants, donations, city funds, and fund raising events. Future potential plans for a mountain bike trail would include extending the trail to the Pine Valley land west of Spring Lake Road and to include Fond du Lac Indian Reservation land, another 80 acres or more. Another 4 miles of trail could be built on this land, which is flatter than Pine Valley proper and thus encourage more beginner bikers and provide more snowshoe and hiking experiences. Cloquet was burnt to the ground except for two buildings in the forest fire of October of 1918. A historical interpretative center will explain the significance of hunting and gathering, logging, and forest fires in the Minnesota forests to the Native Americans and European settlers. It is the dream of the Ski Club to have snow making ability and for summer jumping. This would transform the jumping community. There is water available. The problem that needs solving is how to make the water cold enough for snow making. The water in the city pipes is 55 degrees; it needs to be about 32 degrees. There is a place in the park that could be transformed into a holding pond and maintain the natural aesthetics. The ski jump is over 50 years old and though structurally sound could stand a rejuvenation. Jumping in the summer would also be transformative. The nearest hills used in the summer for jumping are in the Metro Area and at Coleraine. The parking lot and entrance need to be upgraded. Currently, the parking lot is gravel and subject to wet spots. Upgraded lighting will discourage unwanted parking and activity. The chalet is over 50 years old and is in need of serious improvements. The windows have wire grids over them to prevent breaking and entering. The bathrooms do not have doors on the stalls. The sinks are away from the door, because they were originally designed to be entered from the outside, but now are entered from the inside of the chalet. The kitchen area is small cramped and out of date. The timing/storage shed needs to be modernized also. Every Sunday while there is snow enough for skiing and jumping about 100 people from 3-year olds to 70-year olds participate in the Pine Valley Nordic Ski Club's family outings, which include cross country skiing and ski jumping. The club has over 200 members who come from Cloquet, Esko, Carlton, Wrenshall, Duluth, Cromwell, Saginaw, and Hermantown. The Cloquet school district has combined with the Esko and Carlton school districts to form multiple sporting teams. The Cloquet Esko Carlton (CEC) has cross country ski team, cross country running team, and hockey team which practice and hold events at Pine Valley facilities. There are between 70 and 90 high school participants on the ski team. The high school cross country team also has a like number of participants. When the team holds a ski meet various teams from the high school's Section 7 participate. These teams come from as far away as Ely. High school sectional meets could be held here again if improvements were made to the chalet and parking lot. Mountain biking is a new fast growing sport. The Cloquet Esko Carlton Cycling Team is no exception and are members of the Minnesota High School Cycling League. They have members from throughout the area. The club uses Pine Valley's mountain bike and ski trails for at least one practice a week. The Boy Scouts of America Troop 171 uses Pine Valley for skills training in nature study, orienteering, camping, outdoor cooking, search and rescue and winter sports. Pine Valley has been the location of many Eagle Scout projects as the troop has given back to the community. It has been the site for Scouting ceremonies and regional events such as "Fun with Sons". The Northern Minnesota Track Club uses Pine Valley as one of its runs in its trail series, which is a set of six mostly trail runs each spring and fall. Runners participating in this trail series come Duluth, Superior, Cloquet, Moose Lake, and surrounding area.

Each run has on average more than 100 runners. Between 50 and 200 people come to the ski jumping, Nordic skiing, and running events. The Easter egg hunt brings in 400 people. High school and club practices have 25 to 50 participants. Daily there is usually between one and four cars in the parking lot every hour between both parking lots giving a sense of use. People from the Twin Cities come up to the Arrowhead to ski. An example of this are the forty members of The North Star Ski Touring Club who come to ski for the weekend. They are from the Twin Cities and rented out rooms at the University of Minnesota's Forestry Center, which is 3 miles west of Pine Valley in Cloquet and the Fond du Lac Reservation. They expressly came to ski at Pine Valley and other ski trails in this area. On a bright sunny Saturday morning before an oncoming snow with the temperatures in the high teens and low twenties with a half inch of new snow from the night before, there were on Pine Valley West (the trail west of Spring Lake Road) 14 skiers, one hiker, and 9 dogs using the trail. The users came from Cloquet, Carlton, Wrenshall, Perch Lake Township within Fond du Lac Reservation, Barnum, and Duluth. Due to a hockey tournament, the hockey arena parking lot was full and overflow parking filled up the skier's parking lot. Letters of support from the Cloquet Esko Carlton Cycling Team, Boy Scouts of America, Cloquet Schools, Wood City Riders Snowmobile Club, Cloquet Ski Club, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, the Pine Knot News, and Andrew David show the broad area wide support for Pine Valley and its importance to Cloquet and the region. Cloquet made a previous application for Regional Designation in 2015, application number 15-015D.

