



## Tell Your Friends and Co-Workers about our 2005 Lease Offering!

Potlatch recently announced that we are currently accepting applications for 2005 leases. The 2005 Potlatch Lease Program will offer 530 tracts totaling 70,000 acres.

Information regarding the lease offerings as well as instructions on how to apply for leases is currently available on our land lease program website at [www.pchhuntingleases.com](http://www.pchhuntingleases.com). Applications for the 2005 leases will be accepted through 5:00 PM, December 17, 2004. Those interested in leasing for the 2005 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 three 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](http://www.pchhuntingleases.com) to:

- Review Land for Lease
- Apply for a Lease (Applications will be accepted from October 1, 2004 - December 17, 2004)
- Review Potlatch Lease Program Policies
- Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the lease program
- Be placed on a notification list for future lease openings



### Minnesota Deer Facts

Estimated Statewide Deer Population: 1.2 million

2003 Deer Harvest (gun, bow, muzzleloader): 290,525

Estimated Annual Car Kills: 15,000

Estimated Annual Wolf Kills: 40,000

Estimated Annual other Predator Kills (coyote, bobcat, bear, fisher): 60,000 (mostly fawns)

### Inside this issue:

Lease Program Reminders	2
Forkhorn Scholarships	2
Importance of Ethical Hunting Behavior	2
Potlatch Encourages Increased Doe Harvest	3
2004 Photo Contests	3
Donate Venison	3
"How To" Corner	4
Hunting Safety Tips	4

## Potlatch Sells OSB Mills

Potlatch recently completed its sale of oriented strand board (OSB) mills in Grand Rapids, Bemidji and Cook, Minnesota, to Ainsworth Lumber Co. Ltd. of Vancouver, British Columbia. Potlatch continues to be the largest private land owner in

Minnesota and also owns the largest lumbermill in the state in Bemidji. Lease program customers are not affected by the OSB mill sale. Potlatch has no intention of leaving Minnesota and we look forward to actively

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Lease Reminders

A few issues have arisen over the first couple years of the Lease Program that we would like to remind our customers about:

- The Lease program is a new program in Minnesota and its success depends on your cordial interactions with those who may not know about 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.
- All signs must be provided by Potlatch and **must have** lessees name and phone number.
- Law violations result in removal from Lease Program (this has occurred!).
- Gates may be installed **only with permission from the Lease Manager** and only to specifications that have been discussed previously.
- 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!
- Camp rules must be emailed to the lease manager prior to receiving “No Trespassing” signs.
- Stands cannot be nailed to trees! Free standing and portable stands are OK, but must be no larger than 4’X6’ and 16’ tall (See photo below).
- 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.

## Forkhorn Camps...Fun & Educational!

Each year, Potlatch sends children to the Minnesota Deer Hunter’s Association Forkhorn Camps. Scholarship recipients in the past have included campers from both inside and outside our lease program. There are three levels of Forkhorn camps to attend depending on age and experience (see [www.mndeerhunters.com/mdha/programs/forkhorn.php](http://www.mndeerhunters.com/mdha/programs/forkhorn.php) for more information).

We sent 7 young hunters to camp this past summer. They had a great time and were appreciative of the opportunity.

Sophie Shogren of Park Rapids wrote:

“Dear Potlatch, thank you so much for sponsor-

ing me to go to Forkhorn I. I had so much fun and learned a lot of cool stuff about hunting. We did many fun activities such as shooting .22’s, climbing the rock wall, searching for the lost hunter, and made a fire to boil water in survival class. I am already looking forward to Forkhorn II! Thanks again.”

Look for our 2005 Scholarship program next summer!



Tree stands such as this one that are nailed into trees are **not allowed** on Potlatch leases. Only portable and free-standing deer stands are allowed.

## You Are the Future of Hunting!

Recent statistics indicate that:

- 9% of persons of legal age hunt
- 11% of persons of legal age are against hunting
- 80% of persons of legal age to hunt do not hunt and are not against hunting

It is therefore very important to be an ethical hunter. The future of hunting depends on the 80% of the people that are not against hunting. Do your part in protecting the future of hunting by promoting ethical hunting practices and by becoming a skilled hunter.

# Potlatch Encourages Doe Harvest in 2004

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 (See story on bottom of page).

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!

## 2004 Photo Contests Announced

Due to the importance of an increased doe harvest in certain parts of our ownership, we have decided to begin both a "Habitat Conservation" Contest (I.e., doe photo contest) and a Buck Contest. The winners of these contests will each receive \$100 off their 2005 lease.

**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.

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.

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](mailto:mnhuntingleases@potlatchcorp.com) or send a photo (send duplicates as originals will not be returned) by **January 31, 2005** to:

### 2004 Potlatch Deer Photo Contest

Potlatch Corporation  
PO Box 504  
Cloquet, MN 55720

## Hunters May Arrange to Donate Venison

St. Paul — This year, Minnesota deer hunters may arrange to have their extra venison donated to programs that distribute food to the needy. Under an agreement reached by the Minnesota DNR and the Department of Agriculture, food shelves and other food distribution programs may now accept venison from approved meat processors. Hunters are encouraged to work with their local deer hunting groups to set up a network of cooper-

ating processors, food banks, and funding to offset the cost of processing deer. The Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, Bluffland Whitetails, Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry and the Safari Club are currently cooperating in the program. Additional information can be found in a brochure titled "Field to Fork," which is posted on the DNR web site at: [www.dnr.state.mn.us/hunting/deer/donation.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/hunting/deer/donation.html).

(article courtesy of Outdoor News).

(Continued from page 1)

managing our natural resource business, which includes forest management, leases, conservation easements and land sales. Land sales will continue to be strategic and relatively small in comparison to Potlatch's total Minnesota forestland asset. More information on the sale can be found at [www.potlatchorp.com](http://www.potlatchorp.com).

### Potlatch Land Sales

Many of you are aware of our land sale program. Three to four times a year, we have a land auction. Like the lease program, information for the land sale program is on our website ([www.pchlandsales.com](http://www.pchlandsales.com)). Occasionally, some land that is included in a lease is sold. If this occurs, we will notify the lessee ahead of time so they have an opportunity to bid if interested.

## “HOW TO” Corner

### How To: purchase No Trespassing signs:

- Go to: [www.pchhuntingleases.com](http://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 #:

- Go to: [www.pchhuntingleases.com](http://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

### Hunter Safety

1. Treat every gun as if it is loaded. Check every gun you are handed. Is it unloaded? You need to know! Leave the action open when handing one to someone else.
2. Always control the muzzle of your firearm and follow these three steps:
  - a. Point the muzzle in a safe direction.
  - b. Keep your finger off the trigger and alongside the trigger guard.
  - c. Keep the action open and unloaded when not hunting or shooting. Insist that everyone in your group handles firearms safely. Friends do not take dangerous chances.
3. Be sure of your target and what is beyond.
4. Use harnesses in deer stands to prevent injury.
5. Purchase and install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in hunting shacks and cabins.



Leaseholder Chris Kozlak's 11-pointer shot on Potlatch land in 2003.