NATIONAL RESOURCES

MINING MINNESOTA
Responsible Development of Natural Resources

The differences come down to purpose, management, and what activities are allowed.

	FOREST	PARK
Example	Superior National Forest	Yellowstone National Park
Managing Party	U.S. Forest Service (within the Dept. of Agriculture)	National Park Service (within the Dept. of the Interior)
Primary Purpose	Multiple Use Managed for a balance of recreation (hiking, camping, hunting, fishing), timber harvesting, grazing, watershed protection and mining.	Preservation Set aside to protect natural and cultural resources, preserve scenery and wildlife, provide recreation that does not impair the landscape.
Summary	Forests are working landscapes where conservation matters, but so do sustainable economic uses. Activities like logging, motorized recreation and mineral development can be permitted under strict regulations. Managed for both conservation and responsible use.	Logging, mining, and resource extraction are **not** allowed. The emphasis is on protecting the land in as natural a state as possible. Managed primarily for protection and preservation.

HOW DOES A WILDERNESS DIFFER?



Wilderness areas (like the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness) are the most protected federal land designation in the United States. They were created under the Wilderness Act of 1964, which defines wilderness as places "where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man."

Wilderness can exist *inside* a national forest or a national park, but it has stricter rules than either. For example, the Boundary Waters is inside the Superior National Forest, but its management rules are far more restrictive than the surrounding forest. In a designated wilderness area there is no logging, mining, roads, permanent structures, motorized vehicles or equipment. Non-motorized recreation like canoeing, hiking, and camping is allowed. The goal is to preserve both the natural condition and the experience of solitude and primitive recreation.

BIG PICTURE

National Forest = managed landscape, National Park = protected landscape, Wilderness Area = protected and intentionally kept primitive.