



Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council DNR Division Reports

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This documentation is provided by Michigan DNR staff as a supplement for Western UPCAC Council members. Please email or call with any questions.

Upper Peninsula Field Deputy Update – Stacy Haughey

July 5, 2022

Media contacts: [Brian Roell](#), 906-228-6561 or [Cody Norton](#), 906-202-3023

Comment on Michigan's draft 2022 wolf management plan by Aug. 4

Those interested in sharing feedback about the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' newest draft of the state's wolf management plan are invited to complete an [online questionnaire](#), available through Aug. 4. Michigan's wolf management plan – created in 2008 and updated in 2015 – is being updated this year, using public input to identify prominent issues, assess public attitudes and review the biological and social science surrounding wolves.

The [draft 2022 plan](#) has four principal goals:

- Maintain a viable wolf population.
- Facilitate wolf-related benefits.
- Minimize wolf-related conflicts.
- Conduct science-based and socially responsible management of wolves.



Michigan's wolf management plan has guided oversight of this iconic species in the state for the last 13 years. The 2022 update will include recent scientific literature, input from the [Wolf Management Advisory Council](#) and results of a new public survey about wolves in Michigan.

"Now that we have written a draft of the updated 2022 wolf management plan, it's important that we gather feedback from the public to ensure the changes we're proposing will support the long-term presence of a viable wolf population in Michigan, while addressing the needs of those with an interest in the health and viability of the state's wolf population," said Cody Norton, DNR large carnivore specialist.

Michigan's gray wolf population was almost eliminated by the mid-1970s. Today, Michigan has a wolf population close to 700 in the Upper Peninsula. Gray wolves in Michigan were again removed from the federal endangered species list in early 2021, but a federal court decision in February 2022 returned them to federal protections.

The [online questionnaire](#) will accept comments through Aug. 4. For more information about wolves in Michigan, visit Michigan.gov/Wolves.



DNR Pocket Park - UP State Fair in Escanaba August 15 through August 21, 2022



Soon the DNR Pocket Park will be swirling with thousands of parents and children wanting to learn how to catch a fish or hit the bullseye with a bow or pellet gun. We are looking forward to seeing you all again because we can't do it without you! Volunteers like you make the park one of the top destinations to visit during the UP State Fair each year. **We hope we can count on you to volunteer this year!**

Please help us NOW by considering a few things below.

1. Look at your calendar and please consider volunteering a bit of time during the week of August 15-21. Your family member(s), friends, and coworkers (and mature younger kids too!) are also more than welcome to volunteer. Make it a fun group effort! Remember, there are concerts and other events scheduled at the fair...coordinate your shift with those you want to see to get in for free! (<https://www.upstatefair.net/entertainment/grandstand-events/>)
2. If you are available, send us an email or call to let us know you can volunteer.
3. There are so many slots to fill! If you have a favorite activity and/or slot you'd like, tell us and we will slot you in. No prior experience is necessary—we will train you!
4. Call, text, or email Jo Ann Alexander (alexanderj7@michigan.gov / 906-786-2351, Ext. 0 -Escanaba) or Kristi Dahlstrom (dahlstromk@michigan.gov / 906-226-1331-Marquette) for volunteer slots.



THANK YOU! We look forward to seeing you in August!

Pocket Park Fair Week Open/Volunteer Shift Hours

- Monday, August 15 - 5:00pm-8:00pm
- Tuesday, August 16 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Wednesday, August 17 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Thursday, August 18 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Friday, August 19 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Saturday, August 20 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Sunday, August 21 - 12:00pm-3:00pm



Activities/Stations

- Fishing Pond (7 per shift per day)
- Archery Range (4 per shift per day)
- Pellet Gun Range (4 per shift per day)
- Fire Tower (1-2 per shift per day)
- Greeters (2 per shift per day)
- NEW THIS YEAR: Smokey Bounce House! (2 per shift per day)
- Hospitality Host (Cook and serve volunteer food items/volunteer assistant – 1 per shift per day)
- Rounder (Make rounds around park, delivering water and tending to volunteer needs, etc. – 1 per shift per day)
- Fish Repair Shack Helper (To repair fishing/archery equipment Wednesday-Saturday – 1 per shift per day)

June NRC Meeting Summary – Ed Golder, Public Information Officer

The Natural Resources Commission met on the West Campus of Lansing Community College on June 9, 2022. Resource Deputy Shannon Lott, on behalf of Director Dan Eichinger, approved:

- A proposed oil and gas lease auction to be held June 14. Some 12,500 acres are available for lease in 11 counties in the Northern Lower Peninsula. Proceeds will go to the State Parks Endowment Fund for the operation and maintenance of state parks.
- Two land transactions. Details can be found in the NRC agenda.
- Four land use orders related to Parks and Recreation facilities. These orders grew out of a routine review PRD conducts of its land regulations to provide needed updates. The orders cover:
 - Dark Sky Preserve operating hours
 - Operational updates at North Higgins Lake State Park and the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center
 - Equestrian campground use at certain state parks
 - Boating access site operations
- A new online reporting method for deer harvest. The new system will provide real-time information on how the deer season is progressing, show regional/county deer management unit trends throughout the season and provide more information on the timing of harvest and the type of deer being harvested. Online harvest reporting will be required of all hunters in the 2022 deer seasons. Hunters will have 72 hours to report their harvest. Enforcement in the first year will focus on educating hunters about this new regulation. Michigan will not be alone in requiring harvest reporting. Deer harvest reporting is currently mandatory in 10 nearby states – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.

Fisheries Committee

Gary Whelan from the Fisheries Division gave the committee an overview of fish disease in Michigan, noting differences and similarities between fish disease and wildlife disease. The presentation laid out the most common fish diseases currently in Michigan waters and identified the diseases most likely to next affect fish populations. The presentation also covered fish health policy, our staffing and budget for maintaining fish health, possible treatment for diseases, research on fish disease and public communication on the matter.

