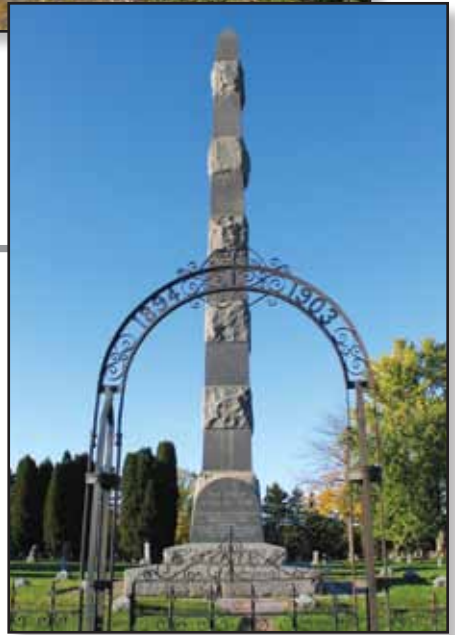


WHITE PINES DISTRICT

Mile Post (MP) 89.1-124.0

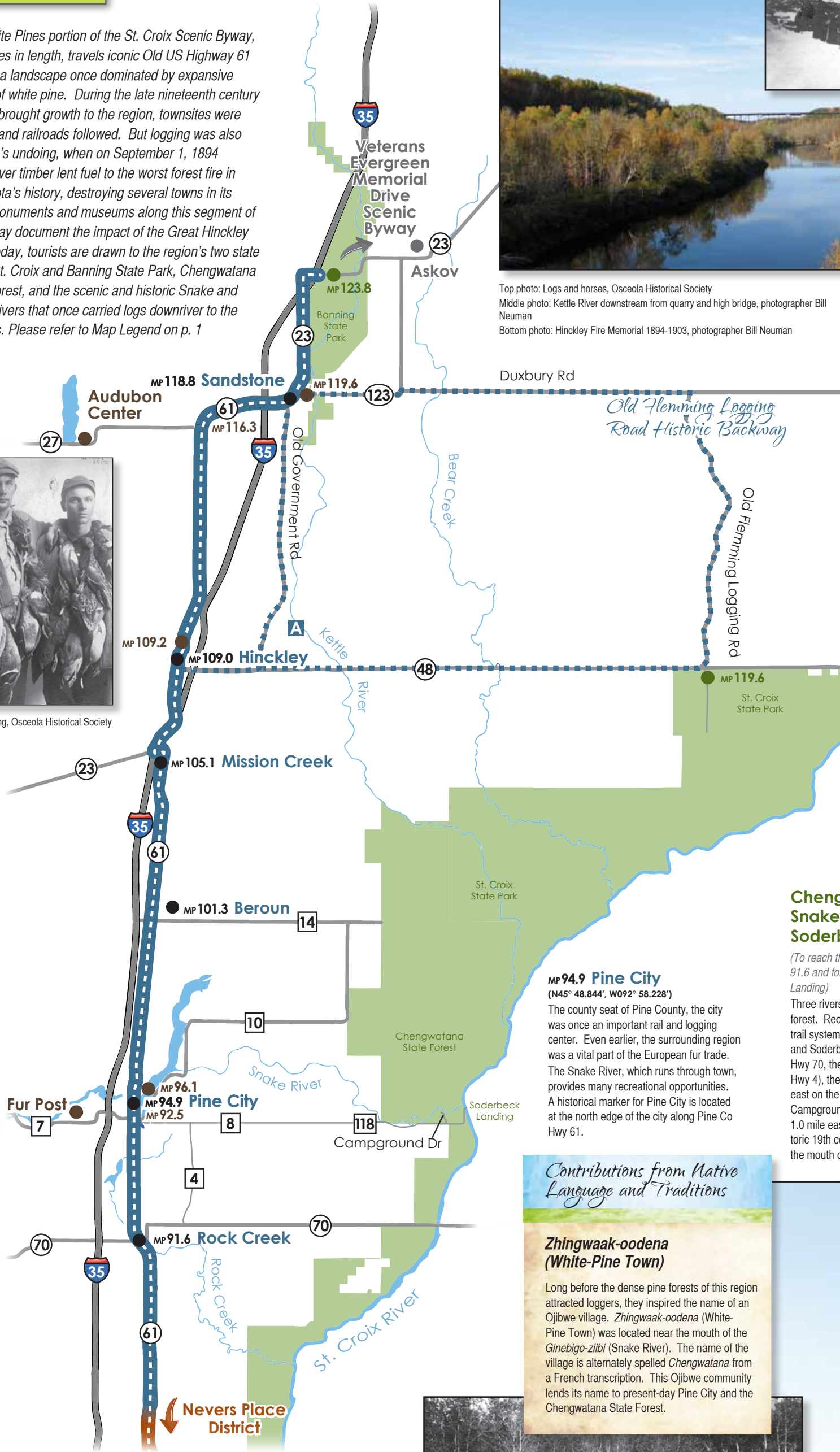
The White Pines portion of the St. Croix Scenic Byway, 34.9 miles in length, travels iconic Old US Highway 61 through a landscape once dominated by expansive stands of white pine. During the late nineteenth century logging brought growth to the region, townsites were settled, and railroads followed. But logging was also the area's undoing, when on September 1, 1894 the cutover timber lent fuel to the worst forest fire in Minnesota's history, destroying several towns in its path. Monuments and museums along this segment of the Byway document the impact of the Great Hinckley Fire. Today, tourists are drawn to the region's two state parks, St. Croix and Banning State Park, Chengwatana State Forest, and the scenic and historic Snake and Kettle Rivers that once carried logs downriver to the sawmills. Please refer to Map Legend on p. 1