Additional Supportive Documents:

Pine Valley established in 1961 is the home of Olympians

[P2022931_4b77b4.JPG](#)

Pine Valley also has hockey facilities and a senior center, which are outside the scope of the GMRPTC

[P2022933_58d6e5.JPG](#)

The chalet built in 1962 is in need of new windows

[P1192898_599871.JPG](#)

Though functional, the restrooms need to be modernized

[P2022929_1f7afc.JPG](#)

Classification Details

Natural Resource Based Regional Park Classification.

Provides a High-Quality Outdoor Recreation Experience

Pine Valley provides a natural setting of mature upland and lowland northern Minnesota forests, with even some old growth pines. Once on the trails, which are all natural surface, a person will have a sense of solitude deep within the woods miles from anybody else and development. The pines in Pine Valley are among the most numerous, oldest, and tallest in the region. There are no roads crossing the trails nor roads inside the park, they are only along some of the edges. There is a connector trail from the main trail

Criteria #1 Images

Biking on a flat portion of the mountain bike trail. The trail goes up the esker for a challenging ride.

[fat_tire_biking_a72ff7.JPG](#)

Criteria #1 Images

Young skiers learning to ski

[Young_skiers_875a1a.JPG](#)

Criteria #1 Images

CEC mountain bike team covered by Pine Knot News July 2019

area to the trail area called Pine Valley West, which does cross a road. Two parking lots are conveniently located at the trail heads.

[CEC mountain bike team covered by Pine Knot News July 2019_3812b4.JPG](#)

Criteria #1 Images

Pine Valley with its esker and kame, ski jump and rope tow, well maintained trails, chalet, picnic area, and parking lot are of high quality. 2.5 K of the ski trails are lighted. The ski jump and rope tow are also lighted.

The Lost Forester Adventure Run is an unique off trial race that attracts runners from all over the state
[Lost Forester Pine Knot article_d12c77.JPG](#)

During the ski season, the ski and bike trails are groomed. The ski trails are groomed for both skating and classic. During the non-snow season the trails are open to hiking and biking.

Criteria #1 Images

Pine Valley Easter Egg Hunt covered by the Pine Knot News 2019

[Pine Valley Easter Egg Hunt covered by the Pine Knot News 2019_501924.JPG](#)

Pine Valley is a destination unto itself. Besides every day hiking, biking, skiing, ski jumping, hockey playing, dog walking/running, snowmobiling, Pine Valley is the site for teams to practice and hold events. The Cloquet Esko Carlton ski team, Cloquet Nordic Ski Club, Cloquet Esko Carlton Cross Country team all hold practices and events at Pine Valley.

Criteria #1 Images

December 2019 ski jump meet covered by the Pine Knot News - pg 1

[December 2019 Ski jump meet covered by Pine Knot News - pg 1_1187a6.JPG](#)

The Community Education Program sponsors an Easter egg hunt.

Criteria #1 Images

December 2019 ski jump meet covered by the Pine Knot News - pg 2

[December 2019 Ski jump meet covered by Pine Knot News - pg 2_768073.JPG](#)

The Rotary Color Run, the Lost Forester Adventure Runs, and the Pine Valley Bike and Run events all take place in Pine Valley.

Criteria #1 Images

Racers compete in a MN Cycling Association event
[MN Cycling Event racers_4eb912.JPG](#)

Criteria #1 Images

2022 Minnesota Cycling Association Event

[Bike race passes test at Pine Valley - Pine Knot News_6fdcca.pdf](#)

Criteria #1 Images

Winter biking through the old growth pines
[winter biking through pines_345245.JPG](#)

Criteria #1 Images

Biking on the connector trail.
[biking family_ec5103.JPG](#)

Criteria #1 Images

Young jumpers enjoying a well deserved rest
[Young ski jumpers_7d180e.jpeg](#)

Criteria #1 Images

Scouts troop 171 using Pine Valley for an awards ceremony.

