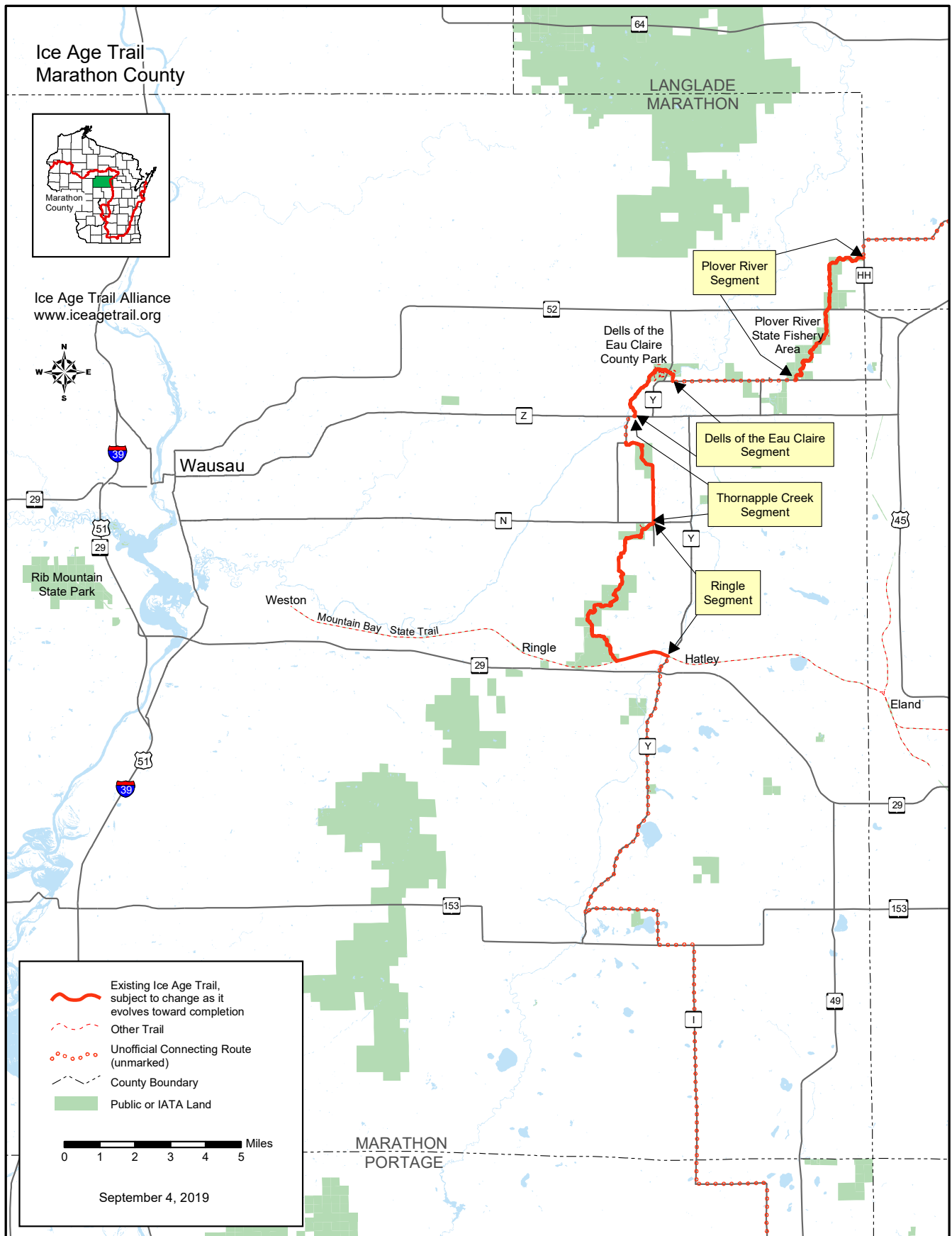




Marathon County



Plover River Segment (Atlas Map 39f; Databook page 38)

SNAPSHOT

5.9 miles: CTH-HH to Sportsman Dr.

 **3**  *This beautiful segment highlights a dramatic traverse of the terminal moraine and the peaceful Plover River.*



From the Plover River.



One ColdCache site on segment.



Dogs should be leashed (8-ft max) and under control at all times.



A spur trail to a parking area on CTH-HH and a blue-blazed spur trail to a parking area on Hatchery Rd.

