

Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council (WUPCAC)
Meeting Minutes – APPROVED 3/21/23
Monday, December 5, 2022
5:00-7:30pm Central / 6:00-8:30pm Eastern
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Council Members Present

Erik Bessonon	George Lindquist	Kirk Schott
Floyd Dropps	Jim Lorensen-Chair	Skip Schulz
Barb Gajewski	Carol Mason Sherrill	Travis Smith
Dave Johnson	Horst Schmidt	Tom Solka

Council Members Absent/Excused

Dave Hall	Chauncey Moran
Mike Holmes	Warren Suchovsky-Vice Chair

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Staff & Guests

Tom Baird, Natural Resources Commission Chair
Carol Moncrieff Rose, National Resources Commissioner
Lt. Ryan Aho, Law Enforcement Division, Baraga County
Kristi Dahlstrom, Executive Division, Marquette
Stacy Haughey, UP Field Deputy, Executive Division, Marquette
David Lemmien, UP Wildlife Supervisor, Wildlife Division, Sault Ste. Marie
George Madison, Fisheries Division, Baraga
Cody Norton, Wildlife Division, Marquette
Doug Rich, Parks & Recreation Division, Baraga
Joe Sage, Wildlife Division, Escanaba
Tom Seablom, Forest Resources Division, Marquette
Karen Sexton, Wildlife Division, Escanaba
Chad Stewart, Wildlife Division, Lansing
Ron Yesney, UP Trails-Parks & Recreation Division, Marquette

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

At 6:00pm Eastern, **Chairman Jim Lorensen** called the meeting to order and welcomed Council members, DNR staff, NRC Commissioners, and guests to the meeting. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Lorensen asked for roll call. **Ms. Dahlstrom** read the names of all those attending virtually. A list of Council members was also displayed on screen.

Ms. Haughey, DNR UP Field Deputy, introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the meeting, including NRC Commissioners Baird and Rose and other guests who registered and were listed on screen. She indicated the meeting will be guided with a powerpoint presentation and reviewed virtual meeting tips. She briefly explained the 13-year history of the Upper Peninsula Citizens' Advisory Councils (East and West) which are advisory groups to the DNR. She mentioned the DNR is currently soliciting applications to serve on both Councils. The deadline to apply is December 15.

Adoption of Agenda

Chair Lorensen asked the Council if there were any further additions or revisions to the agenda; none were brought forth. **Mr. Lindquist** motioned to accept the agenda as presented; **Mr. Johnson** supported the motion. **Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: See page 1. No further discussion. Motion carried.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Chair Lorenson asked if there were any further changes to either the July 20, 2022 WUPCAC meeting minutes or the October 12, 2022 Joint UPCAC meeting minutes which were distributed to the Council via email for review. **Mr. Besson** motioned to accept both minutes as submitted; **Mr. Lindquist** supported the motion. **Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: See page 1. No further discussion. Motion carried.**

DNR Reports from Division Staff & Follow-Up from Last Meeting

Written staff reports were provided to Council members on November 28, 2022. The following brief updates were added.

1. ***Ms. Stacy Haughey, UP Field Deputy:***

- New Escanaba biologist Joe Sage was welcomed to the meeting.
- The Governor's office recently announced a few cabinet changes. They include appointing current DNR Director Eichinger to EGLE as acting director and appointing current DNR Deputy Director Shannon Lott as acting director of the DNR. Many CAC members met Ms. Lott at the October Joint UPCAC meeting and related events. She has held many roles within the DNR over the years.
- Council members and DNR staff were thanked for their participation and input into the MSU-facilitated planning sessions for the UPCACs. A draft report is forthcoming and will be shared at a future meeting.
- DNR staff and Ms. Dahlstrom were thanked for their preparation of the division reports. This report is an excellent snapshot of DNR-related work and activities occurring in the western UP.

2. ***Mr. George Madison, Fisheries Division:***

- There were no additions to the written report.

3. ***Mr. Tom Seablom, Forest Resources Division:***

- 56 fire units were dispatched to the Tennessee and Virginia areas and will be returning by next week.

4. ***Lt. Ryan Aho, Law Enforcement Division:***

- Officers from the most recent recruit school will be graduating on December 16. From this group of recruits, District 1 in the western UP will be receiving 3 officers to fill positions in Ontonagon, Baraga and Menominee Counties.