Wildlife Committee

Randy Claramunt from the Fisheries Division gave a presentation on managing conflict between cormorants and fish in Michigan. As a migratory bird, cormorants are protected under the federal Migratory Bird Act, which means the state has to obtain federal permission to control cormorant populations through permits. An individual cormorant can eat a pound to a pound and a half of fish a day. Collectively, cormorants eat tens of millions of pounds of fish a year in Michigan and are especially lethal at fish stocking sites. Randy's presentation laid out the state's response to this problem and a revised federal permit system that allows us to control cormorants.

Committee of the Whole, Director's Report

Resource Deputy Shannon Lott presented a Partners in Conservation Award to Melanie and Paul Mulder of Barryton. Since 2011, Paul and Melanie have been active statewide volunteers for the DNR's Adopt-a-Forest program. They have spent many hours of their free time scouting and cleaning illegal dumpsites on public lands throughout the state. The Mulders have been instrumental in supporting a Boat Recycling Pilot Project. This new initiative is seeking a recycling solution to fiberglass materials and tries to keep dilapidated boats from ending up on public forest land. The goal is to test the ability of shredded fiberglass boat hulls as an alternative fuel source for a cement kiln. Paul and Melanie have removed a dozen or so illegally dumped boats and transported them across the state to a central location as part of the pilot program.

Brian Frawley of the Wildlife Division gave a summary of the 2021 deer harvest survey. Among the major findings:

- There was nearly a 4% decrease in the number of license buyers in 2021 compared to 2020.
- There was nearly a 5% decrease in the number of people who went afield compared to the previous year.
- Overall harvest was not significantly different from the previous year, although antlerless harvest decreased by 10 percent.

- Most levels of hunter satisfaction (except antler size) improved.

A report on legislation affecting the department was provided to commissioners (see below).

How to Participate in the NRC Meetings

- If you're unable to attend the meeting but wish to submit written comments on agenda items, please write to: Natural Resources Commission, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909 or email: nrc@michigan.gov.
- If you would like further information or would like to address the Commission, please contact the NRC Assistant at 517-599-1067 or email: nrc@michigan.gov. Persons registering on or before the Friday preceding the meeting will be allowed up to five (5) minutes for their presentation. Persons registering after the Friday preceding the meeting or at the meeting will be allowed up to three (3) minutes. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact the NRC Assistant.
- Look for the agendas and other Natural Resources Commission items at the NRC webpage (www.michigan.gov/NRC).

June 2022 Legislative Updates – Legislative & Legal Affairs Office

HB 4969 – Require Conservation Officers to Wear Body Cameras While on Patrol – Rep. LaFave: House Bill 4969 would require conservation officers to wear body cameras while on patrol.

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 5642 – Designate Official State Butterfly – Rep. Brixie: This bill designates the black swallowtail butterfly as the official butterfly of the state of Michigan.

- This bill was reported with recommendation from the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

HB 5740 – Seven Day Hunting License for Senior Citizens – Rep. Eisen: This bill would create a seven-day senior deer license for a fee of \$12.00 that would be valid for taking antlered or antlerless deer during any seven-day period from October 1 to November 1 with a firearm on private land.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 5902 – Regulate the Use of Bait During Hunting Season – Rep. Eisen: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the baiting of deer and elk.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 5972 – Modify Water Resource Improvement District Definition – Rep. Mueller: The bill would amend the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act to modify definition of water resource improvement district to include water trails.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Local Government and Municipal Finance.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 6023 – Modify Regulations for Mining Gravel Operations – Rep. Damoose: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit the Department from charging royalties to a state department, local government, or government entity such as a county road commission for the taking of gravel from state-owned land.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 6066 – Eliminate the Ability of the Department to Prosecute Certain Offenses Without the Prosecuting Attorney – Rep. LaFave: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to eliminate the Department's ability to prosecute certain offenses without the prosecuting attorney of any county.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 6067 – Modify the Distribution of Revenue from Carbon Credits – Rep. VanSingel: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide the Department with the conditions under which the sale of carbon credits or other ecological services is allowed and specifies the fund to which that revenue is directed.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

SB 1003 – Include Definition of Peace Officer in ORV Laws – Sen. VanderWall: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow seasonal deputies, those not certified by Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) that have limited authorities, to work specific ORV patrols, similar to marine or snowmobile deputies that are currently allowed.

- This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

SB 1028 – Provide Appropriations from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund – Sen. Huizenga: This bill contains the recommendations made by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board for Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant awards for Fiscal Year 2022. The proposed appropriation totals almost \$45.6 million in project funding from the trust fund.

- The bill was passed by the Senate and referred to the House Committee on Appropriations.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

If you would like to learn more about these and other bills, you can access the Michigan Legislature website at <https://www.legislature.mi.gov>.

Good Information to Know

DNR Public Meetings – Future Dates

For virtual or conference call meeting information, please go to the DNR website at: www.michigan.gov/DNRMeetings and click on the appropriate meeting and/or agenda for instructions.

July 20	Western Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Council, 6pm, MTU, Houghton
July 22	Timber and Forest Products Advisory Council, 8:30am (call 517-582-3220)
August 4	Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Council, 6pm, Munising Township Hall, Wetmore
August 6	State Forest Public Comment Period –Crystal Falls Unit (call 906-875-5025)
August 11	Natural Resources Commission Meeting, Lansing (call 517-599-1067)
August 15	State Forest Public Comment Period – Sault Ste. Marie Unit (call 906-477-6048, x2040)
August 20	State Forest Public Comment Period –Gwinn Unit (call 906-346-9201, x103)
August 23	State Forest Public Comment Period –Shingleton Unit (call 906-452-6227, x240)
August 23	Wildlife's UP Sportsperson Coalition, Crystal Falls–TBD, 6pm Central
August 25	Wildlife's UP Sportsperson Coalition, Shingleton–TBD
August 30	State Forest Compartment Review –Escanaba Unit (call 906-786-2354, x142)
August 31	Wildlife's UP Sportsperson Coalition, Escanaba–Bay College, 6pm
September 5	State Forest Public Comment Period –Newberry Unit (call 906-293-3293, x4740)
September 6	Wildlife's UP Sportsperson Coalition, DNR Marquette, 6pm
September 8	Natural Resources Commission Meeting, Detroit (call 517-599-1067)
September 27	State Forest Compartment Review – Crystal Falls Unit (call 906-875-5025)
September 27	Wildlife's UP Sportsperson Coalition, Sault Ste, Marie–TBD, 2pm
October 4	State Forest Compartment Review –Sault Ste. Marie Unit (call 906-477-6048, x2040)
October 13	Natural Resources Commission Meeting, <u>Marquette</u> (call 517-599-1067)

U.P. State Park & State Sponsored Activities

Please check with the state park before attending activity for any scheduling changes.

