

# Superior National Forest



Honeymoon Trail, Oct. 28, 2016

## Fall Color Report October 28, 2016



**No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
No comfortable feel in any member -  
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds -  
November!"**  
- Thomas Hood



**The ancients put Halloween where it is on the calendar for a reason.** It was because it seemed to them that this was the time of year when the veil between life and death was stretched to its thinnest, and perhaps they were right. Late October on the edge of two worlds, neither here nor there. The glory of autumn is past, but the soft white blanket



of winter snow is yet to come. Trees, leafless, appear dead against the sky, yet are alive. Leaves, scampering over the ground, appear alive, yet are dead. In a fog, one stands on the ground, yet is in the clouds. It's no surprise that other things are mistaken as well. Trees creaking in the wind sound are the groans of some immense beast. A bush in the fog looms up as a monster. Branches, bereft of leaves, scratch your back as you pass with skeletal fingers. It is a time when things waver on the borders of seen and unseen, and both life and death have a hold which seems equally tenuous and uncertain. It's no surprise Halloween is when it is...travel safely when you venture into the woods.



This is the last fall color report for 2016. Enjoy the rest of your year, and come back for the leaves in 2017!