5. ***Mr. Doug Rich, Parks & Recreation Division:***

- The recent job postings release for the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park which was shared with Council members has produced an outstanding response with 66 applicants for a ranger position and over 50 applicants for the ski complex. Council members were thanked for sharing the posting notice with friends and contacts.
- **Mr. Schulz** asked about camping statistics from last season. **Mr. Rich** stated use was down about 8.95% statewide from the previous year. Despite the decrease, it was a very successful year considering use was up 20% during the pandemic years.

6. ***Mr. Ron Yesney, Parks & Recreation Division-UP Trails:***

- A potential reroute for a Gogebic County trail will be discussed later in the meeting.
- **Mr. Schmidt** asked about the trail status between Dollar Bay and Lake Linden. **Mr. Yesney** indicated the contractors are reviewing bid package documents at this time and bids will be submitted in waves over the winter months. It was decided to break the project up into 6 different bid packages/projects due to one

contractor not being able to handle a project of that magnitude. Construction is planned to occur next summer. If everything goes well, the snowmobile trail will be open in December 2023.

- **Mr. Schmidt** asked about status of the Copper Heritage Trail. **Mr. Yesney** explained this is a trail plan that would connect Hancock to Lake Linden via old railroad grades and follow Portage Bay and Torch Lake. Some planning and title analysis have been done to determine ownership of the railroad grades; however, it is very early in the process. The Houghton County Recreation Authority has been involved as well. Funding will be reviewed once the route is designed and a legitimate ownership route is secured.

7. **Mr. Dave Lemmien & Mr. Joe Sage, Wildlife Division:**

- New Escanaba biologist Joe Sage was introduced.
- The Crystal Falls biologist position posting period has closed and the hiring committee is reviewing candidates. Interviews for a wildlife technician position in Sault Ste. Marie will be occurring soon. Once these two positions are filled, the Wildlife Division in the UP will once again be fully staffed.
- A kickoff meeting for the winter moose survey occurred this week. The aerial survey will take place during the month of January.
- **Mr. Schulz** asked if staff anticipate a decline in the number of moose on the UP landscape. **Mr. Lemmien** stated they anticipate the moose population to be stable. Past surveys have indicated a consistent 2% increase, and staff are looking forward to these survey results to see if the increase continues. **Mr. Schulz** asked about the status of the Isle Royale moose population; **Mr. Lemmien** stated he wasn't aware of the current status.
- **Mr. Johnson** asked what level the moose population would have to be in order to trigger a moose hunt. **Mr. Lemmien** stated the goal in the mid-80s was to establish a population goal of 1,000 moose. Although the population is increasing, it is at a very slow pace. He indicated the population goal will most likely not be achieved.
- **Mr. Lindquist** asked if wildlife biologist Ms. Sexton is still in the Escanaba office. **Mr. Lemmien** explained Ms. Sexton was promoted from her Escanaba biologist position to field operations manager of the western UP, a position formerly held by Mr. Craig Albright who retired. She is still located at the Escanaba office. Mr. Sage backfilled her former position.
- **Mr. Lindquist** also commented that he was pleased to read about the increase in deer age class at check stations. Many years ago, the majority of harvests were yearling bucks. Now, more three-and-a-half-year-old bucks are being harvested which is good to see.
- **Mr. Lemmien** thanked Mr. Lindquist for his segment on the Adam Carpenter radio outdoor show; it was a good interview. He also thanked the regional wildlife staff for being open to Mr. Carpenter and giving little interview segments, which allows listeners to hear a quick snapshot of the season as it progresses.

Chair Lorenson thanked all the staff for participating and their willingness to take questions from the Council.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

Chair Lorenson opened the floor for public comments on agenda items only. He noted another public comment section is available at the end of the meeting for all other topics.

1. *Ms. Nancy Warren, Ewen (pre-registered, 5 min):* Ms. Warren spoke about section 6.10 in the wolf management plan regarding conflicts and non-lethal management methods. She indicated through a FOIA request, she obtained records of predations in 2022 in which there were only 3 predation events reported, one each in Delta, Baraga and Ontonagon counties. The Ontonagon County predation involved 3 events with 6 calves being killed. She compared the 6 calves to about 50,000 livestock in the UP, stating wolves were not creating many conflicts in 2022 and is consistent with the past several years.