July 22	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Iron Ore Heritage Bike Tour
July 23	Baraga State Park – Christmas in July
August 5	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Iron Ore Heritage Bike Tour
August 12	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Iron Ore Heritage Bike Tour
August 13	Fayette Historic Townsite – Fayette Heritage Days

August 15–21 DNR Pocket Park / UP State Fair Week – See Kristi to Volunteer! Be A Mentor, Make Memories

Sep 9–10	Bewabic State Park – Harvest Festival
Sep 10–12	Baraga State Park – Harvest Festival
Sep 10	Van Riper State Park – Harvest Festival
Sep 16–17	Fayette Historic State Park – A Paranormal Event
Sep 17	Van Riper State Park – Harvest Festival
Sep 23–24	Wells State Park – Spooktacular
Sep 24	Tahquamenon Falls State Park – Harvest Festival
Sep 24	Brimley State Park – Harvest Festival

Recent DNR Press Releases

For full details, go to: www.michigan.gov/dnrpressroom

- DNR News: Rep the Kirtland's warbler, CO academy startup, NRC meets in Lansing (7/12/22)
- Showcasing the DNR: The deepest egg hunt in the Great Lakes (7/7/22)
- State park volunteering, river cleanup, muskie survey, more (7/6/22)
- Natural Resources Commission meets July 14 in Lansing; agenda posted online (7/6/22)
- Firefighters to contain 200-acre wildfire in Schoolcraft County (7/5/22)
- Comment on Michigan's draft 2022 wolf management plan by Aug. 4 (7/5/22)
- DNR Events: Outdoor skills, family fun, history, workouts on the water & more (7/5/22)
- 2022 bear and elk hunt drawing results available (7/5/22)
- Invasive beech leaf disease found in Michigan (7/5/22)
- Fourth of July firework tips, boating safety, aquatic invasives (7/1/22)
- Boating, fishing outreach events to mark Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week July 3–9 (7/1/22)
- Apply now for your fall turkey license (7/1/22)
- Over 185 parcels of surplus state-managed land available via online auction in August, September (6/30/22)
- Showcasing the DNR: Summertime blues, and pinks and purples (6/30/22)
- Share your thoughts with the DNR at July public meetings (6/29/22)

Grant Contacts

For grant information, to go: <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-58225---,00.html>

▪ Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant	Merrie Carlock, 517-284-5931, carlockm@michigan.gov
▪ Recreation Passport Grant	Merrie Carlock, 517-284-5931, carlockm@michigan.gov
▪ Aquatic Habitat Grant	Kelly Parker, 517-284-5957, parkerk4@michigan.gov
▪ Michigan Invasive Species Grant	Kammy Frayre, 517-284-5970, frayrek1@michigan.gov
▪ Wildlife Habitat Grant	Kelly Parker, 517-284-5957, parkerk4@michigan.gov
▪ U.P. Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Grant	Bill Scullon, 906-563-9247, scullonh@michigan.gov

Eastern UPCAC Update

The **Eastern UP Citizens' Advisory Council** met on June 7th in person in Newberry. The following topics were included on the agenda and discussed:

- DNR Division Reports by staff
- Last Wolf Management Advisory Council Meeting Update
- UP CWD Taskforce Update
- Snowmobile Season Summary
- Hunter Safety Program Issues
- Property Rights Along Shorelines (Great Lakes vs. Inland Lakes)
- Spread of Invasive Species by Vehicles/ORVs
- Subcommittee Reports: Nothing to report for Fisheries and Policy Impact
- Suggestions and Future Topics
- The next meeting will be on August 4 in Wetmore at the Munising Township Hall.

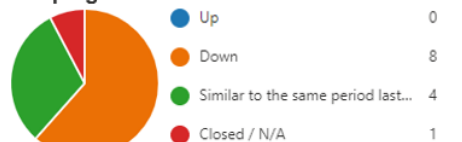
More information on both the Western and Eastern CACs can be found at www.michigan.gov/upcac.

Division Updates

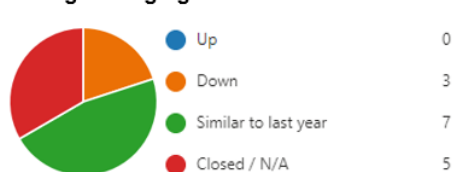
Parks & Recreation Division: Doug Rich, WUP District Supervisor

Use Statistics

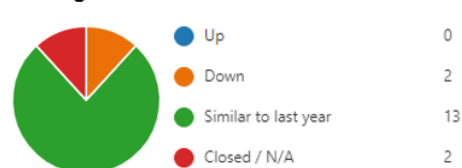
Camping



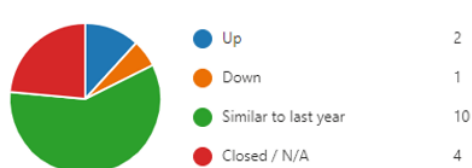
Overnight Lodging



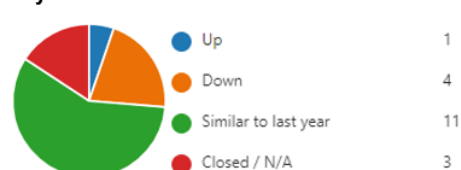
Boating / Harbors



Trails



Day Use



Camping

Unit	Responses
Fort Wilkins	It was a cold start to the camping season. Much effort went into snow removal to prepare for the opener. Tasks like leaf and debris clean up were also delayed.

