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Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Releases Final Revised Forest Plan

Park Falls and Rhinelander, Wis. – May 4, 2004. Forest Supervisor Anne Archie announced the release of the Revised Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. The Notice of Availability is expected to be published in the Federal Register on May 14, 2004.

This revised Plan sets direction for the management of 1.5 million acres of National Forest land in 11 northern Wisconsin counties. Four major topics are addressed: Access and Recreation Opportunities, Biological Diversity, Special Land Allocations, and Timber Production.

According to Archie, “This is a well-crafted, balanced plan. It helps to meet our need for wild places and essential forest products, and contributes to the social and economic well-being of the people of Wisconsin and the Nation.”

The Forest received 2,941 public responses on the Draft Forest Plan, that was released in April, 2003. “Public involvement helped shape this management plan and we appreciate the support and information they provided,” said Archie.

The new Plan addresses management issues such as recreation and biodiversity, as well as scientific information that was not covered in the original Forest Plan implemented in 1986.

Forest Plan documents are available in CD or hard copy, and can be obtained by calling or visiting Forest Service offices in Rhinelander, Park Falls, Eagle River, Florence, Glidden, Hayward, Lakewood, Laona, Medford, Park Falls, Rhinelander, and Washburn, Wisconsin. Copies have also been distributed and are available for viewing at colleges, universities, and community libraries in Wisconsin. In addition, all documents are available on the Chequamegon-Nicolet web page: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf>

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