

Main points from e-mailed comments about Pere Marquette Plan update

- Overuse of upper river
- More area of the river should be open to foot traffic.
- Open up more access for boating and wading anglers.
- "It would be great to open up that lower stretch to those of us who are looking for a half day float/fish."
- Open boat launch in Lower Branch Bridge area or a substitute nearby.
- More representation from DNR needed to stop snagging.
- Rules limiting canoes and other watercraft fine.
- "As a guide on the PM who has been guiding under other people's permits since 1995 I feel I should be given a chance to obtain my own permit for use on the Pere Marquette River."
- Bank/vegetation damage in spring from steelhead fishermen. Damage also due to waders reluctance to walk in water up or down stream. Foot traffic damage cumulative through both steelhead and salmon season at entry/exit points.
- Establish an enforceable alcohol limit.
- Private property being vandalized
- Trespass is a problem
- Shift canoe use downstream
- Lack of parking at Rainbow Rapids is a problem
- Cars parking in spots meant for trailers is a problem
- More enforcement needed
- Limit canoe use
- Increase no kill from M-37 all the way to Custer
- Bring back the 'crying native American' commercial about litter and pollution
- Too many watercraft (canoes, kayaks, driftboats) are making it harder for wading anglers to fish
- Limit the size of watercraft allowed (some drift boats seem too large for the PM)
- "There is no public boat launch at Lower Walhalla Bridge but guides are lifting boats over the guide rail at the edge of the road and sliding them down and into the water."
- Guides should be permitted by stretch of the river to help spread out the use
- Limit commercial use of the river
- Online permit system would help
- Perhaps during the week no permits should be required for fishermen
- Water quality should be #1 priority
- Open more access along the river
- More access down river to help with congestion and overuse
- Ban night fishing
- Guides are sitting on holes
- More access points would allow shorter trips
- Maybe permits could be for half days. Many people use the river either in the a.m. or p.m. This could help spread out use.

- “The watercraft usage tags are not available after the USFS office in Baldwin closes in the evening. This leaves many fishermen who would like to float the PM in the evening with two choices. Secure the permit in advance, and pray the weather is good enough to fish, or float without a permit, and pray for poor enforcement.”
- More trash receptacles at the access points and education about litter on the river
- Create a permit system that would apply to all anglers
- Start to charge a fee for permits. “These daily fees are in addition to license and guide fees. A substantial daily fee would certainly limit my fishing, but if that is what it would take to assure a satisfying experience when I do go fishing, I would be willing to pay.”
- “The liveries should be required to provide direct employee-customer education to each watercraft operator prior to push-off. Topics to discuss one-on-one should be location and distance to public rest stops, indecent exposure, obscene language and behavior, hours of activity (off the river by 6pm), excessive noise rafting, and trespass.”