



News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

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Contact: Phil Barker- (715) 362-1373

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Evaluating Recreation Program

October 17, 2007, Rhinelander, WI- The Recreation Facility Analysis (RFA) is a process that enables the U.S. Forest Service to continue to offer Americans quality recreational experiences on national forests. The CNNF began the background work for this process last year. The CNNF will be kicking off the national process for RFA at the end of October. This kick off will include a two day workshop for CNNF staff that will result in the development of a Forest Recreation Niche. This Niche will clarify the Forest's unique attributes and special places.

As part of the process numerous recreation providers and stakeholders are being contacted to provide input on their views about the CNNF recreation program. The RFA process will help the forest in reviewing the 150 developed recreation sites across the CNNF. "This is a reasoned approach that will help us understand values and trends, and will guide us in making informed decisions that match resources to visitor's recreation expectations." said Forest Supervisor, Jeanne Higgins.

The RFA process will look at the operation and maintenance of the campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads, boat ramps, and other recreation facilities in the CNNF to assure that sound economic decisions are made that meet current and future visitor and community recreation needs. The RFA is a tool to help the CNNF align its developed recreation sites with the unique characteristics of the Forest, projected recreation demand, visitors' expectations, and revenue opportunities.

If you would like to learn more about the process please contact Phil Barker, Recreation Program Manger at (715) 362-1373.