



United States
Department of
Agriculture
Forest
Service

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**DECISION NOTICE and
FINDING OF NO
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

**Hiawatha National Forest
Non-native Invasive Plant Control Project**

USDA - Forest Service
Hiawatha National Forest
Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Mackinac, Marquette, and Schoolcraft counties,
Michigan

**USDA FOREST SERVICE, HIAWATHA NATIONAL FOREST
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I. INTRODUCTION

This document describes my decision and the rationale for implementing the Non-native Invasive Plant (NNIP) Control project within the Hiawatha National Forest (HNF). This decision and findings are based on the NNIP Control Project Environmental Assessment (EA) conducted by an interdisciplinary team. This decision involves the control of NNIP on National Forest lands within the HNF boundary through a combination of three methods: manual/mechanical, biological (vegetation eating insects) and chemical control (herbicides). The EA describes the purpose and need for the proposed actions (pp. 5-6), the proposed actions (pp. 6-10), treatment protocols and design criteria (pp. 11-14), alternatives considered but eliminated (p. 15), the two alternatives considered in detail (p. 16), and the effects of the two alternatives on various resources (pp. 17-66). I believe the range of alternatives adequately addressed the purpose and need for the project and addressed the issues identified during the public involvement process. The activities associated with the two alternatives are displayed in Table 2-1 (EA, p. 16).

Other than a minor correction to a citation (EA, p. 66), no changes were made to the EA that was made available for public review and comment on April 12, 2007. A copy of the NNIP Control Project EA is available for review at the Hiawatha National Forest, 2727 N. Lincoln Road, Escanaba, MI 49829; telephone (906) 789-3374, Fax (906) 789-3311. It is also available on the Forest Service website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/hiawatha/planning.htm>. See section IX below for additional contact information.

II. DECISION AND RATIONALE

A. Decision

Based on the analysis and documentation provided in the NNIP Control Project EA, it is my decision to select Alternative 2. The activities described for this alternative in the EA (pp. 6-10) will be implemented. Treatment protocols and design criteria will be implemented as detailed in the EA (pp. 11-14). Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines will be implemented as described in the 2006 Forest Plan (i.e. Forest Plan).

B. Rationale

My decision to implement Alternative 2 considered existing conditions, environmental effects, public comments, and economics of the proposed activities to address the need for NNIP control on the HNF. I also considered direction provided in the Forest Plan, National Forest Management

Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, and related regulations and policy. I chose Alternative 2 for the following reasons:

Alternative 2 provides managers on the HNF with a variety of control methods not available under Alternative 1 for decreasing the spread of NNIP and controlling infestations. Manual/mechanical, herbicide and biological techniques are all possible control methods under Alternative 2. Alternative 2 contributes towards short-term and long-term NNIP control by allowing the three treatment methods and increasing the average annual maximum treatment to 200 acres (EA, p. 6). The management activities will occur over a five-year period beginning in approximately 2007 or 2008.

Alternative 2 best addresses the need for NNIP control across the HNF. Treatment protocol was an issue identified during scoping. Consequently, some treatment protocols and design criteria for the project (EA, p. 11-14) were added or modified. For example, design criteria or treatment protocol were added for heritage resource protection (EA, p. 11, No. 4) and aquatic species protection (EA, pp. 13-14, Nos. 9, 10, 12-20), and modified to include buffer strips around water bodies, inside of which no herbicides could be used that are not registered for aquatic use (EA, p. 13, No. 11).

Forest staff recognized that in some locations it is cost prohibitive to manually treat certain infestations of NNIP (EA, p. 12, Nos. 7 and 8, p. 53). Therefore, the use of the herbicides specified in the EA is crucial to control of invasive weeds on the HNF. The analysis in the EA, using the best available science, indicates that the specified herbicides (EA, p. 9) can be used safely across the HNF to meet resource needs (EA, e.g. hydrology, p. 29, wildlife, pp. 42-45, and plants, pp. 33-34). Treatment protocols indicate that manual and mechanical methods are to be considered first (EA, p. 11). Under Alternative 2, herbicides would be used in circumstances where resource damage could occur from manual/mechanical control methods or for deep-rooted species that would be difficult and cost-prohibitive to treat manually.

