

News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

NR 08-27 For Immediate Release Contact: Susanne Adams, 715-748-4875

Upper Steve Creek Flowage drawdown begins

Medford, Wisc. – September 30, 2008. The Medford-Park Falls Ranger District on the Chequamegon-Nicolet NF will begin drawing down the water level in the Upper Steve Creek Flowage (Taylor County)approximately 25 miles west/northwest of Medford, on or about September 25, 2008. Water levels will drop 3-4 inches per day, reaching a final water level of 5-6 feet lower than the present level by the end of October 2008. The flowage will be refilled in the spring of 2009, most likely in early April or whenever the major snowmelt run-off occurs.

This drawdown is being conducted to improve the impoundment for waterfowl. The drawdown is expected to reduce submerged vegetation in favor of emergent vegetation, which provides waterfowl brood cover and is often a food source.

The Upper Steve Creek Flowage is located about 25 miles west/northwest of Medford in T33N, R2W Sections 3, 4, and 10 in Taylor County, Wisconsin. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Susanne Adams, Medford-Park Falls District Wildlife Biologist, 715-748-4875, smadams@fs.fed.us.