



Forest Service

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News Release

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Release No.: 160721

AREA CLOSURE LIFTED ON WASHBURN RANGER DISTRICT, MANY ROADS, TRAILS AND RECREATION AREAS REMAIN CLOSED



Blowdown from the July 21 thunderstorm on the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

WASHBURN, Wis. (July 27, 2016) – The Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest has lifted the area closure on the Washburn Ranger District however many roads, trails and recreation areas remain closed.

“There are still hazardous conditions on the Forest in areas impacted by the storm,” said Michelle Davalos, District Ranger on the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. “We want to remind visitors to be aware of their surroundings; keeping a watch for branches and trees that may be overhead or near them that are unstable.”

The Forest’s website has been updated to reflect the change in the closure order and includes a list of roads, trails and recreation areas that remain closed. To get the latest status update please visit www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF and click on Thunderstorm Damages Washburn Ranger District link in red. You may also call the Washburn Ranger District at 715-373-2667.

“We appreciate the public’s patience while personnel and equipment worked to clear roads to make them passable again for the public,” said Davalos. “We are continuing our assessments and will make updates to the closure as they are cleared. We very much appreciate all of our partners for their help and support.”

Forest Service personnel have cleared nearly 230 miles of the main roads that were impacted by the storm. An estimated 80 miles of road still remain to be assessed or are closed due to heavy damage. The Trails North ATV Club continues to assess and clear ATV trails.

In addition to the storm event July 21, portions of the Washburn and Great Divide Ranger Districts were damaged by thunderstorms and flash flooding on July 11. For the most current information on closures from that event please visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF/ and click on Flash Flooding Affects Forest.

For more information about the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest please visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF or follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CNNF002> or like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CNNF002>.

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