



## Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council DNR Division Reports

Date of Production: July 2023 (Information current as of 7/3/2023)

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

### Meetings/Events/Press Releases

#### DNR Public Meetings – Future Dates

For virtual or conference call meeting information, please go to the DNR website at: [DNR Meetings](#) and click on the appropriate meeting and/or agenda for instructions.

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|------------|---|
| July 9     | Forest Resources Division-Escanaba Management Unit, Public Comment Period Begins, 906-789-8231                                |
| July 10    | Western UP Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting, 6pm, Baraga, 906-226-1331  |
| July 12    | Nonmotorized Advisory Workgroup, 10am, 517-331-6219   |
| July 12    | Forest Management Advisory Committee, 1pm, 517-582-3220   |
| July 13    | Michigan Natural Resources Commission, Lansing, 9am, <a href="mailto:NRC@michigan.gov">NRC@michigan.gov</a>                   |
| July 20    | Board of Foresters, 9am, 989-370-9557   |
| July 21    | Timber and Forest Products Advisory Council, 8:30am, 517-582-3220   |
| August 2   | Eastern UP Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting, 6pm, Munising, 906-226-1331  |
| August 10  | Michigan Natural Resources Commission, Grand Rapids, 9am, <a href="mailto:NRC@michigan.gov">NRC@michigan.gov</a>              |
| Sept 6     | Western UP Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting, 6pm, Houghton, 906-226-1331  |
| October 11 | Joint UP Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting, 3-5pm, Escanaba, 906-226-1331  |
| October 12 | Michigan Natural Resources Commission, <a href="#">Escanaba</a> , 9am, <a href="mailto:NRC@michigan.gov">NRC@michigan.gov</a> |

#### U.P. State Park & State Sponsored Activities

Please check with the state park before attending activity for any scheduling changes. For all activities: [DNR Things to Do Calendar](#)

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| July 15      | McLain State Park – Canal Run   |
| July 18      | Straits State Park—National Wild Turkey Federation BB Gun Shoot                     |
| July 20      | Palms Book State Park—National Wild Turkey Federation BB Gun Shoot                  |
| July 21-22   | Wells State Park—Christmas in July  |
| July 21      | Palms Book State Park—National Wild Turkey Federation BB Gun Shoot                  |
| July 27-29   | DNR Pocket Park—National Trappers Convention-UP State Fairgrounds in Escanaba       |
| August 14-21 | DNR Pocket Park—UP State Fair in Escanaba – <b>PLEASE SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!</b>     |
| August 19-20 | Free ORV Weekend  |
| August 25-26 | Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park – Music Festival                          |
| August 27-29 | Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park – Intermediate Backpacking in the Porkies |
| Aug 30-Sep 1 | Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park – Beginning Backpacking in the Porkies    |

#### Recent DNR Press Releases

For full details, go to: [DNR Press Room](#)

- DNR News: Fire-safe Fourth, Operation Dry Water, red flag warnings & more (6/27/23)
- Road closure in Dickinson County June 29-July 7 for culvert replacement (6/27/23)
- 2023 bear and elk drawing results available (6/24/23)

- Be aware of fire danger levels this weekend (6/7/23)
- Showcasing the DNR: Partnerships with educational institutions benefit many (6/8/23)
- DNR moose survey results show population in western UP statistically unchanged since 2019 (6/8/23)
- DNR Get Involved: volunteer, give input, help protect natural resources (6/7/23)
- Free fishing, ORVing, state park entry: 'Three Free' Weekend June 10-11 (6/7/23)
- Wilderness Trail Fire is 100% contained, area roads reopen (6/6/23)
- Fish kills may be more common during summer heat (6/6/23)
- Trees need a little love (and water) during dry spells (6/5/23)
- Wisconsin firefighters arrive to help with Grayling fire (6/4/23)
- DNR crews battling 1,000-acre wildfire southeast of Grayling (6/3/23)

## Grant Contacts

For grant information, to go: [DNR Grants](#)

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|---|---|
| ▪ Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant     | Merrie Carlock, 517-284-5931, <a href="mailto:carlockm@michigan.gov">carlockm@michigan.gov</a>                                      |
| ▪ Recreation Passport Grant                       | Merrie Carlock, 517-284-5931, <a href="mailto:carlockm@michigan.gov">carlockm@michigan.gov</a>                                      |
| ▪ Michigan Spark Grants (Public Recreation)       | Merrie Carlock, 517-284-5931, <a href="mailto:carlockm@michigan.gov">carlockm@michigan.gov</a>                                      |
| ▪ Aquatic Habitat Grant                           | Chip Kosloski, 517-284-5965, <a href="mailto:kosloskic3@michigan.gov">kosloskic3@michigan.gov</a>                                   |
| ▪ Fisheries Habitat Grant Program                 | Chip Kosloski, 517-284-5965, <a href="mailto:kosloskic3@michigan.gov">kosloskic3@michigan.gov</a>                                   |
| ▪ Michigan Invasive Species Grant                 | Erin Campbell, 269-300-9698, <a href="mailto:campbelle6@michigan.gov">campbelle6@michigan.gov</a>                                   |
| ▪ Wildlife Habitat Grant                          | Clay Buchanan, 517-614-0918, <a href="mailto:buchanenc1@michigan.gov">buchanenc1@michigan.gov</a>                                   |
| ▪ U.P. Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Grant | Bill Scullon, 906-563-9247, <a href="mailto:scullonh@michigan.gov">scullonh@michigan.gov</a>  |
| ▪ Forestry Grants                                 | <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/forestry">https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/forestry</a> |
| ▪ Land & Water Conservation Fund                  | Christie Bayus, 517-242-8737, <a href="mailto:bayusc@michigan.gov">bayusc@michigan.gov</a>  |
| ▪ Waterways Program Grants                        | Linnea Dawson, 517-290-2200, <a href="mailto:dawsonl@michigan.gov">dawsonl@michigan.gov</a>   |

## June NRC Meeting Summary – Ed Golder, Public Information Officer

The Natural Resources Commission met at the RAM in Roscommon on June 8, 2023. Major actions.

The NRC approved:

- [Deer regulations for the deer seasons for 2023-2025](#). Commissioners adopted two amendments to the regulations. [One amendment](#) keeps the structure of antlerless harvest in the Upper Peninsula as it currently stands. A [second amendment](#) will retain the prohibition on crossbows during later archery season in the Upper Peninsula. All other proposed amendments to the regulations failed.
- Changes to [regulations governing the use of dogs to track wounded big game](#) such as elk, deer and bear. In a shift from current practice, the new regulations allow a dog to be off leash when the tracker can demonstrate knowledge of the dog's location and a method to control the dog. The commission adopted [an amendment to the regulation](#) that will allow barking dogs to track on public land.