Herbicide use under Alternative 2 would be closely managed. This is indicated in the treatment protocols and design criteria (EA, p. 12, No. 8, and pp. 12-14, Nos. 9-11, 12-15, and 20). A special emphasis is placed on herbicide use in aquatic areas. Buffer strips will be designated around water bodies (e.g. lakes, ponds, stream, wetlands, bogs, etc.) inside of which no chemical would be used that is not registered for aquatic use. The minimum buffer width is 100 feet. There are products that are approved for aquatic-use, specifying language such as, "for control of annual and perennial weeds and woody plants in forests, non-crop sites, and in and around aquatic sites." Only formulations approved for aquatic-use would be applied in or adjacent to aquatic areas, such as wetlands, lakes, bogs, and streams.

Alternative 2 would best address the need for native plant protection and conservation. The higher threshold acreage of NNIP treatments and the multiple treatment options would increase the ability of the HNF to control existing infestations in native plant populations and decrease the likelihood of spread into areas not yet invaded by NNIP. This would occur as a result of treating NNIP in disturbed areas, thereby decreasing or eliminating a seed source that a vector (e.g. vehicle, bird, wind, water) could transport into undisturbed locations (EA, p. 33). While some native plants could be killed or damaged during control activities, the overall effect would be to increase the health of the native plant community by removing competing NNIP (EA, p. 33).

Alternative 2 would best address the need for wildlife protection and conservation. Species with certain specialized habitats, such as piping plover, would be more vulnerable to NNIP infestation and spread. The decreasing water level in Lake Michigan has combined with the presence of NNIP in the expanding shoreline to create NNIP infestations that are exceeding the capabilities of manual

control in piping plover habitat (EA, p. 40). Thus, failure to implement a NNIP program that incorporates other methods of control, such as chemical and biological techniques, would allow the infestations and resulting habitat degradation to accelerate in the future for some animals (EA, p. 41). Wildlife could be exposed to herbicides by direct contact with herbicide spray streams or by touching recently treated foliage or exposed to herbicides by ingesting treated foliage. However, based on a consideration of the best available science, the herbicides proposed for use in terrestrial and wetland settings are generally safe to mammals, birds, and other wildlife when used in accordance with the manufacturer label (EA, pp. 42 and 44).

Alternative 2 addresses the need for prevention of NNIP infestations on the HNF. It includes protocols that direct the HNF to follow existing invasive species strategies and implementation guides (EA, p. 12, Nos. 7 and 8). Education and cooperative partnerships are key aspects to these strategies. Informing the public and other cooperators, such as logging contractors of the threat of NNIP is just the beginning of activities supported under this alternative. The HNF response to the strategies include plant surveys in sale units and mandatory equipment cleaning provisions that are implemented in those areas found to be infested. The HNF has these activities at work now on the HNF and will continue this practice under Alternative 2. The likelihood of NNIP spread because of maintenance and construction of roads on the HNF would be lessened, since gravel pits and roadsides are indicated as high priority treatment sites under Alternative 2 (EA, p. 11, No. 2). Post-treatment of NNIP would include revegetating exposed soils with approved seed mixtures using weed-free mulch (EA, p. 11, No. 5). Equipment, boots, and clothing would be cleaned thoroughly before moving to another treatment site to ensure that NNIP seeds and parts capable of starting new plants are not spread (EA, p. 11, No. 6). Thus, Alternative 2 emphasizes practices that would prevent infestations and help to slow the spread of NNIP into the HNF.

Alternative 2 addresses the need to be responsive to potential NNIP spread when and where control is needed. It includes an upper threshold directing up to an average of 200 acres of NNIP treatments each year (EA, p. 16). This would allow program managers more than a four-fold increase over treatment accomplishments from 2003-2006. Thus, Alternative 2 would allow for a more aggressive attack of invasive plants should that circumstances develop.