[Scouts_264f41.jpg](#)

Preserves a Regionally-Significant and Diverse Natural or Historic Landscape

Criteria #2 Images

Shaded relief showing melt water fan, esker, and

Pine Valleys 243 acres of forest is on the southern edge of the North Shore Highlands Section of the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province.

kame in Qli geologic formation
[Shaded relief showing kame, esker, and melt water fan in Pine Valley_bca3fd.JPG](#)

Geologically, Pine Valley encompasses a very rare geological formation. As per the Geologic Atlas of Carlton County and the Southern Portion of St. Louis County, Pine Valley has an exceedingly rare Qli formation, which is an ice-contact deposit, having an esker, a kame, and a meltwater fan deposit. This formation is the only such formation for many, many miles in Carlton County and southern St. Louis Co.

Criteria #2 Images
A closeup view of the Carlton Co & Fond du Lac Reservation Geologic Atlas shows the unique Qli formation containing from left to right the melt water fan deposit, esker, and kame. The esker and kame are the most predominant natural features of Pine Valle
[Geologic map showing Qli formation at Pine Valley_74e355.JPG](#)

The Cloquet forest fire of 1918 devastated Cloquet and the surrounding forests. As such the forest of Pine Valley is between 25 and 100 years old with remnant old growth white and red pines scattered throughout the park. The esker, kame, valleys, flat uplands, and wetlands give Pine Valley a sense of solitude and harmony with nature.

Pine Valley is in the City of Cloquet with a population of over 12,000 and adjacent to the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation. There will be by the end of the summer of 2020 11 miles of stand-alone non-motorized trails and 1.5 miles of snowmobile trail. Pine Valley trails are planned to be connected to Cloquets marked bike lanes, which in turn are connected to the paved bike trail between Scanlon and Carlton, which connects in turn to the States Munger Bike Trail.

Pine Valley is within 3 miles of a population of 12,000, Cloquet. Duluth, Hermantown, Proctor, and Superior, WI are between 20 and 40 miles from Pine Valley. Together they have a population of about 125,000.

Well-located and Connected to Serve a Regional Population and/or Tourist Destination

Pine Valley is located a quarter of a mile off of Minnesota Highway 33 just west of Cloquets main shopping district, which is the gateway to the Arrowhead Region along a major north-south thoroughfare between the Metro Area and the Arrowhead Region.

Criteria #3 Images

Pine Valley within Cloquet as it relates to location and connectivity
[Pine Valley within Cloquet_ac2fec.jpg](#)

The high school events and other events bring in participants from all over. The Nordic Combine event brings in skiers and jumpers from the metro area, Coleraine, Eau Claire, Madison, the UP of Michigan, and Chicago. The Lost Forester Adventure runs brings in runners from Duluth, the Cities, Brainerd, and even Utah.

Criteria #3 Images

Wood City Riders Snowmobile Club grooms about 1.5 miles of snowmobile trail within Pine Valley
[snowmobile trail grooming6_3ed197.jpg](#)

Criteria #3 Images

Racers from the Lost Forester race climbing the kame of the ski jump hill
[Lost Forester_1dba9b.jpg](#)

High school teams from outside the area are known to make the trip for a weekend ski practice. They will also stop at Pine Valley for a day while on a trip to an event.

Being just a quarter mile from Hwy 33 the parking lot can be used as a trail-head for the snowmobile trail number 238, which is maintained by the Wood City Riders. Snowmobile trail number 238 runs through Pine Valley on its way to the many other trails in the region. When identified as a trail-head it will be put onto states and clubs trail maps.

People from the Twin Cities come up to the Arrowhead to ski. An example of this are the forty members of The North Star Ski Touring Club who came to ski for the weekend. They are from the Twin Cities and rented out rooms at the University of Minnesotas Forestry Center, which is 3 miles west of Pine Valley in Cloquet and the Fond du Lac Reservation. They expressly came to ski at Pine Valley and other ski trails in this area.

Fills a Gap in Recreational Opportunity within the Region

Pine Valley fills several gaps with its ski jumps, fast drying trails, convenient location, and multi-use facilities. Pine Valleys 4 ski jumps are the only jumps for 75 miles. Ski jumping is a niche sport and as such there are few ski jumps in the world. In the Upper Midwest, there are only 13 jumps. Pine Valley is a feeder jump to the USSA/US Nordic sanctioned jumps. The Cloquet Nordic Ski Club, which is open to all, is host to youth ski jumping practices every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday. In addition, the 5.5 K competition quality ski trail offers a place to practice for Cloquet Esko Carlton ski team and other teams from outside the area.

Currently there isnt any other regionally designated park or trail in Carlton County. People come from come from Cloquet and the surrounding area for a ski, hike, or bike ride.