Acting Director Shannon Lott approved:

- The results of the May 2 oil and gas lease auction on state-managed public lands. The auction resulted in the lease of 43,762 acres in 11 counties. The auction raised \$714,448, benefitting the operation and maintenance of Michigan state parks.
- Five land transactions. Details of these transactions can be found in [the NRC agenda](#).

## Fisheries Committee

Seth Herbst of Fisheries laid out the process for developing recommendations to changes for Fisheries Orders. He also reviewed recommended changes to fisheries regulations the department will bring to the commission in August and September. Details can be found [in Seth's presentation](#).

## Committee of the Whole, Director's Report

Acting Director Shannon Lott presented a white pine plaque to honor Trevor VanDyke, DNR director of Legislative and Legal Affairs and Tribal Liaison, for his 17 years of service to the state, more than 10 of those at the DNR. Trevor is leaving the DNR to take on the role of deputy general counsel at the Michigan Supreme Court. Commission Chair Tom Baird called Trevor "a terrific partner in all that we do."

Chad Stewart of Wildlife [reviewed the department's 2023 moose population survey, conducted last winter](#). The survey showed that the state's moose population, which is exclusively in the Upper Peninsula, is statistically unchanged from the last time we did a population survey in 2019. The survey is typically done every two years. That pattern was disrupted because of COVID. This year's survey showed 426 individual moose, not a statistically significant change from the 2019 number of 509. The population has basically plateaued for the past 12 years. Fewer twin calves, in combination with a lower bull-to-cow ratio, could point to a recruitment issue, which is the number of individuals added to a population over a given time by either births or immigration. Another factor that has affected moose in the western U.P. is that 2022 saw an unusual number of moose-vehicle crashes, killing more than 20 moose.

Mark Mills of the Wildlife Division reviewed [proposed amendments to regulations for target shooting](#) at Cornish State Game Area, Dr. Gordon Guyer-Augusta Creek State Wildlife Area and Three Rivers State Game Area. The amendments would prohibit target shooting at these three locations to minimize impacts of lead on nesting waterfowl and grassland birds, align habitat management goals at each location, resolve issues with private landowners, and ensure other wildlife-focused recreation activities can occur without conflict. People would still have access to nearby shooting ranges at Barry State Game Area, where a range is currently under construction, and Allegan State Game Area.

Nicole Hunt of the Parks and Recreation Division reviewed proposed changes to Land Use Orders at state parks. Details can be found in [Nicole's presentation](#).

Commissioners received [a report on legislation affecting the department](#) (below).

As an additional reminder, Michigan is currently experiencing unprecedented hot and dry conditions for this time of year, causing extreme fire danger. Please remember:

- Nine out of 10 wildfires are caused by people.
- Help us prevent wildfires by never leaving your fires unattended, even for a minute.
- If you see a wildfire or your personal fire gets out of control, get to safety and call 911 immediately. The sooner you call, the quicker firefighters can respond to the emergency. Immediate action can save lives.
- 27% of wildfires are caused by debris (leaf, brush) burning. Help prevent that by being aware of weather conditions before you burn and by checking to see if burn permits are being issued in your area by the DNR (northern two-thirds of the state and the Upper Peninsula) or your local authorities (southern Michigan).
- While burn permits aren't being issued at this time, check first to see if conditions allow for open burning at [Michigan.gov/BurnPermit](https://www.michigan.gov/BurnPermit).
- Make sure campfires are out cold before you turn in for the night. Always put fires out completely with water. Drench, stir with a shovel and drench again. Use the back of your hand to ensure the fire is cool. If you feel any heat, it's not out!
- More information is available at [Michigan.gov/PreventWildfires](https://www.michigan.gov/PreventWildfires).

### *June 2023 Legislative Updates – Legislative & Legal Affairs Office*

**SB 59 – Modify Definition of a Peace Officer in the Mental Health Code – Sen. Cherry:** This bill would amend the Mental Health Code, Act 258 of 1974, to modify the definition of a peace officer by adding an officer or agency who is licensed under the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES), Act 203 of 1965. The changes to this bill would allow an expansion of officers, including Conservation Officers, able to engage with a person requiring treatment under the Mental Health Code.

- The bill was reported with recommendation by the House Health Policy Committee and is awaiting a vote on the House Floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**SBs 103, 104, 105 – Provide Regulations for Commercial Hunting and Sport Fishing Guides – Sens. Cherry, Daley and McCann:** These bills would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide for the licensure and regulation of commercial hunting and sport fishing guides and to provide the Natural Resources Commission with the exclusive authority to regulate hunting and fishing guides.

- The bills were reported with recommendation by the Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee and is awaiting a vote on the Senate Floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**SB 310 – Remove Need for CPL in Certain Situations – Sen. Hoitenga:** This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to remove the requirements for a CPL on game bird hunting preserve. This is a part of a larger package of bills to remove requirements for CPL all together.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary and Public Safety
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this Legislation.

**HB 4506, 4507, 4508, 4509– Creates an Upper Peninsula Natural Resources Commission – Reps. Markkanen, Friske & Prestin:** These bills would create an Upper Peninsula Natural Resources Commission and establish membership and authority for the Commission to make certain decisions regarding game in the Upper Peninsula.

- The 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 4515 – Removes sunset on ORV License Fees – Rep. Hill:** This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to remove the sunset on ORV License Fees.

- The bill was reported with recommendation from the Committee on Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4593 – Allow Supplemental Feeding of Wildlife and Birds – Rep. Borton:** This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the feeding of wildlife and birds if both of the following conditions are met: the feed is located within 300 feet from a residence and the quantity of feed placed, scattered, or distributed within 300 feet of that residence does not exceed two gallons.

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

**HB 4682 – Modifies the Responsibilities of Property Owners Under the Recreational Trespassing Law – Rep. Slagh:** This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require property owners to post signs at an interval of not more than 250 along the boundary of the property.