Alternative 2 provides for a variety of control measures not currently available to program managers. However, it does not authorize prescribed fire. A prescribed fire alternative was considered and eliminated from detailed study. The rationale for this decision is described in the EA (p. 15). The use of a torch to scorch individual plants is not considered a prescribed fire method. It is appropriately included as a manual/mechanical treatment method (EA, p. 8). As indicated in the EA (p. 12, No. 7), the use of a weed torch would be limited to times of low fire danger only after discussion with the Zone Fire Management Officer (FMO).

In conclusion, I find that Alternative 2 is consistent with the goals, objectives, and standards and guidelines described in the Forest Plan (see Findings Required by Other Laws and Regulations). Implementation of Alternative 2 is a positive step towards achieving prevention, reduction and control of NNIP on the HNF and the stated Purpose and Need for the project (EA, pp. 5-6).

III. OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

No Change Alternative (Alternative 1)

Under Alternative 1, the HNF would not implement an integrated program of treatments to control NNIP infestations. It is termed the "No Change" alternative because limited mechanical and

manual treatment of NNIP infestations would likely continue to take place through separate decisions. It is anticipated that under this alternative approximately 30-50 acres would be treated annually through manual and mechanical methods, as is the current practice. Management direction in the Forest Plan would apply to Alternative 1. Design criteria and treatment protocol (EA, pp. 11-14) would not apply. I did not select Alternative 1 (No Action) because it does not address the purpose and need identified in the EA (pp. 5-6). The modest anticipated annual acres of treatment, and the likely reliance on manual and mechanical controls and no capabilities for herbicide and biological controls, would not meet the management needs for controlling existing infestations of NNIP and decreasing the possibility of spread over the 5-year period of the project.

Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Detailed Study

The use of a prescribed ground fire was considered as a control method for an infestation of garlic mustard near Au Train Lake instead of a weed torch as a means of killing plants and seeds in the leaf litter. Four factors caused this proposal to be dropped. First, even a cool fire is damaging to some northern hardwood species (yellow birch, paper birch, beech, and sugar maple). Second, because of the higher humidity levels associated under northern hardwoods, it is unlikely a ground fire would be of sufficient intensity to be effective against garlic mustard seeds in the organic layer. In the event a moderate intensity fire could be carried, there could be severe damage to the overstory trees and other ground flora, which are not tolerant of hot fires. Third, there is a dearth of scientific literature available to support the effectiveness of fire. Michigan Technological University established a study in 2006 in the Au Train area to study the effects of various techniques, including fire, on controlling garlic mustard. Depending on their results, the Forest Service may propose using this method in the future after the appropriate environmental analysis is completed. However, prescribed fire is not being proposed as part of this NNIP Control Project EA (EA, p. 15).

IV. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

A number of scoping activities were conducted to identify issues and concerns of the public. The EA includes information on the public involvement process (EA, p. 15). This project was first identified in the April 2006 Schedule of Proposed Actions and has been updated quarterly. In May 2006, approximately 180 letters were sent to the citizens, agencies and organizations on the HNF mailing list that have requested notification of all new projects. This scoping package was also posted on the HNF Internet site. A legal ad was published in the newspaper of record (Escanaba Daily Press) on May 23, 2006. It was also published in the Marquette Mining Journal and the Sault Ste. Marie Evening News. Seven responses were received.

The legal notice for the 30-day notice and comment period was published in the Escanaba Daily Press on April 11, 2007. It was also published in the Marquette Mining Journal and the Sault Ste. Marie Evening News. The EA was posted on the HNF website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/hiawatha/planning.htm> on April 10, 2007. The EA was sent to the seven individuals or organizations that commented or requested the EA during the initial scoping period. One individual responded. Comments received during the 30-day notice and comment period were considered and placed within the project file.

V. FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Consistency with Forest Plan Direction

This action is consistent with the HNF Forest Plan and related Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Regional Forester Randy Moore signed the Record of Decision on that FEIS March 20, 2006.

