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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

September 17, 2007

TO: Rebecca A. Humphries, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

SUBJECT: Concept of Management for the Pigeon River State Forest – For Information Only

Authority: The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Department to develop plans for the long-term management of the State forests.

Discussion and Background:

The Pigeon River Country is one of the largest blocks of undeveloped land in the Lower Peninsula. It is recognized as the home of Michigan's unique elk herd. The Pigeon River Country is valued as one of Michigan's most precious resources. In 1973, the Pigeon River Concept of Management was adopted to protect and guide the management of this area. Today, there is an increasing demand for recreational use, and increasing impacts from development in the area. These influences have the potential to change the wilderness character of the Pigeon River. The Pigeon River Country State Forest Concept of Management is being reviewed and potentially amended to ensure that the unique and wild character of the forest is protected. The current draft can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/documents/dnr/ConceptofManagement5-23-07Draft_201064_7.pdf.

Recommendation:

The Concept of Management is submitted for information and consideration. It will be submitted for final action in November 2007.

Douglas A. Reeves, Acting Chief
Wildlife Division

Kelly D. Smith, Chief
Fisheries Division

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