



News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

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Forest Service Plans to Relocate Rhinelander Office

November 20, 2006- Rhinelander, WI. The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and the Department of Transportation have agreed to the Forest Service's purchase of a building that was previously a Department of Motor Vehicle Service Center located on Hanson Lake Road, Rhinelander. This building is being purchased for use as the new site for the Forest's Rhinelander Supervisor Office. The new site is within the Rhinelander city limits, near the intersection of highways 8 and 47.

The new site will better meet the needs of the public and Forest Service employees. The current location of Stevens Street is not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not have enough square footage to house the entire staff; because of this the Forest has had to divide the employees into four satellite offices. The Forest is striving to better serve the public in a cost efficient manner while offering a safe, accessible and adequate office for employees. The new location will be a more central location for visiting public and will include a large accessible meeting room for public meetings.

The current location is owned by the General Services Administration (GSA) and the lease on the building expires in two years. Due to growing maintenance costs the building is on GSA's disposal list.

The actual move is slated to occur in fall of 2008. The Forest will be providing the public with the same level of services through out the transition.