With the majority of the trails and all of the competition trails on the kame and esker, these trails are the first in the region to dry up and be usable after rains and spring break up. This means people will come and use the trails when others are closed due to being wet.

The chalet and picnic area are conducive to gatherings. The chalet is used by the clubs, completion events, weddings, and other family

Criteria #4 Images

Close up of mountain bike trail shortly after construction showing its gravelly soil

[J02A8528_c69d47.JPG](#)

Criteria #4 Images

Mountain bike trail shortly after construction showing how it was built on the esker

[J02A8530_7a12d5.JPG](#)

Criteria #4 Images

The 40 meter ski jump sits on top of the kame geologic formation

[skijumpingBIGGER-0837_8e0ca0.jpg](#)

Criteria #4 Images

Biker going off a jump

[young_biker_51636c.JPG](#)

Criteria #4 Images

Young skiers drinking hot cocoa at the chalet with the 45 meter jump in the background on top of the kame

[skiers_drinking_hot_chocolate_f2bf60.JPG](#)

Criteria #4 Images

MN Cycling Association Event list

[MN_Cycling_Event_719376.JPG](#)

gatherings.

Pine Valley is a true multi-use recreation area. Besides the ski and mountain bike trails and the ski jump, the snowmobile trail number 238 passes through Pine Valley. The parking lot can be used as a trail-head for the snowmobile trail, which has access to Cloquets shopping district, Fond du Lac Reservation and its Black Bear Casino, many miles of state snowmobile trails.

Attachments

Doc Name	Description	Url
Development Feature Upload		snow_making_636141.pdf
Site Characteristics Upload	Carlton Co & Fond du Lac Geologic Atlas shows the effect of glaciers on Carlton County and Pine Valley	Carlton Co & Fond du Lac Reservation Geologic Atlas_78ba48.pdf
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Biking on a flat portion of the mountain bike trail. The trail goes up the esker for a challenging ride.	fat_tire_biking_a72ff7.JPG
Natural Resource Based4 Upload	Close up of mountain bike trail shortly after construction showing its gravelly soil	J02A8528_c69d47.JPG
Natural Resource Based4 Upload	Mountain bike trail shortly after construction showing how it was built on the esker	J02A8530_7a12d5.JPG
Park Trail Map	Pine Valley Recreation Area as it lies within Cloquet	Pine Valley as it lies within Cloquet_efd63e.pdf
Natural Resource Based2 Upload	Shaded relief showing melt water fan, esker, and kame in Qli geologic formation	Shaded relief showing kame, esker, and melt water fan in Pine Valley_bca3fd.JPG
Natural Resource Based3 Upload	Pine Valley within Cloquet as it relates to location and connectivity	Pine Valley within Cloquet_ac2fec.jpg
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Young skiers learning to ski	Young skiers_875a1a.JPG
Additional Attachment	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - Wood City Riders	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - Wood City Riders_b4ae00.pdf
Additional Attachment	Pine Valley Regional Designation letter of support Andrew David	Pine Valley Regional Designation letter of support Andrew David_37e990.pdf
Natural Resource Based2 Upload	A closeup view of the Carlton Co & Fond du Lac Reservation Geologic Atlas shows the unique	Geologic map showing Qli formation at Pine Valley_74e355.JPG

	Qli formation containing from left to right the melt water fan deposit, esker, and kame. The esker and kame are the most predominant natural features of Pine Valle	
Natural Resource Based4 Upload	The 40 meter ski jump sits on top of the kame geologic formation	skijumpingBIGGER-0837_8e0ca0.jpg
Natural Resource Based1 Upload	CEC mountain bike team covered by Pine Knot News July 2019	CEC mountain bike team covered by Pine Knot News July 2019_3812b4.JPG
Natural Resource Based1 Upload	The Lost Forester Adventure Run is an unique off trial race that attracts runners from all over the state	Lost Forester Pine Knot article_d12c77.JPG
Natural Resource Based1 Upload	Pine Valley Easter Egg Hunt covered by the Pine Knot News 2019	Pine Valley Easter Egg Hunt covered by the Pine Knot News 2019_501924.JPG
Natural Resource Based1 Upload	December 2019 ski jump meet covered by the Pine Knot News - pg 1	December 2019 Ski jump meet covered by Pine Knot News - pg 1_1187a6.JPG
Natural Resource Based1 Upload	December 2019 ski jump meet covered by the Pine Knot News - pg 2	December 2019 Ski jump meet covered by Pine Knot News - pg 2_768073.JPG
Natural Resource Based3 Upload	Wood City Riders Snowmobile Club grooms about 1.5 miles of snowmobile trail within Pine Valley	snowmobile trail grooming6_3ed197.jpg
Additional Information Upload	Pine Valley established in 1961 is the home of Olympians	P2022931_4b77b4.JPG
Additional Information Upload	Pine Valley also has hockey facilities and a senior center, which are outside the scope of the GMRPTC	P2022933_58d6e5.JPG
Additional Information Upload	The chalet built in 1962 is in need of new windows	P1192898_599871.JPG
Additional Information Upload	Though functional, the restrooms need to be modernized	P2022929_1f7afc.JPG
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Racers compete in a MN Cycling Association event	MN_Cycling_Event_racers_4eb912.JPG
Site Characteristics Upload	The Otter Creek wolf pack is tracked by the Fond du Lac Wildlife Ecologist. This map shows data points from a tracking collar and an estimated boundary for the pack.	Otter Creek Wolf Pack boundary_ac0763.JPG
Additional Attachment	Cloquet Esko Carlton Cycling Team letter of support	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - CEC Cycling