Unit	Responses
Baraga FO	Field Office staff repaired a wash out and the road at Big Eric's SFCG and graveled the parking lot at the Porkies Cotten Cabin.
Lake Gogebic Construction Crew	The crew with assistance from park staff repaired water lines and replaced concrete at the campground fill/dump station in May. They made upgrades to Craig Lake's large cabin in June. They are currently replacing aged and damaged wood ceilings and window trim at Lake Gogebic with PVC board.
Lake Gogebic	Excavation, water line repairs and concrete replacement was performed at Lake Gogebic's fill/dump station. Doors were replaced and tile work done at Lake Gogebic's north toilet/shower building. Shower fixtures were replaced and repaired at Lake Gogebic's south toilet/shower building.
McLain	We are down about 4% at McLain with camping for the reporting period.
Baraga	Work on the South Toilet Building ADA Shower is nearly complete, and the men's urinal replacement is completed. Some roof repair was done at the CGO after being hit by a camper.
Twin Lakes	Camping was down at Twin Lakes compared to last year for the reporting period

Overnight Lodging

Unit	Responses
Fort Wilkins	Both cabins were upgraded with new flooring, furniture, and other improvements.
Lake Gogebic Construction Crew	The crew with help from park staff removed stumps, leveled the site, and added gravel to Lake Gogebic's tiny house site. They began construction of an ADA ramp and deck for the building.
Lake Gogebic	Tiny house site prep and ramp and deck construction began.
Van Riper	Cabin 6 at Little Presque Isle, within the Van Riper Unit, had the windows replaced in early May due to a safety hazard.
Craig Lake	The Large Cabin at Craig Lake was closed for about 2 weeks to complete some needed repairs.
McLain	Lodging at McLain is down about 12%
Baraga	A fence and new blinds were installed at the mini cabin.
Porcupine Mountains	Porkies Staff replaced deteriorated logs on the Mirror Lake 8 bunk cabin with new logs.

Boating Access Sites and Harbors

Unit	Responses
Copper Harbor	Maybe a little slower start than last year. Spring has been windy and cold.
Eagle Harbor	The \$2 million dollar construction upgrades to the harbor were put out to bids
Menominee River Railroad Dock BAS	Conversations are underway with the City of Menominee to partner in site developments at the BAS, which are outside the scope of Waterways funding allowances.

Unit	Responses
Baraga FO	Ditching, grading, and road repair at Net River Dam BAS, also fixed boat ramp and culvert at Van Riper SP Boat Launch.
Bewabic	Our Faithorn BAS site was hit by a tornado. The Escanaba Field Office removed dozens of trees from the road and parking lot to reopen the site to the public. The vault toilet building was destroyed by the tornado. Additional cleanup and a new toilet are required for to finish the job.
Craig Lake	Beaufort Lake State Forest Campground received new picnic tables and new fire rings were installed at the site. The vault toilets are also receiving some upgrades to the siding as part of the facility improvements for the Van Riper and Craig Lake Units.
Van Riper	The road to the boat launch was damaged when the area received flooding in early May. The second culvert between the rustic campground and the boat launch will need to be replaced, as it is undercut, and the bottom is rusted out. Staff is hoping it holds until September. .
Baraga SP	Staining of vault toilets at BAS sites.
Twin Lakes	Boating Access Sites are busy for Twin Lakes but comparable to last year

Trails

Unit	Responses
Baraga FO	Staff worked on grading and ditching the Bill Nichols trail, culverts, ditching and grading on the Stateline trail near Crystal Falls.
Menominee River	The Dickinson Trail Network addressed an unauthorized spur trail at the Piers Gorge Unit.
Little Presque Isle	Trail usage is up even with flooding in mid-May at Little Presque Isle, within the Van Riper Unit.
Van Riper	Van Riper trails were cleared once in this period and with the recent wind, they will be double checked in the coming weeks. A new basketball post and hoop was installed in June and is ready for the holiday weekend. Kayak racks were built and as soon as the kayaks are ready, they will be available to rent out of Van Riper State Park. A new sound board was installed to replace the existing one on the small playground behind the campground.

Day Use

Unit	Responses
Fort Wilkins	We have done some upgrades and repairs in the historic fort complex. We added a second cannon to the parade ground, graveled in ADA pads around both. Several sections of decking have been upgraded. Continuous work is being done on the buildings, ground, etc.
Baraga FO	Worked on gravelling the parking lot for Menominee River at Piers Gorge
Lake Gogebic Construction Crew	The crew made upgrades to Lake Gogebic's canoe/kayak open-storage building.
Lake Gogebic	Repairs and upgrades were done at Lake Gogebic's canoe/kayak storage building with assistance from the Lake Gogebic construction crew.
Van Riper	The warm weather brought a couple of busy beach days in the last month at Van Riper. Two or three days the beach was packed, and visitors enjoyed the sunshine.

Unit	Responses
Bond Falls	Slower than usual.

Special Events, Volunteer Projects, Accomplishments, Challenges or Personnel News

Unit	Responses
Escanaba FO	The staff, with the help of Baraga FO, completed the site layout, and construction of the sites within JW Wells State Park. Escanaba is still faced with staffing challenges. as there are still 2 vacant career ranger positions. Despite challenges, unit operations continue on!
Lake Gogebic Construction Crew	The crew installed flooring at the Porcupine Mountains concessionaire store in May.
Little Presque Isle	No special events for the May/June reporting period. There was one wedding at Little Presque Isle, within the Van Riper Unit, this last 2 months. Staff worked together to move one bridge back to its original location and repaired another to reopen trails after the flooding the location received. Staff from DNR, DTMB, Friends of Harlow Lake and the engineering company met for a pre-construction walk through for some preliminary site evaluations of trail improvements to come FY23. The MRS crew for the Van Riper Unit started at Little Presque Isle this June and are eager to work on some trail work, improvement projects and anything else staff could use some help with.
Craig Lake	Some road improvements were made early in the spring and additional rain has created some flooding on the roadway. The road is being evaluated for either a culvert or additional material to build the road up within Craig Lake State Park. All trails are slated to be cleared within the next couple of weeks and additional trail signage will also be looked at within that time.
Van Riper	Van Riper's explorer guide, is starting to see a little larger crowd at her programs now that school is out and most graduation parties are done for the year.
Michigan Iron Industry Museum	The Michigan Iron Industry Museum through a partnership with the Michigan History Center (MHC) will come under the PRD umbrella. This is a unique agreement as memorized through a MOA with PRD and MHC. MHC will continue with the daily operations, but PRD will be involved with major capital outlay needs and projects at the museum. PRD will also be the land administering division for the property. This agreement will be officially adopted by the Director through the NRC process. A recreation passport will be required on the museum property.
McLain	Tiny house is 95% finished at McLain, we put some gravel in the campground to prepare for moving the tiny House into its location. We got funding to reinstate the explorer guide program at McLain and are currently looking to fill the position.
Baraga	The park has launched a Mobile Cause campaign for its 100th anniversary to raise \$100,000.00 for a new playground. People can text, go online or use a QR code to donate.
Bond Falls	Work was done to fix door handles on the vault toilets. A donation for a new bench and bear proof trash container for the site. Anticipated install is mid to late July.
Porkies	Park Staff and the Friends of the Porkies installed 5 new colorblind viewers at the three main scenic sites in the park.