Old Business

1. Mandatory Harvest Registration Season-to-Date Overview (Mr. Stewart)

- Overall, licensed hunter numbers, as of November 30, were down about 1.2% from last year. This is consistent with a steady decline that has been seen over the past 20+ years, and it is anticipated this decline will continue over the next 10+ years as many hunters start to age out of deer hunting.
- Staff are pleased with how the new mandatory harvest registration system has been performing thus far.
- 81% of hunters who have reported their harvest spent less than 5 minutes doing so, which was a goal to reach to make sure hunters can get their reports in quickly.
- 95% of the reports received have been submitted within 72 hours.
- 87% of the reports received to date have come via the internet with the remaining reports coming from the online app.
- Of the data reported, a little over 261,000 deer were harvested: 8% from the UP, 34% from the northern lower peninsula, and 58% from the southern lower region. Compared to previous estimates, the actual distribution of deer reports is consistent with staff expectations and do not show evidence of one region being under-represented or over-represented in harvest reporting.
- From a UP perspective, just over 21,000 deer were harvested through 12/5/22 and 75% or 16,000 were antlered deer and just under 5,200 were antlerless. The highest performing deer management unit (DMU) in terms of deer harvested in the UP is 055 with just over 4,900 deer reported, followed closely by DMU 022 with 2,600, and in third, 007 with about 1,500 deer reported.
- **Dr. Schott** stated a large section of the western UP was without cell service, internet or long distance for two days during hunting season due to a winter storm. Some hunters from his camp drove 20 minutes into town to a local restaurant to try to get service with no luck. He is not sure any of them tried again and believes many gave up. **Mr. Stewart** stated he wasn't aware of those specific issues and realizes internet accessibility can be a challenge. He added staff are encouraged by what was reported to date and issues will continue to be addressed as they surface. **Ms. Haughey** acknowledged the issues of the storm and indicated it was a learning year with the new system. **Lt. Aho** also indicated he had similar issues as well and noted local officers were aware and understanding of the lack of internet service.
- **Mr. Johnson** noted it was initially reported that registration this year was mandatory, then later it was stated it would be more of an educational year. As a result, many hunters heard the mandatory edict and did not buy a license. Some older hunters were not happy. **Ms. Haughey** indicated it was the first year of a mandatory harvest registration and legally, it was a requirement. However, because there was still much to learn about the system during full use, the Director tasked staff with doing everything they could to help hunters register animals. The goal was to get through the process and get the data entered. The goal was not to issue tickets for non-reporting.
- **Chair Lorensen** stated in neighboring Wisconsin, mandatory reporting has been in effect for years and it is well accepted. He asked what the objections are to the new system. **Ms. Haughey** stated she believes it to be a big change for some folks and for those without internet access, there was a fear of non-compliance. DNR staff were working extra shifts and weekends to ensure they were available to help folks who needed it and even a phone option became available. Overwhelmingly, people did a great job entering their data. To be able to see the harvest data in real time is a great benefit of the new system. She also noted several misconceptions had to be dispelled, including the location of harvest. Hunters and customers have been asking for real time information for years. **Chair Lorensen** stated it sounds like people weren't necessarily objecting the need to report, but rather had concerns about how to do it in a timely fashion.
- **Mr. Solka** added his impression was that objections weren't particularly directed towards the reporting program or the DNR, and instead was reflective of a wider attitude from people concerned with government and how much of their data is being gathered.

- **Lt. Aho** noted his officers received numerous positive comments about the system, and although they may not have initially liked the idea of it, it was easy for them to use and they enjoyed the real time data and accessed it frequently.
- **Mr. Lindquist** appreciates the dialogue and feels next year, there will be more acceptance and it'll be easier. He added Wisconsin requires reporting by 5pm the following day after harvest. Michigan is 72 hours, and he considers that very reasonable in comparison. He also noted the real time data is a true benefit.