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

*If you would like to learn more about these and other bills, go to: [Michigan Legislative Bills](#).*

## ***Eastern UPCAC Update***

The **Eastern UP Citizens' Advisory Council** met on June 13 in Sault Ste. Marie. Division reports were reviewed, and several questions were asked by the Council on various items in the reports, including an update by Dave Lemmien on the moose survey results, which were presented at the June NRC Meeting. Next, the Council conducted their annual officer election, re-electing all previous officers for another term: Tom Buckingham-Chair, Gary Gorniak-Vice Chair, and Jack Thomas-Secretary. A wolf management update was provided in writing by Tyler Petroelje under Old Business. For New Business, the Council received updates on the Marquette County Shooting Range construction progress as well as the new indoor shooting range near the Porkies, the Michigamme Highland Forest Legacy Project, and recent staffing changes within the DNR. Dave Lemmien and Stacy Haughey provided an overview of the proposed deer regulations that were passed (and the amendments that did not pass) at the recent June NRC meeting. Committee reports included a thorough report by the Wildlife Committee. The EUPCAC will meet again on August 2 in Munising.

More information on both the Western and Eastern CACs can be found at [www.michigan.gov/upcac](http://www.michigan.gov/upcac).

### UP Field Deputy: Stacy Haughey, Executive Division

From the June 8, 2023 Natural Resources Commission Meeting:

#### Wildlife Conservation Order #7 with Amendments

Commissioners passed WCO #7 with amendments 6 and 7 on a 5-1 vote. Votes on each individual amendment are below. Those in yellow pertain to the Upper Peninsula.

- **Amendment No. 1 – Commissioner Walters, *amendment dies for lack of a second.***
  - Antlerless only harvest during the Liberty and Independence Hunt
- **Amendment No. 2 – Commissioner Walters *amendment dies for lack of a second.***
  - Antlered or antlerless deer on a single deer license.
- **Amendment No. 3 – Commissioner Walters (*Withdrawn*)**
- **Amendment No. 4 – Commissioner Walters *amendment dies for lack of a second.***
  - Changing opening day dates for all seasons to begin on a Saturday.
- **Amendment No. 5A – Commissioner Walters *fails 4-2 after a Commissioner Nyberg amendment to exempt age 70+ hunters from APRs.***
  - Antler point restrictions, core Tb and CWD zone.
- **Amendment No. 5B – Commissioner Walters *amendment dies for lack of a second.***
  - Antler point restrictions.
- **Amendment No. 5C – Commissioner Walters *fails 5-1.***
  - Antler point restrictions, DMUs 022, 055, 121, 122, 155, and 255.
- **Amendment No. 5D – Commissioner Walters *amendment dies for lack of a second.***
  - Antler point restrictions, Upper Peninsula.
- **Amendment No. 6 – Commissioner Anthony *passes 5-1.***
  - Retain existing antlerless structure in the Upper Peninsula.
- **Amendment No. 7 – Commissioner Anthony *passes 5-1.***
  - Retain existing restrictions on crossbows in the Upper Peninsula.

### Fisheries Division: Darren Kramer, Northern Lake Michigan Management Unit

#### UP Fisheries Division Staff:

- Northern Lake Michigan Management Unit: Darren Kramer, John Bauman, Jennifer Johnson.
- Lake Michigan Unit Basin Coordinator: Jay Wesley
- Lake Superior Unit Basin Coordinator: Patrick Hanchin
- West Lake Superior Management Unit: George Madison
- Fish Production Unit: Dan Sampson (Thompson, Marquette Oden Hatcheries)
- Research Unit: Dr. Edward Baker, Dr. Troy Zorn, Shawn Sitar

#### Management Unit Update

- Walleye fry were stocked out into unit and cooperators ponds on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Staff have been visiting unit ponds weekly and conducting fertilization and monitoring duties.
- Staff completed walleye population estimate surveys on Lac Vieux Desert (partnering with WDNR staff) Gogebic County, Lake Emily (Iron County), Lake Ottawa (Iron County) and Beaufort Lake, Marquette County.
- Fisheries technician crews have been busy conducting inland fisheries surveys (Paint River-Iron County, Beaufort Lake-Marquette County, Johnson Lake-Marquette County, Lake Antoine-Dickinson County).
- The lake sturgeon streamside rearing facility at the Cedar River boat access site (Menominee County) was prepped in late April and began full operations the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May. Approximately 990 juvenile lake sturgeon are being cared for in the facility.

- Operations at the lake sturgeon lift at the Menominee Dam at the Menominee River occurred April 25-May 9. A total of 173 lake sturgeon were captured with 23 females and 24 males transferred upstream of the Park Mill Dam.

### **Fish Production Section Update**

- UP hatchery maintenance staff have been hard at work clearing the site for the Thompson ground solar mounted array. The new mini excavator purchased with the FY23 equipment funds has been especially useful in this effort.
- Marquette staff attempted to spawn and incubate Arctic Grayling eggs using males and females from the same year-class. One of the three efforts was successful with producing live eyed eggs, which were used for stream incubation experimentation by Troy Zorn. The plan was to incubate to the eyed stage in the hatchery then transfer those eggs into experimental in-stream incubators and were used in Troy's experiments for a few days.
- Walleye incubation went very well this year at Thompson, with all fry goals met. Staff tried some new things to try to increase zooplankton production in the hatchery ponds. One was to intensively rear zooplankton in the coolwater building prior to filling ponds, so ponds could be more easily seeded. Another was to start the ponds with only a few feet of water to get them to warm quicker, with the goal of increasing zooplankton reproduction.

### **Research Section Update**

- Survey season is underway on Lake Superior. New electronics are installed on Lake Char and calibration completed.
- Troy Zorn is working on a new initiative with FWS and the WI-DNR evaluating the influence that beaver activity has on trout streams in northern WI and central and west UP streams. The study will consist of several streams in WI and MI's U.P. (with and without beaver activity) during a two-year timeframe. Field sampling will consist of fish community surveys using the MI-DNR Streams Status and Trends protocols, habitat monitoring using the WDNR survey protocols, and temperature data will be collected using temperature loggers. The data collected will be stratified by sites that are upstream and downstream beaver ponds.

