

Minnesota Board of Animal Health Bovine TB Update



March 10, 2008

Additional TB infected herd found

The Board recently identified an eleventh TB-infected beef cattle herd. As part of the disease investigation, the Minnesota Board of Animal Health TB-tested cattle herds within ten miles of an infected cattle herd or infected white-tail deer. The herd will be appraised and indemnified by the USDA before the animals are put down.



Seven of the eleven herds that have been identified as infected with TB since 2005, have been depopulated and five of those seven have repopulated their premises with cattle and are required to test their herds for TB. The four herds that have not yet depopulated are currently working through the appraisal process.

Minnesota's TB Status

USDA allows for a Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA) state to find three TB infected herds in a twelve month period. Because Minnesota has identified four infected herds since October 2007, our status will change to Modified Accredited (MA). Subsequently, Minnesota cattle producers will be subject to a stricter set of shipping regulations.

At the February 13, 2008 meeting of the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, members approved a motion to proceed with obtaining split-state status in order to allow the majority of the state to upgrade its status, while the counties surrounding TB affected area would remain MA. The Board is committed to limiting the impact of bovine TB on the state's cattle industry as a whole.

TB Management Area

The Board adopted the DNR-defined zones for establishing cattle management requirements to minimize exposure of cattle to deer that could be infected with TB. These requirements became effective in June 2007.

All cattle producers in the 'Core Area' and 'Management Zone' are required to TB test their herds annually. In addition, producers in the 'Core Area' must receive a movement permit from the Board and ensure each animal has a current TB test before it is moved off the farm. Producers in the 'Core Area' must also implement the recommendations of a wildlife risk assessment performed on their premises to reduce cattle/deer interaction.

Area Testing

Per USDA requirement, Minnesota must test all cattle,



bison and cervidae herds within 10 miles of a previously infected herd or a TB-infected deer (referred to as 'Area Testing'). The eleventh herd is located near a

formerly infected herd and will not significantly increase the size of the 10-mile area.

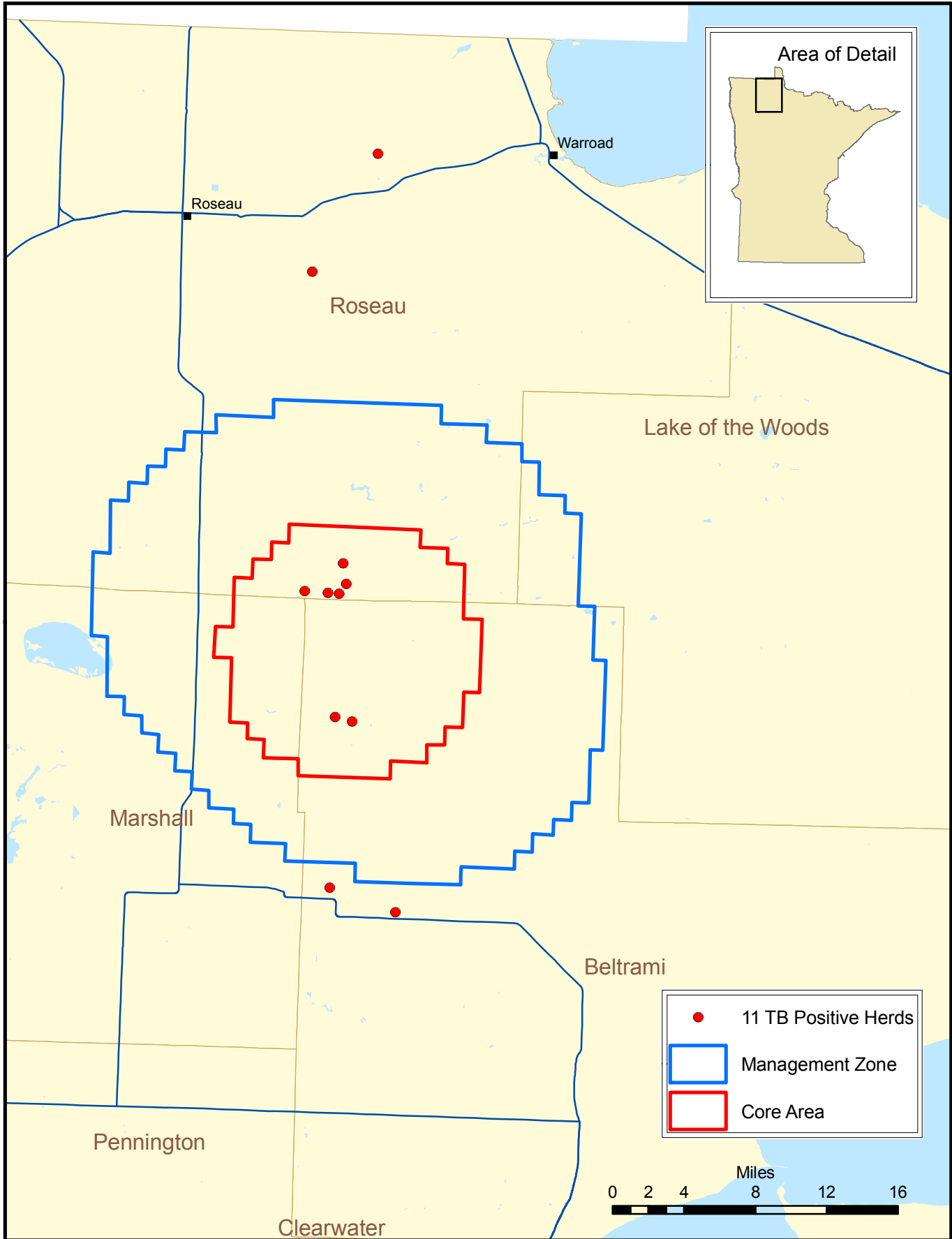
Statewide Surveillance Program

In December 2007, the Board announced the conclusion of its Statewide Bovine TB Surveillance. The testing campaign, aimed at verifying that the disease was located only in northwestern Minnesota, tested more than 1550 cattle herds across the state. All herds were negative.

For more information on Minnesota's efforts to eradicate bovine TB, log onto the Board's website at www.bah.state.mn.us.

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Bovine Tuberculosis Infected Cattle and Deer



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