2. Gogebic County Trail 2 Status (Mr. Yesney)

- As previously reported at the Joint UPCAC meeting, a change of ownership at Snow River Mountain Resort (formerly Big Snow Resorts) has resulted in the closure of an important stretch of snowmobile/ATV trail managed by the DNR and the Gogebic Range Trail Authority in Gogebic County. The closure eliminates trail access between Wakefield and Ironwood, affecting the communities of Bessemer and Ironwood. Despite significant hurdles in finding a reroute, collaboration between a private landowner (who opened up their property to allow access from the old railroad grade to US 2), community officials and the Gogebic Range Trail Authority (who worked with the landowner) has resulted in a workable solution for snowmobile traffic only. The City of Wakefield opened their city streets, Bessemer Township opened a portion of their property, and the Gogebic County Road Commission opened a portion of their roadway and donated culverts. Two miles of roadway will be utilized with special restrictions. The reroute is expected to be in place by the holidays.
- **Chair Lorenson** stated he has heard nothing but positive comments about the work by **Mr. Yesney** and other DNR staff in helping to resolve this issue. **Mr. Yesney** thanked him, stating it was definitely a team effort with all parties involved.
- **Mr. Solka** asked for an idea of how big of a displacement or reroute it will be for this trail. **Mr. Yesney** showed a map on screen and explained ownership patterns where the reroute will occur. He added special signage will be placed on the roadway to help blend traffic with snowmobile usage as the city reserves the right to close that portion of trail if snowmobilers are not well-behaved.
- **Mr. Schulz** asked if the property owner would be open to multi-use in the future (for ORV use). **Mr. Yesney** stated the current permission is for snowmobiles only. Discussion ensued about future possibilities, designated routes and leaving snow on the shoulder of the road. **Mr. Schulz** thanked Mr. Yesney for a great job in relatively short order. **Mr. Yesney** stated if it weren't for the city, township, property owner, and trail authority's involvement and willingness to make things work, it wouldn't have happened.
- **Ms. Mason Sherill** asked if the map or brochure will be published for people to see. **Mr. Yesney** indicated a press release will be issued and he will forward a copy of the map to her.

3. Wolf Management Plan Approval Process Update from November NRC Meeting (Mr. Norton)

- **Ms. Haughey** indicated NRC Chair Tom Baird wished to address the Council to provide a point of clarification.
- **NRC Chair Baird** stated some of the meeting material made it sound as though the NRC would be either approving or disapproving the wolf management plan at its December 8th meeting. He indicated the Commission does not approve or disapprove management plans at all. Rather, the NRC will receive it as part of the record, the same as they would the elk management plan. He stated the real goal in the coming months will be to utilize the wolf management plan to determine a procedure so the DNR can be prepared and begin working immediately when wolves come off the endangered species list. This could include steps that need to be taken at that point in time as well as deciding what data needs to be kept to follow-through on those steps when the time arises. He reiterated the management plan does not go through an NRC approval process. **Ms. Haughey** and **Mr. Norton** thanked Chair Baird for the clarification.

- **Mr. Norton** provided the same wolf management plan presentation that was given to the NRC at its November 10th meeting. He reviewed the process the DNR utilizes to update the wolf management plan as well as provided an overview of the more significant changes that were made. He indicated the final draft updated plan was presented to the NRC and the Director last month (November) and is intended to be up for Director's action at the December NRC meeting.
- For a full recap of the slides: November 10, 2022 NRC Meeting Wolf Management Plan Update, Pages 56-68. To view or read the entire updated draft wolf management plan: Updated Wolf Management Plan.
- **Mr. Schulz** asked how wolf population changes would be addressed if the plan is not expected to be updated for another 10 years. **Mr. Norton** explained the population has been fairly stable over the last 10 years and it is not expected to change significantly over the next 10 years. He added the plan is written to provide strategic guidance to manage wolves despite any decreases or increases in population size. If an update is warranted before then, it can be updated more frequently.
- **Mr. Solka** asked if there was an update on the status of the Federal Court of Appeals case. **Mr. Norton** stated he is aware that an appeal has been filed, but nothing further.
- **Mr. Lindquist** stated there was a previous mention about a white paper that went along with the draft plan and asked if it is available online. **Mr. Norton** stated the scientific review, as it's formally known as, is posted on the DNR website under wildlife surveys and reports: Wildlife Surveys & Reports (scroll to bottom of screen).
- **Mr. Lindquist** noted although the plan has been updated, wolves are still on the endangered species list and the public is not able to take action if a wolf is attacking their livestock or pets. He asked if there is an effort between Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin to come up with a joint plan to delist wolves. **Mr. Norton** stated Wisconsin and Minnesota are updating their wolf management plans now and counterparts in those states are making a coordinated effort to share ideas and keep informed as best they can. It is up to the courts at this point.
- **Mr. Schulz** asked for clarification on what can currently be done if a wolf is attacking a pet. **Mr. Norton** stated with wolves currently on the federal endangered species list, lethal methods can only be used in defense of human life (in Michigan). Wolves cannot be legally killed if attacking a dog or livestock.
- **Ms. Mason Sherrill** asked what kind of impact occurs to wolf packs if a hunt causes a member of the pack to be lost. **Mr. Norton** explained UP wolf populations have a natural mortality rate of around 25% in which packs lose members; even without a harvest, they can tolerate a certain level of turnover. He said there is a good amount of research available on this topic.

