

# Mineland Reclamation: Redhead Mountain Bike Trail, Chisholm



Photo credits: Minnesota Discovery Center

- Redhead Mountain Bike Park opened in 2021 near Minnesota Discovery Center (MDC) in Chisholm. The park has beginner, intermediate and advanced trails.
- The 25-mile trail traverses amidst 1,225 acres of mining impacted land with rich red earth surfaces, steep and rugged rock ledges, lush green forestry, and open mine pits full of clear blue water.
- The majority of Redhead land is owned by Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation. Smaller portions of the park are owned by St. Louis County. The park is leased to the city of Chisholm who is responsible for trail maintenance, along with MDC and Iron Range Off Road Cyclists.
- The Redhead land once yielded iron ore that was transferred to America's steel mills. Mining ceased on the parcels several decades ago, and the property now draws mountain bikers, hikers, e-bikers, kayakers, canoers and other outdoor recreation enthusiasts.
- The Redhead won an award from Environmental Initiative in 2022 for work done to transform an area that housed ten idled iron mines into an outdoor recreation facility. It also won the Innovation Award from Minnesota Brownfields for employing unique and innovative approaches to redevelopment challenges related to engineering, financing, legal and community outreach.
- Northeastern Minnesota is wide-known for outdoor adventure. People travel to the region for golf, hiking, hunting, fishing and ATV riding. The area is being poised as a national mountain biking destination. In addition to Redhead, several other trail systems throughout the region are either developed or on the horizon including: Tioga in Cohasset, Giants Ridge in Biwabik, Cuyuna Lakes Recreation Area in Crosby, Hidden Valley in Ely, Tofte/Lutsen/ Grand Marias system in Cook County, and Split Rock Wilds in Lake County.

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation provides funding to assist with highly visible development and restoration of mining-impacted lands in northeastern Minnesota.