

News Release

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

06-08 For Immediate Release

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Limited permits available for free firewood at Two Lakes Campground

Park Falls and Rhinelander, Wis. – April 24, 2006. To assist in the clearing of down trees and logging slash, the Forest Service will temporarily open Two Lakes Campground from May 1st to May 15th for free-use firewood gathering.

Washburn District Ranger Chris Worth decided Two Lakes Campground, located on the northeast corner of Lake Owen in Bayfield County, will be open for most of this summer's camping season. The campground suffered significant wind and storm damage in the early hours of September 13, 2005. As a result, the Washburn Ranger District has initiated salvage logging, facilities repairs and replacement, and campsite and shoreline rehabilitation in an effort to re-open a portion of the campground to first-come, first-serve camping for the Memorial Day holiday.

A total of 25 free firewood permits will be issued to individuals for personal use. Resale of firewood under this type of permit is prohibited. Each permit will have a four cord limit, but the amount of wood actually available is not guaranteed. Permits can be obtained at the Washburn (715-373-2667) and Hayward (715-634-4821) District offices beginning May 1st from 8 AM to 4:30 PM. The gate at Two Lakes Campground will be open Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM for permit holders to collect wood beginning May 1st.

Logging is completed in most of the campground, with the remaining work concentrated in the southern-most loop that includes campsite numbers 30 through 54. Firewood gathering will be permitted only in the northern portion of the campground where logging was completed. Work in the campground will continue during the firewood gathering period to have the campground open by May 26th for the Memorial Day weekend. The work is slated for completion by early June. Because of the ongoing work, reservations will not be accepted until the 4th of July weekend. "We know Two Lakes Campground is an important resource for the public and for the local business community," Worth said. "We want to get the campground open as soon as possible to offer campers a safe camping experience."

For more information contact Phil Freeman at (715) 373-2667, extension 228.

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