Design, Construction, and Capital Outlay Projects

Unit	Responses
District Wide	The first round of shovel ready ARPA projects was approved and dollars to fix the historic headquarters area of the Porkies was initiated. The second round ARPA project was approved two weeks later and affects the Porcupine Mountains, Bewabic, Twin Lakes, and Lake Gogebic State Parks. A total of \$20 million dollars have been appropriated for projects across the Western U.P. District.
Copper Harbor	The Copper Harbor sea wall and bin wall repair project was not funded for 2022. Eagle Harbor upgrade project is moving forward and is currently out for bid. No changes at Lac LaBelle
Fort Wilkins	The water and sewer upgrade project for the campgrounds has been awarded, construction planned for Aug 2022.
Menominee River	The Baraga Field Office crew expanded the parking lot at Piers Gorge Unit. Adding five parking spaces and graveling the existing lot. Did a great job.
Little Presque Isle	Trail Improvements for FY 2023 are underway with design and staff has met once on-site for some evaluation and preference discussion for the Little Presque Isle Trail network.
McLain	Construction for McLain Phase 3 will hopefully be starting in August in the Cabin area.
Porcupine Mountains	The Lake Superior Sportsmen Club land has been cleared and foundations laid for the new indoor shooting range.
Twin Lakes	Planning of construction at Twin Lakes is moving forward, hoping Construction will begin in 2023

Fisheries Division: George Madison, Western Lake Superior Management Unit

The following are the western Upper Peninsula fisheries division highlights for the period of May 17, 2022 through July 19, 2022, on behalf of the following Western UP Fisheries Division staff:

- *Lake Superior Unit Basin Coordinator: Patrick Hanchin*
- *Western Lake Superior Management Unit: George Madison*
- *Eastern Lake Superior Management Unit: Cory Kovacs*
- *Northern Lake Michigan Management Unit: Darren Kramer, John Bauman, Jennifer Johnson*
- *Fish Production Unit: Dan Sampson (Thompson/Marquette Supervisor)*
- *Research Unit: Dr. Edward Baker, Dr. Troy Zorn, Shawn Sitar*

Current Events

- George Madison will not be attending this CAC meeting, as he will be attending a Division meeting in lower Michigan during the July 19-22 period.
- Spring was busy with a lot of tourist interest in visiting UP lakes and folks planning summer vacations. The spring and early summer weather was "vacation friendly", all except for the May 12th super rain event in Marquette that washed out numerous roads and caused significant flooding.

Western Lake Superior Management Unit (George Madison, Unit Biologist):

Staff have been focused on the following tasks:

- Lake Gogebic fisheries surveys:
 - Walleye population estimate at ice-out.
 - June fish community netting assessment.
 - Staff handled and marked over 14,000 unique walleyes.
 - Data estimates that there are 40,802 adult walleyes currently in the lake. This is on the lower end of previous estimates, but not of biological concern. Previous estimates have ranged from 40,000 to 100,000.

- There appear to be good numbers of 11- and 12-inch walleyes that will be recruiting to the fishery over the next few years.
- Lake Surveys at:
 - Hoist Basin
 - Big Shag Lake
 - Engman Lake
 - Tourist Park Basin
 - McDonald Lake
- Upcoming Limnological Surveys in August:
 - Madelyn, Skyline, Spree
 - Forest Lake
 - Timber Lake
 - Deadmans Lake
 - Killdeer Lake
- Walleye pond management and June fingerling harvest. Ponds are running about average production. Fish are 1.7- about 2.0 inches in length.
- Fish barrier and dam inspections.
- Buffalo Reef public meeting was held in Lake Linden to discuss future management plan options.
- Splake clipping will occur in August at the Marquette Hatchery with 100,000 splake scheduled to get double fin clips. These fish will be the 2023 splake to be stocked at Munising, Keweenaw Bay, and Copper Harbor.

Forest Resources Division: Tom Seablom, Western UP District Supervisor

- Field work on the 2024 YOE Inventory has been completed. As we return to more normal operations the department will return to holding in person Open Houses. The Next Open Houses for the WUP will be for the Escanaba Unit on August 9th and the Crystal Falls Unit on September 6th. Open House comment periods will remain for people that do not want to meet in person. For the Escanaba Unit comment periods started July 9th ending August 9th, the Crystal Falls Unit will start August 6th ending September 6th. Open house Comment Periods and Compartment Review schedules for other units are posted online along with other state forest inventory information at: Michigan.Gov/Forestry.
- As of July 8th, 304 timber sale contracts are open WUP Wide. This represents 875,140 cords of timber on 49,803 acres, valued at approximately \$33.2 million. Included in this are 19 GNA sales representing 63,974 cords of timber on 4,051 acres, valued at approximately \$2.2 million. As July 1st, 6 sales are available WUP Wide for the minimum advertised price. This represents 7,097 Cords. Find more information on State Forest timber sales at: Michigan.Gov/Timber
- WUP Units are reporting 22 Active Timber Sales in the WUP totaling about 1,628 acres. Units report good demand for hardwood sawtimber but report high fuel prices are affecting producer profitability.
- Forest Health staff provided training to staff on Heterobasidion root rot and other red pine health issues in June. Staff collected reports of forest health issues in advance of aerial surveys to begin in July. Top issues were heavy seed crop and sparse leaves on red maple and hardwood defoliators, especially spongy moth, and forest tent caterpillar populations.