		Team 01-19-20 (1) _d762d0.pdf
Additional Attachment	Cloquet School District letter of support	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - Michael Cary - Cloq Schools_1510d9.pdf
Additional Attachment	Pine Valley Regional Designation support letter - Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - Kevin Dupuis - FDL_b2cfc7.pdf
Additional Attachment	Pine Valley Regional Designation support letter - Cloquet Ski Club	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - Pat Marcinak - Cloquet Ski Club_dcf4a3.pdf
Additional Attachment	Cloquet Pine Knot News regional designation support	Pine Valley Regional Designation Support Letter - Jana Peterson - Pine Knot News_42ec01.pdf
Classification Criteria1 Upload	2022 Minnesota Cycling Association Event	Bike race passes test at Pine Valley - Pine Knot News_6fdcca.pdf
Additional Attachment	Letter of support from Boy Scout Troop 171	Pine Valley Letter_ffd0c9.pdf
Additional Attachment	Snowshoer on the mountain bike connector trail in the lowland between kame and esker	snow shoeing_7fbb75.jpg
Additional Attachment	Snowshoe on esker	snow shoeing_2_99f84c.jpg
Additional Attachment	Skiers getting ready for a ski race at the beginning and end of the ski trail at the base of the kame. Pine Valley is named after the over 80 year old pines on the kame.	skiers getting ready_af53ef.JPG
Additional Attachment	Biker and skier coexist on separate trails - the mountain bike trail and the ski trail.	biker and skier_ff5a8b.JPG
Additional Attachment	At the Pine Valley chalet fat biker and spectator stand next to a Snowdog mountain bike trail groomer. The ski jump is in the background.	fat tire and snow dog_059552.JPG
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Winter biking through the old growth pines	winter biking through pines_345245.JPG
Additional Attachment	Snowshoers starting out on the Frozen Forester race, which is a 5 km race through the park off any trail. The race went over the kame and esker and into the lowlands	snow shoeing_3_586ef3.jpg
Additional Attachment	Snowshoer in deep powder snow during the Frozen Forester in an area of white birch trees	Runner at FF3_af3e23.JPG

Additional Attachment	Young biker in summer on the mountain bike trail with old growth trees in the background	young_biker_2_0bfbe5.JPG
Additional Attachment	Young biker on a hairpin turn on the esker. The gravelly nature of the esker is on display	young_biker_80d0f8.JPG
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Biking on the connector trail.	biking_family_ec5103.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Biker going off a jump	young_biker_51636c.JPG
Classification Criteria3 Upload	Racers from the Lost Forester race climbing the kame of the ski jump hill	Lost_Forester_1dba9b.jpg
Additional Attachment	Runners of the Pine Valley 5.5k and 11K running through the 80 year old pines on top of the kame	Pine_Valley_runner_428d1a.JPG
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Young jumpers enjoying a well deserved rest	Young_ski_jumpers_7d180e.jpeg
Additional Attachment	Young jumper practice on the 10 meter jump, which is on the north facing slope of the kame	young_jumper_b07f7d.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	Young skiers drinking hot cocoa at the chalet with the 45 meter jump in the background on top of the kame	skiers_drinking_hot_chocolate_f2bf60.JPG
Additional Attachment	Pine Valley rope tow takes jumpers up the north face of the kame	Tow_ropes_63bd70.JPG
Additional Attachment	The youngest come for miles to learn how to ski	kid_learning_to_ski_d8659a.JPG
Classification Criteria4 Upload	MN Cycling Association Event list	MN_Cycling_Event_719376.JPG
Classification Criteria1 Upload	Scouts troop 171 using Pine Valley for an awards ceremony.	Scouts_264f41.jpg
Economic Development Tourism Upload	2016 Minnesota Wilderness Economic Study	Wilderness_Economic_Impact_Study_52c99a.pdf
Additional Attachment	Inside the Pine Valley chalet is a place to socialize and get warm	Chalet_d3cecf.JPG
Development Feature Upload		parking_lot_bc98b5.pdf
Joint Org Responsibilities Upload	FDL trail use agreement	Pine_Valley_FDL_Ski_Trail_Agreement_5411bc.pdf
Site Map Upload	Site Map	Pine_Valley_Map_433fb7.pdf
Outreach Marketing Plan Upload	Community Education Website	Comm_Ed_website_b0c86b.JPG
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Includes existing and proposed improvements to facilities.	Development_Plan_52c1dd.pdf

