



United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

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News Release

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Release No.: 180634

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest continues flood damage assessments, some roads and trails closed



WASHBURN, Wis. (June 19, 2018) – The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest continues to assess the damages caused by the heavy rain and flash flooding over the weekend.

The Forest Service has more than 70 employees working the incident conducting initial assessments and mobilizing equipment to begin making emergency repairs to priority roads.

Nearly 60 miles of Forest Service roads were damaged from the storm.

The Forest has issued a Road and Trail Closure listing the roads and trails that are closed due to storm damage. The closure order and associated map will be updated daily as temporary repairs are made and roads and trails are once again safe for the public. The closure order and map can be found at www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF by clicking on Flood Updates.

The Forest's recreation areas in the impacted area remain open for business. Traditional travel routes to and from recreation areas may have been impacted in some places. For a complete list of alternative routes please visit www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF and click on Flood Updates.

The roads leading to the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center that were damaged by the storm have been repaired and the center is now open for business.

Drivers are advised to practice defensive driving techniques, reduce your speed, drive with your lights on and watch out for flooded roadways, washed-out culverts and bridges. In addition, Forest personnel are using heavy equipment to make repairs to the roadways.

For more information, visit Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5852/>; or the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF or call the Great Divide Ranger District at 715-634-4821 or Washburn Ranger District at 715-373-2667. You can also follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CNNF002> or like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CNNF002>.

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The mission of the U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains world-renowned forestry research and wildland fire management organizations. National forests and grasslands contribute more than \$30 billion to the American economy annually and support nearly 360,000 jobs. These lands also provide 30 percent of the nation's surface drinking water to cities and rural communities; approximately 60 million Americans rely on drinking water that originated from the National Forest System.

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