All of the proposed projects under Alternative 2 are consistent with the Forest Plan. Specifically, this decision is consistent with the Forest Plan's Forest-Wide Standards and Guidelines (pages 2-2 to 2-26) for human resources, heritage resources, vegetative management; visual resources; watershed management; recreation management; wildlife, fish, sensitive plant and animal habitat management, and transportation system management. All of the expected impacts from this project are consistent with the expected impacts disclosed in the Biological Evaluation for the NNIP Control Project, the FEIS for the Forest Plan (Chapter 3), the Biological Evaluation for the FEIS for the Forest Plan, and the Biological Opinion for the Forest Plan.

The activities are consistent with direction provided in the Forest Service policy on ecosystem management, and direction from the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act.

VI. FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

In reaching my determination under 40 CFR 1508.27 that preparation of an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) is not needed, I considered the following factors and information developed during the analysis of the proposal disclosed in the NNIP Control Project EA:

(a) Context

Activities that will occur under this project can occur across the HNF. The level of NNIP control, however, is relatively low. If the maximum 200 acres was treated annually, the five-year total, 1000 acres, would represent approximately 0.12 percent of the land on the HNF. The cumulative effects of past management, combined with the current proposal and reasonably foreseeable future actions are displayed in Chapter Three of the NNIP Control EA. My decision is consistent with the management direction outlined in the HNF, applied at the Forest scale.

(b) Intensity

1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.

Impacts associated with my decision are discussed in Chapter Three of the EA. There are no direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts that are significant in their effect upon other resources, as they pertain to the relevant issues analyzed in the EA (pp. 17-67).

The overall positive effect is to move the HNF towards a future condition whereby the spread and establishment of NNIP will be prevented, eradicated, reduced or controlled.

2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.

The activities proposed for the NNIP Control Project do not constitute a threat to public safety or health. Manual and mechanical methods would pose little safety risk to workers or the public provided safety practices routinely observed by the Forest Service or licensed contractors are employed (EA, p. 61). The public would be excluded from treatment sites while work is in progress. Chemical NNIP control methods would be part of an integrated program used with manual/mechanical and biological treatments. Herbicide labeling instructions would be strictly followed. All herbicides proposed for use under the NNIP Control Project are safe for use around human habitations (EA, pp. 61-62). Alternative 2 would have no appreciable effect on groundwater or surface waters (EA, p. 29). All of the proposed biological control agents are vegetation eating insects that have been approved for release in the United States by the U.S. Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) (EA, p. 9). None of the information available for review suggests that the insects could be directly harmful to humans (e.g., serving as vectors for human diseases). The specific agents proposed for use on the HNF have a substantial body of research and history of use in the United States that suggests any the risk to humans is negligible (EA, p. 10).

Based on these findings, I conclude that the health and safety of the public will be protected during the implementation of projects.

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

Based on the review of the proposed activities, treatment protocol and design criteria (EA, pp. 11-14), there is minimal risk that implementation of Alternative 2 would result in damage to heritage resources (EA, p. 59).

There are numerous wetlands within the project area. These areas, and various uses occurring within the wetlands, are protected through treatment protocol and design criteria (EA, pp. 11-14). Treating NNIP in aquatic areas with herbicides might harm some native plants (EA, p. 34). However, the impacts from manual, mechanical, chemical, and biological control actions would be minimal (EA, p. 36). The treatment actions in Alternative 2 are expected to result in a substantial reduction of NNIP within treated areas on the HNF. Additionally, the spread of NNIP to lands of other ownerships would be reduced (EA, p. 36).

There are no treatments planned for sections of wild and scenic rivers on the HNF. However, this does not mean treatments are disallowed there. Any treatment occurring in wild and scenic river sections would be consistent with Forest Plan management direction and the outstandingly remarkable values of those waterways. The Forest Plan (Chapter 2, p. 3-45) includes a guideline that states, "Non-native invasive species within the river corridor should be eliminated or controlled."