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

CTH-HH: From Wausau on US-51 exit onto STH-52 and go east ~26 mi. At CTH-HH turn left and go north 1.5 mi to the Trail access on the west side of the road. Park at the Ice Age Trail parking area 0.1 mi south on CTH-HH on the west side of the road. A blue-blazed spur trail leads to the Ice Age Trail. From Antigo at the intersection of USH-45/STH-47 and STH-52/STH-64, take USH-45/STH-47/STH-52 south 11.0 mi. Continue on STH-52 west for 1.3 mi. At CTH-HH turn right and go 1.5 mi to the Trail access on the west side of the road. Park at the Ice Age Trail parking area 0.1 mi south on CTH-HH on the west side of the road. A blue-blazed spur trail leads to the Ice Age Trail.

Sportsman Dr.: From Wausau take STH-29 east to Exit 185 for Hatley/CTH-Y. Take CTH-Y north 7.5 mi. At CTH-Z turn right and go east 2.0 mi. At North Pole Rd. turn left and go north 1.0 mi. At Sportsman Dr. turn right and go east 1.0 mi to the parking area on the north side of the road.

Additional Parking: (i) STH-52: From Wausau on US-51 exit onto STH-52 and go east ~25 mi to the parking area on north side of highway at the STH-52 and Hatchery Rd. intersection. (ii) Hatchery Rd.: From the STH-52 and Hatchery Rd. intersection, go south on Hatchery Rd. 0.7 mi to the DNR parking area at the junction with Village Rd. A blue-blazed spur trail leads 0.1 mi to the Ice Age Trail (**MR12**).

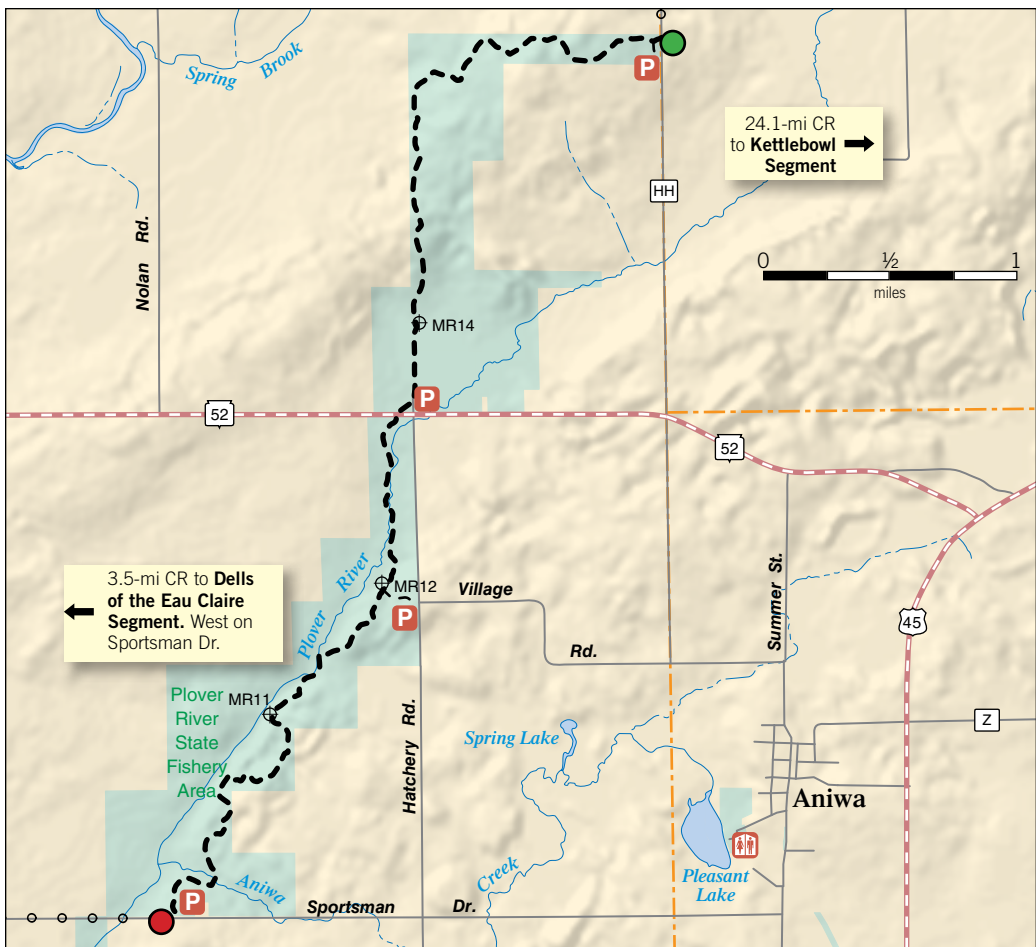
THE HIKE

The Plover River State Fishery Area includes hardwood and cedar forests, lowlands and spring ponds along the Plover River, a Class I, high-quality trout stream that has a naturally sustaining trout population.