Top photo: Logs and horses, Osceola Historical Society
Middle photo: Kettle River downstream from quarry and high bridge, photographer Bill Neuman
Bottom photo: Hinckley Fire Memorial 1894-1903, photographer Bill Neuman



Duck Hunting, Osceola Historical Society



MP 91.6 Rock Creek
(N45° 45.976', W092° 58.022')
Originally a lumbering and sawmill center, the village's main street retains a sense of the 1870s. North of town the Byway crosses the creek for which the Village and Township were named.

Chengwatana State Forest Snake River Campground and Soderbeck Landing (Side Trip)

(To reach this Side Trip destination, divert from the Byway at MP 91.6 and follow directions in the text below to the Campground and Landing)

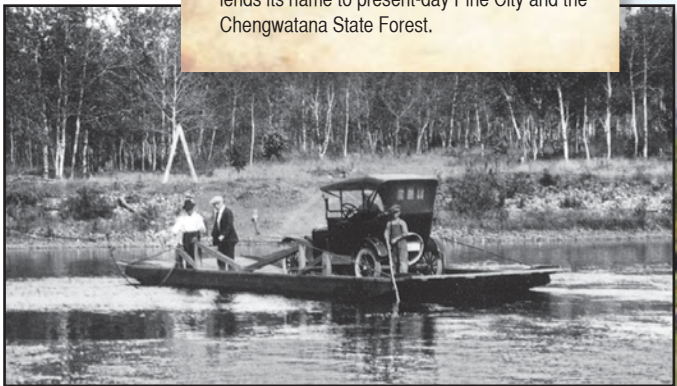
Three rivers, the Kettle, Snake, and St. Croix, flow through this forest. Recreational facilities in the forest include a campground, trail system, and canoe and boat access. To reach the Campground and Soderbeck Landing head east from the Byway 2.2 miles on MN Hwy 70, then north 3.1 miles on Government Road (Military Road/Co Hwy 4), then east 4.5 miles on Co Hwy 8 (St. Croix Road), continue east on the same road (Co Hwy 8 becomes Co Rd 118) 2.9 miles to Campground Road (the Campground is 0.5 miles north), continue 1.0 mile east on St. Croix Road to reach Soderbeck Landing, an historic 19th century and early 20th century ferry crossing location near the mouth of the Snake River as it empties into the St. Croix River.

MP 94.9 Pine City
(N45° 48.844', W092° 58.228')
The county seat of Pine County, the city was once an important rail and logging center. Even earlier, the surrounding region was a vital part of the European fur trade. The Snake River, which runs through town, provides many recreational opportunities. A historical marker for Pine City is located at the north edge of the city along Pine Co Hwy 61.

Contributions from Native Language and Traditions

Zhingwaak-oodena (White-Pine Town)

Long before the dense pine forests of this region attracted loggers, they inspired the name of an Ojibwe village. *Zhingwaak-oodena* (White-Pine Town) was located near the mouth of the *Ginebigo-ziibi* (Snake River). The name of the village is alternately spelled *Chengwatana* from a French transcription. This Ojibwe community lends its name to present-day Pine City and the Chengwatana State Forest.



Left photo: Ferry on the St. Croix River at Soderbeck's Landing between Pine City and Grantsburg, photographer Jake Lysdahl
Right photo: Voyageur carving, Pine City, photographer Bill Neuman