



News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest



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23rd Annual Nicolet National Forest Bird Survey, June 5-7, 2009

Laona, Wis. – May 5, 2009. This year's Nicolet National Forest Bird Survey will be held on the weekend of June 5 – 7 in the Lakewood-Laona District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The Headquarters will be at LeFeber Northwoods Camp on Hardwood Lake, approximately 9 miles northwest of Wabeno.

Information and maps are available at the NNF Bird Survey web site: <http://www.uwgb.edu/birds/nnf>. A link to this site is also provided on the Chequamegon-Nicolet's web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf>.

Camping facilities and 12 cabins will be available at the LeFeber Camp. Several motels exist within a half hour's drive, but plenty of room is typically available at the LeFeber Camp. Field teams can arrange to meet motel-dwellers at a convenient place on Saturday and Sunday morning to save driving time.

The quickest way to register is to send an email message with the participants name and names of others in their group to hower@uwgb.edu or complete the registration form on the web site and return to the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity at UW-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54311-7001. Participants planning to stay in one of the cabins should also mention this in the email message or mark the appropriate box in the paper registration form. Anyone can show up on Friday without registering, but a count of participants (especially birding experts) helps to plan the field teams and a picnic on Saturday. Campers will need a tent, sleeping bag, food (except for Saturday's picnic), and alarm clock.

All participants are reminded to bring waterproof boots, extra socks, and mosquito repellent. Coffee, juice, and milk, fruit, and muffins will be provided before field work on Saturday and Sunday mornings. The survey will begin with an organizational meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Friday. Lunch and dinner on Saturday will also be provided.

GPS receivers will be available for all field teams, but you may bring your GPS unit to download the site locations for navigation. Collectively, field teams will be visiting more than 150 sites representing major habitat types in the national forest.

For more information about the survey, contact Bob Howe (920-465-2272 or hower@uwgb.edu) or Scott Anderson (715-674-4481 or scottanderson@fs.fed.us). A person doesn't have to be an expert to participate in the NNF Bird Survey. Everyone can play a role as a timekeeper, data recorder, or extra listener. "One of the best things about this event is the opportunity for participants to improve birding skills, leading to the development of a growing number of field 'experts'," Howe said. "And, this year, for the first time, we also will deploy digital audio recorders for some groups in order to provide a permanent archive of point surveys."