Within the HNF there is a section of shoreline that is listed as critical habitat for piping plover, a federally-listed bird species. The greater maximum treatment acreage and variety of treatments would provide options for responding to NNIP infestations along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Recovery Plan for the Great Lakes Piping Plover indicates that critical habitat for the species consists of sparsely vegetated sand beaches associated with wide, unforested systems of dunes or inter-dune wetlands (EA, p. 54). Controlling NNIP under treatment protocol and design criteria of

Alternative 2 would help maintain the sparse vegetation component of critical habitat on the HNF (EA, pp. 53-54).

Based upon these considerations, I conclude there will be no significant effects on unique characteristics within the geographic area.

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

I believe the effects of the management actions in Alternative 2 would not represent a scientifically controversial impact upon the "quality of the human environment". Some commenters may feel that the mere volume of comments or differing opinions indicates controversy. The number of public comments or differing opinions does not, in and of itself, make an issue controversial. Controversy as described above is a dispute within the scientific community. Based on the comments received it is my determination that there is no scientific controversy with respect to the effects of implementing Alternative 2. This environmental assessment is tiered to the Forest Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Forest-wide effects of the Plan's standards were disclosed in the FEIS.

The proposed activities in Alternative 2 will contribute toward reaching the desired condition and goals and objectives outlined by the Forest Plan. The Forest-wide effects of Forest Plan standards and guidelines were disclosed in the FEIS.

Based on these considerations, I conclude the effects on the human environment will not be different from that experienced in the past and analyzed in the Forest Plan, a document to which the NNIP Control Project is tiered.

5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

The control of NNIP has been conducted across the HNF in the past. Approximately 30-50 acres has been treated annually since 2003 (EA, p. 16). Therefore, the actions included in my decision are similar to past actions for NNIP control. The NNIP Control Project will add chemical (herbicide) and biological (vegetation eating insects) control methods. The herbicides to be used were selected based on their effectiveness and low toxicity to non-target organisms. All herbicides proposed for use are approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and are available without special permit (EA, pp. 8-9). All of the proposed biological control agents are vegetation eating insects that have been approved for release in the United States by the U.S. Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) (EA, p. 9). None of the information available for review suggests that the insects could be directly harmful to humans (e.g., serving as vectors for human diseases). The specific agents proposed for use on the HNF have a substantial body of research and history of use in the United States that suggests any the risk to humans is negligible (EA, p. 10). There are no unique characteristics about the area, which has not been previously encountered, that would constitute an unknown risk upon the human environment.

I conclude there is no high level of uncertainty or no unique characteristics about the area, which has not been previously encountered, that will constitute an unknown risk upon the human environment.

6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects, or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

This action does not establish precedence for future actions with significant effects to the environment. Effects of this project are minimal and short term. I reviewed the effects of the actions and find this project also fosters movement toward the desired condition in the Forest Plan.

I conclude that this action does not establish precedence for future actions with unknown or significant risks to the environment.

7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulative significant impacts.

Chapter Three of the EA discusses the combined effect of this project with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The analysis convinces me there will not be a significant cumulative impact from this action individually or in concert with other related past or present actions, or those anticipated in the foreseeable future beyond what has already been disclosed in the HNF Forest Plan FEIS.

Based on the discussion in the EA (pp. 17-66), I conclude there are no cumulative significant impacts.

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or may cause loss, or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

No significant impacts are foreseen on any proposed or listed National Historic Places, nor any loss or destruction of any scientific, cultural, or historic places (EA, pp. 59-60). Based on the review of the proposed activities, treatment project protocol and design criteria (EA, pp. 11-14), there is minimal risk that implementation of Alternative 2 would result in damage to heritage resources (EA, p. 59).

Based upon this information, I conclude this action will not cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources.

9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

No significant impacts to any endangered or threatened species or their habitats are foreseen. The NNIP Control Project Biological Evaluation (BE) documented either "no effect" or a "not likely to adversely effect" determinations for all HNF threatened and endangered species and piping plover critical habitat and proposed Hine's emerald dragonfly critical habitat. The Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with the determinations in a letter dated April 9, 2007 (project file). As documented in the BE (project file) and within the environmental effects section of the EA (pgs 49-57), no significant adverse effects are anticipated to any endangered, threatened, proposed, or sensitive species or their habitat.

