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For Immediate Release

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Baraga Bump Fire – Media Information Sheet 5:00PM. Day 6 – May 4, 2007

Despite weather conditions that produced Red Flag Warnings the number of smokes detected on the Baraga Bump fire continued to decrease. Low humidities combined with higher temperatures and steady winds encouraged hot spots to smoke and show themselves but good mop-up work by crews over the last five days has eliminated them within 200 feet of the fire line. Operations Chief Steve Babler reported that all smokes seen today were well within the fire interior and crews were actively chasing them down with water and hand tools. Observations by aircraft spotted only one smoke which was located on the north bank of the Sturgeon River and is being attacked by a twenty person crew from Indiana. The containment estimate has reached 100% and the acreage estimate remains at 1122 acres.

The Red Flag warning issued by the National Weather Service continues until 9:00 p.m. this evening. The weather forecast for tomorrow does not reach Red Flag conditions due to cooler temperatures and lower wind speeds. A potential break in the weather is on the horizon with showers and thunderstorms forecast for Sunday night into Monday.

Today, 118 personnel worked on the fire, along with 4 water units and 1 dozer. Four hand crews continued to do the bulk of the mop-up work. Firefighters will be available for initial attack on any new fires in the area. The transfer of management of the fire, which can be a time of confusion and safety concerns, went seamlessly from the Michigan DNR Type 2 overhead crew led by Paul Gaberdiel to Bob Garrison's Type 3 Ottawa National Forest team. This smooth transition is a testament to the professionalism of both teams.

No structures were reported damaged by the fire today. No further evacuations have been needed since those ordered and released on the first day. Fire suppression efforts remain ongoing in the area. Residents and the general public should still avoid the fire area and allow firefighters and their equipment to accomplish necessary fire suppression tasks. With the high forecast fire danger the public should be extremely careful with fire through the weekend.

Agencies who continue to be involved in the fire include the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), US Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Covington Volunteer Fire Departments, Covington Ambulance, Baraga County Emergency Management, American Red Cross as well as local volunteers. Local residents have been extremely generous to the firefighters with copious gifts of food and an endless

supply of smiles and goodwill. It is appreciated by everyone associated with the fire suppression effort.

Fire danger will be very high this weekend, please remember that burn permits are required for any outdoor burning, and will not likely be allowed during such high fire times. Check to see if burn permits may be obtained online at the website www.michigan.gov/burnpermit or by phone at 1 866 922 2876. 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.