Law Enforcement Division (LED): Lt. Ryan Aho, District 1 – Western UP

- **CO Jenni Hanson** observed two four-wheelers cross the highway at high rates of speed. She also saw that neither of the drivers had helmets on. CO Hanson was able to locate the subjects further down the trail where the occupants were whipping donuts on the loose gravel. Upon conducting a traffic stop, CO Hanson discovered that neither machine had the proper ORV stickers. Both drivers were cited for operating without a helmet. Warnings were issued for the ORV stickers and careless operation.

- **CO Jenni Hanson** instructed at an ORV Safety course at Gogebic Community College. Approximately 15 students, ages ranging from 11-15, attended and successfully passed the course.
- **COs Jared Ferguson, Phill Helminen, and Sgt Brian Bacon** hosted 3rd and 4th grade students from Kingsford – Woodland Elementary school for an outdoor event. The COs brought boats, jet skis, four-wheelers, and a side-by-side. The COs covered marine safety and ORV laws. The weather was nice, and the kids enjoyed the presentations given by the COs.
- **CO Jared Ferguson** was patrolling an inland lake in Dickinson County for marine safety checks when he contacted two individuals out recreating. A marine safety check was done, and the boat was found to not have a single PFD in it. A citation was issued for failure to provide PFDs.
- **CO Jared Ferguson** was called to investigate a fire that occurred in Menominee County. CO Ferguson contacted the elderly man who explained he forgot to put his cover on the burn barrel and the fire got loose on him. CO Ferguson observed the area and found he only burned his own personal property and not state land. A quick education on fire season and a verbal warning was issued.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** conducted a marine safety patrol on Memorial Day in Iron County. A boat with three subjects fishing was contacted and had an expired boat registration. The operator was cited for operating an unregistered watercraft.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** observed a male subject on land across the lake, actively fishing, set his rod in a rod holder on the bank. The subject was contacted and admitted he did not have a fishing license. He said he was from Alabama and temporarily working in the area, so he chose not to buy a license while he was in the Upper Peninsula. He also caught a Smallmouth bass as the CO was talking with him and a citation was issued for fishing without a license.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** was contacted by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) regarding a subject with a water pump or some sort of similar equipment placed in a lake in Iron County without a permit. This was causing sediment disturbance and negative water quality impacts in the rivers leaving the lake. CO VanWagner contacted the subject, who stated he placed a water agitator in the lake to remove the mud and debris in the water near the shoreline by his residence. The subject was advised of the negative impacts and supplied contact info for EGLE to discuss the issue and try to obtain a permit if he wished.
- **CO Jeremy Sergey** conducted a charter boat dockside examination. CO Sergey located several deficiencies with some of the equipment required to be carried by the charter vessel. The vessel was grounded for charter operation until the deficiencies are corrected. Once those deficiencies are corrected, the charter operation can resume business.
- **CO Cody Smith** was on patrol when he approached a vessel with three anglers aboard. When counting the number of rods, they were trolling, CO Smith noticed they had more than three lines per person. CO Smith asked the anglers if there was someone on the boat that he was not seeing. One of the anglers stated “No, we are over lines.” CO Smith had them reel in their lines and issued a citation for greater than three lines per person.
- **CO Cody Smith** was on patrol when he observed a vessel with many lines with only two anglers. CO Smith launched his patrol Sea-Doo and closed distance on the vessel before they could make any attempt to reel lines in. In total the couple were four lines over their allowed three rods per person. CO Smith had the anglers reel in their lines and a citation was issued for fishing greater than tree lines per person.
- **CO Cody Smith** joined Baraga County Sheriff Joe Brogan and Undersheriff Dave Miller for a multi-agency marine patrol of the Baraga County Lake Trout Festival fishing tournament. A total of 130 boats were registered in the tournament. CO Smith and the sheriff’s department patrolled Keweenaw Bay and Huron Bay checking approximately 50 vessels and over 100 people for line count, fish, and safety equipment. All vessels were legal, and many fish were observed. CO Smith volunteered with the weigh-in after his shift where a 38.15-pound Lake trout was weighed in, easily winning largest Lake trout and possibly the largest in the history of the tournament.
- **CO Cody Smith** along with Baraga County Sheriff Joe Brogan and Undersheriff Dave Miller were conducting a marine patrol when they received a call of an eagle found floating in Keweenaw Bay. The group patrolled to the area and collected the bird. It will be sent to the laboratory for testing of HPAI (highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza).
- **CO John Kamps and Corporals (Cpl.) Brett DeLonge, and Thomas Peterson** were on marine patrol in Marquette when they approached a vessel trolling with many lines. A check of the individuals determined them to be over the legal limit of fishing lines for the number of passengers on board. A citation was issued to the boat owner for fishing with too many lines.