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

- **CO Brian Lasanen** taught a boater safety class at the EB Holman Middle School. There were 65 students who attended the class. CO Lasanen was assisted by the Houghton County Sheriff Department marine section.
- **CO Jenni Hanson** checked anglers coming off the water at the Ontonagon Marina. CO Hanson reminded anglers to remove the aquatic life hanging from their trailer.
- **CO Alex VanWagner and Sgt. Brian Bacon** worked walleye opener in Iron County. The COs checked a handful of lakes and anglers were catching a decent number of walleyes on one of the lakes. While patrolling Brule Lake, they observed two subjects fishing and checked them. The female subject did not have a fishing license and she was cited for the violation. Shortly after, a group of kayakers was contacted and one of the kayakers did not have a PFD. Another citation was issued.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle while working ORVs. The driver of the vehicle had a revoked driver's license, no insurance, improper plate on the vehicle, and illegal window tint. The driver was issued a citation for the revoked license and insurance violations, and a report will be submitted to the Iron County Prosecutor's Office.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** conducted a marine patrol in Iron County before the Memorial Day weekend. Several boats were checked, and verbal warnings were issued for registration violations. While checking a boat with subjects fishing, they had a walleye and smallmouth bass in the live well. A citation was issued for possessing the bass out of season.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** checked a boat launch in Dickinson County for marine activity. While pulling up to the launch, the CO observed two subjects fishing near the dock. The subjects stated they were in the area on vacation and had not caught any fish yet. When asked about their fishing licenses, they both admitted they did not have one. A citation was issued to each subject for fishing without a license.
- **CO Alex VanWagner** received a RAP complaint regarding subjects keeping a fawn in a pen in their backyard. Contact was made with the subjects, who told the CO they actually had two fawns. They said the fawns were brought to them by a friend who claimed the mother was dead. They were not licensed rehabilitators and therefore could not legally possess the fawns. The fawns were brought to a local rehabilitator.

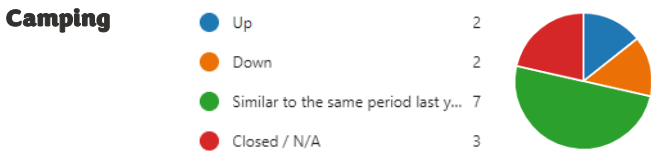


- **CO Phil Helminen** attended the Upper Peninsula Police Officer Memorial that was held at the Kingsford High School. CO Helminen participated in the procession and read off names of fallen officers at the ceremony.
- **COs Phil Helminen, Steven Sajtar, Jared Ferguson, PCO Pete Shambaugh and Sgt. Brian Bacon** joined with wildlife, fisheries, and forest resources divisions to present to 4th grade students from Kingsford Elementary School on what the divisions in the DNR do. The COs presented to the students on ORV and marine safety as well.
- **CO Phil Helminen and PCO Pete Shambaugh** checked two men fishing on a dock. While speaking with them, the COs asked them for their fishing licenses. One man provided his fishing license while the other looked around. When asked a second time for his fishing license, the man asked about needing a fishing license and it was determined that he has never purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.
- **CO Phil Helminen** observed two people fishing on a lake in Dickinson County. When contacting the two about fishing, one stated that they did not have a fishing license and that they have never bought one as they only go fishing every once and in a while. Enforcement action was taken.
- **CO Phil Helminen** was patrolling when he observed a large amount of smoke coming from behind a residence during extremely dry conditions and no burning was permitted. CO Helminen observed a large brush pile being burned and no one around the fire. CO Helminen went to the residence and was met by the owner. He stated he was burning brush and had gone inside to eat lunch. CO Helminen asked him about checking for burn permits and he stated he only looked at the signs at DNR offices. After showing him how to use the burn permit system and putting out the large fire with a bulldozer, the landowner was cited for burning without a burn permit.
- **CO Phil Helminen** was patrolling when he observed a pontoon boat trolling with an expired registration. CO Helminen stopped the boat, and the man fishing did not have a fishing license with him and did not have any PFDs on the boat. A citation was issued for not having a PFD and a warning was given for not attaching a current registration.
- **CO Phil Helminen** was patrolling a lake in Dickinson County when he contacted a group kayaking. While speaking with them, one of the kayakers did not have a PFD with them and stated that they are not a very good swimmer and forgot their PFD in their vehicle. A citation was issued for not having a PFD.
- **CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Pete Shambaugh** patrolled the Michigamme Reservoir near Way Dam on the opening day of walleye season. A citation was issued to one individual for possessing a walleye less than 15 inches.
- **CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Pete Shambaugh** patrolled the Michigamme Reservoir near Way Dam. One individual was observed operating a boat on the reservoir and later contacted while he was fishing. He did not possess any PFDs in his vessel. A citation was written.
- In Dickinson County, **COs Jared Ferguson, Phil Helminen, Peter Shambaugh, and Steve Sajtar were joined by Sgt. Brian Bacon** at Kingsford Elementary's Annual Field Day. The COs were able to interact with the youth in the community, teaching them about recreation safety. The COs were able to show the kids various equipment used for patrol such as boats, jet skis, side-by-sides, and ATVs. Students from Kingsford Elementary were given the opportunity to ask the COs questions about being a conservation officer and learned about safe recreation in Michigan.
- While patrolling Menominee County, **CO Steve Sajtar** responded to a BOL for a suspect that was observed dumping a deceased victim on the side of Highway US 2. The witness who watched the victim get dumped from the vehicle was able to provide Menominee County Central Dispatch with a vehicle description and plate number. The suspect and victim were identified as two individuals involved in a domestic dispute at the Island Resort and Casino earlier that day. Menominee County Central Dispatch was able to ping the cellphone of the suspect. While CO Sajtar searched the area of the suspect's cellphone ping, an officer from another agency was able to locate and take the suspect into custody.
- **CO Steve Sajtar** was following up on an ORV complaint when he responded to a nearby complaint of a reckless driver in Cedarville Township. A Menominee County Auxiliary officer had called in a vehicle that was driving recklessly, leaving the roadway, and crossing the centerline multiple times. While CO Sajtar was enroute, the suspect vehicle pulled into the Cedarville Township Hall, voluntarily. When Sajtar arrived, it became immediately apparent that the suspect was intoxicated. Based on the SFST results and CO Sajtar's observations, the suspect was arrested for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.
- **CO Steve Sajtar** assisted with a single vehicle crash that resulted from a high-speed vehicle pursuit. The vehicle pursuit was initiated by a Menominee County Sheriff's deputy after the suspect sped off from the deputy on a traffic

stop. While CO Sajtar was enroute to assist, the deputy advised that the suspect vehicle had crashed. The deputy advised that he had the suspect in custody, but the vehicle was on fire. When the deputy advised that he did not have a fire extinguisher in his patrol car, CO Sajtar responded to the scene of the accident to assist with the car fire.