New Business

1. NRC Approval of Fisheries Order 206.23 (related to WUPCAC July Cisco Chain of Lakes Resolution (Ms. Haughey/Mr. Madison))
 - The WUPCAC passed a resolution in July 2022 recommending the muskie size limit change for the Cisco Chain of Lakes not be approved and remain at the current 42-inch minimum. The resolution was submitted to the Director with a copy to Chief Dexter, who forwarded the resolution to the NRC who was considering the regulation change for information in July. The regulation change was up for action at the NRC August meeting; however, it was delayed in August, September, and October.
 - At its November meeting, the NRC approved Fisheries Order 206.23, which provides for a variety of changes to regulations for warmwater species on select waters. The Commission also approved an amendment to this order that was put forward by Commissioner Cozad. The amendment was to retain the 42-inch minimum size limit for muskies in 12 of the lakes within the Cisco Chain of Lakes.

2. Virtual Elk Hunt Orientation Request to NRC (by WUPCAC Dr. Smith) & Response (Ms. Haughey)

- **Ms. Haughey** indicated Dr. Smith submitted a letter to the NRC asking them to consider continuing the virtual option for elk hunt orientation in perpetuity. A virtual option had originally been offered during the pandemic. A copy of his letter was shared on screen, which provided a breakdown of travel hardships for those who live in the western UP to attend in-person orientations in lower Michigan.
- The NRC responded to Dr. Smith with an email stating, *“We have received an overall positive response from hunters and our staff since moving toward the virtual orientation several years ago. We have continued this approach this year while offering a voluntary in-person opportunity to meet during the day prior to each hunt so hunters can ask final questions and interact with agency biologists and staff before their hunt begins. While no long-term decision has been made on this virtual orientation, we have not heard any feedback to return to our previous format. I believe our virtual orientation will remain for the foreseeable future. If you have additional questions, please contact Mr. Chad Stewart, Deer, Elk, and Moose Management Specialist, Wildlife Division, at stewartc6@michigan.gov.”*
- **Dr. Smith** indicated he appreciated the DNR’s time in pushing his letter forward. He stated if the DNR considers pivoting back to an in-person only format, he hopes stakeholders would be asked for input before a decision is made. He believes the virtual option should be a permanent platform.

3. Council Member Term Expirations/Renewals/Solicitation of New Applicants (Ms. Haughey)

- **Ms. Haughey** reviewed a listing of members who have departed over the year and those members whose terms will be up for renewal at the end of December. 5 openings currently exist on the Council. There are also openings on the EUPCAC.
- A press release soliciting applications for those openings was issued in November with a due date of December 15. Multiple news sources picked up the release and targeted emails were sent. The Council was encouraged to reach out to their connections to solicit interest.
- A selection team of four UP representatives and four DNR staff will review applications in January and choose new members based on areas of under-representation currently on the Councils, such as UP counties, interests, demographics, etc. After a vetting process, new members should be on board in March.

4. Defer Officer Selection to March 2023 Meeting (Chair Lorensen/Ms. Haughey)

- **Ms. Haughey** stated per bylaws, the Council votes on officer selections at the first meeting of the new year, which is January. She noted that since at least a third of the Council will be new members by March, she suggested to the Council that they defer officer selections until the March 2023 meeting.
- **Chair Lorensen** asked for a motion from the Council if they wish to proceed with Ms. Haughey’s suggestion. **Mr. Schulz motioned to defer officer selection until the March meeting; Mr. Lindquist supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: See page 1. No further discussion. Motion carried.**

Reports from Committee Meetings Held

Chair Lorensen opened the floor for reports from the following committees:

1. Fisheries (Mr. Dropps):

- No activity to report.

2. Trails/Recreation/Law (Chair Lorensen):

- **Mr. Schulz** mentioned the North Country Snowmobile Club in Ontonagon will be using a large roller in combination with a drag this year on snowmobile trails. This is similar to what is done in the Rockies and helps keep a longer lasting trail in the spring. He stated he hopes the DNR and other clubs will look at obtaining a roller as part of their snowmobile grooming equipment in the future.

