



## News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

---

Contact: Suzanne Flory, 715-362-1354

### Loggers Set to Resume Work on National Forest Tornado Area

**Park Falls and Rhinelander, Wis. – July 2, 2007** – There were approximately 5,600 acres of Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) that were leveled on June 7, by the Quad County Tornado. These impacted acres included 6 active timber sales. Loggers are now ready to get back into the sale areas to resume work starting this week.

The loggers will be faced with the challenge of new conditions as they begin working to salvage the timber in these approximately 800 acres consisting of trees leveled by the tornado. The 6 existing timber sales will now include added volume due to the blow down. “It is in everyone’s best interest to get in there and start getting the salvage work going. Our first priority is to address the hazardous fuel build-up concerns as well as the need to prevent insect and disease outbreaks. We also realize the timber needs to be salvaged in a timely manner in order to maintain the woods value.” says Walt Ruckheim, CNNF’s Timber Program Manger.

The CNNF is currently seeking public comments (due by July 6) for the proposed action to salvage approximately 3,500 acres of the remaining downed and dying trees in the areas where existing sales were not present. The CNNF is using the Healthy Forest Restoration Act as a tool to expedite the Environmental Analysis process that is required of federal land agencies. The Forest is hopeful that timber salvage contracts for these remaining areas will be awarded this fall.

For more information about areas damaged from the tornado including emergency closures visit us at [www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/)