- On the Memorial Day weekend, **COs John Kamps and Steve Sajtar** patrolled Marquette and Menominee Counties for ORV activity. The COs contacted a significant amount of ORVs and answering various questions. Multiple verbal warnings were given for ORV violations. COs Kamps and Sajtar observed two ORVs operating in the center of highway M 69 and issued each ORV operator a citation for operating an ORV on a public highway. A citation was also issued for failure to license an ORV.
- **COs Cody Smith, Anna Viau, Steven Sajtar, Andrea Albert, John Kamps, Andrea Dani, and Corporal Brett DeLonge** attended the Michigan DNR’s Becoming an Outdoors Woman Program in Big Bay where they instructed multiple courses. These courses included, Hunter Education, Boaters Safety, Fly Fishing, Rifle, Handgun, Shotgun, Introduction to Waterfowl Hunting, and even classes on how to fillet a fish. This program allows women from all over to come together to learn outdoor skills they have an interest in. The classes allow the women to become confident with the subject matter and learn skills and techniques to apply on their own after the weekend.
- **COs Jeremy Sergey and Jackson Kelly** were patrolling Little Shag Lake when they stopped a vessel with expired registration. During the check, the vessel had broken down and the operator was unable to start it. It was also discovered there were not enough PFDs on board for each person. The COs towed the vessel to the operator’s property and a citation was issued for the lack of PFDs and the operator was given the opportunity to update the vessel’s registration before taking it out again.
- **CO John Kamps** was first on scene at an unresponsive juvenile at their residence. When CO Kamps arrived, the subject’s mother was performing CPR and the victim did not have a pulse. The AED was connected, and CPR was continued until a pulse was regained. EMS arrived and attempted to load the victim, but the pulse was lost. Another round of CPR got the pulse back strong enough to transport the victim by ambulance to the hospital and shortly after a medi-flight to a children’s hospital.

**Parks & Recreation Division: Doug Rich, WUP District Supervisor**



|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Bewabic</b>                 | Monitoring wells are being installed for our wastewater ARPA project in the campground  |
| <b>Fort Wilkins</b>            | Mostly routine maintenance. Water and sewer project is mostly complete. Planning for next ARPA projects has begun.  |
| <b>Lake Gogebic Field Crew</b> | The Lake Gogebic Field construction Crew removed skylights at Indian Lake State Park and assisted with repairs on a toilet building.  |
| <b>Craig Lake</b>              | With the back country campsites at Craig Lake State Park becoming reservable as of this season, staff is able to see camping reservation numbers. Camping numbers from what the staff can see are up. |
| <b>Van Riper</b>               | Despite the late snow giving the park a late start this season, camping nights are still up.  |
| <b>McLain</b>                  | Campground at McLain is open for the season and back to normal operations   |
| <b>Escanaba</b>                | Escanaba FO, with the assistance of Baraga FO will begin a road improvement project for West Bass Lake SFCG. 420 tons of road gravel will be added to the entry road, the campground and boating site |
| <b>Baraga</b>                  | Camping has been slow, perhaps due to colder weather  |



## Overnight Lodging



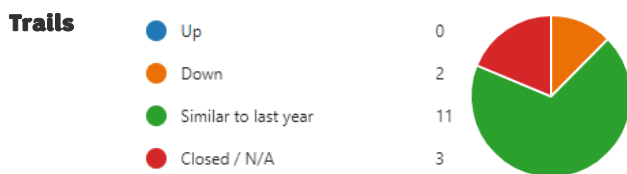
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| <b>Twin Lakes</b>          | Average spring usage, late spring arrival pushed back campground cleanup.   |
| <b>Fort Wilkins</b>        | Continuing with cabin updates. See photos above.  |
| <b>Craig Lake</b>          | Cabin and yurt use at Craig Lake is up almost 10% from the May/June 2022 timeframe.                               |
| <b>Little Presque Isle</b> | Little Presque Isle overnight lodging is down 62 nights from this May/June time frame.                            |
| <b>Van Riper</b>           | Overnight lodging at Van Riper State Park is down from May/June 2022.   |
| <b>McLain</b>              | Cabins are still closed for construction, but the Tiny house is open and already reserved for most of the season. |

## Boating Access Sites and Harbors

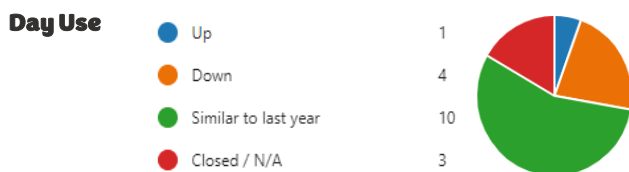


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| <b>Twin Lakes</b>   | State Park boat launch received more usage this spring with the Twp skid pier being repaired. |
| <b>Fort Wilkins</b> | Working on a site upgrade at Gratiot Lake BAS. Project coming along well.                     |

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| <b>Lake Gogebic</b>        | Park staff added gravel to some washouts at Chaney Lake BAS.  |
| <b>Little Presque Isle</b> | The Harlow Lake Boating Access Site has had roughly the same use as this time last year. The Harlow Lake Fishing Pier is still closed due to high water levels and is awaiting repair as soon as the bid package goes out soon.   |
| <b>Van Riper</b>           | With the rain event and culvert replacement last season at Van Riper State Park, a bid package was developed, sent out and awarded for the replacement of the asphalt paving patch along the roadway. Paving is anticipated to be completed before the end of the fiscal year.  |
| <b>Cedar River</b>         | Fuel dock construction project continues to be developed and revised to accommodate the staff and customers.  |
| <b>Baraga Field Office</b> | Baraga Construction Crew started May out with preparing courtesy piers that were refurbished over the winter to be placed back out at various boating facilities. They made improvements to campsites and assisted with hazardous tree removal at Baraga State Park. The construction crew participated in Mine Safety and Lifting/Rigging Training. The crew made improvements to Thayer's Lake and Gratiot Lake BAS facilities. The improvements included ditching and road improvements along with installing culverts to assist with storm water drainage. One Team Member is assisting the Gogebic Construction Crew with a roofing project at Tahquamenon SP. Currently we are assisting the Escanaba Field Office with road/parking lot improvements at Bass Lake State Forest Campground. |



