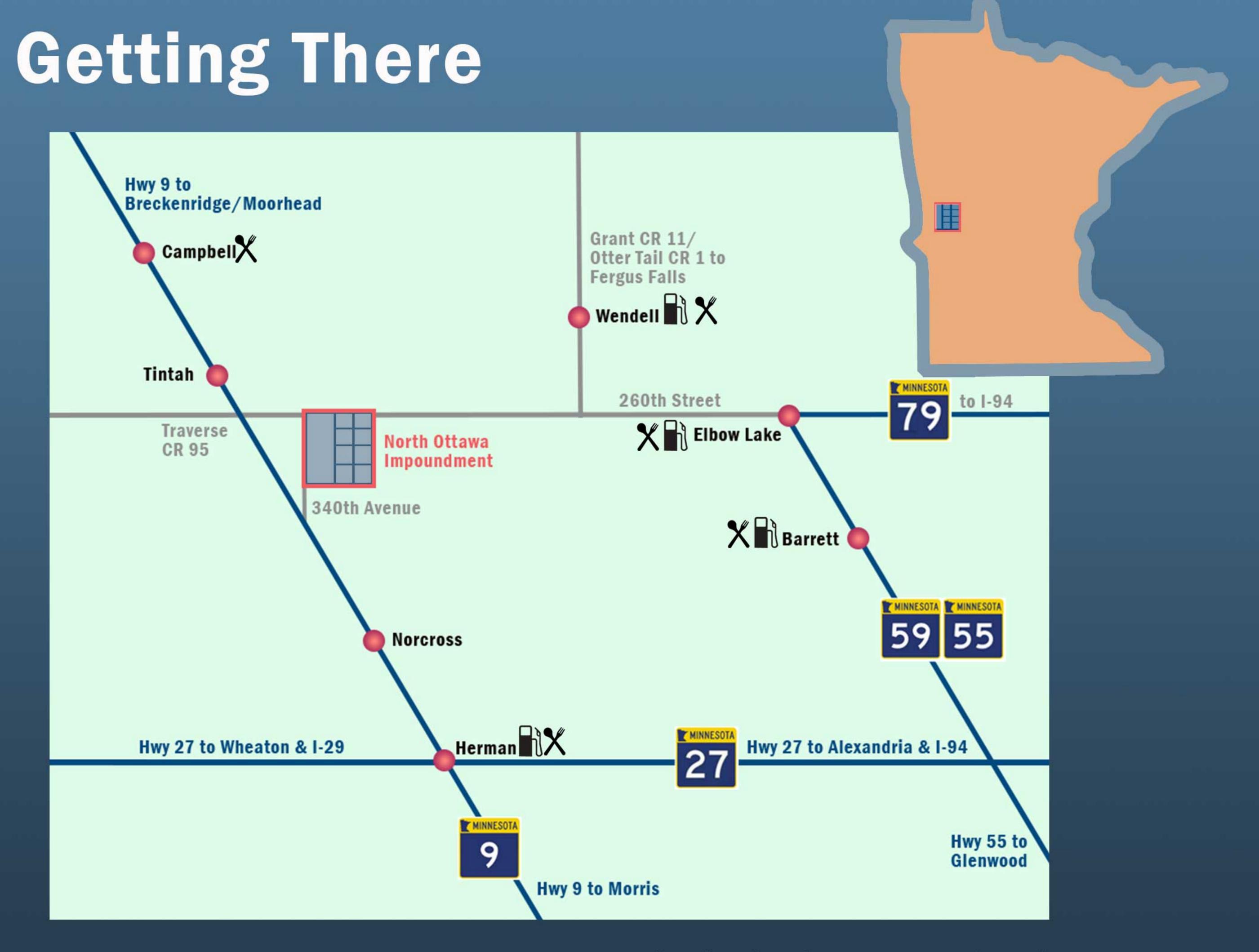


North Ottawa Impoundment

Grant County, Minnesota





45.99563, -96.25672

70 miles SE of Fargo-Moorhead 180 miles NW of Minneapolis-St. Paul 200 miles N of Sioux Falls



ABOUT THE IMPOUNDMENT

The North Ottawa Impoundment was finished in 2016, after nearly 20 years of development and construction. The facility provides 16,000 acre-feet of flood storage during spring snowmelt. Following spring snowmelt, water is slowly released from Cell C to expose mudflats. Agricultural cells are designated annually to provide funds to maintain the facility. Some cells are managed for natural resource enhancement benefits.

