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Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to Take Closer Look at Cayuga Project Decision

Hayward, WI –January 22, 2009: The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) announces plans to withdraw the November 3, 2008 decision to implement the Cayuga Project. The withdrawal of the decision comes in light of new information involving other proposed projects that are located in the general area of Cayuga. The Cayuga Project area is located on the Great Divide District, northeast of Clam Lake, Wisconsin in Ashland County.

The process of preparing a supplemental information report will begin immediately with a report to be completed by resources specialists. The findings of the report will result in a re-issuing of the decision for the project by the end of February. This report will be made public and there will be a 45-day appeal period once the decision has been re-issued.

"We want to let people know what the next steps will be with the Cayuga Project decision. It is important to ensure that any final decision has taken into consideration other proposed projects in the area." said, Forest Supervisor, Jeanne Higgins.

The purpose of the November 2008 decision for implementation of the project was to enhance and restore wildlife habitat as well as forest health would include harvesting 5,242 acres of timber, of

which 2,130 would be deferred for four years. The Final Environmental Impact Statement is available on the web-site, to view visit: <u>http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/</u>.

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