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| <b>Craig Lake</b>          | With the late season snow that Craig Lake State Park received, trail use was down this spring due to the excessive number of trees down on the trails. Some areas of the trails have been inaccessible. Crews have been steadily working away at getting cleared for the season.  |
| <b>Little Presque Isle</b> | The trail system within the Little Presque Isle State Forest is just as busy this year as it was in May/June 2022.  |
| <b>Van Riper</b>           | A bid package is being developed of the repair/replacement of the stairs along the Overlook Trail at Van Riper State Park. This project includes a series of earthen stairs in need of some repair within the trail network on the north side of the park. Staff is hopeful to receive bids and for work to be completed by the end of the fiscal year. |
| <b>Escanaba</b>            | 906 Adventure Team has continued to host youth biking lessons at Days River Pathway   |



|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Porkies</b>   | Porkies - mosquitos and biting flies have been terrible this spring.                       |
| <b>Bewabic</b>   | Monitoring wells are being installed for our ongoing wastewater ARPA project at Bewabic SP |
| <b>Menominee</b> | Proposed land exchange in the Quiver Falls unit is progressing.                            |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Twin Lakes</b>              | Warm weather brough in more swimmers   |
| <b>Fort Wilkins</b>            | Trying to get new grass to grow, and it's a bad year to establish new growth.  |
| <b>Lake Gogebic Field Crew</b> | The Lake Gogebic Field Construction Crew made repairs to the railing and decking at Palms Book State Parks Big Spring. The Lake Gogebic Field construction Crew replaced a log in the siding of the Officers' Quarters at Fort Wilkins State Park, as well as made repairs to the decking in the historical complex. |
| <b>Craig Lake</b>              | Craig Lake State Park's Day-use was down at the beginning of the season due to the late, heavy snow. It took crews 3 days to cut and clear trees to access the main parking area at Craig Lake State Park.   |
| <b>Little Presque Isle</b>     | The Little Presque Isle State Forest area is seeing use comparable to May/June 2022.   |
| <b>Bond Falls</b>              | Use and sales have been less than the past two seasons, possibly due to the colder weather and overwhelming number of bugs.  |
| <b>Baraga</b>                  | There seems to be less traffic in the area and less vehicles in our day use area.  |

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

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|-------------------|--|
| <b>Bewabic</b>    | May and June have been a very difficult and strenuous at Bewabic State Park as our ranger position and account tech position are vacant.   |
| <b>Craig Lake</b> | Hiring for the new Craig Lake Seasonal Ranger is underway and park staff is hopeful to have an additional ranger on in the coming months.  |
| <b>Bond Falls</b> | There have been a few more event permit weddings this May and June.  |
| <b>Baraga</b>     | The park was able to fill all the STW positions along with getting a 5 person MRS crew. Many non-routine and project tasks are being completed due having a full staff. The process of fill the Lead Ranger 9 position is ongoing. |
|                   |  |

### Design, Construction, Capital Outlay and ARPA Projects

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| <b>Porkies</b>      | ARPA project, Staff Quarters building roof has been replaced and interior building work has begun. The Lake Superior Sportsman's Club Indoor Shooting Range Building is nearing completion. The punch list was conducted yesterday. |
| <b>Bewabic</b>      | Monitoring wells are going in at Bewabic. Finalizing design of ADA access/improvements at Bewabic day use asphalt resurfacing project.  |
| <b>Eagle Harbor</b> | Eagle Harbor project is moving along. Western portion or marina is mostly functioning an open to use. Work on new piers expected to wrap up this fall.  |
| <b>Fort Wilkins</b> | Water sewer project mostly complete. New sanitation station working well. See photo   |
| <b>Lake Gogebic</b> | Phase 100 meetings are underway for park improvements slated to begin in 2025. Onsite meetings with engineers and architects continue.  |

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| <b>Craig Lake</b>          | Planning is underway for the Michigan Army National Guard Armory to make some much needed road improvements to the Craig Lake Road. This opportunity will provide training opportunity for the National Guard Road Crew soldiers and will give great improvement to the access to Craig Lake State Park.   |
| <b>Little Presque Isle</b> | Design has been completed for the trail improvements within the Little Presque Isle State Forest area. A public notice has been posted and will expire on July 3rd and bids will go out soon after to get a contractor on board for construction starting in 2024.   |
| <b>Van Riper</b>           | With the Michigan Iron Industry Museum coming into the Van Riper State Park Unit, the contracted consultants have completed their assessments and have proposed design ideas for improvements to the facility. These improvements, once completed, will help to further increase the longevity of the building, and continue to create a safe and enjoyable space for both the public and staff. |
| <b>McLain</b>              | McLain construction on utilities is complete for this year, still working on finishing up the cabin area and waiting on grass to grow in most of the affected construction areas.  |
| <b>Escanaba</b>            | Escanaba Field Office Staff have received vault toilets constructed by the Michigan National Guard. These vault toilets have various destinations such as the Marquette shooting range (currently under construction), and McLain State Park. Staff are also constructing 3 vault toilets for the Porkies, and their construction continues as time allows                                       |
| <b>Baraga</b>              | Park staff have been working on playground fundraising and design.   |



### **Forest Resources Division: Tom Seablom, Western UP District Supervisor**

- Field work on the 2025 YOE Inventory has been completed. The Next Open Houses for the WUP will be for the Escanaba Unit on August 8<sup>th</sup> and the Crystal Falls Unit on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Open House comment periods will remain for people that do not want to meet in person. For the Escanaba Unit comment periods started July 9<sup>th</sup> ending August 9<sup>th</sup>, the Crystal Falls Unit will start August 6<sup>th</sup> ending September 6<sup>th</sup>. Open house Comment Periods and Compartment Review schedules for other units are posted online along with other state forest inventory information at: [Michigan.Gov/forestInput](https://Michigan.Gov/forestInput).
- As of June 27<sup>th</sup>, 313 timber sale contracts are open WUP Wide. This represents 953,800 cords of timber on 52,375 acres, valued at approximately \$37.2 million. Included in this are 25 GNA sales representing 98,083 cords of timber on 5,468 acres, valued at approximately \$3.5 million. As of June 27<sup>th</sup>, 13 sales are available WUP Wide for the minimum advertised price. This represents 21,200 Cords. Find more information on State Forest timber sales at: [Michigan.Gov/Timber](https://Michigan.Gov/Timber)