- **COs John Kamps and Cody Smith** assisted at the annual BOW (Becoming an Outdoors Woman) program in Big Bay. The COs taught both stream fishing and near shore fishing in the rivers and lakes around Big Bay.
- **CO Jenni Hanson** was dispatched to a call of six ducklings that had fallen over the spillway at Sunday Lake. With the help of US Forest Service (USFS) Law Enforcement Officer Josh Lopac, the ducklings were scooped out of the spillway and reunited with their mother.
- **COs Alex VanWagner and Phil Helminen** conducted a marine patrol in Iron County. Citations were issued for operating an unregistered personal watercraft (PWC) and failing to provide a personal floatation device (PFD).
- **CO Alex VanWagner** observed a vehicle in the opposite lane of the highway pass another vehicle at a high rate of speed. Radar indicated the vehicle was traveling 83 mph in a 55-mph zone and a citation was issued for speeding.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** responded to an ATV crash with an Iron County deputy and MSP troopers. Dispatch advised a female subject reported a possible broken leg, chest pain, and difficulty breathing. Upon arrival, it was determined the female subject's son was driving the ATV when it rolled, ejecting both subjects from it. The female subject was transported to the hospital by EMS and the incident was turned over to the Iron County Sheriff's Office.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** observed a boat with three anglers and noticed the registration was expired. A citation was issued for operating an unregistered watercraft and a verbal warning was issued to one angler for no fishing license in possession.
- **COs Alex VanWagner and Phil Helminen** conducted a marine patrol in Iron County. Citations were issued for operating an unregistered personal watercraft (PWC) and failing to provide a personal floatation device (PFD).
- **CO Phil Helminen** was patrolling when he observed a four-wheeler ATV being driven down the roadway by a male not wearing a helmet and the ATV did not have an ORV registration sticker. CO Helminen stopped the four-wheeler and contacted the operator. The operator was found to have a revoked driver's license and had warrants for his arrest out of the Iron County Sheriff's Office in Michigan and the Florence County Sheriff's Office in Wisconsin. The driver was cited for operating on a revoked license and lodged in the Dickinson County Jail on the warrants.
- **CO Jared Ferguson** assisted the sheriff's department and the MSP with a 911 call from a subject stating he was going to cut off his arm. Upon arrival, the officers determined that the subject was to be taken into protective custody and transported for evaluation from a medical professional.
- **CO Jeremy Sergey** received a report of a dead moose calf near McFarland. CO Sergey retrieved the moose and has submitted it to Wildlife division of examination.
- **CO John Kamps** contacted a fishing boat as it returned to the launch. During routine check of the boat, CO Kamps found the individuals to be in possession of a walleye that was well under the legal-size limit. A citation was issued for possession of undersize walleye.

Parks & Recreation Division-UP Trails: Ron Yesney, UP Trails Coordinator

Trail Specialist: Jeff Kakuk, Western Upper Peninsula

- Little Carp Trestle project is closed out. This bridge is now open for public use (See Picture: Little Carp Trestle Completed Box Culvert and Trail Deck).
- UP15 Snowmobile trail has been closed the past two seasons due to the failure of a bridge in the Sturgeon River Sloughs Wildlife Area. The project is being funded and managed by DNR Wildlife Division.
 - The bridge site is on a USACE developed drainage area and therefore permitting is delayed while under review by the Army Corps of Engineers. A wetland delineation has been completed and we are awaiting a new timeline based on USACE permit. This bridge will not be completed for the 22/23 Snowmobile season with the existing timeline.



- The Menominee River Trail Bridge near Iron Mountain will be undergoing abutment repairs. Above water work awarded to MJO contracting. Work will begin mid-July with completion late September.
- The Kenton Culvert site is now completed, and the SB ORV Route is open.
- The BN ORV Route between Painsdale and South Range remains closed due to a trail slump at the Pilgrim River. Engineering work has begun, and the box culvert will need to be replaced. There is also the Adam's Township watermain on this section of trail.
- The SLC ORV Route just south of Crystal Falls is also closed due to another washout. Engineering is also started on this site and floodplain remediation is included in the workscope. The City of Crystal Falls has developed an alternate route through town to address this closure impact.

Trail Specialist: Rob Katona, Central Upper Peninsula

Project Name: ORV Route Grading Alger, Delta, Marquette, Menominee, and Dickinson Counties	Project Name: Sturgeon River Bridge	Project Name: Nahma Grade Multi-Use Trail	Project Name: Clowry Grade Bridges #2, #3 & #6
Description: Multiple projects for grading and smoothing ORV routes with multiple grades planned in high use areas to help prevent rough routes.	Description: Bridge rehab snowmobile trail 2 Dickinson County on State owned Rail-Trail.	Description: Design and construction 3.7 mile multi-use Rail-Trail in Delta County work includes clearing, surfacing and culvert/bridge installation.	Description: Design and rehab/construction of multiple bridges on this designated ORV/snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail in Marquette County.
Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails
Anticipated Completion: Summer 2022	Anticipated Completion: September 2022	Anticipated Completion:	Anticipated Completion:
Q3 Update: Marquette and Alger counties are complete with Dickinson, Menominee and Delta Counties going out for bids soon.	Q3 Update: SHPO 106 Review has help up advertising for construction still waiting on application approval.	Q3 Update: Project on hold awaiting funding.	Q3 Update: SHPO 106 Review has help up advertising for construction still waiting on application approval.
Project Name: Clowry Grade Bridges #1, #4, #5 & #7	Project Name: Clowry ORV Improvements	Project Name: Little Presque Isle Rec Area Improvements	Project Name: Days River Single-Track Trail Construction
Description: Design and rehab/construction of multiple bridges on this designated ORV/snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail in Marquette County.	Description: Filling several low areas and culvert replacement on the Clowry Grade ORV C & CL Routes.	Description: Trail repairs, parking improvements and boardwalk/bridge repairs throughout 42 sites at LPI recreation area and Wetmore pond.	Description: Approximately 10 miles of single-track trail construction designed for mountain bike use.
Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Nonmotorized & mountain bike	Trail Use: Nonmotorized & mountain bike
Anticipated Completion: 2025	Anticipated Completion: 7/29/2022	Anticipated Completion: 2023	Anticipated Completion: 2023
Q3 Update: Currently in a holding phase for moving into engineering/design.	Q3 Update: Contract was awarded work to be completed by September 30 th .	Q3 Update: Engineering/design has begun, construction slated for 2023.	Q3 Update: MDOT Contract Services Division is working through their contracting process with the consultant. Once the contract is executed a kickoff meeting will be scheduled.
Project Name: Thunder Valley Trail Development	Project Name: Tyoga Pathway Bridges	Project Name: LPI Songbird Trail and Harlow Creek Bridges	Project Name: Genes Pond Pathway
Description: Complete construction on three additional loops and connector trail to Fairgrounds designed for equestrian use.	Description: Replace one bridge and replace or rehab second bridge both spanning the Laughing Whitefish River.	Description: Replace two popular pedestrian bridges on the LPI songbird trail and pathway to cabin #6 and north trail system.	Description: Construction of 1.75 mile accessible pathway with scenic overlooks adjacent to state forest campground.
Trail Use: Nonmotorized & EQ	Trail Use: Nonmotorized	Trail Use: Nonmotorized	Trail Use: Nonmotorized