From the CTH-HH Trail access head west across rolling, forested hills lined by mossy boulders and bright green ferns. Watch for wetlands, a variety of wildflowers, deep kettles, a stone hole and a boulder train as you cross the terminal moraine. Over 1,000 feet of volunteer-built boardwalk will keep boots high and dry through wetlands just north of STH-52. On the north section of boardwalk there is a welcoming observation deck with comfortable benches (**MR14**).

There is a good line of vision at the STH-52 crossing, but it still requires caution. Just south of STH-52, hikers will reach a stretch of puncheon and native timber bridge before continuing southward through a pine forest on the west side of the Plover River. Near the river, the trail is rock strewn and swampy. Footing can be treacherous with rocks and roots in the path. After about one-third of a mile, hikers will reach a crossing of the river and can choose to either have their feet cooled by the river's waters or step across on boulders rising above the surface. Listen for the symphony of a "babbling brook" while seated on a nearby bench as the peaceful Plover River tumbles through the rocks at this crossing.

Now on the east side of the river, the segment continues southward through



a riparian zone. The segment intersects a blue-blazed spur trail that leads east 0.1 miles to the Hatchery Road Trail parking area (MR12).

As the segment continues southward, it travels along a ridge through thick stands of balsam fir, northern white cedar and hemlock before returning alongside the rippling waters of the river. The segment traverses an interesting stone-lined glacial wash (MR11) and again travels a ridgetop before it transitions to rolling, open grassland. It crosses Aniwa Creek and reaches its endpoint at the Sportsman Drive parking area and informational kiosk.

Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

AREA SERVICES

Antigo: See Highland Lakes Segment, p. 120. From the STH-52 Trail access go east then north ~13 mi. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

Wausau: See Ringle Segment, p. 143. From the STH-52 Trail access go west ~25 mi. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

Rural Aniwa: Restaurant east of USH-45 and STH-52 intersection.

Birnamwood: Restaurant, lodging. Take Hatchery Rd. south until it becomes CTH-D. Continue south to CTH-N, then turn left (southeast on CTH-N).



Map 39f

Langlade, Marathon, and Shawano counties

Includes Eau Claire, and Plover rivers, Bear Lake, Spring Brook, Plover River State Fishery Area, Elmhurst, and Aniwa

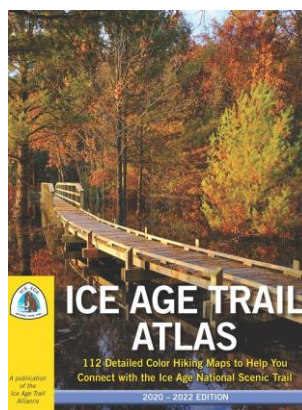
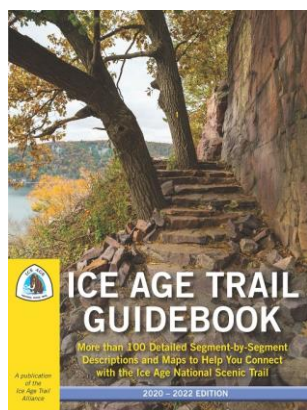
1 : 48,000 scale

0 1/2 1 mile

- Ice Age Trail
- Connecting Route
- Future Trail
- Other Trail

Plover River Segment
5.9 mi

Must-Have Ice Age Trail Books!



The **Ice Age Trail Guidebook** features more than 100 detailed segment-by-segment descriptions and maps to help you connect with the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Written for those seeking a wide range of adventures on the Ice Age Trail.

The **Ice Age Trail Atlas** is a set of 105 color, shaded relief-style maps at 1:48,000 scale. In contrast to the smaller map excerpts in the Ice Age Trail Guidebook, each map in this package is printed on an 8.5" x 11" sheet and includes not just the Ice Age Trail route but also a wider snapshot of the area around the Trail.

Both books were written and published by the Ice Age Trail Alliance. All proceeds for each book help build and maintain the Ice Age Trail. Please call the IATA at (800) 227-0046 with any questions.

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