3. Wildlife (Mr. Lindquist):

- A meeting will be scheduled in early January. It was difficult to schedule a meeting before rifle season.
- **Mr. Lindquist** stated he hoped everyone had a good deer season. He harvested a three-and-a-half-year-old buck. He also recently took a doe on property downstate. The head was submitted for testing since it was in a CWD area.
- **Chair Lorensen** stated there was a very significant snowfall in the far western UP for rifle season which made hunting more challenging. However, a highlight was having an older camp buddy who has been hunting for 50 years, this year likely being his last, take a nice 6-point buck.

Next Meeting

1. Approval of 2023 Meeting Dates

- **Ms. Haughey** indicated meeting dates for the entire year have not yet been determined. However, a suggested date for the next meeting is Wednesday, January 18th in a virtual format. More information regarding future meeting dates will be communicated after the holidays.

2. Next Meeting Date:

- **Chair Lorensen** noted the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 18th, 2023, as previously stated, to be held in a virtual format if the Council desires. A determination will be made at a later time.

3. Items for Next WUPCAC Meeting Agenda: **Chair Lorensen** indicated suggestions for topics for the next meeting can be submitted to Ms. Haughey or Ms. Dahlstrom for consideration.

Public Comments (On Any Topic)

Chair Lorensen opened the floor for public comments on any topic.

1. *Ms. Nancy Warren, Ewen:* Ms. Warren indicated she wanted to clarify her earlier comments that she did clearly indicate that upon delisting, a producer can kill wolves in the act and that DNR can issue permits.

Closing Comments from the Council

Chair Lorensen opened the floor for closing comments from the Council.

1. **Mr. Lindquist** thanked Chair Lorensen for his service and leadership on the Council, with this session being his last meeting. He stated Chair Lorensen was able to effectively keep the Council in line when needed and wishes he were staying on.
2. **Mr. Dropps** stated he has cherished having Chair Lorensen on the Council and keeping them focused and on track. He thanked him for his service and indicated the Council will miss him. **Mr. Dropps** also indicated he'd like to thank the DNR staff for setting up the joint UPCAC meeting so that the Council members could meet with the NRC Commissioners. He stated members found it very useful and they made a lot of contacts with very nice people (NRC commissioners) who listened to them.
3. **Mr. Schulz** stated Chair Lorensen was instrumental in leading one of the subcommittees, and he will really miss him. He also noted he wanted the NRC commissioners attending the meeting to know the DNR is very lucky to have the best staff in the UP.
4. **Ms. Haughey** stated Chair Lorensen has been with the CACs almost from the beginning and she has appreciated his approach and all his extra time, dedication, and efforts. She thanked him, adding he truly has made an impact with this group. She noted there is time to reconsider.

5. **Chair Lorensen** stated this will be his last Council meeting; however, members will likely see or hear from him periodically. He stated serving on the Council has been an informative, interesting, and productive experience. It has been amazing to him to learn and re-learn how complex and subjective natural resource management is and how often people have to deal with diverse and often competing perspectives from the CAC. He indicated it is very important for the Council to be considered as constructive input into natural resource decisions and to be heard. It has been his experience over the years with staff and the DNR that they are professional, competent, and dedicated to management of the state's natural resources and is amazed at how well staff continually work in the face of these competing and diverse interests and come up with a workable plan. He has no doubt the CACs and the DNR will work collaboratively and recognize that not everyone's opinions are the same; there is a good future partnership between the two entities. He appreciates working with everyone and wished everyone happy holidays.
6. **NRC Commissioner Rose** stated she completely concurs with Chair Lorensen's comments about the quality of the UP DNR staff. She stated, knowing NRC Chair Baird will easily concur, that their experience in Marquette in October was spectacular. The staff was magnificent and so generous and welcoming, and it was wonderful to be able to sit in on the Joint UPCAC meeting and come away so impressed with all of the things in detail the CACs deal with over the course of their meetings. It was the best meeting experience ever! She can't thank everyone enough for all that they do. She thanked the Council for being able to listen to all the information that was shared today.

Adjournment

Chair Lorensen thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished all a happy holiday season. The meeting adjourned at 8:02pm Eastern/7:02pm Central.