- WUP Units are reporting 15 Active Timber Sales in the WUP totaling about 1,503 acres. Units report low demand for Hardwood pulp stumpage.
- Please welcome the WUP's two newest staff members Terry Sleeter and Craig Suheski.
  - Terry is a Forest Fire Officer in Gwinn. Terry retired from Dalco in Marquette after working there 22 years. He started as a keyman for the Michigan DNR out of the Marquette ICC in 1980 and has been a volunteer fire fighter for Sands Township fire Department since 1999 and has held numerous positions from fire fighter to Fire Chief. He has 43 years in the fire service. In his spare time, he volunteers for Marquette County Search and Rescue, and with his wife work the UP 200 Sled Dog races as volunteers. He likes to hunt and be in the outdoors.
  - Craig is a Forest Fire Officer in Norway. Craig started out as a Temporary Fire Officer out of Norway in the mid 2010's before working for Reinhardt food delivery. In his free time, he enjoys being in the outdoors.
- Spring planting has wrapped up with 650,00 trees planted in the WUP on about 950 acres. About 1,300 acres are planned for site preparation work the summer through the fall.
- Since April there have been a total of 29 reportable fires in the UP for 52.80 acres, 40 structures were saved with a total of 3 being lost. Additionally, there were 28 non-statistical fires reported for 7.2 acres burned: these were mostly fires that we were dispatched to but did not take suppression action as they were either already out or the VFD's were able to suppress them. 2 prescribed fires in the West UP have occurred, one in Delta County for 15 acres and the other in Iron County for 83 acres.
- The fire outlook for the UP is for above normal temperatures with precipitation amounts forecasted to be near normal to below normal, reaching out well into summer. While fuel moistures have increased and recovered some with the recent rains (as of 6/29) in the West UP, they still remain lower than normal for the East UP and northern lower peninsula. Fuels at and/or below the ground are still dry in some areas across the peninsula and those few fires that we had prior to the recent rain are still being worked and checked daily. As always, ground fires once established take an incredibly long time to extinguish completely. The future looks like more of the same. As we move later into July and potentially return to drier conditions, lightning will again become a factor for potential fire starts.
- No out of state assignments have been granted thus far due to the in-state fire conditions. The abnormally dry conditions statewide have required fireline qualified staff to travel to assignments out of their normal response areas. The daily staffing requirements across the state has led to a disruption of normal plan of work responsibilities as fireline qualified personnel received assignments outside their normal work area. There has been a concerted effort from every level of management to meet fire staffing need for much of the reporting period. The need to staff for fire response within the state was such that resources were requested from the Eastern Areas Coordination Center for national resources. Two engines along with 6 firefighters from South Dakota came to help us staff additional fire support needs for a two-week period. Fire resources were also ordered from the Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact; Wisconsin sent 4 large engines/dozers units along with 2 smaller engines to help suppress a large fire incident, the Wilderness Trail Fire (2,442 Acres) on 6/3/23.

### **Wildlife Division: Dave Lemmien, UP Wildlife Supervisor**

*(Submitted by John DePue, Wildlife Biologist, Baraga)*

- **Bears:** We continue to have high volume of nuisance bear calls throughout the west U.P. Most calls the bears are coming into a human food incentive like garbage or bird feeders. Remind folks it is best to take down bird feeders during the summer and keep garbage indoors until garbage day.
- **Wildlife Health Population:** Wildlife staff are out banding geese throughout the U.P. at the time of writing this report. Our goal is to band 300 geese throughout the U.P. in 2023.

▪ **Habitat:**

- The Net River Flooding dam south of Covington had a partial failure during spring run-off in 2022. In the fall of 2022 a passage was cut through the dam to allow passage of the Net River and stabilize the dam. The DNR intends to repair the damaged dam and allow for flooding again in the future and is currently in the engineering design process.
- Wildlife food plantings have been taking place around the west U.P. Finally with some rain at the end of June we expect the plantings at the Baraga Plains and Sturgeon River Sloughs to produce good food and cover for wildlife this year!

- **Staff:** Our long-time wildlife technician in Baraga, Brad Johnson, retired after 46 years of service to the state of Michigan. Brad has been a steadfast advocate for wildlife and habitat improvement for 28 years in the Baraga Unit. Brad oversaw hundreds of acres of planting for geese, ducks, deer, and grouse annually. Brad's knowledge, experience, and work ethic will certainly be missed. If you are in the Baraga area stop by Johnson Farms to pick up the best sweet corn and pumpkins in the U.P. and thank Brad for his service to the natural resources and people of Michigan.



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

**Trail Specialist: Jeff Kakuk, Western Upper Peninsula**

**Snowmobile Trails**

- 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 managed by DNR Wildlife Division. **UPDATE:** The project has begun and will be completed for the 23/24 season.
- UP15 has been closed between Trail UP2 and Trail UP111 in Iron County as a bridge inspection has deemed the bridge unsafe. **UPDATE:** A viable re-route of the trail has been taking shape and hopes for having the trail segment reopen for the 2023/2024 season remain high.
- UP13 trail loop north of Twin Lakes has closed due to a large trail bridge washing out early this spring. Efforts are under way to remove the bridge remnants from Sleeping River currently. This structure was trail only and on private land. Trail options are under review and first step is to ensure that failed structure is removed, and forest land certification is not impacted for the landowner.
- Snowmobile trail infrastructure is a major concern for the continued viability of the WUP trail system. The continued failure and closure of trails is very likely without an improved inspection system.

**Multi-Use Trails**

- Trail infrastructure failure has impacted many of the trail systems within the WUP. Spring melt impacted nearly two dozen sites this year and that trend should be expected due to age and condition of the system.
- Sidnaw to Bergland (UP8 SNOW/SB ORV Trail) trail has closed again east of Kenton as two site adjacent to last year's culvert repair have failed. Trail Specialist has recommended a nearly 4 mile trail segment re-build based on documentation of the existing infrastructure.
- The Bill Nicholls Rail Trail (UP3) temporary repairs have kept the trail open between Painsdale and South Range. The department is continuing with a larger scope engineering project to review nearly 2 miles of trail that has the potential to further impact both trail connectivity and the Adams Township Water Supply. A FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant was submitted to aid in the costly infrastructure construction costs. **UPDATE:** The project design is expected to be completed by mid-July. Many challenges with terrain and water main protection have made this a challenging design.
- The Stager to Crystal Rail Trail (UP113) just south of Crystal Falls was closed in May 2022 due to a large washout. The trail repair has been designed, bid and awarded to FA Industrial from Iron River, MI. Project will be completed



this summer. The City of Crystal Falls has developed an alternate route for the trail connection. **UPDATE:** Repair and remediation work will begin mid-July.

