

1. Hwy 169 Trailhead. From the Hwy 169 Trailhead, if you head west on the North Country Trail you will reach the Copper Falls State Park Pavilion in 10 miles. There is a brochure called “Copper Falls Pavilion to Hwy 169 near the Tyler Forks River” that you can use for that hike. To go east to Wren Falls from the Trailhead Parking Lot, head south on Hwy 169. After a short ways you will cross over the Tyler Forks River. Then you will be hiking past some farms.

2. Once you’ve hiked about a mile going south on Hwy 169, you reach the St Johns Cemetary. This might be a spot for you to take a break because it’s on top of a little hill with a nice view. Continuing South you will soon reach the corner of Hwy 169 and County Line Road. Take a left on County Line Road.

3. You hike east on County Line Road for about a mile. The road is gravel and goes steadily uphill until it does a 90 degree turn going to the south.

4. At the turn of the County Line Road there is a creek with a rather deep ditch to cross. Don’t cross there. Instead, go south for about 30 to 50 yards then cut in and you’ll be able to cross the creek easier. Once you’ve crossed the creek, take a rather large forest road going to the northeast. Once you are east of the County Line Road, you are in the Iron County Forest. *Continues on back.*

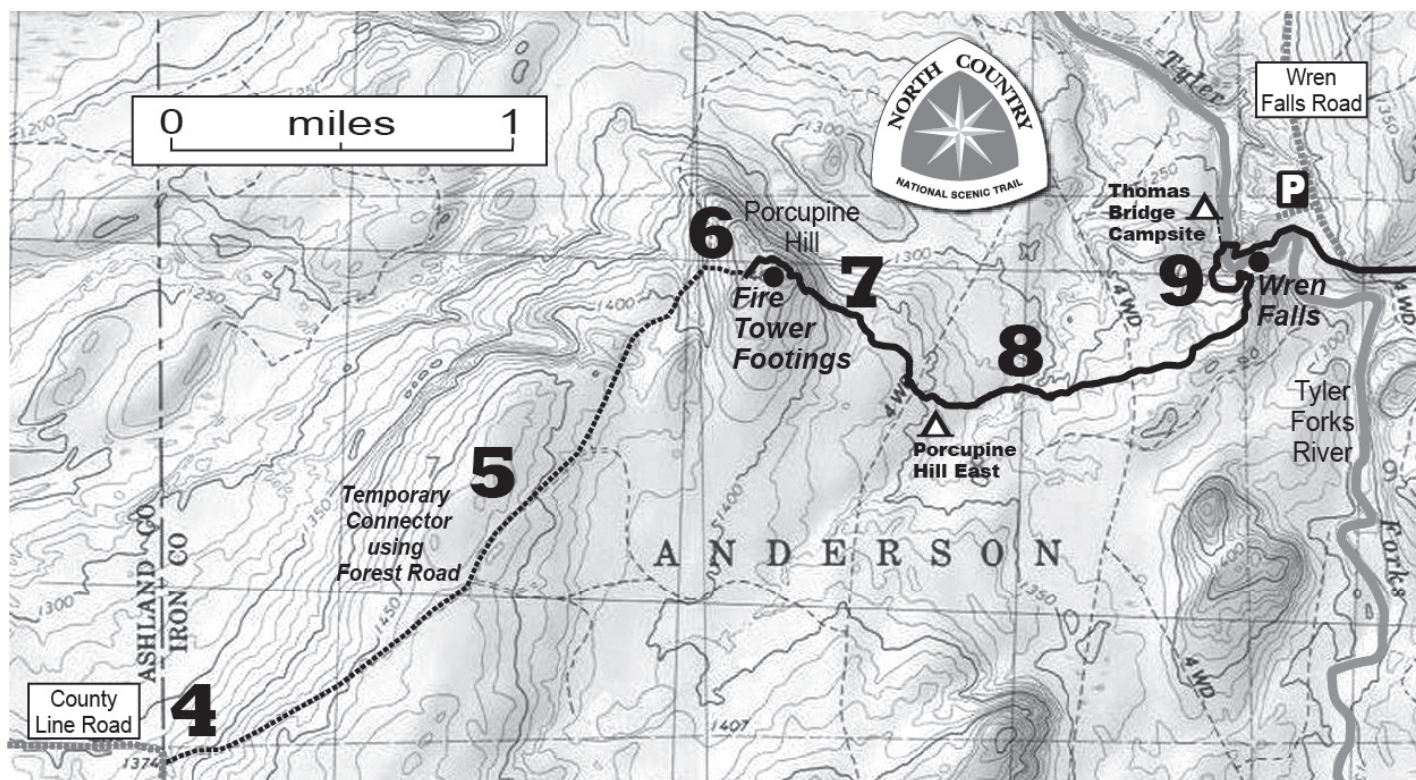
# Hwy 169 at the Tyler Forks River Bridge to Wren Falls



## HERITAGE CHAPTER

ASHLAND AND  
IRON COUNTIES,  
WISCONSIN

North Country  
National  
Scenic Trail



5. After crossing the creek at County Line Road you connect to a rather large forest road and start hiking to the north east. You hike on the forest road for over a mile. You may meet ATV's along the way. Then you get to a spot marked by a double blaze where there is a small forest road going to the right.
6. You travel on the small forest road for only about 300 yards. First, you will see some pink ribbons going to the left. Ignore those ribbons because they are the future route going to the Hwy 169 Trailhead. That route cannot be completely finished until there is a bridge built over the Tyler Forks River. The river is too dangerous to cross without a bridge. Continue on the small forest road for a very short ways after that and you will see a double blaze turn signal going to the left. Take that turn and it goes uphill using a switchback until you reach the rock footings from an old fire tower that was used in the early 1900s.
7. After the fire tower footings you go downhill in a curved route. Most of this route has not been totally cleared yet, so keep following the pink ribbons. Soon you cross the small forest road and continue going east until you reach a larger forest road
8. Shortly after crossing the forest road you will reach a creek with a bridge and a trail leading to the new Porcupine Hill East Campsite. These were all built by the Wisconsin Rovers Trail Crew in November, 2020. Continuing through the woods you eventually reach another creek and a ways after that you cross another forest road. After that you continue hiking through the woods and after 1/4 mile you start going on a downhill run. At the bottom you reach a small forest road.
9. If you take the small forest road going to the right, in about 50 yards you will reach the Wren Falls Overlook on the west side of the river. Continuing on the North Country Trail after crossing the small forest road, the trail curves around on the side of a hill up from the Tyler Forks River. Eventually you get closer to the river, then reach the Bill Thomas Memorial Bridge. Taking a side trail north from the bridge, after about 100 yards you reach the Thomas Bridge Backpacking campsite. Continuing across the bridge on the NCT, you soon reach Wren Falls on the east side of the river, then a parking lot on Wren Falls Road.

**Please Note this entire section of trail is built and maintained by the Volunteers of the Heritage Chapter of the North Country Trail Association. To help out, call Chapter President Kevin Steffens at 262-498-0046, or email [htg@northcountrytrail.org](mailto:htg@northcountrytrail.org) Our website is located at [www.northcountrytrail.org/trail/wisconsin/htg/](http://www.northcountrytrail.org/trail/wisconsin/htg/)**