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For Immediate Release

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#### Baraga Bump Fire – Media Information Sheet – May 1, 2007

Tuesday brought some welcome rain to the Baraga Bump Fire. As of 4pm two small short periods of showers have fallen on the fire and the weather remains cloudy. Temperatures have remained cool, humidities are up from yesterday, and winds have remained light. All of this helps the firefighting efforts and good progress continues to be made. Warmer and Drier Weather is expected as the week progresses. This will test the control efforts made to date. At this time new information has the fire estimated at 80% containment. The lines around the fire north of the Sturgeon River are generally good, while those south of the river still need work. The area south of the river has poor access and steep terrain that is wet and difficult to work in.

The fire was estimated at 1332 acres as of this morning. More information is needed on the area south of the river and the acreage figure continues to be refined. A 20 person crew from Missouri arrived this afternoon, boosting the total number of firefighters to approximately 120 people, along with 14 water units and 3 dozers working the fire today. Another 20 person fire crew from Indiana is due in later this evening. Two more crews are enroute.

Agencies involved in the fire include the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), US Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Michigan State Police, Covington and L'Anse Volunteer Fire Departments, Covington Ambulance, Baraga County Emergency Management, American Red Cross as well as local volunteers. Incident Commander Paul Gaberdiel and a DNR fire overhead team continue to lead the suppression efforts on this fire.

No structures have been damaged from the fire. No civilian or firefighter injuries have been sustained. No further evacuations have been needed since those ordered and released on the first day. Fire suppression efforts are still very active. Residents and the general public continue to be requested to avoid the fire area and allow firefighters and their equipment to accomplish necessary fire suppression tasks.

Residents are reminded that the fire danger remains high. Fire permits are required for any outdoor burning. Even with issued burning permits, residents are reminded to use extreme caution with any outdoor burning. Residents are also reminded that there are a number of activities that they can accomplish around their properties to protect their

dwellings. Firewise activities and concepts can be adopted by residents that can increase their personal safety and the safety of their homes and buildings. More Firewise information can be obtained from Michigan State University Extension Offices and from the Firewise website at [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).