**Trail Specialist: Rob Katona, Central Upper Peninsula**

| Project Names   | Description   | Trail Use                     | Anticipated Completion | Q3 Updates  |
|---|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| ORV Route Grading in Alger, Delta, Marquette, Menominee, and Dickinson Counties | Multiple projects for grading and smoothing ORV routes with multiple grades planned in high use areas to help prevent rough routes            | Rail Trails & ORV Routes      | Summer 2023            | Some projects have been completed others advertised will continue to work on remaining ones.  |
| Sturgeon River Bridge   | Bridge rehab snowmobile Trail 2 in Dickinson County on State owned Rail-Trail   | Rail Trails                   | October 2023           | Construction has started, additional funding has been secured to perform unexpected additional patching and a complete deck replacement.  |
| Nahma Grade Multi-use Trail   | Design and construction 3.7-mile multi-use Rail Trail in Delta County work includes clearing, surfacing and culvert/bridge installation       | Rail Trails                   | TBD                    | Bids came in within budget for the two large arch culvert work will award contract soon. Two minor construction projects are currently out for bids to perform the tree clearing and install Eq culverts. |
| Clowry Grade Bridges #2, #3 & #6  | Design and rehab/construction of multiple bridges on this designated ORV/snowmobile multi-use Rail Trail in Marquette County                  | Rail Trails                   | November 2023          | Mobilization will occur in June with work starting after July 4 <sup>th</sup> . The trail will be closed after the July 4 <sup>th</sup> weekend through the end of September.                             |
| Clowry Grade Bridges #1, #4, #5 & #7  | Design and rehab/construction of multiple bridges on this designated ORV/snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail in Marquette County                  | Rail Trails                   | TBD                    | No new updates.   |
| Clowry ORV Improvements   | Continue filling low areas and culvert replacement on the Clowry Grade ORV C & CL Routes  | Rail Trails                   | October 2023           | Received funding, working on scope.   |
| Little Presque Isle Rec Area Improvements                                       | Trail repairs, parking improvements and boardwalk/bridge repairs throughout 42 sites at LPI recreation area and Wetmore Pond                  | Non-Motorized & Mountain Bike | November 2023          | Project did not go out for bids due to delays in permitting, work is slated to be advertised during the end of July.  |
| Days River Single Track Trail Construction                                      | Approximately 10 miles of single-track trail construction designed for mountain bike use  | Non-Motorized & Mountain Bike | 2024                   | New proposal is nearly approved.  |
| Tyoga Pathway Bridges   | Replace one bridge and replace or rehab second bridge both spanning the Laughing Whitefish River  | Non-Motorized                 | TBD                    | No new updates.   |
| LPI Songbird Trail and Harlow Creek Bridges                                     | Replace two popular pedestrian bridges on the LPI songbird trail and pathway to cabin #6 and north trail system                               | Non-Motorized                 | TBD                    | No new updates.   |
| Genes Pond Pathway  | Construction of 1.75-mile accessible pathway with scenic overlooks adjacent to state forest campground located near Ralph in Dickinson County | Non-Motorized                 | 2024                   | Working on environmental and SHPO.  |

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| Laughing Whitefish Falls Bridge                 | New pedestrian bridge construction on NCT over Laughing Whitefish River at the Laughing Whitefish Falls Natural Area   | Non-Motorized      | TBD            | No new updates.  |
| Norway-Carney ORV/Snowmobile Connector Culverts | New ORV route/ snow-mobile trail development with several stream crossings requiring new culvert installation. New trail will connect the Norway ORV trail with Carney Lake Rd providing an east-west connection across Dickinson County | ORV/<br>Snowmobile | September 2023 | EGLE permits approved, final work has started.   |
| Days River ORV Route Grading and Gravel         | Replace culvert, grade, shape, and fill Days River ORV Route in Delta County   | ORV                | September 2022 | Funding received work will be completed later this summer.   |
| Marquette County ORV Routes Improvements        | Repair large holes replace culverts and surfacing on multiple ORV routes in western Marquette County   | ORV                | September 2022 | Washouts, large culvert and bridge abutment work has been completed. Bridge with rotted beams has resulted in another trail closure, bridge repair work will be advertised early July. Several other route improvement projects are currently out for bids or have been awarded. |
| Forest Islands Repairs and Restoration          | Repair damaged board walks and damage in low wet areas on the Forest Islands ORV Trail/Route in Menominee and Delta Counties   | ORV                | September 2023 | Project has been completed except for a few punch list items and additional bridge work that we recently added. Trail has reopened.  |
| Felch Grade Surface Improvements II             | Gravel capping on the Felch Grade in Menominee and Dickinson Counties  | ORV                | June 2023      | One project has been completed with additional projects currently out for bids.  |
| Bass Lake Restoration                           | Perform reroutes around eroded areas.  | ORV                | September 2023 | Funding received, working on scope and PR request.   |
| Gwinn-Arnold Improvements and Restoration III   | ORV G route Marquette County filling, gravel, and culvert work   | ORV                | September 2023 | Work is currently out for bids.  |
| Delta-Menominee ORV Routes Improvements         | Minor bridge railing and decking repairs replace culverts and surfacing work   | ORV                | September 2023 | Work is currently out for bids and some work has begun on G and A Routes.  |
| Central UP ORV Route Dust Control               | Perform dust control at multiple sites on ORV routes to prevent dust caused by ORV traffic in residential areas and other areas meeting criteria   | ORV                | June 2023      | Work has been completed.   |
| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Hiawatha NF ORV Routes        | Nearly 100 miles of ORV routes proposed to be designated that would provide connectivity and looped riding across Marquette, Delta, Alger and Schoolcraft Counties   | ORV                | 2024           | USFS provided mixed use analysis, however, it was incomplete. Waiting for follow-up information.   |
| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Norway Rock Motorcycle Trail  | New single-track construction in Dickinson County adjacent to the Norway ORV trail   | ORV                |                | WLD denied; no further progress will occur without their support.  |

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| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Moose Mountain Reroute Snowmobile Trail & Three Lakes | Trail/bridge improvements and reroutes around difficult to groom areas. Logging operation on SCTC property to offset trail reroute costs  | Snowmobile            | Fall 2023                           | No new updates.   |
| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Days River Nature Trail                               | Designate and improve non-motorized pathway located along the Days River near Little Bay De Noc   | Non-Motorized Pathway | 2023                                | Work has been completed.  |
| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Westwood Pathway                                      | Designate and improve non-motorized pathway located on State owned property adjacent to Ishpeming DNR FO and Westwood High School   | Non-Motorized Pathway | Summer 2022                         | Going through review process.   |
| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Negaunee-Eagle Mills-Gwinn-Little Lake ORV Route      | ORV Designate existing snowmobile trails that are already heavily used by ORVs. Designation will allow funding for maintenance and provide direction for community connectivity | ORV                   | Proposal submitted Summer/Fall 2022 | Permit was received from CN & MDOT for multi-use ORV RR crossing in Negaunee, permit granted from MCRC, will be entering trail proposal for review. |
| <u>PROPOSAL</u> : Little Lake – Chatham RR Grade ORV Route              | ORV Designate segments of existing RR grade and county roads to provide ORV connectivity between Chatham and Little Lake and beyond   | ORV                   | Proposal submitted Summer/Fall 2022 | Additional title analysis has started.  |