A SAMPLE OF OBSERVED SPECIES

SHOREBIRDS

Dunlin
Least Sandpiper
Upland Sandpiper*
Semipalmated Plover
Semipalmated Sandpiper*
Spotted Sandpiper
Wilson's Phalarope*
Short-billed Dowitcher*
Marbled Godwit*
Wilson's Snipe

WADING BIRDS

Great Blue Heron
American White Pelican*
Horned Grebe*
Sandhill Crane
Black-crowned Night Heron*
American Bittern*
Cattle Egret
Red-necked Grebe*
White-faced Ibis*
American Avocet*
Black-necked Stilt*
Glossy Ibis*
King Rail*



Northern Shoveler
Green-winged Teal
Gadwall
Northern Pintail*
Wood Duck
Redhead
Ruddy Duck
Hooded Merganser
Lesser Scaup*
Ring-necked Duck*
American Wigeon
Red-breasted Merganser
Trumpeter Swan*
Canvasback

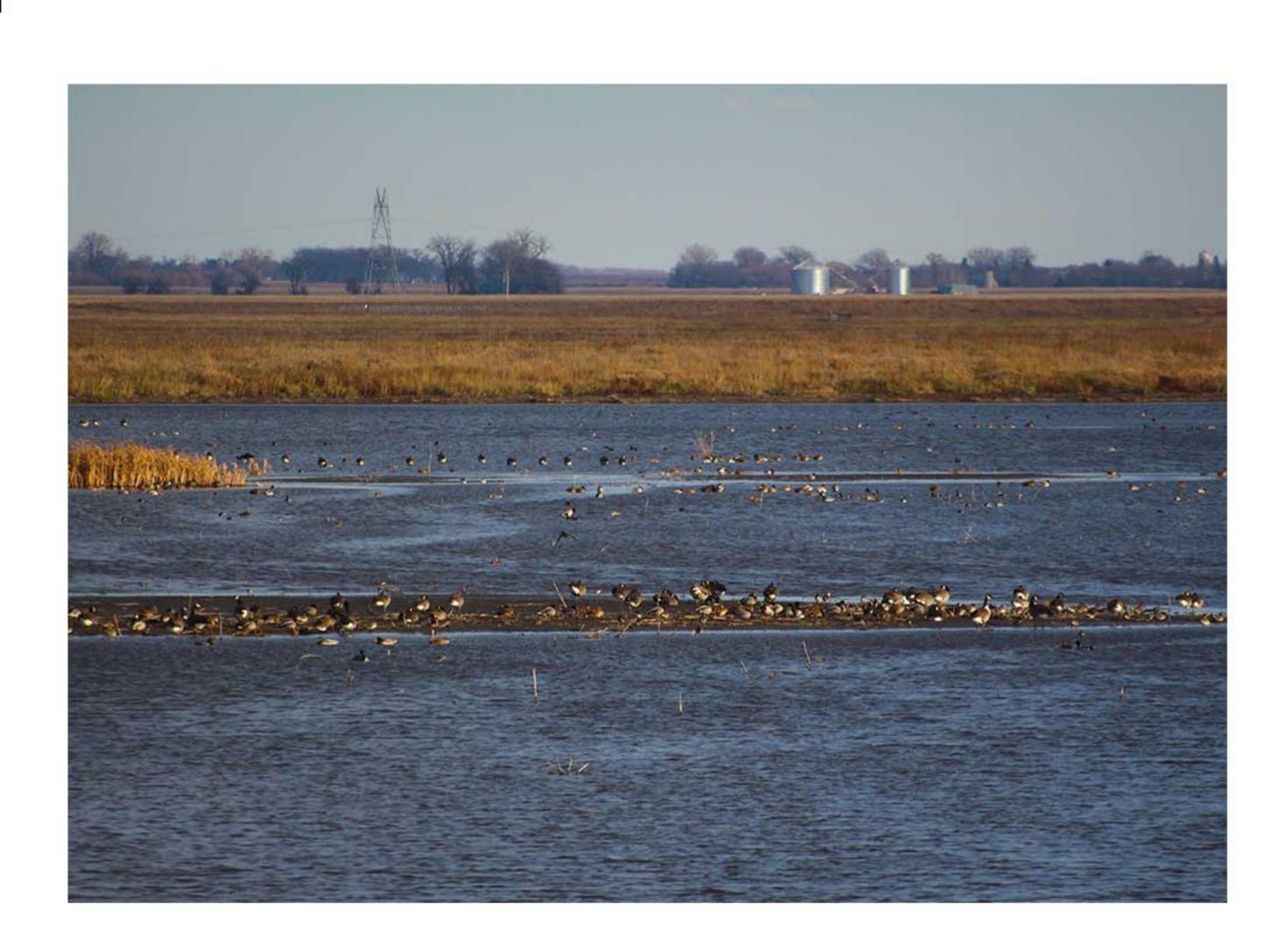


Scoter Canada Goose Ross's Goose Snow Goose White fronted Goose

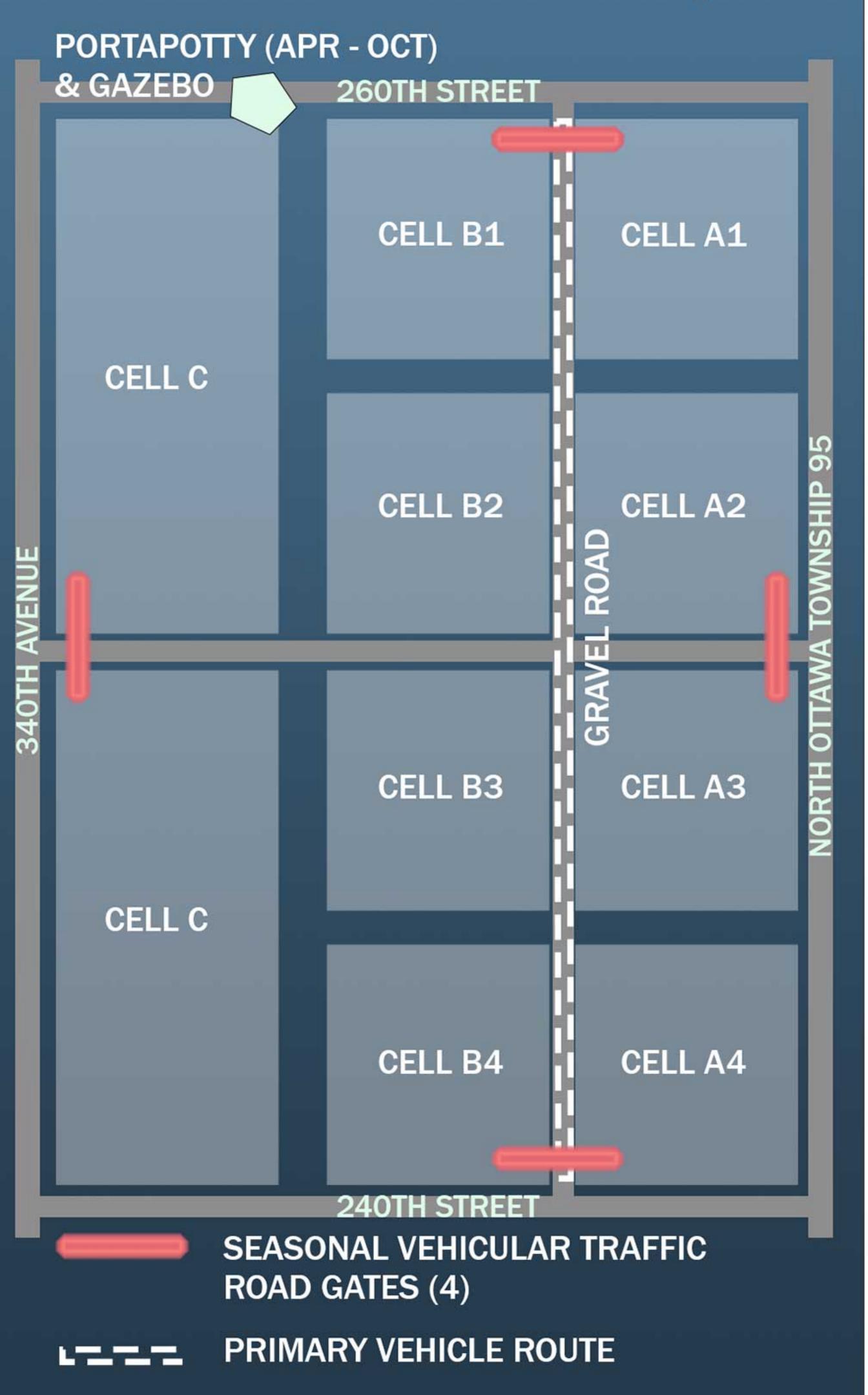
OTHER

Northern Hawk Owl* Greater Prairie Chicken* Little Blue Heron* Great-tailed Grackle* Whimbrel*

*Denotes rare or unusual species



Interior Map



The North-South gravel road between the A & B Cells is the exclusive route for vehicles. All other roads and paths are intended for pedestrian traffic only, and are closed to vehicles.

TIPS FOR VISITORS

Although there are birds and waterfowl that can be observed year-round, the most active times at the North Ottawa Impoundment are at spring and fall migrations.

The Impoundment is a designated game refuge. Road gates are closed during fall hunting seasons to protect migrating birds and other wildlife.

Inside each cell, you will see a "borrow" pit (named because material was dug from this channel, aka "borrowed" to build the tall cell flood levies). Watch for birds and wildlife in the borrow pits.

Although there is a lot to see at the Impoundment, don't forget to listen - unique songbirds, insects, toads, and frogs compete for airtime!

Please share your finds on with us on https://ebird.org/hotspot/L2182908



OUR TOP TIP: Don't forget your binoculars or spotting scope!