



| <b>Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest<br/>2016 Flood Status Update<br/>July 20, 2016 10:30 a.m.</b> |  |
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| <b>Current Status</b>  | The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is now overseeing the response efforts following the storm event. The focus remains safety and providing road access into and out of the affected area.<br>Visitors are still asked to modify their trip to avoid the impacted area and instead visit the many other areas of the Forest that safe for summer fun and recreation.  |
| <b>Current Damage Assessment</b>   | Assessments have been completed on nearly 400 miles of the main Forest Roads in the impacted area of which nearly 170 miles sustained damages. Assessments are also complete on nearly 100 miles of trails. Forest Service personnel identified nearly 100 obstructions on Forest roads and trails within the impacted area. These include damaged bridges, culverts, washouts and other impacts. Roads, trails and recreation areas remaining closed are identified in the closure order at <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF/">www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF/</a> .<br><b>Conditions are continuing to change, culverts and structures under roads thought to be safe are now showing signs of failure or are failing.</b> People traveling within the impacted areas are asked to use extreme caution and be alert for changing conditions. |
| <b>Activities Conducted Today</b>  | Forest Service heavy equipment operators and engineers have completed emergency repairs to Forest Road 187 near Mineral Lake. This road still remains closed to the public due to other damages that are in need of repair. The Forest Service is working closely with local towns and counties to coordinate emergency repairs on roads providing access into and out of areas impacted by the storm.<br>Forest Service gravel trucks, excavators, graders, end-loaders and dump trucks continue to make repairs. To date eight emergency installations of culverts have been completed providing access to/and from residents and areas of the Forest. <a href="#">For your safety, please obey all road closed signs and the list of closed roads, trails and recreation areas in the closure order.</a>                              |
| <b>Closures</b>  | For the public’s safety, the area closure has been lifted and we have issued a new order that lists roads, trails and developed recreation sites that are closed on the National Forest due to the storm damage. Attachment A of the closure order and the corresponding map will be updated daily on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest website at <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/cnnf/">www.fs.usda.gov/cnnf/</a> .  |
| <b>Safety Concerns and/or Advisories</b>   | Numerous roads have been washed out, culverts blown and blocked and bridges impacted by the flash flooding. Note that closure devices may not be in place indicating a road is impassible. The changing weather and ground conditions may cause some areas to continue to deteriorate and increase the risk of trees falling. Heavy equipment and dump trucks are on roadways making repairs.<br>Drivers are advised to practice defensive driving techniques, reduce speed, drive with lights on, and watch out unsafe areas on roadways. Narrow  |



Forest Service

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|                            | roads, damaged bridges and washed-out trails are hazardous and will continue to deteriorate until repaired. <b>Remember that conditions are still changing.</b> In addition, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, counties and towns are reporting road closures elsewhere in northern Wisconsin. For more information on travel routes please go to <a href="http://www.511wi.gov">www.511wi.gov</a> or call 511 for incident alerts and traffic information. For a listing of roads in Bayfield County please visit <a href="http://bayfieldcounty.org/934/2016-Flood">http://bayfieldcounty.org/934/2016-Flood</a> . For a listing of roads in Ashland County please visit <a href="http://www.co.ashland.wi.us/">http://www.co.ashland.wi.us/</a> .   |
| <b>Weather</b>             | Today – A slight chance of showers before 2 p.m., then a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Mostly sunny with a high near 86. South wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%. Tonight – A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 72. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Thursday – A 40 % chance of showers and thunderstorms. Patchy fog before 8 a.m. Otherwise, partly sunny and hot, with a high near 90. Southwest wind around 5 to 10 mph. Excessive heat watch in effect July 21 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.  |
| <b>Information</b>         | For further information regarding flood effects and emergency response on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest lands, visit the Forest website <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/cnnf/">http://www.fs.usda.gov/cnnf/</a> . Please contact the Great Divide Ranger District at Hayward 715-264-2511 or in Glidden at 715-264-2511. You may also call the Public Affairs Officer, Hilary Markin, at 715-482-0115 or by email at <a href="mailto:HilaryRMarkin@fs.fed.us">HilaryRMarkin@fs.fed.us</a> . For more information about the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest please visit our website at <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF">www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF</a> or follow us on Twitter at <a href="http://twitter.com/CNNF002">http://twitter.com/CNNF002</a> or like us on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CNNF002">https://www.facebook.com/CNNF002</a> . |
| <b>Incident Background</b> | The northern part of the Great Divide Ranger District in Sawyer, Bayfield and Ashland Counties and the southern part of the Washburn Ranger District in Bayfield County were most affected by the rainfall event. The majority of damage is on the Great Divide Ranger District. Numerous Forest Roads received varying degrees of damage including blocked and blown-out culverts, road washouts, bridge issues, fallen trees, and flood debris.  |



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