Public Involvement Summ Upload	Online Survey Results	Survey Results_ab6041.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Diagram of features with proposed improvements to include ranking of said improvements.	Plan features with ranking_ae11ab.pdf
Public Health Values Upload	Benefits to Pine Valley by Ken Ripp MD	Public Health Statement Ken Ripp MD_dab0c8.docx
Ad Phasing Plan Upload	Phasing Plan with costs	Cost Estimates_42f663.pdf
Park Trail Map	Pine Valley Site Map	Pine Valley - Site Map_4ab381.pdf
Public Involvement Summ Upload	Meeting Notes and Online Survey Notes	Community Input_fdfc18.pdf
Development Feature Upload		Pavilion_723deb.pdf
Development Feature Upload		CC lighting_1ea80a.pdf
Development Feature Upload		ski_jumps_12ea1a.pdf
Development Feature Upload		chalet_improvements_166df0.pdf
Outreach Marketing Plan Upload	Cloquet Singletracker facebook post for an event.	Singletrackers_flyer_a04299.JPG
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Development Feature Upload		ADA_88cf57.pdf
Development Feature Upload		signage_b6a5d9.pdf
Development Feature Upload		trailhead_amenities_2df22f.pdf
Development Feature Upload		IMG_4805_4c73bb.JPG
Development Feature Upload		5.5k_LED_780888.pdf
Development Feature Upload		CC_trail_drainage_037fd8.pdf
Development Feature Upload		bike_skills_d5c648.pdf
Development Feature Upload		new_trailhead_ceabf6.pdf
Site Characteristics Upload	Soil Conditions and Topo Map	soil_types_b4df91.pdf
Site Characteristics Upload	Waterways within or bordering the Park	Waterways_6e3eb4.pdf
Development Feature Upload		new_trailhead_6678ba.pdf
Development Feature Upload		bike_skills_402ea3.pdf
Development Feature Upload		Trail_Head_Phasing_a117a0.pdf
Development Feature Upload		Trail_Head_Phasing_66e93e.pdf
Development Feature Upload		Trail_Head_Phasing_40cf96.pdf
Site Map Upload	Current structures at Pine Valley	Structures_ab0807.pdf
Site Map Upload	Existing Utilities	Utilities_457232.pdf

Site Map Upload	Trails system	Trails_e2c213.pdf
Joint Org Responsibilities Upload	FDL property boundary	FDL_boundry_b25684.pdf
Public Involvement Summ Upload	Open house material	Open_House_43c228.pdf
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3870_8c4e05.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3871_c31d89.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3872_c7936c.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3873_09f828.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3874_8e0a73.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3877_1e050d.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3876_69a65a.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3875_7e35bc.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3887_5bc14b.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3888_70668b.JPG
Development Feature Upload		IMG_3885_1a5fda.JPG
Ecological Land ResPlan Upload	University of Minnesota Forest Management Plan	FMP1_final_59789b.pdf
Development Feature Upload		picnic_pavilion_a281e6.pdf
Development Feature Upload		Possible_Pavilion_Location_26bff3.JPG
Development Feature Upload		Current_Equipment_Building_de4847.JPG
Development Feature Upload		Current_Equipment_Building_2_317bd0.JPG
Development Feature Upload		Parking_Lot_2_ccd02b.JPG
Development Feature Upload		Parking_Lot_2bca1b.JPG
Development Feature Upload		summer_mat_803430.jpg