



For Immediate Release

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Forest Capital Partners Joins the Forest Legacy Partnership to Conserve More than 51,000 Acres in Northern Minnesota

Private landowner unites with conservation organizations and public agencies to create the largest working forest conservation easement in Minnesota's history.

St. Paul, MN. – October 3, 2007 – Forest Capital Partners today announced that it has signed an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources that will restrict development on more than 51,000 acres of their privately owned forestland in Itasca and Koochiching counties. State and private money was used to purchase a working forest conservation easement from Forest Capital Partners, the largest single transaction for conservation in three decades in Minnesota. The terms of the conservation easement, which is in perpetuity, guarantees public access for outdoor recreation, ensures sustainable forest management, and conserves wildlife habitat.

For over a year, Forest Capital Partners has worked closely with Minnesota Forest Legacy Partnership to facilitate the creation of the conservation easement. The Partnership, a public-private coalition created by The Nature Conservancy and the Blandin Foundation to help conserve Minnesota's northwoods, includes the Trust for Public Land, which facilitated the transaction, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which will hold and monitor the conservation easements. Additional partnership members are: the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, The Conservation Fund, Minnesota Forest Industries and the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association.

"This landmark agreement demonstrates the compatibility of environmental, recreational, and economic interests," said Craig Halla, Regional Manager of Forest Capital Partners.

"We are pleased to participate in this historic conservation initiative with the DNR, the Trust for Public Land, and the entire Minnesota Forest Legacy

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Partnership, ensuring Minnesota's forests remain productive for timber, wildlife, and to provide public access opportunities for generations to come."

Conservation easements, such as this one, have protected millions of acres of working lands, wildlife habitat, and open space throughout the United States – all on a voluntary basis, both protecting private property rights and keeping private lands in private hands.

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Founded in 2000, Forest Capital Partners is a private forest landowner that acquires and manages working forests across North America for long-term sustainability. With 20 offices and more than 125 employees, the organization actively manages more than 2.1 million acres of forests under sustainable forest management guidelines set forth by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative®. Forest Capital Partners is a leading grower of environmentally certified timber products and an active participant in non-timber forest markets. Visit www.forestcap.com for additional information.