

**Interim Ecosystem Management Guidelines  
WUP Management Unit  
Including Escanaba, Ishpeming, Baraga and  
Crystal Falls Forest Areas**

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**Road Density/Access:**

Assumption:

Forest roads are vital to not only management, but also to recreational use. Reasonable access for both managers and the public is the general goal being strived for. Excessive roading can have negative impacts on a wide variety of wildlife. Roading plans and the removal of roads are important aspects that need public review through the compartment review process.

Interim guidelines:

1. A yearly audit of roads and roadwork needs will be done in each management unit. There are several efforts on-going (SAPIO/IFMAP) that will provide a road system analysis. Previously a road system analysis was completed (LUSK). Lee Evison will evaluate the system analysis effort and lead the analysis of road needs at the compartment review level.
2. A review of road systems work specific to that date of entry will occur at O.I. reviews and be included for public review at open houses.
3. Alternative methods to fund specific roads will be explored. Use of restricted funds will be considered when appropriate. In timber sale areas, roadwork may be incorporated into the contract and credit for this work applied to the total contract.
4. Temporary timber haul roads will be obliterated upon completion of the timber sale contract, unless it has been determined that the road will be placed in permanent road status.

All permanent roads will be developed or upgraded to department road standards.

If a newly constructed road is likely to be needed again within the decade, but has no immediate utility, gating is the preferred method of closure.