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# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Hibbing man sentenced for growing marijuana plants**

A 50-year-old Hibbing man was sentenced today in federal court for manufacturing more than 270 marijuana plants in Itasca County.

On Feb. 2 in Minneapolis, United States District Court Judge James Rosenbaum sentenced Matthew X. Lindgren to 60 months in prison and four years supervised release on one count of manufacturing and possession with intent to distribute 100 or more marijuana plants. Lindgren was indicted on Feb. 6, 2008, and pleaded guilty on Sept. 8, 2008.

According to Lindgren's plea agreement, he admitted he knowingly and intentionally manufactured and possessed with intent to distribute approximately 278 marijuana plants. Lindgren also admitted he developed and maintained a marijuana cultivation site near Gunn Lake, on the Chippewa National Forest, located on a boggy area off of Forrest Road 3766A.

The site contained seven separate plots, with approximately 30-35 plants in each plot. Lindgren admitted he transported the harvested plants to a Hibbing residence to store them.

This case was the result of an investigation by the U.S. Forest Service and the Itasca County Sheriff's Office and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey M. Bryan.