Anticipated Completion: 7/29/2022	Anticipated Completion: 2023-2024	Anticipated Completion: 2023-2024	Anticipated Completion: 2023-2024
Q3 Update: Project work started will be completed by August 1 st ..	Q3 Update: Currently in a holding phase for moving into engineering/design.	Q3 Update: Currently in a holding phase for moving into engineering/design.	Q3 Update: Had engineering/design kickoff meeting with consultant AECOM. Field review July-August with advertising for construction this winter for 2023 construction.
Project Name: Laughing Whitefish Falls Bridge	Project Name: Norway-Carney ORV/Snowmobile Connector Culverts	Project Name: Days River ORV Route Grading and Gravel	Project Name: Marquette County ORV Routes Improvements
Description: New pedestrian bridge construction on NCT over Laughing Whitefish River at the Laughing Whitefish Falls Natural Area.	Description: New ORV route/snowmobile trail development with several stream crossings requiring new culvert installation. New trail will connect the Norway ORV trail with Carney Lake Rd providing a east-west connection across Dickinson County.	Description: Replace culvert, grade, shape, and fill Days River ORV Route in Delta County	Description: Repair large holes replace culverts and surfacing on multiple ORV routes in western Marquette County
Trail Use: Nonmotorized	Trail Use: ORV/Snowmobile	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV
Anticipated Completion: 2023-2024	Anticipated Completion: Summer/fall 2022	Anticipated Completion: 9/2022	Anticipated Completion: 9/2022
Q3 Update: Currently in a holding phase for moving into engineering/design.	Q3 Update: Permits and engineering are complete, project was advertised and awarded work has begun with expected completion by September 30th.	Q3 Update: Work will occur before September 30 th .	Q3 Update: Most work have been completed will perform some additional work this fall.
Project Name: Forest Islands Repairs and Restoration	Project Name: Felch Grade Surface Improvements II	Project Name: Bass Lake Restoration	Project Name: Gwinn-Arnold Improvements and Restoration II
Description: Repair damaged board walks and damage in low wet areas on the Forest Islands ORV Trail/Route in Menominee and Delta Counties	Description: Gravel capping on the Felch Grade in Menominee and Dickinson Counties	Description: Perform reroutes around eroded areas.	Description: ORV G route Marquette County filling, gravel, and culvert work
Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV
Anticipated Completion: NA	Anticipated Completion: 7/2022	Anticipated Completion: 9/2022	Anticipated Completion: 8/2022
Q3 Update: Project was readvertised and contract awarded all bids were within budget work had begun.	Q3 Update: PR was entered awaiting final approval project will be bid out July/August.	Q3 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project.	Q3 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project.

Project Name: Delta-Menominee ORV Routes Improvements	Project Name: Central UP ORV Route Dust Control	Proposal: Hiawatha NF ORV Routes Proposal	Proposal: Norway Rock Motorcycle Trail Proposal	Proposal: Dickinson County Snowmobile Trail Reroutes
Description: Minor bridge railing and decking repairs replace culverts and surfacing work	Description: Perform dust control at multiple sites on ORV routes to prevent dust caused by ORV traffic in residential areas and other areas meeting criteria.	Description: Nearly 100 miles of ORV routes proposed to be designated that would provide connectivity and looped riding across Marquette, Delta, Alger and Schoolcraft Counties.	Description: New single track construction in Dickinson County adjacent to the Norway ORV trail	Description: Multiple reroutes to relocate trails to better areas and work with private landowners and the DCRC.

Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: Snowmobile
Anticipated Completion: 9/2022	Anticipated Completion: 6/2022	Anticipated Completion: Awaiting USFS Approval	Anticipated Completion:	Anticipated Completion: Completed 12/2021
Q3 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project waiting on funding.	Q3 Update: Work has been completed.	Q3 Update: Work has been completed.	Q3 Update: WLD denied no further progress will occur without their support.	Q3 Update: Most proposals have been approved.
Proposal: Moose Mountain Reroute Snowmobile Trail & Three Lakes	Proposal: Days River Nature Trail	Proposal: NCT/IBT Silver Lake Reroute	Proposal: Westwood Pathway	Proposal: Negaunee-Eagle Mills-Gwinn-Little Lake ORV Route
Description: Trail/bridge improvements and reroutes around difficult to groom areas. Logging operation on SCTC property to offset trail reroute costs.	Description: Designate and improve non-motorized pathway located along the Days River near Little Bay De Noc.	Description: Trail reroute to locate trail off of roads near Silver Lake proposal involves some State land for both trail development and parking.	Description: Designate and improve non-motorized pathway located on State owned property adjacent to Ishpeming DNR FO and Westwood High School.	Description: ORV Designate existing snowmobile trails that are already heavily used by ORVs. Designation will allow funding for maintenance and provide direction for community connectivity.
Trail Use: Snowmobile	Trail Use: Snowmobile	Trail Use: Non-motorized Pathway	Trail Use: Non-motorized Pathway	Trail Use: ORV
Anticipated Completion: 1/2022	Anticipated Completion: Spring 2022	Anticipated Completion: Summer 2022	Anticipated Completion: Summer 2022	Anticipated Completion: Proposal submitted Summer/Fall 2022
Q3 Update: Reroute will be completed by fall 2022.	Q3 Update: Proposal was approved.	Q3 Update: Proposal was approved.	Q3 Update: Proposal is going through review.	Q3 Update: Waiting on the final permits from landowners.
Proposal: Little Lake-Chatham RR Grade ORV Route				
Description: ORV Designate segments of existing RR grade and county roads to provide ORV connectivity between Chatham and Little Lake and beyond.				
Trail Use: ORV				
Anticipated Completion: Proposal submitted Summer/Fall 2022				
Q3 Update: Gates will be marked with DNR ownership stickers and some segments will be temp closed until proposal is completed.				

Wildlife Division: John DePue, Biologist-Baraga

An update will be included in the final printed copy in meeting packets.