Based upon the conclusions documented in the Biological Evaluation, my decision will not adversely affect endangered or threatened species, critical habitat or proposed critical habitat applicable to the Endangered Species Act.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

The HNF Forest Plan FEIS and Record of Decision indicate the consistency of the Forest Plan with laws or requirements imposed for environmental protection (Forest Plan, pg 1-1 to 1-3). Analysis conducted in the NNIP Control Project EA and BE has also been conducted relative to applicable regulations. The NNIP Control Project does not violate federal, state, or local laws, regulations, and requirements designed for the protection of the environment, including the National Forest Management Act of 1976 and associated implementation regulations which provide for amendments and revisions of forest plans.

Based on this discussion, I have concluded this project complies with statutes imposed for the protection of the environment.

FINDING

My decision to implement Alternative 2 is consistent with the intent of the Forest Plan long-term goals and objectives. The project was designed in conformance with the Forest Plan standards and incorporates appropriate Forest resource guidelines. Based on the analysis disclosed in the NNIP Control Project EA and my evaluation of the factors described in 40 CFR 1508.27, this is not a major federal action, either individually or cumulatively, which will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore an EIS is not needed.

VII. IMPLEMENTATION DATE

If no appeal is received, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before 5 business days from the close of the appeal-filing period. If an appeal is received, implementation may not occur for 15 days following the date of appeal disposition.

VIII. APPEAL OPPORTUNITIES

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215. An appeal may be filed by individuals and organizations that provided comments or otherwise expressed interest in the proposed action during the 30-day notice and comment period for this project. It is the appellant's responsibility to provide sufficient project-specific or activity-specific evidence and rationale, focusing on the decision, to show why the responsible official's decision should be reversed. The appeal must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic appeals

To appeal this decision, a written Notice of Appeal must be postmarked or received within 45 calendar days after the Legal Notice is published in The Daily Press (Escanaba, MI). However, when the 45-day filing period would end on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, then filing time is extended to the end of the next federal working day. The date of the publication of the Legal Notice is the only means for calculating the date by which appeals must be submitted. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. At a minimum, an appeal must include information as specified in 36 CFR 215.14(b). The Notice of Appeal should contain a subject line "NNIP Control Project".

Written Notice of Appeal must be sent to:

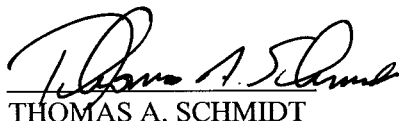
Randy Moore, Appeal Deciding Officer
Attn: Appeals & Litigation
USDA-Forest Service, Eastern Region
626 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

The Notice of Appeal may alternatively be faxed to 414-944-3963, Attn: Randy Moore, Appeals Deciding Officer, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Regional Office. Those wishing to submit appeals by email may do so to appeals-eastern-regional-office@fs.fed.us. Acceptable formats for electronic comments are text or html email, Adobe portable document format, and formats viewable in Microsoft Office applications. Receipt of electronic appeals to this inbox will be automatically acknowledged. Hand-delivered appeals may be submitted at Hiawatha National Forest, 2727 N. Lincoln Road, Escanaba, MI between 8:00 and 4:00 pm ET Monday through Friday, except on federal holidays.

IX. CONTACT PERSON

Project records are available upon request at the Hiawatha National Forest, 2727 N. Lincoln Road, Escanaba, MI 49829. For additional information concerning this decision or the Forest Service appeal process, contact Kirk Piehler, NNIP Control Project Leader, 906-789-3374, kpiehler@fs.fed.us, or Anne Davy, Forest NEPA Coordinator, 906-789-3335, adavy@fs.fed.us.

X. RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE AND DATE



THOMAS A. SCHMIDT
Forest Supervisor

6/1/07
Date of Decision

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